

CAROLS NIGHT EVENTS SEE PAGE 14.

Galston, Glenorie & Hills Rural COMMUNITY NEWS

FREE

The Original Community Magazine since 1971

DECEMBER 2024

The Future Of Glenorie

Hornsby Council is exhibiting a Draft Opportunity and Constraints Working Paper to guide planning for the future of Glenorie. It follows Council's resolution to implement the recommendations of the Hornsby Rural Lands Study 2022 (Hornsby RLS).

The Hornsby RLS recommends investigating the possibility for housing diversity around Glenorie Village in the form of 5,000-10,000m² environmental living allotments.

All residents who live in the 400m buffer zone and those living outside this area are encouraged to read the Working Paper to understand what is proposed and how it will affect Glenorie. Non residents are also welcome to comment. The Working Papers can be found on our website (see home page) or on Hornsby councils website <https://yoursay.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/glenorie-village>. Details are also available on the Glenorie Progress Association's website www.glenorieprogress.org

Images indicate the Investigation area showing the 400m Buffer Zone and the outcome of the Rural Land Use Survey.

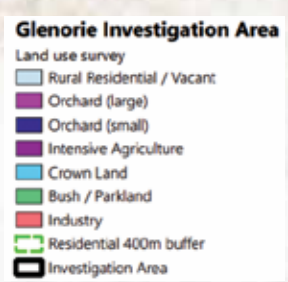


Figure 4 - Land Use Survey Results



A Community Engagement Session is proposed for 6pm at Glenorie RSL on Thursday 28th November. All feedback to Council is requested by Thursday 5th December.

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Galston CWA has been pleased to support and serve the local community during 2024.

Our fund raising initiatives have been very successful, allowing us to donate to our local charities and to those in need in the greater community. Although not a big brach, our members have big hearts and great energy, besides sharing the joy of helping others.



Our stalls have been well supported and one of the important factors is the assistance of the Galston community. So a big, big thank you to all the members of our shopping centre and local suppliers. We wish you all the best for Christmas and 2025!

We will have two more stalls before Christmas.

- Bunnings at Dural - On **December 5th**, from 6-8pm.
- Moran Aged Care, Goodison Street, North Kellyville - On **December 10th**, from 10-2pm.

Come along for some Christmas gifts, and remember we do appreciate any donations of fruit and vegetables for our jams and relishes.

For more information, contact **Anne Chartorisky** on 0404 228 209 or **Patricia Holdsworth** on 0412 948 787.

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- Recognising Community Achievements



Contact James

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✉ PO Box 1687, Hornsby Westfield NSW 1635

Authorised by James Wallace MP. Funded using parliamentary entitlements.



**GALSTON, GLENORIE & HILLS RURAL
COMMUNITY NEWS**
PO BOX 149 GLENORIE NSW 2157

The Galston, Glenorie & Hills Rural Community News prides itself on reporting about a variety of local topics and issues, covering news, features, sports, entertainment and the arts, community contributions, and much more.

We are interested in local stories from: Arcadia, Berrilee, Berowra Waters, Cattai, Canoelands, Dural, Fiddletown, Forest Glen, Galston, Glenorie, Maraylya, Maroota, Middle Dural, South Maroota & Wisemans Ferry.

To submit a story idea, an editorial or a community contribution, please email: editorial@galstoncommunity.com.au

Please send stories in editable text (word or email) not in PDF. **MAXIMUM words 500.**

Copy to be received by 15th of the month.

We love to hear from our community.



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IMPORTANT LOCAL INFORMATION

HELP AND INFORMATION SERVICES

General Emergencies	000	Lifeline (24 hours)	13 11 14
Energy Australia Energy	13 13 88	Poisons Information Line	13 11 26
Hornsby Hospital	9477 9123	Police - Hornsby	9476 9799
Hills Shire Council	9843 0555	Police - Castle Hill	9680 5399
Hornsby Shire Council	9847 6666	Sydney Water	13 20 90
Endeavour Energy (Outages)	13 10 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	9658 9000
Hornsby Rural Fire Service District Office	9883 2000
Arcadia Rural Fire Service Fire Captain MIKE MELIS	0409 606 786
Galston Rural Fire Service Fire Captain MATT WHITE	0407 390 955
Glenorie Rural Fire Service Fire Captain DANE JOHANSEN	0457 596 283
Hillside Rural Fire Service Fire Captain ANDREW BAILDON	9652 2245
Middle Dural Rural Fire Service Fire Captain MORRIE MAAIT	0412 267 567

LOCAL JP's

Mary Ord, Glenorie - 0400 363 563
Julia Billyard, Elude Games, Galston - 8005 0077
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. Also available at Cherrybrook Shopping Village, 10:00 AM to 12:00 noon Saturdays. Contact Jane 0427 998 004.

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Merry Christmas from the GC&V Team!

A 2024 Recap

This year was full of milestones, movements and makeovers. From the 80th Anniversary of Nati Bros, the 30th birthday of Glenorie Bakery, to the epic 40million dollar Oz Lotto win by a local Galston Couple it was a time of celebration for many.

We lost and gained an MP, elected two new Mayors (Hills & Hornsby) and farewelled Councillors while welcoming new ones. We also said goodbye to our local legend, renowned singer, Mr Frank Ifield.

The Galston Aquatic & Leisure centre was given a face lift and a new Children's Forest was opened in a forgotten corner of Fagan Park.

Businesses opened, closed or transmuted ownership and we enjoyed some new community events such as Food Truck Fridays and Sunset Melodies in conjunction with regular favourites including the Open Gardens and Arcadian Artists Trail.

On behalf of the entire GCN team I would like to wish all our readers, contributors and advertisers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you for supporting our publication throughout 2024.

We will be back in print in February 2025.

Karlene x



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Police News

Anyone with information about incidents is urged to call Crime Stoppers NSW on 1800 333 000 or <https://nsw.crimestoppers.com.au>

Incident in South Maroota

On the evening of November 9th, 2024, police responded to an incident in South Maroota involving a 74-year-old male resident. The individual was alleged to have fired a shotgun in his backyard, causing distress to nearby residents.

Upon arrival, police secured the area and conducted a thorough investigation. The 74yo (who is not a firearms licence holder) was allegedly found in possession of multiple unregistered firearms and ammunition. Additionally, prohibited drugs were discovered on the premises.

The 74-year-old male was arrested and taken to Castle Hill police station. He faces multiple charges, including unauthorized possession and use of firearms, possession of unregistered firearms, failure to safely store firearms, possession of ammunition without a license, and possession and supply of prohibited drugs. He was given strict bail to attend Parramatta Local Court next month.

The police would like to assure the community that the situation was handled promptly and safely.

We thank the community for their cooperation and encourage anyone with additional information particularly about unregistered firearms to come forward, as per the previous post about the NSW Firearms Amnesty, please surrender all unregistered firearms.

Driver charged after woman dies when hit by ute at Dural

Tuesday, 19th November 2024 06:06:48 AM

A woman has died after being hit by ute while walking in Dural yesterday afternoon. Emergency services were called to Old Northern Road about 4.30pm (Monday 18th November 2024), and found the woman, believed to be aged in her 70s, had suffered critical injuries after being struck by the southbound ute.

The driver of the ute, a 28-year-old man from Zetland, stopped to render assistance but the woman died at the scene. She is yet to be formally identified.

Officers attached to Kuring Gai Police Area Command established a crime scene, arresting the driver and taking him to Hornsby Hospital for mandatory testing.

On release, the man was taken to Hornsby Police Station where specialist police attached to the Crash Investigation Unit (CIU) charged him with negligent driving occasioning death. He has been granted conditional bail to appear in Hornsby Local Court on **19th December 2024**.

Suspicious Activity

At 4am on 20/11/24 Hills Police responded to a report of suspicious activity at a residence on Davey Rd, Dural. Officers arrived to find two vehicles with engines running and headlights on. As police attempted to block the vehicles, one accelerated towards the police cars, narrowly avoiding a collision, and then sped away, followed by the second vehicle. A pursuit ensued, during which one vehicle reversed into a police car before speeding off at high speed. The chase continued onto Derriwong Rd and then onto Old Northern Rd. For safety reasons, the pursuit was terminated on New Line Rd.

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Local Community Intergeneration Program - Looking for 65+ people to join

By Rachelle Scott (Lead Early Childhood Educator) and Amelia Trippas (Project Officer)

Many of us would have seen the ABC TV show 'Old Peoples Home for 4 Year Olds' – a social experiment to highlight the importance of taking active measures to prevent frailty and reduce the risk of dementia.



A staggering number of older adults in Australia experience social isolation, leading to a decline in health, and intergenerational programs have the potential to reduce loneliness and build stronger community bonds.

Intergenerational programs can bridge the gap between generations, fostering mutual understanding and respect. For children, interacting with older adults can enhance social skills, empathy, and language development.

It's believed that bringing older adults ages 65+ and preschoolers together in an enjoyable, structured playgroup has the potential to target risk factors, all in one fun two hour a week program, and shows promise in reducing the risk of frailty and dementia.

While intergenerational practice is not a new phenomenon, there is yet to be any large-scale clinical trials that collect quantitative data and measure the specific health outcomes.

Looking to join an intergenerational program? Visit www.georgeinstitute.org.au or call 8052 4365 to see if you are eligible.

Bendigo Community Bank Galston - Making A Difference in All Corners of the Community

The Community Bank Galston has been proudly sponsoring the community in many different ways so far this year and there's still two months to go!

In February the Community Bank sponsored \$8,000 to help the development of the Dural Community Garden, a project by the Dural Men's Shed at The Centre. Emily Lambert, who is overseeing the project, stated, "We are so excited to have received a generous grant from Bendigo Bank, which will see us continue to establish our community garden and improve our plumbing and irrigation. It will also contribute to supplying soil, plants, seeds, mulch, tools and so much more." The garden is already providing a strong sense of community spirit as people volunteer their time and skills to ensure a wonderful space is created for people of the Hills District to cultivate connections... as well as vegetables!

In March, Branch Manager, Savio Pereira, and Chairman, Ralph Steele, attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new STEM



STEM classroom at Cherrybrook Technology HS

building at Cherrybrook Technology High School, having sponsored \$85,000 towards the benches and equipment to aid the lessons.

St Judes Anglican Church Dural held their Annual Winter Food Drive in July with the help of a \$1,500 sponsorship from the Community Bank to assist in their collection of non-perishable items for people in Sydney who need extra food and hygiene support over the colder months.

In September, Galston Bendigo Bank joined in the end of the season celebrations and presentations for the Kenthurst Football Club,



Kenthurst Rotary Food Truck

the Hills Puma Football Club and the Hills Hawkes Junior Rugby Club having sponsored them \$40,000 (over 4 years), \$7,000 and \$8,000 respectively. The branch also partnered with Kenthurst Rotary Club, donating \$35,000 to help launch the Food Truck project that will serve the nourishment needs of the homeless in The Hills. These services will also extend into schools, beginning with Galston High School, to feed disadvantaged students hot meals once a month.

Stay tuned in the lead up to Christmas, there are still some wonderful community partnerships to come. If you'd like to continue to see more great sponsorships and partnerships helping to grow and nurture the local community, feel free to get in touch and support the bank.

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Dural Cub-scout Activities

Dural Cubs have been busy and challenged with all kinds of activities and outings last term earning them a number of awards. These included:

- Outdoor Cooking at the hall
- Fun on a Gyroscope
- Indoor Rockclimbing
- Parramatta Walkathon and Ramble
- Adventure Hike for the Peak Award.
- Halloween Night
- Visit to Mid Dural RFS

Dural Scout Group has vacancies for Girls and Boys from 5 to 25 years. Joesys (5yo), Cubs (8yo), Scouts (12yo) and Venturers (16yo).

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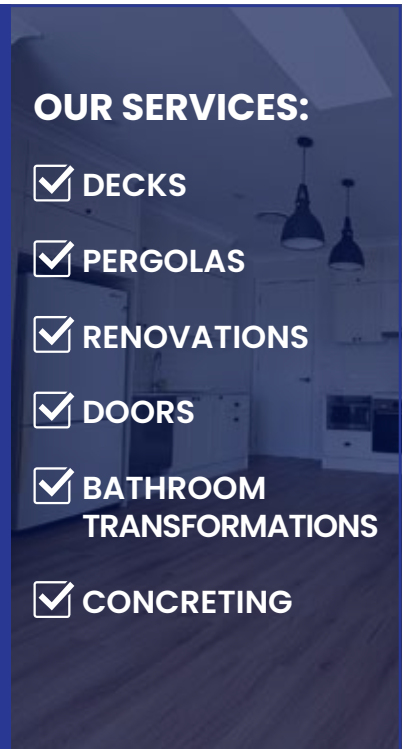
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The Village

GLENORIE

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This festive season, make The Village Glenorie your go-to destination for all things merry and bright! Whether you're shopping for the perfect gift, enjoying a festive meal, or simply soaking up the Christmas cheer, The Village Glenorie offers a vibrant, welcoming atmosphere that captures the true spirit of the season.

The Village Glenorie is more than just a shopping village; it's the heart and soul of the Glenorie community, embodying the warmth and charm of the Hills District. With every corner filled with local spirit, this special place has been thoughtfully designed to reflect the values of the community it serves—where connection, tradition, and support for local businesses come together in perfect harmony.

WHAT'S ON THIS CHRISTMAS?

The Village Glenorie is open every day (except public holidays) throughout the festive season, offering a variety of shops, delicious food, and services to meet all your holiday needs. From unique gifts to delectable treats, you'll find everything you need to make this Christmas extra special.

As Christmas draws near, The Village Glenorie becomes the ideal destination for finding those thoughtful presents, stocking up

on festive food, or simply enjoying a fun day out. Whether you are treating a loved one to something special, gathering around the table with friends and family, or just taking in the holiday decorations and the sounds of the season, The Village Glenorie is the place to be.

In addition to being the ultimate destination for all things Christmas, The Village Glenorie is also offering a rare opportunity for new businesses to join our vibrant community. With a limited number of retail spaces available for lease, now is the perfect time to bring your business to the heart of Glenorie. Be part of a growing centre that values community and connection, and set up shop in a location that offers both visibility and a loyal customer base.

So this Christmas, come for the gifts, stay for the food, and experience the joy of being part of a community that celebrates together. We invite you to enjoy the warmth of The Village Glenorie.

Happy Holidays from The Village Glenorie—your home for festive cheer and a thriving local community!



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NEWS FROM NETHERBY

Celebrate Australia Day at Fagan Park

Netherby Homestead open with new displays to see; Bruce Fagan Office and toy display. Vintage trucks and tractors, small engine display, Fagan and Waddell sulkies on show in the Agricultural and Dairy Museums. Activities for kids. Special photographic display depicting Netherby in the past.

Follow The Friends of Fagan Park Facebook page for further updates on Australia Day activities.

Letters to the Editor

Motoring etiquette

Driving down Old Northern Road the other day and joining the other drivers in a queue of about 10 cars behind a driver determined not to exceed at 40K/hr suggested to me that "motoring etiquette" is sometimes lacking today. I would have thought that pulling over and letting the faster drivers pass would be a simple common courtesy but no, the queue behind got longer and longer and I couldn't help thinking that sooner or later somebody would attempt to overtake and cause an accident.

Interestingly, the local police advised that there is nothing they can do to prevent this behavior; it is perfectly legal to drive at 40k/hr in an 80k/hr section of road provided the driving is not dangerous or the driver intoxicated.

I couldn't care less if a driver chooses to drive at 40 km/hr in an 80 km/hr zone provide they consider the other drivers on the road, pull over and allow them to pass.

- S.Mciver, Forest Glen

A note of appreciation

Dear Editor, I picked up a copy of *Galston, Glenorie and Hills Rural Community News* today. I had not seen it before, and am amazed by the superb quality of the publication: The page layout is always artistic, colourful and interesting (the hand of an artist shows).

The quality of the paper used is quite luxurious for a regional community paper! Each page has just the right amount of information, entertainment and advertisement. Nothing is overdone, and it is never boring!

Your local business directory at the back is the most lavish I've ever seen! These tradesmen must be ecstatic about the space, colour and layout they have here! Even the fonts used for print are firm and clear to read. The little headings at the very top of each page guide the reader through community news, home & lifestyle guidance, art and culture news, seniors events and features, local history, school news, sports news, political news, council news, garden features and help, church news, fire reports, and business directory. You have covered everything!

Congratulations on a superb publication – the best I've ever seen in this category!

- Dawn Nettheim, Cheltenham NSW



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Glenorie Progress Association

Another active year under our belt for the Glenorie Progress Association - our 131st year. We have conducted monthly hybrid meetings i.e. face to face plus ZOOM/Teams.

By necessity, the GPA needs to work with two Councils, Hornsby (HSC) and The Hills (THSC). We invite councillors from both Shires to our meetings so they can provide meaningful representation for our community. We hope to be a conduit for the Glenorie and surrounding residents with our Local, State and Federal representatives. Both Councils have given us quick responses to the questions from the Glenorie Community and comprehensive reports on Council activities in Glenorie District.

We all as individuals can "Have Your Say" directly to Council but if you wish the GPA to make any submission, you need to outline your reasons for discussion. Our aim is to make members and residents aware of issues that we think will matter to residents, facilitate discussion and direct to Councils and other government bodies. Note that the GPA is an apolitical association and does not align with any party.

The Planning Subcommittee focussed on specific issues while keeping to the aims of retaining the rural amenity, green space and connectivity. We try to survey community opinions to produce a balanced view resolved to disband this group and set up Task Forces on an as-needs basis. This will allow greater focus and attention on the important development matters in the area and ensure those involved and the GPA can communicate effectively with the community on these changes.

Currently you can share your feedback on the HSC Draft Opportunity and Constraints Working Paper to guide planning for the future of Glenorie. <https://www.glenorieprogress.org/>



Issues covered to date:

Artisan Brewery - Many meetings with the developer and strong opinions noted and considered responses submitted for the toning down of the DA to be submitted to Council to determine. Members and residents will attend and can speak at a Local Planning Panel (LPP) teleconference in November.

Service Station DA - Approved but not happened as yet.

The Smallwood Road Quarry - Approved with limitations.

Maroota Friable Sandstone - DA needs serious scrutiny considering the huge scale of this proposal.

Glenorie Oval Parking - Better parking facility beside Glenorie preschool and improved safety fencing in the Glenorie Park to better serve the School and community.

Wishlist - A loop footpath along Post Office Road and Whites Road as a community project. Off leash dog park in Glenorie.

Environment Centre - Noting the tireless efforts of volunteers researching environmental issues and protection of the local history and wildlife. The Hills Hornsby Rural Koala project searches for koalas through sound monitoring, motion cameras; vegetation mapping; long walks in the bushland, letterbox drops, notices at shops, street signs. HHRKP is part of a fantastic network of groups and people with expertise resulting in exciting news from the drone searches of the Wildseek Project with Landcare Australia, QUT and Wires. Koalas and other wildlife in our area are noted on BioNet.

Appreciation goes to **Hills Accounting Solutions** who continued to audit our books on an honorary basis and to **Glenorie RSL Club** for the many years of support, allowing us to use this great venue at no cost.

Once again we look to the future of Glenorie together with the support of the whole community so spread the word to friends and neighbours to join for continued successes in 2025. Please send feedback on our website, by email, text, post or verbally.



Finally - our major project the Ray Whiteman Heritage fence is coming closer to the build. Our paver drive has gone well and, so you don't miss out, we are holding displays at Woolworths to show you what pavers you can purchase and will provide you with a certificate of purchase that you can give to family members for Christmas.

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Glenorie Community Carols

Saturday 7th December, 5.30pm

15 Harkness Ave, Glenorie

Community Christmas Carols will run at two great local venues over consecutive weekends this year. Glenorie Carols kicks off the season, Saturday 7th December from 5:30pm at 15 Harkness Ave, Glenorie. Galston Carols will be hosted at Fagan Park Saturday 14th December from 5pm. Both events feature local schools, artists and performers as well as food trucks and catering. Bring your picnic blanket, outdoor chairs and enjoy the atmosphere. And of course, Santa will be there courtesy of the local RFS. This year Bendigo Bank Galston, your community bank, is sponsoring both events alongside other valued sponsors. Bendigo continues to contribute back to the community by supporting local community events.



Carols by Candlelight Returns to Fagan Park

Saturday 14th December | Fagan Park Galston



We would like to invite our community, your families, and friends to the 2024 Carols by Candlelight on Saturday 14th December 2024 at Fagan Park Galston. This magical evening is a true celebration of the joy, warmth, and togetherness that makes the festive season so special. After the incredible success of last year's event, we're excited to bring the community back together once again for an enchanting evening filled with music, joy, and holiday spirit.

With the generous support of our major sponsor, Bendigo Bank, these Carols will showcase a stellar lineup of local talent, including performances from our community's schools, performing arts groups, and cherished local musicians. It's an opportunity to come together, support our community, and enjoy the gifts of song and celebration.

With proceedings kicking off from 5.00pm, bring your picnic rug, kick off your shoes, and relax under the stars. And don't forget—the evening includes a special visit from Santa himself! There will also be food trucks and market stalls for all those Christmas gifts.

Enjoy Fagan Park in all its glory, gather your family and friends, and join us for a magical night.

Follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/carolsfaganpark> for all event information.

Carols by Candlelight is 100% supported and funded by our local community. Without your support, this wonderful event cannot happen. If you can support in creating an unforgettable evening, please email us carols@thesocialfactory.com.au

Carols is produced by The Social Factory Community – a registered Not-for-Profit, supporting local community events. Run by local event organisers – Danielle and Katie, their aim and purpose is to create community inspired events for the local area. Leading on from their success of the recent Sunset Concert Series at Fagan Park, Carols by Candlelight is a FREE family and community event.

We look forward to welcoming our community on December 14th at Fagan Park. We invite everyone to come and join us together to share the magic that is Christmas.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

FAGAN PARK GALSTON

SATURDAY 14 DECEMBER 2024
5.00 PM

Join us for an evening of festive celebrations with performances by local schools, performing arts groups, local talent, food trucks and market stalls and a visit from Santa.

For further information on the event, please click on the QR code or contact us at carols@thesocialfactory.com.au

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Mow and clear cuttings. Have a cleared area around your home.



REMOVE

Remove any material that can burn around your home, e.g. door mats, wood etc.



CLEAR

Clear all debris and leaves from roof gutters. Burning embers can set your home on fire.



PREPARE

Prepare sturdy hoses that will reach around your home, connected to a reliable water source.



SERVICE

Service your pump and check your hoses for leaks and cracks.

KNOW YOUR RISK

Living with the bush is part of living in New South Wales - but so is living with the risk of fire.

A bush or grass fire can happen at anytime of the year but the risk is higher during the warmer months, when bush, grass or scrub is drier.

You don't have to live right near the bush to be at risk. Even if your home is a few streets back, you may be at risk.

You can check for bush fire prone areas in your area on your local council website. Look for your Bush Fire Prone Land Map.

Check if you live on Bush Fire Prone Land today!

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Yellow Fire Hose Kit

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Glenorie Probus Club Activities

This month Glenorie Probus Club had a 4 day visit to Jimmy's Hideaway at Sutton Forest. All attending had a great experience. The trip down was via the tourist drive through Bowral and Corbett Gardens and the display of tulips, colourful flowers and old trees.



Southern highlands

They arrived at the 135acre property with its green pastures, animals, water holes and grapevines and chapel. The evening was very pleasant with great companions and a BBQ dinner.

The next day was spent sightseeing at Bundanoon and Echo Point in Morton National Park where there

was magnificent views of the steep ridges and deep valleys of the National Park. Then to Berrima for more relaxation before returning to the Hideaway for another Excellent Dinner.

The agenda for the Wednesday was firstly a visit to Fitzroy Falls and the spectacular views. This was followed by a visit to Robertson Cheese Factory for an enjoyable morning tea. Following this the group moved to Bowral via the Bong Bong Race Course. The afternoon was spent exploring the town before returning to the Hideaway for yet another fine meal. The next day we returned home with many travelling via the NSW Railway Museum at Thirlmere. Overall all who attended agreed they had had a wonderful time in the Southern Highlands.

This month the club had continued the policy of variety and again had the guest speakers come from their own members. Ranford and Julie Elsey volunteer some time each year liaising with Frontier Services to help farmers in outback rural Australia. Frontier Services comprises Outback Links working with remote farmers and work with Aboriginal Communities, Mining Communities and Outback Chaplain services. They showed pictures of their team building, gardening, farmwork, painting etc for farmers in real need. Their timing was such they were able to attend some of the concerts at the Big Red Bash. A very interesting talk from a couple who give up their time to help others in need.

The Club meets at 11.00am on the 4th Wednesday of the month at Glenorie RSL and new members are welcome.

Contact Wendy Black on 9653 1022 or email wendyireneblack@yahoo.com.au



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Galston Glenorie Amateur Fishing Club

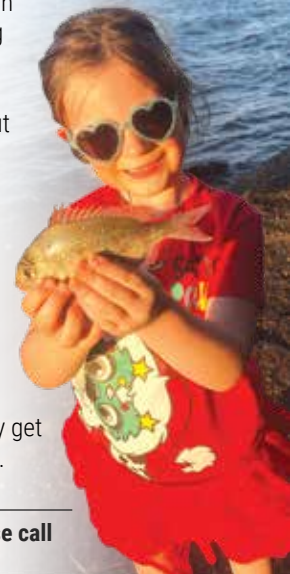
Galston Glenorie Amateur Fishing Club is a small family-oriented club based at The Galston Club.



We encourage anglers of all age groups and ability levels to compete in our monthly events. We hold comps in Estuary, Surf, Offshore and Freshwater fishing. With a friendly atmosphere, we enjoy competition among ourselves as well as against other local clubs.

Our members participate in all facets of fishing including big game fishing for giant marlin and tuna to trout in the mountains and just about everything in between. One of the exciting features of GGAFC is that there is such a broad spectrum of interests, our anglers are always doing something new and interesting.

We meet at The Galston Club on the 1st Wednesday of the month for our monthly get together from about 6:30pm.



For further information please call Lachlan on 0477 555 057.

ADVERTORIAL

What you should know about buying grass-fed beef by Taylor Fine Foods

All cows are raised on grass for the first 6-12 months of their life, but many producers switch them to grains to fatten up before slaughter. This is called finishing. This unfortunately un-does the health benefits of grass-fed beef, so you should look for labels that state

“100% grass-fed beef”, “grass-finished beef” or “pastured beef”.

Also, “organic beef” does not mean the cows ate grass, rather that they were fed organic grain (and maybe some grass). That’s a step up from GMO feed that most cattle get but does not confer the benefits of a 100% grass diet.

Ideally source your meat from grass-fed animals raised on pasture their entire lives, not given antibiotics or hormones, and sourced from family farms.



Taylor Fine Foods, cows are raised on remote, grassy paddocks in the upper hunter region of NSW and launched their beef packs to the local community at the Arcadian Artists Event where our local Mayor Warren Waddell came to open the show and support the launch of Taylor Fine Foods to the community.

Taylor Fine Foods were also able to support the local Arcadian Public School with Taylor Fine Foods sausages to help their fundraising efforts. It was a fabulous community experience, and we look forward to it again next year. We were grateful to Clare Oliver opening her property to the public as a gallery venue in the Arcadian Art Trail. If you missed out this year, be sure to come next year on the 2nd weekend of November for a unique country experience!



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Aussie Bushfire Survival Guide



The Aussie Bushfire Survival Guide is an indispensable tool for bushfire preparation

Aussie Pumps has produced a new 2024 'Bushfire Survival Guide' that can assist communities preparing for this fire season. The guide is loaded with invaluable information to help property owners make informed choices for their bushfire plan.

It covers the basics of preparing a home or property regardless of whether the owner intends stay or leave. It also assists with fire pump selection, setting up sprinkler systems, and routine maintenance to keep gear primed ready for an emergency.

A quality firefighting pump like the Aussie Fire Chief is key to setting up a protection system. It's capability that counts. Unfortunately, not all pumps are designed to deliver top performance. Second rate gear can risk property, pets, stock and even lives.

The 'Survival Guide' deals with product selection but stresses the need for an adequate water supply to be available and for the property to be fully prepared to be defended.

The Aussie Bushfire Survival Guide is free and is available from Aussie Pumps directly or through your local Aussie Gold Distributor.



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MUST BE HERE TO WIN

Happy Holidays!

We will be closed on
Christmas Day and
Boxing Day
and return on
Friday 27 December

Wishing you a happy and safe
holiday period.



To lodge, view and track the latest Development Applications in your area please visit: hornsby.nsw.gov.au/property



from the Mayor's Desk

As a longtime resident of the area, I am incredibly proud of Hornsby Shire's unique mixture of urban towns and rural villages. While serving as a Councillor I maintained a commitment to ensuring our public spaces are safe, functional and attractive. So, I'm incredibly disappointed when I see our public spaces defaced by graffiti, a sentiment that I know is shared by much of our community.

I am keen to tackle this growing problem, so I have asked Council to prepare a report outlining options for a Shire wide strategy, with a strong focus on community involvement in preventing unwanted graffiti and its removal from private property.

I have been impressed at just how efficient Council's own team are at dealing with graffiti on Council owned assets. The problem however is much greater than this and will require collaboration with the community, private property owners, and the NSW Government. I look forward to sharing more information about this important issue in the coming months.

The revitalisation project at Galston Village is another example of how Council is upgrading our village centres to make them places people want to meet and gather. Following the exhibition of the Galston Village Public Domain Plan, refinements have been made based on community feedback. The next steps are to develop a detailed design and tender for construction. The proposed improvements are expected to commence in mid-2025, subject to final design approval by TfNSW, (former RMS).

As the year draws to a close, we look forward to some down time in order to celebrate and enjoy time spent in our beautiful Bushland Shire. From paddling in our waterways, to enjoying our parks and playgrounds, there is so much to experience right here on our doorstep.

I hope you, like me, will enjoy spending time with family and friends. I wish you all a cheerful and joyful holiday season and a prosperous new year.

Warren Waddell
Mayor of Hornsby Shire

What's on

SEASON'S GREETINGS

Council opening hours
Christmas and New Year 2024-2025

Visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au/christmasopeninghours



SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

READ AND WIN!

5 December 2024 – 23 January 2025

READING ROCKS – Kids category

SUMMER READS – Adults and teens category

Join the challenge to win prizes this summer. Enter online or pick up a form from the library.

hornsby.nsw.gov.au/SummerReadingChallenge



Community Recycling Centre – Opening Hours

Closed from 25 December 2024, reopening 2 January 2025

Expect changed traffic conditions and possible delays

Remember to prepare for your visit:

hornsby.nsw.gov.au/crc

WASTE EVENTS



Rural E-Waste Drop Off Day

Saturday 7 December, 8am-3pm.

Rural Sports Facility, Galston,
entry via Mansfield Road

Chipping for Mulch – Westleigh

Sunday 8 December, 7.30am-12.30pm

The Old Dog Pound, next to 8 Warrigal Drive, Westleigh

hornsby.nsw.gov.au/waste

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ROFE PARK OFF-LEASE DOG PARK EXTENSION

Submissions close: 4 December

PROPOSED TOILET UPGRADES – UPPER MCKELL PARK

Submissions close: 11 December

yoursay.hornsby.nsw.gov.au



ARCADIAN QUILTING NEWS

Two short months until CHRISTMAS ... and during that time everyone will be busy with decorations, presents, parties and planning delicious food.



Pause ... before the "RED, WHITE AND GREEN" takes over and influences almost everything we do?

Pause... and LOOK at this quilt (photo left) WOW, think of Pinatas, Pina Coladas, Spanish dancing, Mexican hats, sunshine and twirling skirts, clapping, dancing and GAIETY. It's hard to sit still while looking at this fabulously colorful quilt.

Where did our talented quilter, Kim start with this project? Top right-hand-corner; perhaps the centre or was there "a first row" she knows, we don't??

There is a lot of activity happening within our group before Christmas with visits from Charities, quilts to be donated to the Illawarra Refugee Programme, The Assistance Dogs Australia Charity and our 'own' Christmas Challenge Block, our End-of-Year Christmas Party ... all before early December!!!

However, there is always time to welcome a 'visitor' ... before OR after Christmas!! Call in, say 'Hello'... see the team-in-action, you would be very welcome?

Our 'new' members for this year are already very much a part of the Arcadian Quilting team, contributing and sharing their ideas and adding greatly to our friendship circle.

We meet 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesday of each month at the Community Health Centre, The Glade, Galston. Meetings commence at 9.30am.

For further information please call Carole on 9894 7749.

Local Christmas Gift Emporium

If you are looking for unique, handmade and special one-of-a-kind gifts this Christmas, you cannot miss a visit to Sandra's Ceramics Studio.

Their gift emporium will be open on Saturday's 10am - 1pm in the leadup to Christmas. They are happy to accommodate other shopping times by appointment.

As members of the Arcadian Artists Trail for over 27 years, Sandra's Ceramics Studio continues to produce high quality decorative and functional pieces for the home and garden. Items range from vases and tableware to figurines and wall art.

Avoid the rush this Christmas and shop locally directly from the creators. The colourful and extensive range is bound to ignite the senses and take the stress out of finding that distinctive and treasured gift this Christmas.

Visit www.sandraceramicsstudio.com.au or call 0409 992 881 for more information.



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ART EXHIBITION

DEC

6-15

10am - 5pm

26 Mansfield Rd,
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Val Wright will be holding an exhibition of original watercolour paintings in her studio.

A wide range of framed and unframed paintings from \$20 - \$350 and greetings cards will be for sale.

Parking available.

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The Bushwell Art
Group will also be
exhibiting.

Selling off-market: What you need to know before you list

An increasingly popular sale type is the off-market method - privately marketing a property without publicly listing it on major real estate platforms or through typical advertising channels. Instead, sellers and agents tap into exclusive networks, buyer's agents, and off-market platforms to reach motivated buyers discreetly, who are invited to inspect and make an offer on a property before it is formally listed.

The pros of selling off-market.

Reach the right buyer

Off-market sales allow sellers to cut through the noise and only invite qualified and highly motivated buyers to inspect a property. High-profile individuals or those who value discretion may prefer this method to avoid public exposure.

Buyer's agents will proactively reach out to real estate agents with their buyers' search criteria, with the agents notifying them of suitable upcoming off-market sales.

Another way to reach qualified buyers is through online off-market real estate platforms which require buyers to provide specific criteria. If a property matches their criteria, the buyer is notified immediately.

No open homes

An off-market sale means fewer interested buyers and less foot traffic through a property, reducing the need to prepare and stage your home for regular inspections.

Potential savings

Selling off-market can save the seller money on the listing. Offers can be submitted, reviewed, negotiated, and accepted before investing in external marketing options or auction fees.

Test the market price

Selling off-market gives sellers a picture of the property's value, testing the market's response - positive and negative - and assessing price expectations. If a property doesn't sell off-market, vendors can take it to the open market with a clear price strategy and realistic expectations.

Less pressure

An off-market listing doesn't have an official start date, so sellers can take their time and test the market without fear of a negative impression from potential buyers. The longer a property spends on the open market, the more lowball offers it will attract.

Maintain privacy

Choosing an off-market listing allows sellers to keep their property away from an open real estate market. No public listing, auction or open homes afford privacy.

Faster transaction

By avoiding the length of a typical sales campaign, which can sometimes take several months, sellers can achieve more immediate results.

The cons of selling off-market:

Risk of not reaching the best sale price

Typically, higher buyer interest in a property means greater competition and a potentially higher sale price. Fewer buyers mean fewer offers and less chance of a bidding war, which could see the property sold at a lower value than if it were listed on the open market.

Slower sales

Off-market sales are all about attracting the right buyer, and in the case where it takes a while to find the right person, a property is going to take longer to sell.

Learn more

Wondering if an off-market sale is right for your circumstances? And if you are looking for a streamlined selling process, contact Belle Property Dural's Principal, Carolyn Wheatley - 0407 120 483 to see if off-market is the best fit for your property.

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support your active lifestyle.



CGI renders shown are for
illustration purposes only



Galston Library

Hornsby Shire Libraries is proud to partner with local charity, The Dish, to support those in need this Christmas. For twenty years, The Dish have been providing the vulnerable of Hornsby with a hot meal and, this Christmas, hope to present their clients with a hamper to take home. If you would like to donate, please drop off your festive, non-perishable goods to any library branch during opening hours between Monday 18th November and Friday 13th December. Visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library for more information.

ADULT FICTION

A SECRET GARDEN IN PARIS BY SOPHIE BEAUMONT

Driven by grief over her mother's death, Emma has taken refuge with her Parisian grandmother in a house with a secret garden. When Charlotte's husband starts to withdraw from her, she flees to Paris. Arielle had finally started to move on after her husband's death, until her controlling parents-in-law arrive. Drawn together by loss and the gardens of Paris, the paths of three women intersect as they develop an unexpected and transforming friendship.

From the author of *The Paris Cooking School* comes a captivating story of loss, love, and the pleasures of a secret Paris garden.

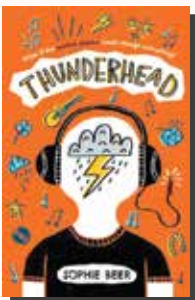


JUNIOR FICTION

THUNDERHEAD BY SOPHIE BEER

Thunderhead is awkward, music-obsessed and a magnet for bad luck. Their favourite things in life are music and their best friend, Moonflower. But when Moonflower moves schools, they're faced with the reality of surviving high school alone. As two big life events approach, Thunderhead posts playlists and heartfelt diary entries as an outlet to try to make sense of their changing world.

Drawing on Sophie Beer's own experience of hearing loss, this illustrated novel about music, disability and friendship is engaging, authentic and entirely unputdownable.



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Dural and District Historical Society Inc.

News from History Cottage



Our well attended meeting on the 9th November was the last for the year. Our guest speaker, David Jehan told part of the fascinating story of the Hudson Brothers and Clyde Engineering. His

research and knowledge, together with many old photographs, recalled earlier days for many. Who can forget those mighty trains of the steam era. The distinctive smell of the sheep and cattle vans coming down from the country, the sturdy coal bins from the Hunter and Illawarra, the luxury of the sleeper trains, and the coal dust in the eyes when someone forgot to close the window approaching the tunnels. David's talk showed how much more he had to offer and he has kindly offered to come again next year; one the Society is most happy to accept.

Another part of David's talk covered the building operations. Our district has a number of the Hudson Ready Cut homes which form part of its architectural heritage. Sandra and Ken Gregory are the custodians of one such buildings and they brought along a painting to show (see photo).

In his report to members, the President drew attention to the fact that our audience comprised people who were members of a so many different organisations. The common thread was a dedication and concern for our community in so many ways; garden clubs, volunteer fire brigades, progress associations, bush regenerations, church associations, to name but some. He felt that this concern had in expression in Local History, where it is recorded.

The Society is constantly being given photos and organisation records to preserve the work of others who have gone before and which can be seen by all.

After a Christmas lunch the Society will finish for the year, opening with the first meeting of the 8th February 2025 in the Galston Uniting Church at 2.00pm when the guest speaker will be Professor Don Napper who will talk on Nicola Tesla.



Enquiries to Michael Bell
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The Power of Community Sport: Hills Hawks U16 Girls Shine

Community sport is more than just a game; it's a platform where individuals, families, and entire communities come together to foster health, inclusivity, and lifelong connections. At the Hills Hawks Football Club, this spirit is alive and thriving, with a growing community, proud fifty-five-year history and a renewed emphasis on participation in female soccer—a reflection of how far the sport has come and where it is headed.

This year, the club celebrated a truly remarkable achievement: the U16 Girls Division 2 team triumphed in their Grand Final, clinching victory in a nail-biting penalty shootout after extra time. This was not just a testament to their skills, but also to their resilience, teamwork, and unwavering determination—a proud moment for the club and the broader community. Despite an early start, light rain and quite a drive to the Grand Final ground, more than fifty hills locals turned out to cheer the girls on – and were rewarded with an absolutely awesome event.

The success of the U16 girls' team highlights the importance of investing in female participation in sports. Programs and initiatives that encourage girls to take up soccer at a young age create opportunities for personal growth, physical fitness, and leadership development. These experiences lay a foundation of confidence and camaraderie, teaching life skills that extend far beyond the pitch.

For the Hills Hawks, fostering female participation in soccer is about more than winning trophies; it's about creating an inclusive environment where everyone feels they belong. Following the amazing efforts of the Matildas during the World Cup in 2022, participation in women's



soccer is growing at about 10% year on year. The U16 girls' victory demonstrates the rewards of such efforts, showing that when we empower young women through sport, we strengthen the fabric of our community.

As the Hills Hawks Football Club continues to champion local talent, the U16 girls' Grand Final win stands as a shining example of what can be achieved through community sport—bringing people together, inspiring the next generation, and proving that the beautiful game belongs to everyone.

The Hills Hawks will run the club's first trials on December 7th this season, at Hills Grammar. Contact the club to find out more.



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Local junior, Lachy Shaw makes his NSW cricket debut

By James Wallace, Hornsby MP

Congratulations to local cricketer, Lachy Shaw for his selection in the NSW One Day team and the Sheffield Shield match for their clashes against South Australia at the Adelaide Oval recently.



Lachy is a 21-year-old batsman/wicket keeper from the Northern District Cricket Club and has earned his selection with a mountain of runs for his club's First Grade team, coupled with his quality work behind the stumps.

Identified early as a talented junior cricketer Lachy worked his way through the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai and Hills District Cricket Association representative teams before being picked up by the Rangers and going on to be selected for the Australian Under 19s team World Cup team in February 2022.

Another local junior on the cusp of State selection is Lachy's Northern District teammate and Mt Colah resident, Corey Miller (also 21), who played a Second eleven match for NSW recently.

I wish Lachy Shaw all the best with his State debut and fully expect to read much more about his and Corey's performances on the cricket field into the future.



Dural Bowling Club News

The Men's Major Single Final took place on Saturday 9th November and the winner was Phil Laing who defeated Mike Keane 25-15. Last year Phil defeated Mike by the same score. The game was much closer than the score indicated with the lead changing many times throughout the game. Mike was leading 14-12 at one stage, then Phil found the right line and length and managed to score 13 shots whilst Mike could only manage 1 shot.



The Ladies Major Singles was played Tuesday 12th November with a very close, competitive game between Lyn Luxford and Terri Hezlett. Terri defeating Lyn with the score of 25-23. As the score indicated the lead changed many times during the game keeping the other bowlers playing on the day on edge.




Our congratulations to Phil and Terri and commiserations to Mike and Lyn.

The next event for Dural Bowling Club will be the presentation day and Christmas lunch on **December 14th**.

Anyone interested in playing bowls please contact Robert on 04 1137 5580.

DURAL & DISTRICT PROSTATE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP





**SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS ARE HELD
3rd MONDAY EVENING
OF THE MONTH**

7:00pm for 7:15pm

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Dural Public School Celebration Sing Out 2024!



On Sunday 27th October, the 5/6 Dolce Singers and 3/4 Giocoso Singers with Miss Rosolen, Mrs de la Harpe and Mrs Anderson, performed in Celebration Sing Out 2024!



This concert raises money for Westmead Children's Hospital's music therapy program. Since it began in 1993, it has raised over \$1,000,000 to support the health and wellbeing of children.

The DPS choir students were part of a massed primary choir that included students from public and private schools. The primary choir then joined the secondary choir, adult choir and orchestra for a magnificent sound in the second half of the show.

The Dolce and Giocoso Singers beautifully represented DPS and should be very proud of their effort in rehearsals this year as well as their outstanding performance in the concert.

Thank you to all the choir families for organising transport and supporting this wonderful event.



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Pacific Hills Christian School Is Christmas Outrageous?



Dr Stephen Fyson, part of our Pacific Hills Christian School community, shares an insightful look into the Christmas story.

"Christmas has so much loveliness within it. That includes the actual story – a tiny baby born in a manger to loving parents. More than that, there are angels singing, exotic visitors and promises from God delivered by His messengers.



Yet, part of that first Christmas carries a detail that would have been considered outrageous by any serious thinkers of the day. No promised king, leader, or deity would have been welcomed into the world in a "manger." Why? Because that manger was a hovel – probably a muck-stained wooden trough or a carving in a rock face where animals were given some kind of shelter.

Can you imagine it? Can you see Joseph and Mary stopping at the entrance, seeing (and smelling) the mess, and wondering if this was the spot? But they accepted this as their lot, because God had sent messengers to them to trust Him. And they did.

What was outrageous 2000 years ago brought change to the world. A God who loves so much that He was prepared to humble Himself by being born in a smelly cave is a God who loves all people. In this baby, Jesus, there is no difference between us, if we see things as He sees them.

And that is why Pacific Hills Christian School has students and staff doing outrageous things at the end of this end and over the break. Instead of being comfortable, there are teams going to Cambodia, India and Vanuatu to share God's love. That is not normal. That may seem strange.

But if Christmas reminds us of God's outrageous love towards us, what might we do that shows outrageous love to someone this Christmas?"

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The Hillside Advantage



Nestled in the tranquil surroundings of Cattai Ridge Road, Glenorie, Hillside Public School offers a unique educational experience where students can learn, grow, and excel. With its picturesque setting and peaceful atmosphere, the school provides an ideal environment for children to focus on their education while developing personally, socially, and creatively.



At Hillside Public School, we believe that smaller class sizes are key to fostering a nurturing and effective learning environment. With fewer students per class, our teachers can provide more personalised attention, tailoring lessons to meet the individual needs of each child. This individualised approach helps students feel supported and valued, creating a space where they can truly thrive. Whether it's helping a child who needs extra support or challenging a high-potential student to reach new heights, our educators are dedicated to nurturing the unique potential of every learner.

For students with high potential or those identified as gifted, Hillside Public School caters to their abilities. Through differentiated learning strategies, enrichment activities, and individualised challenges, we ensure that gifted students are intellectually stimulated and given the opportunities they need to excel. This focus on gifted education helps students reach their full potential, both academically and creatively, while fostering a love of learning.

If you're looking for a school where your child can receive personalised attention, grow in confidence, and reach their full potential, Hillside Public School is the place to be. You are welcome to speak to the Principal on 9652 1459.

Rural Roundup

Hornsby Councillor
Jane Seaglove



I am truly humbled and consider it a great privilege to be elected to represent A ward in Hornsby Shire.

As a long-term resident of Dural, I am keen to keep the residents of the rural area up to date with current issues.

Mayor Warren Waddell and the full Council team have now been sworn in. The first Council meeting took place on the 23rd October and it was immediately down to business.

A unanimous vote to address graffiti as a Shire wide problem went through. Investigations will now begin into how this problem may be addressed more broadly, especially as it relates to non-Council assets.

Coming into Summer, the bushfire threat will increase. Especially in the rural areas of the Shire where our bushland is most prevalent. At the same Council meeting I ensured my involvement in our Bushfire Management and Liaison Committees. My election to these committees will assist in keeping across this very real threat to our highly valued bush encumbered area.

Looking forward, I was pleased to learn that progress on the Galston Village Public Domain plan has occurred. With most investigations complete, it won't be long now before the groundbreaking stages will commence. This project will go a long way to addressing concerns around safety and traffic management. With the added benefit of creating a functional and attractive village centre.

We are also looking forward to the Glenorie Village community engagement process commencing. I will be encouraging all members of the community to put forward their views as we play our role in the enhancement of Glenorie Village.

**I look forward the term ahead.
I am happy to be contacted on any issue on
jseaglove@hornsby.nsw.gov.au**

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From the desk of James Wallace

Member for Hornsby



As your newly elected Member for Hornsby, I am deeply humbled to have received the trust and support of the community. It is a privilege to represent you.



The Hornsby electorate is such a special place. It has a rich history, strong sense of community, great schools, and incredible natural beauty.

I will advocate for the infrastructure we need to support a growing community. This means upgrades to our roads, schools and health care. I will

support efforts to rejuvenate the Pacific Highway and New Line Road, as well as improve the quality of our sporting facilities.

I will work to strengthen our community by helping residents and community groups navigate the complexity of government and by supporting further improvements to our local area.

As your representative in State Parliament, I hope to play a role in advancing forward thinking policies when it comes to the financial management of our State, the education of our kids and the challenges facing our community.

I pay special tribute to my predecessor, Matt Kean, who did an extraordinary job as our local MP. I will work tirelessly to build upon his legacy, to ensure Hornsby remains the very best place to live, work and raise a family.

Please contact me if you ever need any assistance with government on 9476 3411, or by email at hornsbys@parliament.nsw.gov.au

I am particularly keen to engage with those not typically interested in politics and those who don't feel seen by politicians. As much as anyone, you deserve a voice.

Personally, this has been a very exciting time for me and my family. Sarah and I are both balancing work and raising our two-year-old son Ben. Ben has loved going out to the recent school fetes and other community events.

Thank you again, and I look forward to working with you.



Julian Leeser

Federal Member for Berowra



I recently visited a fantastic organisation in our area, and I'd like to share a little bit about them.

Warrah Disability Services is located in Dural, and it is a fantastic not-for-profit service which is dedicated to performing particular services for people with disability. Importantly, Warrah is providing opportunities for people where they may not previously have had the chance to participate fully as a member of our community.

Their work began back in the sixties, with Warrah operating as a special school by day and a group home by night, but times have changed.

Nowadays, Warrah offers supported independent living for adults across 13 homes with 24/7 care, community support services and in-home support. Along with that, Warrah is the only Steiner specialist school operating in Australia, providing K to 12 education with 31 students currently enrolled. Warrah also operates a biodynamic farm and operates an organic farm shop which I had the chance to learn more about on my visit. More recently, Warrah has assisted with the creation of microenterprises, including candles made by Rohan, who is a regular participator at the Dural Men's Shed. Ben and Jim have also started mowing lawns with the assistance of the team at Warrah.

When I visited Warrah recently, I caught up with the CEO Delia Gray, school principal Anna Wetzel, farm manager Steve Tennikoff and property manager David Sharkie and I really learned a lot so I'm grateful for the time they spent talking with me. I also met students, Talara, Harry, Max and Jasmin and saw the positive impact that Warrah's programs are having.

Along with the staff, we talked about the organisation's history, the fantastic work that Warrah is doing right now and about their plans for the future which will provide even more opportunities for people living with a disability, but also involve more members of our broader community outside of Warrah's participants and students. The way they want to achieve this is by developing a small farm animal management practice which would be open to the public while teaching participants about animal husbandry and have a positive impact on our environment – I think it sounds great and already know my children would love the chance to visit.

I'm excited about Warrah's plans to expand, open new learning opportunities and bring our community along the journey. Right now, I'm working on a plan to support them as they grow and continue to support people in our community to lead an engaging and fulfilling life and I know our community will be backing them too.

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- ↳ Attend your local community event
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Please contact my office if I can be of assistance.



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FEDERAL MEMBER FOR BEROWRA

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

Food instead of Fines for Mayor's 2024 Christmas Appeal

Hills Shire Library members with overdue library books now have a unique opportunity to have their fines waived as part of the Mayor's 2024 Christmas Appeal and Library Fine Amnesty.

From Saturday, November 16th, until Sunday, December 15th, library members can return overdue books and have their fines waived in exchange for a non-perishable food donation. All donations will go to Anglicare's Mobile Community Pantry.



Mayor of The Hills Shire, Dr Michelle Byrne at Castle Hill Library

Mayor of The Hills Shire, Dr Michelle Byrne said the donations provide affordable food options to individuals and families who need it most.

"This initiative supports a great cause and gives back to members of our community who are doing it tough," Mayor Byrne said.

"It also offers Hills Shire Library members a chance to return long-overdue books. Recovering these books also allows other members of the community to enjoy the magic of reading.

"Last year, 2196 items were donated, and 167 lost books were returned to the libraries.

"Even if you don't have an overdue library book to return, please donate to this worthy cause to help families who need it most and make their festive season a little brighter."

Overdue books can be returned through the returns chute at any library branch during opening hours. Bring along an item from the list below to donate and present your library card or app to staff at the Customer Service desk at any of the Hills Shire Library branches in Baulkham Hills, Castle Hill, Dural and Rouse Hill.

Acceptable non-perishable food item donations include:

- Christmas cake or pudding (500g or 700g)
- Tinned ham or chunky soup (450g)
- Tinned salmon or tuna (415g)
- Tea (100pk)
- Coffee (100g)
- Packet of biscuits (no chocolate biscuits)
- Dried pasta (500g)
- Pasta sauce
- Long-life milk
- Long-life custard
- Tinned fruit and vegetables (425g)
- Jam (500g)



Chocolate or chocolate-covered items will unfortunately not be accepted, as they are likely to melt.

For more information about the Mayor's Christmas Appeal and Library Fine Amnesty, visit www.thehills.nsw.gov.au/Library

Hornsby Shire Mayor wages war on graffiti

Hornsby Shire Council's newly elected Mayor, Warren Waddell, has issued a call to arms to Council and the community to tackle the problem of graffiti in the Shire's town centres, villages and transport routes.



In a special Mayoral Minute brought to his first Council meeting as Mayor, Mayor Waddell requested Council prepare a report outlining options for a Shire wide strategy with a strong focus on community involvement in preventing unwanted graffiti and its removal from private property.

"Graffiti is becoming an increasingly pressing issue in almost every area of Hornsby, particularly along major roads, town centres,

public spaces, and community facilities. This surge not only mars the visual appeal of our neighbourhoods but also contributes to a broader perception of neglect and disorder detracting from Hornsby's character, diminishing its natural beauty and the well-maintained public spaces that the community cherishes," said Mayor Waddell.

"I have been impressed at just how efficient our own teams are at dealing with the presence of graffiti on Council owned assets. The problem however is much larger than this and needs addressing."

The requested report will include recommendations that are well proven across the world for how Council can work with the community and private owners to tackle this issue. It will also explore how greater collaboration with the State government can be fostered to prevent and better manage the removal of graffiti on state owned assets.

Actions to be investigated include rapid removal; facilitating quick and simple reporting; community engagement, education and participation; integrated public art and graffiti; and alternative funding.

"I have been buoyed by the interest of the whole community to support this war on graffiti which will contribute to a more vibrant, safe, attractive, and culturally rich community for all residents of Hornsby Shire," Mayor Waddell said.

"I thank my colleague Councillors for supporting my Mayoral Minute," he added.

The report with its recommendations will be presented to Council in the coming months. To read Mayor Waddell's full Mayoral Minute visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Annual Report highlights Council's commitment to residents:

Maximising resources and delivering outstanding outcomes

Hornsby Shire Council will this week publish its 2023-2024 Annual Report which outlines its accomplishments, from completing 66 infrastructure projects to repairing 605 metres of local roads, after it was endorsed at its General Meeting on Wednesday, 13th November.

The report highlights Council's commitment to addressing the immediate needs of the community through various projects and initiatives, alongside taking tangible steps toward delivering long-term plans – housing solutions through the Hornsby Town Centre Masterplan and long-term recreation needs with a destination parkland, Hornsby Park.

Across the Shire, projects included refurbishing Galston Aquatic and Leisure Centre, upgrades to the Great North Walk in the Berowra to Cowan area, The Lakes of Cherrybrook Park, Glenorie Community Centre Playground, access to Brooklyn Baths, a new Children's Forest at Fagan Park, Beecroft Village Green and Wollundry Park Playground in Pennant Hills.



Galston Aquatic and Leisure Centre



Beecroft Village Green

A number of vibrant community-building events and programs were delivered, from Taste of the World Multicultural Festival and Reconciliation Week concert to Council's libraries' summer reading programs and the 2023 Hornsby Art Prize. Council partnered with Lifeline Harbour to Hawkesbury Sydney to provide mental health support through drop-in sessions at Hornsby Library, continued to deliver the popular Hello Hornsby program for seniors, and for the first time held markets in Berowra and Hornsby to promote the local reuse economy.

Hornsby Shire Council Mayor Warren Waddell said the 2023-2024 Annual Report demonstrates Council's commitment to transparency and efficiency, showcasing the hard work of Council and staff to make Hornsby Shire a better place to live.

"We operate with a remarkably lean team, with each staff member servicing 314 community members – about 30% more than our peer councils, where staff service 238 residents each on average," said Mayor Waddell.

"We are committed to being frugal with every dollar we spend, ensuring we make the most of the community's hard-earned money. We understand the pressures of the high cost of living, and we're focussed on providing services and improvements that benefit residents."

Some of the key operational and capital achievements for 2023/24 include:

- Repairing 2,650 potholes
- Constructing 1.89 kilometres of new footpaths
- Planting 1,930 trees
- Distributing 25,030 native plants for planting in the Shire
- Removing 696 tonnes of pollutants from waterways
- Collecting 190 tonnes of e-waste at the Community Recycling Centre

The 2023-2024 Annual Report is available to view at hornsby.nsw.gov.au

A copy of the final Report, including the 2023/24 Financial Statements, will be provided to the Office of Local Government by 30th November 2024.



Native Plant Giveaways at Warada Ngurang Community Nursery in Pennant Hills

Also at last night's meeting, Council:

- Received and noted the 2024 State of the Shire Report
- Adopted the draft submission in response to the Discussion Paper – Councillor conduct and meeting practices
- Adopted the 2023/24 General Purpose Financial Statements and associated Auditor's Report
- Received and noted the contents of the Director's Report on investments and borrowings for the period ending 30th September 2024
- Received and noted the September 2024 quarter review of the Operational Plan (Budget) for 2024/25

The full agenda of the meeting, along with details of each item discussed, can be found at hornsby.nsw.gov.au. The video recording of the meeting will be available from Friday afternoon.

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Protect our community: Dispose of batteries safely

Household batteries are some of the most useful and common items in our homes, but they have serious and harmful impacts if we dispose of them incorrectly, according to Hornsby Shire Council. This includes AA or AAA batteries, button batteries, and lithium batteries, which are particularly dangerous.

Fires caused by batteries placed in household bins are unfortunately becoming more common with the increase of rechargeable devices, placing people and the environment at risk. Last year, discarded batteries sparked over 10,000 fires in Australia.

Batteries should never be placed in any of your household bins, as they can overheat and catch fire inside collection trucks or at waste facilities. When they are exposed to the mechanical compaction in the back of collection trucks, combined with friction, heat, and other flammable material such as cardboard, this creates the perfect environment for fires.

Thankfully, it's easy to store and recycle batteries safely. When your battery is used up, place some clear tape over the terminals and store them in a cardboard box or container with air flow until you can drop them off at your nearest battery recycling point. Most household batteries can be recycled at the Thornleigh Community Recycling Centre and other accredited B-cycle drop off points, which include major supermarkets and retailers.

To find your nearest B-cycle drop off point, visit bcycle.com.au



Image credit: Cleanaway and Blacktown City Council

2-6 Players

1 Hour

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Hidden In The Hills



Grevillea or Spider Flower

By Lachlan Turner

Throughout the latter part of the year it is possible to come across what is commonly described as a Grevillea or Spider Flower Plant.

There are four Spider Plants having a similar structured flower, each presenting with a different contrasting colour.

The most noticeable one in natural bushland could well be the Red Spider Plant (*Grevillea speciosa*), flowering mostly from June to September on a spreading shrub up to 2 meters tall.

Maybe the most prolific one would be the Grey Spider Plant (*Grevillea buxifolia*). An erect shrub also up to 2 meters in height. The flowering period is mainly between July and October. Buds may have a pinkish tinge in the early stages.

Undoubtedly the most attractive one would be the Pink Spider Plant (*Grevillea sericea*). Its flowers are generally a bright pink colour but the centres can tend toward a deeper pinky mauve while the ends may tend towards paler pink when the flower matures. It flowers between July to December.

Probably the least common is the Narrow-leaf Spider Plant (*Grevillea linearifolia*), which has a small white flower with pink tips when in its early stages. It can grow up to 4 meters in height but can be somewhat straggly in appearance. Flowering mostly occurs from July through to October.



Grevillea sericea Pink Spider Flower



Grevillea buxifolia
Grey Spider Flower



Grevillea linearifolia
Narrow-leaf
Spider Flower

With the exception of this last one, all these Grevilleas have similar shaped leaves with some individual variations in shape. All four can be found within the same general areas of open forest, adjacent heathlands and sandy slopes.

Now is probably a good time to get out into our bushland reserves and discover some of these colourful Grevilleas.

Bromeliads at Christmas Time

The Bromeliad Society of Australia will hold their meeting at the Federation Pavilion, Castle Hill Showground on Saturday, 14th December with plant sales to the public commencing at 10am until 12noon.

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

Bromeliads make wonderful gifts and are perfect house plants to decorate your home for Christmas. Especially with many of the bromeliads currently flowering.

Why not, also consider a membership to the Bromeliad Society of Australia for a friend or family member for Christmas? Membership is \$35 annually for hard copy and \$25 for the digital copy of the Bromelletter and further details please email MembSec@bromeliad.org.au

BSA Meetings include plant sales, club news, raffles and competitions as well as providing an opportunity to meet like minded people in a friendly and inviting environment.

Contact Ian Hook – mobile 0408 202 269, email: ianhook1@bigpond.com
website: www.bromeliad.org.au



It Is Finished

Have you ever had a special project that you wanted to finish? Maybe it was something around the home, or maybe it was your home? I remember some years ago my brother in-law had a home built. They waited well over a year for it to be completed, but when it was finally finished, they were disappointed. Structural problems began to appear, followed by many meetings with the builder.

The book of Genesis tells us that God too set out to build a special project called, Planet Earth. As a Master Builder it only took Him a few days to organise the materials and arrange everything according to His design. But unlike my brother in-law's house, "God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good..." (Genesis 1:31). Those two words 'Very good' in Hebrew means - Exceedingly beautiful or perfect. Then we read in chapter two verse one that the "heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished." The word 'finished' in Hebrew means - Complete. Thus, we see that God's creation was perfect and complete. Then it says that God took a day off (Genesis 2:2,3). God didn't rest because He was tired. God never gets tired (Isaiah 40:28). The reason He rested was to signify that His work of creation was 'perfect' and 'complete.'

Just like God finished His work of creation in six days; Jesus finished His work of salvation in six days. We call it Passion Week. The day before He was crucified Jesus prayed to His Father these words, "I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do" (John 17:4). The next day as He hung upon the cross Jesus cried out, "It is finished" (John 19:30); then He too took a day off and rested in the tomb. When Jesus cried out, "It is finished" He was signifying that His work of salvation was also 'perfect' and 'complete.'



As Christians we have great assurance and peace knowing that Jesus completed for us a perfect work. What a wonderful Saviour we have! Every week we are reminded of Christ's power to create and His power to save. Therefore, we too can rest in him. As it says in Hebrews, "There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. For he who has entered His rest, has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His" (Hebrews 4:9,10).

Our mission at Galston Adventist Church is to share the love and truth of Jesus Christ and His soon return. Please continue to pray for each other and for our community.

Steve Belson (Pastor) 0438 459 223
Galston Adventist Church - 49 Arcadia Road, Galston

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Galston Uniting Church



Galston's Top Class Concerts

The Galston Concerts have now been a part of the Galston and district community for ten years. In that time we have had some truly amazing performances of exceptional quality right here in our own church!



Louise Johnson



Samuel Giddy

The final Galston Concert for 2024 was held on Sunday 27th October and it was an absolute triumph, with outstanding performances from Louise Johnson (formerly Principal harpist with the SSO), Samuel Giddy (on the GUC heritage pipe organ) and Evgeny Sorkin and Rachael Lin on violin and piano. This was the final concert organised by Galston Concert founders Robert Harris and Dorit Herscovits and this concert was a wonderful tribute to them.

The Galston Concerts continue in 2025 under the leadership of our organist and lifetime music teacher Ken Leeson supported by Kathleen Michael and Elizabeth Garlick.

Already the lineup looks fantastic with:

- Sunday 30th March – *Ross Maio*, Accordionist Extraordinaire.
- Sunday 15th June – *Paco Lara*, Flamenco Guitarist with flamenco dancer *Deya Miranda Giner*.
- Sunday 31st August – *Kooskolas* Estonian Choir
- Sunday 2nd November – *Sean Weatherly* and *Tim Li*, multi-talented young musicians.

So save the dates!

Joy to the World – Its Christmas!

Christmas is a special time of the year for Christians the world over, and that's certainly true for all of us at Galston Uniting Church,

as we celebrate the coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ. The story of his birth in a manger, the shepherds, the three wise men complete with camels, gold, myrrh and frankincense, so that he could be the expected Messiah and our Saviour of the world, resonates with us all at this time as it has done since our childhood. It's no wonder that Christmas is a special time for children, as it is for us all! We would love to see you at one of our Christmas services.

We therefore take the opportunity to wish everyone in the community

A Very Merry Christmas



Christmas Services at Galston Uniting Church

* "Blue Christmas" service - Wednesday 18th December @ 7.30pm. A half hour reflective service for people who are grieving the loss of loved ones or relationships or who are just "not so happy" this Christmas.

* Christmas Eve – 7pm. Carols, readings and Nativity scene

* Christmas Day - 8am.

Church services continue in church at 10am on Sundays, and you can also watch our live-streams on Facebook. The church office is open on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Contact Elizabeth Garlick, Office Manager.
11 School Road, Galston. Phone 9653 2039.

News from St Benedict's

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!



range of Christmas cards. It's a pleasant change from all the tinsel and tack that is so often seen on sale at this time of year. As the picture shows, making a choice is a delightful but challenging task when there's

The wonderful Lila Bacha who recently established our piety store has transformed it into a Christmas shop for this holy season. There are so many different items to choose from, all of them reminding us of the true meaning of Christmas. They are suitable to add to your own home decorations – some will become family heirlooms – or to give as Christmas-themed gifts. The shop has 40 different nativity scenes, many candles, angels, snow globes, tree decorations and a wide

so much on offer. If you are looking for anything in particular for your Christmas celebration, contact the parish office (details below) and Lila will see if she can help.

St Benedict's Maker's Table

In November 18th ladies gathered for the Maker's Table candle-making workshop. What fun they had and what beautiful skills they learnt. The ladies worked particularly hard to roll and produce beeswax candles that will be used in some of the church services. The Maker's Table has been one of the many parish activities that have been enjoyed during 2024. Special thanks to all the parishioners who give their time to make these activities so successful, and congratulations to all who took part.

St Benedict's Christmas Services

Christmas Eve 24th December 2024: 7pm and 11.30pm (Midnight Mass commences 11.45pm) in the parish church

Christmas Day 25th December 2024: 7am in the Monastery, 9am and 10.30am (Latin Mass) in the parish church.

St Benedict's Parish services

Please check our website for service times and parish information www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia. Click on the News and Events tab to find the weekly Parish Bulletin. Or ring Paula 9653 2312 on Monday or Friday at the Parish Office, St Benedict's Catholic Church 2 Fagans Road Arcadia.

Christmas Greetings



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 thanksgiving.

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. Give thanks for the precious gift of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour and join together to sing carols of praise and thanksgiving!

(a message from Glenorie Mission Church)

"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

Glenorie Mission Church
 1409 Old Northern Rd Glenorie 2157
 Sunday service at 10am



Celebrating Jesus Christ

Christmas is certainly a time of celebration for most people! During this season it is vitally important to remember who and what and why we are celebrating!



**** We celebrate because:**

"God so loved the world (you) that He GAVE His one and only Son, so that whoever believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)

**** We celebrate because:**

"God didn't go to all the trouble of sending His Son merely to point an accusing finger; He came to help, to put the world right again." (John 3:17)

**** We celebrate by giving gifts to others because:**

"A child has been born - for us! The gift of a Son - for us! His Names will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Almighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. His ruling authority will grow and there'll be no limits to the wholeness He brings." (Isaiah 9)

**** We celebrate by spending time with our family and/or friends because:**

"Jesus IS the Way, the Truth and the Life." (John 14:6)

Many of us will reach out to gift a neighbour, a friend who is hurting or lonely because, when God created us, He put within each of us the choice to do good or evil. We are not puppets. We have choices to make!

Then, when we reflect back on 2024 and look ahead to the New Year, 2025, we can celebrate with hope because:

"Those who hope IN THE LORD will renew their strength. They will rise up with wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not faint." (Isaiah 40:31)

By believing in God through a relationship with His Son Jesus Christ, we are free to celebrate Christmas and look forward to the New Year. God bless.

Pr. Alex and Dee Valich,
Glenorie Community Church



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A Reminder, there will be A Bushfire Season this Summer

By James Wallace, Hornsby MP

Over the past few weeks since being elected, I have been spending a lot of time getting around to the many different local organizations across the Hornsby electorate, as I get acquainted with the community and gain a better understanding for the issues and challenges facing our residents.



Recently I had a meeting with Superintendent Dan Meijer, the Acting District Manager for Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Rural Fire Service, at their recently upgraded Headquarters at Cowan.

With 19 brigades, 65 vehicles (including 6 boats) and a total of 1,318 volunteers, the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai RFS District is the Hornsby Electorate's largest volunteer organization. The District volunteers are supported by 12 professional staff.

This calendar year, the organisation has responded to 557 fire calls, trained an additional 498 volunteers and held 56 training courses for the existing members. They have also undertaken 14 hazard reduction burns of around 225 hectares.

I was very impressed to go through the details of what Dan and his team have done to prepare for the 2024/25 bushfire season.

However, please do not solely rely on the RFS to save you and your property in the event of a nearby dangerous bushfire. Every resident should be "bushfire ready" and every property should be prepared for the bushfire season.

If you not ready, it is not to late and you can find more information at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

Glenorie Rural Fire Brigade is bringing Santa to town on Christmas Eve!

Santa will be making a visit around Glenorie before he sets off around the world to deliver presents.

Please have a look at the map to see where he'll be. When you hear the siren and the music, Santa's on his way!!

Note: Santa will not stop on Old Northern Road.

STARTS AT TIMARU STREET 4:00PM

STOP AT CAIRNES ROAD 4:45PM

RE-START AT POST OFFICE ROAD 5:00PM

FINISH AT GLENORIE WOOLWORTHS

Glenorie Rural Fire Brigade

Merry Christmas and A Safe Happy New Year

Glenorie Rural Fire Brigade would like to invite you to our fun filled Santa Run on Christmas Eve. This is one of our most loved events, and so exciting for the children, so please, come and join us at 4:00pm starting at Timaru Street Glenorie.

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Arcadia Rural Fire Brigade

Arcadia RFS was delighted to host the NSW State Emergency Services (SES) Minister, Jihad Dib along with the NSW Treasurer, Daniel Mookhey and the NSW RFS Commissioner Rob Rogers at the media event to announce the beginning of the bushfire season (1st October to 31st March). The event included related agency members of National Parks and Wildlife, the State Emergency Services and NSW Forestry.

During the media briefing the minister for the SES highlighted how important it is for all residents, not just those in rural areas, to have a Bushfire Survival Plan and have the Hazards Near Me app downloaded on their mobile phone.

The ministers and RFS Commissioner took to the air in the SES helicopter to view the recent hazard reduction burns in the Arcadia area. The ministers commented on the size of the area covered by bushland, the rugged terrain and the extent of housing on ridgelines adjacent to bushland. All enjoyed the beauty of the area from the air and from the ground. So very different from their surroundings at Macquarie Street and Olympic Park.



Thank you to everyone who dropped by at the Hornsby by-election sausage sizzle at the Arcadia Community Centre on 19th October, your support is greatly appreciated. Also, thanks to all who voted for our scarecrow!



Now that we are heading towards the festive season, join us and the Galston RFS brigade at the annual Fagan Park Choirs by Candlelight.

Our best wishes to all for an enjoyable and safe Christmas and 2025.



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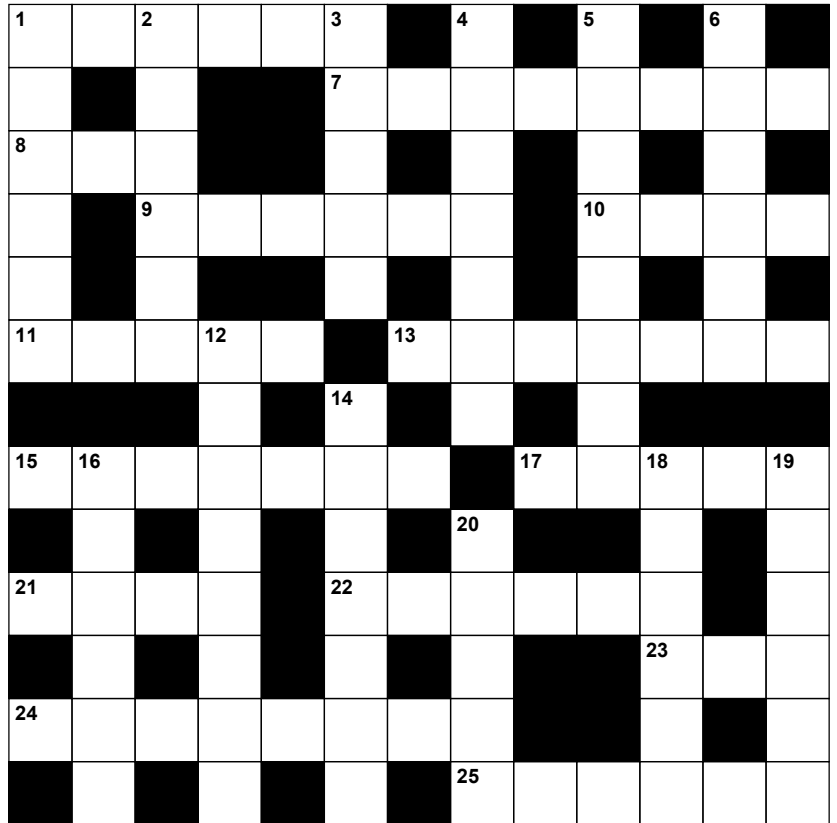
PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 01 Spout (6)
- 07 Bogs or marshes (8)
- 08 Annoy constantly (3)
- 09 Group of 12 constellations (6)
- 10 Capture a piece in chess (4)
- 11 Church instrument (5)
- 13 Highest singing voice (7)
- 15 Confused struggle (7)
- 17 Skin on top of the head (5)
- 21 List of food items available (4)
- 22 Tithes (anag) (6)
- 23 Very cold; slippery (3)
- 24 People who consume a particular beverage (8)
- 25 Gained deservedly (6)

DOWN

- 01 Papal representative (6)
- 02 Move with short sharp turns (6)
- 03 Electronic message (5)
- 04 Farm vehicle (7)
- 05 Recondite (8)
- 06 Calculate (6)
- 12 Wealthy (8)
- 14 Rattling noise (7)
- 16 Happy (6)
- 18 Something done (6)
- 19 Made a victim of (6)
- 20 Compact (5)



ANSWERS FROM NOVEMBER ISSUE

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

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

Sudoku

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 to 9.

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

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Rainfall

Rainfall recorded period 17/10/24 to 15/11/24 is **30.5mm**

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 and breeding.
 ● Paul Henry 9872 464 or 0408 617 686

ALANON Family Group
 Meets 8pm each Friday. Trying to live with someone who has a drinking problem? Come along to these meetings.
 ● Galston Community Health Centre
 ● 9264 9255

Arcadia Community Hall
 Available for functions. Inspections welcome.
 ● 136 Arcadia Road, Arcadia
 ● 9847 6504

Arcadia Galston Residents' Association
 Membership is open to all adult residents/ratepayers of postcode 2159.
 ● www.AGRA2159.com.au

Arcadian Quilters
 Every 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesdays of each month at 9.30am.
 ● Galston Community Health and Resource Centre
 ● Carole on 9894 7749

Association of Independent Retirees Ltd
 Meetings are held on the first Friday of each month at 10am.
 ● Yarrara Rd Pennant Hills
 ● John Guthrie on 9634 6727

Castle Hill Art Society
 Monthly Meetings and Art Demonstrations are every first Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm.
 ● 155 Ridgecorp Drive, Castle Hill
 ● 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 7.30-10pm.
 ● Janet 9653 2959
 ● info@circularkkeys.org
 ● www.circularkkeys.org

Dural and District Historical Society Inc
 Holds its lecture meetings on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 2pm in the Galston Uniting Church, School Road, Galston.
 ● History Cottage, 412 Galston Road, Galston is open for research by appointment.
 ● Michael Bell 9653 1365

Dural and District Prostate Cancer Support Group
 We meet the 3rd Monday of every month. 7:00pm for 7:15pm start.
 ● Blue Gum Centre Glenhaven Green 607 Old Northern Rd, Glenhaven
 ● Graham 8677 7896 or 0402 421 060

Dural and Hills District Garden Club
 Meetings at 8pm on 1st Wednesday of each month.
 ● Mid Dural Fire Station, 57 Mid Dural Road
 ● Di Glasgow 0409 909 161
 ● duralgardenclub@yahoo.com.au

Dural-Glenorie Scouts
 Joys (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!
 ● Warren Payne 0419 280 967

Dural Mens Shed
 Meets Thursday and Saturday 9am. Woodwork & Metalwork/Welding facilities.
 ● Dural Sport and Leisure Centre corner Pellitt Lane and Kenthurst Rd
 ● 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-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 - 4.00pm, and other special occasions.
 ● Ian Browning 0419 435 475
 ● friendsoffaganpark3@gmail.com

Ferry Artists Gallery
 For info on workshops & membership see
 ● www.ferryartists.org
 ● Old Northern Rd, Wisemans Ferry 2775
 ● 02 4566 4385

Galston Area Residents' Association Inc
 Meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 8pm (during school terms).
 New members always welcome.
 ● Galston Primary School Library, School Road, Galston
 ● 0403 076 175

Galston Branch CWA
 Meets on the second Wednesday of each month. New members are sure of a friendly welcome.
 ● Galston Community Health Centre
 ● Patricia 0412 948 787 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).
 ● 9485 7599

Galston Garden Club
 New members are always welcome. Meetings held at 7.30pm on the second Wednesday of every month.
 ● Galston Community Centre
 ● Lorraine Muscio 0448 478 161

Girl Guides
 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 at Galston Guide Hall and Guides (age 10-14) meet Thursdays 6-8pm at Annangrove Guide Hall.
 ● GalstonDM@girlguides-nswactnt.org.au

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

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

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

Glenorie Probuc Club
 This Club meets every 4th Wednesday at 11.00am. New members are welcome.
 ● Glenorie RSL Club
 ● Wendy 9653 1022
 ● wendyireneblack@yahoo.com.au

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

Gregoriana Arcadia
 We welcome new members to join a community choir, Gregoriana Arcadia, dedicated to learning and singing the ancient, spiritual Gregorian music. It is sung in Latin and without accompaniment. No previous choir experience or knowledge of Latin is required, and there are no fees. We practise from 2-4pm on the second Saturday in the month, in the beautiful chapel.
 ● Benedictine Monastery, Arcadia
 ● Andrew: ajhede@gmail.com

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

Hills Shire Garden Club
 Meetings held on 3rd Monday of the month at 1pm.
 ● Barton Hall, David Rd, Castle Hill
 ● 9624 5034

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

Hills District Pipe Band
 Bagpipe band based in Castle Hill. Join to learn the bagpipes, snare drum or tenor drum, or enquire for gigs.
 ● Pipeband.hillsdistrict@gmail.com
 ● www.hillsdistrictpipeband.com

Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Four Wheel Drive Club
 Is a family orientated club that meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 8pm.
 ● Hornsby Heights Community Centre, Galston Road, Hornsby Heights
 ● www.hk4wd.com.au

Pennant Hills Photographic Club
 Meets on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Mondays each month at 8pm.
 ● Uniting Church Hall cnr Boundary Rd and Bellamy St, Pennant Hills
 ● www.phpc.org.au

Probuc Club of the Hills
 Is a mixed club which meets on the second Wednesday of each month (except January) at 10am for 10.30am. New members welcome.
 ● The Galston Club
 ● Bob 9624 8954 or Ken 9629 6459

Probuc 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. We look forward to you joining with us.
 ● Galston Club 19 Arcadia Rd, 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 from members of the wider community who are 55 and over years of age.
 ● Michael Bell 9653 1365

Rotary Club of Greater Hills
 New members welcome. Meets every 1st & 3rd Monday of the month at 6.30pm for 7.00pm. Join us and help make a difference through our local and international projects. Enjoy the fellowship of fellow Rotarians in our many and varied projects and social activities.

● The Galston Club
 ● Annette 0437 148 126
 ● membership@greaterhillsrotary.org.au

Soroptimist International of The Hills District Inc
 Meets at 6.30 on the 3rd Wed of the month.
 ● Crestwood Community Centre Baulkham Hills
 ● 04 3583 7118

Social Dance Workshops
 Old time contemporary, set and couple dances. Specialising in Australian, Irish and Scottish Folk Dance. Beginners and experienced dancers. \$7.
 ● Pennant Hills Community Centre, Yarrara Road.
 ● Wilma 0413 673 339

Still Creek Landcare Group
 Have a say and help in the future of our catchments in Galston, Arcadia and Berrielle. We meet at 7.30pm on the 2nd Thursday of each month.
 ● www.StillCreekLandcare.com.au
 ● StillCreekLandcare@innet.net.au
 ● Nick 9653 2056

The Hills Trefoil Guild (Guides NSW)
 The Trefoil Guild is the adult section of Guiding which links Members, former Members; female Members of the Scout Association; and women who have not been Guides but are prepared to make the Guide Promise. Our meetings are held on the 3rd Friday of the month commencing at 10am, concluding approx 12.45pm.
 ● Guide Hall, Bounty Ave, Castle Hill
 ● Evelyn 02 9634 4987

The Shed Studio - Arcadia
 Womens Shed held on third Thursday of the month 10-12. Different creative projects each month.
 ● The Shed Studio on FB
 ● Suzanne 0419 603 122

Wanderers Bushwalking and Outdoors Club
 We have frequent bushwalks, city walks and social activities. Meetings on 2nd Tuesday each month at 8pm.
 ● Crestwood Community Centre, Crestwood Drive, Baulkham Hills
 ● John Harris 0423 167 467
 ● www.bushwalkingsw.org.au/wanderers

Churches

Christ Church
 Has a service at 9.30am every Sunday morning. You are most welcome to join us.
 ● 26 Pitt Town Road, Kenthurst
 ● Rev. Chris Baxter 0423 119 13

Dural Salvation Army
 1st Tuesday of the month at 10am for an informal worship service. Everyone welcome.
 ● 277 New Line Road Dural (entry from Old Northern Road)
 ● 0405 560 211

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 Thursdays of the school term from 12noon 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.
 ● church office 9653 2039
 ● 11 School Road Galston

Galston Seventh Day Adventist Church
 Every Saturday 9.30am to 10.45am Bible Study, 11am to 12noon Church Service.
 ● 49 Arcadia Rd Galston
 ● Minister Steve Belson 0438 459 223

Glenorie Community Church
 Pentecostal and Evangelical - meets every Sunday at 10.00am. Ladies meeting at 10.30am last Tuesday of every month. All welcome.
 ● 1507 Old Northern Road, Glenorie
 ● Pr Valich 0420 602 989
 Church 9652 0577

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

St. Columb's Anglican Church
 1st Sunday of the month 9.30 am. All welcome.
 ● 9651 1119

St Benedict's Catholic Parish
 Mass at Monastery 7am every morning.
 ● 121 Arcadia Road, Arcadia
 Mass at the Parish Church 7pm Saturday, 9am and 10.30am Sunday.
 ● Cnr Fagans Rd and Arcadia Rd
 ● 9653 2312 or Parish Priest Fr Shansana 0437 884 233

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 (see website for details).
 ● Galston and Old Northern Rd, Dural
 ● 9651 1119

St Madeleine's Catholic Church
 Mass times Mon-Fri 9.15am Sat 5.30pm Sun 8am, 10am and 5.30pm.
 ● 28 Annangrove Rd Kenthurst

Local sports associations

Asquith Indoor Carpet Bowls
 Meets every Tuesday at 9.30-12.30pm.
 ● Mt Colah Community Centre, Pierre Close, Mt Colah
 ● Jenny 9477 1855

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.
 ● 0421 315 074 or 0411 375 580

Dural Country Club
 Fishing Club meet at Dural Country Club on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm. Activities include a monthly offshore charter, estuary and open fishing, organised short stay holidays and great social BBQ's. New members welcome.
 ● Murray 0407 950 939 or Bruce 0428 970 439

Dural Rugby Club
 ● efi86029@bigpond.net.au
 ● 0412 230 328
 ● http://dural.rugbynet.com.au

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

Glenorie District Cricket Club
 Cricket Season runs from Mid September until March each year.
 ● Amanda Fraser 0411 293 499
 ● Glenoriectcc@gmail.com
 ● Les Shore Oval, Old Northern Rd Glenorie NSW 2157

Glenorie Social Golf Club
 Plays monthly.
 ● www.glenoriesl.com.au
 ● Stephen Osborne 0416 546 789

Galston Equestrian Club
 New Members are always welcome. Training/Competition days held on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month.
 ● Rural Sports Facility Centre off Mansfield Road
 ● Liz 0409 992 920
 ● www.galstonequestrianclub.org.au

Galston Netball Club
 ● secretary.galstonnetballclub@gmail.com
 ● www.galstonnc.nsw.netball.com.au

Hills AUsSI Masters Swimming Club
 Adults 18 years to 80+ are welcome to swim with us every Tuesday at 7pm. Whether you want to swim laps for competition, fitness, or simply fun and friendship.
 ● Hornsby Aquatic Centre
 ● Di 0418 432 587

Hills Hawks Football Club
 ● Ian Robertson 0418 211 131
 ● president.hillshawksfc@gmail.com

Hills Hawks Softball Club
 Our competition is held during the summer season (September to March, excluding school holidays). We welcome new members!
 ● Hayes Park, Galston
 ● hillshawks.softball.org.au

Hills Pumas Football Club
 ● Sarah Sumska 0430 883 385
 ● registrar@hillspumasfc.com.au

Tennis/Squash Social Group
 Looking for new players.
 ● 9847 6050
 ● tennisandsquash@live.com.au until March each year.

Tennis Court for Hire Galston
 Available Day or Night.
 ● Rear of Galston Community Hall
 ● Jane 9847 6050

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

Calling All Playgroups

If you are organising or running a playgroup in the local area, please let us know. We would like to help you promote your playgroup, and also let our new mums know what groups are open in the area.

Please send your Playgroup location and meeting days/hours to: editorial@galstoncommunity.com.au

GLENORIE

Located at Les Shore Oval playground, every Thursday (weather permitting) 9.30am onwards. The kids can play whilst the adults chat. Bring allergy friendly snacks to share and a picnic rug. A great informal setting to meet some locals.

LEARNING BLOCKS

Dural, Level 1, 242 New Line Rd Dural at Learning Blocks Dural. It is open to the public free of charge. Hills Playgroup takes place every Mondays restarting from July 6 between 10am-12pm. It's fun, informal and a great way to socialise.

KENTHURST

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

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 (nut-free). 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.

PLAYTIME AT THE CENTRE DURAL

Thursdays 9:30-11:30am during school terms. Playtime is a welcoming group for children aged between 0-5 and their parents.

We have lots of playtime, craft and singing. You are welcome to just turn up on the day. Contact us on 8989 0000 for more information. Located at 1 Pellitt Lane, Dural.

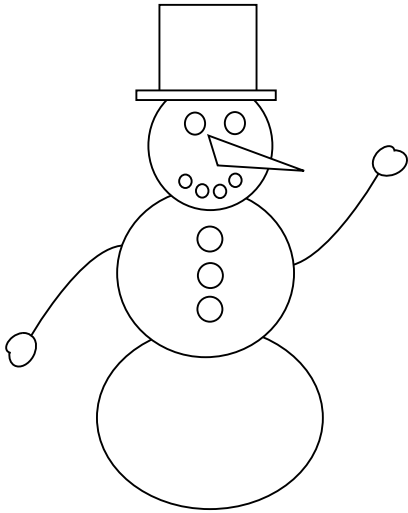
MUSIC AND PLAY

Dural Salvation Army, 277 New Line Road Dural (entry from Old Northern Road) Wednesdays during school term. 10am-11.30am. Qualified Music Therapist with a planned themed morning of music, craft and playtime. A great way to meet more local families. For more information please phone 9651 3456.

EVERY THURSDAY DURING SCHOOL TERM
 9:30AM UNTIL 11AM
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ARCADIA PUBLIC SCHOOL
 140 ARCADIA ROAD
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 Ph 9653 1119

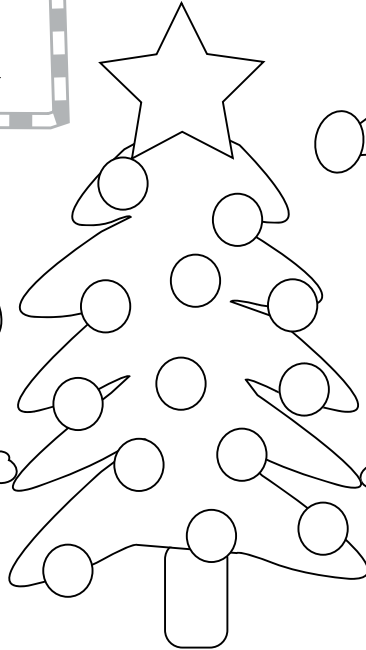
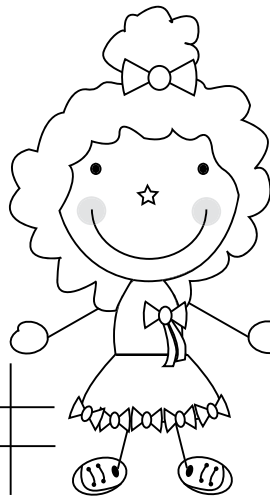
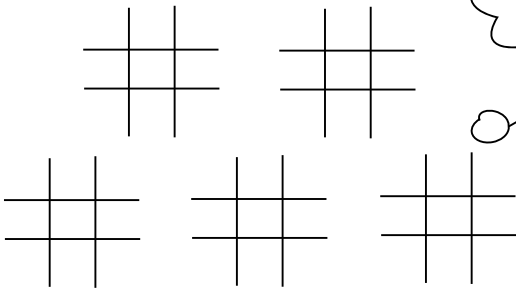
MERRY CHRISTMAS



Use MERRY CHRISTMAS to make as many words as possible

1 _____	2 _____	3 _____
4 _____	5 _____	6 _____
7 _____	8 _____	9 _____
10 _____		
11 _____		

Play Tic Tac Toe with a friend



COLOURING COMPETITION

Name: _____ Age: _____

Mum or Dad's Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

PLEASE POST TO: Belle Property Dural,

6a/829 Old Northern Rd, Dural

OR TEXT: Carolyn Wheatley on 0407 120 483

to arrange collection

Winner will be announced via social media on 20.12.24.

