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LIVING HERITAGE

Maroota and Districts News

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VOLUME 26, ISSUE 12

CIRCULATION 2000

DECEMBER 2023

What's On

2nd Sun every month
St Albans Village
Market
Wharf Street St Albans
Info: 0419 977 535

1st Dec - Fri
CMRI Charity Stall
Bowling & Sports
Club
Windsor
Info: 0407 211 183

3rd Dec - Sun
The Secret Dyarubbin
River Ride
Macquarie Arms Pub
Windsor
Info: 0467 899 801

5th Dec - Tues
Richard Glover Author
Talk on his book "Best
Wishes"
Central Library
Windsor
Info: 4560 4474

8th Dec - Fri
Community Carols
Public School
Maroota
Info: 0428 234 228

9th Dec - Sat
Growing Food for
Wildlife
Community
Environment Centre
Annangrove
Info: 9842 0555

24th Dec - Sun
Christmas Eve Carols
and sausage sizzle
Midway Church
Info: 0428 234 228



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Facebook

A Koala For Christmas

By.....
Pat
Schwartz

Thanks to Brook and her daughter Evie (Both pictured), our district has been presented with a lovely video of a healthy little koala. He/she is sitting munching the leaves of a species of iron bark, *Eucalyptus fibrosa* in South Maroota.

There have been a growing number of Koala sightings throughout the Hills and Hornsby Shires that have been shared with the Hills-Hornsby Rural Koala Project (HHRKP), and it is due to the quick thinking and generous community members like Brooke and Evie that the Koala Project is successful.

Thanks also to Maroota Public School where Evie is a student, for passing on the information of this very special koala sighting.

Maroota Forest had a recognised population of Koalas before the 2002 fires, however, after this devastating wildfire they weren't found anymore.

The good news is, that in recent years they are being heard and seen again in a number of different places.

The Koala Project is using cameras and sound recording devices, to gather information about Koalas and the other amazing animals that live in our bushland.

However, with thousands of hectares to cover, it is the eyes and ears of the community that are so important and help to make the project possible.

Brooke and Evie's video can be seen on Hills-Hornsby Rural Koala Project Facebook Page, as well as the other recordings of wildlife that have been contributed by community members or by HHRKP research.

For further information or anymore sightings of Koalas or other wildlife, please contact Lilly on 0424844740.



A very Merry Christmas to all of our advertisers, contributors and readers. We hope you all have a joyous time with family and look forward to seeing you all in the New Year 2024



ECO-NEWS



With Liz Wilkinson



Oh no! I am being invaded by a pair of Brush Turkeys - I think they are coming for water, but I hope they won't stay up near the house long term - they make such a mess of gardens - they can live on the bottom of our property!

"Joey" has grown such a lot, he has almost outgrown his pouch. When he reaches a set weight, he will join a small group of other orphans to familiarise them with each other and bond, then later they will be all released together. They are Eastern Grey Kangaroos so they won't be released in our area.

My son's family have a bird's nest right in their front yard above the outdoor setting. They will have a good view of proceedings! It is a Noisy Friarbird who is sitting patiently through all weathers.

A lady from Yarramundi sent Living Heritage an email, with a great recommendation for a bird call identification site on the internet - Graeme Chapman which I found very useful. Thank you so much Meaghan for your kind words and this information.

Later news on the Friarbird's nest - mum and dad are busy feeding three baby birds.



Another invasion is occurring here, a most unwelcome one too!! We have eleven Sulphur Crested Cockatoos who are frequenting our place.....so the other birds miss out on being fed when they appear..... I just won't put out food while they are around. They come right into our courtyard and sit there until we chase them. My second crop of lemons, not fully ripe, have now been

attacked.

A friend of Pamela, has sent her a photo of a creature who frequents her place - an inquisitive echidna.

My Bearded Dragon likes my lawn and fallen tree trunk - it is only a young one. The other day, he was on my driveway and I had to stop the car, get out and shoo him. Sheila sent in a photo of her Bearded Dragon that has been around for a few years - much bigger than our friend.

Whilst outside taking photos, I startled a wallaby and her baby, that was sheltering from the sun under a rock overhang that I was on top of - not quick enough to get a photo! There is always something to catch your interest outside.



Quote!

Live for what's worth dying for, and leverage technology to create the world you wish to see!

Margaret Mead

Living Heritage News

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Printed by:

Adelphi Design & Print
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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.

Copy Deadline: 15th month

Editor's Notes

It's amazing these days that the use of technology, enables production of this magazine to be done anywhere in the world. This issue has been started in the Sunshine Coast in sunny Queensland, and will be finalised in South Maroota NSW.

Getting this issue done has been a bit of a challenge for me, as I had a fall and have done serious damage to my right shoulder tendons. Being left handed, should make the task easier, however now my poor left arm is overworked and just as sore as my right one. This would be a good time to have an assistant, but alas I don't have one. I won't let my community down, so I'll get it done and published.

I had a call from Sue in Wisemans, about getting some lighting installed on both ends of Cattai bridge. She has had lots of correspondence about it and when she gets a clear answer, I will let you

know. I have also contacted Clr Mitchell Blue about the danger to motorists exiting and entering Cliftonville Road. I have asked that the scrub opposite Weavers Road be cleared, and the possibility of a turning lane from Maroota area into Cliftonville Road be put in place.

If this is actioned, it will help the anxiety felt when watching to make sure a truck is not hurtling towards you. He has emailed me to let me know that he is onto it and I'll let you know those results also when they come to hand.

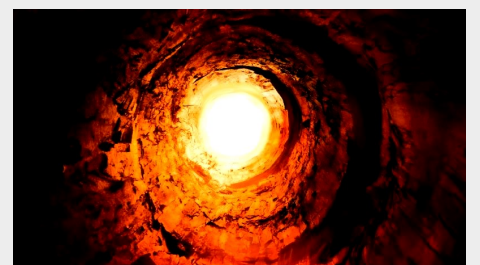
We are about to enter the "silly season", where there seems never enough time to get everything done. Presentations, gatherings, Christmas Parties, and lots of shopping, leave us exhausted by the time Christmas Day comes. But we still love it and we'll do it all over again next year.

.....Enjoy your read....Carole

In the industrial Midlands of the UK there is an expression "Bloomin Eck".

Did you know?
With John

This is thought to be derived from "Bloomin Hell", which probably originated from seeing inside a bloom furnace, which was hot and red and looked like people thought Hell would be.



The Dharug and Lower Hawkesbury River Historical Society



Christmas

By...Ben Anderson

A New President and Vice-President for River Cares

I am very proud of how River Cares has developed since its formation in July 2020. River Cares is the point of contact for all the emergency services and other agencies and has earned the respect of all 3 levels of government, and has established a strong relationship with the media such as Scott Levi and Mary-Louise Vince with the ABC Central Coast, Newcastle NBN News, Terry Collins at Coast Community News, the Mangrove Mountain and Districts Newsletter and the Living Heritage newsletter at Wisemans Ferry.



River Cares has put the Lower Hawkesbury River District on the map – we are now no longer forgotten, excluded, omitted and ignored! The boots on the ground during the March and July floods in 2022 can testify to this. One of the first of many River Cares achievements was fundraising for (2) AEDs (automated external defibrillators) located at the now renamed the Anchor Café in Spencer and at the Marlow Public Wharf, and subsequent funding by applying for a grant in conjunction with Sophie Wills from the Community Defib Project for an additional (4) AEDs located in Spencer at Cohens Creek and at the Malaluka Caravan Park, Oyster Shell Road in Lower Mangrove and at the bottom of the Divvy at Greengrove.

River Cares has grown far beyond anyone's expectations however it is time for me to step down as President. I have been the local activist since 2015 when I started campaigning alongside my counterpart Belinda Repton from Wendoree Park for a mobile tower (which was finally activated early 2019), agitating to Liesl Tesch MP in September 2017 for an upgrade of the Spencer public wharf (completed late October 2019), complaining to the Central Coast Council in 2019 for new public toilets (completed 25th January 2023) and countless other issues over an 8 year period, as well as being a voice for the Lower Hawkesbury River District but it is time for me to hand the baton over.

It gives me great pleasure to announce that we now have a new President Marlee Maxwell and Vice-President Rory Gibson for River Cares. Marlee and Rory have lived in Gunderman for over 2 years and have experienced first-hand the impact of extreme weather losing property in the floods that ravaged their home located on the banks of the Hawkesbury River. Marlee and Rory have supported River Cares and donated generously as they see the importance of the work that this community group have been conducting since its inception not only for Spencer and Gunderman but for the other river communities in the Lower Hawkesbury River District.

I will continue as a River Cares committee member in the capacity as the point of contact - Community Liaison Officer, and in addition as the Publicity Officer and Philanthropy Coordinator. I will be assisting Marlee ease into her role as the new River Cares President especially as we move into a potentially worrying bushfire season. River Cares still needs to continue its journey working to maintain the health, safety and well-being of the residents in this isolated part of the Central Coast LGA but we cannot do this work alone. We still require more support and welcome new members to come on board to help us continue developing our 'Community Led Emergency Response Plan, participate in the CB radio project and help us build community connectivity and resilience.

I am very grateful that Marlee has agreed to carry the baton for River Cares and to Rory for his on-going support as the new Vice-President.

Robyn Downham Publicity Officer River Cares

River Cares



Family comes from overseas,
To this land of 40 degrees.
They come expecting ice and snow,
But it's not even 20 or below.



Shall we go out or stay inside?
It's really not hard to decide.
Inside it's aircon, so it's cool,
But outside we can use the pool.



It's December, end of the year,
Spend time with those you hold dear.
We'll open gifts, enjoy a meal,
Tucking in with great zeal.



We overeat, we fall asleep,
All the leftovers, we'll keep.
Tomorrow we'll put the boxes away,
And then we'll have ham each day.

Christmas is a joyful time,
For all of us to unwind.
(Except for Mum who has to cook and clean,
and everything else in between.)

**MARROOTA COMMITTEE OF THE
CHILDREN'S MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE**

CHARITY STALL

FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER, 2023

10am - 3pm

To be held at

Windsor Bowling & Sports Club

Cnr Tebbutt & George Sts, Windsor

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some with the tags still on

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Core Stability Classes held on Tuesday mornings @ 9.30 am and a
10.30 am class for men only.

Classes are also on Thursdays during the day, plus one evening class.



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Wisemans Ferry Mens Shed

MENTAL HEALTH-MENTAL IMPROVEMENT

During the last month our crew have ventured to Spencer and Richmond, to sell some of our wares to raise necessary funds to continue the good work in our Community. Although all communities are struggling to pay the bills, we were fortunate to raise a modest amount to continue our work.

The Men's Shed will be having an open day on 2nd December, 2024 with a BBQ and disposal sale for goods;

New bathroom vanities from \$250

Vintage table saw \$200

New tools in their boxes from \$50

Children's picnic tables

Wooden Christmas trees, Various sizes

Flood-affected tools from \$1

We are open Tuesdays and Saturdays from 9 a.m.

You can ring us on **04488 33781**

Located behind Bowling Club

What a busy year this has been. We did not finish cleaning up the Shed until July, and this was no small feat, as we had no contents policy covering the damage of the floods of last year. Many thanks were extended to the staff of Hills and Hornsby Shires, who volunteered their time to shovel the mud crusted throughout the Shed.

We were able to obtain some funding to enable us to get replacement tools, and many more were donated by other Sheds after they saw the devastation on television.

Many of the tools were recycled and restored and then sold, to enable us to raise the funds necessary to continue on with our work of helping the needy in our region.

We do not beat our chests or blow trumpets about the work we do but the people we help are most grateful for our assistance.

Our aim is for the improvement of mental well-being, and with the current problems of mortgage rate hikes and household budgets blowing through the roof, we extend an invitation to all men and women to consider visiting our Shed, to enjoy the peaceful harmony with similar like-minded people.

The members of our Shed, extend to all our neighbors in the Forgotten Valley a joyous and relaxed Merry Christmas and a healthy less drama filled New Year.

We are located behind the Bowling Club.

Enquiries **04488 33781**.

We have made a supply of wooden Christmas trees of different sizes as shown, or you can order your own size.



St Albans Christmas Market

10 DECEMBER

Christmas MARKET

ROB'S BACKYARD PIZZA

2 WHARF ST, ST ALBANS
10AM - 2PM

stalbansvillagemarket.com.au

All entertainment kindly funded by Hawkesbury City Council

We have an awesome Dec 10 market day planned. Hawkesbury favourite Divinia Jean is returning once more to serenade us throughout the day, and we are welcoming Pizza Chef Extraordinaire Rob to tempt your tastebuds with his great range of gourmet pizzas.

St Albans is a beautiful family daytrip and weekender destination in the Northern Hawkesbury that attracts visitors from North West Sydney, the lower Blue Mountains and the Central Coast. They come to experience the 4 minute car ferry ride on the Webbs Creek Ferry, a meandering country drive to St Albans alongside the Macdonald River, a fabulous kids park by the river, and of course our two licensed institutions – The Pickled Wombat Café and the iconic convict built Settlers Arms Inn.

Along with our regular producers, check out an ever changing lineup of visiting stallholders – where you are bound to find that special Christmas gift for family and friends, or even for yourself

We've got giant old fashioned kids games in the shade with dedicated seating, and your fur baby 🐾 is always welcome – on a lead please.

Remember - the first 20 coffees (tea, chai latte, hot chocolate) are always free to visitors - from 10am. ☺

Great to go with your pizza brunch!

Gold coin donation per adult entry requested –
- going to St Albans Common this month.

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Beyond The Fence

Well, I'm not sure where 2023 went....

Yet here we are coming to the end of another year, and what a year it has been. High inflation, interest rate increases and sadly wars, all wreaking havoc on the property market. That said we have risen to challenges, and we are farewelling the year on a high and looking forward to a more stable and predictable 2024.

Sadly, we have said goodbye to some wonderful residents as they move on to their next real estate venture. Selling real estate in our region is often quite an emotional experience as we generally know most of our clients personally. To assist them in achieving a great result for their home is one of the greatest rewards of our service but to farewell them from close knit communities is saddening.

On the flip side of this we have the pleasure of welcoming new residents into our communities. We believe that we have a responsibility as real estate agents to go beyond just the sale of home. We aim to make our new residents feel welcome, comfortable and are always on hand to assist or help them navigate the challenges of moving to a new area.

As local agents we take so much pride in our region and represent more than just the sale of the property. Consistently achieving great results year after year is always at the heart of our agency, however we are ambassadors to our region, we showcase the lifestyle, sense of community and of course the beauty of the area.

As we continue to grow, we look forward to another great year of working with and within our community and showcasing what we believe is one of the best places to live.

**From all of the team at
Vella Iverson we wish you
all a Merry Christmas and
a safe and prosperous
2024.**

MERRY
Christmas

VELLA IVERSON



5968 Wisemans Ferry Rd, Gunderman | SOLD \$528,000

CHARMING COTTAGE WITH HAWKESBURY RIVER VIEWS

Affordable homes are rare & in high demand. This quaint cottage is full of character & charm & located in the tightly held riverside hamlet of Gunderman. The 1 Bed + Study home is set on an elevated 759sqm (approx) block & takes in beautiful views of the River.

Contact Agent: Trent Iverson | 0409 738 388



527 Settlers Road, Lower Macdonald | SOLD \$860,000

CHARACTER FILLED RIVERFRONT ESCAPE

This character filled, fully furnished, 3 level, 2 bedroom home has so much to offer. Set on over 1370sqm of river front land, the light filled north facing home showcases great views of the Macdonald river from almost every room.

Contact Agent: Paul Vella | 0418 649 294



42 Singleton Road, Wisemans Ferry | SOLD \$450,000

HILL SIDE BLOCK WITH RURAL VIEWS - 6746sqm

Located on the Sydney side of the Hawkesbury River and just 500m to the Village of Wisemans Ferry this rare parcel of vacant land is the ideal location to build your new home or weekender. Offering the perfect flood free location to build STCA.

Contact Agent: Paul Vella | 0418 649 294



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Rural Roundup

By Warren Waddell
Hornsby Shire Councillor

Hawkesbury Library Survey

Tell us what you think and go into the draw for a \$100 gift card!

Hawkesbury Library Service is conducting a new Library Program survey to find out about residents' views on its current program of events as well as offer suggestions for future ideas or Improvements. The survey is open until midnight on Sunday, 3 December and participants can choose to enter the draw for a \$100 gift card.

The survey results will help to create a vision for a vibrant program of Library events and activities in the Hawkesbury in 2024, while also considering cost of living pressures.

Survey respondents will be required to register with Council's Your Hawkesbury Your Say to complete the survey, however the survey is anonymous, with no personal information collected, unless you wish to participate in the draw for a \$100 gift card. If you haven't registered previously, it is a quick and easy process. An email, username and password are all that is required and then you are ready to participate in the Library survey as well as comment on any of Council's current community engagement projects whenever you wish to do so.

To complete the survey, go to Council's community engagement website Your Hawkesbury Your Say at www.yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au/hawkesbury-library-service-program-survey up until midnight on Sunday, 3 December 2023.

It was once again a privilege to represent Hornsby Shire Council at Remembrance Day services at both Galston and Glenorie. It was a pleasure to attend the morning service at the recently restored Galston cenotaph. The service was performed by Bill Rosier of the Hills RSL sub-branch and supported by volunteers from Galston RFS and John Graham on pipes.

The afternoon ceremony was held in the grounds of Glenorie RSL Club and featured the traditional "Ceremony of Beating the Retreat". A military ceremony dating back to 17th century England. Thank you to Graham Bruce and the Glenorie RSL sub-branch for organising this event and showcasing the talents of the Baulkham Hills High School Cadets and the Hills District Pipe Band.

By way of updates....

The long awaited off leash dog park planned for within Fagan Park is due to start. The first step is the exhibition of the proposal for comment. Residents and stakeholders are encouraged to click on the, "Have Your Say", window found on the HSC Website to view the proposal.

The Galston Aquatic centre has reached completion and will be handed back to Council on or around the 24th November. However, it will not become accessible to the public until the certifier

provides the occupation certificate ensuring full safety and operational compliance. This could take a further couple of weeks. Call 9847 6340 for confirmation and further updates.

The take up of State funding tied to rectifying flood affected roads continues. Most recently the completion of work in Laughtondale Gully Rd. and Mansfield Rd Galston.

The latest draft plan for Galston Village public domain upgrade will be presented by staff at the next AGRA meeting. This is scheduled for 7pm Thursday 30th November at The Galston Club. It's important that business owners and village users alike prepare to make comments on this project.

I would also like to extend congratulations to the organisers of this year's Arcadian Artists Trail. This event just goes from strength to strength, as so many of our local artists demonstrate such diversity in their work. Special thanks to those that open their homes for the event and accommodate the thousands of visitors.

I look forward to many more community events as we approach the holidays.

As always, happy to assist with any issue via the contact details below.

wwaddell@hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Ph: 0499004861



As your Federal Member, I am here to:

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

Please contact my office if I can be of assistance.

JULIAN LEESER MP
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR BEROWRA



Level 11, 423 Pennant Hills Road, Pennant Hills NSW 2120



9980 1822



julian.leeser.mp@aph.gov.au



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



Advertise your event, notice or sale on our Noticeboard

Eastbend Rural Communications Inc. held its AGM on Monday 20th November, and Office Bearers were elected as follows:

President - Peter Goldstien
Vice President - Carole Sweeny
Treasurer - Sheila Trotman
Secretary - Liz Wilkinson
Assist. Secretary - Marianne Sheumack
Public Officer - Jenny Carey
Publicity Officer - Pat Schwartz
Ordinary Members:
 Bevelyn Tollman
 Jessie Goldstien
 Helen Coy
 Gail Sweeny
 Adrian Acheson
 Warren Lumley

There was much to be discussed, including the progress with the Resource Centre relocation. We also talked about the sightings of koalas in our district and how significant this is. This area has so much to offer.

If you would like to be part of our group or have any local issues that you would like to discuss or have help with, please contact us.

☎ 0407 949 899

Wisemans Ferry Seniors

Our thoughts at present are all about Christmas and our end of year party, therefore no trips are being discussed. Maybe a trip to the beach in January, who knows!

Our outing on the River Postman is all organised with a full bus and those going are all looking forward to it.

We will be closing over I wrote a story about the festive season but will be back again in the New Year, to enjoy our Monday



Don't forget our Facebook page **Wisemans Ferry Bingo Group** and for any queries contact Jo 0419 413 523 or Noelene 4566 8226



Your local registered Sydney Wildlife Carer is Helen Coy

0427 358 096

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. Please ring for an appointment or further information

45 664 911



Apology

Last month I wrote a piece about the Mens' Shed walking track and when writing about the great help Wayne Bonser was, I wrote Wayne Bonzer. I did it again in my Eds column. Sorry Wayne, lesson learnt. I will check spelling in future...ed ☺

A Car Rally In Orange

By Liz Wilkinson

Friday morning saw us meeting up at the Hawkesbury Information Centre, with fellow car enthusiasts for the first days activities on our Daimler S P National Rally. It was great to greet friends, many of whom we have not seen since the Covid virus interfered with social activities. There were a few ring in cars on the rally including ours - a Merc 280CE, an E type Jag, a BMW 330CI, and a smaller Mercedes needed to replace the S P that played up enroute.

It was great to see a line of SP's leading the way up Bells Line Of Road as far as Bell, then we headed left to Mt Victoria and down the Great Western Highway to Jenolan Caves Rd, where we continued to Hampton Halfway Hotel to lunch and absorb the wonderful vista. Just past here, we turned down a road that made me wonder where on earth the name originated from - Duckmaloi Rd. The scenery was great with rolling mountain tops and views that go on forever-all reasonably green, not like home. I loved all the shade trees that were so straight on their bottoms where the cattle have nibbled. We headed through Oberon to Bathurst and Mt Panorama Motor Circuit where we stopped for car photos and of course a drive around the circuit.

Leaving here we had a short drive to Ophir Rd to visit Abercrombie House for a self guided tour and afternoon tea. In this area we saw another interesting street name - Mousehole Lane. Abercrombie house has an interesting history. It was built in Bathurst in 1870's by the Stewart Family-Bathurst pioneers, William came to Australia in 1825 and was Lieutenant Governor General of NSW for which he was granted land in Bathurst His eldest son James built Abercrombie House. The House and 50 acres is on the National Trust Register. It is now owned by the Morgan family.

We travelled on to Orange, where our rally centre was at the Caleula Motor Lodge, in the main street. To find our dinner venue, we walked down five blocks of the main street to find the Hotel Canobolas. Orange is a shoppers paradise, with a huge range of all the well known shops as well as more rural ones - pity I didn't bring my Christmas list with me!



Latest News



As the year draws to a close, we look forward to down time with our family and friends to celebrate, reflect on the past year and make new goals and plans. With many experiencing financial strain, we can take advantage of what the Shire has to offer this summer at no cost. From paddling in the water to enjoying the serenity of the trees around us or one of our new or upgraded playgrounds, there's so much to experience right here on our doorstep. I will appreciate some time with my family and hope you enjoy the time with those around you.

With the increased risk of bushfires, I trust you have all prepared your homes to reduce the risk to your property and belongings. We are so fortunate to live in a place with abundant bushland, but it does come with its risk, especially this year when the grass and bush is so dry. Don't forget to have a plan for what you

would do in an emergency and know what you will take with you and where you will go. There is lots of information to help you prepare on the new bush fire education section of Council's website: hornsby.nsw.gov.au/bushfireaware

Summer is a great time to read a good book, and in saying that, the Hornsby Shire Library's Summer Reading Clubs for children and adults run from 6 December until 23 January to encourage all ages to explore the amazing world of books. Register on the library's website for reading recommendations and for the chance to win great prizes.

To conclude, thank you for your support of Council and for all the time taken to give your feedback and suggestions. I wish you a cheerful and joyful holiday season and a happy new year.

Philip Ruddock AO,
Mayor, Hornsby Shire Council

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 13 DECEMBER, 6.30 PM

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

EASTBEND MEETINGS 2024

February 12th

May 13th

August 12th

**November 11th
AGM**



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FROM THE PASTORS DESK



CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR!

".....that is why I was sent", (Luke 4:43)

The story's told of a mother putting away the nativity set after Christmas when she noticed the Baby Jesus was missing. She asked her four-year-old if he knew where Jesus was. He replied, "Yes, but he doesn't want me to tell anybody". "Why not?", she asked. "Because He doesn't want you to put Him away with the decorations", he said. Wisdom from the lips of a child.

When you know why Jesus came, you'll celebrate Christmas every day. He said:

(1) ".....I came to fulfil (the law)" (Matt 5:17). The songwriter wrote: *The maker of the universe, as man for man, was made a curse. The claims of law that He had made, unto the uttermost, He paid*". Total coverage! Your sins of omission, commission and disposition were all paid for at Calvary.

(2) ".....the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve.....(Matt 20:28). Jesus was responding to a mother's request: *"Grantthese two sons of mine may sit (on thrones) at Your right and Your left in Your Kingdom"* (Matt 20:21). He said, *"It's about serving, not stiving!"*

(3) ".....I must preachthe Kingdom of God" (Luke 4:43). Each time we obey God's will instead of our own, we "preach" to others what it's like to live as a citizen of His Kingdom.

(4) ".....the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost" (Luke 19:19). Imagine meeting someone you worked with or lived with, saying to you in Heaven, *"How come you never told me?"*

Keep these four things in mind and you'll "celebrate Christmas every day of the year"!

Have a safe and Joyous Christmas!

*God Bless!.....PS Peter Goldstien,
JP, Community Chaplain. Midway Christian Centre*

LIVING HERITAGE FOLDING DAYS

Jan/Feb.....Mon.....Jan.. 15th
Mar.....Mon.....Feb.....26th
Apr.....Mon.....Mar.....25th
May.....Mon.....Apr.....22nd
Jun.....Mon.....May.....24th

We fold from 11.30am and usually it takes about 2-3 hours depending on the number of helpers. If you have any spare time, we can always use some help.

**Ph: 0407 949 899
or 0423 727 826**

*Pastor Peter Goldstien
Community Chaplain*

- Pastoral Care
- Weddings
- Funerals
- Baby Dedications
- Grief Counselling

email:

petergoldstien12@gmail.com



Mob: 0428 234 228

Redrawing Investment Loans

The ATO estimates that incorrect reporting of rental property income and expenses is costing around \$1 billion each year in forgone tax revenue. A big part of the problem is how taxpayers are claiming interest on their investment property loans.

We've seen an uptick in ATO activity focussing on refinanced or redrawn loans. This activity is a result of a major data matching program of residential property loan data from financial institutions from 2021-22 to 2025-26. This data is being matched to what taxpayers have claimed on their tax returns. Those with anomalies can expect contact from the ATO to explain the discrepancy.

If you have an investment property loan and redraw on the loan for a different purpose to the original borrowing, the loan account becomes a mixed purpose account. Interest accruing on mixed purpose accounts need to be apportioned between each of the different purposes the money was used for.

On the other hand, if the redrawn funds are used to produce investment income, then the interest on this portion of the loan should be deductible.

For example, if you have redrawn on the loan to pay for a private holiday, or pay down personal debt, then the interest relating to this portion of the loan balance is not deductible. Not only will the interest expenses need to be apportioned into deductible and non-deductible parts, but repayments will normally need to be apportioned too.

Withdrawals from an offset account are treated as savings

rather than a new borrowing. If you have a loan account and an interest offset account is attached to this account that reduces the interest payable on the loan, withdrawing funds from the offset account will typically increase the amount of interest accruing on the loan, but won't change the deductible percentage of the interest expenses. That is, when you withdraw funds from the offset account this is really a withdrawal of savings and won't impact on the extent to which interest accruing on the loan account is deductible.

If you have a home loan that was used to acquire your private home and you have funds sitting in an offset account, withdrawing those funds to pay the deposit on a rental property won't enable you to claim any of the interest accruing on the home loan. However, if you redraw funds from the home loan to acquire a rental property then interest accruing on this portion of the loan should be deductible. The tax treatment always depends on how the arrangement is structured.



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

Harry (Brett) Edwards
Managing Director
Bell Partners Norwest
Accountants and Advisors
02 8292 9700
hedwards@bellpartnersnorwest.com

Rainfall for

OCT 18th To NOV 22nd

Week 1. 5mm
Week 2. 60mm
Week 3. nil
Week 4. nil
Week 5. nil

Taken at South Maroota

Bush Philosophy

*If you get to thinkin'
you're a person of
some influence,
try orderin' some-
body else's dog
around!*

CHECK YOUR SMOKE ALARMS

ST ALBANS RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

St Albans Station:
4568 2013



Captain: Sherri McMahon
sherrimcmahon4@gmail.com

Senior Deputy Captain:
Ian Sawyer
SAWYERIAN23@gmail.com

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

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

IN THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY
WITH THE COMMUNITY AT HEART

Community Carols Night.

Enjoy an evening with good olé fashion Carol singing

with the Hawkesbury Concert Band led by

Jessica Dickinson and Tom Carter.

Date: Friday 8th December, 2023

at

Maroota Public School

4540 Old Northern Rd, Maroota

7pm - 9pm

(with BBQ available from 6pm provided
by the combined Local Rural Fire Brigades)



Please bring a blanket or chair, a candle or torch and insect repellent.

For further information contact:
Pastor Peter Goldstien 0428 234 228

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email: tonysimpson@ozemail.com.au



Hills Shire News



THE HILLS
Sydney's Garden Shire



Bin Collection Schedule Changes

If you are a Hills Shire resident, the day your bin is collected could change at the start of December.

Around 20,000 homes and businesses across 16 suburbs of the Hills, including properties in Glenorie and Maraylya, will have a new bin collection day starting from Monday, 4 December 2023.

If you are affected by the changes, you will have received a letter to inform you of the changes. You will also receive a reminder letter this month, and your bin will be tagged if you are in an area that will see a change in collection day.

Growth within The Hills means that changes need to be made to bin collection days to ensure bins can be picked up on their allocated day. The changes will improve the consistency and reliability of our waste services for you.

For more information, I encourage you to visit Council's website, www.thehills.nsw.gov.au and search for 'Bin Changes' or contact Council's Waste Hotline on 1800 623 895.

Lower Portland Ferry Maintenance

To ensure passenger safety and operational efficiency, the Lower Portland Ferry will undergo mandatory inspection and maintenance starting on Monday, 15 January 2024. This essential maintenance is legally required and anticipated to last approximately 12 weeks, subject to the extent of required work.

While every effort was made to secure a replacement ferry during this time, Transport for NSW informed The Hills Shire Council and Hawkesbury City Council that a suitable replacement was not available.

During this time, motorists are encouraged to utilise the Sackville Ferry, which is located approximately 13 minutes south of the Lower Portland Ferry. Thank you for your understanding during this temporary disruption and I look forward to regular ferry services resuming as soon as the maintenance is complete.

Water Safety

With summer fast approaching, the Hawkesbury River will become a popular destination for boats and water sports enthusiasts. It is the collective responsibility of every user of the Hawkesbury River to be alert, especially during peak times and adhere to water safety measures. These include following the designated speed limit for boats, maintaining a safe distance between boats, carrying and wearing lifejackets and being cautious around crowded areas.

For more information about water safety measures, visit the NSW Government's website, www.nsw.gov.au and search for 'Safety and rules on NSW Waterways.'

**Mayor of The Hills Shire Council,
Dr Peter Gangemi**



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WISEMANS FERRY HAIR DESIGN



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0245 664 300

Business Hours: Monday 9:00 to 3:30
Wednesday to Friday 9:00 to 5:00

NOTICE PLAYGROUP

Wisemans Ferry Community Centre
Singleton Road WISEMANS FERRY
Thursdays 9.30 am to 11.30 am Bring a drink and fruit.



Contact: Mary Howard Treasurer

0437 131 721

North Ward News

THE HILLS
Sydney's Garden Shire

As the year comes to an end, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

Thank you for your ongoing support throughout the year and know that I have enjoyed working with many of you on North Ward issues.

We still have a way to go with flood and rain related issues with roads being the number one concern.

Enjoy the Christmas period, hopefully you all can take a break, enjoy what is hopefully an Aussie summer. Get out on the River and enjoy all that North Ward has to offer.

If there is anything I can of assistance with, please let me know. **0400 449 324**
Merry Christmas.

Deputy Mayor

Councillor Mitchell Blue

Councillor – North Ward

2023 has been an interesting year and the end is fast approaching. We at The Hills Shire, are excited that there are new upgrades planned for the North Ward that will build and benefit our present and future communities.

Christmas is literally around the corner, made more apparent because shopping centres have already started putting up decorations, to remind us to prepare for the festive season.

Given this is the last communication for 2023, I hope that you and your family stay safe and are able to enjoy and celebrate the coming Christmas period and new year.

Councillor Virginia Ellis **Councillor - North Ward**
0400 552 041

Recipe Corner With Liz

RUSSIAN FRUIT PUDDING

Ingredients:

250g Cream Cheese
1 cup sugar
2pks Fruit Medley Mix
(Angus Park 375g bag)
1tbs brandy (a good helping)
125g butter-softened
2 eggs
1 cup cream



Method:

Beat eggs and sugar together until thick, beat in butter till light and fluffy. Stir in cheese and cream and mix well. Add all the fruit and brandy mixing till combined. Pour into containers (*I use 4 take away food containers*) and freeze.

The original recipe just set the mix in fridge for 24 hours then unmoulded it, but I have always frozen mine. It will keep for many months in the freezer.

I always make this at Christmas and enjoy the leftovers during the year. I have made this every year since 1970.



Tall Timbers Centre

Charity Golf Day 15th March 24

Support people with disabilities as they develop their abilities through our unique equine programs.

BOOK NOW - Event Sponsors welcomed!
Teams of 4 or Individuals and we will find you a team!



Naming Rights Event Sponsor - \$5,000

Maximise your support by being our Naming Rights Event Sponsor - includes 2 teams of 4 players and promotion to go with it!

01

Only 1 available!



Event Sponsor - \$2,500

Maximise your support by being an Event Sponsor - includes 1 team of 4 players and promotion to go with it!

02

Only 2 available!



Hole Sponsor - \$1,000

Own a Hole on course for a day and network with all the players as they come through to increase your brand awareness. Includes breakfast and lunch for 2!

03

3 sold - Only 15 left!



Support the event in other ways

Event Supporter - \$250
Prize Giver- min \$100
Play Golf - \$155pp
Learn to Golf with Lunch - \$ 95pp
Lunch only - \$65pp
Spread the word amongst your network - Free

06

Six other ways to support the event!

Christmas Gift Vouchers also available!
Order by Dec 15th 2023



02 9679 1246

admin@rdanswtalltimbers.org.au



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Community Fire Wise

The Hills District Rural Fire Service

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE!

MAROOTA RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

We are fast approaching the end of year 2023. Most households will be busy planning and attending end-of-year celebrations, whether it be school concerts and assemblies or work functions. And you will be looking forward to your plans for Christmas.

We at Maroota brigade, along with our neighbouring brigades, sincerely hope you have been taking our messaging seriously and have made plans that will keep you and your family safe in the event of a bushfire happening. We cannot stress to you how important this is. Fires don't care what time of the year it is and if you are ready. They can strike during the day or night, whether you are at home or notand our end of the shire is heavily fuel-loaded and easily combustible.

The 2002 bush fires took only 30 minutes to race from Cattai to Glenorie, from South Maroota to Maroota and beyond. Do you think you could pack your life up and get yourself and your family to safety in just 30 minutes without previous clear, concise planning? Approximately 60% of the residents now living in our area have not experienced a serious bush fire. You must be prepared!

So please heed our advice, make and revise your bush fire survival plans. Be sure your home and property are prepared. Take advantage of the information available to you on our website www.rfs.nsw.gov.au or on your device apps. Check the fire danger rating (FDR) each day so you know your triggers and what to expect. Listen to messaging from media and emergency services so you can make informed decisions if a fire starts. Reach out to us if you need help with any of this. We are not trying to scare you but to prepare you.

Finally, on behalf of the Maroota Rural Fire Brigade, we would like to thank our community for your support and wish you a safe, happy (hopefully fire-free) Christmas. It has been a pleasure working with and amongst you at various community functions throughout this year and we look forward to doing more of the same in the new year.....Merry Christmas!

...Robin Hitchcock

MAROOTA SOUTH RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

Santa Is coming,,, Again we are planning to take Santa around the brigade area to the delight of the gathered children and young at heart. The truck will be at Cattai, Caddie Rd estate at about 5pm on Christmas eve. There will be a notice dropped out in December for final details.

With that notice, there will be a reminder about our ongoing fundraiser of collecting car lead acid batteries. This keeps old batteries out of landfill, it also provides the brigade with much needed funds. They can be left anytime on the pallet at shop (on corner of Wisemans Ferry and Sackville Ferry Roads). Call if unsure.

Last month the brigade attended numerous calls. One was a car into a power pole at Cattai where the car caught alight, and threatened to burn the pole off. The power, including the line that fell, remained on. If you are confronted with power lines down, it is essential they be treated as live. Some bystanders at the scene of the accident did not do this, getting very close to the downed lines.

Many have asked why Oakville brigade are attending calls in the Maroota South area. It is part of the new computer dispatch system, and any RFS truck can be called if they are deemed appropriate. As Oakville are so close to us, they are often coming to assist us at our jobs. It has been great to work with other brigades.

....Garry Chatman



WISEMANS FERRY RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

During the last month the team have attended a number of activities in the area including trees down in Wisemans Ferry Road at Spencer and also on St Albans Road, Lower MacDonald; a vehicle fire on Old Northern Road, Maroota; and three vehicle accidents on Old Northern Road, Wisemans Ferry, Settlers Road St Albans, plus the corner of Wollombi and Wharf Roads, St Albans. As well, our members volunteered for various deployments to northern NSW. Members were also involved in the NorthEx exercises held for northern brigades.

2023/2024 Fire Season - Stay & defend or leave early?

We are all living in a high fire prone area in Wisemans Ferry, with predictions of it being a high fire danger period this season. Due to high levels of vegetation growth in the area the risk of bush and grass fires is increased for NSW for 2023/24. To help you find further information on preparing a Bush Fire Survival Plan so you can make informed decisions about your safety to suit you and your family, we have included some helpful links for you to explore:

STEP 1

DISCUSS WHAT TO DO IF A BUSH FIRE THREATENS YOUR HOME

Many households find that having a discussion over dinner works best as everybody is together and focussed.

[Download the Step 1 discussion guide \(PDF, 985.3 KB\).](#)

STEP 2

PREPARE YOUR HOME AND GET IT READY FOR BUSH FIRE SEASON

There are simple things you can do around your home to prepare it for a bush fire, like keeping the grass low and having a cleared area around your home.

[Download the Step 2 checklist \(PDF, 595.5 KB\).](#)

STEP 3

KNOW THE BUSH FIRE ALERT LEVELS

If there is a fire in your area you will find its alert level on the NSW RFS website and in the 'Hazards Near Me' app. You need to keep track of the alert level so you know what you should do.

[Download Step 3 \(PDF, 227.4 KB\).](#)

STEP 4

KEEP ALL THE BUSH FIRE INFORMATION NUMBERS, WEBSITES AND THE SMARTPHONE APP

In a bush fire, it's important that you stay up to date on conditions in your area.

[Download Step 4 \(PDF, 219.1 KB\).](#)

....Margaret Cavanagh

Santa on the Fire Truck



Maroota: Capt:
Mob: ☎0417 216 306
Sth Maroota: ☎0414 430 959
" ☎4575 0433
Canoelands: ☎0417 216 306

W/Ferry: ☎4566 4244
W/Ferry Capt: ☎0419 448 537
Hillside: ☎9652 2245
Glenorie: ☎9652 2017
Gosford Fire Cont: ☎4340 2911

Hawk Fire Cont: ☎4575 1601
Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai
Fire Control: ☎9883 2000
The Hills
Fire Control: ☎9658 9000

Sackville North: ☎9658 9000
" Mob ☎0419 522 088
Lwr McDonald: ☎4568 2168
St Albans: ☎0409 322 236
Spencer: ☎4566 4640

Galston CWA News



The members of Galston CWA have been busy. Since their successful Fashion Parade at the Galston Club on October 18th, they were working towards the stall that they had at the Rowland Village Market Day on Saturday last. There were many surprises to delight the buyers. Lots of homewares, knitwear and delicious baked goods as well.

On December 7th the ladies will be at Dural Bunnings from 6 – 8pm. Perhaps you may find some Christmas ideas.

We are happy to accept donations of surplus fruit and vegetables for the jams and pickles we make. The money we raise helps the charities we support.

Our last gathering for 2023 will be our Christmas Party on December 13th and we will return on Valentine's Day, February 14th, for our first meeting of what we hope will be a wonderful 2024. We would love to welcome new members for the New Year.

For more details:

Anne:

0404 228 209

Patricia:

0412 948 787



Galston Girl Guides

Galston Guides enjoy being outdoors, especially bush walking, having fun at Treetops Adventure park, camping and cooking on a camp-fire.

We currently have vacancies in our Junior Guide unit, aged 6-9 year olds.

If your daughter is interested in making new friends, taking part in fun activities, community service or learning outdoors, then please contact GalstonDM@girlguides-nswactnt.org.au to find out more.



GIRL GUIDES MEET NEAR YOU

Galston Junior Guides

Thursdays 4.30-6pm

For girls 6-9 years old

Galston Guide Hall
414 Galston Road

CONTACT: 1300 447 548
GalstonDM@girlguides-nswactnt.org.au



LIVING HERITAGE
Maroota and District News
"COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION"
Note! Copy deadline is 15th month.



Matt Kean MP

Member for Hornsby



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Matt

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

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Wisemans Ferry Anglican Church



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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

Next service at St Albans is....
First Sunday of the month -



10am St Albans

Blokes' Coffee: Fridays 10am

Women's Coffee: Tuesdays 10am

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



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 9.30am
All welcome to the gathering.

Bring A plate for brunch and enjoy the fellowship
Cnr Sackville & Wisemans Ferry Road, South Maroota

Phone 0428 234 228

Old Australian Photos

A suggestion was made that we do a series of the wonderful old photos that we post on our Living Heritage Facebook page. These photos are an historical record of the people, towns and cities of our great country. We hope you like them.



A fantastic photo of George Street Windsor circa 1940's



Bullock team hauling timber in George Street Windsor circa 1900

1. Eiffel Tower
2. Travel overseas
3. I understand
4. Hand in hand
.....Solution to puzzle on page 19

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SCHOOL SNIPPETS

WISEMANS FERRY PUBLIC SCHOOL



At Wisemans Ferry PS, Term 4 never disappoints; with activities, celebrations, and lots of fun. This term we will enjoy visits from our new Kindergarten students, swim school, our swimming carnival and many end of year special events. Two of our year 5 students undertaking the Year 5 Leadership Program have written articles for this edition. Thank you to both of the Jackson's. We look forward to what term four has to offer.

Deirdre Dorbis | Principal

On Friday 27th October it was 'World Teacher's Day.' It was a wonderful opportunity to recognise the amazing teachers we have at Wisemans Ferry Public School. We are thankful to have teachers with wisdom and expertise who genuinely care about the students at our school. Thank you Mrs Harris, Miss Hawker, Mrs Gibb, Mr Van Biljon and Mrs Walker for all that you do for the students, parents and community of Wisemans Ferry Public School. Your contribution is invaluable and greatly appreciated.



Kindergarten 2024 Transition

Our Kindergarten transition program kicked off last week with the beginning of the Friday social play program. Last week, we welcomed Chloe, Josh, Willow,



Ares and Lucy who joined K/1 and their year 4 buddies for some structured play. Our structured social play program will run each Friday afternoon until Dec 1st. On Wed 1st November, our formal Kindergarten orientation program commenced and will run for five weeks each Wednesday concluding on Wednesday November 29.

During our Wednesday program students will be involved in classroom activities getting them ready for 'big school' in 2024.

Stage 3 Great Aussie Bush Camp

Story written by Jackson D. (as a component of the Year 5 Leadership Program)

Camp was a fun experience, mainly because it had been the first time I had gone on camp before. The bus trip was long and fun! Leaving my family was sad and exciting at the same time.

Jackson B. and I were the only students from year five and all of the year six student went.

The cabins were clean-ish and the beds were quite comfortable.



Most people would say that the food was disgusting but I think that the food was nice, except for the mac and cheese. Everyday we would get snow cones, but they were just cordial with ice.

We did archery and surprisingly, I won \$10, so did Khloe and Annabel (from MacValley) because we hit the bullseye. I really got pushed out of my comfort zone and so did all my new friends and my friends from Wisemans Ferry. Especially doing things like the power fan and the rock climbing.

When we were leaving, I was happy and sad and so were the rest of the kids. Jackson B. and I were up the back of the bus and surprisingly it was quite luxurious. I was so happy to go home and see my family and so were all my new friends. The Great Aussie Bush Camp was totally awesome and I can't wait for the next camp in Canberra next year.

MMWaC Academic Challenge

Story written by Jackson B.

(as a component of the Year 5 Leadership Program)

On Wednesday September 20, Tilly, Kendall, Kiera, Charlotte M., Bree-anna, Nate, Henry, Tenayah, Phoenix, Jaxson, Patrick, Billy and myself headed to Cattai Public School for the MMWaC Academic Challenge.

The Academic Challenge involved a spelling and mathematics competition. As we all gathered waiting for the competition, we were nervous and excited at the same time. The K/1/2 students did really well in spelling and gave the mathematics challenge a red hot go. The 3/4 mathematicians did an excellent job in trying - well done! A special mention goes out to Kendall in year four who won both her mathematics and spelling competitions -

congratulations.

The 5/6 kids did a good job too! Both in maths and spelling.

Let's go Wisemans!!

NSW State Athletics Championships

On Thursday 26th October, I had the pleasure of attending the NSW State Athletics Championships at Homebush to watch our relay team, consisting of Khloe, Kiera, Jackson D. and Mitchell participate in the Nigel Bagley relay. There were 30 other small schools from across NSW in this event. Despite the cold weather and the nerves our students ran an amazing race, finishing 19th overall. It is a fantastic opportunity for our students to participate in a state carnival. We are extremely proud of their determination and commitment to succeeding.



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Jenni Taylor B.V.Sc

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Mums and their Bubs



ATLAS

Solution to puzzle on page 19

SCHOOL SNIPPETS

MACDONALD VALLEY PUBLIC SCHOOL



Public Speaking

The whole school travelled to Oakville PS to support our wonderful Stage 2 and Stage 3 public speakers in the Hawkesbury District Public Speaking competition.

We were so proud of how well they spoke and how wonderfully written their speeches were. The process began a while ago with Miss Moss teaching them the art of writing a speech, then the children choosing their topic according to the competition criteria and finally writing their own speech.

Their speeches were sophisticated, interesting, based on facts, utilised techniques to engage the audience and relevant to both the interests of adults and children of their age. Writing from hearts and heads, it was clear that they had been on a rich learning journey.



Swimming and Water Safety Program

The first of our two Swimming and Water Safety sessions for Term 4 was held in Week 4. Thank you so much to all of the lovely staff at The Y NSW Hawkesbury Oasis for kindly

accommodating our school for the Swimming and Water Safety Program once again this term. Students always thoroughly enjoy the day's activities and it is wonderful to see their steady improvement and confidence with provision of these lessons each term.



CATTAI PUBLIC SCHOOL



Middle of the term already and so much has been happening!

Kindy Transition was a wonderful start to next year's cohort. After four mornings, the children now have a sense of ownership and belonging to the Cattai Community. The Year 5 buddies did a wonderful job helping these children settle into new routines. Next year should see a wonderful start to their new step in their formal education.

The year 3 and 4 students, as well as some from year 2, attended a 6-a-side Soccer Gala competition. We were able to send two teams to the event. The children all did themselves proud with their efforts and sportsmanship.

Our children from Stage 3 attended a 3 day excursion to The Great Aussie Bush Camp with fellow students from several other small schools. This event allowed the children to learn to take risks, work in new groups and be proud

of all their sensible choices. New friendships were formed and many of these will help our students as they transition to high school. The children all came home full of wonderful stories about rock climbing, canoeing and using the giant swing. Everyone had a wonderful and productive time.

We were lucky to be able to attend The Resilience Project run by Mark Heppell. This programme puts emphasis on wellbeing using the areas of empathy, mindfulness and gratitude as its base. All sectors of our community had the chance to attend one of the seminars, and everyone was very supportive of the content and delivery of the project.

Remembrance Day saw our school leaders guiding the students through a ceremony of thanks and remembrance. The students made their own flowers to place at the base of the flag-pole. It was another event where our pupils displayed their ability to show reverence during a solemn occasion.

The final Parent Assembly for the year was hosted by C1. The assembly was preceded by a hot lunch with fruit and cordial, then all the parents arrived. There were the usual awards given such as Birthday Awards, Class Awards, and Principal's Awards as well as school notices. Each member of the host class had the chance to introduce the next section of the assembly or invite the next speaker. The C1 class displayed their Phases of the Moon charts and spoke about each phase. The C2 class had

advertising posters about types of technology designed for a set target group. The C3 class had worked in groups to research the planets of our Solar System. The parents were suitably impressed with the work produced and the ability of the children to speak to an audience.

Not much of this school year is left and it is full of new learning and end of year events. Stay tuned!



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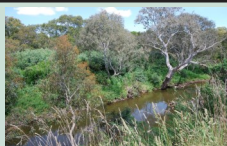
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Dharug word of the Month
"nigiyini budyari"

Means...
'Good to see you'



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Kids Corner



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

Can you work out what these sayings are?



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.....SOLUTION page 15

BIRTHDAY CLUB December 2023..

- 6th - Ella Rae will be 11
- 11th - Charlotte Galea will be 14
- 14th - Tiffany Mills will be 14
- 21st - Matilda Higson will be 14
- 24th - Gracey-Leigh Grogan will be 12
- 28th - Mathew Simpson will be 16
- 30th - Kiarney Wade will be 14
- 31st - Eowyn Ransley will be 14



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