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1. Telstra is proposing to upgrade a mobile phone base station on the existing 40m Lattice Tower at 27-29 CANOEELANDS RD, CANOEELANDS NSW 2157
2. In summary, this upgrade will comprise of:
 - Reconfiguring (6) 4G/5G Panel Antennas
 - Replacing and installing ancillary equipment
 - Internal works within the existing shelter
 - There will be no increase in height to the facility
3. We invite you to provide your feedback or request further information by contacting us at: Emily Wardlaw on behalf of Telstra, 0422 685 472, PO BOX 586, Elsternwick VIC 3185, consultation@acquirecomm.com.au. We will accept submissions until **5pm on Thursday 14th of May 2026**.
4. For more information, please visit www.rfnsa.com.au/2157002

*Telstra Limited A.C.N 086 174 781
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Vandals Cause Damage at Hayes Oval

by Karlene Brummer

On Monday 20th April a local resident walking her dogs at Hayes Oval, Galston, was stunned to see that the grassed field had been churned up by some irresponsible hoonos who had managed to get through the sandstone bollards and gone to town in their vehicles.

She immediately phoned Council who were quick to attend and try and remediate the damage by filling in the ruts with sand and moving the blocks back into place.



This is the second incident of its kind in the local area in the past several weeks and someone must have seen or heard something given the location of the site to busy Galston Road. If you witnessed this reckless behaviour (possibly Sunday evening/early Monday morning) please contact Hornsby Council or the local Police.



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Glenorie Probus Club

Glenorie Probus Club in keeping with its objectives of varying its activities visited Fagan Park where they had morning tea and then explored *Netherby Homestead* and the surrounding buildings which form part of the Museum on the site.

The open-front Blacksmith shed contained anvils, a forge and other blacksmithing paraphernalia which was used in that era. Next to this was a large McDonald Imperial Diesel Roller, Made in Australia. Then a walk around the verandahs of *Netherby Homestead* revealed what a quality building it was; fine brickwork, bullnose corrugated iron roofing of the verandahs and multi-glazed doors; grape vines growing at the verandah edges gave a wonderful, enclosed feeling. In the grounds of the Homestead there are hand-operated pumps atop two wells. The home was constructed in the late 1800's from



bricks hand-made and fired on the property which the family called "Netherby", a large packing shed was also built. The property became the largest orchard in Galston, employing a large workforces. With the outbreak of the Great Depression in the early 1930s, the orchard established on the site systematically closed. The house is now restored and furnished in original style of furniture and furnishings and open on Tuesdays for viewings. An opportunity to see the lifestyle of the 1800's. This was followed by an enjoyable barbecue on the site.

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



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- Communicating your issues to the relevant Ministers
- Organising Justice of the Peace applications
- Recognising Community Achievements



Contact James

(02) 9476 3411 @ hornsbys@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, editorial, community contribution, obituary, photo, letter to the editor or just a general news item, 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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info@galstoncommunity.com.au

Accounts
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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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KNIFE SEIZED

Hills Police detected and seized a knife carried by a teenage boy on the afternoon of April 1st, 2026.

This is in part of the police's knife-scanning operation at Castle Hill Metro under the state's new knife-detection laws.

A senior officer has declared Castle Hill Metro a designated area, allowing police to use handheld metal-detecting wands to scan people for knives and other weapons. These powers aim to deter knife-related crime and keep the community safe.

Police say refusing a scan without a reasonable excuse can result in a \$5,500 fine, and carrying a knife in public without lawful reason carries penalties of up to \$11,000 or four years imprisonment.

PURSUIT

Police arrested a 23-year-old woman following a serious incident in Castle Hill on Saturday, 28th March 2026.

Around 10:15 AM, officers attended a domestic-related incident at a Baulkham Hills address. Shortly after, the woman left in a vehicle and failed to stop for police.

A pursuit through Baulkham Hills and Castle Hill followed, with police alleging the driver travelled at excessive speeds and drove recklessly. POLAIR was deployed, and road spikes were used to stop the vehicle.

She was arrested in Castle Hill and taken to Castle Hill Police Station. Testing allegedly returned negative for alcohol but positive for cannabis and cocaine.

The woman was issued a Court Attendance Notice and charged with multiple offences, including police pursuit, driving while suspended, reckless driving, and assault, including assaulting police.

MARKETPLACE THEFT

Police are investigating a theft at Cherrybrook Village Shopping Centre after a man allegedly stole a gold wedding band during a pre-arranged meeting.

Between 3.30 pm and 3.50 pm on Sunday, 12th April, a person met with a prospective buyer in the centre's car park after responding to an online advertisement for the ring, valued at about \$1,000.

During the meeting, the alleged offender asked to inspect the ring before suddenly taking it and running across the car park towards a nearby road.

No injuries were reported.

Police have obtained CCTV from the area and are continuing inquiries. Investigators are urging anyone who was in the area at the time to review any available footage, including CCTV or dashcam vision from the shopping centre car parks, nearby driveways, access roads, and surrounding entrances.

Anyone with information is urged to contact Crime Stoppers.

DRINK DRIVING

At about 11.25 am on 8th April, officers were conducting stationary random breath testing on Annangrove Road near Annangrove Public School when a grey Ford Ranger was directed into the site.

Police alleged the female driver showed signs of alcohol consumption and admitted to drinking. She returned a positive roadside breath test and was arrested before being taken to Castle Hill Police Station for further testing.

A subsequent breath analysis allegedly returned a reading of 0.088, placing her in the mid-range PCA category. Police were told she had consumed alcohol overnight and had not eaten.

Her licence was suspended and she was issued a Court Attendance Notice to appear at Parramatta Local Court in May.

WORKPLACE INCIDENT

A man died following a workplace incident on Monday, 20th April 2026.

At about 11.30 am, emergency services were called to a home on Valencia Street, Dural, after reports of a workplace incident.

NSW Ambulance paramedics treated a 49-year-old man at the scene, however he could not be revived and died at the property.

Police attached to The Hills Police Area Command have been advised the man was delivering glass panes to the premises when several sheets allegedly collapsed onto him.

A crime scene was established and SafeWork NSW has been notified.

A report will be prepared for the Coroner.

Anyone with information is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or via <https://nsw.crimestoppers.com.au>.

Information is handled confidentially. The public is reminded not to report information through NSW Police social media pages.

FOURTH MAN CHARGED ON BAGHSARIAN'S MURDER

Robbery & Serious Crime Squad detectives investigating the alleged kidnapping and murder of 85-year-old Chris Baghsarian charged a fourth man.

Police were first alerted just after 5am on Friday, 13th February 2026, following reports an elderly man had been taken from his home in North Ryde.

Officers from Ryde Police Area Command attended the scene before State Crime Command's Robbery & Serious Crime Squad launched a coordinated investigation under Strike Force Chabot.

Early inquiries indicate Mr Baghsarian was not the intended target and was taken in a case of mistaken identity.

His remains were found about 8am on Tuesday 24th February 2026 near a golf club in Pitt Town.

Three people have already been charged and remain before the courts.

About 9.25 am on Tuesday, 21st April 2026, detectives arrested a 19-year-old man at Mt Druitt Police Station. He was charged with murder and detain in company with intent to ransom causing actual bodily harm.

He was refused bail and appeared in Mt Druitt Local Court on Wednesday 22nd April 2026.

HORNSBY, KU-RING-GAI VOLLIES RECOGNISED

In late-May, more than 40 NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) volunteers from across the Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai District were honoured at a medal presentation ceremony at the district's Fire Control Centre in Cowan.

RFS Deputy Commissioner Peter McKechnie AFSM, along with other invited guests, presented 12 National Medals and Clasps, along with 31 Long Service Medals and Clasps.

Together, the awards recognised nearly 900 years of combined service protecting lives and property across Sydney's north and beyond.

Deputy Commissioner McKechnie said the ceremony highlights the remarkable dedication of volunteers who have committed decades to supporting their communities.

"These medals represent an exceptional level of service.

Behind each one is a volunteer who has stepped up during fires, storms and other emergencies to protect their community," he said.

"Many of those being recognised have also assisted in major incidents across NSW, supporting communities during significant fire seasons and natural disasters."

Three volunteers were acknowledged for more than 30 years of service. Mark Rodick from Berowra Brigade received the National Medal 1st Clasp, while Keith Koomen from Dural Brigade and Anthony Bouquet from Hornsby Brigade were each awarded the 30-year Long Service Medal 2nd Clasp.

Deputy Commissioner McKechnie congratulated all recipients and acknowledged the critical role volunteers play across the district.

"The Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai District spans bushland, waterways and urban interface areas, with volunteers responding to hundreds of incidents each year," he said.

"Their experience, training and commitment help ensure communities are prepared for bush fires, storms and other emergencies.

"I also recognise the families, employers and friends who support our volunteers. Their support makes this level of service possible."

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



NEWS FROM NETHERBY

Rock On, Reggie!

Stepping into Netherby Homestead is like crossing the threshold into history. Each room tells its own story, rich with echoes of the past. Among these, is a particularly interesting room that houses a collection of vintage toys, inviting visitors to imagine the laughter, dreams and adventures of bygone days.



propulsion. The rockers were used as a marketing ploy by Channel 7's executive back in the day to advertise their children's television program run by Uncle Reggie (Reg Quartly). It is believed that Reggie's Racing Rocker was

named after the children's presenter, Reg Quartly. Daniel's daughters appeared on the TV show riding the rockers their father made, along with Reg.

When you get the chance, call into Netherby Homestead in Fagan Park.

Netherby has a small collection of toys... dolls, prams, tea sets, hand made wooden toys to name just a few. Toys celebrate the timeless joy of play and hold the power to bring smiles to everyone.

The Friends of Fagan Park welcome you to Netherby on any Tuesday 9-4pm and the second Sunday of the month 1-4pm.

Nestled amongst our collection in the toy room in Netherby, is a most unusual toy from the 1950's, "Reggie's Racing Rocker", a bit like a bike but with no steering or brakes and little like a bouncy rocker. It was designed and produced by Christopher Daniels at their Precision Springs factory, Sydney. The idea was that the child's body weight compressed the metal arch which produced a springing action resulting in a forward

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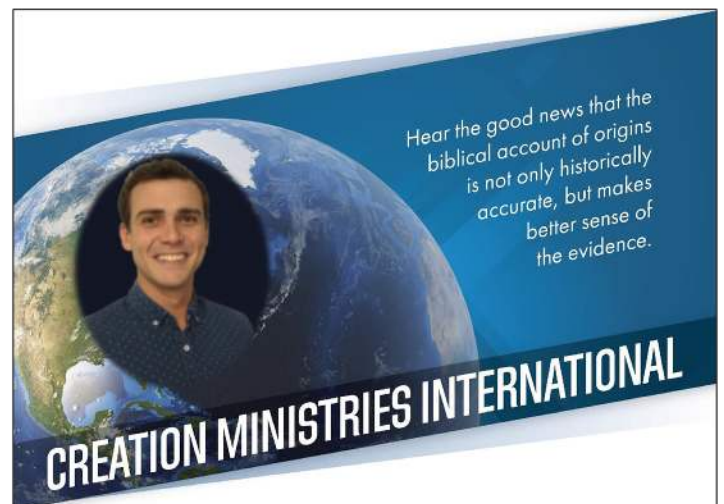
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The Probus Club of the Hills, Celebrates 50 Years of Probus in Australia



At its Annual Change Over Lunch, the Probus Club of the Hills celebrated 50 Years since the first Probus Club was formed in Australia. Guests at the lunch were the State Member for Hornsby, James Wallace and the Mayor of Hornsby, Warren Waddell.



James spoke of his ties to the area and of the importance placed on the needs of retirees in his electorate. Warren spoke of his families very long ties to the Galston area as a fifth-generation orchardist and of the many programs the Hornsby Sire has for retirees.

The Club's retiring President Hugh Dash and the incoming President Ian McArthur both spoke of the importance of Probus in fighting loneliness in the retiring age community and of the way Probus provides so many opportunities every month for members to meet up. These include mystery coach tours, walks, golf, bowls and discussion groups.

The Probus Club of the Hills meets on the second Wednesday of most months at the Galston Club, and there are several other activities each month. Membership enquiries to Bob Heyward on 0427 360 389.

ADVERTORIAL

The Tiny Homes Expo, directed by Phae Barrett, is a major Australian touring event showcasing various tiny houses, alternative living solutions, and off-grid technology.



The Expo provides education on regulation, finance, and design, featuring expert speakers and numerous models for viewing to help attendees navigate council and building challenges.

If you have never seen a tiny home up close this is your chance. Local as well as interstate builders are onsite with their displays and can answer all your questions you may have. There are a range of builds from studio to 3 bedrooms, single level and double storey. All the latest trends and appliances to make your tiny home journey simple and straight forward.



2026 Hawkesbury Tiny Home Expo keys features:

Locations: Hawkesbury Showgrounds.

Friday 29th, Saturday 30th and Sunday 31st of May.

Features: Displays include varied tiny home designs, solar power, composting toilets, and sustainable building materials.

Information Hub: Experts provide insights into the buying/building process and zoning regulations.

Tickets: At the gate or purchase online at www.tinyhomesexpo.com.au click tickets.

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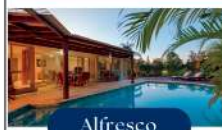
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We have regaled you with stories about the Heritage Fence in Glenorie, now about the man who inspired the Heritage Fence, Ray Whiteman, a giant of a community member in a myriad of ways.

Ray became affectionately known as the "Mayor of Glenorie", a cohesive voice in our "split" LGAs working with State and Federal politicians for the good of our neighbourhood.

As President of GPA for many years liaising with both Councils on countless projects. Notable are footpaths built around the village and arranging the avenue of western reds along Old Northern Road.

Leading the Glenorie Hall Committee,

Ray was a driving force behind the Save the Hall action group in 2016. Ray left a lasting legacy in the framed photographic history of the District and the hand-painted stained-glass windows.

As a faithful member of the Glenorie District Church (originally Methodist church).

As President of the Glenorie RSL Subbranch, Ray kept the spirit of ANZAC by running the dawn services at the cenotaph year after year.



As Glenorie Scoutmaster "Skip" at the age of 20 in 1954 making Glenorie's scouting facilities the envy of many, Ray inspired many youths over his 50 years in Glenorie Scouts.

And groups:

- Glenorie Maroota Bioregional forum
- Red Cross local representative, gave blood for 50 years
- Salvation Army Door Knock Appeals Organiser
- Glenorie Reserve Committee & received an award for being park ranger at Glenorie Oval from Baulkham Hills Shire Council
- Committee Member Foundation Norwest Sydney
- Eastbend Rural Communications President & public officer - community-based magazine 'The Living Heritage'
- Glenorie Probus Association
- Galston Christian Education Association
- Hills Community Aid and Information Service
- Self-funded Retirees Beecroft
- Justice of the Peace

An amazing man leaving an amazing legacy

Our Fence is a tribute to Ray to reflect the entire heritage of Glenorie District which he loved so dearly.



ADVERTORIAL

Beyond the Brochure: Why More Local Travellers Are Turning to Expert Advice

By Danielle Lawson, MTA Travel



One of the things I enjoy most about my work is the initial conversation I have with clients when they start planning a holiday. Those early chats reveal what people really want from their travel, and over recent years I've noticed a clear shift.

Travel today is no longer just about seeing famous landmarks or booking the cheapest deal online. Many of the Hills District travellers I work with are looking for holidays that feel personal, comfortable and thoughtfully planned. They want trips that run smoothly from the moment they leave home so they can truly relax and enjoy the experience. While almost anyone can book flights and accommodation online, planning a journey that actually works well can be far more complex. People often tell me they become overwhelmed by endless options, confusing fare rules and mixed online reviews. That's where I step in.

Based in Galston, I'm a local small business owner who works closely with families and travellers across our community. Recently, a local couple returned from a European holiday we planned together. What they appreciated most wasn't just the destinations or hotels — it was knowing that the flights, transfers and hotel locations had all been carefully considered to make the journey easy.

I often visit clients at home before they travel so we can talk through the finer details and ensure they feel prepared. For many, the real value lies in peace of mind. Through my global travel partnerships, I'm also able to offer practical benefits such as room upgrades, early check-ins or special experiences that make a trip feel seamless. For me, good travel planning isn't about extravagance. It's about listening, guiding and creating journeys that work from beginning to end.

Explore more at www.mtatravel.com.au/dlawson
Follow along at facebook.com/DanielleLawsonMTA

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Danielle Lawson is a local small business owner and Hills District travel advisor specialising in personalised, luxury and bespoke travel experiences. Based in Galston and backed by the award-winning MTA Travel network, she has more than 20 years of industry experience helping clients plan seamless journeys around the world.



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*Selected cruises, book by 30 Jun 2026. Contact me for full Ts and Cs.

Round Corner Dural Probus Club



Come join the Round Corner Dural Probus Club and connect with new people to make your retirement truly enjoyable!

We get together every second Monday at 9:30 am at the Galston Club.

At our last meeting, as it was our AGM, we didn't invite a guest speaker, so after our usual reports, our regular joke master kept us laughing with some light-hearted and funny stories. After a break for morning tea, we held our AGM and elected the committee for the year ahead. Since we wrapped up the formalities early, we split into groups for a fun and challenging game of trivia.

Recently, for our planned activities, our members travelled to the Hawkesbury area. We had time to wander through Windsor's historic streets before meeting for lunch at the Church Bar. The Hawkesbury is always a hit, offering delicious food and beautiful scenery.

A week later, we relaxed outdoors with a picnic at Turkeys Nest Reserve in Beaumont Hills. The lovely spot has picnic shelters, walking paths, and a viewing platform overlooking the duck pond.

We're excited to welcome new members and visitors. If you have any questions, please contact us via email at rcdprobus@gmail.com or give Lei a call at 0412 585 741.

DURAL AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

News from History Cottage

"One of the most moving talks I have heard"; such was the comment made by a member of the audience at the Society's April meeting.

The personal story of Jan-Maree Ball OAM, the founder of Aussie Hero Quilts, was given by Bev Fairburn and Gail McQueen, who stepped into the breach because of her ill health.

The stress experienced by past and present members of the Defence Force is often overlooked but the talk showed how a special quilt and a simple personalised laundry bag show they are not forgotten. Their letters of thanks made a deep impression; the beautiful works of art displayed showed the amazing skill of those who work so hard in the Aussie Hero Quilts organisation.

The theme for the meeting on **Saturday the 9th May** will be on Agricultural shows with two speakers sharing the topic.

In earlier times Citrus growing was the primary industry of our district and growers were proud of their ability. Society member, Jenny Bradley, will talk about the shows arranged by the Galston & District Flower and

Agricultural Show; held in what is now Hayes Park, beginning in the 1890s. Her family and particularly her grandfather, A.J. Hitchcock, were successful exhibitors and helped to run the shows. Society archives and family collections make this a special topic for local history.

The **Agriculture & Sydney Royal Easter Show** is world renowned and its General Manager, Murray Wilton, an awarded Radio broadcaster, is from Glenorie. He will tell us about the past of Sydney's Royal Easter Show and where it is heading in the future.

For the calendar is the **Saturday 13th June** talk on local stone mason Joe Booth presented by Judy Horton, DDHS member and garden authority.

All meetings are held in the Galston Uniting Church, School Road Galston, starting at 2.00pm. All are welcome; entry is free with a gold coin for afternoon tea.

Enquiries: Michael Bell 02 9653 1365.



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at Galston Village Pharmacy

Come and join us on
Wednesday, 20th May 2026, 10-12pm

We have lots of baked goods with a cuppa plus plants, jams and home made goodies and hampers to purchase on the day!

We are hosting a raffle with several prizes, raffle tickets are available now, with the draw taking place on the 21st May.

Prize List:

1st Prize	\$1500 Flight Centre Voucher
2nd Prize	Ninja Luxe Cafe Espresso machine (valued at \$648)
3rd Prize	\$500 Fuel vouchers
4th Prize	Ninja stealth IQ kitchen system blender + food processor (valued at \$399)
5th Prize	Ninja Double stack 7.6L 2 drawer Air Fryer (valued at \$359)
6th Prize	Aldi Vouchers (valued at \$300)
7th Prize	Ryobi Hedge Trimmer (valued at \$279)
8th Prize	Lenovo Tablet 10.1 Tablet (valued at \$198)
9th Prize	Ryobi Blower & Line Trimmer Kit (valued at \$189)
10th Prize	Ryobi High Pressure Cleaner (valued at \$129)
11th Prize	Ryobi Drill Driver Kit (valued at \$100)

A big thank you to The Bendigo Bank Galston, The Galston Club and Bunnings Dural for their ongoing support and also all the other businesses in the area as well

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Dural Bowling Club



The regional Pennant competition started on February 14th 2026 with a home game at Dural. Three teams of Fours are representing Dural at the competition and enjoying some success. Dural was leading the competition with 3 remaining away

games, however a loss to North Ryde on Saturday 11th April has contributed to Dural to go down to second place. The next opponents are Castle Hill and Pennant Hills respectively. With only the winner from the group progressing through to the final series, to determine the overall Grade 7 winner for the region, Dural will be keen to win their remaining games.

The first game of the Living Choice Carnival for the calendar year 2026 took place on March 16th at Beecroft Bowling Club.

Four teams of triples represented Dural and the team of Brian Stevens, Stuart Yeend and Phil Laing picked up the runners up prize on the day. The next Living choice Carnival is on the 20th April at West Pennant Hills Sports and we hope that one of the Dural teams could go one better.

Dural Bowling Club wishes the teams that will be competing in the next games for the Pennants and Living Choice the best of luck.

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

Dural Bocce Club



March was quiet for members of Dural Bocce Club with regular games going ahead each Tuesday morning and Friday evening. We ended the month by celebrating Easter with Mary taking the place of the Easter Bunny and handing around Easter eggs for us all to enjoy.

In most sports each team nominates their members from the beginning of the competition and that combination stays the same. However, at Dural Bocce Club, each team is selected on the day of play by a draw of names out of the hat. That way each time you play you start with no idea who you will be playing with, or against.

This method results in an interesting mix of skill and experience in each team, making an even playing field which gives all players the opportunity to have that winning feeling.

Fun fact! In an average game of bocce you can take up to 1500 steps. So, if you are looking for a new and interesting way to boost your daily step count come and join us, either on Tuesday morning or Friday evening. We play two games each day so double that step count and you are well on your way to your daily goal! Plan to join us at The Dural Club soon. For more information email us at duralbocceclub@gmail.com.



Galston Concerts Sunday 31st May @ 2pm

Galston Uniting Church, 11 School Road, Galston

Concert 2 for this year is on Sunday 31st May featuring Abbotsleigh Senior School and will showcase their highly talented and gifted Year 12 Music Extension Level 2 Students. This will be an afternoon of delightful music featuring trumpet, violin, viola and piano with pieces by Claude Debussy, Franz Liszt, Dimitry Kabalevsky and George Enescu.

The musicianship and technical skills of these young performers will certainly impress and amaze you. Founded in 1885, Abbotsleigh is renowned for empowering young women to realise their potential as creative, active, innovative and compassionate individuals.



Music holds an important place at Abbotsleigh, with a reputation for high standards of performance and excellence across all areas of the program. The Music Program is broad and diverse, with students engaging in classroom music, choral singing, ensembles and instrumental studies at various stages of their school journey. The students performing in today's concert present a varied repertoire drawn predominantly from their HSC Music programs. We hope you enjoy these performances.

Abbotsleigh Senior School are donating their time and all proceeds from this concert to Parramatta Mission.

**\$40 adults; \$30 concession & children free
(Cash only at the door)**

Bookings: Trybooking.com

The Ferry Artists continue to bring quality art and handcrafted works to the community through the regular St Albans Village Markets. This event is a wonderful connection between our group and our local community and you'll find us at the 16th May markets in The Barn. Our senior artists have just been participating in the Seniors Week exhibition Live Life in Colour at Hornsby Council's Wallarobba Art Centre. Coming up is our full membership exhibition Vibrance at Merrylands RSL Club starting 4th June through to the end of the month. Keep an eye on our socials and take note of where you will find us next!



**Join us for this exciting exhibition
with our artists from the Hawkesbury!**



Opens 4th June through to 29th June 2026

Merrylands RSL Club 8/12 Miller Street Merrylands NSW

For information contact: ferryartistsgallery@gmail.com

A practical moving checklist to simplify your next move

Whether you're upsizing, downsizing, investing or making a change, moving house marks the beginning of a new chapter. It's exciting, but it's also one of life's more challenging transitions.

With thoughtful planning and a clear checklist, moving day can feel far more manageable. For some guidance, here are practical tips from the experts.

1. Declutter before packing

Before the boxes come out, take stock of what you actually want to move.

Consider:

- Donating quality items to charity
- Selling furniture that won't suit your new floorplan
- Hosting a garage sale a few weeks before settlement

Less to move means less to organise, and often lower removalist costs.

2. Do your research and choose your removalist wisely

The cheapest quote isn't always the best value. Belle Property agents regularly see the difference a professional, well-reviewed removalist can make, so take time to read reviews and compare services.

3. Avoid moving-day surprises with large furniture and appliances

Before moving day:

- Measure your fridge cavity, laundry space and stairwells
- Review moving instructions for appliances (for example, many fridges must stay upright)
- Confirm access points at your new property

A quick check now can save headaches, time and unnecessary costs later.

4. Label clearly by room and strategically

Professional packers swear by clear labelling, and so do we. Use coloured tape or stickers for each room and create a simple inventory of valuables.

5. Get on top of utilities and paperwork early

The administrative side of moving can sneak up quickly, so it pays to plan ahead.

Before settlement or lease end:

- Arrange electricity, gas, water and NBN connections
- Update your address with banks, insurers and subscriptions
- Redirect mail through Australia Post
- Update your driver's licence and electoral details

Having utilities connected before you arrive makes your first evening far more comfortable.

6. Finalise cleaning and outstanding items

Before handing over your property:

- Arrange a thorough clean (including carpets and oven if required)
- Complete any minor repairs
- Take final meter readings

If you're selling, presentation matters right to the end. If you're renting, leaving the property in excellent condition helps secure your full bond.

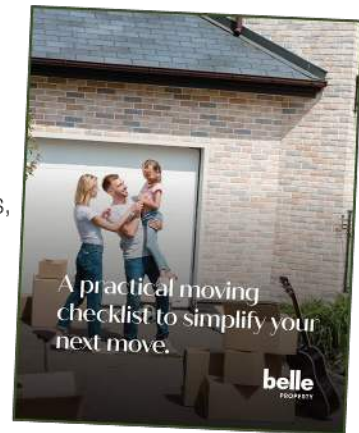
7. Ensure valuables and irreplaceable items are insured for moving day

- Check that your home and contents insurance covers your belongings in transit
- Confirm the details with your provider before moving day

Damage during a move is uncommon, but having the right coverage adds peace of mind and removes another layer of stress.

A smoother move starts with preparation

Moving doesn't have to feel overwhelming. If you're preparing for your next move and would like tailored advice, speak with Belle Property Dural today – 9129 2882. We're here to support you every step of the way, from sale to settling into your next chapter.





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GALSTON LIBRARY

As part of Sydney Writers' Festival, we are pleased to be hosting author **Richard King** at **Hornsby Library** on **Thursday 21st May** at **6.30pm**. In his insightful new book ***Brave New Wild: Can Technology Really Save the Planet?*** Richard illuminates the ways in which tech giants are altering the natural world and the concerning costs of these unchallenged approaches. Join Richard for a compelling presentation about our current and future planet. This is a free event and bookings are essential. Visit our events page at hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library to book.

ADULT FICTION

***THE PARADISE HEIGHTS MINIATURE RAILWAY BUST-UP* BY KATE SOLLY**

Something is amiss at the Paradise Heights Miniature Railway. Expensive equipment and supplies have disappeared and nobody knows why. Fleck Parker has never met a puzzle she didn't want to solve, and nobody suspects the cheerful mum asking questions at the railway as she tries to untangle the conundrum. But idyllic bushland and miniature villages hide a sinister mystery, darker and more complex than anyone imagined.

A cosy mystery from the beloved author of *Tuesday Evenings with the Copeton Craft Resistance* and *The Paradise Heights Craft Store Stitch-Up*.



YOUNG ADULT FICTION

***GOOD YOUNG MEN* BY GARY LONESBOROUGH**

Growing up together in Carraway's Point, four Aboriginal boys were carefree and close until everything changed the night Brandon was killed by a white cop. Now racial tension is brewing, and each boy must wrestle with grief and their own complicated lives. Kallum has lost his sport scholarship, Jordy contends with family responsibilities and a closeted boyfriend, and Dylan, the only witness to Brandon's death, must testify in court.

A searing and unputdownable novel from acclaimed award-winning author Gary Lonesborough.



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



Rural Roundup

Jane Seaglove

Hornsby Councillor



Hello Residents,

The opening of the Crusher Plant Precinct at Hornsby Park on 28th March marked an exciting milestone, with the first stage of the long-awaited park opening to the community. The former quarry has been transformed into a welcoming space featuring scenic lookouts, picnic areas, lawns and walking paths. A little-known fact is that the quarry was compulsorily acquired by Hornsby Shire Council under direction from the state government. This opening is the first step in a staged rollout, with more features to come as the park evolves into a major destination for recreation and community connection.

While Council maintains many local and quieter streets, Old Northern Road, Galston Road and Newline Road are owned and maintained by Transport for NSW. Maintenance on these roads is undertaken on a reactive basis, meaning issues are addressed once they're reported. If you notice potholes or other concerns, please report them directly so they can be scheduled for repair. You can contact Transport for NSW on 131 700 or lodge a report online at transportnsw.info/help-contact.

In March, James Wallace State MP and I held a community listening post in Asquith, where we had the opportunity to speak directly with local residents about the issues that matter most to them. Held at the lovely Corner 5 Café, the listening post created an informal setting for locals to share feedback and raise concerns. Topics discussed included pedestrian safety, traffic conditions and local development, with many residents highlighting the need for improved crossings and safer connections around the Asquith centre. Thank you to those who came along to meet with us.

Recently, the inaugural Mars Wrigley Hornsby Community Heroes Awards (announced March/April 2026) recognized three local volunteers, each receiving a \$5,000 donation for their selected charity. The winners announced were: Pauline Wong (NSW SES Hornsby Unit) was named Emergency Services & Frontline Volunteer Hero, Leisa Liddelow (The Dish of St John's) received the Community Service Hero award, and Ross Anderson (West Pennant Hills Cherrybrook Cricket Club) was honoured as Community Sport Hero for his dedication to community sport.

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Apprentice Shortage Puts Local Small Businesses at Risk



Across Berowra, small businesses are facing a perfect storm and nowhere is this clearer than in the growing struggle to attract and retain apprentices.

In conversations with local operators,

alongside Jacinta Nampijinpa Price, Shadow Minister for Small Business and Shadow Minister for Skills and Training, it was clear that workforce challenges are now one of the biggest threats to their viability.

At Camerons Nursery, the issue starts even earlier. I was told *"it's not flagged at school, and it's not really thought of as a career pathway."* As fewer young people enter trades, businesses are left competing for a shrinking pool of workers.

Mitchell Burge from Licensed to Chill A/C highlighted just how broken the pipeline has become: *"Last year I contacted 17 schools... only two responded, and only one we went into and took an apprentice from."* For businesses trying to train the next generation, the lack of engagement is both frustrating and unsustainable.

At the same time, the burden on employers continues to grow. Apprentices require supervision, cannot work independently for years, and often don't contribute enough to cover their cost. Training gaps are compounding the problem, with one employer noting *"they're learning more at work than what they are at TAFE."*

Despite this, many business owners feel current government responses are missing the mark, focused on announcements rather than practical, on-the-ground solutions that make it easier to hire, train and retain apprentices.

If we want strong local economies, we must back the small businesses carrying the load by rebuilding the apprenticeship pipeline and making it viable to train the next generation.

If you are a local business struggling to hire or retain apprentices, I encourage you to share your experience by contacting me at: Julian.Leeser.MP@aph.gov.au

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
LIBERAL 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.



Hornsby's Quiet Heroes Step Into the Spotlight

I recently attended the Hornsby Community Heroes awards sponsored by Mars Wrigley, and was proud to be part of the judging panel. It was a chance to recognise the volunteers who quietly make a real difference across our community.



These awards shine a light on people who rarely seek attention. They are putting out the cones before anyone else arrives, getting up at 5am to set up, and stepping in without hesitation when something needs to be done.

One of this year's winners was Ross Anderson from West Pennant Hills who was also recognised for his long standing contribution to local sport. Over 50 years with the West Pennant Hills Cherrybrook Cricket Club, he has helped shape the club into what it is today. He has supported grassroots programs like Kanga Cricket, helping generations of young players get involved.

Ross has also played a major role in growing women's participation in the game. Since 1995, more than 1,300 women have joined the club, which is now one of the largest community based girls cricket programs in the country.

Pauline Wong from the NSW SES Hornsby Unit was also recognised. Over 15 years, Pauline has given an incredible amount of time to supporting the community. In the past year alone, she responded to more than 190 storm incidents, often working through the night, before returning to her day job as a high school mathematics teacher. She also contributed more than 350 hours to training and mentoring new volunteers, helping build a stronger and more capable team.

It was great to see a local business with strong ties to the area giving back in such a meaningful way, and recognising the people who help make Hornsby the community it is today.

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from the Mayor's Desk

Our Draft Delivery Program and Operational Plan is currently on public exhibition. This important document outlines the many projects and initiatives Council will work on over the next four years, and I encourage you to share your feedback before 11 May. It sets out how Council will continue investing in community facilities, parks, open spaces and major public domain improvements that help create more liveable and welcoming places across Hornsby Shire.

This month, we also mark National Volunteer Week from 18–24 May, a time to recognise the important role volunteers play in supporting our community. As Mayor, I am continually impressed and humbled by the outstanding contribution volunteers make across Hornsby Shire, generously donating their time, skills and services for the benefit of others.

Volunteering can be incredibly enriching, providing opportunities to form connections and a strong sense of fulfilment. Council offers a wide range of volunteering opportunities through our Bushcare program, events, libraries and even our Waste team. I encourage anyone interested to find out more on our website.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who gives their time freely, whether for Council, emergency services, charities, sports clubs, schools and many other community organisations. Your contribution makes a real difference to the lives of others.

Later this month, Council will present the Rethink Art Prize exhibition at Wallarobba Arts and Cultural Centre, featuring more than 60 finalist artworks responding to this year's theme, *Built to Expire*. The artists have captured the importance of reuse and repurposing materials beautifully through their outstanding expressions. I encourage residents to visit the exhibition, support the artists and take part in this important conversation about our environmental future.

I am also pleased to see the positive feedback about the first stage of Hornsby Park which is now open. The new Crusher Plant Precinct and Southern Lookout offer access to an exciting new bushland destination. I encourage you to visit and experience it for yourself.

Warren Waddell
Mayor of Hornsby Shire

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BUILT TO EXPIRE

EXHIBITION

15 – 31 May 2026

Wallarobba Arts and Cultural Centre

hornsby.nsw.gov.au/reimagine

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■ Gardening for small spaces and balconies

Thursday 7 May, 10am – 12pm
Community Recycling Centre, Thornleigh

■ Composting and worm farming

Saturday 9 May, 9am – 11.30am
Community Recycling Centre, Thornleigh

■ Waste Warrior Volunteer Induction

Saturday 16 May, 10am – 12.30pm
Waste Warriors Volunteers Hub,
4 Chilvers Road, Thornleigh

■ Waste and Recycling Pop-up

Wednesday 20 May, 1pm – 4pm
Hornsby Library

■ Kimbriki Eco House and Garden Tour

Wednesday 27 May, 9am – 2pm
Departing Hornsby Pool Bus Stop at 9am

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

■ **Delivery Program**
2026-2030 and
Operational Plan 2026/27
Submissions close:
Monday 11 May

**'YOUR
SAY
HORNSBY'**

■ **Draft Coastal Management Plan**
Submissions close: Wednesday 27 May

■ **2026 Library Satisfaction Survey**
Submissions close: Sunday 31 May

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



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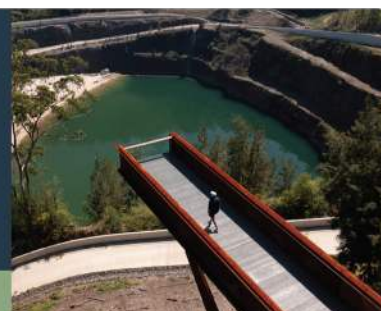
Hornsby Park



First Look

Discover the **Crusher Plant Precinct**
and the **Southern Lookout**.

Find out more at hornsbypark.com.au



The Future of Galston Road Through the Gorge

by Independent Hornsby Councillor Nathan Tilbury



Result of work in 2022



Result of work in 2026

Recently contractors for Transport for NSW completed their fifth major works project in Galston Gorge in less than a decade. The road has been closed for road/bridge/embankment work and upgrades for a total of 17 months during that period.

I am certain that Transport for NSW do not fully appreciate the serious interruption to people's lives and local businesses that closing Galston Road through the Gorge has. Particularly with New Line Road still not funded in the State Government's budget for its long-promised upgrade.

In addition, the question has to be asked, has the work over the past 9 years guaranteed us that the road through Galston Gorge and its bridges, will not suddenly fail like the Great Western Highway has recently? That Highway closed on 5th March 2026 after defects were discovered in the road and there is currently no reopen date available.

After being contacted by various local residents with concerns, I will be requesting Hornsby Council seek information and assurances from Transport for NSW about any risks associated with Galston Road (first opened in 1895) and Berowra Waters Road (first opened in 1902).

Details of work on Galston Road through the Gorge, from 2017 are as follows;

2017, July to August – night work to develop & design full slope & drainage improvements

2020, October to December – upgrade & replace drains as well as stabilize embankments

2022, 28th February to 11th October – emergency work to repair rock falls & landslides that occurred during large & prolong storms

2024, 17th November – 13th December – night work to undertake bridge maintenance on Tunks Creek Bridge

2026, 11th January to 14th March – work on Galston Road & Tunks Creek Bridge

Heritage listed Tunks Creek Bridge work included:

- strengthening Tunks Creek Bridge by replacing the heritage bridge's timber decking
- removing temporary bracing structure installed on the bridge in 2024.



Work on slopes, mainly on eastern (Hornsby) side involved:

- major stabilisation of slopes at three locations
- removal of vegetation from the slope face & large loose rocks
- installation of bolts to stabilise slopes & protect the road
- installation drains at the base of the embankment alongside the road

Additional work included asphalt replacement in several locations along the road & general maintenance such as guardrail repairs, verge works, gutter cleaning, & tree trimming.



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Community Spirit Shines Brightly at Arcadia



At Arcadia Public School, we believe in fostering an inclusive and supportive community. Our school values strong connections, and this spirit is reflected in the service and kindness shown by our student leaders. They support lunchtime clubs, assist with daily tasks, and help fellow students, setting an outstanding example as leaders.

Our community recently came together for our Easter Hat Parade, enjoying a delicious breakfast barbecue organised by our dedicated Parents and Citizens (P&C) Committee. It was wonderful to see families



and visitors sharing a meal and celebrating together, strengthening ties between our school and the wider community.

Collaboration is key at Arcadia. Our High Potential Gifted Education (HPGE) Day brought students from local alliance schools and partners together, including Hillside, Middle Dural, Macdonald Valley, and Maroota Public Schools, Galston High, environmental education centres, and local sports and arts experts. Students chose activities that matched their interests or talents, and one participant captured the excitement, saying: "The activities, lunch and recess, the canteen — and all of the fun!"

Local businesses contribute greatly to our school. We thank Bendigo Bank, Cameron's

Nursery, Empire Bathrooms, and Clare Oliver Photography for their generous support through donations of time, supplies, and resources. Their commitment helps Arcadia thrive and reinforces the power of community.

We look forward to Walk Safely To School Day in May, another event where our community comes together to promote wellbeing and safety for our students.

Places are currently available across grade levels, and applications for Kindergarten 2027 are open. If you'd like to learn more or book a private tour, please contact our friendly office staff on 9653 1207 or email arcadia-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Belinda Reedman Principal



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UnitingCare Galston Early Learning Centre – Exploring Early Literacy!



We are currently exploring ways to further strengthen children's early literacy development within our program. This direction has been guided by valuable feedback

from families, along with insights from health professionals highlighting an increasing need for support in speech and language development.

As part of this journey, our team has been researching the PreLit program and how it

may complement our existing play-based approach. We have also consulted with our local schools; Galston, Arcadia and Glenorie Public School, who have shared strong support for the program and its alignment with Kindergarten learning.

We are now inviting input from our community as we consider introducing PreLit for children in their year before school. Your feedback is incredibly



important in helping us make an informed decision and shape the future of our learning program.

We look forward to hearing your feedback via email at galstondaycare@bigpond.com as we continue to grow and evolve together.

For further information about our centre or to arrange a visit, please contact Centre Director, Daniela Palmer, via email at galstondaycare@bigpond.com or by phone on (02) 9653 1475.



HILLSIDE HAPPENINGS

Learning, Growing and Belonging at Hillside

A well - rounded experience where community and learning come together.



Hillside's strong sense of community was beautifully displayed during their Harmony Day celebrations last term. The most anticipated event of the day was buffet lunch where students came together to share a rich variety of multicultural dishes showcasing the wide diversity of Hillside's cultural backgrounds.

This year each family also received a pumpkin harvested from Hillside's own vegetable patch to take home. One family shared the exciting journey their pumpkin embarked upon before becoming a delicious salad.

Photos of the Pumpkin Adventure: From Patch to Plate



Hillside Public School is privileged to be located in a beautiful rural setting, surrounded by nature. This unique environment enables students to enjoy meaningful hands-on educational experiences, within a school that values curiosity, wellbeing, and the natural world. Students are encouraged to explore, experiment, and make new discoveries every day. The school prioritises collaboration, respect and engagement with families, creating a supportive community where students are inspired to grow academically and personally.



Enrolling Now Kindergarten to Year 6!

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

Join our wonderful school community - visit our website to see what's happening at Hillside or book a school tour to experience the Hillside difference.

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Celebrating Effort, Achievement and Potential at Glenorie Public School



At Glenorie Public School, we are committed to unearthing the potential and developing the talent of every student, ensuring they all reach their full potential. Our dedication is reflected not only in our academic programs but also through enriching extracurricular activities that build confidence, resilience, and community spirit.



We are incredibly proud of our 2026 Beecroft Zone Swimming Carnival team. Our swimmers demonstrated outstanding determination in every race and showcased fantastic team spirit throughout the day. Their achievements highlight the hard work and perseverance

we celebrate and encourage in all our students.

Earlier this term, five of our students attended the Longneck Lagoon Environmental Education Centre (EEC), where they engaged in activities to enhance their poetry and writing skills. Immersed in the natural beauty of the lagoon, they participated in dip netting, composed original works, and deepened their understanding of local wildlife through observation and research. The students showed great pride in their writing, enthusiastically sharing their creative pieces that captured the beauty and wonder of their surroundings. Longneck Lagoon now plans to showcase our students' work on their website, enabling the wider community to appreciate our students' achievements.



Our commitment to harnessing the communication skills and expressive abilities of our students was evident during the recent Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition. It was inspiring to hear our students deliver a diverse range of speeches addressing important themes such as family stories, the pursuit of peace, and a strong stance against racism. We are proud to congratulate the four finalists selected to represent Glenorie Public School at the upcoming local finals. Their insight and courage exemplify the values we nurture in every student.

In our classrooms, students are actively engaged in activities designed to meet them at their point of need, providing a balance of support and challenge to foster growth across all learning areas. This approach ensures that every student is encouraged to explore their strengths and develop new skills to reach their highest potential.



At Glenorie Public School, we believe that by fostering talent, supporting individual growth, and celebrating achievement, we create a vibrant and inclusive learning community where every student can thrive.

Book a school tour today to meet our dedicated staff, friendly students and see first-hand everything our school can offer your child!

Fun for the Whole Family — It's Carnival Time!



Pacific Hills Christian School and New Hope Christian School would like to invite you and your family to our upcoming Carnival on Saturday 23rd May from 12:00pm to 5:00pm.

Enjoy a vibrant mix of rides, food stalls, games, performances, markets, carnival entertainment, a silent auction, and attractions including a petting zoo, pony rides, and face painting.

Our school Carnival is about celebrating community — giving people a place to meet, enjoy themselves and support local groups and businesses at the same time.

This is going to be a fun and exciting day for the whole family. We look forward to seeing you there!

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Small School Community – BIG Opportunities

Students Achieve Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award



Students at Galston High School are celebrating an impressive achievement after a group of dedicated young people successfully completed the Bronze level of the The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award.

The internationally recognised program encourages students to step beyond the classroom and develop valuable life skills through community service, physical activity, skill development and adventurous journeys. Completion of the Bronze Award requires commitment, resilience and sustained effort over a minimum of six months.

Fourteen Galston High School students rose to the challenge, balancing the program alongside their academic studies while demonstrating determination and perseverance.

Students who achieved the Bronze Award are Brigette Zaplatel-Lindberg, Isabella Wettengel, Harrison So, Emily Shepherd, Lachlan Kennedy, Victoria Barnes, Jordan Herrington, Camilla Tapia, Christian Zaplatel-Lindberg, Samuel Powell, Quinn Care-Wickham, Oscar Turnbull, Charlie Powell and Jessica Mote.

Their achievement reflects not only personal dedication but also the strong culture of leadership and community participation fostered within the school.

Galston High School is proud that these students for embracing the opportunities offered through the program and for representing



the school with pride. Many of these students are already continuing their journey within The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award and are now working towards completing the Silver and Gold levels of the program.

Through initiatives such as this, students embody the school's core values of Respect, Responsibility and Personal Best while building the confidence, resilience and leadership skills that will support them well beyond their school years.

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by Lachlan Turner

Hidden in the Hills

Geebung

Numerous native plants found in local bushland are edible.

It is said that the Narrow-leaved Geebung (*Persoonia pinifolia*) which is a small to medium shrub of open habit is one that its fruit may be eaten. It can be found in open forest, scrub and woodland habitats and is usually in flower from December to July.

However, it is not recommending that people go out into the bush and sample any of these plants, their fruits or their flowers simply because they look tasty.



It is wise to first carry out some research into which plants are, or are not, actually able to be eaten, as there are a number of similar species that could be mistaken for the edible ones. Unpleasant side effects could result if eaten.

Nevertheless, the fruits of Geebung, were known to be food for the indigenous people who previously lived in local bushland areas.

It is understood that the fruit, in the form of a small berry about 5 to 8 mm in size, must have first ripened, then freshly fallen to the ground and having a dark purplish colour, before being edible.

Another feature of this plant is its bark. The outside layers are flakey and dark brown to black in colour. When the outer layer is lightly scraped, there is revealed underneath a rich red coloured bark.

Indigenous Australians were known to use this bark for medicinal purposes as it reported as possessing healing qualities.

There are two related species, the Broad-leaved Geebung (*Persoonia levis*), flowering July to December and the Pine-leaved Geebung (*Persoonia linearis*), flowering March to July. They also grow nearby to each other in the same area. When in flower, their unmistakable yellow flowers make quite a show when growing along a bush track.

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Galston District Garden Club

The Galston District Garden Club met again on the 8th April welcoming visitors and two new members. The members enjoyed a highly informative talk about "Worm Farming" and in May the guest speaker will be Judy Horton and the topic will be "Climbing Gardens". You are warmly invited to join us for an enjoyable evening of gardening discussion, followed by supper. We meet on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7.30 in the Galston Community Hall, 37 Galston Road, Galston.

Galston Open Garden Weekend

The Open Garden Weekend held each October has been an annual charity event since 1991 with a pause during Covid. This will be the 35th Anniversary.

For those unfamiliar with this event, it takes place in the north western Hills District of Sydney across the semi-rural suburbs of Galston, Glenorie, Arcadia, Kenthurst and Dural. Surrounded by bushland

the district features nurseries, farms and rural properties, making even the journey between gardens a pleasurable experience.

Most participating gardens are acreages yet my features can be readily adapted to any garden of any size. Visitors will discover a wide variety of plants, spectacular flowering shrubs, impressive specimen trees, water features, garden structures and plenty of inspiration. It is always fascinating to see how different owners have developed their gardens to suit the natural topography and their own tastes.

Typically, eight gardens are opened to the public. Each participating garden owner nominates a charity which receives a share



of the proceeds. All funds raised are distributed among various charities, including those nominated by the garden owners.

The wonderful event relies on the generosity of the garden owners and each year we aim to include new gardens. New gardens keep visitors returning. If you believe your garden is suitable for inclusion this year and would like more information about how this event operates, we would be delighted to hear from you, without obligation.

Further information regarding the club and meeting times please visit our website: www.galstongardenclub.com.au or email: galstongardenclub@gmail.com



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Galston Uniting Church



A Tongan Baptism

When Sione and Emily Tangi brought baby Jephthah for baptism last month, it was grandma Rev Akosita Tangi who did the baptism! After the service, the whole congregation was invited to lunch in the hall which was a Tongan feast and a whole new experience for everyone. Thank you Sione and Emily.

The Sacrament of Baptism is a significant event in the life of the church and Christian families. It is a sign of the salvation that we receive through Christ and that we pray for



our children. Most other mainstream churches in Australia recognize baptism in the Uniting Church and Rev Akosita Tangi would welcome enquiries.

A Changing of the Guard

For the last 25 years Elizabeth Garlick has been the Office Manager at Galston Uniting. She has fulfilled this pivotal role for our church faithfully and well during this time, regularly going beyond the duties of the office in order to make things happen. She has always done this with a smile and with warmth. She will take the opportunity to have a well-earned break away and in this we wish her well.

The incoming Office Manager is Jayne Young. Jayne has previously worked for Rev Bill Crews at Ashfield Uniting Church Mission and so comes with a wealth of experience in church administration. Jayne is already settling in to the position and we wish her well also in this new undertaking.

A hand-over morning tea was held after church to acknowledge Elizabeth's service and welcome Jayne to her new position.



Save the Date

Galston Concert #2 -
Sunday May 31st @ 2pm.

Church services continue in church at 10am on Sundays. You will also find us on Facebook.

Contact: Jayne Young, Office Manager.
11 School Road, Galston.
Phone 9653 2039

News from St Benedicts May 2026

What happened to the St Benedict's fete?

Because of predictions of poor weather and bad memories of muddy grounds in previous fetes, the event was postponed. The new date for the 2026 St Benedicts Country Fair is **Sunday 31st May**. We are looking forward to this long-awaited community event. The raffles are still valid and will be drawn on the day.

Easter celebrations

Parishioners commemorated and celebrated Easter, starting with Palm Sunday, followed through Holy Week by the sadness of Good Friday, then through to the joy of Easter Sunday. Palm Sunday celebrates Jesus's arrival in Jerusalem where he was welcomed by crowds waving palm branches. It's a tradition to bless palm pieces at Mass on Palm Sunday but Guido and Angela Scotti go to far greater efforts. Guido says he climbs up and cuts unopened, pale-coloured new growth from the palm leaves. He and

Angela then patiently weave palm strips into artistic pieces such as those they are proudly showing in the photo. Guido says they spend many days on this work – a true labour of love and faith.

Other happenings

We celebrated Father Michael's 80th birthday with a celebratory morning tea in April and welcomed Father Bernard back to the

monastery after some major health issues. The parish congratulated our local Broken Bay Bishop Anthony Randazzo on his appointment by Pope Leo as an Archbishop and Prefect of the Legislative Texts in Rome. It's a great honour but we'll be sad to lose him.

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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Saviour and Priest

Easter has passed; Christ is risen! During the forty days that followed He appeared to His disciples teaching them about the kingdom of God, and confirming His victory over death. Over "five hundred saw Him at once" (1 Corinthians 15:6). A manger could hold Him; the tomb could not! "Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures... and He rose again the third day according to the scriptures" (1 Corinthians 15:3-4). Christ conquered death, and He holds the "keys of death" (Revelation 1:18). He's a living Saviour and available to all, but what is Jesus doing now?

Before His crucifixion Jesus gave His followers' a heart-felt promise: "Don't be troubled, I'm going to prepare a place for you... I will

come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, you may be also" (John 14:1-3). Christ is building a special home, just for you! It's yours when He returns.

After ascending to heaven, Jesus took His place as King and Priest. While we await His return as "KING of KINGS" (Revelation 19:16), He's now interceding as Priest on your behalf (Hebrews 2:17; 7:25). While His sacrifice demonstrated His love; His ongoing intercession shows His constant care. Although you've done nothing to deserve it, His mercy and grace is "free" (Ephesians 2:8).

Why is it free? It's free because Jesus paid the entire cost for you in full. All you have to do is believe it and accept it, and it's yours!



Each Saturday 9:30am, we have a group Bible study, followed by the Divine Service at 11am. On Wednesday evening 7pm, is Prayer Connect. Everyone is welcome!

Please continue to pray for one another and for our community.

Pastor Steve Belson 0438 459 223
Galston Adventist Church 49 Arcadia Road.
Website: galston.adventist.org.au
Email: galstonsadventistchurch@gmail.com

The Necessity of Faith

God had just finished giving the Ten Commandments to Moses. Now (Exodus 20) suddenly He mentions an altar for their sacrifices. It was as if He said, straight after giving the law, 'It is not the law that will save you. There must be the shedding of blood too. And with that blood there must be faith to believe that I will forgive your sin, when you offer your sacrifices in the way I command you'.

Notice the simple way the altar was to be built. There were to be no steps up to it. It must be within easy reach of everyone. Everyone would be on the same level.

So it is with Calvary. There are no barriers in the way of anyone who wants to come to Jesus Christ. The way is always open, and everyone must come with the same faith in Christ who died there for sin.

God later gave instruction concerning the altar in the tabernacle. It was the one place where God said He would meet with His people.

It was the place that reminded everyone that the only way to come to God was by the blood of the sacrifice, offered with faith in the heart of the one who came to the altar.

There is no altar for us to bring our sacrifices to today. The last blood-stained altar that God recognised was the cross on Calvary's low hill. It is the only place where God can receive a sinner. Have you ever been there by faith? God will meet you and welcome you if you come in the name of Christ and in faith. Believe that He can be your Saviour. Why not come today?

"Not all the blood of beasts on altars slain,
Could give the guilty conscience peace
or wash away the stain,
But Christ, the heavenly Lamb, takes all
my sin away.
A sacrifice of nobler ram, and richer
blood than they".

**(a message by the late
Rev Ed. Long.)**

Join us for Sunday service at 10 am.

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**Glenorie Mission Church
Annual Sunday School Olympics
Sunday May 24th 2026, 9.30 am**

Have some fun for the whole family playing the good, old fashioned, family fun games such as tug of war, tunnel ball, and three legged races plus some bible games mixed in.

Free sausage sizzle
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Glenorie Mission Church
1409 Old Northern Road Glenorie

What is Gratitude?

Recently, I've been challenged again to be thankful about the small everyday blessings that are part of life.

The Bible is full of verses that encourage us to give thanks with a grateful heart. That thought sent me on a little 'research project' to discover why gratitude is so important and why God speaks about it so much in the Bible.

I found a very helpful article by a leading gratitude researcher, Dr. Robert Emmons. The following extract summarises his main ideas:

"Gratitude combines two key elements:

- *recognising the good in our lives and
- *understanding that many of these good things come from outside ourselves.

When we practise gratitude regularly, we strengthen our ability to:

- *notice & appreciate everyday positive moments.

*acknowledge the people & circumstances that contribute to our well-being.

*savour experiences instead of rushing past them.

*find meaning in both big achievements and small wins."

So I realised once again that the more we actively are thankful for the good things in our lives - from a refreshing shower, morning cuppa & daily walk, to family & friendships and above all, a relationship with God through Jesus Christ, the more contented we can be in a world that often seems so full of negatives!

Dr. Emmons also outlined the benefits of an attitude of gratitude "rippling through every area of our lives from our relationships to our work and personal well-being."



2 Corinthians 9:15 says, "Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift."

What IS this gift? Our church noticeboard sign declares it - "Life forever through Jesus Christ." A relationship with Jesus as Saviour & Lord of your life is the best gift ever - He is worthy of our deep thanks every day.

God bless.

Pr. Alex and Dee Valich

Glenorie Community Church.
1507 Old Northern Rd, Glenorie. 2157.

NSW RFS REPORT

Glenorie Rural Fire Brigade



Glenorie Village Markets

Glenorie Village Markets at Les Shore Oval are back in action for 2026 and Glenorie Rural Fire Brigade would like to invite you to come along. It is a wonderful day out for the local community, with lots to enjoy; plus, it is a great occasion to bring your family and come have a chat with Glenorie firefighters about fire safety. The fire truck is always a winner for the children, and the perfect opportunity for them to have some fun sitting in the fire truck. Glenorie Rural Fire Brigade will be attending the markets from 9:00am until 12:30pm on the 31st May, 30th August and 29th November 2026. We look forward to seeing you there.

Clean Your Chimney

Chimneys need to be cleaned regularly to avoid a build-up of flammable soot particles, and as we move into the cooler season it is the perfect time to do this. Soot build-up in chimneys can lead to chimney fires and it also means that your fireplace will provide less heat for your home. Remember, clean, swept chimneys are safe chimneys so please make sure you get your flue or chimney cleaned by a professional.

Check Your Smoke Alarms

NSW law requires at least one working smoke alarm on every level of your home, including rentals, relocatable homes, caravans and campervans. It is also recommended installing smoke alarms in all bedrooms, hallways, living areas, stairways and even your garage. Hard wired and interconnected alarms are best, however, if not possible, use smoke alarms with in-built 10 year lithium batteries, but avoid older models that require annual



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Would You like to Become A NSW 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 RFB by contacting us via our Facebook page, visiting the RFS website at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au or simply come in for a chat at the station on Monday nights from 7:30pm or Saturday afternoons from 2:00pm. The station is at 2654 Old Northern Road Glenorie NSW 2157.

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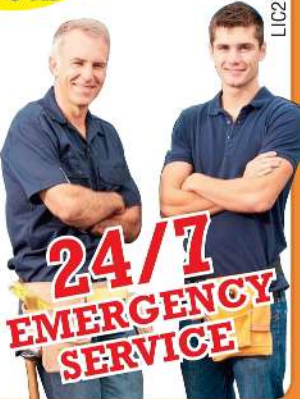
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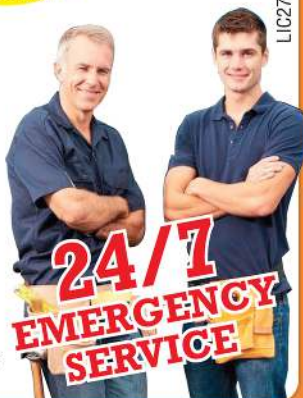
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Crossword

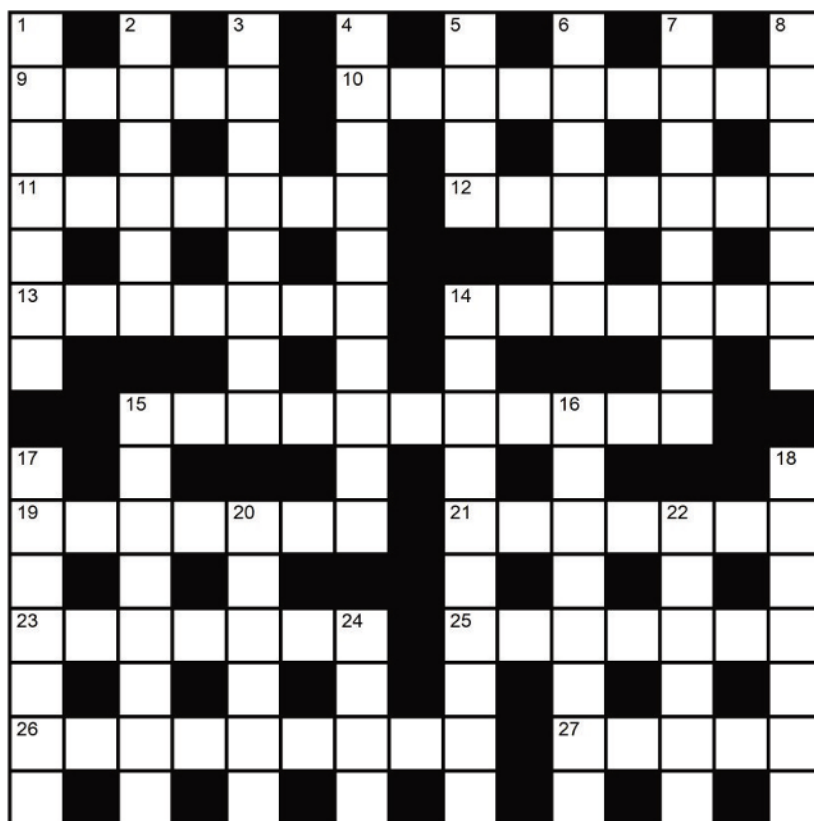
PUZZLE

ACROSS

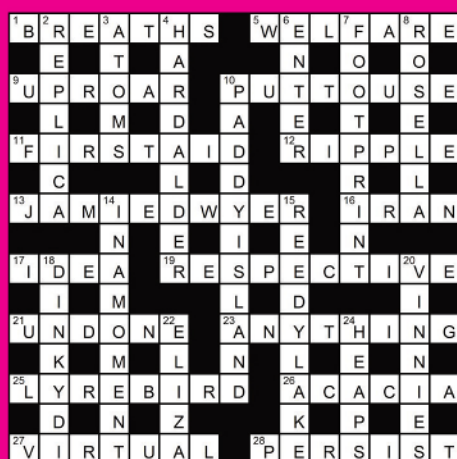
- 09 Like Little Boy (1-4)
 10 Clearing (4,5)
 11 Begin (4-3)
 12 Cooling drink (4,3)
 13 Disputed region between Pakistan and India (7)
 14 Waldorf salad necessity (7)
 15 Juggler banished Cal to a settlement in Nepean Bay, SA (6,5)
- 19 Lewd (7)
 21 Affair of the heart (7)
 23 Misery (7)
 25 Iconic Volkswagens (7)
 26 Former national rugby player and heavyweight boxing champ (4,5)
 27 Adult insect (5)

DOWN

- 01 Hawaiian surfing site (7)
 02 Compels (6)
 03 Irregular (8)
 04 Association of sports teams (10)
 05 Pickle place (4)
 06 Additionally (2,4)
 07 Old Man ---, edible shrub (8)
 08 A word to the whys? (7)
- 14 Worn by those over the eight? (6,4)
 15 Those in the know (8)
 16 Don (8)
 17 Designer of 25 Across (7)
 18 On thin ice (2,1,4)
 20 Sizing up (6)
 22 Ottoman ruler (6)
 24 Free from doubt (4)



ANSWERS FROM APRIL ISSUE



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

Sudoku

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

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



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