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NOVEMBER 2026

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Craig Bell Marks 45 Years in the Meat Business

by Karlene Brummer

In early November, local icon Craig Bell, the well-respected owner of Craig's Galston Butchery, will mark 45 years of working at the same shop in Galston.

Born and raised in Schofields, Craig attended Riverstone High School. Upon leaving he worked at Riverstone Abattoirs, then joined his uncle, Col Bell, at his Butchers in Crestwood. When Col bought out his business partner, Craig moved to Cec Allen's Butchers in Galston. The Bell family knew Cec through his piggery interests. Craig completed his apprenticeship in-house, where Cec taught him the trade 'in the right way'. Consistency in products and service became Craig's guiding principle and that remains so today.

Craig bought the business from Cec 27 years ago and renamed it Craig's Galston Butchery. Over the past four decades, Craig has watched local orchards and market gardens give way to more housing and higher density. His drive from Schofields to Galston once involved just two traffic lights; today, there are many more. His customers now span generations, with original patrons becoming parents and grandparents and their families continuing to buy meat from his shop. Gone, though, are the days of customers arriving on horseback or by tractor, like John Orr, and parking out the front!



With so many hours spent at work, the Galston institution is Craig's home away from home. Over the years he has developed strong friendships with customers and fellow business owners alike. Little has changed since Cec Allen's days: even the sausages are made to Cec's original recipe. The range of products now includes a few more partly prepared options, such as chicken filo parcels and marinated meat mixes, for busy families with less time to prepare complicated meals. The interior of the business is resplendent with hundreds of porcine figurines. Some bought by Craig, some given to him by loyal customers.



The father of two and grandfather of three is a generous supporter of local organisations and schools. His personality, reliable produce and excellent customer service will ensure his business keeps going for many years to come.

Why not drop in and wish Craig a happy anniversary and perhaps gift him a little celebratory piggy to add to the collection!


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REAL ESTATE

The Probus Club of the Hills takes on AI!



Well, at least we started learning what Artificial Intelligence (AI) means, and how it can help us.

The guest speaker at our September meeting was Mr. Dave Whiteman, who had more than 40 years in Information Technology (IT) Mr Whiteman concentrated on ways that Artificial Intelligence (AI) can help us do many of the things that retirees like doing. This includes researching family histories, planning holidays, identifying plants, writing letters and emails, finding recipes, identifying scams, and even recovering and colourising old photos. Hopefully the increased AI activity won't lead to another data centre in the Hills and surrounding area!

In addition to the usual activities, this month saw a new activity in Croquet start up, as well as a very pleasant morning tea at the Waddell Café in Galston High School.

The Probus Club of the Hills meets on the second Wednesday of most months at the Galston Club, and there are several other activities, such as golf, bowls, coffee and walking each month.

Website https://probusofthehills.weebly.com
Membership enquiries to Bob Heyward on 0427 360 389.

A Farewell to Two Remarkable Community Advocates

The Galston Area Residents Association (GARA) has farewelled its founders, John and Beverley Inshaw, after more than 30 years of dedicated service to Galston community. They established GARA in 1993 to advocate for Galston's rural character, environment, heritage and quality of life.

Their efforts have helped challenge a number of developments that would have serious impacts on the area. Most recently, they helped rally community to save the Johnson Road oval as parkland and valuable open space - ***something residents still want finalised.***

Their contribution to Galston is reflected in an excerpt of this farewell speech:

Not very often does a community have the good fortune to have two people who are prepared to stand up, speak out and fight for what they believe is right for their community and its environment.

For 33 years, John and Bev have been exactly those people for Galston. They have given their time, their energy and their passion to protect the place we all call home. They have stood up for our environment, our rural character and things that make Galston such a special community.

They never did it for recognition but because they cared.

Unfortunately, eventually health catches up with all of us. If it weren't for their health, I have no doubt that John and Bev would still be fighting for Galston and its environment. This is a particularly sad day.

It is sad for John and Bev, but it is also sad for all of us who have had the privilege of working alongside them and benefiting from their advocacy.

On behalf of all of us, thank you for your dedication, your courage and for caring about our community and our environment. And thank you for giving so much of yourselves to Galston for so many years.

John and Bev, you will always have a special place in the history of our community. Thank you for everything.



George Nadwie, GARA President







000 EMERGENCY SERVICES

CHILDCARE WORKER FACES 115 MORE CHARGES

The former Sydney childcare worker is facing a further 115 charges as part of an ongoing investigation into the alleged exploitation of children at five early childhood education facilities in Sydney's north-west.

The Australian Federal Police (AFP) laid the additional charges under Operation Moonbi, bringing the total number of charges against the 35-year-old man to 444.

The allegations involve children known to the man, as well as children who attended facilities where he worked or attended between 2009 and 2025. The AFP said the number of identified victims has not increased following the latest charges.

The new charges include 105 counts of producing child abuse material, one count relating to a sexual act with a child under 10, five counts of filming a person engaged in a private act in circumstances of aggravation, and four counts of possessing child abuse material.

The man has remained in custody since his arrest and initial charges in July 2025.

The matter was due to return to Parramatta Local Court on 8th October 2026.

Parents and carers seeking information about Operation Moonbi can contact the AFP at op-moonbi@afp.gov.au.

FIRE SEASON MEETINGS

With NSW's statutory Bush Fire Danger Period running from 1st October to 31st March 2027, The Hills RFS is holding community meetings to help residents prepare for the season.

Kenthurst FRB led the first meeting on 29th October, with four further sessions scheduled throughout November. All meetings begin at 7 PM.

- **Hillside:** Wednesday, November 4th — Hillside Public School.
- **Glenhaven:** Thursday, November 12th — Glenhaven Community Centre.
- **South Maroota:** Thursday, November 19th — South Maroota Hall.
- **Wisemans Ferry:** Wednesday, November 25th — Wisemans Ferry Bowling Club.

Residents are encouraged to attend and prepare their homes and families for the bushfire season.

RFS VOLUNTEERS HONOURED

Two Hills volunteers, Philip Dunn and John Ebbott, were among 10 NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) volunteers honoured at the 26th annual NSW Emergency Service Volunteers Memorial Service in Sydney on 11th October.

Their names were added to the memorial alongside eight other RFS volunteers and two Marine Rescue NSW members, William (Bill) Ewen and Frank Petsch, who died while responding to an emergency on the NSW north coast earlier this year.

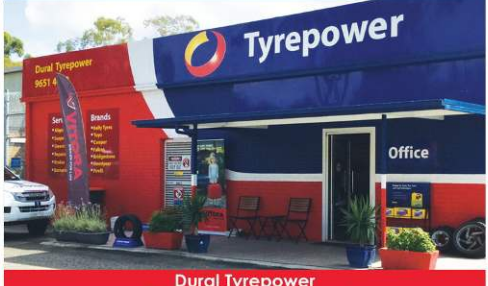
RFS Commissioner Trent Curtin paid tribute to the volunteers' contributions to their brigades and communities, while acknowledging the sacrifices made by their families.

Held at Mrs Macquarie's Chair, the annual service honours emergency services volunteers who lost their lives while serving their communities.

Established in 1999, the memorial now bears 137 names from the NSW Rural Fire Service, State Emergency Service, Marine Rescue NSW and the Volunteer Rescue Association.

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

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Meet Foster Jen

by Karlene Brummer

In our last edition of the GCN, keen readers may have noticed that 'Foster Jen' helped new recruit Tabitha the cat find her new home at Stockman Rural Supplies.

'Foster Jen', also known as Ms Jenny Fisher, is a local resident, a co-owner of Thurlow Fisher Lawyers and a passionate animal advocate. Her rescue journey began some 10 years ago, when she helped trap and rehome a colony of feral cats at premises near her workplace. She subsequently fostered a pregnant cat who gave birth to a kitten with cerebellar hypoplasia, who nobody wanted, and so she kept both Mum & bub. Since then, she has quietly rescued, fostered, rehabilitated, and rehomed dozens of cats and kittens.

That commitment extends to her home, where Jen and her husband, Matthew, have built a cat enclosure at the rear of their property. It provides a tranquil, enriching environment for the cats she fosters.

Earlier this year, Jen began sharing her firsthand experiences across social media platforms to raise awareness of the importance of fostering and the joy of helping an animal in need.



Cat populations in Australia are increasing exponentially as some owners choose not to desex their pets or cannot afford to do so.

Jen fosters cats through several rescue organisations, with rescuers and foster carers working together to help animals in distress. Many foster carers receive food and litter support packages to help offset the additional costs to their household budgets.

Follow Foster Jen's rescue and fostering experiences on Instagram, Facebook and TikTok under the handle Fosterjen2072.

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GLENORIE PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

A Fresh Chapter for the Glenorie Progress Association and A Competition...

The Glenorie Progress Association is stepping confidently into a new era, announcing a refreshed leadership team ready to guide the community through its next chapter of growth, advocacy, and local pride.

Following the recent AGM, members endorsed a dynamic group of volunteers who bring a blend of experience, energy, and deep commitment to Glenorie's future. The new leadership team will oversee ongoing community projects, strengthen partnerships with Council, and continue championing the needs and aspirations of residents across the village and rural surrounds.

At the helm is **President Hugh Bloch** together with **VP Ian Everett, Secretary Di Coxon-Ellis, Treasurer Mel Abouhamad,** and members **Tony Hogan, Claire Rich** and **Elizabeth Whiteman**, a revitalised executive, each bringing their own strengths in community engagement, project management, and technology.

The GPA's priorities for the coming year include expanding opportunities for residents to connect, contribute, and celebrate Glenorie's unique character. The new team is poised to build on strong foundations while welcoming fresh ideas and perspectives.

Community members are encouraged to be involved, attend meetings, and share their insights as the GPA continues its long tradition of grassroots leadership.

Fees for 2027/28 will remain at $20, $40 for 2 years or $80 for 5 years.

Join at https://www.glenorieprogress.org/membership

Or by Direct credit (no fees):
"The Glenorie Progress Association Inc"
BSB 633 000 A/C # 159 557 131

Contact us at secretary@glenorieprogress.org.au or call 0418 432 587

Project #1 Suggest a theme and name for the Cairnes Road Reserve Playground

We are excited to be working with the community to bring to Hornsby Council a theme and a name for the Cairnes Road Reserve Playground . The Council are updating the facilities and access of the reserve to provide a more engaging community experience for locals. Information about their plans for the reserve can be found in the Hornsby Play Plan linked here https://future.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/play-plan/. Information can be located under



District 6. Page 82 with the reserve tag number 103 on their map and following page information. Appendix 3 of the document details the design considerations for play areas in Hornsby Council and is also worth a read. The high-priority status given to this reserve, means we have a limited time to get the theme and name so we thought we would run a community competition.

Please scan this QR code to enter.



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ADVERTORIAL

Aged care that's personal at Carlingford House

A trusted name in caring for communities for more than 170 years, Anglicare is now bringing its experience in residential aged care to Carlingford.

With a strong track record in quality and care, Anglicare's arrival at Carlingford House is an exciting addition to the local community.

For residents and families, this means having an experienced provider close to home, with a commitment to knowing each person beyond their care needs and supporting them to continue living a life that feels like their own.

Anglicare has been putting person-centred care into practice for more than a decade. In 2012, it introduced the collection of life stories to help teams get to know each resident as an individual – their history, interests, relationships, routines and what gives their life meaning and purpose.

At the heart of this approach is a simple idea: aged care should support people to keep doing the things they enjoy, stay connected to the people who matter to them and maintain the routines that make them feel at home.

At Carlingford House, residents are encouraged to have a say in how they spend their days and what they would like to see happening in their home. By listening to their ideas and experiences, the team creates opportunities that reflect the residents who live there and the things that are important to them.

It means care can look different for everyone. For one resident, it might be spending time in the garden or enjoying a cup of tea with a friend. For another, it could be taking part in an activity, playing the baby grand piano or simply having someone take the time to sit and have a conversation.

Connection is an important part of life at Carlingford House. The home offers opportunities for residents to build friendships, stay connected with family and take part in activities and experiences that bring people together. From the Gardening Club and the popular Cooking Class to bus outings and sharing a meal together, there are many ways residents are connecting with others and enjoy community life.

For residents Patricia and Olwyn, moving to Carlingford House has also meant reconnecting with an old friendship. The two residents knew each other from the local community and are enjoying having the opportunity to spend time, and a lot of laughs, together again.



Anglicare recognises that wellbeing encompasses the body, mind and spirit. Chaplains are available to offer residents friendship, a listening ear, prayer and spiritual support for those who would like it.

When Anglicare delivers aged care that's personal to each and every resident, it's about more than just the care someone receives. It's about knowing who they are, what they enjoy and what makes a good day for them – and making space for more of those moments.

For more information on Anglicare's Carlingford House residential aged care home, please contact us on 1300 111 278 or visit the website anglicare.org.au/carlingford-house

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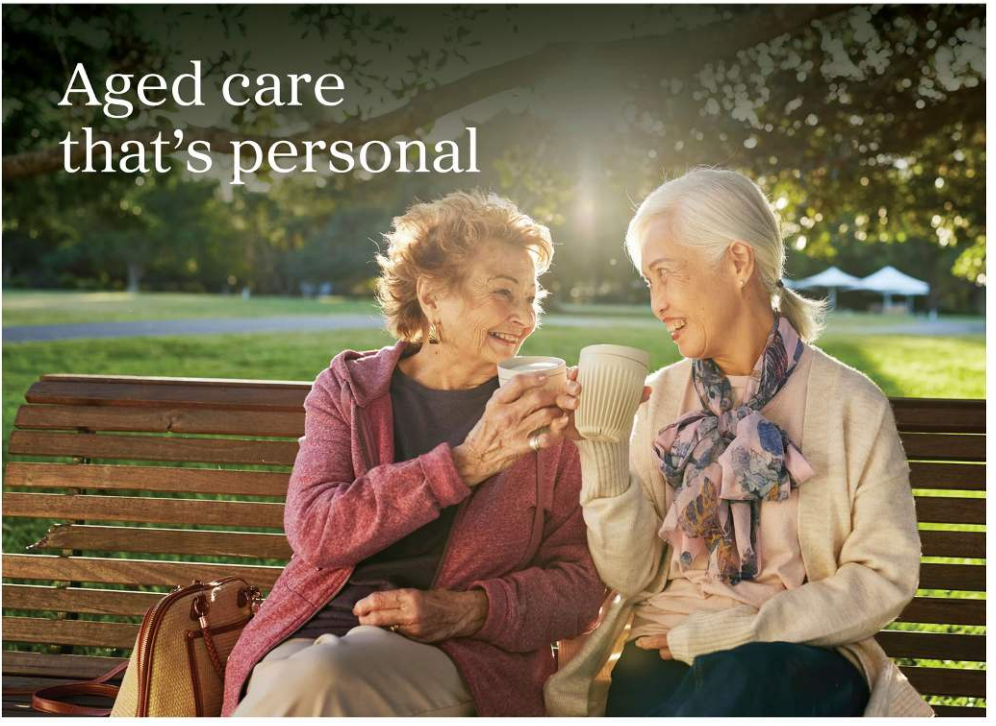
ANNUAL VIP CHRISTMAS SHOPPING NIGHT

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Carlingford House is growing more than herbs this spring.

The gardens at Anglicare's Carlingford House, residential aged care home, are coming to life this spring with the weekly Gardening Club bringing residents together to enjoy the outdoors and each other's company.

It's a chance to share stories and exchange gardening tips. For some, the club offers a way to reconnect with a favourite pastime, while for others, it's an opportunity to discover the simple pleasure of watching plants grow.

This spring, residents planted strawberries, thyme, and herbs that will be used in meals for the home. Barbara is a lifelong gardener and says there aren't many things she hasn't planted! "Don't worry about gloves", she says. "You have to get your hands dirty!". Pattie is new to gardening and enjoys being together with her new friends outdoors. It's not just the vege garden that is growing at Carlingford House, it's the friendships too.



"It is really nice around here, so many lovely plants."

– PATTIE

Carlingford House
Residential aged care
3 Dalmar Place, Carlingford
1300 111 278
anglicare.org.au/carlingford-house

Anglicare



NEWS FROM **NETHERBY**

A Day Of Delightful Discoveries

The Friends of Fagan Park hosted a most successful Vintage Spring Fair on Sunday, 4th October. Blessed with perfect weather, the fair attracted visitors both locally and from afar, eager to explore the unique Fagan family farm and its rich history.

Visitors had the opportunity to uncover hidden treasures at the Friends' collectibles market stall. The air was filled with the enticing aromas of sizzling sausages and onions, and an array of delicious refreshments, homemade jams and goodies that delighted the taste buds.



The fair was further enlivened by the participation of the Galston CWA, Persimmon Place, and the Dural and District Historical Society. Their contributions, along with other stall holders selling beautiful handmade children's clothing and denim articles, transformed the market into a vibrant and joyful hub.

One of the highlights of the day was the display and parade in the park of the Friends' restored heritage vehicles and working engines. "Puff" the Tragic Wagon, the Gorge vintage fire truck, along with their dedicated team of volunteers, engaged warmly with the community. The presence of several cars from the Riley Car Club added an extra touch of vintage charm to the event.

The Friends of Fagan Park extend their heartfelt gratitude to everyone who attended and contributed to the success of the open day. The fair was even graced with local "gals", Tracey and Amanda, dressed in vintage-inspired attire, adding to the nostalgic ambience of the event.

The Vintage Fair at Netherby proved to be a memorable event, celebrating community spirit, history, and the beauty of a perfect spring day.



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Karis Life Founder Receives Community Impact Award



Rejimon Punchayil, founder of Hornsby-based assistive technology provider Karis Life, was presented with a Community Impact Award by NSW Premier Chris Minns at Sydmal's 50th anniversary celebration in Sydney.

Presented before approximately 1,200 members, MP Dr. Hugh McDermott, Member for Prospect, MP Charishma Kaliyanda, Member for Liverpool, community leaders and invited guests, the award recognised Rejimon's contribution to the community and his commitment to improving the lives of older Australians and people living with disability.

Rejimon is a life member of Sydmal and has maintained a close association with the organisation and its community over many years. He has also been involved with Thanal, Sydmal's seniors' group, and believes that the way a community supports its older and more vulnerable members is an important measure of its strength and maturity.

Through Karis Life, Rejimon and his team help older Australians, veterans and people living with disability live with greater independence, dignity and mobility. The business provides assistive technology solutions ranging from everyday walking and daily-living aids to specialised beds, wheelchairs, mobility scooters and other complex equipment.

Karis Life works with individuals and families, occupational therapists, NDIS participants, aged-care providers, rehabilitation professionals and community organisations across Sydney and beyond.

Rejimon said receiving the award during Sydmal's historic golden-jubilee celebration made the recognition particularly meaningful.

https://karislife.com.au/

Christmas Gift Emporium

If you missed visiting Sandra's Ceramics Studio during this year's Arcadian Artists Trail, don't panic! Their Christmas Gift Emporium, stocked with unique, handmade, one-of-a-kind gifts will be open from 10 am - 1 pm on Saturdays the 21st & 28th of November, & the 5th of December, with additional viewing times available by appointment.

A member of the Arcadian Artists Trail for more than 29 years, Sandra's Ceramics Studio continues to offer an extensive range of high-quality, handcrafted decorative and functional ceramics for the home and garden, including vases, tableware, figurines and wall art.

There is something for everyone amongst their colourful & eclectic collection. Shop locally, purchase directly from the artists and acquire a distinctive gift to be treasured & enjoyed for years to come.

For further information, visit www.sandrasceramicsstudio.com.au or call 0409 992 881.





ADVERTORIAL

Alto brings XCMG machinery closer to home



Since 1956, the Alto Group has been part of Sydney's motoring community. Now, through Alto Construction Equipment, the group is bringing its experience to the machinery needs of local acreage owners, tradespeople, rural businesses and larger farms.

Based at Mount Kuring-Gai, Alto Construction Equipment has taken on XCMG, offering machinery for property improvements, landscaping, farm maintenance and larger earthmoving projects.

For General Manager Sam Coghlan, the connection to the district is personal. A Galston resident who lives on acreage, Sam understands the work involved in looking after a rural property, from maintaining access tracks and managing drainage to moving materials and improving the land.

Working alongside Sam are Branch Manager Al Garcia and Sales Manager Stuart Ferry, who bring more than 60 years of combined industry experience. Together, they help customers choose equipment suited to their property, business and workload.

Alto Construction Equipment offers an extensive XCMG range, from mini excavators and compact track loaders to larger excavators, wheel loaders, telehandlers, rollers, graders and articulated dump trucks. Whether maintaining acreage, working on the farm or delivering major civil and earthmoving projects, there is machinery to suit a wide range of jobs and operating needs.

For tradespeople and business owners, the team can help with mini excavator and trailer options for moving between jobs. Landscapers, plumbers and small earthmoving businesses can discuss a machine and transport combination suited to their work. For larger operators, the range extends to excavators of 5 tonnes and above for site preparation, civil works and more demanding earthmoving projects.

Just as important is having support close to home. Alto Construction Equipment provides machinery sales, parts and servicing, backed by the Alto Group.

Alto Construction Equipment also offers free machine delivery to customers in the local community, making it easier to get your equipment home and ready for work.

Visit the team at 26 Beaumont Road, Mount Kuring-Gai, to discuss your next project, or give Sam a call and he'll happily bring a machine to your property for a demonstration.

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Latest News

HORNSBY SHIRE COUNCIL

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



from the Mayor's Desk

November is shaping up to be an exciting month across the Shire, beginning with the return of Hornsby Spring Fest on 7 November. This free community celebration will transform Dural Lane into a vibrant festival precinct filled with live entertainment, market stalls, international food, family activities and much more.

As we enjoy these community events, Council continues to deliver important projects that will enhance our public spaces and support our growing communities. In Galston, works are progressing on the Galston Village Centre project to improve the village domain and create a more welcoming and accessible town centre. As part of these works, Galston Library has successfully relocated to a temporary premises across Galston Road, ensuring this valued community service remains available throughout construction.

In Hornsby Town Centre, road improvement works are progressing to enhance safety and accessibility for residents, businesses and visitors. At Westleigh Park, construction has commenced on the approved mountain bike trail network following the successful completion of site access tracks. The carefully designed trail network will provide high-quality recreational opportunities while protecting the park's significant environmental values.

Meanwhile, at Hornsby Park, works are progressing well on the new Old Mans Valley Field of Play, a major milestone in the transformation of this unique recreation destination. There is also more to come, with exciting plans for new shared pathways and lookouts that will further enhance opportunities for residents to enjoy the park and its spectacular surroundings. Look out for more news coming soon.

Warren Waddell
Mayor of Hornsby Shire

HORNSBY SPRING FEST

Saturday 7 November
3pm–9pm
Dural Lane Hornsby

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Repair

- **Bicycle repair workshop**
  Saturday 14 November, 9.30am-12.30pm
  Storey Park Community Centre, Hornsby
- **Repair Café – Electronic Sessions**
  Saturday 14 November, 10am-1pm
  Storey Park Community Centre, Hornsby
- **Stitch and fix: clothes mending workshop**
  Saturday 14 November, 10.30am-12.30pm
  Storey Park Community Centre, Hornsby
- **Sew What? Make & Mend**
  Thursday 19 November, 4pm-6pm
  Hornsby Library
- **Chipping for mulch**
  Sunday 22 November, 7.30am-12.30pm
  Council Depot, Galston
- **Common Threads: Make & Mend**
  Tuesday 24 November, 10.30am-12.30pm
  Hornsby Library

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



Second Hand Hornsby Market

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

Over 30 second-hand stalls

'YOUR SAY HORNSBY'

- **Bellevue Street, Thornleigh, Raised pedestrian crossing.** Submissions close: Friday 6 November
- **Wideview Road, Berowra Heights, Upgrade to existing children's crossing.** Submissions close: Friday 6 November
- **Waratah Road, Berowra. Road improvements.** Submissions close: Friday 20 November
- **Proposed Road Dedication at Hall Estate, Dural.** Submissions close: Sunday 29 November

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



Explore Your Backyard

Join a free guided bushwalk and discover Hornsby's hidden natural gems.
hornsby.nsw.gov.au/bushwalks

Next Council meeting Wednesday 11 November, 6.30pm

hornsby.nsw.gov.au

ADVERTORIAL

Aussie Gets Ready for Fire Season


The smiles say it all... Aussie Team after the infield testing

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."

Aussie Pumps recently took its high-performing fire pump trio — **Fire Chief, Imposter and Mr. T** into the field for a hands-on testing day, putting the machines through their paces and seeing what they could deliver in real-world conditions.

The field day provided a valuable opportunity to see the three pumps in action, assess their performance and prepare the complete production range for the demands of the coming fire season. Each pump had its moment to shine, demonstrating the capabilities that have made Aussie Pumps the trusted name in fire protection equipment. Our pumps are the only ones backed by unique 5-year warranty.

For Aussie Pumps, preparation is about more than simply getting products off the production line. It means ensuring the equipment is ready to perform when it matters most. The Fire Chief (75m head/450lpm), Imposter (90m head/350lpm) and Mr. T Twin (95m head/500lpm) all bring their own strengths to the range.

Aussie field day reflected the philosophy that has guided the company since the beginning: **"We design and build machines as if we're going to use them ourselves."**

For more details contact Aussie Pumps today at 02 8865 3500 or your local Aussie dealer.

Castle Hill Art Society

Art Demonstration - 4th November, 2026
Christine Webb - "Discussion and Photo Presentation"



Christine is a contemporary figurative artist who is interested in the play of colour, light passages and perspective. Her vibrant paintings are expertly composed and direct the viewer's eye to multiple points of interest. Christine splits her time each year between painting in Australia and then is off to Italy to capture the golden light of the Mediterranean.

Visitors are welcome to join with the Castle Hill Art Society 7.00pm at Castle Glen Community Centre, 157 Ridgecrop Drive, Castle Hill.

Enquiries 9899 3179 www.castlehillartsociety.org.au





There are properties that impress, and then there are properties that define an era. The Palladio in Arcadia belongs firmly to the latter. Conceived in the 1990s by an antique dealer with a collector's eye and a landscape architect with a painter's imagination, the estate stands as one of Australia's most evocative homages to Palladian architecture and classical European garden design. Its twin lily ponds, colonnades, sculptural gardens and sweeping parkland have long captured the attention of editors, stylists and producers alike.



Over the years, Palladio has quietly become a cultural landmark. It has appeared in *Burke's Backyard, House & Garden*, Vogue-featured weddings and a string of major television productions including *MAFS, The Bachelor, The Bachelorette and The Masked Singer*. Its cinematic presence is unmistakable: a manor house revealed at the end of a grand tree-lined driveway, Boston ivy climbing its terraces, light shimmering across Monet-inspired lakes.

Now with the property on the market and as the owners prepare for their next chapter in France, The Palladio is offering a chance to acquire pieces from the estate itself. A limited number of pieces, each tied to the property's history, will be available alongside a warehouse clearance of brand-new furniture and accessories from Sydney Design Agency, the owners' interior design business now closing as part of their transition to Europe. All Being offered at 30% less than wholesale, with everything needing to be sold prior to the sale.



THE
PALLADIO ESTATE
AND SYDNEY DESIGN AGENCY SALE

A UNIQUE ONE DAY OPPORTUNITY

Saturday November 14 | 10am until 4pm

The Palladio is one of Arcadia's most recognisable properties, celebrated for its Palladian architecture, classical gardens, and appearances across Australian media—from *The Masked Singer* and *The Bachelor*.

Now, with the property on the market and being prepared for its next chapter, the gates will be opened for an exclusive one-day sale. A limited number of unique pieces from the original collection combined with a Warehouse clearance of brand-new furniture and accessories sourced from the owners' Sydney design agency business all being sold at 30% less than wholesale.





Call 0410 315 940 for queries pre-event
25 Nollands Rd Arcadia

PAID ADVERTORIAL

Why the right agent matters more in a changing market

The property market is evolving, with buyers taking more time and some properties spending longer on the market. Achieving the best result requires a considered approach.

While changing conditions can create uncertainty, the right advice and guidance help vendors navigate the market and make confident, informed decisions.

Every market rewards expertise differently

In exceptionally strong markets, homes can sell quickly regardless of strategy. But in more balanced conditions, experience becomes a genuine point of difference.

Careful pricing, targeted marketing and an understanding of local buyer demand are essential to attracting interest. An experienced agent provides clarity and confidence, helping vendors make informed decisions around pricing, marketing and negotiations.

By responding to buyer feedback and adapting the sales strategy throughout the campaign, they can maximise opportunities and work towards achieving the strongest possible result.

Confidence comes from local knowledge

While national headlines provide a broad market picture, property performance is driven by local conditions. Neighbouring suburbs can vary significantly, and buyer preferences and demand can shift quickly.

An experienced local agent understands these changes through daily buyer interactions, emerging trends and enquiry levels. This insight helps position your property effectively and ensures advice reflects current market conditions, not just past results.

Strategy creates opportunity

Selling a home requires more than professional photography and an online listing. A successful campaign needs a considered strategy designed to maximise exposure, attract buyer competition and achieve the best possible result.

From preparing your property and choosing the right sales method to managing buyers and negotiating offers, every stage matters. Experienced agents also know when to adapt, using buyer feedback and market conditions to refine the campaign and maximise opportunities.

Trust is built through communication

Selling a home is one of life's biggest financial decisions, making confidence in the process essential.

The right agent communicates openly, provides honest feedback and explains market activity and recommendations clearly. This transparency helps vendors make informed decisions with confidence and less uncertainty throughout the campaign.

More than an agent, a trusted partner

Choosing the right agent means finding someone who understands your goals, tailors a strategy to your needs and is backed by a trusted brand.

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DURAL AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

News *from* History Cottage



The Society held its Annual General Meeting on Saturday the 10th October. These are always happy, well attended afternoons, with formalities reduced to a minimum; a financial report from the treasurer, one for thought on the Society's place in the community from the president; then a quick election of nine enthusiastic committee members. The highlight of the day is the Show and Tell from the assembled members and friends, who tell why they value an item from among their possessions.

This year eleven eager members entertained with the story of their treasure; including the life of a clock that had never worked but had moved from house to house on its own section of mantelpiece! How the Derwent pencil came to Australia; of beautiful hand made mother of pearl buttons and thread reels and a poignant reminder of the result of the horrors of the First World War. The display table provided a closer look over afternoon tea.

The last meeting of the year, on **Saturday the 14th November**, will have David Jehan tell **The Journey of Clyde Engineering-100 Years of Manufacturing 1891-1998**. David spoke to the Society in 2024 and members have asked to hear more of the history of Clyde and the Hudsons from a most interesting and entertaining speaker. As usual the meeting will be held in the Galston Uniting Church starting at 2.00pm.

The History Cottage **open fourth Sunday will be on the 25th October** between 1.00 pm and 4.00 pm. Members are on hand to help visitors understand how the research archives can help with family and local history study.

Meetings are held in the Galston Uniting Church, School Road, Galston starting at 2.00pm. All are welcome. Entry is free. A gold coin for afternoon tea. Enquiries to Michael Bell 02 9653 1365.

The freshly elected Management Committee. Unfortunately Colin Burgess was away. (photo Judy Budden).

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GALSTON LIBRARY

Galston Library has moved and we look forward to welcoming you to the new space! For ease of access during the Galston Village Public Domain Upgrade, Galston Library has temporarily relocated to Shop 1, 358-360 Galston Road in the Galston Village Shopping Precinct. Our opening hours remain the same. For more information, visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library or call Galston Library on 02 9847 6160.

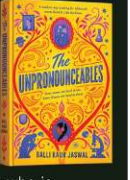
ADULT FICTION
THE CHANGELING BY KATE FORSYTH



On her 14th birthday, Caiti discovers her true mother is the queen of the Sidhe, the faery folk who dwell beneath Scotland's hills. Bound by ancient grievance, the faery queen demands Caiti become the instrument of her revenge against the mortal crown stolen a thousand years before. Caiti flees and finds refuge at the treacherous court of Mary, Queen of Scots. As fear and religious fervour grip the country, Mary is pressured into passing an Anti-Witchcraft Act, placing every woman in peril.

Inspired by the true story of Scotland's first witch-hunt, *The Changeling* is a spellbinding tale of witchcraft, forbidden love and defying fate.

YOUNG ADULT FICTION
THE UNPRONOUNCEABLES BY BALLI KAUR JASWAL



Navkiranjhot's loving parents believe she must move to a select-entry high school to secure a bright future, but in secret Navy's nurturing a passion for art history that changes the way she sees herself. Set adrift after a misunderstanding with her besties, Navy struggles to balance her parents' expectations with her own dreams and must decide what she truly wants. Then there is Rishal, who is mentoring Navy for the entry exam. But he's just a friend, right?

The Unpronounceables is a glorious celebration of Indian-Australian culture, full of humour, friendships, family, and a touch of romance.

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 Councilor

HORNSBY SHIRE COUNCIL

Hello Residents,

Galston Village Public Domain plan

After such a successful start, it was disappointing that Transport NSW has tried to introduce changes to their previously approved scope of works for Galston Village. The Council team are working with State Transport representatives to ensure no further delays are encountered and that Mack Civil are able to continue in delivering this long-awaited project.

In the meantime, the library has been temporarily re-located to the Cali centre in the middle of the village. This is a highly accessible and more functional location.

Council's recent arrangement to manage directly the toilets in the Aldi complex will also help improve accessibility to public amenities.

Glenorie connectivity

Feasibility funding has been awarded for the investigation into an active transport corridor from Glenorie to Dural. This comes as we also wind up the final exhibition of the Glenorie Village Plan. I thank the community for their participation in every step of the planning process.

I look forward to seeing plans for the Cairns Rd Pocket Park progress. This park, accessed from Cairns Rd and Tecoma, is the next in line for an upgrade.

Connect Sydney

It has come to my attention that much of the maintenance of our State Rd infrastructure is to be carried out by an agency known as Connect Sydney. Maintenance is less likely to be scheduled now but instead, reactive based on the level of contact they have received.

So, I encourage everyone in the community that observes a pot hole, edge fatigue, overgrown roundabouts and medium strips, graffiti etc to use the contact details provided below. Remember that this applies to the length of Galston Rd, Mid Dural Rd and Old Northern Rd. Please report the any concerns using Ph 1800 735 563 or info.harbour@connectsydney.com.au

For these or any other issues please feel free to contact me on jseaglove@hornsby.nsw.gov.au

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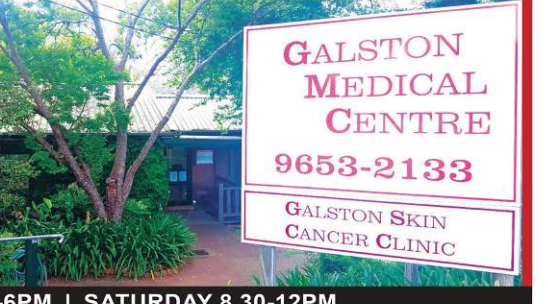
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From the desk of
James Wallace
MEMBER FOR HORNSBY

Keeping our retirement villages connected to transport



Local Retirement Village residents were concerned about the lack of transport connectivity for retirement villages in the area when James Wallace MP spoke at a recent Residents' Meeting

I recently visited a local retirement village and had the chance to speak at their Residents' Meeting. A key topic of discussion was the lack of public transport access to Cherrybrook Metro and parking which favours long-term commuter parking over shorter-stay spots. Staying socially and physically active as we age is a key factor of healthy ageing and is something our community members deserve access to.

Residents at the meeting said the lack of short-term parking near transport hubs like Cherrybrook Metro is an issue which makes taking advantage of the Metro's quick trip into the City a real challenge. All the parking is dedicated to long term commuter parking and is full up very early in the day. One resident described how she needed to drive to Castle Towers to make use of the free short-term parking so she could get to the Metro for a trip into the city.

Distance and lack of frequency of bus stops and services from many retirement villages was another concern. Costly carpooling, taxis or simply missing out on social activities were the only options available to those residents without a car or license. As I spoke about with residents, I am interested in exploring new options to open up space for additional parking and increasing short-term parking spots for those wanting to do a short day trip into the City or elsewhere outside of peak commuter hours.

Reinstating the express bus services to the city is another improvement that would make a material difference to the lives of our elderly. I hope to visit more retirement villages over the coming months and help make life easier for those who have contributed so much to our society throughout their lifetimes.



Julian Leeser
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR BEROWRA
LIBERAL

Dural Men's Shed helping young people build their futures

I recently visited Dural Men's Shed to see firsthand an inspiring mentoring program helping students from Galston High School develop practical skills and prepare for careers in the trades.

Over the past three years, dedicated volunteers have worked with around 100 students, giving them hands-on experience in woodworking, metalworking, mechanics and electronics, while teaching important workplace skills including teamwork, problem-solving, responsibility and resilience.

What impressed me most was hearing that every student from last year's group has gone on to secure an apprenticeship.

I enjoyed speaking with the students about their career ambitions, including Brydon, who hopes to follow his father into concreting. The boys clearly value the opportunity to learn from experienced mentors and explore different trades outside the traditional classroom.

With local businesses struggling to find skilled apprentices, programs like this demonstrate the enormous value of connecting schools, volunteers and industry.

A special thank you to Chris Thomas and the wonderful volunteers at Dural Men's Shed who generously give their time and expertise to help the next generation succeed.

This is a fantastic example of our community working together to create real opportunities for young people.



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Dural Bowling Club



Recent Results and Match Update

Open Nominated Pairs Final: Congratulations to **Stuart Yeend** and **Phil Laing** for winning the **2026 Open Nominated Pairs Final**, defeating Graeme Giles and Robert Whiddon with a final score of **22-12**.

NSW Rookie Pairs Qualifiers Saturday 26th September: Kate Liu and **Tony Simnor** represented Dural brilliantly at the **2026 Bowls NSW Rookie Pairs - Metro North-West Qualifiers** at Toongabbie Sports and Bowling Club. They went undefeated through all three of their matches to secure a spot in the semi-finals.



Kate Liu and Tony Simnor were back at Toongabbie Sports and Bowling Club on Sunday 27th September. In rainy conditions, the Dural pairing faced off against the Hills duo in the semi-final of the Metro North-West Rookie Pairs Qualifiers. Unfortunately, they could not maintain their winning streak and lost to the Hills pair. Congratulations to Kate and Tony.

Dural Bocce Club



September was another jam packed month for members of Dural Bocce Club.

An action filled Sunday half way through the month saw 42 members arrive at the courts early in the morning eager to see who their name had been drawn out of the hat with to form teams for the annual Triples Championship. A random draw of names to form teams can result in some interesting combinations and the draw on the day didn't disappoint in this regard. So, 14 teams took to the courts and gave of their best right to the final bowl. At the end of a long day this year's Triples Champions were crowned – congratulations to Ferdinando, Luciano and Tony; with Anna, Leo and Luigi coming a close second.

Many thanks to the club committee who officiated on the day, as without their work such events would not occur.

September was another total point score month. In this format each player's scores over a four-week period are accumulated. Tuesday morning winners and runners up were Anna, Tony and Peter. Our Friday recipients were Peter (doubling up from the Tuesday games), Oreste and Vince tied for second with Joe in third.

Bocce is an indoor sport so we are able to play rain, hail or shine. So, if you would like to give bocce a try, visit us on either Tuesday morning or Friday evening at The Dural Club.

For more information contact the club at duralbocceclub@gmail.com



Triples Carnival: The club successfully hosted its **2nd Parramatta League & Dural Club Sponsored Triples Carnival** on Monday 28th September. The event reached a **full complement of 28 teams**, representing **26 different clubs** from as far as Brisbane, the Central Coast, Corrimal, Waverley, Mosman, Glenbrook, and Penrith. Despite overcast weather and slow greens due to prior rain, the day wrapped up with great banter, a nice lunch, a presentation, and a raffle.

The **winning team** hailed from **Glenbrook**.

Upcoming Events

The next carnival sponsored by Living Choice is scheduled for **Monday, 26th October**. The Ladies Major Singles has reached the semi final stages and the Men's Major Singles is scheduled to start on the 24th October.

Anyone that is interested in playing Lawn Bowls, Free lessons by qualified coaches are available Phone: Rob Whiddon 0411 375 580.

The Hills Hawks Football Club AGM is coming up on Wednesday 18th November 2026 at Glenorie RSL, starting at 7:30pm.

One of the key items on the agenda is electing our new committee.

In the lead-up to the AGM, we're working to ensure all 18 committee positions will be filled for next season so the workload continues to be shared across the team.

We're always keen to welcome new people who'd like to help keep the club running smoothly while contributing to their community and enjoy being part of a dynamic team.

Thinking about joining the committe? Please reach out to Hills Hawks for a chat: https://hillshawksfc.com/ and 0487 601 925.

HILLS HAWKS FOOTBALL CLUB

AGM

All Members are invited to attend the Hills Hawks Football Club 2026 Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, 18th November
7:30pm
Glenorie RSL

Galston Early Learning Centre welcomed Arcadia Public School Band

We were delighted to welcome the Arcadia Public School Band to Galston Early Learning Centre for a special musical performance! The children enjoyed listening to a wonderful variety of songs and individual performances featuring flutes, clarinets, saxophones, trumpets, guitars and drums.



The visit was especially meaningful as we recognised familiar faces among the performers, including children and families who have been part of our GELC community. It was a beautiful reminder of our philosophy and the metaphor of "birds flying from the nest and returning when migrating", representing how we support children to grow, transition to school and spread their wings, while maintaining connections with the community where their journey began.

Building strong partnerships with our local schools is an important part of supporting children as they prepare for the transition to school. Opportunities to connect with local school communities help children develop a sense of familiarity, belonging and confidence as they approach this exciting new chapter. By fostering partnerships with schools such as Arcadia Public School, we strengthen the connections between early childhood education and school, celebrate children's learning journeys and help create a positive, connected transition for children and their families.

Thank you to Arcadia Public School and the band members for sharing their love of music with our children. We look forward to creating more opportunities to connect, learn and celebrate our wonderful local community together!

ELC Celebrates First Birthday

PACIFIC HILLS EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

The Pacific Hills Early Learning Centre (ELC) recently celebrated its first birthday, marking a significant milestone and celebrating the strong, vibrant community that has flourished since its opening.

Families came together to share in the festivities, enjoying a wonderful day that reflected the warmth, connection, and sense of community that have become hallmarks of the ELC. It was a joy to see both children and parents embracing the celebrations and creating special memories together.

What an incredible first year it has been! Since opening its doors, the ELC has grown into a thriving community where children are encouraged to explore, discover, and flourish in a nurturing environment. As a ministry of the Pacific Group of Christian Schools, the ELC is committed to laying strong foundations for lifelong learning through Christian values, quality care, and play-based educational experiences. We are thankful for the support of our families and proud of all that has been achieved together. As we celebrate this milestone, we look forward with excitement to many more years of growth and community in The Hills.

Dural Public School Students Win Pitch for Purpose Environmental Challenge

A team from Dural Public School took out third place in Rotary's Pitch for Purpose Innovation Challenge's primary section.



Pitch for Purpose facilitator MC Jeremy Carter and judge Melanie Lewis with Dural Public School students

Held at Western Sydney University on Saturday, the challenge asked young people to identify an environmental problem that matters to them and develop and pitch a practical solution.

Guhan Rajkumar, Lucas Zhao, Gao Kim, Daniel Son and James Caio made up team Impecca. They presented a plan to reduce plastic pollution with the Impecca Bottle - a paper-based personal drink bottle system to reduce our reliance on single-use plastic.

The Pitch For Purpose program is aimed at developing confidence, critical thinking and communication as it is about finding the winning idea.

Rotary facilitators from backgrounds including engineering, education, architecture, law, public speaking and storytelling worked alongside teachers during the heats, helping the students delevop, critique and expand their ideas.

The program challenges students' thinking and helps them turn an idea into something they can actually stand up and defend.

"It's amazing to see what young people come up with when they're given a real-world problem, some guidance and, importantly, an opportunity to be heard," said Pitch For Purpose convenor Niranjan Deodhar.

The judges were science specialists and critically examined each project, discussing them with the students and making suggestions.

More than 250 people gathered for the finals.

One of the attending teachers said, "What I love most about Pitch for Purpose is the concept itself. It gives students the opportunity to think creatively, identify real-world problems, develop solutions and then have the confidence to pitch their ideas. It brings together creativity, entrepreneurship, collaboration, communication and community in such a meaningful way."



Middle Dural Public School Celebrates Success of Extended Kindergarten Transition Program

This year at Middle Dural Public School we have offered an extended kindergarten transition program which has allowed for lots of fun play sessions for our 2027 cohort of new kindergarteners. Over the past weeks, our young learners and their families have embraced the opportunity to become familiar with school life in a warm and welcoming environment. The enthusiastic response from our community has been very rewarding, highlighting the strong partnership between our school and our local families.

Throughout the program, there has been great fun and laughter both in the classroom and on the playground. Our little learners have enjoyed engaging activities designed to support them in getting to know our staff, meeting their new friends, and building their familiarity with our beautiful school. From story time to hands-on projects, and active play to cooperative games, each day has brought joyful experiences that help build confidence and friendships.





We are especially excited to announce that our extended transition program will culminate in a very special play session with our good friends at Dooral Early Learning Centre. This special day of fun and games will be a celebration of the great things that our children can look forward to as they step into 'big school'. We always value our collaboration with Dooral Early Learning Centre and look forward to a morning of activities and games together.

Exciting news for our campus as well! Works are beginning this week for a new upgrade to our toilet blocks, ensuring improved facilities for all students. Additionally, we are looking forward to a fresh and inviting facelift for our ever-popular sandpit, with renovations set to be completed by the end of this term. We are eager to see the finished results in coming weeks.

There is still time to join our play sessions, please contact Middle Dural Public School if you would like to ask us more. We have also welcomed older children into our play sessions as an introduction for students in other year groups to see our school in action. Together, let's make the start to school a truly special time!



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Every Learner Matters at Arcadia Public School

Arcadia PUBLIC School
Be Outstanding, Be Inspired



At Arcadia Public School, we believe every student deserves the opportunity to thrive. With our largest class having just 20 students, our small class sizes allow teachers to know their students as individuals, recognise their strengths and respond to their learning needs.

Our approach is informed by regular assessment and careful monitoring of student progress. Using Department of Education and other standardised assessments in English and mathematics, we identify students who would benefit from additional support or extension.

For students requiring extra assistance, targeted small-group interventions address specific gaps in learning. Programs such as MacqLit provide explicit instruction in essential reading skills, while our literacy groups currently focus on developing students' writing skills. Regular assessments help us evaluate progress and plan the next steps in learning.



Importantly, our groups are flexible. As students develop new skills and demonstrate progress, their learning needs are reassessed and groupings adjusted. Students are not defined by a particular group, but supported according to their changing needs.

Our extension groups provide opportunities for students to deepen their understanding and tackle new challenges. In English, students explore sophisticated novels, investigating vocabulary, symbolism, inference and character motivations. In mathematics, students develop reasoning and problem-solving skills, with opportunities to participate in the APSMO Maths Olympiad and Maths Games.

The benefits extend beyond those participating in these groups. With fewer students remaining in classrooms during small-group sessions, teachers have even greater opportunities to provide individualised instruction.

At Arcadia Public School, being small is one of our greatest strengths. We currently have places available across all year groups and warmly invite interested families to contact our school office to arrange a personalised tour.

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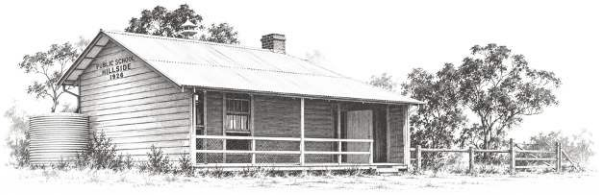
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100 Years of Hillside. Big Things Are Happening!



1926–2026. What a milestone! As Hillside Public School celebrates 100 years, we're looking back on a century of learning, friendships, achievements and community spirit.

We've been collecting wonderful memories from former students, teachers and families, each sharing a piece of Hillside's history. And while plenty has changed over the years, one thing remains the same – **Hillside is a place where big things happen!**

Term 4 is shaping up to be an exciting one at Hillside! With plenty of opportunities to participate, perform, compete, lead and grow, our students are busy preparing a special performance for the centenary celebrations. We're also looking forward to the school's new Coffee & Chat mornings, bringing families together, while the P&C is proud to have funded a new defibrillator to help keep our school community safe.

Scan for event details

We'd love you to join us on 30th October at Hillside Public School, 122 Cattai Ridge Road Glenorie, as we celebrate 100 years of Hillside and the wonderful community that makes it so special.

Enrolling Now – Kindergarten to Year 6 - out-of-area applications are welcome!

With our 2027 Kindergarten intake growing and new families joining our community, there's never been a better time to discover Hillside Public School!

Looking for a school that feels like family? At Hillside, students enjoy personalised learning, supportive teachers, wonderful friendships and plenty of opportunities to learn, lead, participate and shine.

Come and see what makes Hillside special! Visit our website to explore what's happening or book a school tour to experience the Hillside difference for yourself.





Galston District Garden Club

The Galston Garden Club meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month BUT THE NOVEMBER MEETING WILL BE THE 1ST WEEK and our last meeting until February 10th, 2027.

Our speaker for November will be Dr.David Fisher and the subject "Regeneration". Come and be a visitor for the last meeting for the year.





With a little help from AI, my husband and I decided to redesign the front garden of our home in Galston. Wanting something attractive, colourful and relatively easy to maintain. What we didn't have was a professional landscape designer. Instead, we turned to an unexpected source of inspiration.

Armed with photographs, garden measurements and a few ideas, I began discussing our plans with ChatGPT. It considered everything from the garden's shape and aspect to the strong afternoon sun, soil conditions and our personal preferences.

The process was remarkably interactive. Our original feature tree was going to be a magnolia, but eventually chose a beautiful weeping cherry, complemented by selected plants including Carissa, Little Cons, Nandina 'Obsession', Gaura, Dianella 'Cassa Blue' and the striking blue flowering Salvia 'Mystic Spires Blue'. Nothing was set in stone. We could ask questions, reconsider decisions and explore alternatives without feeling rushed.

ChatGPT didn't simply suggest attractive plants. It guided us through soil preparation, planting techniques, tree staking, irrigation and watering requirements. It was rather like having a knowledgeable gardening adviser available whenever we needed one.

The entire experience was enjoyable, educational and surprisingly personal. Most importantly, it gave us the confidence to tackle the project that might otherwise have required considerable professional assistance.

Today we are delighted with our new garden and look forward to watching it mature.

For further information regarding the Galston Garden Club go to our website: galstongardenclub.com.au or email: galstongardenclub@gmail.com





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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.

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News from St Benedicts



We love having kids at Mass

A beautiful message was included in our parish news in early October. It pointed out how welcome young children, even babies, are at Mass at St Benedicts. Whether noisy, restless, late, needing feeding or crying, we acknowledge that children are reminders that the church and our parish are alive and growing and want them all with us. All are welcome and every child is loved.

Parish happenings

There's a lot coming up, or returning, to the parish.

- The Youth Group, Maker's Table, quilting and craft group were all back in action after the school holidays.
- The Confirmation Service will be celebrated on **29th November**. The program will continue with Reconciliation and Holy Communion next year in 2027.
- Our 29th Our Lady of Fatima Feast Day was enjoyed by many on 11th October who took part in the procession, the re-enactment play, a special Mass and a delicious morning tea.
- The More the **Merrier Kids Markets** will be back at St Benedicts on Saturday **21st November**. All stall holders will be under 18. We want to encourage these young entrepreneurs so let's give them full support. All welcome.

Piety Shop

And thanks to Lila and her wonderful team of helpers, the Piety Shop is open every weekend selling a selection of beautiful goods. We can't wait to see what's in store for decorating our homes with pieces that remind us of the true meaning of Christmas. Picture shows Luke and Rachel from Glenorie who are regular helpers in running the shop. Thanks to all.

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.

Galston Uniting Church News



Kuca Fridays

KUCA *(Kids of the Uniting Church in Australia)* is an activity of Galston Uniting Church for kids in Grades K-6. It's held at Galston Uniting Church Fridays 5:00-6:30pm and costs $5 per child.

The KUCA Program for Term 4 is now available and is as follows:

- 16th October - Games
- 23rd October - Frisbee Golf
- 30th October - Beach Party
- 6th November - Spinning Games
- 13th November - Wet and Messy
- 20th November - Ella's Games
- 27th November - Slip and Slide at Susan's.

(Contact Church Office for details)

It's good to be an observer of activities at KUCAs on a Friday evening. Kids start to arrive at around 5 pm and, after signing-in are straight into some of the evening activities which are either craft or games of some sort that fit into the theme of the evening. After about 30 minutes, the children file into the church for a short devotional of discussion and songs led by the minister, Rev Akosita Tangi or Mrs Jill Udy. Then its back to the main activities for the night.

Meanwhile, out in the kitchen, some parents and church volunteers are furiously beavering away preparing dinner. If this is serious business, you wouldn't know it from the amount of banter and laughter issuing from inside. Mrs Jeanette Black often takes a leadership role in proceedings and is assisted by chief-washer-upper, yours truly.

Mrs Susan Vriens is our KUCA leader. Susan develops the program and runs proceedings. She is ably assisted by Jill and Paul Udy who are both retired school teachers. All have a genuine love and concern for the welfare of children and for their spiritual development. An indication of the place that KUCAs have in children's lives is that, once they reach high school, many return to become teenage KUCA leaders and role models for the younger children. They take an active role in the activities of the evening and once a month form their own fellowship group for an outing such as ten-pin bowling or rock climbing.



Parents frequently drop their children and stay for a chat or become involved with activities. They are always welcome.

New members are always welcome at any time. Simply come along with a parent or ring the church office for more details.

Save the Dates

* Craft Service - 29th November 10am - with displays of quilts and handicraft.
* Christmas Services - Christmas Eve, 24th December 7pm. Christmas Day, 25th December 8am.

Church services continue in church at 10am on Sundays. You will also find us on Facebook where you can find live-streams of our service and other information about all our events *(don't forget to like us)*.

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

What is Truth?

When Jesus was being questioned by Pontius Pilate at His trial, he asked Jesus a cynical question, "What is truth?" (John 18:38). Immediately, Pilate turned away and went out. The philosophies of his day led him to question the existence of truth. Sometimes the greatest obstacle to truth is not a lack of information but our attachment to what we already believe.

The Bible, called God's word, is not a collection of human philosophies. Although written by men, it's inspired by God" (2 Timothy 3:16). Throughout history God has spoken through His "prophets since the world began" (Acts 3:20-21). These devout men were inspired by the Holy Spirit to speak the truth (2 Peter 1:20-21).

While God spoke in the past by His prophets, in these last days "He has spoken to us by His Son" Jesus Christ (Hebrews 1:1-2). He came to "bear witness to the truth" (John 18:37) and to point us to the truth. God's "word is truth" (John 17:17). If only Pilate had listened.

When our eyes are open to truth, God's word becomes a "lamp to our feet and a light to our path" (Psalm 119:105). Your life doesn't have to be dark. Have faith in God! His word will give you "comfort and hope" (Romans 15:4). Thus, when you experience Jesus personally for yourself, He will be for you the "way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6).

Please continue to pray for one another and for our community so that many might find hope.

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

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

Embrace Eternity!

"God has also planted eternity, a sense of divine purpose, in the human heart- a mysterious longing which nothing under the sun can satisfy, except God." (Bible: Ecclesiastes 3:11).



Have you ever seen images or read articles about an Aussie man named Arthur Stace (1885-1967) who became known as "Mr Eternity"?

He has become quite a legend in Sydney's history, through his inspiring message of inscribing the word "Eternity" in copperplate writing with yellow chalk on footpaths, doorsteps, railway station entrances and anywhere else he could think of - for 35 years!!!!

Arthur was brought up in poverty, survived by living on the streets, became a Ward of the State at 12, became an alcoholic , was in and out of gaol from the age of 15 and became an AIF soldier during WW1.

Discharged after being left half blind during a gas attack, Stace was desperate and found himself in St Barnabas Church Broadway, in search of free food!! There he heard an inspirational sermon by Rev. Hammond and later, through the preaching of evangelist John Ridley, the understanding of an eternal God led him to become a Christian. In an interview, Stace said, "Eternity went ringing through my brain & suddenly I began crying & felt a powerful call from the Lord to write Eternity." Even though he was illiterate & could hardly write his own name legibly, "the word 'Eternity' came out smoothly in a beautiful copperplate script. I couldn't understand it & still can't,"he said.

The notion of God placing eternity in the hearts of every person goes way beyond all our earthly experiences, revealing that true fulfilment is only found in a relationship with God. - The Bible perfectly expresses it in John 17:3- Now this is eternal life, that they know You and Jesus Christ whom You have sent."

God bless.

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Glenorie Mission Church

(a continuation of the message by Rev Ed. Long)

His Convicting Work.

The Holy Spirit comes to the person concerned and says, 'You are a sinner in the sight of God and you need a Saviour. You need Jesus Christ'. But he not only speaks about sin, He always points to Jesus Christ who can save us from that sin and its consequences.

Here is a remarkable principle: When we accept what He has said, then the Holy Spirit goes on with His Divine Work. In fact, until we do accept what He has said, He cannot go on. The principle remains the same all through our Christian life. He may reveal to us as a Christian a particular truth, which has an application to our lifestyle. The Spirit says to us, 'Will you accept the truth?' Until we say 'yes' He cannot go on with His work of applying Christ to our lives.

So, the first words we hear from the Holy Spirit are spoken as he comes to us convincing us of our sin and the need of a Saviour.

What kind of a reception is He given?

When the Holy Spirit knocks at our heart's door, He often receives all kinds of excuses, just as you might if you were looking for a place to stay.

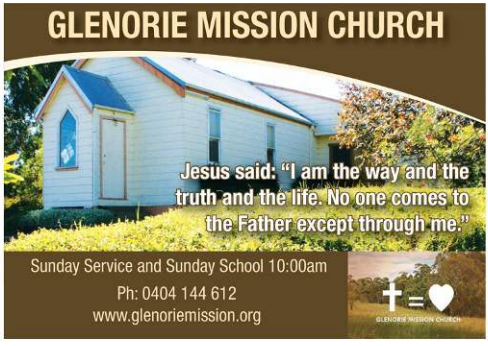
Some places you visit are full already and have no vacancy. At other places the people are too busy to talk to you. 'Come back some other time' they say. Or in other places you find that there are certain conditions which would prevent you from staying there.

So it is with the Holy Spirit. He finds many hearts already full and He discovers that they have no room at all for Jesus Christ. He goes to another heart and says, 'Have you any room for Jesus?' They say, 'We are too busy just now. Come back some other time'. And so the excuses go on.

But here and there, now and again, a person says 'Yes, I know I am a sinner. I know I need Jesus Christ'. He is what I need to save me. I take Him now. I invite Him into my life.' The door is opened; Jesus Christ comes in and that person is born again.

Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.
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1409 Old Northern Rd, Glenorie.







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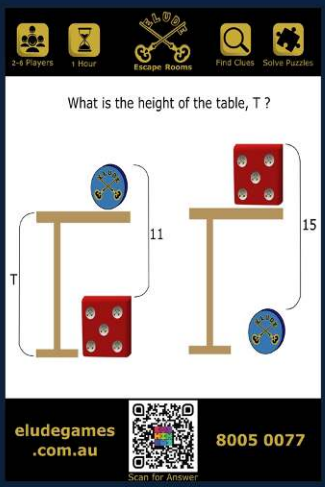
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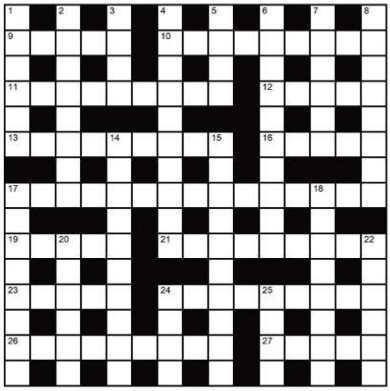
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Crossword PUZZLE



ACROSS

09 Peers (5)
10 It's normal to be hammered - priests don't like it (6,3)
11 Paroo River feature internationally important as a wetland (5,4)
12 Sound (5)
13 Interplanetary transport (9)
16 Coward (5)
17 Darwin garden sight (11,4)
19 Diving kit (1,1,1,1,1)
21 Cease operations (5,4)
23 It's nicknamed the "Capital of Latin America" (5)
24 Type of pea (5-4)
26 Recall past experiences (9)
27 Not concealed (5)

DOWN

01 Skiers' challenges (6)
02 In all honesty (2,2,4)
03 Barbecue cooler (4)
04 Barbecue cooler (4)
05 Superficially, it's all bark and no bite (4)
06 Champion surfer/shaper, father of Noa (5,5)
07 Allocate (6)
08 Place for waiting (8)
14 Side views on blueprints (10)
15 Illustrious people (10)
17 Fine, soft goat's wool (8)
18 Assistants (8)
20 Say! Rum manoeuvres for some soldiers (1,1,4)
22 Natural state? (6)
24 One burned but was not consumed (4)
25 Board flaw (4)

ANSWERS FROM OCTOBER ISSUE



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

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Sudoku

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

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

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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 SALLY ELVIDGE	0424 428 178
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.

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

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

To submit a story idea, editorial, community contribution, obituary, photo, letter to the editor, or general news item, please email: editorial@galstoncommunity.com.au

Please send stories in editable text (Word or email), not in PDF. The maximum word count is 500.

Copy must be received by the 15th of the month.

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Diana Paton
Publisher
0408 011 193
diana@adelphi.net.au


Karen Taylor
Advertising
0487 111 868
advertising@galstoncommunity.com.au


Karlene Brummer
Editorial
editorial@galstoncommunity.com.au

Accounts
accounts@galstoncommunity.com.au

Ads/Artwork/Design
info@galstoncommunity.com.au

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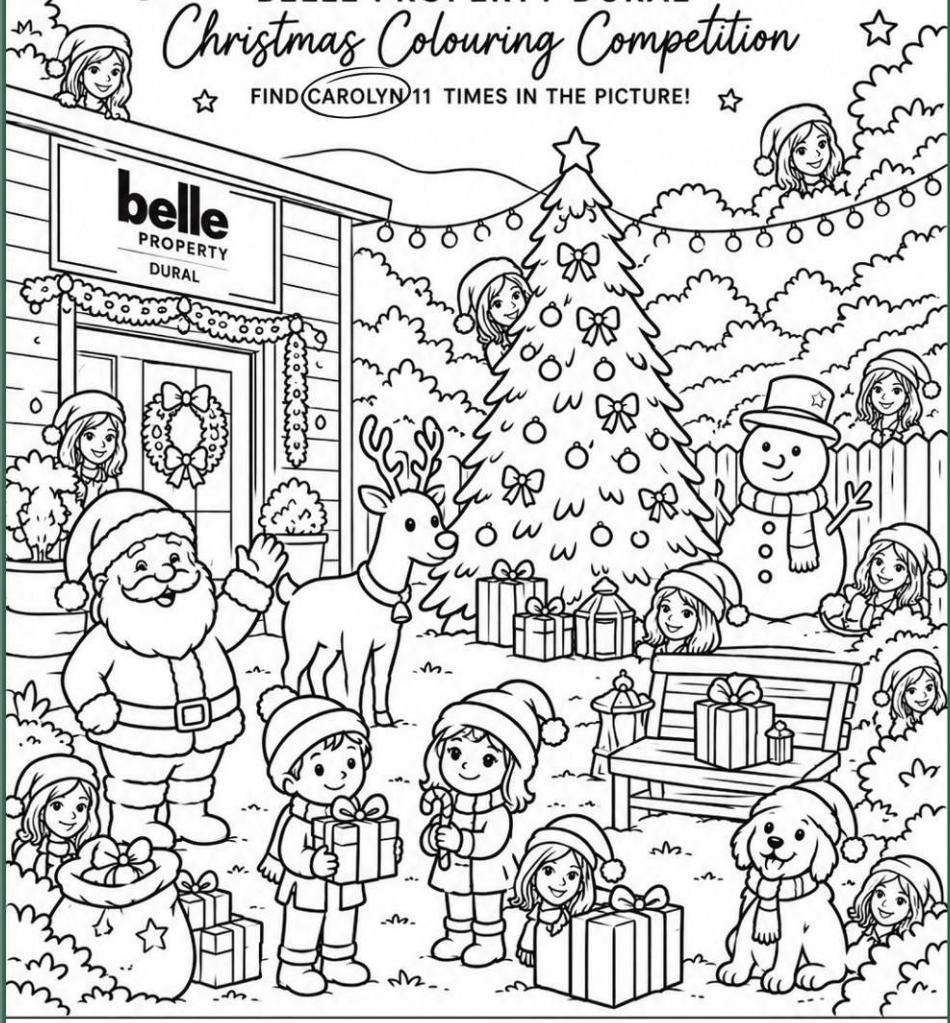
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WHERE'S CAROLYN?

BELLE PROPERTY DURAL

Christmas Colouring Competition

FIND CAROLYN 11 TIMES IN THE PICTURE!



Name: _____ Age: _____

Mum or Dad's Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

PRIZE
Family Zoo Pass
2 Adults and 2 Children



PLEASE POST TO: Belle Property Dural, 6a/829 Old Northern Rd, Dural
OR TEXT: Carolyn Wheatley on 0407 120 483 to arrange collection

Drawn Monday 21st December. Winner will be announced via social media.

belle PROPERTY