

Planning Proposal - Derriwong Road and Old Northern Road, Dural - Approved

BY DIANA PATON

The Planning proposal to rezone land at 21 & 27 Derriwong Road, 614, 618 & 626 Old Northern Road, Dural was approved by NSW Planning Gateway on 31st October 2025. This rezoning will now allow the proposed development of low density housing to progress to public exhibition. Locals may recall this site was part of a larger application in 2016 which included a Northern and Southern Site. The Northern Site (which is the site which has been approved by Gateway), was previously approved in 2021, but did not progress further.

Full details of this gateway determination and proposed planning proposal can be found here, and readers are advised to do their own research. <https://pp.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/ppr/pre-exhibition/planning-proposal-derriwong-road-and-old-northern-road-dural>

To give a brief outline, taken from extracts from the planning proposal, are as follows and shown on the attached map:

- Total area of proposed site is 12.88 hectares
- The proposal will deliver 110 low density residential dwellings, plus a local park of 4000 sqm.

- 3 lots sizes are proposed, 2000 sqm, 1000sqm and 600sqm
- School pick up and drop off zone in a new proposed bypass road on the northern boundary of Dural Public School

The site will connect to the existing sewer at Dural. From the planning proposal documentation submitted, it appears that Sydney Water has confirmed this system has capacity to service this planning proposal for both sewage and potable water. Some existing overhead electrical transmissions lines which traverse the site, will be moved underground.

The above story contains extracts from the planning proposal. We cannot guarantee it's accuracy and readers should do their own research to obtain a complete understanding of the proposal.



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Merry Christmas from the GCN Team

Wow, what a year 2025 has been!

The beginning of the year brought wild weather events, resulting in power and mobile service outages across the community for several days. This was followed by the tragic homicide in Glenorie, which made front-page news across Sydney.

In June, an election surprised many with a close call between the two major parties in the Berowra electorate. We also celebrated several milestone anniversaries, including Dr. Graham Campbell's 40 years at the Galston Medical Centre and Biviano's Restaurant marking 25 years in business.

Finally, two controversial development proposals for the Johnson Road and Nati Roses sites sparked much discussion and debate. We wait to see what the New Year brings.

On behalf of the entire team at the GCN, I take this opportunity to thank all of our dedicated contributors, advertisers, and readers for your support, and wish you all a very happy and safe Christmas season.

Our next issue will be in February 2026.

Karlene x

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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

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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)

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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 and Darren Bonaccordo, 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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Glenorie Probus Club

This month saw the club meet at the Green Vibes Cafe for morning tea and plan activities.

This month saw the club take a cruise organised by the Naval Historical Society around Port Jackson, east of the Harbour Bridge. The cruise past twelve sites in that region of naval heritage and it was a surprise to most attendees just how much naval activity has been centred in that area. Fortunately the hosts were very well informed and gave a very informative brief on the various activities that had taken place at each site. Obviously some were no longer located there and were historic however many still took place. The three hour cruise left all attendees much better informed of the naval activities past and present that were undertaken in that area of the harbour. Fortunately the weather was on side and a very informative and relaxing cruise was enjoyed by all.



The guest speaker for the monthly meeting was Helen McGregor who spoke on 'Gardens around the World.' She began with the history of gardens, starting with starting with Garden of Eden. She noted that this story demonstrates that human nature is to seek beauty in the environment and this led to the creation of gardens. She covered gardens from ancient times through to the current European gardens. This included The Funeral Gardens of the

Ancient Egyptians, Ancient Chinese Gardens, Persian and Islamic Gardens, Celtic Gardens and the European gardens which have become famous over the centuries. She finished with Australan Gardens where she nominated Canberra as a good example of a city planned as a garden. She also mentioned the Sydney Aeropolis where gardens are integral in the design. A very entertaining morning.

Probus day was celebrated this month and the Club had a barbecue at one of the members house. Despite the weather being inclement, which led to the abandonment of planned outdoor activities, a very pleasant and convivial time was had by all and many did not require much dinner that night.

The Club meets on the 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

Galston CWA

The Galston CWA would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our wonderful community for your continued support throughout the year. Your generosity makes supporting locals in need possible.

Wishing you all a joyful Christmas filled with love and laughter, and a happy New Year!



We very much appreciate donations of fruits and vegetables for our homemade jams and preserves.

Galston CWA meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month at the Galston health and community centre 17 Arcadia road Galston. New members always welcome.

Our first meeting back will be Wednesday 11th February.

Contact Anne: 0404 228 209
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GARBAGE TRUCK FIRE

A fire broke out in a garbage truck near Purser Avenue and Hume Avenue, Castle Hill, on Tuesday, 4th November 2025, prompting an emergency response.

No injuries were reported, but the fire raised safety concerns.

Authorities have reminded residents that lithium-ion batteries and other hazardous items must never be placed in household bins. When compacted, these materials can ignite, putting lives and property at risk.

Residents are urged to:

- Dispose of batteries at designated drop-off points listed on Council's website
- Use battery recycling stations available at many supermarkets and hardware stores
- Keep hazardous waste out of general waste and recycling bins

VEHICLE CRASH

Around 11.30 am on Wednesday, 5th November, emergency services responded to a single-vehicle crash on Carrington Road, Castle Hill.

A 20-year-old male driver was taken to Westmead Hospital in a stable condition.

Police are appealing for dash camera footage that may have captured the incident or the moments leading up to it.

Anyone who was driving in the area at the time and has relevant footage is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or report online at www.crimestoppers.com.au

PILE BURN

Glossodia RFS was called to a large pile burn measuring about 30 by 10 metres at around 3.14 am on 30th October.

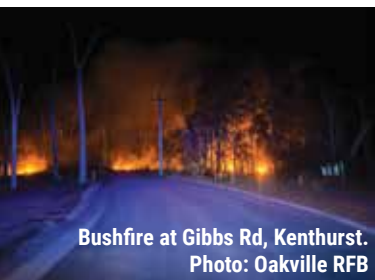
Firefighters from Glossodia, Freemans Reach, Tennyson, and Wilberforce brigades worked together to safely extinguish the blaze. Crews planned to return later in the morning to monitor the site and ensure the fire was fully out.

NSW is now on its statutory 'Bush Fire Danger Period' on the 1st of October and will stay until **31st March** next year. During such a period, residents are now required to have a fire permit from their local Fire Control Centre or NSW Rural Fire Service brigade.

The Glossodia Brigade reminds residents to obtain a free fire permit before conducting any burns. Permits can be applied for online at nswrfsprod.service-now.com/guardian_csp

Once submitted, a permit officer will inspect your property, and if approved, you'll receive a confirmation call once your fire permit is registered.

FIREWORKS BUSHFIRE



Bushfire at Gibbs Rd, Kenthurst.
Photo: Oakville RFB

Firefighters responded to a bushfire in Kenthurst on Saturday night after reports of a fire burning along Gibbs Road.

Just after 9 pm on 8th November, crews from the Oakville and Kenthurst Rural Fire Brigades arrived to find a bushfire active on both sides of the road. Firefighters worked quickly to contain the blaze,

bringing it under control soon after.

The incident occurred amid ongoing dry conditions across the district, increasing the risk of fires igniting and spreading rapidly, even at night.

Residents are reminded to review their Bush Fire Survival Plan and stay updated through the Fires Near Me app.

HILLS RFS VOLLIES HONOURED

The dedication of 57 NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) volunteers from different brigades across The Hills District was recognised at a special ceremony in Dural on 26th October 2025.

RFS Acting Assistant Commissioner Chris Ryder presented 31 Long Service Medals, 21 National Medals and several specialist honours, including three NT Wildfire Emergency Response Citations, an RFS Commissioner's Unit Citation for Service and one Humanitarian Overseas Medal.

"With length of service ranging from 10 to 61 years, many of these volunteers have dedicated a significant portion of their life to protecting others and deserve our gratitude, with a combined total of nearly 1,500 years of service," A/Assistant Commissioner Ryder said.

Among those recognised was the late Peter Goldstien, honoured posthumously for 60 years of service. His family accepted the Long Service Medal 6th Clasp on his behalf.

"A well-respected and experienced firefighter, Peter joined the Annangrove Brigade in 1964 before transferring to Maroota Brigade in 1992," A/Assistant Commissioner Ryder said.

Three Northern Territory Wildfire Emergency Response Citations were presented to Inspector Nathan Barnden and firefighters Michael McKay Hines and Glynn Lloyd from Glenorie Brigade. Ryder also acknowledged the families, friends, employers and colleagues who support volunteers in their life-saving work.

If you have any information on any of the above, please contact Crime Stoppers NSW at 1800 333 000

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Keeping your Pets Safe this Festive Season



As the year winds down and the holiday season arrives, many of us are busy preparing meals, decorating the house and celebrating with family and friends. Our pets, of course, are often right underfoot, hoping for dropped snacks or a sneaky taste of whatever is on the table. But this time of year brings a few seasonal hazards that are easy to miss.

Many traditional Christmas foods can be dangerous for pets. Items such as grapes, raisins and sultanas, often found in puddings, fruit mince pies and fruit cakes, are toxic even in small amounts. Chocolate, macadamias, cooked bones and alcohol can also cause serious illness, so it's best to keep these well out of reach.

Even foods that aren't strictly 'toxic' can still cause problems. Rich, fatty dishes like ham, crackling, gravy and roast meats are a common cause of gastrointestinal upsets over the holidays. In some cases, they can trigger pancreatitis, a painful and potentially life-threatening condition. Sticking to a pet's usual diet and avoiding table scraps is the safest way to prevent trouble.

Leftovers sitting out in warm weather, skewers, string from roasts and festive decorations can also pose risks if chewed or swallowed. A quick tidy-up after meals and keeping bins secure can help avoid accidental snacking.

With a little planning and awareness, our pets can enjoy the festive season alongside us - safely and comfortably, without any unwanted trips to the vet.

- DR CASSIE O'CALLAGHAN, HILLS DISTRICT VET



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NEWS FROM NETHERBY

Fagan Park – The Brick Kiln Site



BY JUDITH VAN MIDDELDYK

Fagan Park, as we know today, had its beginnings with Sam and Emma Fagan who moved to the Galston site on the 1st of June 1900 to establish and expand their citrus orchards and to construct a family home, Netherby Cottage, which is built in front of the original Hudson Building, c1875.

After taking up residence, Sam commenced what was to become the headquarters of the largest citrus empire in the Colony. The original timber slab sheds on the property were inadequate for Sam's planned expansion and so he built a large farm shed - an exceptionally large shed.

The Fagan Packing Shed (Agricultural Museum) is a lasting tribute to both the Fagan family and to those local tradesmen whose skills and craftsmanship we see today.

Some of those tradesmen from Galston were: Jim Aller, a very skilled timber worker whose razor sharp broadaxe squared and dressed the timbers for the Fagan Packing Shed. Another local, Dick March was a highly skilled timber worker,

Edgar Thomas was one of Galston's early brick makers (every home needed a fireplace and chimney), along with Jim Fishburn the blacksmith, in constant demand, shoeing horses repairing harnesses, the mechanic of his day, also making farm tools, chains, plus the ever essential handmade nails. The Friends still use these large, handmade, rusty nails to display items in the Packing Shed.

And in the tradition of our pioneers, Sam had a brick kiln built on the Fagan property. This kiln supplied the handmade sandstock bricks for the Fagan Packing Shed and the Galston Community Centre Hall, built in 1906. These Sandstock Bricks are of excellent quality and still in perfect condition.

SO WHERE IS FAGAN BRICK KILN?

Over the years there have been discussions and varying thoughts on the location of the brick kiln but as so often happens with local undocumented history the exact details become lost over time, and we had hit a brick wall.

The Friends of Fagan Park now had a project to locate the brick kiln site.

The research began with sorting through two filing cabinets and over 30 years

of documentation, plus the wonderful research tool "Google". Finally, The Friends came across a "Report on the Historical Archaeological Sites, Hornsby Heritage Study 1993." The report states, Fagan Park – farm buildings, packing shed, brick kiln site, and clay pits as significant archaeological sites. Bingo, there must be evidence somewhere.

So, with documents and plans in hand, we approached the Fagan Park Supervisor and had an impromptu meeting to discuss and explore sites and are now confident to have located these areas of significance.

The Friends are currently in discussion with Council to preserve and maintain these sites and to have signage erected to tell the story of Sam Fagan's Brick Kiln.

Don't forget to visit Fagan Park on Australia Day, Monday 26th for our next Open Day.

DURAL AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

News from History Cottage

With Remembrance Day so close, the topic for the Society's November meeting was most suitable. Guest speaker, Ron McIntosh, spoke of some of the soldiers from our community, killed during wars, who are only recorded on memorials as "No Known Grave". One such young man was Frederick Gartung, shown in the photograph. He was one of three boys from that family who went to WW1 and his brother, Fedor, was also killed. Gartung Road in Arcadia records where the family farm was located and Les Geelan's book Galston and Arcadia: Memories of Value has a photo of their cottage on the southern side.

The Society has had a wonderful year. Meetings have had large audiences listening to a variety of most interesting topics.



Next year's speakers have been arranged and it is hoped to have at least two tours. History Cottage will be open on the 30th November between 1.00 and 4.00pm then closed till February. The first meeting for 2026 will be on the 14th February in the Galston Uniting Church. Enquiries can also be made through 02 9653 1365.

The benefits of the Society's research material, are available to the community, and the Society thanks the community for its support over the year.

To finish the year members will hold their Christmas lunch in the Glenorie Club and wishes all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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A New Benchmark in Pitt Town Luxury

Situated within the exclusive Ayling Mews Estate, this newly completed, 74sq residence by the award-winning Binet Homes delivers a rare fusion of grandeur, craftsmanship, and contemporary living. Set on a large semi-rural block, it offers unmatched scale and sophistication for families who refuse to compromise on space, comfort, or quality.

From the grand entry foyer, the home reveals its design elegance. Raked ceilings enhance the sense of volume and light, while refined finishes create a luxurious atmosphere. The elegant formal living room flows to a spacious family room, framed by a gas fireplace. The adjoining dining areas invite relaxed, everyday living and elegant entertaining.

At the heart of the residence, the designer kitchen showcases stone benchtops, polyurethane cabinetry, a walk-in Butler's Pantry, and premium Smeg appliances. It effortlessly services casual living areas and an undercover alfresco pavilion, where a

built-in barbecue and tranquil garden views overlook the sparkling swimming pool. This is a home designed for celebration and seamless indoor-outdoor living.

The accommodation is exceptional. The primary suite is a private sanctuary, complete with a full bathroom, a walk-in dressing room, and serene views across the landscaped gardens and pool. Bedroom two offers its own walk-in robe and ensuite, while bedrooms three and four are generously oversized, each with built-in wardrobes. A dedicated guest suite with an ensuite ensures visitors are treated to equal comfort and privacy.

Beyond the primary living areas, a tiered home theatre delivers an authentic cinematic experience, and a private study supports modern work-from-home life. Upstairs, a sunlit rumpus or library offers a versatile retreat, perfect for quiet reading or a children's playroom. The expansive triple garage provides generous parking and extensive storage.

A significant feature of the estate is the fully self-contained granny flat—perfect for multigenerational living, guest accommodation, or rental potential. With an open-plan living area, a modern bathroom, a large bedroom with built-in storage, covered outdoor terraces, and its own oversized garage (ideal for a boat or caravan), it offers independence without compromise.

Engineered to a 7-star energy efficiency standard, this residence seamlessly blends luxury with sustainability, ensuring year-round comfort while reducing running costs. Every detail reflects Binet Homes' enduring commitment to quality.

Ayling Mews Estate is a lifestyle statement, offering a rare opportunity to secure one of Pitt Town's most prestigious new addresses. This home is being offered for sale with a 12-month delayed settlement if required, providing added flexibility and convenience.

YOUR SAY

A Galston Gathering at 3 Johnson Road

BY CLAIR QUEENAN

On a Sunday afternoon in Galston, our community came together for a special picnic at 3 Johnson Road. This is a much-loved green space that has brought neighbours together for over 15 years.

All Hornsby councillors were invited to join us, and I was delighted that Mayor Waddell, Councillor Tilbury, and Councillor Ball were able to attend. Their presence meant a lot to the residents who care deeply about this space and its future.

People arrived with picnic blankets, chairs, and tables, and there were plenty of delicious dishes to share. Children rode their bikes and scooters along the grass, friends caught up, and the Retro Birdie ice cream truck added a touch of nostalgia and sweetness to the afternoon.

It was a simple but powerful reminder of what makes Galston such a special place - our sense of community, connection, and care for the environment around us.

I want to sincerely thank everyone who came along, especially the councillors who took the time to listen and engage with residents. This gathering once again showcased that this land is serving its purpose - as a vibrant community space.

Residents have recently been advised that Hornsby Council is reviewing the initial proposal, and I am encouraged by that step. I hope that, after seeing how loved and well-used this area is, Council will decide against rezoning it for industrial use and instead preserve it as a park. Some places are worth protecting - and this is one of them.

Cemetery at Middle Dural

Dear Editor,

Re Your Article on the Proposed Cemetery at 788-790 Old Northern Road, Middle Dural in the November Edition.

I have been a first responder with the Middle Dural Rural Fire Brigade for 66 years and am well aware of how a major bush fire will affect the Hills area.

I am concerned that if a fire starts to the north of Middle Dural and this side of the Hawkesbury River, and everyone in the area north, west and east of Dural receives an emergency alert on their mobile phone that a bush fire is approaching many may choose to leave the area. I know the road system won't cope, particularly in the afternoon peak time which is also the peak time for most fires.

Due to the topography two of the previous fires that have threatened the area 1957 and 2002 both were heading for the property in question, so probably not the best place for people attending to take refuge.

The 2002 fire started early afternoon at Maroota South and was at Glenorie in 40 minutes, not much notice to leave early. Another issue at that fire was the chaos at the intersection of Old Northern Road and Mid Dural Road, as police were turning residents around who were wanting to return home from work to rescue animals and family, this was all happening directly in front of the proposed development site.

I feel that any development that brings large groups of people in vehicles to the area would be a mistake that could cost lives, it is already a problem. Who in their right mind would make it worse.

Len Best, Dural



State Government Plans Could Double Rural Population Using Complying Development

BY KATRINA EMMETT

The NSW Government is currently considering an amendment to the Housing SEPP that will allow a second house of any size to be built in Metropolitan and Regional rural zones (R1 to R6) and conservation zones (C3 & C4), using the Complying Development planning pathway.

As those of you that have experienced privately certified complying development next door to them, neighbours have no say on amenity impacts such as loss of privacy, overshadowing, loss of trees, noise, septic placement, etc.

Multiple councils on Sydney's urban fringes have flagged objections, including concerns that a surge in development activity in rural areas could strain infrastructure and cause conflicts with the city's agricultural land uses.

Hornsby Council made a submission to the Parliamentary Inquiry on this proposal as well as giving evidence on the negative impacts these amendments would have on Hornsby Shire. A transcript of Council's evidence can be found at the following link: [https://](https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/listofcommittees/Pages/committee-details.aspx?pk=338#tab-hearingsandtranscripts)

www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/listofcommittees/Pages/committee-details.aspx?pk=338#tab-hearingsandtranscripts

Hornsby Council caps the size of secondary homes in rural areas at 120 square metres while at Hawkesbury Council the limit is 110 square metres or 20 per cent of the floor space of the principal dwellings, whichever is greater.

Some of the proposed changes to the Housing SEPP are:

- Permitting second dwellings as complying development in all rural zones
- Eliminating size limits and thus potentially functioning as the primary dwelling
- Removing distance restrictions
- Enabling strata-like agreements
- Dual occupancies wouldn't need to be attached, potentially impacting upon agricultural land

Council's Acting General Manager, Glen Magus, is quoted in the media as saying "rural areas had specific issues that needed

to be considered as part of the development process, including on-site sewerage management requirements".

If you think traffic on Old Northern Rd and New Line Rd is bad now, imagine it with at least double the population right across Hornsby's rural lands.

Which makes Hornsby Council's determination to push ahead right now with its proposal to subdivide rural lands around the Glenorie, Galston and Dural villages quite unfathomable when it knows the State Government is likely to enact this soon

The Parliamentary Inquiry reports back in February next year and it is anticipated that the Planning Minister who supports the inquiry, will move quickly on this issue.

Hornsby Council should defer doing anything on rural subdivision until the NSW Government enacts this legislation, so that Hornsby residents know just what the impacts will be on our rural areas, our amenity and our traffic congestion.

Planning Changes Spark Debate Over Rural Zoning

Recent planning changes have prompted discussion among residents in Arcadia and across the Hills District about the future of rural land use. Under the Department of Planning's updated land-use table, Transitional Group Homes are now a permissible use in the RU4 Primary Production Small Lots zone, land traditionally reserved for small-scale agriculture and rural living.

Funding from the Department of Communities and Justice's (DCJ) Domestic Violence Core and Cluster Program has already supported the approval of a large facility in Arcadia, drawing mixed reactions from the community. In its assessment, Hornsby Council acknowledged the importance of social housing initiatives but also noted the project's scale and potential impact on surrounding residents. The report raised concerns about limited access, the absence of nearby emergency and essential services, and whether the proposal aligned with the established rural character of the area.

During the determination process, members of the Sydney North Planning Panel expressed differing views. Panel member Mark McCrindle recorded his dissenting opinion, stating:

"The number of community objections and the cogent points they made, particularly highlighting the unsuitability of the site and location, to me were compelling. I recognise the majority view of the panel, but in my view the issues of location, access, the site itself and the lack of community support were insurmountable."

While "Transitional Group Homes" are intended to provide accommodation and support for vulnerable populations, the classification covers a broad range of uses, including domestic violence refuges, drug and alcohol rehabilitation centres, and other forms of institutional housing.

Some residents and community groups argue that allowing such developments in rural zones could change the character of local areas and place

added pressure on infrastructure designed for low-density living.

A spokesperson for the Fagans Road Residents Association (FRRA) said: "We recognise the value of community support services, but location matters. Rural zones like RU4 were designed for small-scale living, not institutional-scale developments. The long-term impact on infrastructure, safety, and the rural environment needs to be carefully considered."

The planning changes have sparked broader debate about how state-level policies interact with local planning controls. Community representatives are now calling for a review of how Transitional Group Homes are defined and where they are permitted, to ensure future developments balance both social need and local suitability.

Arcadian Residents Association
Arcadia
fagansroadarcadia@gmail.com

GLENORIE PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

Tell the story in pictures... our fence is complete and the brilliant (pardon the pun) lights are ON!



In the Wal Buckingham Park, Hornsby Shire Council's contribution to the mower strip, turf, and daily watering is really paying off. Another commendable effort by the Hornsby Shire Council is the preparation for the community pavers in front of the Glenorie Memorial Hall, hoping to be completed by end of this year.



The up lights showcase the community's spirit and love for our local heritage and community life. Thanks to Karl of Aussie Stonemasons, our sandstone carvings are a classic, with their fine grain and workability creating intricate sculptures honouring the heritage and story of the Ray Whiteman Heritage Fence. The carvings create a rich tapestry, beautifully capturing history and stories in visual form, a timeless tribute to the past.



Now we want to celebrate the entire project on the

Official Grand Opening Day!
Sunday 15th February 2026.

SAVE THE DATE for a gala event.



Our last celebration for this year will be a Christmas celebration with our last General Meeting of 2025 on **Thursday 11th December** at the Glenorie RSL Club

To join online, go to our website www.glenorieprogress.org

Now for the second instalment of the Hughes Family, noting their huge contribution to Glenorie...

Last month we heard about the convict past of Matthew Hughes and Mary Small and their 14 children.

Their 8th child **Thomas Hassall Hughes** married **Eliza Spurway** (daughter of another convict George Spurway) and moved to the Ryde area.

Thomas established an orchard in the Dundas area and raised 9 children.

Their 5th child being **Thomas**.

Thomas married **Fanny Neil** in 1889 and lived in Field of Mars.

Thomas Hughes and his wife Fannie relocated their family from Field of Mars to Glenorie, around 1914.

Thomas and Fannie continued to raise their 11 surviving children (after losing William at 9 months) in Cairnes Rd with an income provided from their orchard and the breeding and selling, breaking and training of horses. Thomas loved working with horses and used his horses and equipment to help construct roads in the district.

They contributed to the Glenorie community with Thomas transporting the Methodist Church building, with his horses and slide, from Beecroft to its current location and Fannie helped set up the church and was the superintendent of the Sunday School for many years.

Their children: **Irene** (Died young); **Alfred** (known as Jack) m **Linda Mobbs**; **Maude** m **Albert Jackson**; **Herbert** m **Nellie Hopson**; **William** (Died at 9months); **Agnes** m **Fred Best**; **Allan** m **Reecy Wormleaton**; **Neil** m **Nellie Allen**; **Frank** m **Bella Sevenoaks**; **Elsie** m **Ted Schwebel**; **Thomas** m **Molly Basket** and **Gordon** m **Gwen Howe**. They grew up attending church weekly and understanding the commitment to community.



Fannie and the six eldest surviving children



Surviving children of Thomas & Eliza Hughes. Photo taken 1905-1910

Back row Mildred Susan, George Henry, Thomas, Rebecca Front row Fanny, Mary Frances, Eliza, Hannah. Ernest Albert died in 1886.



Fannie later in life

Many of the above marriages were into other local families. Most spent their adult lives living in Glenorie -along Cairnes Rd, Moores Rd and Harrison's Lane, running their own orchards, farms and sawmills. These residents were part of the local community who were instrumental in the instigation of the local RSL club and the Glenorie 'Co-operative'.

There were a lot of Hughes children who attended Glenorie Public School over the years, and a quote attributed to one Principal was 'It must be Friday because all the Hughes boys were at school and not working on the farm.' Friday was market day and no work occurred.



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Dural Cubs and Leaders Region Cuborette



Recently over 430 people attended the Greater Western Sydney Region Cuborette for 2025, at Camp Ku-Ring-Gai on the banks of the Hawkesbury in Cumberland Reach, and Dural Cubscouts and Leaders were well represented.

The weather was spectacular, and spirits were high when over 255 Cub Scouts undertook challenging activities. They tested their limits with dragon boat racing, jousting, archery, Viking games, RC car racing, Viking skills, Viking chess, an amazing maze,

spices & herbs identification, Viking writing and armour making, with an amazing wide game of skill topped off with movies under the stars – with popcorn!

The Cuborette could not have run without the help of our numerous supporters. With Scouts, Venturers and Rover Scouts designing and running the bases, several Leaders, parent helpers and carers ensuring that our youth had a tent to sleep in and food in their bellies, and extravagant gateways - what more could the Cubs dream of? The consensus is that we hold another Cuborette next year.

Scouts offer all these experiences. If you have a child with a love of the outdoors, get them to come and try Scouts. Anyone between 5 and 25 can join.

If you're older, you could consider becoming a Leader. Full training is provided, free of charge.

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

Please contact Phirooza: 0411 731 976 or phiroozab@gmail.com or Simon: simon.edwards@nsw.scouts.com.au

The Probus Club of the Hills



Guest Speaker for October was author Jo-Anne Berthelsen. Jo-Anne, spoke about humorous, and sometimes worrying events in her many travels to countries like Turkiye, England and Germany, such as finding herself and a friend in a huge hotel room in Bath with a glass four-sided shower recess in the exact centre of the room!

Our walking group enjoyed a stroll through the Wisteria Garden in Parramatta Park in October, and were able to catch the wisterias in bloom, but only just.



Late in October, members were bused to the Windyridge Gardens at Mount Wilson. We could not control the weather, but despite the rain we were able to enjoy a tour of these incredible gardens, with enormous trees and beautiful flower shows. The pine tree is 145 years old!

Despite the weather at Windyridge, we were able to still make a great day of it by visiting the Kurrajong

Radio Museum on the way back, where we were treated to some wonderful displays and nostalgia, including the Argonauts and a Dad and Dave horse race!

We are a small but very friendly Probus Club and would like to attract more members living around our base in Galston.



Membership enquiries to Bob Heyward 0427 360 389, bnlheyward@hotmail.com

Arcadian Quilting News

IT'S THE MOST 'WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR'... written in 1963 by Edward Pola and George Wyle and famously recorded by Andy Williams.

This was Andy Williams first Christmas Album.

It's still one of the most wonderful times of the year, shared by many, in so many very different ways.

Venues are booked months in advance, shops are festooned with RED, WHITE and GREEN, Christmas cakes are being sold already, some families will send cards while others will choose the new media options to contact friends and family.

The quilting groups have other options too, 'handmade' gifts!

The traditional Christmas Stocking, the Santa Sack, the promised 'Quilt-for-Christmas' from Grandma, while others of us can give a thought to share with a group or an acquaintance in the local community in our own area?

'YOUR' Community' is just around the corner ?

The local schools help out at Christmas time, you can too!

Rotary helps out at Christmas time, you can too!

The need for COMMUNITY INTERACTION is never greater than at Christmas time.

Take up a CHRISTMAS CHALLENGE??

Arcadian Quilters are doing just that this year by making a surprise bag, then filling the bag with personal requirements for homeless women.

Do you have a 'new neighbour' from another country ... perhaps an elderly, seldom seen person who is trying to do shopping alone ... a shy child who is not brave enough to say 'hello' to other children in the playground ...

we can all help to make that 'WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR' happen right here where we live in our Community !!!

Try "giving your time: a helping hand: your encouragement"... to someone new!

Find a new group: send a card to someone who needs a "hug" ... lots of opportunities are there, LOOK AROUND

TO SEE how you can be part of something bigger !!!



Arcadian Quilters are wishing for "A VERY HAPPY AND PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS" may our friends, our families and OUR COMMUNITY enjoy THIS WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR.

We meet on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesday of each month at the Community Health Centre, Galston.

Further information can be obtained from Carole on 9894 7749

Circular Keys Chorus on the world stage

BY KATH WARE

Circular Keys Chorus (CKC), from Bella Vista in the Hills District, is now officially in the top 20 women's barbershop choruses in the world. The chorus has just returned from Columbus, Ohio USA, where they performed in the 2025 Sweet Adelines International competition, coming 19th overall in the open division representing Australia.



Singing a cappella (unaccompanied) singing in four parts, CKC perform regularly in concerts and community events throughout the Sydney region, and have won many awards over the years. Vicki Dwyer, musical director of CKC said at the end of this year's event in Ohio: 'We love what we do and get so much enjoyment out of doing it. But it's only when we come to these sorts of events and compete against our peers that we're reminded how pretty damned good we really are'.

Audience members told the chorus afterwards that they were amazed at the volume and richness of sound CKC had achieved for such a comparatively small group. With 28 singers on stage, CKC was half the size or less than most of the other competitors, although back home they regularly perform with higher numbers at local events.

The next couple of months will be a busy time for the chorus – as it always is leading



up to Christmas. There will be lots of daytime and evening performances surrounded by baubles, bangles and sparkling lights, and delighted families joining in and singing along to their favourite Christmas carols.

CKC organises recruitment drives once or twice a year, often in combination with a short course in barbershop-style singing. Rehearsals are held every Wednesday evening at Bella Vista. Members come from all over Sydney and from all social demographics and ages, including students, mothers, grandmothers, business people and retirees. The glue that bonds them together is a love of beautiful music and the desire to create gorgeous harmonies for others to enjoy. For those interested in joining CKC, there will be a new membership drive early 2026 – follow them at www.facebook.com/circularkeys for upcoming details.

To learn more about CKC, visit their website www.circularkeys.org, and for all enquiries & event bookings email enquiries@circularkeys.org

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PAID ADVERTORIAL

Australia's Housing Market: Moving Into a New Phase



As we wrap up the year and look forward to a fresh, new year; there are a few takings which summarise the 2025 property market. Sydney's 2025 housing market was resilient but complex. It's being supported by tight supply, strong migration, and better

financing conditions. But affordability constraints, investor yield pressure, and supply bottlenecks are real risks. For buyers, getting into the market it has remained tough. For sellers – especially in the premium segment – conditions look favourable.



Australia's housing market is now shifting into a fresh cycle shaped by lower interest rates, stronger policy support and gradually improving household incomes. After several years marked by affordability constraints and limited supply, 2026 is expected to bring a more balanced, policy-led upswing—underpinned by renewed confidence and easing financial pressures.

Key Insights

- Expansion of the First Home Guarantee Scheme: Allowing buyers to enter the market with a 5% deposit and no mortgage insurance is likely to boost prices in its first year by bringing forward demand from first-home buyers.
- Lower interest rates: Cuts delivered in 2025 will continue to fuel price growth through 2026, even as expectations for further reductions fade.
- Rising household incomes: Moderate real income gains are helping rebuild purchasing power and soften some affordability challenges.



- Affordability constraints to return: In the second half of 2026, affordability ceilings are likely to temper growth—especially in Adelaide, Brisbane and Perth, where prices have already climbed significantly.

If you would like to chat through your future plans for 2026 please reach out.

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Galston Library

The Big Summer Read is here! Join us this summer for Australia's biggest library-supported reading challenge for kids and teens aged 0-18. The Big Summer Read is free and starts on 1st December 2025 and finishes on 31st January 2026. Readers will have the opportunity to track their reading and win great prizes. Visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library for more information and pop into your nearest Hornsby Shire Library branch to collect your Big Summer Read starter kit.

ADULT FICTION

DO WE DESERVE THIS? BY ELEANOR ELLIOTT THOMAS

Bean Halloway is still figuring out what she wants from her life. She says she doesn't care about money, but suddenly she finds herself in possession of a lottery ticket worth millions – a lottery ticket intended for Bean's mother Nina before an accident leaves Nina in a coma. Bean and her siblings initially agree to hold on to the ticket until Nina wakes up. Then they start having other ideas.

Do we deserve this? is a darkly comedic take on dysfunctional families, perfect for fans of *The White Lotus*.



YOUNG ADULT FICTION

SNOWED IN AT THE WILDEST DREAMS BOOKSHOP BY GRACIE PAGE

Ivy's first term at art college hasn't gone to plan so she's looking forward to a quiet winter holiday working at the Wildest Dreams Bookshop. Except, her sleepy small town is suddenly full of tourists, including Trip, who's desperate for Ivy to show him the sights. Ivy doesn't think there's much of interest in her hometown, but can seeing it through Trip's eyes give her a fresh perspective and renewed creativity?

Gracie Page has written a gorgeously cosy, small-town romcom, that will delight fans of Lynn Painter and Jenny Han.



Reserve your copy at hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library, via the Hornsby Shire Libraries app or call Galston Library on 02 9847 6160.

ADVERTORIAL

Holiday Tips for Happy Pets (and a Safe Home)

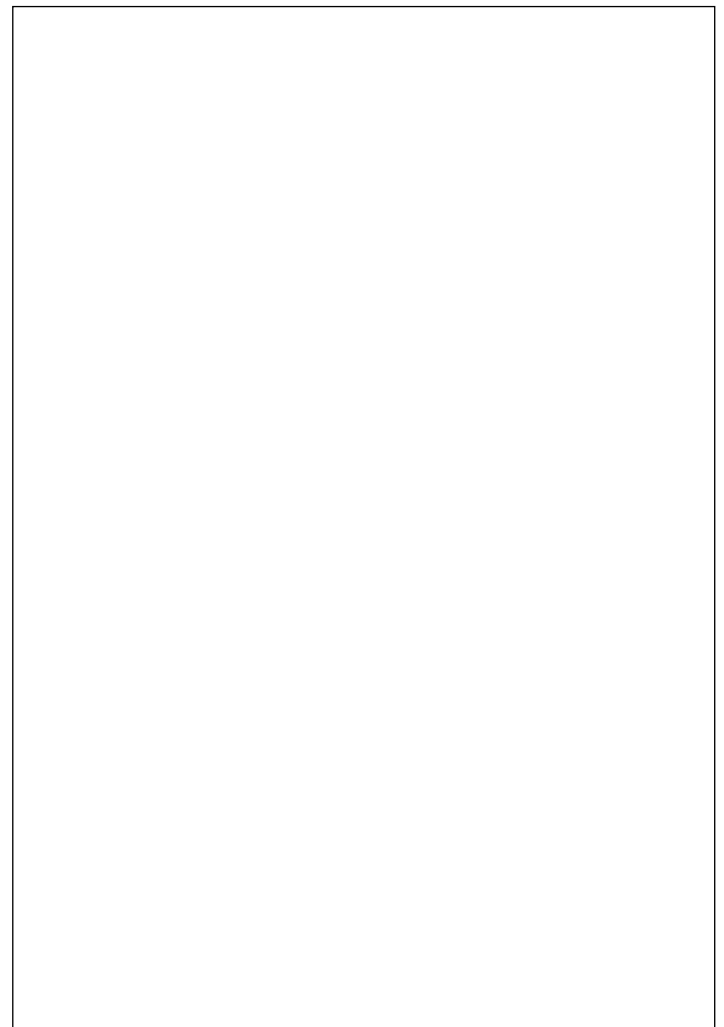
As you pack for that long-awaited holiday, your pets are probably watching with suspicion: "Excuse me... who's feeding me?"



A little planning can keep tails wagging (and paws off the furniture).

- Stick to the schedule – pets love routine almost as much as treats.
- Leave your scent – that old gym T-shirt? Turns out it's priceless emotional support.
- Practice short absences – so they don't stage a sit-in by the suitcase.
- Secure the fort – check gates, doors, and any "great escape" opportunities.
- Request updates – photos of your pet looking smug at home will melt your heart.
- Keep them home – less stress, fewer strange smells, more naps.

Bonus tip: a reliable home pet care service can double as a home guardian – watering plants, collecting mail, and keeping your place looking lively while you're off making memories.



DURAL & DISTRICT PROSTATE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

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

7:00pm for 7:15pm

The Blue Gum Centre
Glenhaven Green
607 Old Northern Road, Glenhaven

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Ph: 8677 7896 or 0402 421 062
Email: gstaggs@accsoft.com.au

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330-334 Galston Road, Galston.

You may have to pay a departure fee when you leave this village which may impact on the capital gains received.

Mayor's Christmas Library Amnesty Swaps Fines for Food



This Christmas, Hills residents can have their overdue library fines waived by donating non-perishable food items as part of the Mayor's Christmas Library Fine Amnesty.

Hills library members are invited to donate long-life food items such as biscuits, canned goods, and tea. All contributions will go towards supporting local families in need, helping to spread kindness and generosity throughout the Hills community this festive season.

Mayor of The Hills Shire, Dr Michelle Byrne, encouraged all residents to take part in her Christmas Appeal and Library Fine Amnesty.

"I am incredibly proud of this community-driven initiative, which partners with Anglicare's Mobile Community Pantry to provide affordable food options to individuals and families doing it tough, particularly during the festive season," Mayor Byrne said.

"Beyond supporting this worthy cause, the Library Fine Amnesty also helps return valuable resources to the community, bringing old books back to our library shelves for everyone to enjoy.

"Whether or not you have a library fine, everyone can bring a donation. Let's see if we can top last year's record of 2,132 food items and make it our biggest year yet, helping even more local families enjoy a brighter Christmas."

Anglicare's Community Pantry has provided essential support to over 27,700 customers, distributing 20,200 affordable pantry bags and 11,400 affordable food bags to those in need.

"The Community Pantry is a partnership between local Anglican church and Anglicare. Together, we provide low-cost groceries to help individuals and families in reducing their cost of living and stay connected with the local community," an Anglicare spokesperson said.

"What makes this partnership special is that it serves people holistically – meeting more than only physical needs through food, but also social and emotional needs by welcoming people into friendship and community."

The 2025 Library Fine Amnesty will run from Saturday, 15th November to Sunday, 14th December at all Hills Shire Libraries.

Acceptable non-perishable food items include:

- Tinned ham or chunky soup (450g)
 - Tinned salmon or tuna (415g)
 - Tea (100pk)
 - Coffee (100g)
 - Packet of biscuits (no chocolate biscuits)
 - Dried pasta (500g)
 - Long-life milk
 - Tinned fruit and vegetables (425g)
 - Jam (500g)
 - Pasta sauce
- Standard sizes are preferred.
(Please note that chocolate or chocolate-coated items unfortunately cannot be accepted, as they may melt.)



Hello Residents,

At last week's general meeting, Hornsby Council voted to proceed with the Glenorie Village Place Plan, guiding future development with more housing options, local businesses, and community facilities. This follows the adoption of the Place Plan and Investigation Report, which looks at housing diversity, commercial opportunities, and mixed-use development. Council will now begin preparing a planning proposal to deliver the plan's key actions.



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR GLENORIE

Housing: More diverse options such as smaller rural lots and townhouses, allowing families who enjoy the semi-rural lifestyle to stay in the area as their needs change.

Commercial growth: A proposed mix of commercial and residential development at Cairnes Road and Old Northern Road, supporting small businesses in the village centre.

Coordination: A joint approach with The Hills Shire Council, recognising that Glenorie spans both local government areas.

During the week, I had the pleasure of attending the **Remembrance Day ceremony** at the WWI Cenotaph at Glenorie Memorial. The event brought together a thoughtful and respectful gathering, including State Members of Parliament, Glenorie Public School students, and local residents who came to pay their respects. The atmosphere was solemn yet community-minded, reflecting the spirit of Glenorie and its commitment to honouring those who served. It was a moving ceremony conducted primarily by the students of Glenorie Public School, who all did an excellent job in leading the proceedings with dignity and confidence well beyond their years. Their readings and reflections added a heartfelt sincerity to the morning, reminding everyone present of the importance of passing on these stories of sacrifice to the next generation.

Creating safe roads for horses is vital in rural areas where riders and drivers share public spaces. Horses can be easily startled by noise or fast-moving vehicles, so clear signage, wider road shoulders, and designated bridle paths help keep everyone safe. Public awareness about how to pass horses responsibly also reduces the risk of accidents.

Fiona Baldwin, a local rider and lifelong equestrian from Galston Equestrian Club, is conducting a survey to understand how many horses and riders are in our area. The results will help build a clearer picture of the local equestrian community and support calls to Council and Transport NSW for improved safety signage, driver awareness, and road-sharing measures.

Take the survey: <https://forms.gle/ZUQ6jYMQRhGpcnS6>



Julian Leaser

FEDERAL MEMBER
FOR BEROWRA



Primary Student's Big Idea to Support Mental Health

Sometimes the best ideas come from the youngest people in our community. Recently, I received a letter from Ashleigh Dewhurst, who noticed that some children feel too shy or uncertain to tell a teacher when something is troubling them.

Ashleigh wanted to do something about.

Her idea was for a "voice letterbox" at school, where students could write or draw what's on their mind and post it privately. Teachers and principals could then read those notes and make sure no child's concern goes unheard.

I subsequently wrote to our local Men's Sheds about building these boxes for schools in our area, in addition to reaching out to our local schools to encourage them to take up the initiative.

The response has been overwhelmingly positive so far with Kenthurst, Hornsby-Berowra, North Epping, Hornsby Woodworking and Wisemans Ferry Men's Sheds committing to building the letterboxes.

I was proud to share Ashleigh's idea in the Australian Parliament and help bring the community together to begin bringing her idea to life. It's a reminder that real change can begin with our youngest voices.



From the desk of
James Wallace

MEMBER FOR HORNSBY



Nancy Irene Horne (Nan) Turns 100!

Our community is proudly celebrating the 100th birthday of Nancy Irene Horne (Nan), one of our most remarkable and beloved community leaders.

This milestone gives us a chance to reflect on Nan's kindness, leadership and decades of service that have shaped the Hornsby area into the strong and welcoming community we know today.

Nan moved to Cherrybrook in 1962, when the area was still semi-rural, with dirt roads, orchards and open paddocks.

From her earliest days here, she committed herself to supporting local families and helping build a community where everyone felt included.

In 1987, recognising the need for greater early learning opportunities, Nan helped establish the Cherrybrook Community Pre-School.

Later that year, she was elected to Hornsby Shire Council, beginning 21 years of dedicated service.

Nan made history as the first woman to lead Hornsby Shire Council, serving as President before the title became Mayor. She remains the only woman to have held that office.

Nan led with humility, strength and an unwavering commitment to community values.

To celebrate her 100th birthday and express our gratitude, I visited Nan with Hornsby Shire Mayor Warren Waddell, and we also had the pleasure of meeting Nan's daughter, Dianne Donald.

Nan carries a strong local story through her husband's family connection to Samuel Henry Horne, the ex-convict turned hero policeman after whom Hornsby is named.

Happy 100th birthday, Nan, and thank you for your extraordinary contribution to our community.



ADVERTORIAL

Dec Locals – Fire Alert, Watch Out

We people who live in the Hills area are often close to National Park reserves. We can't help notice the way trees are starting to experience extreme moisture stress, just watch the leaves falling.

Those leaves evolve into a mat that can become a bed for flying embers. Sweep up the leaves, don't leave them lying around. Get Aussie Pumps Fire Survival Guide. It's FREE and is available from all the best pump outlets in the area.

Make sure your property and family are safe. It's not too late.

PROTECT YOUR HORSE

It's widely known that the biggest concentration of equine activity is in Sydney's Hills district. Anywhere from Galston or Kenthurst



through to the river, and back to Windsor and Richmond.

Horses are beautiful and elegant and that is why we love them. Here are some pointers for how to keep your horses safe.

Choose a suitable low risk area, and move stock before extreme fire danger.

Ensure there is adequate water and fodder in case they need to stay for a long period. Horses should be in an open paddock so they can move freely. Remove rugs and halters with plastic or metal fittings. Consider using a rope holder.

For possible identification, spray paint your mobile number on their coat.

Don't open gates that allow stock to access public roads. Contact Primary Industries for further information.

All of this and loads more is in Aussie's Fire Survival Guide. Get your copy and start planning and acting now.

Discover your summer staycation in the Bushland Shire

Hornsby Shire Council is inviting residents and visitors to say *Hello Summer* and make the most of the season right here in Hornsby Shire. With so much to explore on your doorstep, from scenic walking trails and picnic spots to riverside views and water sports, it's time to discover your new favourite spot in the Shire, without breaking the bank.

Here are a few ideas to inspire your summer staycation:

Get close to nature and relax at **Crosslands Reserve**, a gorgeous setting in Hornsby Heights within Berowra Valley National Park that is great for picnics, camping, bushwalking and kayaking. There is also a playground with a flying fox and a bicycle track to keep the kids busy.

Join in the fun at one of Council's events for kids this summer: Play **Hide and Go Creek** and search for Craig the cheeky freshwater spiny crayfish while exploring creeks and learning simple ways to protect our waterways or take part in the **Big Summer Read**, Hornsby Shire Libraries' reading challenge with great incentives to inspire a love of reading. You can also browse the markets in Hornsby Mall, enjoy lunch at a local café, or visit **Wallerobba Arts and Cultural Centre** for a dose of creativity.

Cool off or work up a sweat at **Hornsby** or **Galston Aquatic and Leisure Centre**, where

you can swim laps, join classes or hit the gym in air-conditioned comfort. For those who prefer the outdoors, head to a park where fitness equipment and open spaces make it easy to walk, run and work out in the fresh air, such as **Rofe Park**, **Berry Park** or **Ruddock Park**.

Enjoy a perfect picnic day out at the stunning **Fagan Park**. With lakes, manicured gardens, rolling green space, bush walks, playgrounds, picnic shelters and barbecue facilities, it's one of Hornsby Shire's most beautiful and award-winning attractions. It's also where Council's Australia Day event, **Fun, Food and Live Beats!**, will be held on 26th January, from 10.30am.

Try a new playground like **Brickpit Park Playground** in Thornleigh, where older children can test their abilities and speed on the junior ninja course against a large mounted solar-powered stopwatch and all children will enjoy making use of the in-ground water sprays to cool off.

Enjoy a walk or cycle along the newly constructed **Kangaroo Point Boardwalk** and shared pathway at Brooklyn, between Kangaroo Point and Seymours Creek. Perfect for weekend adventures, this one-kilometre boardwalk winds through



spectacular mangroves and bushland, and when you're ready to cool off, take a dip or relax riverside at **Brooklyn Baths**.

Head out to **Wisemans Ferry** on the Hawkesbury River – the perfect location for a day on the water.

The charming village is home to a three-lane boat ramp, as well as a pontoon, amenities and plenty of parking for cars and trailers. There is also a new playground, a tennis court, and a mangrove walk by the waterfront.

"There's so much to enjoy in Hornsby Shire during the summer months – from cooling off at one of our aquatic centres to relaxing under a shady tree with a book from the library," said Hornsby Shire Council Mayor Warren Waddell.

"It's easy to make the most of the season without spending a fortune, with plenty of options to stay active, connected and unwind close to home."

Hello Summer is a Hornsby Shire Council's summer campaign to increase awareness of Council's events and facilities during the summer months. To learn more about what to do in Hornsby Shire, visit: www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Resignation of Hornsby Shire Council General Manager

Following its meeting on 12th November, Hornsby Shire Council advises that it has formally accepted the resignation of General Manager Steven Head, who has made the decision to step down from his role for personal reasons.

Steven has served as General Manager since 2018, bringing a wealth of experience from senior roles in metropolitan Sydney councils and the NSW Government. Over the past six years, he has made a significant and lasting contribution to Hornsby Shire, helping to shape its future through a number of transformative projects and initiatives.

Under Steven's leadership, Council delivered key milestones including the Hornsby Town Centre Masterplan and a substantial uplift in capital works, notably the Hornsby



Park project. His dedication and passion to this project have resulted in a substantial transformation of the site. He also guided the development of strategic frameworks such as Your Vision Your Future, the Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS), and the Local Environmental Plan (LEP) review.

Steven's tenure also saw the introduction of an organisational leadership program, the adoption of a Special Rate Variation, and improvements to Council's customer service and technology systems. He played a steadying role during challenging times, including the COVID-19 pandemic and severe weather events, ensuring continued support and services for our community.

Throughout his time with Council, Steven remained committed to

financial sustainability, with the organisation maintaining a strong and stable financial position paving the way for a positive future.

Steven was also a Board Member of Statewide Mutual, Council's insurer and was a leading figure in the local government waste management sector.

Mayor Warren Waddell said:

"Steven Head has been a dedicated and thoughtful leader, helping to strengthen Hornsby Shire's reputation for sound financial management and delivering projects that have enriched our community. We are grateful for his service and wish him all the very best in the next chapter of his journey."

At the same meeting, Council resolved to appoint Glen Magus, Director Corporate Support, as Acting General Manager. Glen brings extensive experience and a deep understanding of Council operations and will provide continuity and stability during this transition period.

Council extends its thanks to Steven Head for his years of leadership and commitment to the Shire. We respect his privacy and wish him well for the future.

Hornsby Shire's Fagan Park Children's Forest wins National Award of Excellence

Hornsby Shire Council is proud to announce that the Fagan Park Children's Forest has been awarded the 2025 Parks and Leisure Australia (PLA) National Award of Excellence for Playspace under \$500,000. This prestigious award celebrates innovation, community impact, and the creation of play spaces that foster childhood development, while promoting vibrant, sustainable, and inclusive communities.

Delivered in collaboration with Fiona Robbbé of Fiona Robbbé Landscape Architects, the Fagan Park Children's Forest was commended for its nature-based, educational design and its strong alignment with Council's Urban Forest Strategy and Play Plan. Designed in close consultation with local schools, the space provides an immersive environment where children can connect with nature and learn about the value of trees.

This latest accolade follows a series of recognitions for the multi-award-winning project, including:

- NSW PLA Award for Playspace under \$500,000 earlier this year
- AILA Landscape Architecture Award
- Kidsafe Australia National Playspace Design Award

The Fagan Park Children's Forest is the first park in New South Wales designed specifically to nurture children's relationship with the natural world. It features:

- Educational discovery pods
- Timber animal interactions
- Outdoor learning space and Yarning Circle
- A pond with stepping stones
- Grassed picnic areas and accessible pathways

This innovative playspace serves as an educational model showcasing the importance of trees and biodiversity.

"Hornsby Shire is proud to lead the way in creating spaces that inspire children to connect with nature. The Fagan Park Children's Forest is more than a playground, it's a living classroom that encourages



curiosity, learning, and a lifelong appreciation for the environment," said Hornsby Shire Mayor Warren Waddell.

"Winning this national award is a testament to the vision and collaboration that made this project possible."

This project is proudly funded by the NSW Government in association with Hornsby Shire Council.

Looking ahead, Hornsby Shire Council is excited to announce that a tree house, funded in part by a NSW Government Crown Reserve Improvement Fund Grant, is planned for construction within the Fagan Park Children's Forest by Spring 2026, further enhancing this unique destination for families.

For further information on the Fagan Park Children's Forest visit <https://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/Community/Sports-and-recreation/Parks-and-playgrounds/Playgrounds/Fagan-Park-Childrens-Forest>



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Cricket Pitches Across The Hills Vandalised

Senseless vandals have trashed three cricket pitches across The Hills, forcing the relocation of games in the middle of the cricket season and costing ratepayers thousands of dollars.

The three separate incidents occurred over recent weeks at Les Shore Reserve in Glenorie, Glenhaven Oval in Glenhaven, and Fred Caterson Reserve in Castle Hill.

The latest incident occurred in the early hours of Sunday morning at Les Shore Reserve. Members of the Glenorie District Cricket Club arrived to find tyre marks across Field One, leaving the pitch unusable and resulting in one of their games being moved to another field.



Police have launched an investigation into the matter.

Another attack happened at Fred Caterson Reserve, with the synthetic pitch set on fire, requiring full replacement at a cost of \$7,000. A rude image was also spray painted onto the wicket.

At Glenhaven Oval an alleged e-bike was driven across the pitch, leaving deep grooves. Repairs are underway and will cost Council upwards of \$7,000.

Mayor of The Hills Shire, Dr Michelle Byrne, condemned the acts which have caused serious disruption to local cricket competitions.

“Five minutes of brainless fun has ruined an entire season of cricket for three clubs,” Mayor Byrne said.

“Council is assessing the full extent of the damage and will confirm repair costs in the coming days.

Sadly, these costs will ultimately fall on our ratepayers, which is unacceptable.

“This is not fair on the community, the police, the sports clubs and Council who now faces the burden of repairs and diverting resources from more important priorities.”

Council is urging residents to assist Hills Police Area Command with their investigation.

“If you have CCTV footage or any information, please contact Hills Police Area Command or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000,” Mayor Byrne said.

“I ask that the community keep an eye out. If they hear or see anything that is unusual, please contact police immediately so that we can catch these perpetrators in the act.”



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COUNCIL NEWS

A statement from Mayor Warren Waddell in response to the tragic accident in Hornsby

On behalf of the Council, staff and community of Hornsby Shire, I would like to express my deep shock and sadness at the tragic accident that occurred in Hornsby this weekend, which claimed the life of a young mother and her unborn child.

I extend my sincere condolences to her family and loved ones and pray that they can find some peace at this time of unbearable grief.

My thoughts are also with all those affected by this heartbreaking incident, including those who witnessed it.

I also want to extend my sincere gratitude to our first responders for their professionalism and compassion in such difficult and confronting circumstances. Their dedication to our community in times of tragedy is truly commendable.

This is an unimaginable loss, and our community grieves alongside the family during this devastating time.

Dural Bowling Club

Vale Nick Sheerin



Nick Sheerin one of the long serving Member of Dural Bowling Club passed away on the 25th August 2025. He was still playing this year and was runners up in the Triple competition.

He was remembered at his celebrations of life at the Galston Club on the 14th November.

Carnival

A very enjoyable day of bowls and social interchange was what made the Living Choice Carnival, staged on Monday, 20th October a success. A small field of 12 teams took part and the winning team was from Pennant Hills. Special thanks must go to our sponsors (Living Choice) the Match Committee members, their spouses and the umpire for the day.

Women's Major Singles

The Women's Major Singles Final, played on 28th October, saw an enthralling game between Lyn Luxford and Kate Liu.

Lyn came out triumphant after Kate put up some challenging bowls. Congratulations to Lyn on her maiden major title and commiserations to Kate.



Men's Major Single

The semifinals will be played this Saturday 15th November 2025. This is the last tournament of the year.

Christmas Lunch and Presentation

The members of Dural Bowlers will celebrate the end of the season with a lunch on **Saturday 13th December** which will be followed with the presentation of awards to the winners and runners up of this season competitions.

Anyone interested in playing bowls please contact Robert on 0411 375 580.

Dural BOCCE Club

October was a quiet time at Dural Bocce Club with our usual games continuing on Tuesday mornings and Friday evenings. At the same time our members were eagerly following the efforts of the Australian Under 18 and Under 23 Bocce players as they competed overseas at the prestigious Denis Rivera International Challenge in Monaco and the World Junior Championships in Mersin, Türkiye. It was exciting to see these young bocce players excel on the international stage especially as we met some of them when they took part in a coaching clinic the Dural Club hosted in September.

One of the young athletes we met at the clinic was Melissa Danelutti and it was fantastic to see her gain the silver medal in the Precision Throw division of the competition in Monaco. To achieve a silver at an international level is amazing and shows commitment and a dedication to her training but we also would like to think that a little bit of our Dural magic was the extra ingredient that helped her along the way.



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Enriching Extracurricular



At Glenorie Public School, our explicit teaching practices continue to ensure success for all learners. Meanwhile, we also enjoy showcasing our extracurricular activities to the community and sharing the joy that comes with being involved in learning, teamwork, and personal growth beyond the classroom.

On Friday 14th November, our Glenorie Public School hall was transformed into a magical kingdom for the enchanting production of Cinderella, brought to life by the incredible efforts of Miss O'Brien, Miss Noakes, Mrs Newbold, Miss Koeford, and our talented students. Countless hours of script writing, sewing, prop making and rehearsing have gone into the creation of this outstanding performance.



Congratulations to the cast on their expert knowledge of the script, choreography and stage prompts. The dedicated and talented Glenorie students shone brightly in every role, delivering a lively drama performance, complemented by the choir, dance groups and school band. Every student involved did an excellent job of contributing to the overall performance. Their creativity and enthusiasm were evident throughout the evening, making the production a memorable highlight of our school year.

Congratulations to all involved for making Cinderella a night to remember!

Our K-2 students had an exciting day at the Australian Reptile Park, exploring and learning through hands-on activities involving a variety of reptiles and other native animals, deepening their understanding and appreciation of living things. Throughout the day, the students engaged in interactive talks, observing animals in their naturalistic habitats. The excitement and curiosity on their faces were a joy to see! A special thank you to our parent helpers, whose support and involvement were invaluable in ensuring the safety and enjoyment of all the children.

Stage 3 students recently embarked on an exciting adventure to The Great Aussie Bush Camp in Tea Gardens. The camp provided a wonderful opportunity for the students to develop resilience, teamwork, and physical skills. Students participated in a range of



activities such as bushwalking, raft building and orienteering, as well as soaring through the sky on the giant swing and flying fox! Thank you to our dedicated teachers who made the camp possible and ensured a memorable and empowering experience for our students.

At Glenorie Public School, every child is known, valued, cared for and challenged to reach their full potential. If you would like to join our Glenorie school community, please contact the office for enrolment information. We are open for enrolments K-6.

**REBECCA WALLACE,
PRINCIPAL**

Middle Dural Public School



At Middle Dural PS we always strive to meet all of the academic, creative, sporting and social-emotional needs of our students.

Creative arts play a vital role in meeting the needs of students identified as High Potential and Gifted Education (HPGE) by providing a unique avenue for self-expression, critical thinking, and innovation. Creative arts encourage exploration beyond traditional academic boundaries, allowing HPGE students to develop complex problem-solving skills, emotional intelligence, and original ideas.

At Middle Dural we frequently employ specialist teachers to enhance opportunities for our students. Our P&C have subsidised a number of creative programs this year including drama, music and art.



This term we have Mrs Denahy coming every Wednesday to offer her expertise in Art. She is teaching the students an Art unit on 'This Great Southern Land'. Children are working in small groups of a maximum of 12 children to allow for personalised support.



We are learning about the signs & symbols Indigenous Australians used to communicate, their weaving and carving practices, as well as the history of our nation's flag and The First Fleet. We have also looked at the flora and fauna of this great nation and experimented widely with paint, clay, pencils and wool.

If you would like to join our lovely school community, contact us on 9651 1761 or email us at [middeldura-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:middledura-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au) or visit our website to see our latest newsletter and other amazing activities. We are happy to offer school tours and we consider all enrolment applications.



Transforming Learning at Galston High School: HPGE Infrastructure Works Underway



Galston High School is proud to announce its selection for the 2026 High Potential Partner School Program (HPGE)—a significant NSW Department of Education initiative designed to elevate learning opportunities for high potential and gifted students in priority schools. As part of the program, GHS will receive targeted funding to upgrade specialist teaching spaces, strengthen talent development programs, and further embed the HPGE Education policy across our learning community.

The selection criteria reflect schools with increasing enrolment demand, diverse student needs, and strong capacity for growth—areas where Galston High continues to excel. The program’s vision aligns closely with our own: ensuring every learner receives a high-quality education and achieves ambitious learning goals each year.

Already known for our warm, inclusive culture—where every student is known, valued, cared for and challenged—this investment will expand our ability to offer rich, future-focused learning pathways. Planned infrastructure works include:

- Upgraded TAS woodwork rooms aligned with current industry standards
- Modernised visual arts studio spaces
- Refreshed textiles and design spaces
- Purpose-built music studios
- Revamped STEM laboratories
- Upgraded sporting facilities, including resurfaced courts, new markings and fencing
- A revitalised front-of-school precinct

These improvements will further strengthen our commitment to academic excellence, creative expression, and hands-on, real-world learning.

We invite prospective families and community members to witness this exciting transformation firsthand at the Galston High School Open Day on Wednesday, 25th February. Come and see how we are shaping extraordinary opportunities for every student.

GHS GALSTON HIGH SCHOOL 2026 OPEN DAY
SAVE THE DATE
 Wednesday 25th February 2026

Join us on Wednesday, 25th February, for Open Day to see why Galston High School offers a compelling choice for your child's education. (Cover to the date, we will send out further details on how to register and secure your tour booking.)

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Hillside Happenings



It's been a fun, vibrant finish to 2025 at Hillside Public School - packed with learning, laughter, and lasting memories!

Our Years 3-6 students have been kicking goals (and blocks!) in karate lessons with Sensei Jordan from Black Belt Martial Arts Hornsby - building confidence, focus, and personal safety skills along the way.

Adding to the excitement, our visit to **Canoelands Orchard** was a highlight! Tractor rides, fruit picking, yard games, and learning about pollinators made for a perfect day in the sunshine.

Meanwhile, our Year 5 and 6 students took their learning on the road to **Canberra!** From Parliament House to the War Memorial and Questacon, it was a jam-packed adventure full of fun, friendship, and hands-on learning about Australia's history and democracy.

We're now wrapping up the year with all our favourite events - 2026 Captains' speeches and elections, presentation assembly, Year 6 farewell, school disco, fun day, and the crowd-favourite talent quest. We can't wait to celebrate our students' amazing talents!

Enrolling Now for 2026 Kindergarten to Year 6!

Looking for a school that feels like family? At Hillside Public School, small classes mean big attention, loads of fun, and endless opportunities to shine. **Out-of-area applications welcome!**

Join our wonderful school community - visit our website to see what's happening at Hillside or book a school tour to experience the Hillside difference. **We can't wait to meet our future Hillside stars!**

A huge thank you to our amazing students, staff, and families for another fantastic year of learning and laughter. Wishing everyone a safe, happy, and well-earned holiday - see you in 2026 for another amazing year at Hillside Public School!

Christmas Time - Again!



"Joy to the World!" the angels sang.

But we know that sometimes it is difficult to experience that joy.

There are all the expectations that can crowd out the "reason for the season".

There can be the busyness of end of year activities - and yes, sometimes we schools can add to that.

But we here at Pacific Hills Christian School work to keep the story alive. It does not need much support to come back with impact - because there is indeed so much wonder within it.

G.K Chesterton, a wonderful write in the early 1900's, wrote that when Jesus was born in a small cave cleft into a rock (which is probably the kind of 'stable' where Jesus was laid as a baby), the whole world changed, and that history from that time forth would move in a different direction.

Any review of world history would agree with that insight. So would the lives of the many millions upon millions of people who have lived differently because Christmas has become the pivotal moment of meaning in their lives.

So, this Christmas, look for the joy. And if you are finding it hard to find, go back to the origins of Christmas. Read the story again, quietly, with your children. Go to a church and experience the celebration more deeply.

In reaching within our hearts to find the true spirit of Christmas again, we will find something true, profound and beautiful.

Amen.

BY DR STEPHEN FYSON OF PACIFIC HILLS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



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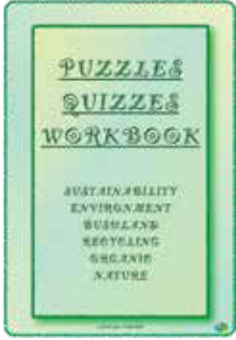
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BY LACHLAN TURNER

Hidden in the Hills

PUZZLES QUIZZES WORKBOOK



Readers of my Hidden In The Hills columns each month have been introduced to many aspects of the diversity found in the local Hills District bushland areas.

Over recent years I have written a selection of short publications relating to environmental sustainability, organic gardening practices and general bushland knowledge. Some of these publications have been prepared with

younger children and adults in mind, in that several of the booklets contain puzzles and activities for them to work through, in a fun way, learning more about what may be discovered in local bushland areas and around the home.

This month's column introduces the booklet entitled "Puzzles Quizzes Workbook" which features Crosswords, Word Finders, Colouring In, Bird Identification, Jumbled Names and Observation Skills. Solutions are provided.

Some activities may be quite simple to solve, whereas others may require a little more thoughtful effort.

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As School Holidays are approaching, the activities contained in this booklet could be an interesting, if not useful, diversion for a rainy day when there may not be a great deal to keep the youngsters busy for a time.

"Puzzles Quizzes Workbook" can be accessed free of charge from my "FlipBook" Library, on-line at the following link: <https://online.fliphtml5.com/awdd/qsug/>

Simply enter this link into your preferred browser, press "enter" (return) and the book will open as a "flipbook". Click on the arrows at the sides to progress through the book.

Viewing the book is best on a desktop or laptop using the fullscreen option.

If readers have a printer available there is the option to print a selected page or the entire booklet. Locate the "print" icon and follow the prompts.

Readers may prefer to pick up a free hard copy of this booklet at The Community Environment Centre, Currie Avenue, Annangrove on any Thursday or Saturday. A range of other free activity books with an environmental focus are also available.



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Why are young leaves RED?



BY KAY BIRKINSHAW

In Spring, many plants have new red leaves. In these young leaves, the photosynthesis process that makes green leaves is not mature and to protect them, a chemical called anthocyanin is present. This gives a red pigment on the leaf surface. There are 2 main theories for how it protects the leaves:

Firstly, it may provide defence against herbivores. Since terrestrial plants serve as a food source for an estimated one million or more insect species as well as larger animals, the redness may work as a warning signal. They also have an astringent or bitter taste.

Secondly, anthocyanins prevent damage caused by cold temperatures, drought and UV radiation. They are near the leaf surface and act as a sunscreen of sorts by physically shielding chlorophyll deeper in the leaf tissue. Sunscreen protection? The Cancer Council would be proud!

We should admire Mother Nature – she can be very clever.

Contact your local Landcare group on www.stillcreeklandcare.com.au, email stillcreeklandcare2159@gmail.com or ring Barry Lees on 9653 3691.

Bromeliads Make Wonderful Gifts

Looking for inspiration for a Christmas gift for someone special? Why not call into the Bromeliad Society of Australia meeting at the Federation Pavilion, Castle Hill Showground on Saturday, 13th of December between 9.30am



and 11am and check out the wonderful bromeliads available from its members.

Bromeliads come in various shapes, sizes, colours and some prefer the shade while others enjoy morning sun.

There are many that would be suitable for small balconies and courtyards and the larger ones for displaying in pots or planted in the garden making a statement.

If you're not sure what bromeliad to purchase an annual membership may be a more suitable alternative.

Annual membership is \$25 Single/Family this includes the BSA's electronic newsletters or if preferred \$35 Single/Family for hard copies of the newsletter to be posted out.

Download membership application from the BSA's website www.bromeliad.org.au

We take this opportunity to thank the many local residents who have supported the Bromeliad Society of Australia at our monthly meetings or people just pop in regularly to purchase directly from our members.



Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Safe New Year.

See you all at our first meeting on Saturday, 10th January 2026 at 9.30am.

Happy gardening!

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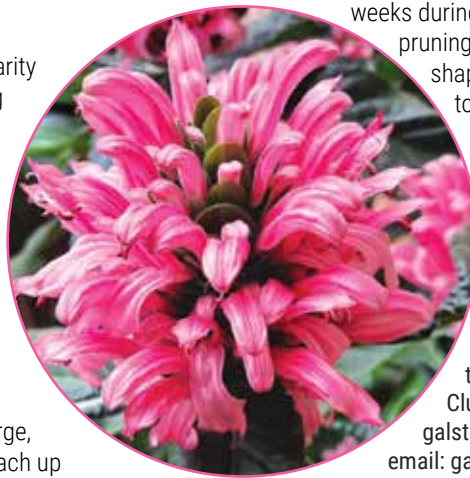
Galston Garden Club

The Club is taking a break and the first meeting for 2026 will be on the 11th February

The Galston Garden Club held their last meeting for the year in November. The Club is taking a break and the first meeting for 2026 will be on the 11th February in the Community Hall, 21 Arcadia Road, Galston at 7.30 pm. Our meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. Visitors and new members are always welcome to come and listen to our guest speakers and enjoy the comradery of fellow gardens over supper at the end of the meeting.

The club recently opened eight acreage gardens for charity in October, and while enjoying the gardens one plant that stood out for me was "Justicia carnea" which is commonly known as the Brazilian Plume Flower. It is a vibrant perennial shrub known for its striking tubular flowers and lush foliage, making it a popular choice for tropical gardens.

Justicia carnea features large, dark green leaves that can reach up



to 20cm long and produces dense clusters of tubular flowers in shades of pink, red, orange and purple. The plant blooms from early summer to fall, attracting birds, and butterflies with its colourful flowers.

This plant thrives in partial to full shade, making it ideal for areas that receive bright light without direct sunlight, which can scorch the leaves. Justicia carnea prefers moist, well-drained soils rich in organic matter. It is important to avoid overwatering, as the plant does not tolerate soggy conditions. Feed the plant with a balanced fertilizer every two weeks during the growing season. Regular pruning is recommended to maintain shape and promote bushiness. It is best to prune back hard in early spring.

Justicia carnea is a beautiful and versatile plant that can enhance any garden with its stunning flowers and lush greenery, provided it is given the right care and growing conditions.

For further information regarding the Galston District Garden Club please visit our website: galstongardenclub.com.au or email: galstongardenclub@gmail.com



Celebrate this Christmas with True Meaning, join us for:

Glenorie Community Carols

Sunday 21st December 2025 – from 5PM

Harkness Avenue, Glenorie Village



Christmas Day Service

Thursday 25th December 9am

Glenorie Mission Church

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This wonderful Saviour!

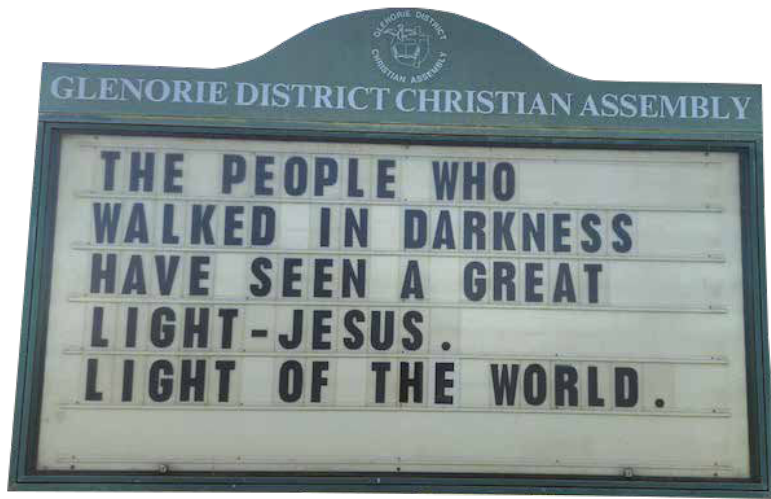
Are you wondering like I am how this year seems to have flown by so quickly? Here we are facing the Christmas/New Year season again!

Before I write anymore, Alex and I pray that you will have a safe and peace-filled time as we all remember the true reason for the season.

The Bible tells us in John 1:1 &14 that "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God... and the Word was made flesh and lived among us; we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth." This wonderful Saviour, Jesus Christ, came into the world as a baby and the Bible announced in Luke 2, "I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Saviour who is Christ the Lord."

Christmas time reminds us of God's most precious gift to the world (to you and me) - of a Saviour - Jesus Christ - who came to rescue and save poor, ruined, guilty mankind from sin - and provide hope for our future.

By His love and grace we, through believing faith in Jesus, can live with abundant hope and true peace within.



Then, facing the New Year, 2026, we don't walk the journey alone. We take Jesus with us - or, should I say, we go with Him!!

There are sure to be challenges ahead for each of us - life is full of ups and downs - but with Jesus in our "boat of life" we won't sink but sail!

God bless.

PR. ALEX AND DEE VALICH

Glenorie Community Church.

Christmas Day service: 9-10am. Please join us.

Galston Uniting Church

Season's Greetings, Everyone!



As Advent begins on Sunday, 30th November, we enter this season of hopeful preparation together to celebrate the joyous season of Christmas, with our hearts filled with gratitude for the gift of Jesus Christ – our Emmanuel, (God with us). This sacred time reminds us that even in a world often touched by uncertainty and challenge, the light of Christ continues to shine brightly, guiding us with Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.



During the Advent season, we journey together through four beautiful weeks of reflection and anticipation, guided by the Advent Candles. The first candle of **Hope** reminds us that Christ's coming renews our faith in God's promises. The second candle of **Peace** reminds us of the peace that Jesus brings – peace in our hearts, peace with others, and peace in the world. The third candle of **Joy**; reminds us of the good news Jesus brings to the world. The angels spoke about this when Jesus was born – "Good news of great joy for all people!" And we can share that Joy with others.

Finally, the fourth candle of **Love** reminds us of the greatest gift of all – God's boundless love revealed in the birth of His Son. This love calls us to serve others, reach out to those in need, and be instruments of compassion in our community.

May we carry these gifts into the New Year. Let us continue to be a community that shines Christ's Light – welcoming, caring, and great faith.

Before we close out the year, we'd love to see you at Galston Uniting for our Christmas celebrations:

Christmas Eve Service – 7:00 pm
Christmas Day Service – 8:00 am

All are welcome to share in the joy and hope of the season.
Thank you for making our community such a wonderful place to belong.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

With every blessing from Galston Uniting.

AKOSITA TANGI (MINISTER)

P.S. Church services continue in church at 10am on Sundays, and you can also watch our live-streams at *Galston Uniting Church* on Facebook (don't forget to 'like' us) or "Google" *Galston Uniting Church Facebook posts*.

If you, or someone you know needs prayer support or just someone to chat to, please do not hesitate to get in touch. The church office is open on Tuesdays and Fridays during December.

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

Believing God's Word

How can we have continuing assurance? By believing God's word. When you came to Christ you believed that Christ could save you. Now you believe He has saved you. The danger is in thinking 'I did my part, but God hasn't done His'.

What does Romans 10:3 say? 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved'. Did you in all sincerity call on Christ to save you? Then what does this verse say? If you called, Christ saved you. That one verse can be like a spiritual birth certificate for you.

Put another way. If you were presented with an account which you knew you had already paid, what would you do? You would look for the receipt, the written proof that you had paid the account. Remember the Bible is God's written proof to you that you have been saved.

Then there is God's witness within our hearts by the Holy Spirit. The Bible is God's witness to us. The Holy Spirit is God's witness within us. Romans 8:16 says, 'The Spirit Himself testifies with our Spirit that we are God's children'. He authenticates our new life. He does this in various ways. He helps us understand God's word. He applies it to our lives. For example, a believer is often troubled about something they have done or been tempted to do. If they stopped to think, that before they were saved, this problem never bothered them. Now that the Spirit is living within, He has spoken to them about it.

This leads on to the evidence of their life being changed. 2 Corinthians 5:17 is well known. 'If anyone is in Christ he/she is a new person'. For some people it is a dramatic change, for others it is progressive, but others notice the change. It can be seen in the change in our desires - we feel at home in a prayer meeting where we never would have thought of going before.

Our assurance comes from believing God's Word from the witness of the Spirit and the evidence of a changed life. Isn't that enough?

(A MESSAGE BY THE LATE REV. ED LONG.)

Glenorie Mission Church, 1409 Old Northern Rd Glenorie 2157
Sunday Service 10.00 a.m.

**GLENORIE
MISSION
CHURCH**



0414 584 303
www.glenoriemission.org



Sunday Service 10am
1409 Old Northern Rd,
Glenorie

Destiny

When I was a young man in college, on the wall of the auditorium there was a large banner with these words, "Destiny is by choice, not by chance." I've often pondered over those words when I was faced with difficult decisions. Although I can't say that I always made right choices, and you can probably relate to that, yet, we all know that right decisions at the right time, usually leads to better outcomes.

Every day people make choices that deeply affect the lives of others, as well as themselves. Once the word or deed is done you can't change it, and like ripples on a pond, the results, whether negative or positive, continue.

When I first became a believer in Jesus Christ I discovered that all the garbage in our world originated in the mind of an angel called Lucifer (Isaiah 14:12-14). Today, we call him satan. All through his career as a rebellious angel he has made wrong choices, but we don't have to do the same. Every one of us has freedom of choice. We can either follow the ways of him who is the master mind of evil or we can choose to follow Jesus Christ who is gracious, honourable, and trustworthy.

I always look forward to the festive season, and I hope you do too. It seems to be a time when people think, at least a little bit, about Jesus. We enjoy the Christmas carols and the Christmas programs but, do we really grasp why Jesus came? When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, the angel said to Mary, "you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21). Jesus came to save us from wrong doing, And he came to Show Us how to be better choices create a happier life (John 10:10). In giving Himself He offers you and I forgiveness and everlasting life (Ephesians 1:7; John 6:47).

The most amazing choice I've ever made was to accept Jesus as my personal Friend and Saviour. When people experience the love of Christ for themselves, life takes on new meaning. Hope, assurance, and peace takes the place of guilt, worry, and fear. Our prayer is that you might invite Jesus into your life and make this Christmas the best Christmas ever.



Every Saturday morning at 9:30am we have a group study time, followed by the Divine Service at 11am. Each Wednesday evening at 7:30pm is Prayer Connect. Everyone is welcome. Please continue to pray for each other and for our community.

STEVE BELSON (PASTOR)

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News from St Benedict's December 2025

CONGRATULATIONS TO YEAR 6

We'll be holding a special recognition of the graduating Year 6 children taught by the St Benedict's catechist team during their time at our local schools. Each year 6 child who attends 10:30am Mass at the church on **Sunday 7th December** will be presented with a Bible and Certificate. To assist with provision of these, please RSVP to Miriam Brown, Parish Catechist Coordinator srearcadia@gmail.com if your Year 6 child will be present.

THE MORE THE MERRIER KIDS MARKETS AT ST BENEDICT'S

The wet weather wasn't able to dampen the spirits of the stall holders, nor keep the customers away from The More the Merrier Kids Markets held on Saturday 1st November! With about 20 stalls all run by kids under the age of 18, there was a great selection of delicious food, drinks, fresh fruit and veg, plants, crafts, homemade products, games and more! Thank you to the local community for supporting these young entrepreneurs. We'll be back!

THE MAKERS TABLE

The ladies at The Makers Table workshop had a lovely time painting Nativity nesting dolls in November (Pictured)! These will make cute additions to the Christmas tables. The final workshop for the year will be on **3rd December** when the ladies will be making Journey to Bethlehem shadow boxes.



PARISH NOTICES

Service times and parish information are found at 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 Times at St Benedict's

Christmas Eve Vigil Wednesday 24th Dec 2025

7.00pm & 11.30pm. (Midnight Mass commences 11.45pm).

Christmas Day Thursday 25th Dec 2025 9.00am; 10.30am Latin Mass

New Year's Day

Feast of Mary the Holy Mother of God Thursday 1st Jan 2026 9.30am

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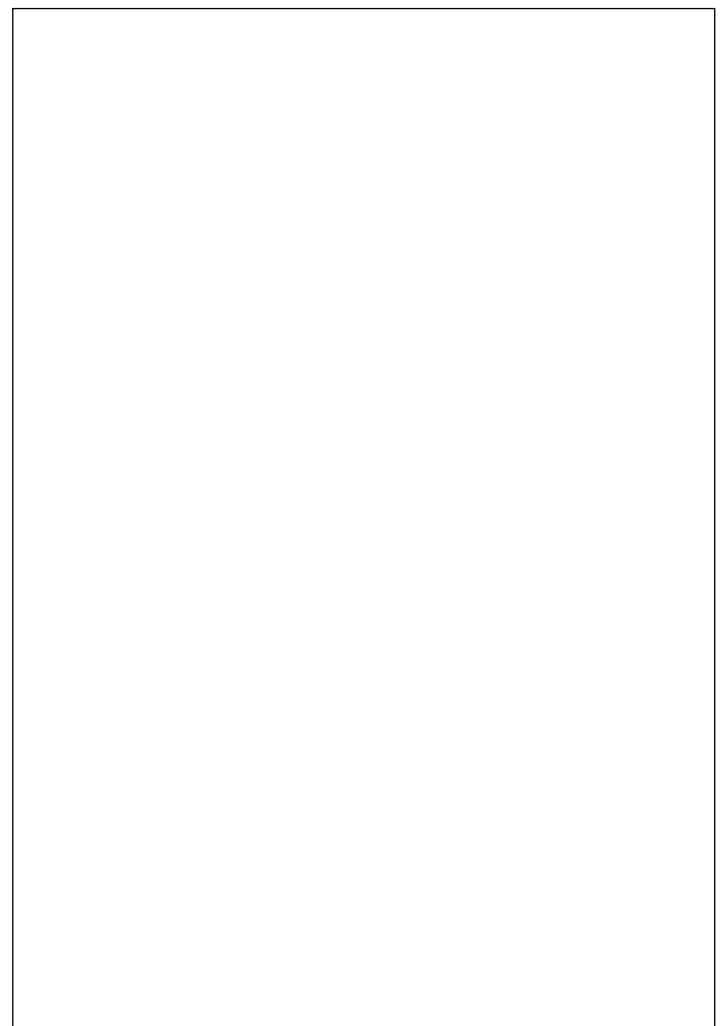
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Glenorie Rural Fire Brigade



GET READY WEEKEND - THANK YOU WOOLWORTHS GLENORIE

As the bush fire season approaches, it's crucial for NSW residents and landowners to be aware of their risk and take steps to protect their homes and properties. To help you prepare, the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) hosts Get Ready Weekend events every September, providing valuable information and resources to ensure you're ready for the upcoming bush fire season.

By attending these events, you can gain insights into creating a Bush Fire Survival Plan, maintaining a defensible space around your property, understanding Fire Danger Ratings and ensuring you are well prepared for the bush fire season.

This year, Glenorie RFS held their Get Ready Weekend at Woolworths Glenorie, which was a great success. We would like to say a huge thank you to **Richard Henry**, the **Store Manager** at **Woolworths Glenorie** for allowing us to host this important annual event at our local Woolworths Glenorie.



Also, a big thank you for the donation of sausages for our sausage sizzle.

Richard Henry grew up in Hornsby Heights, currently lives in Galston and has been an employee of Woolworths for 36 years, including Store Manager for 25 years in 3 different states. Richard understands first-hand what it is like to be an RFS volunteer, as he himself was an RFS volunteer firefighter at Hornsby RFS Headquarters from 1988 -2002.

When the catastrophic fires swept through NSW in 1994, Richard Henry was on the



fire ground, fighting fires in Maroota, Wisemans Ferry, Canoelands and Lane Cove National Park. Richard is a big advocate for RFS volunteers and is always willing to assist Glenorie RFS. Thank you again Richard, your support means a lot to us.

GLENORIE MARKETS

Santa will be joining Glenorie RFS at Glenorie Markets on **Sunday 30th November** at 9:00am -12:30pm. Come and join us, meet the brigade and have your photo taken with Santa in his sleigh. This is a wonderful local Christmas event, and we look forward to seeing you.

CHRISTMAS EVE SANTA RUN

Glenorie RFS 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.

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

Crossword

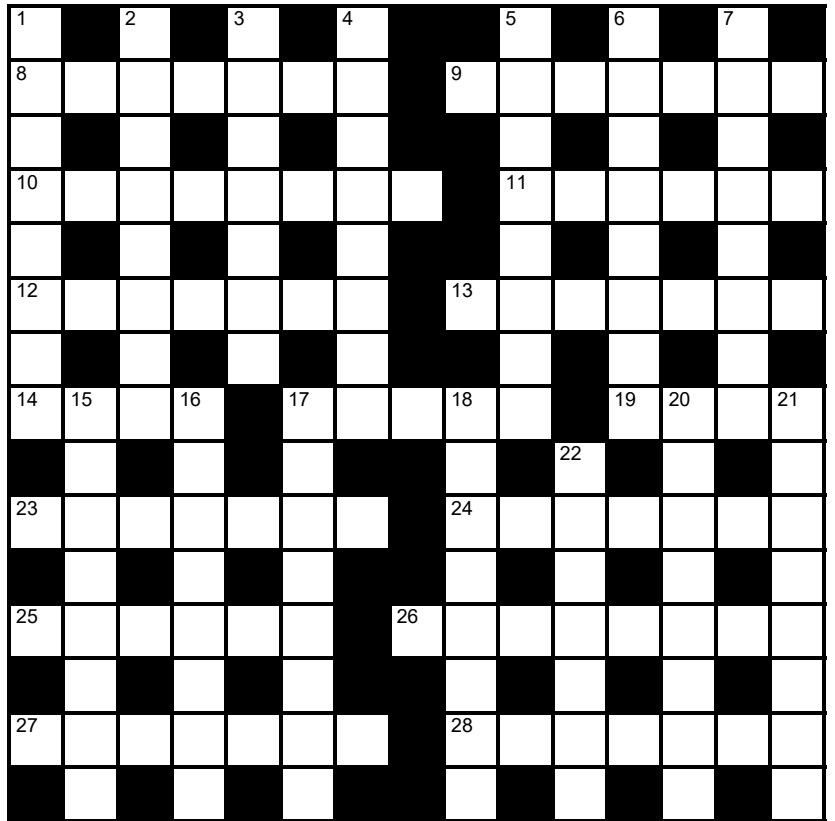
PUZZLE

ACROSS

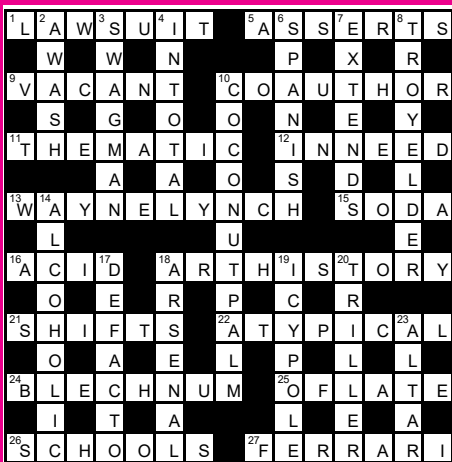
- 08 Burn (7)
- 09 Illusory pointer to gold (7)
- 10 Used in cooking (8)
- 11 Bring forth (6)
- 12 Bring up (7)
- 13 Very detailed (2,5)
- 14 Dark-grey waterbird (4)
- 17 Second largest stringed instrument (5)
- 19 Youth charity (1,1,1,1)
- 23 Impacts (7)
- 24 Asks over (7)
- 25 Gets up late (4,2)
- 26 Shrill (8)
- 27 Comments (7)
- 28 Frequent-flyer perk (7)

DOWN

- 01 Explosively violent (8)
- 02 Cattle station trainee (8)
- 03 Pride young 'un (4,3)
- 04 Not far away (4,4)
- 05 Inherited (4,4)
- 06 Wholly (8)
- 07 Kind of medicine (8)
- 15 Assistant (8)
- 16 You know what I'm drinking (3,5)
- 17 In a rage, you might get as mad as one (3,5)
- 18 Behave in a vulgar way (4,2,2)
- 20 Like unicorns (8)
- 21 Designated (8)
- 22 Unremarkable (7)



ANSWERS FROM NOVEMBER ISSUE



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

Sudoku

FILL THE GRID SO THAT EVERY COLUMN, EVERY ROW AND EVERY 3X3 BOX CONTAINS THE NUMBERS 1 TO 9.

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

The Hills Rural Fire Service

Fire Ready Community Briefing: Are You Prepared?

When will you leave? What will you take?

Where will you go?

Wednesday, December 4th, 2002, is a day etched into the memory of many local residents. It's a day the sky turned black as a firestorm burned



bushland through Maroota, Canoelands, Forest Glen, and Glenorie. Two lives and fifteen homes were lost that day.

The 2002 fires showed us the risk we live with. On this 23rd anniversary, it's time to take control and get prepared. Join us for a community meeting to learn about your bush fire risk this season and how you can prepare your home and protect your family through four simple steps.

The Hills District RFS, in partnership with The Hills Council, invites all residents to this Fire Ready Community Briefing. This is your opportunity to ask vital questions and get answers from your local RFS members.

At this briefing, you will:

- Learn what the current 2025/26 fire season outlook means for your home.
- Understand the specific fire risks in our local gullies and landscape.
- Get practical, step-by-step advice on finalising your Bush Fire Survival Plan.
- Learn how to make the critical decision of when to leave early.
- Meet and speak directly with the RFS volunteers from your local brigade.

This meeting is for everyone. Whether you live in the bush, a village, or the interface, you need a plan. Knowing what to do in a fire could save your life.

Fire Ready Community Briefing

- **When:** Thursday, December 4th, at 7:00 PM
- **Where:** Glenorie RSL (Downstairs Function Room)
- **Who:** All residents are welcome

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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

Australian Independent Retirees

Meetings are held on the first Friday of each month at 10am.
 • Molly's Pavilion, Cheltenham Recreation Club, 60/74 The Crescent, Cheltenham
 • Wayne Strandquist on 0412 434 467

Castle Hill Art Society

Monthly meetings and art demonstrations are every first Wed of each month at 7.30pm.
 • 155 Ridgecrop Drive, Castle Hill
 • 9899 3179

Circular Keys Chorus

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 • Janet 9653 2959
 • info@circularkeys.org
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Computer Pals for Seniors - The Hills

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 • 0479 137 131
 • www.cphills.org.au

Coonara Cherrybrook Probus Club

Meets at the Castle Hill Bowling Club 79 Castle Street, Castle Hill on 3rd Tuesday of each month at 10.30am. New members welcome.
 • Sue 0419 994 948
 • sueandjb@bigpond.com

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 4th Sunday of every month
 • 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

Joeys (aged 6-7 years), Cubs (aged 8-10 years) and Scouts (aged 11-15 years) meet weekly at the Scout Hall in Galston Road, Galston. Learn new skills, challenge yourself, experience outdoor activities, make new friends, have fun!
 • 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 6505.
 • 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

Girls Guiding

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-nswacnt.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 Probus Club

This Club meets every 4th Wednesday at 11.00am. New members are welcome.
 • Glenorie RSL Club
 • Wendy 9653 1022
 • wendyireblack@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

Probus 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

Probus Club of Round Corner

Now has vacancies for new members. Join our club and enjoy new friendships, interesting meetings and a large variety of activities e.g. Walking Group; Mah-Jong Group; Theatre Group; Tennis Group; plus overseas and extended local tours and local day trips. We meet on the 2nd Monday of the month at 9.30am for 10am. 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.

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@greaterhillrotary.org.au

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

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 Berrilee. We meet at 7.30pm on the 2nd Thursday of each month.
 • www.StillCreekLandcare.com.au
 • StillCreekLandcare@inet.net.au
 • Nick 9653 2056

The Hills Trofoil Guild (Guides NSW)

The Trofoil 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.bushwalkingnsw.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

ef86029@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
 • https://www.galstonnetball.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 Sumskas 0430 883 385
 • registrar@hillspumasfc.com.au

Tennis/Squash Social Group

Looking for new players.
 • 9847 6050
 • tennisandsquash@live.com.au

Tennis Court for Hire Galston

Available Day or Night.
 • Rear of Galston Community Hall
 • Rene 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

Thursday's 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 9899 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
 ARCADIA PUBLIC SCHOOL
 140 ARCADIA ROAD
 ARCADIA
 P. 9653-1119

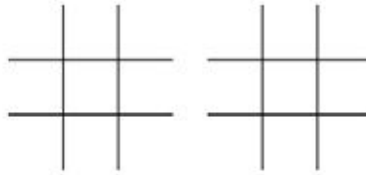
LOCAL PARENTS ARE INVITED A PARENT RUN PLAYGROUP BEAUTIFUL TRANQUIL SETTING MEET FRIENDS, BABIES AND PRESCHOOLERS - ALL WELCOME DISCOVER ARCADIA PLAYGROUP COME JOIN THE FUN!

MERRY CHRISTMAS

I-Spy Christmas Game



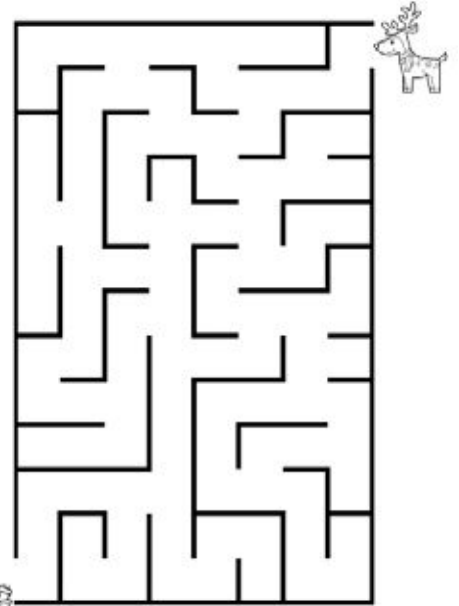
Tic Tac Toe



Word Scramble

ijgeln llbes _____
 tansa _____
 dycna eanc _____
 ftsgj _____

Decorate A Christmas Tree



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 22.12.25.

