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LIVING HERITAGE

Maroota and District News

"COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION"

VOLUME 24, ISSUE 8

CIRCULATION 2200

AUGUST 2021

What's On

Spring Is Around The Corner

.....by
Pat
Schwartz

Dural Growers

Market 2nd Sunday each month Country Club Dural Info: 0417 227 748

Glenorie Growers Market

4th Sunday each month
Les Shore Oval

No mask Don't ask!

In response to the evolving situation with Coronavirus (COVID—19), most events will not be running for the foreseeable future in the Hills, Hornsby and Hawkesbury areas.

We look forward to giving you a full calendar of regional events when it is safe to do so.

We are not sure at this moment, what events are likely to be cancelled. There is no certainty that Greater Sydney will be out of lockdown before the end of August, so please keep checking what restrictions are in place and above all

Stay Safe Stay home!

Find us on the web wisemans.org.au

Keep smiling

Find us on Facebook

A ugust is the month when preparation for a spring garden starts in earnest, a busy time with clipping, pruning, preparation of soil and planting. Whether it is planning for vegetables, spring colour or pot plants on a balcony, now is the time get underway.

It is also a time to look after ourselves, by keeping fit and healthy, so we are ready for the rejuvenation of Spring.

With COVID lockdown we are at home so we have the opportunity to take joy in our immediate surroundings. When spring arrives, the way out of lockdown should hopefully be on the horizon.

The lockdown has created huge difficulties for many people but now is the time, provided we all work together, that we can look forward to the relief of good times coming.

A model has been developed by the University of Melbourne which shows that on the current stage 4 lockdown settings, the target for COVID reduction in the Sydney population should be met somewhere between the 26th August and September 16th. This is based on reaching an average of 5 COVID cases a day over two weeks which would give a clear indication that transmission in the community had ended.

(NSW lockdown by Catherine Hanrahan abc.net.au 21/7/21)



The eagerly awaited lifting of COVID restrictions coincides with the beginning of Spring and all the hope that this season brings.

So, plenty to do this August, enjoy our gardens, keep fit, be gentle with ourselves and look forward to the season of fruitfulness and recovery which is just around the corner.

















Rest in Peace Dave Springer

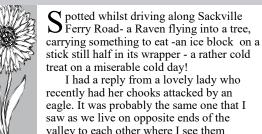


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ECO-NEWS



With Liz Wilkinson



valley to each other where I see them soaring and riding the thermals. That same afternoon as I was outside working in the garden I saw an eagle just skimming the gum trees. Thurs. 8th:I just heard a Kookaburra

commotion in the trees nearby, like a baby one learning to laugh. When I investigated I saw a Kookaburra dangling in the air from another Kookaburra's beak (beak to beak) with another one sitting next to it on the branch. Several more were sitting nearby on another tree. Suddenly the dangler started to fall, then flew to another tree squawking loudly -definitely not a baby. What on earth were they doing??

A few weekends ago (before lockdown) we went with the car club to the St Albans pub for lunch. Outside in the garden were two striking roosters, a male peacock, three hens and the most beautiful white peacock. I did enjoy seeing them.

I have been trying to restore my garden after a period of neglect and I have had my little helper, Jacky Winter, join me sitting on my feet He did enjoy the witchety grubs that I unearthed in a pot and he pounces on any little creatures I disturb.

I have been hearing a very loud bird call over recent weeks but not been quick enough or close enough to identify it. It sounds a bit like a machine gun. I finally was able to see it from inside my house looking out the window - it was a Honeyeater with a white half moon eye patch. I looked in my bird guide and Lewin's Honeyeater was the best match BUT it's eye patch was pale yellow so I Googled it and checked images and they had both white and yellow eye patches So I guess it must be a

Lewin's Honeyeater. I can hear it as I sit here typing.

I love seeing the Eastern Yellow Robin in the Winter months - they stand out when they flit from branch to branch on the Frangipani tree and the Wisteria vine in their bare leafed state. This year we seem to have a larger number of them than usual. They are not overly afraid of me - one landing on my veranda a few metres away from where I sat quietly. There is plenty of time in this lockdown to enjoy the bird life!







Quote!

The way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing!

Walt Disney

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The opinions stated in the Living Heritage News are not necessarily those of the editorial staff, nor those of Eastbend Rural Communications Inc. They are published to provide the community with information and a medium for discussion on issues affecting them and their neighbours.

Editor's Notes

h boy! Here we are in lockdown again, and this time, with a much more virulent form of the virus and a spread to the Hawkesbury. I have been living a secluded lifestyle now since the last issue was published. It's no use being complacent or trying to find loopholes so that you can leave home, we just need to stay home until it's safe to mix with the community once again.

And won't that be a wonderful experience? I can't wait to go out for lunch with my friends again. Or to go and see a live show.

It's not productive to watch the gloomy news broadcasts, or lay blame on our leaders. We have to make a choice to either live in fear, or hope for an early lifting of restrictions so that we can have some kind of normality again.

This is entirely up to us, the people

of Greater Sydney, to do the right thing by our neighbours and keep staying home.

Pat and I have long discussions each month, to decide what should go on the front page. We try really hard to make it a 'good news' story. This month, that has proved very difficult with the whole world in turmoil, I so wanted to put a slash across the front page saying.. "SORRY, NO GOOD NEWS THIS MONTH" and leave it blank.

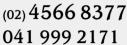
Thank you everyone for getting you articles and ads in nice and early this month, it makes a big difference to me.

Do any of you have some uplifting stories to tell?, has someone been kind to you?, have you seen people being good Samaritans? What have you experienced?

Please let me know, I really want to fill the next issue with good news!

....Enjoy your read...Carole

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Dharug and Lower Hawkesbury Historical Society



Exploring the Gosford Glyphs and Aboriginal Engravings in the Brisbane Waters National Park

The Dharug and Lower Hawkesbury Historical Society invite you to join us as Robert Pankhurst takes us on another fascinating exploration of several significant aboriginal rock engravings sites in the Brisbane Waters National Park. Robert will take us to areas to see an array of unusual engravings including a man with four boomerangs and a rare drawing of a dolphin. Robert will also take us to see the 'Gosford Gylphs' – there's over 300 of them! No one knows who made them or when. Some suspect they were carved in the 1970's, but their true origin remains a mystery.

Robert has spent over 60 years exploring areas around the Hawkesbury and the southern Central Coast, including Brisbane Waters looking for Aboriginal rock carvings, foreshore middens and sites that contain ancient indigenous engravings. The flat exposed areas of Hawkesbury sandstone within the park provides an ideal 'canvas' for Aboriginal artists, and there are hundreds of rock engraving sites throughout the park. Aboriginal sites on Hawkesbury sandstone have a distinctive style of engraving which is unique in Australia.

Date: - Saturday, 28th August 2021

Time:- 9.30am

Location:- To meet at the end of Bambara Road just off Woy Woy Road, Kariong as there is a large parking area. We will have a quick morning tea and then car pool to a smaller car park at the top of Bambara Road near the Kariong Fire Station before we head off on our walk.

Cost:- \$7.50 for Members; \$10.00 for Non-members. Bookings and contact details in case of rain to 0405 321 478 (leave a message) by Tuesday, 24th August.

Please note: Numbers are strictly limited to comply with current COVID-19 restrictions on outdoor gatherings. If you are booked in but unable to make it on the day please advise ASAP as we expect a waiting list. If more than 20 people turn up (i.e. without a booking) we will not be able to proceed with the excursion.

We require all participants to observe the 1.5 metre apart rule (members of the same household excepted) and practise good hand hygiene.

All participants will be required to provide contact details and sign a indemnify form on arrival before participating in the excursion.

Bring along lunch, snacks, water, sunhat, sunscreen, repellent and wet weather gear if required. Sturdy shoes are suggested. This is a easy walk. *All welcome*.

For further information please contact us on

enquiries@dlhhs.org.au or 0405 321 478.

Robyn Downham Publicity Officer

Dharug and Lower Hawkesbury River Historical Society











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Hawkesbury Communities to Benefit

\$400M DISASTER RECOVERY FUNDING PACKAGE

F lood-affected Hawkesbury communities in the Berowra electorate will benefit from a \$400 million recovery funding package to provide support for communities



affected by the February and March 2021 storms and floods. The package is being joint-funded by the Australian and New South Wales governments.

Julian Leeser said the support will be important assistance for the Hawkesbury communities affected by the March floods.

"The impact of the severe storms and flooding on our community and properties in Wisemans Ferry, Leets Vale, Lower Portland and Sackville North in particular has been significant, with damage to the oyster industry around Brooklyn as well as commercial fisherman who make their living from the Hawkesbury", Mr Leeser said.

"This third phase of recovery support is in recognition and appreciation of the work involved to repair and rebuild these major public assets and infrastructure and will provide support for the local economy".

Some of the supports that will be funded through this third phase of support for flood-affected communities, will go toward the following: \$79.8m for the NSW Flood Industry Recovery Package: funding for the agriculture, aquaculture and horticulture industries to support immediate and longer-term recovery needs and retention of jobs for eligible producers and businesses. For example, the grants can be accessed by turf farms, vegetable growers, nurseries, oyster farmers and commercial fisheries and be used to build resilience and preparedness, improve the

competitiveness of industries, support supply-chain efficiencies, and for product diversification and market expansion.

\$52.5m for the Community Infrastructure Repair Program:

targeting infrastructure repair and renewal in partnership with local councils in high to severely impacted disaster-declared LGAs.

\$25.2 million for \$10,000 Rural Landholder Grants: grants of up to \$10,000 to reimburse rural landholders for the cost of clean-up activities, losses or damages beyond the vicinity of the residential dwelling, not covered by insurance.

\$18.5m for the restoration of riverbanks: assistance for private land-

owners, NSW Government Agencies and Councils to ensure post-flood remediation works on riverbanks.

\$14.1m for the Mental Health and Community Wellbeing Program: support for Aboriginal communities; children; and young people impacted by the storms and floods for up to 24 months. \$200 million Infrastructure Betterment Fund: supporting the reconstruction and improved disaster resilience of public assets damaged during the recent storms and floods, as well as the 2019-20

The National Recovery and Resilience Agency is working with the NSW Government to finalise the details of the programs. Further announcements will be made in due course.

People requiring ongoing flood assistance, support and referral are urged to contact Service NSW on 13 77 88 or online via service.nsw.gov.au/floods

Public Notice:

On the 20th February 2021 I believe I had to swerve to avoid an oncoming car on Singleton Road, east of Nagles Gully at approximately 1.10 p.m.

As a result of this incident my car finished up in the Hawkesbury River – this location is also across river from Rosevale Caravan Park.

I am required to locate and invite any witness to contact me or the Wisemans Ferry Police with any details that they may not have already made available. Did you see anything?

My contact is Mary Howard: mobile **0437131721** or maryhoward29@bigpond.com.

News From Wisemans Ferry Mens Shed

Current restrictions have kept our members home and these rules may be extended until this pandemic has run its course.

The work to get the Shed back in working order is still a work-in-progress. Thanks to the efforts of volunteers in our Community, together with a busload of members from the Central Coast clubs who spent days labouring to get us cleaned out and re-stocked.

Our appeal brought gifts of replacement tools from an appeal made by Ben Fordham and Ray Hadley on Radio 2GB and our local State representative for the seat of Hawkesbury, Robyn Preston, who secured a Government grant to cover some of our costs.

The local police are making a huge effort to stop the spread of the virus into our Community and has stopped the flow of traffic into our towns and villages.

Our local Northwest Medical Centre has been inoculating our elderly against the virus and if you are over 70 years old you need to get vaccinated ASAP. The Medical Centre is located opposite the pub and to make an appointment ring **88258225**.

Due to the flood, we have lost several members who have been re-housed elsewhere owing to the destruction of their dwellings in Wisemans Ferry.

We invite you to come and visit us in the near future to see what we have to offer and to put some purpose into your life. Both women and men are welcome into our club. Ring our President Adrian Acheson on **0448833781** to make an appointment



Some of our replacements after the flood. Dust extractor, mobile compound saw and timber planer



Repairing the damage. Wayne Bonser lifting the dust extraction system back in place after flood inundated the Mens Shed

Galston Girl Guides



As with all other associations, Galston Girl Guides will not be operating until we recover from this current crisis.









0407 409 020

HARRISIVERSON

REAL ESTATE

PAUL VELLA 0418 649 294 TRENT IVERSON 0409 738 388



5142 Wisemans Ferry Rd, Spencer

HAWKESBURY RIVERSIDE RETREAT - FULLY FURNISHED - Located only minutes from the riverside village of Spencer this renovated 3 bedroom cottage is the perfect mix of work/life balance. The newly renovated home has a gorgeous cooks kitchen, designer bathroom and 3 great sized bedrooms. The lower level bedroom spans the entire floor and would be an ideal home office, creative studio or home gym/yoga space.

FOR LEASE - \$475 / WEEK



144 Sackville Ferry Rd, South Maroota

4 BEDROOM BRICK VENEER HOME ON ACREAGE PROPERTY Conveniently located and well presented, 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom home with multiple living areas on 25 acres of varied landscape, 170m frontage (RU2 Zoning) with plenty to offer. A large timber deck perfect for outdoor living as well as an in-ground pool, 2 fenced paddocks, dam for water supply to animals and irrigation and a shed complete the package.

FOR SALE - \$1,575,000



440 St Albans Rd, Lower Macdonald

MACDONALD LODGE, A PRIVATE RIVERFRONT RETREAT - Set on 3.5 acres on the banks of the Macdonald River, Macdonald Lodge is a private residence with striking and imposing architecture. Surrounded by the natural beauty of pristine Australian bushland. The lodge offers great flexibility for a family home or investment opportunity with 3 bedrooms in the main residence and 2 bedrooms in the guest quarters.

FOR SALE - EOI Guide \$2.5m

BEYOND THE FENCE

Real Estate, Lockdowns and Technology - So here we are again... another lockdown as COVID-19 ups the ante with the Delta-variant. As of the time of writing the NSW Gov. has introduced tighter restrictions to limit movement.

As we come to live with these restrictions our industry has learnt and evolved to adapt. As we witnessed through the first lockdown and subsequent easing of restrictions in 2020, our insatiable appetite for property was evident more than ever. We saw high clearance rates and property price growth not seen since early 2000's particularly on city fringe, semi-rural and regional areas.

The question remains, will it continue? 3 weeks into this current lockdown we see property inquires soar to similar if not greater than that of 2020. Perhaps it is a reminder, this virus may still wreak havoc for some time, the desire to live in a lower density environment remains high priority. How do we manage such interest in a time where our ability to freely inspect property is limited. We can conduct 1-on-1 inspections under strict hygiene conditions for a home in which you intend to live in/relocate to with the exception of several LGA's in hard lockdown. However, this is unclear for property buyers, and many are not confident to travel due to fear of being questioned or fined .

So how do we continue to showcase our vendors homes under such conditions? One word... Technology. Some of you may remember a long time ago the Homes Pictorial, a B&W magazine which had a tiny photo of a home, a few key points and a price. Could we ever imagine a world now without web portals such as realestate.com.au? We have seen this technology extend now to highly professional videos, drone footage and virtual 3D tours which now appear to be the norm. With limited ability for buyers to inspect we are now conducting inspections with live guided video streams with technology such as FaceTime. This allows a buyer to inspect the property literally anywhere in the world, be interactive with the agent and ask questions about the property. It is far more personal and interactive than a pre-recorded video. This is a service that we offer our clients and has proven to be effective in meeting the needs of both buyers and vendors.

As great as these new technologies may be, video cannot truly translate or replace the emotional connection to a property that a physical inspection provides. So, while technology fills a gap and takes away any limitations we still look forward to returning to the joy of showcasing homes with face to face inspections with our buyers.

Stay safe, regards Trent Iverson

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.compiled by

e are pleased to continue a series of memoirs selected from a booklet titled 'The Women of Maroota'. This is a compilation of recollections from Ruby E Ramm, published in 2001. Ruby's stories are a mixture of personal memories and those of family and friends, and convey the admiration and respect in which these forebears were held.

We hope you enjoy reading about these amazing pioneering women, and we look forward to hearing your own stories of the old days in our district.

Helen Jones (nee Weaver)...cont

ll these women of Maroota would have A had to make their children's clothes by hand, knit their warm jumpers etc patch tears and darn socks (also knitted by hand). Ironing was done with flat irons heated on top of the wood stove.

I remember helping with all the chores, and life was generally easier by the time I was born. Still, washing day was a very long, tiring experience. We had a wood-fired copper to boil the white clothes, and I recall the excitement of the first Breville washing machine, which had a plunger which had to be laboriously pumped up and down to squeeze the laundry. Then we got a wringer, which was screwed to the side of the tub, and a handle turned two rollers to squeeze the water out. Much easier than hand wringing sheets, towels and blankets.

I also remember being very pleased when I had a push bike to ride the 4 miles to and from school. It was so much faster than walking. I remember Ted Weaver coming to Grandad Haerse's vineyard. He built the grape cart. It could hold four cases for the fruit and was like a high wheelbarrow with two bicycle tyres. It was a wonderful tool. I played tennis with Ted and Ivy, and Joe and Maggie and the Bonser boys came to our place for tennis at weekends when my brothers and I were teenagers.

Amy married Tom Parkinson, and was our neighbour. We often crossed the gully, as did they. I remember Ruby who held Sunday School with Ivy when I was a little

In its early settlement, Maroota was predominately an agricultural region. Some evidence of that still exists today, though not to the same extent, as the district opened up to sand mining and numerous other occupations such as horse training. As orchards and vegetable crops came into production, the harvests provided jobs for girls as well as boys, for many becoming their first employment. Some of the earliest women settlers helped their husbands establish their orchards and later, when they came into production, as well as rearing their families. It was a case of 'stand by your man' or go under, for until growers got on their feet, not many could afford workmen,

and depended on their wives in many areas for support in their endeavours.

Depression days were hard, but those who had possessed the knowledge of living off the land fared reasonably well as far as sustenance went. There were no restrictions on the netting of fish or those caught with a fishing rod, rabbits were plentiful and a good thing to be rid of. Most families kept cows and therefore benefitted from a good supply of milk, cream and homemade butter. Pigs and poultry were raised for slaughter, ensuring a good supply of meat for the table, as well as eggs.

Those who regard history as a boring subject should be thankful they were not in existence back then, for they would never have had the luxuries connected to today's living conditions. Those who were anxious to get on in the world pulled their weight, and expected others to do the same or be left behind.



AN EARLY AUSTRALIAN SETTLERS COTTAGE



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 M**P FEDERAL MEMBER FOR BEROWRA

🚳 Level 11, 423 Pennant Hills Road, Pennant Hills NSW 2120 🕒 9980 1822



julian.leeser.mp@aph.gov.au 🕛 julianleeser.com.au 🕤 julianleesermp

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



Wisemans Ferry Seniors

This has been a more than quiet month with us all being in lockdown, no Bingo, no bus trips, no socialising, which is very hard especially for those who live alone. On the positive side, our bus is now ready to go once this lockdown is over. However the costs to fix the bus were very expensive which is making it very hard for us, to offset this we are planning to have a fathers day raffle. Hopefully the lockdown will finish in time for us to do this, any donations towards this raffle would be greatly appreciated by our members.

With fires, floods, and now a second lockdown our members are really looking forward to getting our lives back to normal and enjoying our lives once again. We have to rethink our trip plans, fortunately Vivid has been postponed until September so hopefully we will be able to organise a trip to see it. We really plan ahead at the present but will do so as soon as possible.

We will look forward to welcoming visitors and new members to our Monday meetings at the Bowlo commencing at 9:30 once this lockdown is over.



Don't forget our Facebook page Wisemans Ferry Bingo Group and for any queries contact Jo 0419 413 523

Free Accommodation

- 3 bedroom home - 20 acre riverfront property at Lower Portland
- Private Caravan Park
- Open only on Public Holidays and Weekends
- Duties: maintain property and amenities, all machinery supplied
 - Would suit handy man and retired couples
- Must have some knowledge of servicing and maintaining machinery
 - "Tractors, mowers etc"
 Can help and guide
 - Looking for someone long term Contact George on

0491 292 618 or 0428 442 806

Free Legal Advice

Tony Simpson Law Firm will be running a free legal aid service from his new office – behind the Doctor's Surgery, next to the Sunshine Club - once a month for people who are financially vulnerable, including people on Centrelink or pensions. Hours to be notified in due course or ring for further information

45 664 911



Diary of a Trip to the Gulf Of Carpentaria.

By Liz Wilkinson

On our way to Cunnamulla and Wyandra we passed lots of low shrubby growth with a few very stunted trees - the soil must be very poor. Then we saw cleared land as far as the eye could see - I guess for grazing but no cattle in sight. After Wyandra we were suddenly back in scrubby land again.

About 30ks before Charleville we stopped at Angellala Creek for a look at a special interpretive centre that tells the story of a truck carrying 53 tonnes of ammonia nitrate that exploded here in 2014. It was mind blowing damage that was done to the road and the nearby railway line. (Seem to have lost my photos of this-maybe it was too distressing!)

At Charleville there was lots to see and do but unfortunately it was a public holiday in QLD so most places were closed. We were a few minutes too late to look over a beautiful old building in the main street and the information centre at the old railway station was closed as well. Early the next morning before we took to the road again we did manage to see the BOM weather balloon take flight. The Flying Doctor Museum and the WW11 Secret Cosmos Centre looked very interesting from the outside but tours didn't start for quite a while and our trip was calling so we headed off to Quilpie (a boulder opal place) and finally to Windorah with a main street no more than 100 metres long. Here the accommodation was varied-4motel rooms, some cabins and pub rooms but the meal there that night was great and we chatted to the Drs and flight crew from the Flying Doctor Base.

As we head off again we pass lots of structures that set off alarms as vehicles pass to keep dingoes out of the area. It was so dry here that even the Saltbush was dying. We did see here and there some smallish but spectacular gum trees with the whitest of white trunks. From Windorah we head to Longreach. We saw a lot more bird life on this stretch and had to stop for both cattle and kangaroos. It is hard to imagine this land all covered in water in the wet season. Jundah was a very tidy but very tiny town. We even drove up a few gentle hills but otherwise the land was as flat as could be. At long last Longreach where we had some lunch, viewed the Qantas Museum and did the washing! In t6he early evening we were bussed out to the Thompson River for a sunset cruise, (magical), bushman's dinner (stew and apple

pie) a film show and entertainment in the form of singing, poetry, bush yarns and jokesvery entertaining! Next day we visited The Stockman's Hall of Fame which was so much more informative and enjoyable than our last visit in 1997. In the afternoon we went through an art and craft gallery housed in the original ambulance building as well as the Power House and Historical Museum. I really enjoyed the old school house and the old cottage kept just as it was when housing a family.

After along day's driving we will visit Cloncurry next











Small and Medium Business COVID Support Payments

From week four of the lockdown (19 July) eligible entities will receive 40% of their NSW payroll payments, at a minimum of \$1500 and a maximum of \$10,000 per week. The initial understanding at the time of writing is that payroll will be calculated on the basis of an average weekly payroll over the 2021 financial year. Payments will be made fortnightly.

Entities will be eligible if their turnover is 30% lower than an equivalent two week period in 2019. These payments will be available to employing entities in NSW, including not for profits, with an annual turnover between \$75,000 and \$50 million.

Non-employing entities (e.g. sole-traders) will be eligible for \$1,000 a week if they qualify.

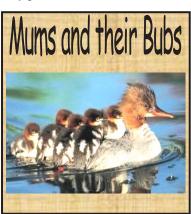
Importantly, in order to be eligible to receive the payment, entities will be required to maintain their full time, part time and long term casual staffing levels as of 13 July 2021.

Businesses can register their interest from 14 July 2021 at www.service.nsw.gov.au.

COVID-19 Disaster Payment

From week four of a lockdown (19 July) in a Commonwealth declared hotspot, the Disaster Payment will increase from \$500 to \$600 each week if a person has lost 20 hours or more of work a week or \$325 to \$375 each week if a person has lost between 8 and 20 hours of work.

The Disaster Payment will also become a recurring payment for approved recipients for as long as the Commonwealth declared hotspot and lockdown restrictions remain in place. This will remove the need for recipients to re-claim for each seven day period of a lockdown. If a



recipient's hours of work increases, it will be their responsibility to notify this change.

The Disaster Payment will also be further amended so that a person would be eligible for the payment, including where they are still working, provided they have lost more than 8 hours or a full day of work.

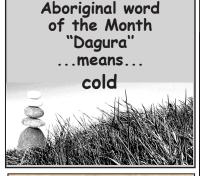
If you or your employees believe you may be eligible for this payment you can register by calling 180 22 66 or online using the following link: https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/subjects/getting-help-during-coronavirus-covid-19/if-you-need-payment

There are a number of other supports available, refer to www.service.nsw.gov.au for a more detailed break down of what is available and the most up to date information.

The material and contents provided in this publication are informative in nature only. It is not intended to be advice and you should not act specifically on the basis of this information alone.

If expert assistance is required, professional advice should be obtained.





Solution to puzzle on page 19

Answer - aced, atone, auctioned, auntie, cadet, cane, canoe, cautioned, cent, coated, code, cone, coined, coned, cote, cued, cute, dance, date, dean, detain, dice, dine, donate, done, dote, duet, dunce, dune, edit, idea, induce, neat, net, nice, note, noticed, nude, ocean, octane, once, ounce, tend, tide, tied, tine, tinea, tone, toned, tune, tuned, uncoated, unite, united

9 letter answer - Education

Rainfall for

JUN 22nd To JUL 21st

Week 1. nil Week 2. 10.5mm

Week 3. 9mm

Week 4. 2.5mm Week 5. nil

> Taken at South Maroota

Bush Philosophy

You don't stop having fun when you get old...You get old when you stop having fun!

CHECK YOUR SMOKE ALARMS

ST ALBANS RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

St Albans Station: 4568 2011

Captain Lilly Stepanovich: 0409 322 236

Senior Dep: Warwick Blacker: 4568 2177.

Permit issuing officers: Lilly and Warwick: https://www.stalbansrfs.org/



SPENCER RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

4778 Wisemans Ferry Rd, **SPENCER** NSW 2775

New members always welcome.

Captain Alison Wade **T: 1415 668 953**

E: captain.Spencer@ccrfs.org.au Facebook:

Spencer Rural Fire Brigade

- 2ndMonday of Month Meeting @ 18.30
- 3rd Monday of Month Maintenance @ 18:30
- 4th Monday of Month Training @ 18:30



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Latest News





This always a very exciting time of the year, when we look back on the achievements of the last 12 months. I would like to draw special attention to Council's Greening Our Shire tree planting program, which aims to maintain and enhance the significant tree canopy that has given us the title of the Bushland Shire. In just two short years, we have reached the milestone of 30,000 trees planted — the first council in Australia to do so. This could not possibly have been achieved without the work of Council staff and the selfless support of the 2,280 community volunteers who have helped us plant them and I thank them all.

This is also the time of year when Council sets its budget and agenda for the coming 12 months and tells everybody who is going to receive what. In Council's recently adopted 2021/22 Delivery Program and Operational Plan, you will see what Hornsby Shire Council values and where it believes the money entrusted to our care by the community should best be spent. Importantly, it represents feedback from our community gathered during public consultation. Please visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au/publications to see what your Council has planned for the next year.

Philip Ruddock AO Mayor, Hornsby Shire Council

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 14 JULY, 6.30PM

For more Council information visit **hornsby.nsw.gov.au**

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FROM THE PASTORS DESK



Areas of Success, Areas of Struggle "Romans 12:6"

The bible teaches that God gives each of us certain gifts......and the grace to use them..... and when we are not operating in our area of giftedness, we struggle. We need to keep that in mind when we see a great achiever, or become a great achiever ourselves.

Paul is believed to have spoken 4 languages and wrote half the New Testament. Yet he constantly struggled with what he called and referred to as a "thorn in the flesh". In short he was going blind. When he prayed and asked God to remove it, God said "no", "my grace is sufficient for you; for my power is made perfect in weakness". So we need grace in the areas of our gifting "and" grace for areas we are not gifted at all.

I read of a man who went to hear a great speaker and ended up sitting beside the speaker's wife. During the speech he noticed that the great speaker had monogrammed socks. Both had on them "TGIF". He turned to the man's wife and said does that mean "thank goodness it's Friday"? Oh no she said, they are to help him get dressed. They stand for "toes go in first".

You see friends.....as long as you live, you will soar in some areas and struggle in others, but you will find and identify that God's grace is sufficient for any challenge you face.

Stay C safe and H A G D

God Bless!.....PS Peter Goldstien JP, Community Chaplain.

LIVING HERITAGE FOLDING DAYS

Sept....Mon....Aug....23rd Oct...Mon...Sept....27th Nov...Mon...Oct...25th Dec...Mon...Nov...22nd

Folding cannot be done by our volunteers at the moment Due to Covid restrictions.

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2 45 750 313

Mob: 0428 234 228



Community Fire Wise

The Hills District Rural Fire Service

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE!

MAROOTA SOUTH RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

What a difference a month makes--A limo driver picked up a flight crew from the airport
and transported them to their hotel. From there, everyone
thought it would be OK until it wasn't - yes I sort of remember
another event that stated off small.

Eighteen months ago we had a small fire that started near Lithgow, and to start with, it was just doing a great job at burning the bush. Then the conditions were more conducive to spread of fire, and we ended up with a disaster. Then, rain soaked the environment, and the fire was controlled.

While there a many points of view regarding vaccination, it is our only real chance of getting this mess under control. As there is a supply available, please take up the offer. Australia is a great place to live.

We had a LOT of training underway prior to total lockdown, but for now, we are looking to ways to do practical online training.

We only attended one accident call at Cattai for the month, but we are still available for emergency calls.

This next month is a great time to get pile burns done ---Remember to notify RFS on the NSW RFS website - it's easy
and free. District office staffs are operating from their homes,
so it will be more difficult to contact them
via the office phone number.

....Garry Chatman



SACKVILLE NORTH RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

OVID-19 has impacted the Hills Rural Fire Service again and all the district and local training has come to a sudden halt again at. Congratulations to all who have reached the level they have during what have been a necessary decisions over the last 18 months.

On another note, during time at home and cooler weather is the ideal time to get those pile burns done (on a non windy day). Our fire season ends 30th September, only 2 months away.

Please register your pile burn online at The Hills webpage, follow the guidelines for pile burning and remember to notify your neighbours at least 24 hours before you are intending to burn. The Hills Fire Control Centre is 96542268 if you have questions, however the office has been closed due to COVID lockdown and staff are working from home.

Stay Safe and Keep Warm,

Judith Barr

WISEMANS FERRY RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

No news from Wisemans Ferry this month.

...Margaret Cavanagh Assistant Community Engagement Officer

Maroota: Capt: \$\frac{4566}{24566} \frac{6196}{6196}\$
" Mob: \$\frac{90417}{216} \frac{216}{306}\$
Sth Maroota: \$\frac{90414}{430} \frac{430}{959}\$
" \$\frac{44575}{24575} \frac{0433}{0433}\$
Canoelands: \$\frac{94566}{24566} \frac{6196}{6196}\$

W/Ferry: \$\frac{94566}{2444} \frac{448}{337}\$
Hillside: \$\frac{99652}{29652} \frac{2245}{22017}\$
Gosford Fire Cont: \$\frac{94340}{2911}\$

MAROOTA RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

A very quiet month, incident-wise for the brigade which was good as Covid-19, once again has us in lock-down. We will still be attending emergency call-outs (under strict Covid-19 protocols), however, meetings are again via Zoom and all other brigade activities have halted. We surely realise how important it is for all of us in Greater Sydney to bunker down and stay at home so we can stop this latest spread of the virus. Prior to us having to lock-down though, a new member achieved her Basic Firefighter qualification and others have gained re-accreditation of chain-saw skills, first-aid qualifications and Breathing Apparatus training.

While we are staying at home it is a good opportunity to work on reducing the risk of bush fires on our properties by minimising bush fire hazards. There are a number of ways to reduce the level of hazard to our property, but one of the most important is the creation and maintenance of an **Asset Protection Zone (APZ).** This is a fuel-reduced area surrounding our buildings and structures. This includes our house and any other structures or sheds on our property.

An APZ provides:

*a buffer zone between a bush fire hazard and an asset *an area of reduced bush fire fuel that allows suppression of fire

*an area from which back-burning may be conducted *an area which allows emergency services access and provides a relatively safe area for firefighters and home owners to defend their property.

Potential bush fire fuels (trees, thick bush etc) should be minimised within the APZ so that the vegetation does not provide a path for the fire to travel towards our assets.

What Will The APZ Do?

*A good APZ that is kept maintained regularly, will reduce the risk of:

*direct flame contact on the asset

*damage to the built asset from intense radiant heat ember attack on the asset.

For further information on preparing your properties go to www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

We hope we can see you at the Maroota Muster 15 August, meanwhile:

Remember to stay masked, stay sanitized, stay social distanced and above all stay safe everyone.Robin Hitchcock



Hawk Fire Cont: \$\mathbb{2}4575 1601 Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai Fire Control: \$\mathbb{2}9883 2000

The Hills Fire Control: ■9654 1244

Sackville North: 29654 1244 20419 522 088
Lwr McDonald: 24568 2168
St Albans: 20409 322 236
Spencer: 24566 4640

Reclassification of Land at Vineyard and Pitt Town

Public Hearing -



Public Hearing will be held via Zoom to provide community members with the opportunity to share their views about a proposal to reclassify land at 9 Industry Road, Vineyard, 312 Windsor Road, Vineyard, and 7 Fernadell Drive, Pitt Town from 'Community' land to 'Operational'

The Public Hearing is scheduled to be held on Thursday, 5 August 2021 at 6pm, online via Zoom in accordance with the Public Health (COVID-19 Temporary Movement and Gathering Restrictions) Order 2021.

The hearing will be chaired by an independent person from Parkland Planners.

Interested persons will need to register at eventbrite.com.au/e/public-hearing-planning-proposal-lep00119tickets-161985989455 by close of business on Friday, 30 July 2021 to:

virtually attend or listen to the hearing make a submission at the hearing.

Documentation providing details of the proposed Reclassification of Land can be viewed on Council's community engagement site <u>yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au</u> under the banner 'Public Hearing LEP001/19'.

If you would like to make a formal written submission to the Independent Chairperson, you can do this by forwarding your submission via email to sandy@parklandplanners.com.au or by post to Sandy Hoy, Parkland Planners, PO Box 41, FRESHWATER NSW 2096. The last day for receipt of written submissions is Monday, 9 August 2021.

Should you have any enquiries, please contact Council's Senior Strategic Land Use Planner Colleen Haron

on (02) 4560 4564

or email enquiries to council@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

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Your Health is Your Wealth -

Our Youth Matter

World Youth Day is celebrated on the 12th of August and focuses on the rights of young people to have full access to education, healthcare, employment opportunities, financial services and full participation in public life. In light of the current Covid-19 pandemic and the restrictions we have had to endure, the social and economic ramifications have impacted our Australian youth population in disturbing severity. Young people have experienced substantial increases in mental health issues, social isolation and loneliness, educational disruptions, unemployment, housing stress and domestic violence. Headspace Client Impact Report showed a staggering 86% of the Australian youth reported a negative impact on their mood, mental wellbeing and sleep and 77% reported a negative impact on their work, study or financial situation. The full impact of Covid-19 on our youth is very complex and emerging and not yet fully understood with the uncertainty surrounding the disease, and the easing and reintroduction of restrictions.

Young people can also be concerned about their lack of voice in decision making and in being negatively stereotyped. As Australians who care about our youth and the future of our children, we need to become more proactive in helping them maneuver these challenging times and emerge as vigorous and resilient members of our society.

At Pathways Community Counselling we provide professional, friendly and affordable counselling services to support our youth during these difficult times of uncertainty and disconnection. Sometimes all you need is to know that someone cares and is willing to listen to your story. Generously supported by the Galston Branch of Bendigo Bank, we are committed to making affordable mental health and counselling services available to everyone in our local community and beyond.

To Speak to one of our counsellors, reach out today and contact us: 0423 293 116.

Your first Session is free.



Come to Spencer and find Serenity.

Pete Rush, local sculptor and artist has just unveiled his latest sculpture of a stunning mystical creation called *Serenity* (named by a local) which takes its inspiration from ancient Egyptian art. This evocative sculpture enhances the beauty of the Hawkesbury and its surrounds and is already having a positive impact on tourism for this area.

Pete selected the position beside our new public wharf with the majestic, historic 'White House' (aptly named 'Serene') as the backdrop. Pete said the abundance of local resilient Gymea Lilies as his medium, meant the possibilities were endless. To date, Pete has mostly created animals made from driftwood but *Serenity* is his first figurative sculpture. As *Serenity* evolved daily, the connection grew not only for Pete but for all those who came to visit her as she gradually came to life.

Serenity has not only enhanced our landscape but she has also had a positive effect on our Community, bringing us together, helping us to connect with fellow locals and visitors alike. We watched this amazing creation develop right before our very eyes. Pete and Serenity have also had a positive impact on the mental health of the Community simply by drawing people to this scenic area in a relaxed environment whilst chatting to the sculptor at work.

On the other hand Pete was overwhelmed by the outpouring of warmth, generosity and hospitality shown by all the residents in our wonderful Community. He got to meet and enjoy the local colourful characters even the resident who was convinced Pete was making a sculpture of a giant prawn!

This has been a Community-based project commissioned by the NSW Government as part of the Bushfire Community Recovery Fund and overseen by Breanna Pollock the Community Development Worker, Community and Cultural Programs at the Central Coast Council. This project was designed to help connect the Community and strengthen resilience, and protect the mental health of our Community especially after the extreme weather events we have been subjected to.

Thank you Pete for bringing us such a glorious sculpture. *Serenity* with her feet in the water encapsulates the scenic beauty of the Hawkesbury inviting people to stop, relax and soak up the stunning scenery. Pete we have all so much enjoyed having you here at Spencer, getting to know you and watching you work. You are truly inspirational.

As a beautiful tribute Pete Rush has dedicated this magnificent sculpture to Mikol Furneaux who found peace on the wharf near Serenity during his last

days.

Robyn Downham President River Cares Spencer



Phone: 02 4578 0300 Email: hawkesbury@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Mail: PO Box 505, Richmond NSW 2753

Website: www.robynpreston.com.au





Wisemans Ferry Anglican Church



River Road, Wisemans Ferry

Church Service and Sunday School

Every Sunday at 9am

Morning tea afterwards - All Welcome

For more information call

Phone 4572 3262

Uniting Church at Leetsvale

Off River Rd, Leetsvale Caravan Park turn-off Please Contact Alan Prosser for more information Ph 4341 7946



Anglican Parish of St Albans

Please Note!
Church Services are likely to be cancelled for all churches until restrictions are lifted.



Michael Wilkinson, Lay Assist 0400 735 530 Guy Cox, Parish Secretary 4568 2188

Holy Trinity Catholic Church Spencer



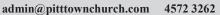
Vigil

2nd Sunday of each month at 4:00 pm For more information Phone **4377 1374 4377 1168**

Pitt Town Anglican

Sunday Church Services

8.30am - Traditional Services 10am - Family Services with Kids Church 5pm - Young Adults Service







Midway Christian Centre

Services commencing every last Sunday of the month except July and December 9.30am

Easter Sunday and Christmas Day will also have a service.
All welcome to the gathering starting at 9.30 am
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This Is Us!

T his is the team that brings you this wonderful magazine that you love, each month. We can't wait to be able to get together over lunch again. Bring on freedom!







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Valley Happenings with Sherri

Hi All, well here we are at Cape York, well wishful thinking. Like everyone else we are in lock down at the farm. We feel sorry for all those locked down in units or homes where they cannot get out and about in the wide open spaces as we can.

Most events in and around St Albans have been postponed until 30 July 2021 Due to Covid

Common Working Bee

St Albans working bee due to be held on this Saturday is postponed until lock down is eased

Concert in the Church ((was Sat 4th July) postponed until further notice. Hopefully we will be able to reschedule soon. *Kaye Remington*.

'Surrounded' Book Launch Saturday 24 July

5pm, St Albans School of Arts Hall I assume it will be postponed as well. *Ruth Green*

Wombat workshop on the Common ... Note! Most likely cancelled.

Learn more about why wombats are so important to the local ecosystem and how you can get help them overcome these threats. Who doesn't love a wombat? If you're lucky enough to have a resident wombat or wombats or your property, then you know how special they are. Wombats are a beloved part of living in Macdonald Valley but they face a number of threats, including sarcoptic mange and habitat loss.

The threats to wombats have increases since the Summer fires of 2019/20 and this event is part of 'Recovering Our Bushland After Fire, Hawkesbury' Program , run by Hawkesbury-Nepean Landcare Network (HNLN) with funding from the Foundation for Rural Regional Renewal. HNLN runs this as part of the National Landcare Program. Sat., 24 July 2021 9:30 am – 1:00 pm AEST

Location Fernances Wollombi Road Fernances, NSW 2775

For more information or question please contact the Local Landcare Coordinator 0410616139 or email landcare@hrcc.nsw.gov.au



Galston CWA News

S

W e do like to remind everyone that we're about more than just tea and scones.

But... who doesn't love a good scone!?

And in the midst of public health orders and endless restrictions, what could be more comforting than freshly baked scones, hot out of your own oven, piled high with jam and cream. So here is our secret no-fail recipe - super simple to make, keeps well and tastes amazing!

Lemonade Scones

Ingredients:

1 cup pure cream
1 cup cold lemonade
3 cups self-raising flour
Pinch of salt
Flour for dusting
Jam and cream to serve

Method:

Preheat oven to 180°c fan forced or 200°c conventional. Sift the flour into a large bowl. Add the cream and then the lemonade. Quickly (but gently) combine the



ingredients till a dough forms in order to trap as many bubbles as possible into the mixture. Turn the dough onto a floured surface and gently roll it out to a thickness of about 2cm. Cut dough into rounds using a 5cm scone cutter. Arrange evenly on a tray and bake for about 15 minutes or until lightly golden. Serve with jam and cream.

Hot tip: Avoid over mixing or kneading the dough too much, you definitely don't need a food processor or electric mixer for this one. Not even to whip your cream - try a dollop cream instead. If you still want to whip, start by putting your heavy whipping cream in the freezer for about 10 minutes (and even your bowl and whisk if you have room for it). You'll have whipped cream in under a minute.

Just remember to put the kettle on too because what's a scone without a cup of tea!

For details about when our monthly meetings will resume please contact: Jann 0439 222 217 or Pam 02 9653 1036. www.facebook.com/CWAGalston | galston.cwa@gmail.com





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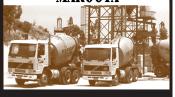
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SCHOOL SNIPPETS

CATTAI PUBLIC SCHOOL



The end of term 3 was, once again, filled with many special events and a very positive attitude towards the next semester.

Our Athletics Carnival was held on our school grounds. The children had a fabulous



day with their family and friends finally able to attend a school event!! Track events were conducted on the flat and this allowed all the students a chance to watch their mates run quickly from one end of the oval and back again. All students had a try at the various field events and the whole school watched and waited anxiously to see which senior girl would win

the high jump.
We sadly
said goodbye to
Mrs. Maurer
who has been a
highly thought
of, long
standing
member of the
staff and a



positive influence on the school's character through her work with the SRC. We wish her a fond adieu and hope the next chapters in her life are full of fun and new adventures.

Jump Rope for Heart was a great fundraiser with the children raising almost \$3000 by completing an array of skipping challenges. Congratulations and thank you to all involved.



Term 3 is now showing us how important Google Classrooms is to modern day learning. Again, the students are able to access their school work via this technological link. Hopefully everyone will be able to complete their set work and so continue their learning journey in a positive manner. Hopefully we can return to face-to-face learning in the near future. Roll on Semester 21



MAROOTA PUBLIC SCHOOL



Greetings from Maroota Public School. After a quiet holiday, we've 'returned' to a quiet first couple of weeks of school. That's right, Home Learning! But, we can handle anything...

We are holding out great hope that our much longed-for Maroota Muster can go ahead. So much planning and organisation has gone into what promises to be an AMAZING event! Let's cross our fingers and hope for a miracle!

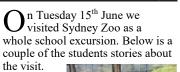
Here is a photo of our students, enjoying the sunshine, just before the holidays...



Until next time...

Ann Smith Principal

WISEMANS FERRY PUBLIC SCHOOL



Sydney Zoo

Yesterday
MacValley
and our
school went
to Sydney
zoo. We
saw tonnes
of awesome
animals.
There were
reptiles,
mammals



After we walked round we went into a class and a zoo dude talked to us about why animals are going extinct and how palm oil is part of that reason. He said you have to use like an acre of palm trees in one bottle. You can make the acres of palm trees better with adding some flowers, bushes so the animals can hang out there. He came round and let us touch the lizards.

After the class we went and saw reptiles, amphibians, marsupials and fish, they were all so cool. There were



a lot of snakes and frogs even lizards no spiders. There was glow in the dark scorpions.

My favourite part was the snakes and meerkats. I liked the meerkats because they would run up and down the glass to look at you. The monkeys were cool as well they tackled and beat each other up. The zebras where stubborn and lazy, well they are part of the donkey family.

The zoo was awesome I definitely recommend it. They had a great selection of animals. It's not that big so you won't be dead at the end. *By Shay-Leih – Yr*.

Sydney Zoo

On Tuesday the 17th of June our school went to the Sydney Zoo. There were lots of cool and funny animals like monkeys, fish, elephants, lions, zebras and lots more. Today I'm going to be talking about three of these animals and what we saw. These animals are my favourite ones that were at the zoo.

Hyenas - At Sydney Zoo there were 4 hyenas and they were all very active at the time we saw them. They were running around and 2 of them were sleeping in a little cave while the others were running around and chasing each other

Reptile house - At the Reptile house they had a lot of fun animals like snakes and frogs and they even had glow in the dark scorpions, they were right underneath the light and glowing bright green, now for the frogs and snakes, the frogs were so cute and small I wanted to take one home especially the green tree frog, the snakes were all different shapes and sizes like big and small and some of them had a funny shape for their head.

<u>Tiger</u> - At Sydney Zoo there was a big male tiger and when we saw it, it was eating a big piece of meat, later when we walked past the tiger again it was walking up and down its enclosure, it was covered in its beautiful orange and Black fur.

There were lots more animals like meerkats, penguins, crocodile, otters, camels, Tasmanian devils

and a few more. This trip was really fun and fantastic I really want to go again with my family. Thank you, Mrs Dorbis, Mrs Harris and Mrs Longhurst. by Sarah



MACDONALD VALLEY PUBLIC SCHOOL



Sydney Zoo Excursion

A t the end of last term our students and teaching staff went on an excursion to Sydney Zoo with Wisemans Ferry Public School. Our students thoroughly enjoyed the Living World workshops and tour of the Zoo. It was a perfect day with our students displaying their very best behaviour and lovely gratitude for such an exciting opportunity to meet with our friends across the river.







Winter planting!

We have such hardworking and dedicated students at Macdonald Valley Public School! We had great enthusiasm for getting our native plants in the ground in the hope that we will be able to attract more birds to our school grounds.





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BEST PUZZLES, FACTS, JOKES, GAGS ETC...with Gail...

Kids How many words can Corner you make using three or more letters, using each letter once, and including the letter E in every word?

BIRTHDAY CLUB

August 2021....

2nd - Alana Farr will be 10

3rd - Kaylah King will be 12

3rd - Victoria Hazel will be 11

3rd - Kahlia Hitchcock will be 15

4th - Jordan Harkins will be 16

6th - Jack Roberts will be 13

6th - Anne Bellamy will be 14

8th - Dallas Anderson will be 13

11th - Matilda Tourish will be 11

11th - Ariana Perry will be 15

14th - Bentlee Cross will be 4

15th - Amanda Price will be 14

17th - Evie Grace will be 6

19th - Naomi Smith will be 15

24th - Anaka Mills will be 10

26th - Maddison Brown will be 15

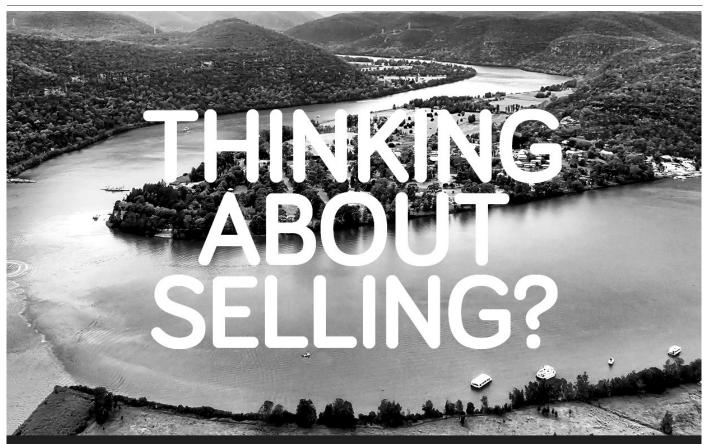
27th - Tyler Little will be 10

27th - Mackenzie Howden will be 11

30th - Madelin Rose will be 15

KIDS!

(16 & under) Would you like your birthday listed here? Call **0407 949899** and leave your details.....



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