

Memorial Garden Mooted for Middle Dural Property

With finding a place to live in Sydney at an all-time crisis, there is an equal but opposite situation occurring in our city – space is rapidly running out for interment of our deceased loved ones.

There has been much coverage in the news of late regarding converting several existing suburban parklands and golf courses into new burial grounds, such is the reality of this shortage, as existing cemeteries reach capacity.

One of our most iconic local families and businesses, Nati Roses, has recently had a DA submitted to the Hills Council on their behalf by The Purple Goldfish Pty Ltd (Hills Memorial Estate) proposing to turn their 20 acres at 788-790 Old Northern Road, Middle Dural, into a Memorial Garden helping to alleviate this problem. The plan is to develop the land into a beautiful park-like memorial garden landscaped extensively with greenery, plants and trees – a serene and tranquil setting for the final resting place of passed loved ones. This Memorial Garden will appear, to all intents and purposes, like a vast parkland from first sight, but will still honour the



deceased with discreet and subtle plaques laid out amongst the lawns instead of the vaults and headstones of more traditional cemeteries.

The DA includes a chapel and function centre on the Southern end of the site, but there

will be no Crematorium. Nati Roses will continue to occupy the site and will erect a brand new 'Rose Pavillion' shop outlet as they continue to operate the existing rose farm albeit on a smaller scale. The use of the land for this purpose is permitted under the Hills Councils RU6 Transitional zoning plan. Plans and specifications are available to view on the Hills Council's website: Application No. 499/2026/HC

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Go Take a Hike!

BY KARLENE BRUMMER

Every year Hornsby Council runs a series of free guided bushwalks across various locations within the Shire. The walks are graded according to their difficulty and there are trails available for all levels of experience.



Our guide Bob Conroy

This year I was fortunate enough to join the Smuggler's Ridge hike situated within the Marra Marra National Park at Fiddletown. As I fronted up for the six-hour walk, I realised that



Bob welcomes the group

I may have bitten off more than I could chew as I saw how 'kitted out' the other hikers were – with industrial looking back packs and trekking poles. Several were repeat offenders, and they eyed me off with pity: uh oh. A newbie.

Our guide, Bob, had almost encyclopaedic knowledge of the multitude of spring wildflowers and trees along the trail and he also pointed out a few wallaby tracks in the sandy path as well as sugar glider marks on several trees, where they scratch to extract the sweet sap to feed on. We were fortunate enough to even see an aboriginal engraving of a wallaby; only discovered in the past several years by a fellow ranger.

The walk was actually classed as 'difficult' however I had mixed it up with another of the scheduled hikes which was 'moderate'. My bad. For a less experienced hiker as myself I did find parts of it quite challenging - especially the descent (and then ASCENT) from the Marra Marra Creek. My knees were wobbling as the lactic acid built up in my legs and I envisioned



At the finish and all hikers accounted for

myself on hands and knees crawling the last 2km to the car park. Fellow hikers Min & Peter took me under their experienced hiking wings and fed me sugar and loaned me a trekking pole and I slowly finished the hike upright, albeit shaky.

A group photo at the end (proof of life, Bob?) had us all looking a little worse for wear – however no injuries occurred, and I think all of us managed a smile as we celebrated: 1. We'd all made it. 2. The beautiful sights we had witnessed.

Then it was off home for me to enjoy a good foot soak in some Epsom salts with a nice cold glass of sauvignon blanc and an early night to bed - with a possible appointment at Specsavers on the cards as well.



The start of the trail



The rock engraving of a wallaby

For further information on future walks visit: <https://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/bushwalks>



James Wallace MP

Member for Hornsby

James can help you by

- Representing you in the NSW Parliament
- Assisting you to access State services
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- Recognising Community Achievements



Contact James

☎ (02) 9476 3411 @ hornsby@parliament.nsw.gov.au

✉ PO Box 1687, Hornsby Westfield NSW 1635

Authorised by James Wallace MP. Funded using parliamentary entitlements.



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

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

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

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

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

Copy to be received by 15th of the month.

We love to hear from our community.



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IMPORTANT LOCAL INFORMATION

HELP AND INFORMATION SERVICES

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

LOCAL RURAL FIRE SERVICES

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

Hills Rural Fire Service District Office	9658 9000
Hornsby Rural Fire Service District Office	9883 2000
Arcadia Rural Fire Service Fire Captain MIKE MELIS	0409 606 786
Galston Rural Fire Service Fire Captain MATT WHITE	0407 390 955
Glenorie Rural Fire Service Fire Captain DANE JOHANSEN	0457 596 283
Hillside Rural Fire Service Fire Captain ANDREW BAILDON	9652 2245
Middle Dural Rural Fire Service Fire Captain MORRIE MAAIT	0412 267 567

LOCAL JP's

Mary Ord, Glenorie - 0400 363 563
Julia Billyard 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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Reconstruction of Historic Thomas James Bridge at Wisemans Ferry now complete

BY KARLENE BRUMMER

The historic Thomas James Bridge on Settlers Road (just west of the main Ferry crossing) was originally constructed in the 1830s by convict labour. Hand-cut sandstone blocks quarried from the surrounding hillside were used to erect huge abutments supporting a simple single span timber bridge deck.



Photo credit: Wisemans.org.au



Photo credit: Hawkesbury City Council website

The bridge is the oldest in-use road bridge on the Australian mainland and is part of the world heritage listed Old Great North Road which connected the Hunter Valley to Sydney. It was the first road to be constructed north of the Hawkesbury River.

The bridge is named after the overseer of the 25 Road Party (the men who built the bridge) Thomas James, who was a Ticket of Leave overseer, having arrived in NSW in 1819 aboard the convict ship 'Recovery'.

The bridge was massively compromised by consecutive floods in 2021/2022 which



Photo credit: Karlene Brummer

caused major land slippage effectively cutting off all access to this part of the road. Residents were forced to travel to Webbs Creek to cross the river, until partial access was restored.

Delaney Civil were contracted to repair and restore the road and bridge. Work began in 2023, with the project supervised by an Archaeologist and great care was taken every step of the way including removing the huge sandstone blocks one by one, numbering them, mapping their original position and placing into storage before being reconstructed.

Steel footings have been put into place, and the rock face has been secured with a new retaining wall.

The 17.5million dollar project has been managed by the Hawkesbury City Council with funding from the State and Federal Government infrastructure recovery program.

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The Old Court House at Wisemans Ferry

BY ROB CUNNEEN

Last December, an exciting discovery was made at Wisemans Ferry, by the local historical society. It was the foundations of an early colonial building contemporary with Cobham Hall, which still exist on land belonging to Hornsby Shire Council. An early survey dated 1831, shows that it is the site of the court house, office and residence of the surveyors (and magistrates) in charge of constructing the Great North Road, between the years 1826 and 1832. It is a part of a suite of nearby convict sites, such as Devines's Hill on the Great North Road, the Convict Stockades immediately above Wisemans Ferry, Finch's Line and Warner's Well. These have World Heritage, State and Local Heritage listings, whilst this site has none.

A thicket of lantana 2 to 3 metres high covered the whole site. Earlier in 2024, Hornsby Shire Council had begun a Bush Care project here, training local volunteers to slowly remove

this weed. With the clearing of the lantana, the footings of this old building came to light.

Finished stone blocks from the walls had been repurposed as footpaths, and you can see some under the bucket. There is old lime mortar still between some of the blocks, with bits of shell visible in the mortar. Parts from an early colonial tobacco pipe which could be precisely dated to 1832-34, were also lying close inside this corner.

The photo above was taken in the 1880s, and appears to be in the same location. The background of hills and river flats places it close to the current Community Centre at Wisemans Ferry. It shows a stone building of some antiquity, labelled "Farm, Hawkesbury River, NSW" (Powerhouse Collection. Gift of Australian Consolidated Press under the Taxation Incentives for the Arts Scheme, 1985. Photograph attributed to Henry King.)

Although this background is bare of trees, and now the area is thickly forested, King was unmistakably photographing towards Rosevale from the site of the Community Centre.

This building must be the Old Court House.

Although this is the best image we have, many other images survive. The Court House appears in a number of 19th century



panoramic photographs of Wisemans Ferry, taken from across the river and atop the cliffs opposite Wisemans Ferry. And it is also in a scene painted by Conrad Martens in 1838, that currently hangs in one of the ground floor rooms of the NSW Art Gallery.

A careful inspection of the King photograph reveals that the house was already crumbling, and by 1920 it had disappeared from the contemporary panoramas – probably demolished.

Two years of bench records survive from the 1830s, recording the summary justice handed out to the convicts working on the road, or on the nearby farms. And one of the magistrates – Lieutenant Percy Simpson – has actually left a description in the Sydney Herald of 13th June 1831, of the trial of convicts conducted in his own courthouse. Although Simpson was the presiding magistrate, he wrote as if he were an amused onlooker under an assumed pen-name "Fidelis".

The Convict Trail Project hopes to organize a proper investigation of the site in the near future.

Fantastic Fun at Rowland Village

Saturday 8th November, 10am to 2pm

RSL LifeCare Rowland Village, 301 Galston Road, Galston

We invite you to our Christmas Market and Open Day to experience the vibrant lifestyle at RSL LifeCare Rowland Village!

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Register by November 6th now for a tour or call 02 9653 4920 to RSVP today as we do not want you to miss out.



Something for everyone

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Dural Scouts Lithgow Hike



Recently Dural scouts travelled to Lithgow in blue mountains national park for a two-day hike. From their base camp, they scouts hiked up Deep Pass Creek. The creek is at the bottom of a 30-40-metre-deep canyon. The scouts had to hold on to ropes to climb up tricky cliff faces and navigate freezing waters. Along the way the group saw interesting wildlife such as fish and yabbies. Later they went to see the glow worm tunnel and stopped to watch in awe at the beautiful glow worms sparkling and illuminating the otherwise pitch-black cave.



The next morning the scouts went on another breathtaking adventure, making their way up to the overviews surrounding the valley. After taking in the beautiful scenery, the group then proceeded to explore nearby caves.

Scouts offers these sorts of 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. Joeys (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



Round Corner Dural Probus Club

What a fantastic time we've had this month at Round Corner Dural Probus Club—truly a Life of Riley experience.

Thirty enthusiastic members packed their bags and headed off on an unforgettable trip to Jindabyne. With stunning lakeview rooms for our accommodation, we were treated to three-course meals daily while each day was time to explore the best of the Snowy Mountains region.

Highlights included a visit to Cooma where we visited the information centre of the Snowy 2.0 project, learning about this feat of engineering. We continued on to Thredbo and Perisher, where we were lucky enough to see snow falling. A gondola ride up the mountain offered breathtaking views. Visits to local museums provided a fascinating glimpse into the history of the area and of course, there was time to browse the local shops and take in the panoramic views from scenic lookouts.

At our monthly meeting we were treated to a very informative presentation from our guest speaker, who spoke about the pros and perils of Artificial Intelligence. It was an extremely interesting topic generating plenty of questions among members.

For our social outing this month we made our way into King Street Wharf to join the Naval Historical Society of Australia on a 3 hour cruise that showcased the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) activities and facilities in Sydney Harbour from 1788 to the present, especially during WW II, taking in the historical sites from Dawes Point to Watson's Bay.

Round Corner Dural Probus Club meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at 9:30 am at The Galston Club.

For further information please contact:

Phone: Lei on 0412 585 741 or Email: rcdprobus@gmail.com

Galston CWA

Here we are in October, with longer sunny days bringing Christmas ever closer and the members of Galston CWA are working hard on creating gifts of homemade baked goods, jams and relishes to tempt your tastebuds, as well as handcrafted Christmas ideas to wrap and present to your family and friends.

You will have two chances to visit our stalls before Christmas, we will be at – Rowland Village, 301 Galston Road, Galston on **Saturday 8th November 2025**, from 10am to 2pm, and Outside the Bendigo Bank at 348 Galston Road, Galston on **Saturday, 22nd November 2025**, from 9am to 2pm.

We very much appreciate the support of our local community to assist in our fund-raising efforts helping those in need, We always welcome donations of fruits and vegetables for our homemade preserves.

Galston CWA meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday every month at the Galston Health and Community Centre on 17 Arcadia Road, Galston. New members always welcome!

Contact: Anne – 0404 228 209 or Patricia – 0412 948 787



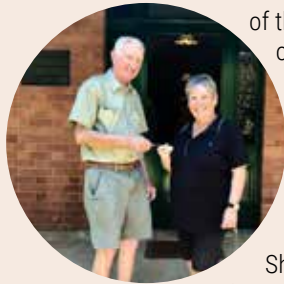
NEWS FROM NETHERBY

Changing of the Guard

After 17 years of stewardship, Arcadian resident, Ian Browning, is passing on the role of Curator to Julie Graham of Berrilee.

Ian has recently been appointed as a community representative to Hornsby Council's Heritage Advisory Committee and will still remain a Volunteer with the Friends of Fagan Park.

Julie has been a member of the FOPF for the past two years, and during this short time she has worked tirelessly to promote Netherby Homestead and the associated precinct. She was instrumental in turning a tired looking room in the Hudson Building back to a re-creation of Bruce Fagan's office and has gone to great lengths to ensure the rooms in the house are as authentically finished and styled as possible for the period. She has updated signage and information sheets and put together a comprehensive guidebook on the property for all volunteers – and these are just a small portion



of the improvements she has made on behalf of the committee.

A former Primary School Teacher for over 30 years, Julie was also the President of the Hills Historical Society for a decade and has a wealth of experience under her belt.

She is the main guide of the homestead and enjoys sharing her knowledge with visitors to the property.

Vern Sotter will remain as Assistant Curator with Allan Chadwick newly appointed to the position of Honorary Assistant Curator.

The Friends of Fagan Park remain committed to preserving and promoting Netherby Homestead and Precinct and look forward to a bigger and better year in 2026 with some exciting new events on the radar!

Follow the Friends of Fagan Park on FB for information and updates

Photo credit: Ian Browning passes the key to new Curator Julie Graham

Image: Karlene Brummer

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Glenorie Probus Club Activities

Morning Tea this month was again at the Galston High School where the students were very impressive in their running of the coffee shop and all of the associated tasks. A credit to the school.

This month the club had a more relaxed outing with a visit to Brooklyn and Kangaroo Point for a relaxing morning tea. Following this the group had a walk along the newly created boardwalk at Picnic Point. The boardwalk has only been completed recently by Council and a very pleasant stroll around the foreshore and mangroves was had by all in attendance. The visit was then completed with a lunch of



fish and chips and a relaxing day was enjoyed by all.

The guest speaker this month was Sallymae Bailey who spoke on The Mercy Ships. Sally has made two volunteer periods on a Mercy Ship and was able to talk with expertise on their operation. The Mercy Ships were founded in 1978 and have been operating in Africa and only Africa since that time. There are two ships and they spend 10 months of the year in Dock providing medical services and two months in the Canary Islands undergoing maintenance. The Ships only visit a country if they are invited. They provide medical treatment, train local staff and check procedures in local hospitals.

A short video showed a hobbling young girl with disfigured feet walking almost normally after treatment on board the hospital ship. Cataracts, cleft lips and cleft palates are



among the many procedures that change the lives of the recipients.

As well as medical volunteers there is the Hospitality group, there are 1,000 people to feed plus the finance and management volunteers on the ship.

These come from up to 4 countries and spend 2 to 3 months on board. The ships are like small towns and have medical and dental facilities, a pharmacy and Post Office etc on board for the volunteers.

One year before a Mercy Ship arrives at a location prospective patients are assessed, appointment times allocated and there are 35 four wheel drive, and 12 twelve seat vehicles to pick up patients who are sometimes 6 to 8 hours away. A very fascinating and informative talk.

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

ADVERTORIAL

The Bottle-O Cherrybrook

The all-new Bottle-O Cherrybrook has recently undergone a stunning refurbishment, offering a clean, fresh, and inviting atmosphere for shoppers.

With a massive increase in product range, the store now provides an even greater variety of beverages to suit every taste and preference. The new layout is thoughtfully designed to be more personalized to the Cherrybrook community, ensuring a tailored and welcoming shopping experience.



Nick, the store manager, brings a wealth of experience as a chef, which enhances his expertise in food pairing, wines, and craft beers. His summer wine of choice is the Belena Range from Calabria Family Wines, a perfect refreshing option for the warmer months.

When he's not at work, Nick enjoys exploring NSW on his road bike and shares a passion for cars. His diverse interests and professional background make him a fantastic resource for customers seeking expert advice and personalized service.

Overall, the revamped Bottle-O Cherrybrook combines modern aesthetics, community focus, and genuine expertise, making it a must-visit destination for beverage enthusiasts.

Probus Mystery Tour

The Probus Club of the Hills recently took one of its very popular Mystery Coach Tours. After morning tea in the botanical gardens at Picton, members were surprised to find ourselves at the Thirlmire Rail Museum. We were given an excellent tour of the museum and even provided with lunch and a return trip from Thirlmire to Buxton in the historic Railmotor CPH 18. Other recent Mystery Tours have included the Coal Loader at Waverton, and the Q Station.



The Club meets on the second Wednesday of most months at the Galston Club with guest speakers covering a range of topics, from IT security to Winston Churchill's drinking habits!

Other monthly activities include a walking group, bowls, golf, a Grumpy Old Blokes group and a book club. Each year, we have a week away in places like Albury, Jindabine, and Broken Hill, with lots of entertaining side trips.

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

ADVERTORIAL

A New Chapter for Aged Care

BY REJIMON PUNCHAYIL

If you or someone you care for receives help through My Aged Care, there's a big change coming on 1 November 2025.

The new Support at Home program will replace the current Home Care Packages (HCP) and Short-Term Restorative Care (STRC) systems.

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2. Review your care plan with your provider in simple English.
3. Note any equipment or home modification needs before November.

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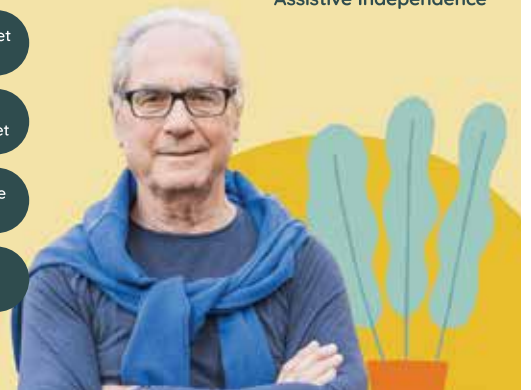
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To book a meet-and-greet, contact Suzanne on 0416 049 506 or fill out the contact form at <https://strokeshomepetcare.com.au/>



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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This kit is designed to support the application of pressure immobilisation techniques. Always seek urgent medical assistance in the event of a snake or spider bite. Not a substitute for professional medical care.

Exhibition of 'Secrets' in Authentic Aboriginal Desert Art

At the upcoming art exhibition at St Benedict's Monastery (Arcadia) on Sunday 9th November, Emeritus Professor Andrew Hede will present a public lecture (see ad below). This is informed by his frequent visits to remote Aboriginal communities over 20 years as a collector of Aboriginal desert art, and builds on his anthropology courses at Sydney University studying the culture of traditional Australian Aborigines.



The lecture will explore the ancient Aboriginal tradition of 'Dreamings' – sophisticated creation myths directly comparable to those of the Western world's leading religions. For millennia, these mythical stories have been recounted in ceremonies and in educational initiations using images portrayed in sand-paintings and body art (see 1890s photo). It was only 50 years ago, that Aboriginal elders began to retell these

sacred stories via paintings using acrylics on linen, as in today's world-renowned 'dot paintings' which will be displayed in the exhibition.

Dr Hede explains that "These authentic Aboriginal paintings which to the Western eye, are admirable contemporary artworks, also depict

traditional myths whose secrets are often not revealed to the uninitiated. In collecting this art, we can admire and respect this hidden dimension." Dr Hede's lecture will explore paintings in the exhibition that depict the 'Tingari', the ancestral male elders who travelled in the Dreamtime creating all the distinctive features of the Australian desert landscape. The symbolic roundels of concentric circles shown in the photo, represent places that the Tingari visited and that have secret relevance to their Aboriginal descendants still living there.

An excellent example of a desert-dreaming painting that retells a creation myth of the Tingari, is that by famous Warlpiri elder **Pegleg Tjampitjinpa** (see photo of his painting from the exhibition). Dr Hede says that "The nine dotted circular roundels with interconnecting dotted lines in black, deep-red and cream colours, create an impressive well-structured contemporary artwork... But the details of the Dreamtime travels by the Tingari also secretly depicted, give this painting an enhanced sense of wonder that invites repeated appreciation and reflection by the savvy collector."





ART EXHIBITION: ABORIGINAL DESERT ART





Clifford Possum Tjapaltjarri, 2000



Emily Kngwarreye, 1992 (not to scale)

Desert Dreaming ART is exhibiting and selling authentic dot paintings by Aboriginal artists from Australia's Central and Western Deserts. All artworks are from the **Hede Family Art Collection**.

Full collection catalogue available online at: www.desertdreamingart.com
Enquiries: ajjhede@gmail.com

- Investment paintings by internationally renowned artists (e.g., Emily Kngwarreye, Clifford Possum Tjapaltjarri)
- Collectable paintings by nationally renowned artists (e.g., Naata Nungurrayi, Ronnie Tjampitjinpa)
- Affordable paintings by other recognised artists (e.g., Nancy Ross Nungurrayi, Thomas Tjapaltjarri)

20-40% OFF gallery prices for this exhibition ONLY

ST BENEDICT'S MONASTERY, 121 Arcadia Rd, ARCADIA, NSW, 2159
(On the lands of the Dharug and GuriNgai peoples)
9am to 5pm, Sunday 9th November, 2025

A free public lecture '*Tingari: Sacred Secrets in Aboriginal Desert Art*' will be presented at 2-3pm

GGAFC Community Sausage Sizzle – All Welcome!



On the 9th November the Galston Glenorie Amateur Fishing Club welcomes the public to join us for our monthly weigh-in and sausage sizzle, at Berowra Waters boat ramp at 5pm.

A close-knit, family-oriented group based at The Galston Club, the GGAFC is all about sharing our passion for fishing and getting out on our beautiful waterways.

We welcome anglers of all ages and skill levels to participate in our monthly competitions. Our monthly events include estuary, surf, offshore, and freshwater fishing. With a welcoming atmosphere, members enjoy friendly competition both within the club and against other local clubs.

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

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

For further information please log onto our website at www.ggafc.com.au, or call Billy Ballinger on 0487 400 420.

ADVERTORIAL

From the Hills to the Amazon

Galston artist Kirrily Jordan is taking her love of weaving from our local bushland to the jungles of Peru.

In March 2026, Kirrily will lead a nine-day Peru Textiles Tour to support Indigenous women weavers from Santa Ana. The journey invites participants to travel deep into the Peruvian Amazon, learn traditional weaving techniques, and experience how art can bridge cultures and celebrate community.

"It all began right here in the Hills," says Kirrily. "The plants and landscapes may differ, but the joy of creating with our hands and connecting through craft is something that unites us everywhere."

"And for the women of Santa Ana, the project will provide meaningful income and recognition for their incredible skills and cultural knowledge."

Closer to home, Kirrily continues to offer local weaving workshops through November and December – a perfect way for locals of all ages to relax, learn, and make something beautiful.

Find out more about the Peru Textiles Tour 2026 and local workshops at www.kirrilyjordan.com

From the Hills to the Amazon – weaving stories that connect us all.

LEARN TO WEAVE!

Inspiring, hands-on workshops with local artist Kirrily Jordan

GALSTON & SURROUNDS



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CHRISTMAS EXHIBITION AND RETIREMENT SALE

ORIGINAL WATERCOLOUR PAINTINGS by VAL WRIGHT

ALL PAINTINGS WILL BE HALF PRICE

Beautiful, loose, original watercolour paintings, framed, and unframed (mounted and backed), many of local birds and animals which will be ideal Christmas gifts for the young and old.

Prices: from \$30, miniatures \$10.

Friday 31st Oct – Sunday 2nd Nov 10.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m.

26 Mansfield Road, Galston Parking available
Ph: 7226 0856 E: val@walkham.com

ADVERTORIAL

Christmas Gift Emporium

If you miss visiting Sandra's Ceramics Studio on this year's Arcadian Artists Trail, don't despair! They will be holding three additional open days before Christmas stocked with unique, handmade & special one-of-a-kind gifts.

The Christmas Gift Emporium will be open on Saturday 22nd and 29th of November, and the 6th of December from 10am – 1pm. Sandra is happy to accommodate other shopping times by appointment.

As members of the Arcadian Artists Trail for over 28 years, Sandra's Ceramics Studio continues to produce high quality decorative and functional pieces for the home and garden. Items range from vases and tableware to figurines and wall art.

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

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

ADVERTORIAL

Hear Clear Australia Celebrates 10 Years of Service in Dural

This month marked a special milestone for Hear Clear Australia as owner Katie Rahman and her dedicated team celebrated 10 years of service to the local community. The anniversary was filled with festivities, bringing together clients, friends, and supporters at the Dural clinic – the heart of the business.

The event was more than just a celebration of a decade in hearing care. It was also the unveiling of Hear Clear Australia's refreshed clinic makeover, showcasing a welcoming new space designed with client comfort and care in mind. Guests enjoyed delicious sandwiches, coffee from a mobile cart, and gift bags to take home – a small token of gratitude for the community that has supported Hear Clear throughout the years.

Beloved clients joined in to share their well wishes and experiences. Long-term client Alan said, "I have always found you and your people very friendly and professional."

Another client added, "Wishing you all the best for the next 10 years."

For Katie, the celebration was a reminder of why Hear Clear Australia was founded: to provide expert advice, affordable hearing solutions, and most importantly, person-centred care. Over the past decade, the clinic has built its reputation on a holistic approach to hearing rehabilitation, ensuring that every client feels supported and confident in their hearing journey.

"We are so proud of what we've achieved over the last 10 years," Katie said. "It's been an honour to help so many people reconnect with the world around them. Every year our team grows which makes me excited as it means we can help more people hear better in our community"

Hear Clear Australia remains committed to helping clients embrace life with confidence – one hearing solution at a time.



Your hearing matters

Better hearing can make your days richer and more fulfilling. Hearing care is an important part of your overall health and wellbeing.

Care that fits your life and goals

At Hear Clear Australia, we ensure you always have the best care and solutions available to enjoy life to its fullest. We take the time to focus on you and your unique needs to give you:

- Personalised expert services
- Care and solutions tailored to fit your daily routine
- Ongoing support and guidance to ensure your hearing health journey is successful and rewarding

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Principal
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www.hear-clear.com.au



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Find out more inside »

The Ray Whiteman Heritage Fence lights up for max attention!

Time to shine a light, literally, on the carvings. The GPA has raised enough funds to have up lights installed to showcase the brilliant carvings that our sculptor/artist Karl Van Middeldyk of Aussie Stonemasons has created for Glenorie.

The Ray Whiteman Heritage Fence has truly transformed the neighbourhood by enhancing the ambiance with its new uplighting. This project celebrates the rich history of the area, as the beautiful carvings are now illuminated, creating a warm and inviting atmosphere. A wonderful example of how lighting can contribute to the community and highlight important landmarks.



Firstly the fence was cleaned and sealed to sparkle and shine for years to come. Then the mower strip was installed in tandem with the electrical work done to embed the up lights in the strip.

Hornsby Shire Council has contributed more by funding the mower strip and the refurbishment of the park grounds. The pavers are the next project for completion.

Another huge thanks to the community for the positive change you have helped bring to Glenorie by monetary contribution and support throughout this six-year project. And thanks for your patience. We plan to have the barriers

down by Remembrance Day.

MORE ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

- Peter Shearing Structural Landscaper/ Horticulturist;
 - Nathan Parrin of N-Lite Electrical; and
 - Les Phillips of TLC Marble & Tile Care
- Plus
- Joan and Ian Francis of Abel Signs

Official Opening of the Ray Whiteman Heritage Fence

It's time to mark your calendars! The grand opening of the Ray Whiteman Heritage Fence is set for **15th February 2026**. Join us for a celebration of community spirit as we inaugurate this historic landmark. Save the date and be part of this memorable event!

Now we have the first instalment of the Hughes Family who have carved their name in sandstone to celebrate their history by sponsoring the agricultural pier. From convict to farming... here is the beginning of their story

The origins of the Hughes family date back to 1788 and the arrival of the First Fleet. Two convicts **Mary Parker** and **John Small** arrived in

Sydney on separate convict ships. They married soon after and subsequently had 7 children. Their second child **Mary** married **Matthew Hughes**.

Matthew Hughes arrived as a convict from Westmeath in Ireland in 1796. Matthew was a corporal in the militia and was in charge of soldiers, who killed several men in a brawl and so was convicted of murder and transported to Australia. Matthew received a conditional pardon in 1802 and an absolute pardon in 1818.

Matthew became the first school master at Kissing Point in 1798 and moved to teach at Windsor Charity School from 1810-1813 before being appointed to as school master in Richmond. He taught there from 1813 at least until 1841- some reports say until his death in 1845. Well over 40 years as an educator. His class sizes varied from 20 pupils up to an average of 90 by 1928. Matthew is known to have had a Wesleyan Church background- later to become the Methodist Church and was a prominent Wesleyan Layman in the Windsor district.

Matthew would be proud to know that a number of his descendants have followed in his footsteps, working in schools and universities as teachers, learning support officers, school administrators and general assistants.

Mary was also involved in the school as she taught needlework to the girls as part of her role, as the schoolteacher's wife. Mary and Matthew raised 14 children. *More to come next month.*



Arcadia Galston
Residents Association Inc.

*giving the community a
voice to be heard*

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MALABAR REDUCTION BURN



Fire crews from Hills and Hornsby brigades such as the Glenhaven Rural Fire Brigade and Maroota RFB performed the Malabar Hazard Reduction burn in Dural on Sunday, 19th October.

With a total area burn of approximately 8 hectares in the areas surrounding Yuruga and Malabar roads, crews were up throughout day and night in shifts to manage the burn.

Residents were advised to keep doors and windows shut due to smoke. Crews managed traffic disruptions.

NSW has entered into its statutory 'Bush Fire Danger Period' on the 1st of October and will stay until 31st March next year.

During such period, residents are now required to have a fire permit from their local Fire Control Centre or NSW Rural Fire Service brigade.

On Tuesday, 22nd October, the NSW RFS declared a Total Fire Ban on Greater Sydney, Illawarra/Shoalhaven, Greater Hunter, Upper Central West Plains and North Western areas. This was due to a forecast of hot, dry, and windy conditions.

MAN FELL FROM HORSE



Emergency responders attended a call from an address in Kenthurst after a man in his 60s fell from his horse on Friday, 17th October, right before 9 am.

Tasked by NSW Ambulance, the Mounties Care CareFlight Helicopter and its crew flew to aid the man who suffered pre-pelvic injuries.

CareFlight's specialist doctor and NSW Ambulance paramedics provided

critical care after landing in a paddock 100 meters from the patient before he was airlifted to Royal North Shore Hospital in serious but stable condition.

When you or someone needs immediate help, dial NSW Ambulance at Triple Zero (000) or CareFlight at 1300 655 855 (Australia).

TRUCK CRASH

On Wednesday, 15th October, a truck crash temporarily halted the traffic flow on Old Northern Road.

Authorities closed the southbound road in Wlyds Road, Glenorie, and drivers travelling southbound were advised to take Wlyds road, Arcadia Road, Galston Road, and back onto the Old Northern Road.

At around 12.19 pm, alternating traffic conditions were in place and, an hour later, all lanes reopened.

SWITCHEROO

Around 2:30 am on late-September, conducting proactive patrols spotted a grey BMW travelling southbound on Old Northern Road, Dural, displaying green P-plates and carrying two passengers.

Officers stopped the vehicle just before Galston Road and observed the driver move into the back seat alongside his two passengers. Further checks revealed the teen was a suspended learner driver.

The driver was charged with driving while suspended and appeared before Parramatta Local Court on October.

P2 DRIVER SPEEDING

During the double demerits long weekend, officers from The Hills Police Area Command stopped a P2 driver on Old Northern Road, Castle Hill, after witnessing several dangerous driving offences at 2:39 am on Saturday, 4th October.

The driver had no front P-plates displayed, ran a red light at McMullen Avenue and Old Northern Road, was clocked at 120km/h in a 60 zone on Castle Hill Road, and failed to stop at a red arrow on Old Northern Road.

A Traffic Infringement Notice was issued for multiple offences, including exceeding the speed limit by more than 45km/h – a licence-suspendable offence.

Provisional drivers are reminded that licence conditions are not optional:

- Always display your P-plates
- Obey traffic signals
- Stay within the speed limit

MOTORCYCLE PURSUIT

Police have arrested a man following a high-speed motorcycle pursuit through Castle Hill on late-September.

Around 9:14 pm, officers from The Hills Highway Patrol spotted a black Suzuki GSXR1000 travelling east on Showground Road at 96km/h in a 60 zone. The bike had no registration plate, and checks confirmed it was unregistered.

When officers attempted to stop the rider, he allegedly accelerated away, running a red light at Old Northern Road before speeding through residential Francis Street at more than 100km/h in a 50 zone.

The man abandoned the motorcycle in a cul-de-sac and fled into nearby bushland. Police deployed the Air Wing and Dog Squad, who located him about an hour later hiding in the scrub still wearing his helmet.

He was arrested and taken to Castle Hill Police Station, where he returned a negative breath test but allegedly tested positive for cannabis on an oral fluid test.

Further inquiries revealed he was a suspended learner driver and the motorcycle was unregistered.

He was charged with police pursuit (Skye's Law), driving while licence suspended, driving an unregistered vehicle, and driving with an illicit drug present. The man appeared at Parramatta Local Court on 15th October 2025.

POLICE PURSUIT

A white Toyota Camry was stolen from a driveway on Warwick Parade, Castle Hill, after the keys were left inside the vehicle.

Hills Police officers saw the stolen car a short time later on Showground Road and initiated a pursuit. The vehicle was driven at high speed through Castle Hill before stopping on Virginia Avenue.

Six teenagers were arrested at the scene without incident. A search of the group revealed two knives in their possession.

Two of the teenagers were charged with stealing the vehicle and possession of a knife in a public place. They were refused bail and appeared in a Children's Court later that day.

Enquiries into the remaining four individuals are continuing, with actions to be taken in accordance with the *Young Offenders Act*.

ADVENTURE, CULTURE, AND KINSHIP: An Extraordinary Journey into Mongolia

ADVERTORIAL



Clare Oliver, a local photographer, recently returned from an adventure into the heart of Mongolia, and along with the tour hosts and participants is eager to share their story. For all involved, the mission is clear: to ensure this incredible corner of the world receives the recognition it deserves. The Mongolian culture and its people benefit significantly from the genuine interest and support of western travelers, making this form of tourism a powerful vehicle for cultural exchange.

This is not a typical tour route involving buses or trains. Tourism here is wonderfully raw and challenging. Accessing the remote areas visited requires days of 4WD travel across demanding terrain—a massive undertaking that the travelers found entirely worthwhile. The goal of the journey is not just sightseeing, but fostering connection, creativity, and kinship between two vastly different cultures, with photography often serving as the primary bridge.

These adventure tours are run by Glenn McKimmin, who specializes in taking people to places they cannot reach without extensive research, pre-trip logistics, and a dedicated on-ground crew. The team includes expert drivers and cooks, and accommodations involve

staying at local farms and being hosted by Mongolian Eagle Hunters. Guests eat, drink, and live alongside their hosts in Yurts, participating in a genuine, real, and raw cultural experience where the hosts proudly share their heritage.

The recent tour's instructional team consisted of Clare Oliver (Arcadian local professional photographer) Glenn McKimmin the tour owner and David Oliver (Clare's father also professional photographer). They were supported by their essential on-ground Mongolian host, Daulet.

The culture-sharing mission is beautifully illustrated through the experience of one of this year's participants, Jenny Guest.

Jenny, an Arcadian local and owner of the luxury B&B, "Guestlands," participated in the tour. While she initially sought to learn photography, her main drive was the desire for a completely different kind of adventure travel. Jenny embraced every aspect of the tour, not only developing her photography skills but also demonstrating incredible bravery—she was even courageous enough to catch an eagle!

The success of these trips continues, with the next adventure to Mongolia scheduled for September of next year. A local lady from Berilee, Lenore Shipley, is already booked to join the group.



Residents demand answers over secretive Arcadia development

A storm is brewing in Arcadia over DA/509/2025, a controversial development proposal at 8-12 Fagans Road that has already drawn more than 50 community objections since it was lodged in May 2025.

The soon-to-be-disbanded Sydney North Planning Panel has brought forward the date to decide the fate of the project to 29th October, and advised Hornsby Council the meeting will be held behind closed doors and without any local council representatives – a move residents say is a clear departure from the Panel's own Operational Procedures, which are designed to ensure transparency and local representation in decision-making.

Adding to the controversy, the NSW Government quietly changed planning legislation on 19th September 2025, making the previously non-permissible project type allowable just weeks before the panel's determination. This change has state-wide implications.

The Fagans Road Residents Association is calling for an independent inquiry into how the project advanced under shifting rules and without public accountability. The proposal also relies on funding awarded in 2024 under the Department of Communities and Justice's Core and Cluster program – raising further questions about how the grant was approved for a site that Hornsby Council advised was not compliant at the time.

"This isn't just a local planning issue – it's about integrity in government decision-making," a spokesperson for the Fagans Road Residents Association said. "A development that required the law to be changed mid-process should not be decided behind closed doors. The community deserves answers."

An FOI was submitted to DCJ requesting related discussions and documents pertaining to the grant process for this site on 10/10/2025, and they advised to extend the due date to 18/02/2026 (GIPA application number 25/23936 - GIPA25/4848).

Hornsby Mayor Warren Waddell quotes:

"In the seven years I've been on Hornsby Council I've never seen a closed panel before. I've raised my objection – community consultation is key to transparency in decision making".

"When a law changes after a DA is lodged, the public expects stronger scrutiny, not a closed-door process. This decision undermines community trust."

Fagans Road Residents Association spokesperson, Emily Martin says:

"State grant, state law, state determining body – this is a stitch up, no wonder they are closing the doors. The community deserve a voice on matters that impact them".

Fagans Road Residents Association contacts:

Emily Martin 0404 884 343

Elizabeth Whitelock 0411 544 711

Hornsby Mayor Warren Waddell
wwaddell@hornsby.nsw.gov.au
(02) 9847 6666

Relevant documents:

The Statement of Environmental Effects for DA/ 509/2025:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/12lfuzBzJc9Vz1UXV_Ymzb5CPtFxPtGr8/view?usp=drivesdk

Legislation amendment, came into effect 19th September:

<https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/view/pdf/asmade/epi-2025-511>

Meeting notes showing questions around permissibility and then "permissibility resolved" with meeting within days of the law change:

Transitional Group Home | Planning Portal - Department of Planning and Environment

ADVERTORIAL

Hamptons Haven Offering Modern Luxury and Countryside Charm



A shining beacon of custom craftsmanship, this brand-new residence masterfully blends modern luxury with the grace and grandeur of a countryside homestead. Framed by picturesque mountain views and ideally positioned between the Hills and Hawkesbury, the property delivers grand-scale family living with refinement in every detail.

The home coalesces around its breathtaking great room, a soaring vaulted space where a 3.8-metre ceiling draws in natural light through overhead skylights. A state-of-the-art kitchen impresses with 60mm stone benchtops, dual dishwashers, farmhouse sink, pot filler, and a full suite of Fisher & Paykel appliances, all complemented by a butler's pantry and bar area.

Engineered timber floorboards lead through the expansive living zone with gas fireplace and out to the alfresco area, complete with a built-in BBQ kitchen and roaring dual-sided fireplace.

Five bedrooms are joined by a home office, children's retreat and home theatre, while the mineral pool, manicured gardens, and multiple garages enhance the lifestyle appeal. Ducted air conditioning, ceiling fans, plantation shutters, sheer blinds, recycled brick detailing, and an 8.8kW solar system add quality and efficiency throughout.

A separate two-bedroom, self-contained cottage offers scope for multigenerational living or rental income. Private, polished and without compromise, this is one of the region's most impressive family estates.

Features: - 7,144sqm of fully fenced land with fresh landscaping and mountain outlooks - Beautiful front patio and circular compacted gravel driveway for grand arrival - Main residence includes a three-car garage plus additional three-bay shed - Self-contained two-bedroom cottage ideal for guests, extended family or rental - Main bedroom in a private wing with dual walk-in robes and double shower ensuite - Bar area off rumpus room, and family-sized laundry with custom dog bath - 3.5 bathrooms across the home, designed for function and flow - Media room and children's retreat, plus a cocooned courtyard space - Three-car carport positioned behind the pool house for extra parking/storage

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Sold \$1,380,000

8/546 Old Northern Road, Dural



Sold \$2,500,000

3 Odette Road, Dural



Sold \$6,500,000

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Sold

238 Annangrove Road, Annangrove



Sold \$2,090,000

110 Reedy Road, Maraylya



Sold \$1,025,000

4 Sugar Glider Drive, Cattai

Feature Listings



2 Wianamatta Circuit, Cattai



137 Halcrows Road, Glenorie



3870 Old Northern Road, Maroota



36 Reedy Road, Cattai

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Dural NSW 2158
02 9651 1109

Pitt Town

7/29 Eldon Street
Pitt Town NSW 2756
02 4587 8855



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



from the Mayor's Desk

This month, Hornsby Shire Council is proud to shine a spotlight on sustainability and the small changes we can all make to live more lightly on the planet. We're inviting residents to explore practical ways to reduce waste, reuse valuable resources, and repair rather than replace through a range of exciting community events and activities.

On Sunday 9 November, we kick things off with our popular Second Hand Market at Coronation Street, Hornsby where you can pick up a preloved bargain and support the circular economy. That day, there's also a community chipping day at our Galston depot, where residents can drop off tree branches and garden waste to be turned into free mulch.

The following weekend, Saturday 15 November, Storey Park Community Centre will come alive with hands-on workshops that celebrate the art of repair. Whether you're interested in mending clothes, or restoring small electronics and furniture, our Repair Café and workshops offer the tools, guidance, and community spirit to help you breathe new life into old items.

For those curious about sustainable living on a larger scale, we're hosting a guided tour of the Kimbriki Eco House & Garden on Thursday 20 November. This inspiring site showcases how everyday choices in the home and garden can make a big environmental impact.

And if you're considering making the switch to solar, we're offering free solar and battery information sessions at Hornsby Library on 4 and 5 November, as well as an online webinar on the evening of 5 November. These sessions are a great opportunity to learn how renewable energy can reduce your household emissions and energy bills.

I encourage everyone to get involved, learn something new, and take a step toward a more circular and climate-conscious future.

Warren Waddell
Mayor of Hornsby Shire

Second Hand Market

Sunday
9 November, 2025
9am - 1pm
Coronation Street,
Hornsby

OVER 30
SECOND-HAND
STALLS

Reduce, Reuse, Repair, Recycle



Get hands-on this November and join one of our events.

Chipping for Mulch

Sunday 9 November 7.30am-12.30pm
Council Depot, Johnson Road, Galston

Stitch and Fix: Clothes Mending workshop

Saturday 15 November 10.30am-12.30pm
Storey Park Community Centre, Hornsby

Repair Café – Electronics/Furniture

Saturday 15 November 11am-1pm
Storey Park Community Centre, Hornsby

Kimbriki Eco House & Garden Tour

Thursday 20 November 9am-2pm
Departs from Hornsby Park bus stop

Furoshiki Gift Wrapping workshop

Saturday 29 November, 10am-11.30am
Hornsby Library

Bookings essential hornsby.nsw.gov.au/waste

Give your roof a side hustle

Free solar and battery sessions:

■ 4 & 5 Nov, 10am-1pm, Hornsby Library ■ 5 Nov, 6.30pm, online webinar

Bookings essential: hornsby.nsw.gov.au/solar

Uolo Community Park, Hornsby Heights - Playground Upgrade

Submissions close:
4 November

Cherrybrook Community and Cultural Centre Playground

Submissions close: 4 November

Local Planning Panel Community Representatives

Submissions close: 5 November

YOUR SAY HORNSBY

Review of Council's Code of Meeting Practice

Submissions close: 6 November

Asquith Oval Amenities Upgrade

Submissions close: 18 November

Salt Pan Dog Park

Submissions close: 2 December

Asquith Dog Park

Submissions close: 2 December

For more information visit:
yoursay.hornsby.nsw.gov.au



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PAID ADVERTORIAL

How to play it smart when entering the property market for the first time



Buying your first home is one of life's biggest milestones, and entering the property market for the first time requires careful planning and preparation.

Even with new government incentives, success comes down to strategy. Here are some steps to position yourself to buy smart:

- **Do your research:** Understand what incentives and grants apply to your situation, and research the areas you're considering.
- **Get finance ready:** Secure pre-approval early so you can act quickly when the right property comes along.
- **Complete your due diligence:** Arrange building inspections, review strata reports, and ensure you are fully informed about the property before committing.
- **Be flexible:** If your preferred suburb is out of reach, consider neighbouring areas. Similar homes may be available at lower prices, while still meeting your needs.
- **Plan for the long term:** Make sure the home suits your lifestyle and financial goals, and that you can comfortably manage repayments even if interest rates change.

KEY CHANGES TO THE SCHEME

1. **5% deposit and no lenders mortgage insurance (LMI)** - Eligible buyers can now enter the market with just a 5% deposit and avoid paying LMI, reducing upfront costs.
2. **Removal of income caps** - Previously, singles earning over \$125,000 and couples over \$200,000 were ineligible. These caps have now been removed, broadening access for more Australians. While easier access is welcome, careful budgeting is still essential.
3. **Unlimited places** - The annual cap on the number of buyers has been removed. All eligible first-home buyers can access the scheme immediately, providing certainty and removing the stress of waiting for allocations.
4. **Higher property price caps** - Property price limits have been raised to reflect current market conditions, allowing first-time buyers to access a wider range of homes in high-demand areas up to \$1.5m

STATE AND TERRITORY SUPPORT

In addition to the federal scheme, states and territories offer incentives to support first-home buyers:

- **NSW:** Stamp duty exemptions and the First Home Owner Grant for new homes



Many of these incentives can be combined with the federal scheme, giving buyers even greater support.

HELPING FIRST-TIME BUYERS GET AHEAD

The 2025 updates to the First Home Guarantee Scheme provide a stronger pathway into the property market, but preparation, research, and a clear strategy remain key.

Before buying, speak with a financial advisor or mortgage broker to check your eligibility and plan your budget. For additional guidance, contact your Carolyn Wheatley, Principal of Belle Property Dural for a copy of the *first-time homebuyer checklist* to take the next step with confidence. Call her on 0407 120 483 today!

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Galston Library

Have you ever wanted to master cryptic crosswords? Join Ralph Penglis at Hornsby Library as he unravels the mystery of cryptic crosswords in his two-day workshop on Monday 10th and Monday 17th November from 2pm to 4pm. This is a fun and practical workshop aimed at beginners and those wanting to revise their basic skills. Visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library for more information and to book your ticket.

ADULT FICTION

SECRETS BY JUDI MORISON

Ruth has only months to live, and a secret she's kept for 60 years. She must put things right before she dies but as she has learned, the longer something is kept hidden, the harder it is to bring out of the shadows. With her grandson in jail and her family fractured, Ruth must reveal her secret, reconcile her family, and find a way to save her beloved homestead, Cora.

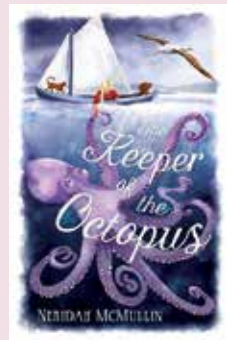


A sweeping saga spanning more than half a century, this spirited and compassionate novel is a testament to the power of truth-telling and the possibility of healing.

JUNIOR FICTION

THE KEEPER OF THE OCTOPUS BY NERIDAH MCMULLIN

Pippy and her Uncle Isaac spend their days fishing. When Pippy is knocked into the sea and rescued by a giant creature, Uncle Isaac reveals to Pippy that their family are Keepers, responsible for the giant octopus who protects the fisherfolk. At first, Pippy is hesitant to meet Octavia, but soon they recognise each other as kindred spirits. When the Calamary Brothers come to town, Pippy learns of their hunt for a giant octopus. It's then up to Pippy to rescue Octavia from the Calamary's clutches.



An engaging, heartfelt and imaginative story from the award-winning author of *Evie and Rhino*.

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

Castle Hill Art Society

ART XMAS MARKET

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Saturday 8th November 9am - 2pm

Castle Glen Community Centre, 157 Ridgecrop Drive, Castle Hill
(Behind Knightsbridge shops)

ADVERTORIAL

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Quality outdoor lighting can add considerable value to your property's perceived value. Real estate agents consistently report that well-lit homes photograph better, feel more finished, and command premium prices. In the Hills District's competitive market, this edge matters.

Book your free consultation today and discover how professional lighting can transform your outdoor living space.

Contact: 1300 653 556 | picaelectrical.com.au/outdoor-lighting

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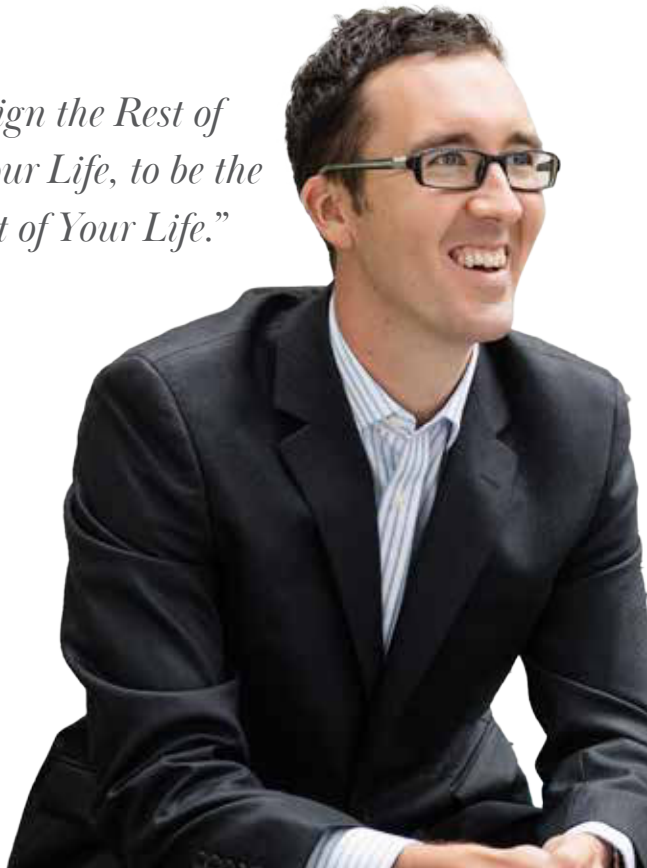
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For Sale

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Kate Lumby | 0414 620 222

DURAL AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

News from History Cottage

This year's Annual General Meeting for the Historical Society lived up to expectations.

It was an encouraging expression of commitment when some fifty members attended and heard a review of the past year and how it looks to the next. Positions for the Management Committee were filled. A brief special meeting, to bring the DDHS constitution in line with new legislation, was then held and changes were approved.

Then followed a most pleasant and informative part of the afternoon; when members heard why eight of them were keen to pass on information about their special items; with a Show and Tell. Antique garden tools, the changes in the technology of hand held computers, a connection to de Groot of Harbour Bridge notoriety. And the letters and cards to a young lady, written during the First World War, from a Glenorie boy who did not return.

With Remembrance Day on the 11th November so close; the guest speaker for the **Saturday 8th November**, at 2.00pm in the Galston Uniting Church, School Road, Galston, will be Ron McIntosh, history researcher; his topic "The Lost Boys". Maybe readers have seen memorials engraved with the words 'Known Unto God, Unknown Australian Soldier' or 'No Known Grave'. The Society welcomes all to come and learn some of the histories of the 11,000 Lost Boys from the battle fields where Australians have served.

The November meeting will be the last for the year but enquiries can still be directed to 02 9653 1365. The first meeting for 2026 will be

Members, Margaret and Mal exhibit valued family craft. Ph by Ken Bradley



on the 14th February when our guest speaker will be well known, and heard piper, John Graham. John will tell us The History of Bagpipes.

Meetings are in the Galston Uniting Church School Road Galston. Entry is free with a gold coin donation for afternoon tea.

History Cottage open 1.00 to 4.00pm 30th November. All welcome.

An advertisement for Staples Premier Pumpouts. The top left features the Staples logo in green and red, with the text "PREMIER PUMPOUTS" in green. Below the logo is a photograph of a long line of white commercial trucks with silver cylindrical tanks, parked in a lot. A red speech bubble with white text says "It's what we have been doing successfully for over 30 years!". Below this is another photograph of a single white truck with a large silver tank, also featuring the Staples logo.

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When was your last pumpout??

We recommend a pumpout every 3-5 years depending on how many people reside there.



With the weather heating up, you will want to start thinking about Bushfire readiness in your local area. Hornsby Shire is one of the more bushfire-vulnerable parts of Greater Sydney, with around 40% of its properties (over 28,500 homes across more than 41,000 hectares) designated as bush-fire prone land. To help manage this risk, the Hornsby-Ku-ring-gai Bush Fire Risk Management Committee develops and implements the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Bush Fire Risk Management Plan, which identifies high-risk areas, plans hazard reduction burns, manages fuel loads via asset protection zones and fire trails, and involves local residents in preparedness and education.

Hornsby Council also has information on its website on Land Management and Community Preparedness. <https://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/environment/flora-and-fauna/fire-management/what-council-does/nested-content/land-management-and-community-preparedness>. The NSW Rural fire Service also issues a bushfire survival plan which gives you four simple steps to take in case of a bushfire emergency – its also listed on the [rfs.nsw.gov.au](https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au) website.

Hornsby Council are holding free information sessions regarding the decision to go Solar for your home. These sessions are being held at Hornsby Library from **23rd October until 5th November**. Bookings can be made online at Council's Website: [Hornsby.nsw.gov.au/lifestyle/events/sustainability/solar](https://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/lifestyle/events/sustainability/solar)

These projects are currently under discussion on our **Your Say** page on the Hornsby Council Website – we encourage your feedback on these projects

- Review of Council's code of Meeting Practise
- Cherrybrook Community and Cultural Centre playground
- Ulolo Community Park, Hornsby Heights - Playground Upgrade
- Draft Flood Risk Management Study – Learn about Hornsby Shire's flood map



Improving Access to the Cherrybrook Metro Station

We love the Metro. But getting to and from Cherrybrook Metro Station is a challenge.

Earlier this year, I launched a petition calling for improved access to the Metro Station. More than 1300 locals have got involved and signed the petition.

Following the overwhelming response to that petition, I committed to making a submission to Transport for NSW making the case for improved bus services to the Metro. Since I last updated you about this issue, I have now made that submission and I'm looking forward to receiving the Department's response.

The submission sets out the problems with access to the Cherrybrook Metro and proposed solutions, including the creation of new bus services and changes to existing ones. The solutions I proposed were to:

- Establish a new bus service east of Shepherds Dr to directly connect to the Metro without having to loop around Purchase Road.
- Establish a new bus service that directly connects residents on Jenner Rd and James Henty Dr with the Metro Station (replicating some of the stops of the 635) and loops back via David Road.
- Add a new stop along the 600 Bus route at Cherrybrook Metro Station. The 600 Bus route narrowly bypasses the Cherrybrook Metro and a small change would significantly improve access.
- Increase frequency of all existing services to the Metro Station during peak times.
- Improve connectivity from local retirement villages to the Metro Station.

I recognise that poor bus services to the Cherrybrook Metro are only part of the problem. I'm also continuing to push for improved parking access to the Metro.

ADVERTORIAL

Fire Season from Hell

Firefighting authorities are warning that Australia could be facing an early and intense bushfire season. With warmer than average forecasts and winter rain producing increased fuel for bushfires, early preparation is vital. Professor David Bowman, a leading Australian Fire and Pyrogeography scientist, says, "People are still in a daze after winter and can't imagine, that fires could be unseasonal and early."

We can all be grateful for the services of the volunteer Brigades. They do a brilliant job and give up their time to train and act when called on, but they can't be everywhere at once.

You can get your property bushfire ready with Aussie Pumps free 'Bushfire Survival

Guide'. The guide is loaded with invaluable information to help you make informed choices and be prepared with a bushfire plan.

Aussie's Guide covers the basics of preparing a home or property regardless of whether you intend to stay or leave. It also assists with fire pump selection, hose kits, setting up sprinkler systems, and routine maintenance to keep gear primed and ready for an emergency.

A quality firefighting pump and adequate water source are key to setting up a protection system. Aussie's Fire Chief range, are designed and built for Australia.

All Aussie Quik Prime pumps are backed with a 5-year pump end warranty. That demonstrates the company's confidence in the long-term reliability and performance of their products. It's capability that counts. Unfortunately, not all pumps are designed to deliver top performance, and second-rate gear can risk property, pets, stock, and even lives.

When buying a pump, ask lots of questions, do your research and choose a quality pump,



Ginger Soames of Arcadia is "fire ready"

based on performance, features and value. Check out the Aussie Pumps website for more information.

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

For further information, visit aussiepumps.com.au or give Aussie a call on 8865 3500.



We need to back parents and lift student outcomes

We're fortunate in Berowra to have exceptional schools across the government, Catholic and Independent systems. I see firsthand the dedication of our principals, teachers and parents.

One of things I've enjoyed most as local member is building relationships with our local schools – the principals, teachers, student and parents - across my time in parliament.

That's why I am delighted to be the Coalition's new Shadow Minister for Education and Early Learning.

My view is simple: it's not my job to tell parents what's best for their children. Parents know what's best. It's my job to make sure parents have a range of options so that they can choose what's right for their family. The education system should be set up to allow parents to make that choice.

Nationally, despite increases in school funding, student performance in literacy and numeracy has gone backwards. Australians are concerned that there is not enough of a focus on foundational skills.

As Shadow Minister, I want to champion the importance of foundational learning and see genuine transparency about the correlation with federal funding to our education system and student outcomes. I'll also continue to fight for stronger protections in early learning to keep our youngest Australians safe.

Education is nation-building. The choices we make today determine the Australia of tomorrow. We owe it to every child to give them the tools to thrive. Whether you are a teacher who would like to provide feedback on the curriculum, or a parent juggling work with the school run – I want the voices of teachers and families in our community to help shape the policy we will take to the next election.

the community to make mindful choices, support sustainability, and uncover some unique bargains along the way," said Mayor Waddell.

The market will run from 9am to 1pm on Sunday 9th November in the car park on Coronation Street and in the Coronation StrEat space.

Second Hand Hornsby aligns with Council's Waste Matters Strategy and is part of several initiatives, including Bicycle Repair and Clothes Swap events, to maximise resource recovery and reduce landfill.

For more details on the Second Hand Hornsby Markets, visit <https://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/shh-market>

Hornsby's Second Hand Market returns 9th November after record-breaking September

Hornsby Shire Council is excited to announce the return of its popular Second Hand Hornsby Market on Sunday 9th November 2025 at Coronation StrEat, just ahead of National Recycling Week.



The market is part of Council's Second Hand Hornsby initiative, which encourages residents to rethink waste and embrace reuse. Since launching, the initiative has helped keep over 4,675 items in circulation and more than \$31,000 in the local reuse economy, with 6,500 customers supporting sustainable living.

September's market was the most well attended yet, with 1,075 items sold and \$7,369 kept in the local economy – a clear sign that the community is embracing the shift away from throwaway culture.

Building on this success, the upcoming November market offers another opportunity for residents to declutter responsibly and discover pre-loved treasures, from clothing and toys to books, sporting gear and household items.

All 30 stalls were quickly booked out, and Hornsby Shire Mayor Warren Waddell is looking forward to another vibrant day of community connection and conscious consumption.

"The Second Hand Hornsby Market encourages us to rethink how we consume and value everyday items. It's a wonderful chance for



As your Federal Member, I am here to:

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

Please contact my office if I can be of assistance.

JULIAN LEESER MP
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR BEROWRA

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julian.leeser.mp@aph.gov.au julianleeser.com.au [julianleesermp](https://www.facebook.com/julianleesermp)

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

The Independent's View



**BY NATHAN TILBURY,
INDEPENDENT COUNCILLOR AT HORNSBY**

Having served as an A Ward councillor on Hornsby Council for over a decade, I am aware that many residents in our rural area often feel left out or under-valued. Whilst there are some challenges that need to be worked through, there are still plenty of positive things council has delivered or are in the pipeline for delivery.

One of those things is the Galston Village Public Domain plan that will make access it safer to access for motorists, pedestrians and cyclists, and a nicer place to be for everyone. The tender process is nearing competition with the intention of commencing construction early next year. It is a huge project that is anticipated to take over 12 months. I have requested that during construction council take active steps to minimize interruptions to shops, shoppers and the community in general. I am also committed to keeping you informed as this project nears commencement and throughout its delivery.

Congratulations to the Friends of Fagan Park with their recent hosting of an open day around the Netherby Cottage. This initiative was driven by the new curator Julie Graham and it was a terrific success for all who participated and visited. I would

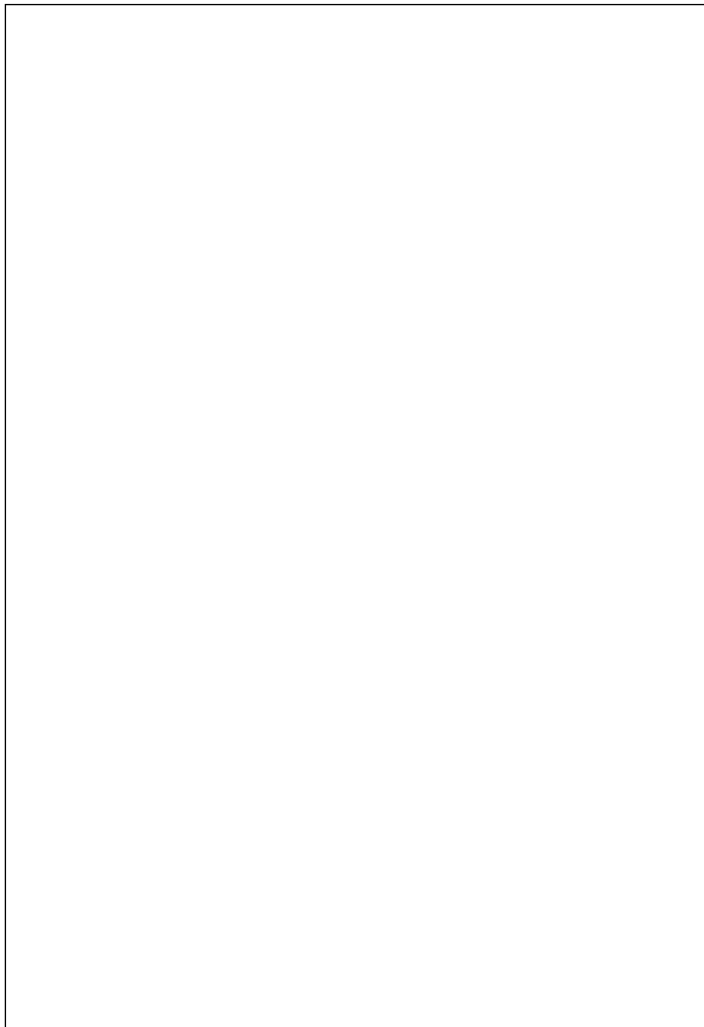
also like congratulate the former Curator, Ian Browning who has just been appointed onto council's Heritage Committee as a community representative, along with Dural and District Historical Society Executive Member, Ms Elyssa Freame who was appointed as a technical representative.

Another positive improvement for our rural area has been the magnificent sandstone enclosure around the Glenorie War Memorial on Old Northern Road, *the Ray Whiteman Heritage Fence*. This project was funded by local residents & businesses, and built by local contractors, to recognize local servicemen and women. It was an easy community initiative for council to support and I would like to recognize the endless hard work of the Glenorie Progress Association for driving its delivery, particularly its President, Di Coxon-Ellis. I look forward to it being on

full display for Remembrance Day on the **11th of November**.

Finally, I recognise the frustration and anxiety that many Galston residents have endured over council's ongoing proposal to rezone its land in Johnson Road for industrial units. This issue has dragged on far too long and exhausted far too many community resources. It's time for council to resolve the matter decisively. Residents deserve clarity and closure and allow council to move forward and focus on what truly matters: improving our libraries, playgrounds, and local footpaths.

If you have any questions or concerns with the issues mentioned here, or any other Hornsby Council related issue, please feel free to contact me, as your independent councillor, at any time on 0403 227 560 or ntilbury@hornsby.nsw.gov.au



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Celebrate connection and culture at Hornsby's 'Friends, Food and Fun' community event

Hornsby Shire Council invites residents of all ages to come together for a joyful morning of music, food, and cultural celebration at this year's Fun, Food and Friends event, part of Social Inclusion Week and the newly expanded Hello Hornsby program.

Held at Hornsby RSL on Sunday 16th November from 10am-12pm, this free community event is designed to foster



connection, celebrate diversity, and promote inclusion across generations and cultures.

Attendees will enjoy:

- Live entertainment - Featuring traditional instruments, cultural singing, and performances by local school bands including Barker College's pop and rock band and Waitara Public School choir.
- Cultural activities - Try your hand at Chinese calligraphy, origami, traditional games, and Henna art.
- Community connections - Meet local services, discover what's happening in your area, and connect with others.
- Morning tea - A delicious selection of sweet and savoury delights will be provided.

The event is expected to welcome 300 people and will be held in a lively, family-friendly environment suitable for children and adults alike. It reflects Hornsby Shire's commitment to building a more connected

and inclusive community, especially for residents from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds.

Mayor Warren Waddell said the event is a meaningful way to mark Social Inclusion Week and bring the community together:

"Social Inclusion Week is about helping all Australians feel included and valued, giving everyone the opportunity to participate fully in society. This event recognises the theme of 'Connect, Collaborate and Celebrate' by creating a fun and inviting atmosphere where everyone is welcome.

"Hornsby Shire Council is proud to present initiatives like Hello Hornsby that bring people together and strengthen community bonds."

Friends, Fun and Food' will run from 10am-12pm on Sunday 16th November at Hornsby RSL Club. Morning tea is included. For more information and to book visit <https://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/lifestyle/events/community-events/friends,-food-and-fun>



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Dural Bowling Club

Dural Bowling Club held their inaugural annual tournament sponsored by Dural Club on Monday 29th September 2025.

The day started under overcast skies, but the cloud cover quickly went away, and the day turned into perfect condition for bowling, 24 degrees, not bad for a Spring Day.

There were 32 teams, 96 Bowlers of men, women, and mixed teams competing. The teams came from Dural, Pennant Hills, The Hills, North Epping, Castle Hill, Burwood Diggers, Pittwater, Campbelltown, Nth Sydney, Bowral, Harbord, Wisemans Park, Corrimal, Ettalong, Mosman, Toongabbie, Dundas, St Ives, Northern Suburbs Brisbane, Wentworthville and Merrylands.



The games consisted of 3 games of 10 ends of 2 bowls triples, and the games were played in a very



friendly manner with lots of good banter going around. Every bowler seemed to enjoy themselves, whether it was the fact that they were playing bowls or just out in the sunshine with a lot of mates.

A great lunch was had at the Dural Club. A great thanks to the sponsors as without sponsorship carnivals wouldn't happen and Dural Club is a great sponsor of bowls.

Thank you to Eoin Gubbins - General Manager of Dural Club, for presenting the prizes to the winning teams.

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

Dural BOCCE Club

September was an exciting month for the Dural Bocce Club as we hosted the Bocce Australia Roadshow at our courts at the Dural Club. Members of our club were joined by members from several NSW bocce clubs; including Liverpool Catholic Club, Club Marconi and Cooma Bocce Sporting Club.

The day started with a coaching session for elite junior players from across Australia with visiting French national coach Phillippe DeSousa. The session showcased Australian players many of whom have recently returned from the 2025 World Games in Chengdu, China. At the games the Australian team's efforts saw Australia rise to 7th in the world

standing in the sport of bocce. We now look forward to the next World Games in 2029 in Karlsruhe, Germany.

The session covered a special version of bocce called Volo where, rather than bowl the bocce down the court, the bocce is thrown underarm at the target pallino. This is a precision form of bocce requiring athleticism and skill, and is definitely for more lively players!

After a wonderful lunch all delegates attended a session presented by Sports Integrity Australia outlining the correct use of sport supplements and the procedures associated with drug testing. The final session was a presentation of UCAN2. A program empowering women and girls through bocce.



Bocce is a safe, welcoming and accessible sport for everyone no matter your age, ability, background or experience. So come along and give it a go!

Thankyou Galston Bendigo Bank

The Rockets Disabled Tenpin Bowling Team (formerly The Hornsby Rockets) wish to send a big THANKYOU to Galston Bendigo Bank for the generous donation of \$3000 to assist with their airfares so they can attend the 37th National Tenpin Bowling Championships for Persons With A Disability in Queensland next year.

The Rockets are a group of disabled bowlers ranging in age from 33 years to 60 years. They have a wide range of disabilities but they also have many ABILITIES – tenpin bowling being one of them!

The bowlers, with their parents and carers, travel far and wide to attend many competitions both intra and interstate. Recent competitions were held at Shellharbour, Orange, Canberra, Wetherill Park, Rooty Hill and Wagga.

Next June, we have our bowlers and their parents/carers travelling to Suncity High Performance Tenpin Bowling Centre at Alexandra Headland in Queensland. Every year this competition is held in a different state and sunny Queensland has it for 2026.

The Rockets excel at these competitions with many members over the years appearing in the NSW State Teams and obtaining many medals and trophies.

These much needed funds will help enormously with our costs so THANKYOU Galston Bendigo Bank, without your support we could not attend the competition.



Celebrating Numeracy and Literacy Week at Galston High School



This year's Numeracy and Literacy Week proved to be a success, with students and staff coming together to celebrate and enhance essential skills through a variety of innovative activities.

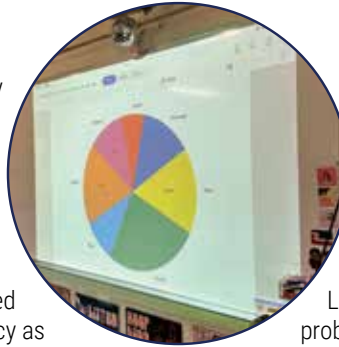
Throughout the week, students engaged in dynamic learning experiences that blended reading, writing, and numeracy in creative ways. In English classes, pupils explored the numerical patterns behind word frequencies,



while Year 8 History lessons focused on sharpening writing by improving the use of connectives for clarity. Meanwhile, Hub classes fostered creativity and literacy as students drafted and edited original stories.

Teachers embraced professional learning sessions aimed at strengthening literacy teaching strategies, ensuring classrooms continue to deliver evidence-based approaches that effectively support student progress.

A highlight of the week was the lively celebratory assembly led by the Student Representative Council (SRC). Students participated in the "Heads Up and Tails" game, answering challenging literacy and numeracy questions, followed by a spelling competition



showcasing impressive vocabulary skills. The event was met with friendly rivalry, and a strong sense of community.

Adding to the week's success, the Mathematics faculty engaged Year 12 students in a sequencing activity combining literacy and numeracy. Learners read and reordered mathematical problem-solving steps, deepening their understanding of concepts while honing literacy skills such as following logical structure and recognising key connectives.

Numeracy and Literacy Week exemplified the school's belief that 'A small school community creates BIG opportunities.' We thank everyone involved for making this week a memorable and inspiring celebration of learning.



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Glenorie Public School's Firecracker Night Lights Up the Community



On Friday 26th September, Glenorie Public School's 'Old Skool' Firecracker Night lit up the community with an unforgettable evening of fun, food, and festivities. Organised by our dedicated Parents and Citizens' (P&C) Association, this vibrant fundraiser brought families and neighbours together for a night where we truly let our colours burst, celebrating the spirit that makes Glenorie PS special.

We are truly grateful to our sponsors, without whom, the night would not have been possible!

Community spirit was alive as our Glenorie P&C fired up the BBQ, serving up tasty sausages and bacon and egg burgers fresh off the grill. Happy customers also enjoyed a sweet s'mores treat! Throughout the evening, food lovers were spoiled for choice with a variety of popular food trucks offering a tempting array of food catered to every taste.

Families and friends enjoyed a fantastic line-up of rides that kept children and thrill-seekers entertained throughout the evening. To add a glowing touch to the night, our

Glenorie P&C were selling colourful, blinking glow sticks, lighting up the crowd with vibrant colours and playful fun. The atmosphere was perfectly complemented by live performances from a talented local musician, whose upbeat tunes had everyone tapping their feet.

A huge number of community members tried their luck with our raffle which featured an array of generous prizes from local businesses, including vouchers, hampers, and family fun experiences. A huge thank you to everyone who supported our raffle!

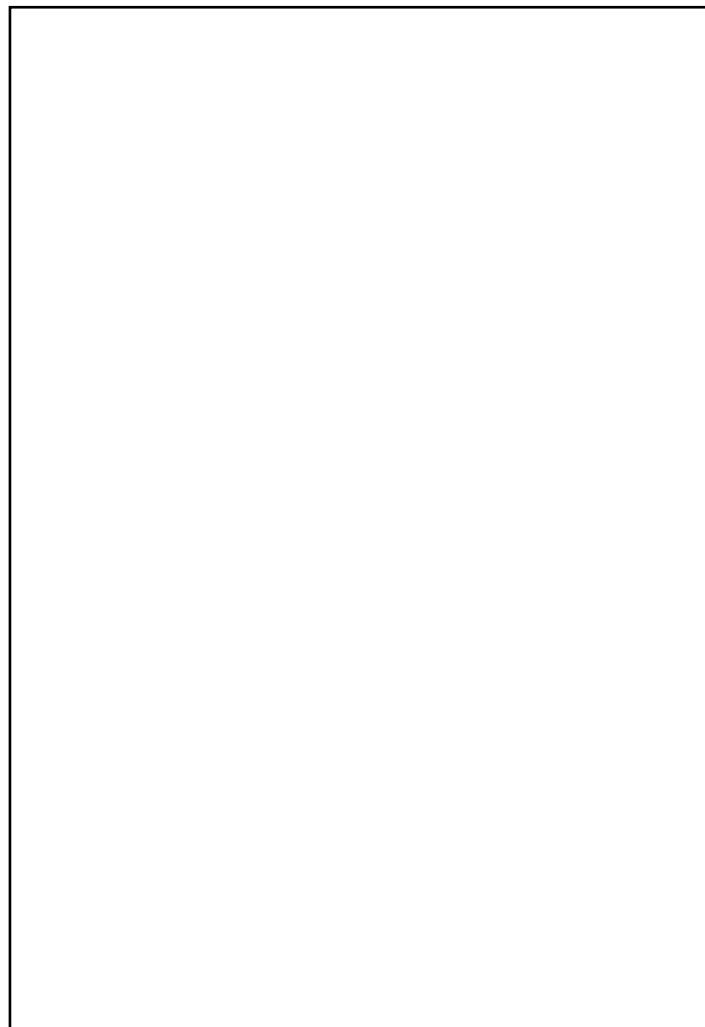
The evening reached its thrilling peak with an incredible fireworks display, our very own Glenorie moment to "let our colours burst" and light up the night in celebration!

This community-spirited event was expertly coordinated by our hardworking P&C volunteers, whose dedication, resilience and enthusiasm made the Firecracker Night a resounding success. Their commitment not only raised valuable funds for our school but also strengthened community bonds, creating lasting memories for families and neighbours.



A huge thank you to Glenorie P&C, Glenorie PS staff and everyone who joined in the fun, whether you ran a stall, bought a raffle ticket, or simply shared in the wonder of 'Old Skool' Cracker Night.

Glenorie Public School is an outstanding choice for your child's educational journey. For enrolment enquiries or to book a guided tour of our school, please contact our friendly office staff on 02 9652 1237.



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Middle Dural Public School



At Middle Dural PS, our *small class sizes allow us to be responsive to students' interests and needs. We take pride in working creatively to ensure that explicit teaching practices are tailored to meet the individual needs in each of our classrooms.*

In response to our students' interests, during Term 3 our history and science unit was centred around 'Ancient Land,' where students explored Australian megafauna



and dinosaurs. Our Stage 1 class had a blast learning about gigantic kangaroos, wombats, and lizards that once roamed Australia, as well as the valuable lessons fossils provide. Students were eager to investigate how animals and plants have changed from the past to the present. Following our learning about the extinction of Australian megafauna, the most anticipated part of the unit arrived—the volcano experiment! Students acted as scientists, preparing and painting a papier-mâché volcano. They excitedly observed the chemical reaction between bicarbonate soda and vinegar create a bubbly, volcanic explosion. It's safe to say that K-2 is very keen to revisit learning about Australian megafauna and dinosaurs in the future.

The finale to Term 3 was a visit from Mimosa Public School, who brought their band to perform for us and our friends at *Dooral Early Learning Centre*. They also offered workshops, giving everyone the chance to try out a variety of instruments. We were thrilled



to identify some *High Potential and Gifted Education opportunities*, with several students truly shining on their chosen instruments. Thank you to Mimosa PS! Your staff and students were fantastic, and we thoroughly enjoyed your visit. It's always a pleasure to celebrate the fantastic opportunities that are on offer in our Public Schools.

We look forward to building on these experiences and continuing to nurture our students' curiosity and talents across a wide range of learning areas.

If you would like to join our lovely school community, contact us on 9651 1761 or email us at 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.



Loving Kindness at Pacific Hills Christian School



Recently Pacific Hills Christian School had the pleasure of spending time with the 'Kids with Cancer Foundation'. This amazing opportunity gave the students an insight into the 'behind-the-scenes' look at the many on-going projects the Foundation is working on, making today easier for kids with cancer and their families. Our team of students have been able to serve those in our community joyfully, packing 100 Care Packs for these very courageous and well-deserved kids.

Each pack is lovingly designed to offer moments of joy and a brief escape in an otherwise tough and emotional journey for kids and

their families. Just under 6,000 care Packs have been delivered to children in 7 hospitals across Australia in Financial Year 2025.

This year, one of our school themes at Pacific Hills focuses on Hesed, which is a Hebrew term often translated as "loving-kindness". It describes a deeper love which is beyond simple kindness, such as God's love for His people. At Pacific Hills Christian School we continue to give thanks to God by serving those around us through Hesed. We are blessed to be given this amazing opportunity to serve our wonderful community and continue to pray for the amazing work that 'Kids with Cancer Foundation' do for those in need.

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Online Appointments



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Hillside Happenings



SPORT IN FULL SWING AT HILLSIDE!



Last term, our students had the chance to participate in golf, athletics, basketball with Hoops Capital, and the always popular inter-school league-tag competition. This term, we're keeping the momentum going with **karate**, helping students develop discipline and coordination, **swim school** where they'll enhance their confidence and

important water safety skills, and an exciting **NRL training and gala day** bringing together schools for a day of skill-building, teamwork, and sporting fun.

A WHOLE-SCHOOL DAY OF DISCOVERY AT CANOELANDS ORCHARD

Hillside students are looking forward to a **whole-school excursion** that will offer something for everyone - from feeding farm animals and enjoying tractor rides to taking part in team-building games and an engaging bee and honey presentation. Students will learn about the vital role bees play in pollination, protection, and food production, before enjoying the hands-on experience of picking their own fruit from the orchard trees.

PREMIER'S SPELLING BEE SUCCESS

Congratulations to Esther and Daniel, who proudly represented Hillside PS at the Regional Finals of the Premier's Spelling Bee. Esther's outstanding effort earned her the title of **Senior Champion for our region**. She will now compete in the State Finals at the Q Theatre in Penrith this month. With over a thousand schools entered this year, only 64 schools are represented at the State Finals. What an incredible achievement!

EXCITEMENT AND OPPORTUNITIES AHEAD

We're excited to welcome our newest learners as Kindergarten Orientation begins. It's a special time of discovery



for incoming students and families as they take their first steps into school life. Enrolments for 2026 remain open, and we look forward to meeting more families who wish to become part of the Hillside community.

With so much to look forward to, Term 4 is shaping up to be a fantastic chapter in another wonderful year at Hillside Public School - a place where learning, laughter, and community spirit thrive.

Enrolling Now: Kindy to Year 6. Out-of-Area Applications Welcome!

Looking for a school that feels like family? At Hillside Public School, small classes mean your child gets BIG attention, loads of fun, and endless opportunities to shine. Join a community where every kid belongs, thrives and smiles every day. **Come see the Hillside difference!** Before and after school care is available.

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Personalised Learning at Arcadia Public School: Empowering Every Student to Achieve Their Potential



At Arcadia Public School, we are deeply committed to fostering the growth and success of every student. Our focus is on developing tailored practices and innovative programs that support the unique learning journey of each child within every classroom.

Our dedicated teachers work closely with students to establish individual learning goals, carefully crafted around each student's interests, strengths, and areas for growth. This collaborative approach ensures that learning is meaningful and relevant, empowering students to take ownership of their educational progress.



Once goals are set, students and teachers work together to achieve them through a variety of teaching methods, including explicit instruction, whole-class teaching, small group activities, as well as targeted intervention and extension groups. This diverse approach allows us to meet each learner's needs effectively, ensuring consistent progress and a strong sense of accomplishment.

As students meet their learning targets, they earn recognition through our cumulative award system, which celebrates milestones such as Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards, culminating in the prestigious Principal's Award. This system motivates students to continuously set and pursue new goals, fostering a culture of ongoing achievement and self-improvement.

Mrs. Natalie Crouch, Accredited Highly Accomplished Teacher at Arcadia, shares, "The children are truly motivated to achieve their goals, developing their skills and confidence every day. The pride on their faces when they meet a goal—and are recognised at our fortnightly assemblies—is a joy to see. Our smaller class sizes allow me to provide personalised attention and support to each individual student, tailoring learning experiences that best suit their needs."



This sentiment is echoed by our students themselves: "The teachers care for me at Arcadia Public School. We work together to set my goals and then support me to reach the next steps in my learning."

At Arcadia Public School, every child is seen, supported, and celebrated. As our school continues to grow and thrive, we warmly invite families to consider joining our welcoming community.

Enrolment applications for 2026 are now open! Please contact our friendly office staff on 9653-1207 for more information or to arrange a personal tour.

BELINDA REEDMAN, PROUD PRINCIPAL OF AMAZING ARCADIA PUBLIC SCHOOL



BY LACHLAN TURNER

Hidden in the Hills



ANGOPHORA HISPIDA

Commonly named "Dwarf Apple" because of the tree's relatively small size when compared with other larger varieties in the Angophora genus. Usually not much larger than 5m high and around 3m wide in the Hills Region, this tree characteristically assumes a somewhat gnarled and twisted growth habit with rough bark.

During late spring and into summer there are large clusters of dense, soft, fluffy flowers, generally towards the top section of the tree. These flowers attract a large range of colourful, nectar feeding insects, beetles, butterflies and birds.

A single flower forms inside a large capsule which opens out allowing its contents to spread across adjacent flowers thus forming this dense cluster of blooms. As the flowers mature the large coloured fruit becomes visible, which in time will open up to permit the seed to exit the now brown seed pod. New growth on



this plant is recognised by its reddish coloured hairy appearance.

Generally restricted to the Greater Sydney Region this plant is not uncommon around the Hills District on Hawkesbury sandstone. As with most bushland plants, the quality of its growing conditions influence how it responds to its habitat, but it is known to be able to tolerate many soil types.

One of this plant's unusual features is that it is associated with the mallees of Western Victoria, in that it forms a lignotuber which can produce a number of stems or trunks in normal growth conditions. In cultivated conditions, flowering can be extended to a longer period throughout the year.

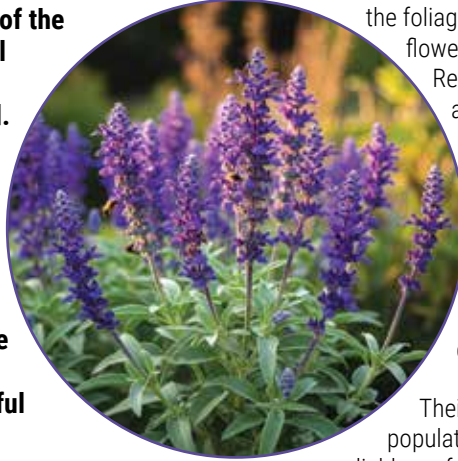
Galston Garden Club

The Galston garden club takes a break over the Christmas season and resumes meetings in February

At the time of writing this article members of the Garden Club are eagerly anticipating a spell of fine weather for their annual charity event - the Galston Open Gardens Weekend. We are sincerely grateful to the eight generous garden owners who have opened their properties, as well as to the many volunteers from our own club, the Dural Garden club, the Middle Dural Rural Fire Brigade, and the Masons for their invaluable assistance at the gates. We hope the public will turn out in great numbers to enjoy the gardens and support this wonderful community event.

The *Salvia* this year looked spectacular. Commonly known as sage, is a large and diverse genus of plants belonging to the mint family Lamiaceae. With over 900 species found across the world, salvias are valued for their vibrant flowers, aromatic foliage, and ability to attract pollinators such as bees, butterflies, and birds. They range from low growing ground covers to tall shrubby varieties, making them suitable for almost any garden style or climate.

Salvia plants are typically hardy and drought-tolerant once established, thriving in well-drained soil and full sun. Their flowers, which can appear in shades of blue, purple, red, pink or white bloom from spring through autumn and are often held on tall spikes above



the foliage. Many gardeners appreciate *salvia* for their long flowering period and low maintenance requirements.

Regular deadheading encourages repeat blooming and helps keep the plant neat.

In addition to their ornamental appeal, some species have culinary and medical uses. *Salvia officinalis*, or common sage, is a popular herb used in cooking for its earthy flavour and aromatic leaves. Other species, such as *Salvia apiana* (white sage), are valued for traditional and cultural significance, especially in ceremonial uses.

Salvias are also environmentally beneficial.

Their nectar rich flowers support pollinator populations, while their resistance to pests makes them reliable performers in sustainable gardens. They can be propagated easily from cuttings or seeds, allowing gardeners to expand plantings economically. Overall, *Salvia* plants combine beauty, versatility and resilience. Whether grown in garden beds, borders or pots they provide long-lasting colour and life to outdoor spaces.

The Galston garden club takes a break over the Christmas season and resumes meetings in February. We meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month in the Galston Community Hall, 21 Arcadia Road, Galston at 7.30pm.

For more information visit our website: galstongardenclub.com.au or email galstongardenclub@gmail.com

Making Beautiful Bromeliad Videos

The next meeting of the Bromeliad Society of Australia will be held in the Federation Pavilion, Castle Hill Showground, Castle Hill on Saturday, 8th November.

Sales to the public are from 10am and the meeting commencing at 12 noon.

It's a great time of the year to purchase exquisite bromeliads from the BSA members for Christmas.

Bob Sharpley one of our talented committee members will demonstrate how to develop a video with the assistance of a software package that allows him to edit, enhance, and customise his videos with ease.

Bob is now producing amazing videos of his beautiful bromeliad collection.

Bob will walk the members through the simple steps so they can develop their own videos that they may wish to share with the BSA members and guest at their monthly meetings.

There will also be our regular meeting activities such as competitions, Raffle,

Show & Tell, and a more recent activity called just "Show" for people who would just like to share a plant with others without it being critically judged or discussed.

There is also an opportunity to meet like minded people in a friendly and inviting environment.

For further information please contact Ian Hook, President of BSA on mobile 0408 202 269, email: ianhook1@bigpond.com or refer to www.bromeliad.org.au for the latest updates.



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Rediscover Jesus

I visited The Vicar recently for Tuesday night trivia (which is fantastic by the way). Part of the night includes a 'Who am I?'

I'm terrible at trivia. But on this rare occasion – after 3 clues – I had the answer! In my enthusiasm, I called out... my hand in the air, ready for 'high-fives' and back slaps.

But I was wrong... and in a very public way! The youngsters said I had 'negative aura'. I'm not sure what that is... but it can't be good.

When I talk with people about Jesus, what strikes me are the perceptions they hold. People think they know who he is.



It's common to hear "Jesus was a good moral teacher", or "Jesus set an example of how to love people". There's truth in these statements... but they don't go nearly far enough. Perceptions like these don't do justice to the real Jesus - the one we meet in the Bible.

I'm willing to bet that Jesus is more loving, more interesting, more powerful, and more necessary to your life than you ever dreamed.

From **November 9th**, Dural Anglican is dedicating Sundays to the theme 'Rediscover Jesus'.

Using key events in the biography of Jesus - called the gospel of Mark - we'll see Jesus in action... teaching, healing, arguing, performing miracles and more.

In each episode, Jesus reveals more of his identity. And, as he acts in God's world with God's authority... we'll find ourselves being encouraged to draw the obvious conclusion – in Jesus we meet the heaven-sent Son of God!

Jesus once asked his closest friends. "Who do people say that I am?". It was a classic 'who am I?' set up. But this was no trivial question.

Jesus followed up with the most important question you will ever hear: "But what about you... who do you say I am?". Your answer really matters.

Join us at Dural Anglican from November 9th as we Rediscover Jesus together.

DOUGAL MICHIE
SENIOR MINISTER, DURAL ANGLICAN

www.duralanglican.org.au

Galston Uniting Church News



MESSY CHURCH

Come and experience "Messy Church" with us this November. No, it's not "messy" like a teenager's bedroom, but it's where the traditional church format is replaced by something practical, engaging and relaxed. Enjoy a tea or coffee as you move between games, craft, stories and other activities, all with the young and young-at-heart in mind. It's worship designed to engage kids of all ages in the community. It's a great way to do church.

Please come and join us on **Sunday 9th November** at 10am at the church. This will be followed by lunch for everyone. Bring the kids, come yourselves and give grandparents an outing also.



CONGRATULATIONS RAY CUNNINGHAM ON YOUR 102ND BIRTHDAY!

Ray and his wife Evelyn spent their lives as missionaries in the jungles of Borneo and are members of Galston Uniting Church. They have been lives of service to God and to people.

VALE RON HEILER

We are saddened by the loss of our dear friend Ron Heiler. Ron was 90, and has been an active member of Galston Uniting since its inception in the 1980s. In September, we farewelled Ron. He was devoted to his wife Lorna and to his family.

Ron was a selfless man of action, proactively helping others in whatever way he could. In his younger days he was a keen sportsman playing rugby league for South Sydney, a team he supported all his life. Tennis became his game as he got older, sometimes playing several times a week. In his professional life, Ron worked for the Post Office where he became a union representative working for the benefit of postal employees.

Ron had a strong faith in Christ, serving Him in many practical ways. For many years he helped out preparing meals for the KUCA children each week, and in the church, was able to turn his hand to almost anything that was required.

We shall miss him greatly.

SAVE THE DATES.

- * Sunday afternoon Concert – **2nd November @ 2pm** - featuring violin, organ and piano. Bookings through trybookings.com or cash only at the door.
- * Annual Craft Service – **30th November @ 10am** - a worship service to acknowledge the work and creativity of our craft group, with displays of quilts and other handiwork and an opportunity to make purchases after the service.

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.

CONTACT ELIZABETH GARLICK, OFFICE MANAGER.

11 School Road, Galston. Phone 9653 2039

God's Wordless Book

God has given us two wonderful books which tell us about Himself. One is the Bible which is a book of words. The other book is not a book of writings but is a wordless book. It is the book of nature, the world around us.

Yet, both books speak to us of God. The first few verses of Psalm 19, tell us of God's great power as we see it in the sky and in the earth that He has created. But how loud is a sunset or a sunrise? They are silent voices which every day remind us of God.

However, we need the other Book too. The Bible, God's book of words tells us of God's love and of God's will for man. The book of nature cannot tell us how to deal with sin. It cannot tell us about life after this life ends. But the Bible can. The Bible teaches us, instructs us, and helps us. Read Psalm 19 and read again vs, 7-9!

The Bible can also point out those things in our lives which do not please God (vs 12-13).

God speaks to us by His Holy Spirit as we read his Book.

The writer of this Psalm finishes with this prayer, 'Lord I want my words and my thoughts to be what you want them to be.'

Help me in this today!' But remember this - if you want to know what God wants you to do and say, you will have to spend time reading His Word.

Do you do that? How much time have you spent reading and thinking about His book the Bible, this week?

(A MESSAGE BY THE LATE REV. ED LONG)

Come and find out more at: Glenorie Mission Church.
1409 Old Northern Rd. Glenorie. Sunday Service 10 am.

GLENORIE MISSION CHURCH





0414 584 303
www.glenoriemission.org

Sunday Service 10am
1409 Old Northern Rd,
Glenorie

News from St Benedict's November 2025

CLEAN UP AT ST BENEDICT'S

The church was given a thorough landscaping makeover in September to get the grounds ready for the busy months ahead. Thanks to all those who came along and wielded saws, secateurs, brooms and blowers. The picture shows parishioner Vince Gambino from Glenorie admiring the garden.

ABORIGINAL DESERT ART EXHIBITION - 9TH NOVEMBER

A very special exhibition from Desert Dreaming ART, featuring authentic indigenous art and dot paintings from Australia's Central and Western Deserts, will be held at St Benedict's Monastery 121 Arcadia Road, Arcadia on **Sunday 9th November** from 9am to 5pm. All are invited to come and admire these beautiful and meaningful works. Artwork will be on sale at 20-40% off gallery prices. Visit the catalogue online at www.desertdreamingart.com. A free lecture – *Tingari: Sacred Secrets in Aboriginal Desert Art* - will be given between 2-3pm. All are welcome and there is plenty of parking in the monastery grounds.

Desert Dreaming ART is dedicated to acknowledging and celebrating artistic talent and cultural heritage.

OUR LADY OF FATIMA

On Sunday 12th October St Benedict's held another special Feast Day to commemorate Our Lady of Fatima. This was the 28th year we've held this special celebration and it's grown bigger and better each time. The event now attracts visitors from all over Sydney and beyond.

And, again, we've set the date for next year's St Benedict's Country Fete: **Sunday 22nd March 2026**. Mark it in your calendar.

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.



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Deep Hope; Deep Peace

Recently, two of our very dear friends have passed away and we have also had the privilege of supporting other friends & church members who are going through very challenging times. It's given us the opportunity to reflect on these "close to home" needs as well as on the confusion and often, even shock, coming from many folk about what's happening in our country and in the events of our world.

A sense of hopelessness is a very real issue for many people - watching the nightly news is often very discouraging and when a "good news story" is aired, many breathe a sigh of relief, thinking "phew - at least there's some good things happening in our world!!"

I love this quote from the author Elizabeth Elliott: "It is God to whom and with whom we travel and while He is at the end of our journey, He is also at every stopping place."

Perhaps you are familiar with the saying, "Where there's life there's hope." There is a good deal of truth in that maxim but the opposite is also true - "Where there's hope there's life." How then does this hope come? How can we have this kind of hope which is so real, so necessary and which gives us deep peace in the circumstances of life.

The answer is that hope comes directly from a relationship with God through His Son Jesus Christ. It is not just through 'general faith' in a God "up there somewhere"; rather, a specific faith in the life, death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.



The Bible confirms this in 1 Peter 1:3, "Blessed be the God & Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who, according to His abundant mercy, has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

This verse tells us that when we choose to believe in the death of Jesus Christ on our behalf and then in His resurrection from the dead by the power of God, we are "born" into a living hope - not just some dead theology but a living, vibrant hope which gives us deep peace.

In our daily lives, then, we stand on the Truth that our hope comes from the Lord Jesus Christ who is the source of eternal life, hope and peace.

God bless.

PR. ALEX & DEE VALICH.
GLENORIE COMMUNITY CHURCH

We would love you to join us on Sundays at 10am.



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Before



After

Glenorie Rural Fire Brigade News



Safe Pile Burning

BEFORE

1. Check you're allowed to burn

Contact your council or local Fire Control Centre to determine if burning is permitted in your area.

2. Obtain a Fire Permit

Fire permits are required during the Bush Fire Danger Period (generally October 1st – March 31st) to ensure safe fire management.



They impose conditions on how fires are lit and maintained and inform authorities when and where landowners intend to burn, allowing for appropriate fire control measures. To apply for a permit, visit the RFS website: https://nswrfsprod.service-now.com/guardian_csp

3. Notify Others

RFS Notification

At least 24 hours before burning, notify the RFS of your intent to burn via the RFS website at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/notify

Neighbour Notification

Notify any adjoining neighbours (including those separated by a road, lane, or waterway) at least 24 hours before burning, unless otherwise specified in your permit.

ON THE DAY

1. Check weather conditions

Before burning, check the fire danger rating, wind, and temperature. Permits may be suspended during bad conditions. On Total Fire Ban Days, the lighting of fire is prohibited, and your Fire Permit will be automatically suspended. Suspended Fire Permits may resume after the Total Fire Ban is lifted.

2. Follow Permit Instructions

Ensure you're using fire safely by adhering to any special conditions on your permit. Maintain a clear area around any material you're burning and monitor conditions closely.

3. Be Prepared for Emergencies

If the fire gets out of control, call Triple Zero (000).

AFTER

1. Extinguish and Monitor

Completely extinguish the fire and continue monitoring the area for any signs of reignition. Call Triple Zero (000) if there are any concerns.

Would You Like to Become an RFS Volunteer?

If you are wanting to give back to your community, and keen to be a part of something meaningful, find out how to join Glenorie RFS by contacting us via our Facebook page, or by phone 02 9652 2017 or visiting the RFS website at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au or simply come in for a chat at the station when on Monday nights from 7:30pm or Saturday from 2:00pm. The station is at 2654 Old Northern Road Glenorie NSW 2157.



ADVERTORIAL

Is Your Property Bushfire Prepared?



With the official bushfire season kicking off on 1st October and several bush and grass fires already occurring in the Sydney area the NSW RFS advises all property owners to take the time to prepare their properties to improve their ability of defending against an approaching bushfire.

Removing ground fuels from around your assets is essential so raking leaves, bark and branches is a good start. Cleaning out gutters and trimming back branches overhanging buildings can also help prevent a bushfire becoming a structure fire. By keeping grass and weeds slashed / mowed you can also slow the spread of a fire.

Outdoor furniture and play equipment can also fuel a fire so can it easily be moved out of harms way at short notice and is last winters firewood pile positioned away from buildings.

To stay informed of fire activity in your area download the 'Hazards Near Me' app on your smart phone. More detailed information on how to prepare for and defend against a bushfire can be found at the NSW Rural Fire Service website or by contacting your local Fire Control Centre.

Crossword

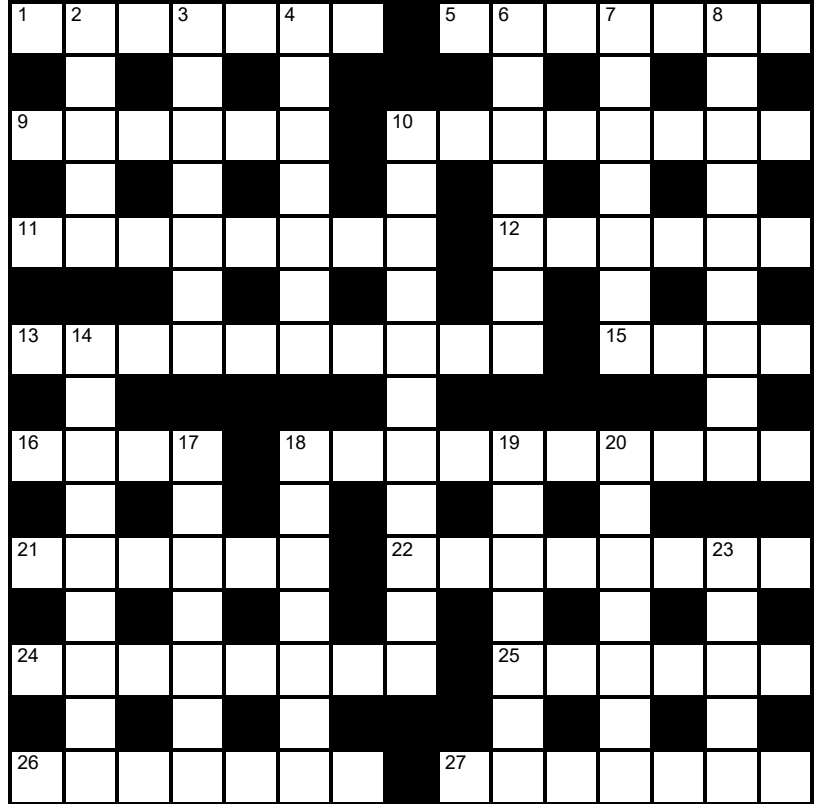
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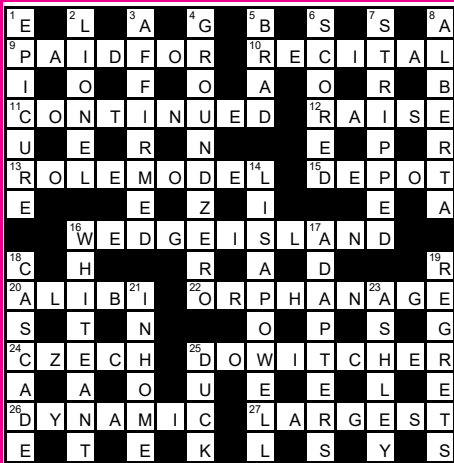
- 01 Such as Jarndyce v Jarndyce (7)
- 05 Declares as fact (7)
- 09 Available to rent (6)
- 10 Part of a literary team (2-6)
- 11 Dealing with a subject (8)
- 12 Poverty-stricken (2,4)
- 13 Victorian surf pioneer and board designer (5,5)
- 15 Sometimes syphoned in bars (4)
- 16 Sour (4)
- 18 Study of pictures and painters (3,7)
- 21 Work schedules (6)
- 22 Not normal (8)
- 24 Widespread type of fern (8)
- 25 In recent times (2,4)
- 26 Educates (7)
- 27 Wheeled status symbol (7)

DOWN

- 02 Covered with water (5)
- 03 Vagabond (7)
- 04 Overall (2,5)
- 06 Iberian tongue (7)
- 07 Prolongs (7)
- 08 Bundaberg hockey striker who won Olympic Gold in 2004 (4,5)
- 10 Important tropical crop tree (7,4)
- 14 Boozy (9)
- 17 In reality (2,5)
- 18 Gun collection (7)
- 19 Refresher on a stick (3,4)
- 20 Small, noisy, black and white bird (7)
- 23 Communion table (5)



ANSWERS FROM OCTOBER ISSUE



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

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

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Avicultural Society of NSW Inc.
Welcomes persons interested in Avicultural (bird keeping). The society holds monthly meetings which include presentations and talks on all aspects of bird keeping and breeding.
● Paul Henry 9872 464 or 0408 617 866

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.AGR2159.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
Are always seeking would-be Divas. De-stress as you learn to sing acappella 4 part harmony with passionate CKC singers. Rehearsals in Castle Hill Wednesdays 7.30-10pm.
● Janet 9653 2959
● info@circularkeys.org
● www.circularkeys.org

Computer Pals for Seniors - The Hills
55 Plus? Take the first step to tech confidence today. Friendly monthly meetings 2nd Wednesday 10am at Harvey Lowe Pavilion; weekdays in school terms for training at the Old Caretakers Cottage, behind the Pavilion Theatre at Castle Hill Showground.
● 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 6050.
● Galston Community Health Centre. This centre is an outreach of Hornsby and Ku-ring-gai Health Service and is situated at 17 Arcadia Road, Galston (cnr of The Glade).
● 9485 7599

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

Girl Guides
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 Marota 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 Gregoriana 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

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● 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@greaterhillshotary.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 Berrielle. 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 55s 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. Columba'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
● efb6029@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
● Glenorieidcc@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
● Jan 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
0.30AM UNTIL 11AM
ARCADIA PUBLIC SCHOOL 140 ARCADIA ROAD ARCADIA
P. 9653-1357

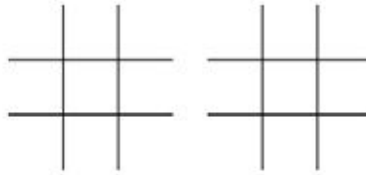


MERRY CHRISTMAS

I-Spy Christmas Game



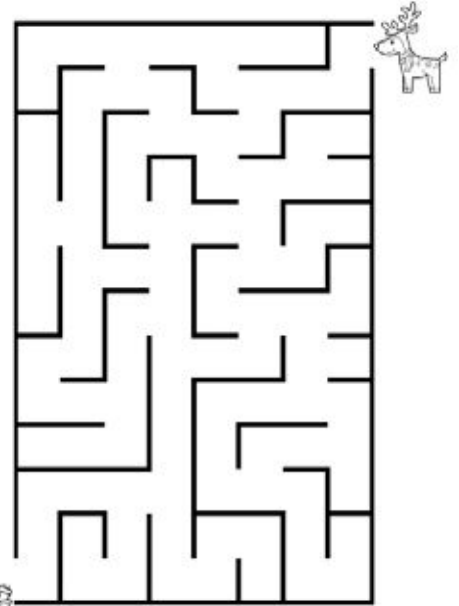
Tic Tac Toe



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.

