

# LIVING HERITAGE

## Maroota and Districts News

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VOLUME 26, ISSUE 1/2

CIRCULATION 2000

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2023

### What's On

#### Dural Growers Market

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

#### Glenorie Growers Market

4th Sunday each month  
Les Shore Oval Glenorie  
Info: 0417 227 748

#### 2nd Sun of the month St Albans Village Market

Wharf Street St Albans  
Info: 0419 977 535

#### Hawkesbury City Council

proudly invites you to Australia Day on the Hawkesbury 2023, a fun family friendly community event on Thursday, 26 January 2023 from 5pm to 9pm at Governor Phillip Park, Windsor. The event will also include a variety of food trucks with a huge variety of hot food and refreshments. The ever-popular fireworks finale on the river will be the perfect close to a perfect day



Find us on Facebook

## Everything's Coming Up Roses

By.....  
Karen  
Rose

*The following article was published online by the Blackmore Vale Magazine in Dorset UK. It outlines the Rose family journey from the UK.*

Two hundred and thirty years ago this month, a Sturminster Newton family was three months into a voyage into a unique place in history. Roger Guttridge recounts a Sturminster Newton family's pioneering contribution to Australian history.

Thomas and Jane Rose, their four children, their niece Elizabeth Fish and their dairymaid Elizabeth Watts were soon to become the first family of free settlers in Australia – hitherto only transported convicts and their guards had been welcomed.

The Rose party was nine of just 15 people who responded to a nationwide appeal for experienced farmers and 'other right kind of settler' to become pioneers in Britain's newest overseas colony.

As well as free passage, the British government offered land, tools, two years' worth of provisions, clothing for a year and availability of convict labour.

But this was no trip for the faint-hearted. It involved a five-month voyage across the world's great oceans, all the challenges of an alien climate and environment and the likelihood that you'd never see your family, friends and home town again.

Which is perhaps why only ten adults and five children voluntarily joined the crew and 17 women convicts on the supply ship *Bellona* as she sailed from Gravesend on 8th August 1792.

The voyage was not uneventful. Elizabeth Fish's one-year-old daughter died just nine days into the voyage due to 'worm fever and convulsions'. Elizabeth later struck up a relationship with Lancashire farmer and fisherman Edward Powell, one of the other six voluntary settlers, and the couple married soon after the *Bellona*'s arrival at Sydney Cove on 16th 1793.

Romance also blossomed between gardener Thomas Webb and convict Catherine Buckley. They married eight days after arriving. Within two years, Catherine was a widow. Thomas had been fatally speared by Aboriginals and his nephew Joseph had also died.

Jane Rose arrived at Sydney Cove three months pregnant with the fifth of her seven children. Many of the supplies failed to survive the voyage. Sixty-nine barrels of flour arrived 'rotten, stinking and maggotty' due to damp; pork was 'stinking rotten and unfit to eat'; hundreds of gallons of rum and wine and almost 1,200 gallons of molasses had dribbled away due to leaks; huge quantities of cloth, hammocks and rugs and a case of stationery were rotten and unfit for use due to water damage.

Thomas Rose was allocated 120 acres seven miles west of Sydney and a further 70 acres five years later as a reward for his hard work.

But the soil quality was poor and the family endured crop failures and water shortages as well as an Aboriginal attack in which Jane was hit by a spear and saved only by her whalebone corset. The family moved to Prospect, where Thomas was put in charge of a government farm, and, in the early 1800s, to a third location on the north bank of the Hawkesbury River at Wilberforce near Sydney.

.....Continued on page 3

Australia Day Thursday 26th January 2023

Grab your mates, your family and friends and celebrate in whichever way you choose. This day is significant for all Australians however they came to be.

Happy



**INSIDE...**Eco News/Editors Notes/Quote pg 2, Rose Family Reunion/Ben's Poem pg 3, Men's Shed/Mums & Bubs pg 4, Vella Iverson pg 5, Holiday fun @ Library, Gallery & Museum/Julian Leeser pg 6, Noticeboard/Canberra-National Museum Trip pg 7, Hornsby Shire Council/Pastors Desk pg 8, Plan in Reverse/Bush Philosophy/Rainfall/RFS/ pg 9, North Ward News pg 10, RFS FireWise pg 11, W/F Realty pg 12, Galston CWA/Oakville History pg13, Church Services/Old Australian Photos pg14, School Snippets/Hornsby Update pg 15 School Snippets 16 & pg 17, Village Directory pg 18, Birthdays/Kids/Robyn Preston MP pg 19, Vella/Iverson pg 20.

## ECO-NEWS



With Liz Wilkinson

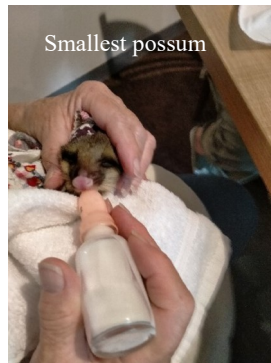
It's not just children who can be mischievous and contrary, poor Jacky Winter is being given a hard time from his offspring. He has two young ones, a very quiet one and one who is full of beans! As dad loads up his beak and goes to feed them the lively one takes off and expects dad to follow.

At least by the time this story reaches you his trials will be over and the babies will be independent. I found a heap of grubs on my vegies today so I gathered them into a container and waited for Jacky to appear - he gobbled most of them up for himself reserving only one for the little ones.

While waiting for the ferry today (end Nov) I noticed dozens of white butterflies hovering over the weed patch that once upon a time was lovely grass. May be I should tell Jacky Winter to go down there as the grub count will be very high before too long. Same trip on the ferry I watched a baby swallow, now out of the nest, being fed by mum and then carrying on because he wanted more - opening his beak and squawking at mum. Why do baby birds shake their wings while being fed??

A new bird on the block! - I spotted an Olive-backed Oriole sitting on my BBQ. I think it was a male as they are greener than the female. They have a variety of calls including mimicry - a loud hiss and hollow chuckle like the Satin Bowerbird.

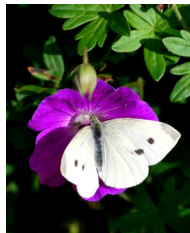
I had a lovely birthday present today (late Nov), while my coffee and gazing over our bushland valley I saw one of my favourite birds - the Kingfisher. It has not been visiting our place since the termite nest in the tree that they nested in each year finally fell apart - quite a long time ago.



Smallest possum



Older possum



White Butterfly



As I went back inside I heard a bang on the window and saw a baby Yellow Robin clinging to the wooden frame. It stayed there for a few minutes of recovery before taking off again.

I heard a baby Kookaburra making a bit of a squawk. It was very young - just out of the nest. The little fellow had no manners - snatching a worm being offered by his parent. I guess we'll have many weeks of noise as it learns to give the famous Kookaburra laugh.

A delightful surprise came to our paper folding morning. One of our members is a Wild Life Carer and she came with her latest care babies - two tiny possums - they were in their own bags and were carried in a cloth bag. These little creatures have to be fed every five hours around the clock - quite a commitment! One is able to lap the special milk they are given, the other has a bottle. Of course our cameras were very active recording our precious visitors.

## Quote!

*To look up and not down, to look forward and not back, to look out and not in - to lend a hand.*

Edward Everett Hale

## Living Heritage News

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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 .....

My goodness! What a hectic time I have had since I last sat here putting the December issue together. I had seventeen Christmas gatherings/events to go to, and a few I just had to renege on, because of time restraints and just plain fatigue. I enjoyed every one I went to though, however, I will seriously have to curb my food intake over the next few months, to compensate for the overeating I did.

I still haven't put my winter jammies away, nor taken the doona from my bed. The mornings are still chilly and the evenings too, this is not the summers that I am used to. However, I am liking the cool nights for sleeping, so mustn't complain.

The month of January is significant for all Australians, as our nation was 'discovered' and settled by the British.

Of course, they didn't know that the native people had already been occupying the land for thousands of years. It must have been a shock to both sides, to finally encounter each other. The rest is history.

So Australia Day is celebrated each year, to bring all peoples together in one accord. It doesn't always go to plan, but generally all Aussies get together on this day to have a great day.

What will you be doing on this Australia Day 2023?

We are going to try some new formats in the coming months, some practical, some historical and some just to keep you on your toes. The input I'm getting from the community, is very encouraging and gives me a purpose to keep going.

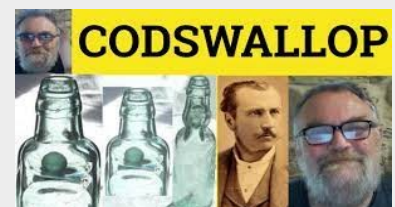
....Enjoy your read....Carole

There is an old saying in the Midlands of the UK that something is a load of old 'Cods Wallop'.

*Did you know?*  
With John

The story goes that a man by the name of Hiram Codd patented a bottle for fizzy drinks with a marble in the neck. This marble kept the bottle shut by the pressure of the gas until it was pressed inwards.

Wallop was a slang term for beer and Codd's Wallop came to be used by beer drinkers as a derogatory term for weak or gassy beer or for soft drink.



# Everything's Coming Up Roses

By...  
Karen Rose

.....continued from page 1

The land here was more fertile but also flood-prone, and the family had crops, livestock and several bark shelters or huts washed away before building a sturdier log cabin on higher ground. Rose Cottage built in 1811 remained in the family until 1961 (150 years) and is today maintained as a tourist attraction by the Thomas and Jane Rose Family Society and is Australia's oldest timber house.

The Roses took their duties of populating the colony seriously. By the time Jane died in 1827, she was Australia's first non-Aboriginal great-grandmother with more than 100 descendants.

Thomas died six years later aged 84. By the late 20th century, the number of known descendants of Thomas and Jane had risen to 27,600 although the true number is thought to be now more than 60,000.

A surviving letter sent to Jane in 1798 by her parents gives us a glimpse of the English they had left behind.

Thomas and Mary Topp of Sturminster Newton wrote of a constant fear of invasion by Napoleon, of frequent troop movements as a result, of sky-high prices and of 'hardly to be borne' taxes on everything from horses and dogs to hats and gloves to butter and cheese.

On 8th August 1992, 200 years to the day after the Bellona set sail, three Australian Rose descendants attended a celebration garden party at Puxey Farm, Sturminster, the family's home before departure.

And in January 1993, hundreds of Rose descendants were among 2,000 people who converged on Sydney Cove to mark the anniversary of the Bellona's arrival. Descendants of some of the 17 female convicts also took part.

• Roger Guttridge's book *Dorset: Curious and Surprising* includes a chapter on the Rose settlers you can get it here -

<https://amzn.to/3F5FCZg> Thomas and Jane Rose Family Society#history #lookingback #dorsethistory #australia #dorset #rosefamily #SturminsterNewton #bvmagazine #thebv #rosefamilysociety

I am also hoping to get a follow up article published in the Blackmore Vale about our celebrations of their arrival. I have also been in contact with Councillors Pauline Batstone and Carole Jones of Dorset Council and many Roses who still live there.

So I have organised a series of events to commemorate the 230th anniversary of their arrival in Port Jackson aboard the Bellona which will culminate in a re-enactment aboard a Tall Ship in Sydney Harbour on the morning of 16th January 2023.

## Wednesday 11th January -

Dinner at Church Bar Windsor

## Friday 13th January -

Ghost Tour of Wilberforce Cemetery and Rose Cottage

## Saturday 14th January -

Fundraising Concert at Heritage Hotel Wilberforce featuring Bowen and Clare & Irish fiddler

## Sunday 15th January -

230th anniversary Reunion of descendants and visitors at Rose Cottage

## Monday 16th January -

Re-enactment of Thomas and Jane Rose Family arrival aboard a Tall ship in Sydney Harbour.

**This event will be on morning TV and livestreamed.**

It is a very important event not only for the history of the Hawkesbury but of Australia.

The Society would also like to extend an invitation to any descendants of the **Meredith, Webb, Powell, Watts and Fish** families to join in the Reunion and the Re-enactment to represent the other first free settlers aboard the Bellona.



# New Beginnings

By..Ben  
Anderson

An empty page,  
Full of hope.  
But building rage,  
Reduces scope.



The words won't flow,  
Let's be frank.  
Nothing to show,  
My mind is blank.

A brand new journal,  
A blank slate,  
Possibilities eternal,  
I can't wait.



I shall write of absence,  
New beginnings and peace.  
All things in balance,  
My creative release.

## 230th Anniversary Reunion at Rose Cottage



**18 Rose Street, Wilberforce**

**You are invited to help celebrate the 230th anniversary of Thomas and Jane Rose's arrival aboard the first free settlers and also the 41st year of the society.**



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## Wisemans Ferry Men's Shed

Vintage machinery, Vintage  
Motor Bikes, Vintage Cars

Vintage Tractors

Classic Car Display



Sunday 12th March, 2023

*Wisemans Ferry  
Community Mens Shed*

9:30 - 2pm

### TROPHIES

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Best modified  
Longest travelled  
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People's choice



• BBQ  
• STALLS  
• FLOOD-AFFECTED  
TOOL SALE

Ring Adrian on 0448833781 to book

Located behind Wisemans Ferry Bowling Club

## The Ferry Garden

This is one section of the garden down at the Sackville Ferry.

Tony is the person who created and tends these gardens at the ferry.

Thank you Tony from the district's residents and visitors to our area, your effort is much appreciated.



### GOLF + DINNER EVENT

Thousands of families and businesses along the Hawkesbury River have been impacted by the major flood events in March and July this year.

Riverside Oaks is making their venue and staff available on **Friday, February 17th**, for a **FLOOD RELIEF FUNDRAISING EVENT** which will take the form of a golf tournament and a dinner.

All funds Raised will be allocated for distribution to local families and businesses via:



**Date:** Friday 17th of February 2023

**Venue:** Riverside Oaks Golf Course

**Event:** Charity Ambrose Golf Day and Dinner

**4-person Ambrose:** Handicaps provided on the booking site along with dietary's

**Non-golfers welcome:**

**Time:** 12:00pm Shot Gun Start  
6:00 pm Dinner

**Cost:** \$195 Golf and dinner  
\$85 Dinner only

**BOOK GOLF + DINNER**  
Please [click here](#)

**DINNER ONLY**  
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**ACCOMMODATION**  
Please visit [www.riversideoaks.com.au](http://www.riversideoaks.com.au)



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and  
their  
Bubs

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# Beyond The Fence

## 2023 – A Year of Challenges and Opportunity

The lockdown years, while challenging will go down in history as one of the most turbulent periods for the Australian property market. While the rate of growth in property values was multi-speed led by the eastern states, in particular the capital cities Sydney and Melbourne, the country benefited from a record low interest rate environment. Interestingly, the swift downturn in property values was as frenetic as the growth. High inflation post pandemic triggered the Reserve Bank of Australia to pull the lever on raising the lowest cash rate in decades, nearly 2 years earlier than RBA governor Philip Lowe was touting at the beginning of 2022.

Eliza Owen – Head of Research at Core Logic recently commented on the ABC about the sheer ferocity of the pace in which rates were increased. Interest rates went from a cash rate of 0.1% to 3.1% in just 8 months. Ms Owen referenced that the last time we saw a 300 basis point rise was over a 6 year period. We also need to bear in mind that we also have a wave of

property owners who have purchased in the past 2 years with fixed rates soon to expire. The RBA estimates that approximately 23% of all home loans are on fixed rates and will expire towards the end of 2023 and owners could be faced with a potential 3%-4% rate increase. This increased burden is intended to have direct impact on what the RBA considers "spare cash" and subsequently limit consumer spending.

So where is the opportunity in all of this? As interest rates have risen, we have seen a swift downturn in prices. Obviously, this makes getting into the property market more affordable, yet many could argue the benefit of lower prices would be offset by high interest rates. This really depends on the type of buyer. Currently first home buyers have access to the First Home Owners Grant of \$10,000, partial exemption of transfer duty and now the choice to pay the transfer duty upfront or an annual property tax. According to the recent Domain Rent Report, rents

increased in Sydney by 4.8% for Q3 and a staggering 14% over the year now making home ownership a more attractive option for first home buyers.

With rental returns up by 14% this presents a great opportunity for investors. Australia's population is set to continue to grow with a focus on skilled migration to support a significant labour shortage. Combine this with a vacancy rate of just 1.1% in Sydney, it clearly indicates a demand for private investment in the rental sector. Should the RBA release the pressure on rate rises and markets begin to stabilise we will hopefully see a balanced market return to this sector. A market where sensible buying opportunities outweigh the short-term challenges of a normalising interest rate environment.

Wishing you all a very prosperous year.

*Trent Iverson*

## VELLAIVERSON



### 6588 Wisemans Ferry Rd, Gunderman | FOR SALE \$197,000

#### VACANT LAND WITH HAWKESBURY RIVER VIEWS

2548sqm (approx.) block of land just 10mins from Wisemans Ferry and around 90min from Sydney. The sloping site offers the opportunity to build a flood free home (STCA) with Hawkesbury River views. The river is located directly across the road.

Contact Agent: Paul Vella | 0418 649 294



### 4510-4512 Wisemans Ferry Road, Spencer | FOR SALE \$395,000

#### DOUBLE BLOCK, RIVER VIEWS, MINUTES TO SPENCER VILLAGE

Moments from Spencer Village is this magnificent double block of flood free land. Beautiful views over Mangrove Creek, and to the Hawkesbury River. The property itself is private, tranquil and covered with native flora and fauna.

Contact Agent: Trent Iverson | 0409 738 388



### 4860 Wisemans Ferry Road, Spencer | FOR SALE \$520,000

#### QUAINT WEEKENDER MOMENTS TO SPENCER VILLAGE

This beautifully maintained Hawkesbury River weekend home ticks all the boxes for a convenient retreat from city life. Set on a 740sqm block, the home is elevated and flood free with full length decks and a "beer garden" style outdoor entertaining area.

Contact Agent: Trent Iverson | 0409 738 388



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# Summer School Holiday Fun at Hawkesbury Central Library, Gallery and Museum

**A**rchaeology, emu feathers and more! Hawkesbury Library Service, Hawkesbury Regional Museum and Hawkesbury Regional Gallery are presenting a range of fun programs to keep the kids entertained during the summer school holidays. All activities are for school aged children (children under the age of 10 must be accompanied by an adult). Bookings essential and some events incur a fee.

**HAWKESBURY LIBRARY SERVICE**  
Library workshops will be held on the Ground Floor, Deerubbin Centre, 300 George Street, Windsor.

**Bookings are essential** via Eventbrite [www.hawkesburylibrary.eventbrite.com](http://www.hawkesburylibrary.eventbrite.com) or call 4560 4460.

## TUESDAY MOVIES

**Tuesdays, 17, 24 January, 2pm to 3:30pm - Free**

Get out of the heat and relax while watching a new release DVD. Bring your own snacks and drinks. Check Eventbrite or call the library for the movie title.

## ZOOMOBILE

**Thursday, 12 January, 10:30am to 11:30am - Free**

Meet some of Australia's unique wildlife from Taronga Zoo including snakes, turtles and possums.

## NATURE CRAFT

**Thursday, 19 January, 10:30am to 11:30am \$5 - ages 5-12**

Carla from Decorati will demonstrate how to make a beautiful hanging mobile from natural materials such as twigs, feathers, & gumnuts.

## FELT DESIGNS

**Wednesday, 25 January, 2pm to 3:30pm \$5 - ages 8+**

Learn how to sew a monster pencil case using felt scraps.

## SUMMER READING CLUB

**10 - 31 January 2023 - Free -**

**ages 16 and under - registration essential**  
Be a part of Summer Reading Club (SRC).

Just register at one of our libraries, pick up a reading journal and start reading. Collect coupons for the books you read then redeem them at our special SRC shop (Saturday, 4 to Sunday, 19 February).

## SUMMER READING CLUB SHOP

**Friday, 3 February, 3pm to 5:30pm - Free - for registered participants only with coupons**

Be one of the first to redeem your coupons at this pre-opening event. Book a session for an exclusive shopping experience.

## HAWKESBURY REGIONAL GALLERY

Gallery workshops will be held at Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, 1st floor, Deerubbin Centre, 300 George Street, Windsor. **Bookings essential** via Eventbrite <http://hawkesburygallery.eventbrite.com> or call 4560 4441.

## GURANGADY PAINTING

**Wednesday, 18 January, 11am to midday \$20 - ages 5+**

Inspired by Rhiannon Wright's artwork 'Gurandy Dyarubbinwa' you will be led in creating your own artwork of Gurangady and the Dyarubbin.



## EMU BRACELET WEAVING

**Wednesday, 25 January, 11am to midday \$20 - ages 7+**

Create your own bracelet using traditional Dharug weaving methods using raffia and emu feathers.



## HAWKESBURY REGIONAL MUSEUM

Museum workshops will be held at the Hawkesbury Regional Museum, 8 Baker Street, Windsor.

**Bookings essential** via Eventbrite <http://hawkesburymuseum.eventbrite.com> or call 4560 4441.

## FIND THE FLABBITS

**During the school holidays, 10am to 4pm (closed Tuesdays) - Free drop-in activity for ages 4+**

Some flabbits have escaped into the museum exhibits, can you find them all? Solve the worksheet and receive your own flabbit sticker.




## ARCHAEOLOGICAL KIDS: DIGGING THROUGH THE LAYERS

**Thursday, 19 January, 11am to 12.30pm \$20 for ages 8+**

In this workshop, children will delve into the world of archaeology in a fun and engaging way. Create a stratigraphy diorama to take home and share your newfound knowledge with friends and family.



**As your Federal Member, I am here to:**

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

**Please contact my office if I can be of assistance.**

**JULIAN LEESER MP**  
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR **BEROWRA**



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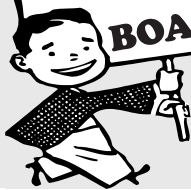
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Authorised by Julian Leaser MP, Liberal Party of Australia, Level 11, 423 Pennant Hills Rd, Pennant Hills NSW 2120.

**NOTICE BOARD!**

Advertise your event, notice or sale on our Noticeboard

**Notice**

All Primary schools are taking enrolments for 2023 now, so if you know anyone who will be starting Kindergarten this year, please contact your local school and enrol before the beginning of the school year.

♥ Welcome to Kindergarten



Your local registered Sydney Wildlife Carer is Helen Coy

0427 358 096

**Wisemans Ferry Seniors**

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

**DEFENDERS of THOMPSON SQUARE INC.**

will be holding it's AGM on Monday 13th February at 7pm in Windsor NSW.

Enquires: please email [defenders@optusnet.com.au](mailto:defenders@optusnet.com.au) or phone Pat on 0419321276

**Note!**

**2023 school term commences on Tuesday January 31st**

**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

**Note!**

**Copy deadline is 15th month...**

## A Visit to Canberra and the National Museum

By Liz Wilkinson

In November our Daimler car club headed to Canberra and our President's weekend. We stayed at the Mecure Hotel Canberra. It is a huge hotel that has grown considerably since it was first established. A rectangle of double story rooms surrounds a wonderful courtyard where you can sit and relax and enjoy the gardens and shady areas of the leafy trees. Our room had its own private fenced courtyard complete with a tree and outdoor setting to share with friends. Maybe it was a dog friendly room?

Driving down we passed Lake George that was full of water, quite a change from seeing expanses of green everywhere with just a glimmer of water in the far distance.

After our special friends arrived, we met up in the bar then moved to the bistro where the whole group sat, chatted, and caught up with Canberra members until it was time to order our meals. A good night's sleep, yummy, cooked breakfast, then we all set off for the National Museum Australia (storage area) where we were lucky enough to be shown quite a bit of the Museum rather than just the Royal DE36 Landaulette Daimler that has had every nut and bolt meticulously conserved and restored where needed. The young Queen used this car when she came out for her first Royal tour - the only British monarch to visit Australia.

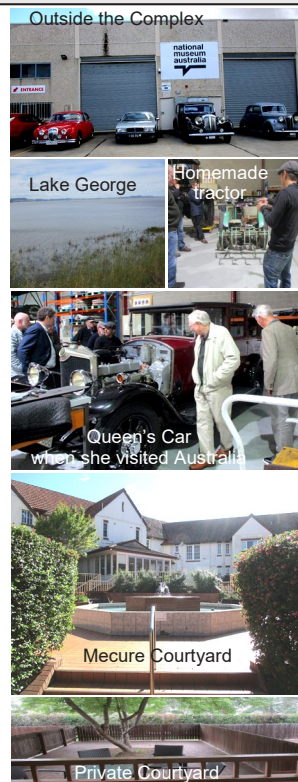
At this time, I was in 3rd grade, and we all went to Newcastle Showground to see her on the 9th of February 1954. After a discussion at Living Heritage, we discovered our editor Carole was there at the same time.

The National Museum only has 2-4 % of its collection on display at any given time and it gets changed depending on what is happening at that time in Australia and the world, so the rest of the objects have to be stored in a manner that won't let objects deteriorate. This is a massive undertaking thus the need for specialised storage.

We did not get to see a few collections, -- their book collection which dates from the 1600's, the fine arts collection, both of which require a special climate-controlled atmosphere, nor the Aboriginal collections being returned from overseas museums and in the process of being sent back to their place of origin, or the objects lab which holds biological specimens such as the famous racing horse, Phar Lap's heart.

We did get to see a machine that is awaiting restoration-- a 1912 tractor which is a link between the steam driven and modern tractors. It has a crank start, was built in Melbourne, and was used near Phillip Island. This machine has been overseas in England and USA but is now home awaiting work. There are only four of these in existence. I was not allowed to print this photo.

I loved the home-made tractor that came from down south. We were shown over their restoration workshop that can fabricate parts if needed. They had a huge lathe that is very old but still in use. Many old craftsmen are handing on their skills so the old way of doing things can still be utilized and won't be lost. The menfolk loved seeing Jack Brabham's fully functioning racing car and the Zeta car that was made with a two-stroke motor.



# Latest News



As we start a new year, we are optimistic for what lies ahead and 2023 holds the promise of many exciting opportunities for our community. Already, our staff are gearing up to continue to deliver many projects and initiatives outlined in Council's Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program.

Gathering as a community is always good for the soul, and Australia Day is of particular importance to me as it's when we reflect upon the history of our country – its First Peoples and rich cultural diversity. So, it is pleasing to know that preparations are well underway for this year's Hornsby Shire Australia Day events to be held in Hornsby Park, on Thursday 26 January. The Australia Day theme is

'Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.' and we are encouraged to reflect on our history, respect the stories of others and celebrate our nation, its achievements and our people.

Council will be hosting a culturally inclusive open-air concert in the park, along with lots of fun children's activities. And of course, our Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony will take place.

More details of these exciting events will be announced soon – but get ready to 'party and picnic' to help celebrate everything good about Australia and Hornsby Shire.

**Philip Ruddock AO,**  
Mayor, Hornsby Shire Council

**NEXT COUNCIL MEETING** WEDNESDAY 8 FEBRUARY, 6.30PM

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

## EASTBEND MEETINGS 2023

**FEBRUARY Mon 13th**

**MAY Mon 8th**

**AUGUST Mon 14th**

**NOVEMBER (AGM)  
Monday 13th**



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## FROM THE PASTORS DESK



We drive through the gates, then up to the house – faces appear at windows, doorways and from behind. We get out, some recognise us, others don't.....Then as we present the hampers, bewilderment responds in awe, delight, relief.....but most of all in appreciation for the love shown at this time of year.

To all of you who made these calls possible from the bottom of our hearts, we say thank you..... for without your generosity and compassion we could not give out these hampers of love that bring joy and happiness in a small way to so many people and families.

God bless each and everyone of you. To so many groups and organisations who gave of their resources....raised money.....and gave of their excess, thank you so much. To name you all could be unkind if one were missed.

Suffice to say near 30-40 families and individuals were blessed by your kindness.

### The free gift is this

**John 3:16** God so loved the world that he gave His only begotten son that whosoever believe in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

God bless to all and let's keep the spirit going not just at Christmas time, but all year through.

Thank you!

Thank You



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

## LIVING HERITAGE FOLDING DAYS

Mar.....Mon.....Feb.....27th  
Apr.....Mon.....Mar.....27th  
May.....Mon.....Apr.....23rd  
Jun.....Mon.....May.....23rd  
July.....Mon.....Jun.....26th

We fold from 11am 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**

# Plan in Reverse

A new year brings with it reflection on the year that has just passed, and some thinking about what we want to achieve in the coming year.

Most commonly we start with what outcomes we are after, for example..... "This year I want to save \$5,000", or "I want to be able to run 5 kilometres in less than 30 minutes".

This is a good start, but it doesn't much go beyond being a nice thought.

I was reminded of the difference between hoping for an outcome, and how to set ourselves up to achieve our goals. when I visited my doctor for a health check-up. His main feedback was very simple, just lose a little bit of weight. But what he followed it up with, was more important and relevant. His advice was based around a discussion on what habits and choices I could change that would help me reach the weight loss goal. The weight was secondary, and just an outcome that can be an

## 2023 Goals



inevitable result if the right habits and choices are maintained. It meant all I had to do was make a few small choices different each day.

So for 2023, in thinking about what you would like to achieve, start with some planning around what choices and decisions made on a regular basis will give you the best chance of making your goal an inevitable outcome.

*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.*



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

## Rainfall for

NOV 24th To JAN 4TH

Week 1. nil  
Week 2. nil  
Week 3. nil  
Week 4. nil  
Week 5. nil  
Week 6. 3mm  
Week 7. 1.5mm

Taken at South Maroota

## Bush Philosophy

*Measure life not by the  
tears we have shed,  
but by the smiles we  
have smiled.*

## CHECK YOUR SMOKE ALARMS

### ST ALBANS RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

St Albans Station:  
4568 2011

Captain: Lilly Stepanovich:  
0409 322 236

Senior Dep: Sherri McMahon:  
4568 2013.  
[sherrimcmahon4@gmail.com](mailto:sherrimcmahon4@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](mailto: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

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during the day and Tuesday evenings



## GLENORIE VETERINARY CLINIC



Michael Hawkins B.V.Sc  
Jenni Taylor B.V.Sc



& ASSOCIATES \* VETERINARY SURGEONS

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SATURDAY 8am to 12pm  
CONSULTATION BY APPOINTMENT

1589 OLD NORTHERN ROAD GLENORIE, 2157

TELEPHONE: **9652 1338**



## Celebrate the wonderful

However you celebrate, whoever you're with, may your  
Christmas be merry, always.

From the Community Bank Galston team.

During the festive season our branch will close on Monday 26  
December, and reopen Wednesday 28 December.

Galston 9653 2227

**Bendigo Bank**

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OUT\_26756511, 09/11/2022

# North Ward News

**THE HILLS**  
Sydney's Garden Shire

**H**appy New Year. I trust that you all had a great Christmas. The weather somewhat resembles a true Aussie summer.

Late December marked twelve months since being elected as a North Ward Councillor. I believe that engagement with and advocacy for the community is extremely important and I hope that I have been able to assist with that over the past year. I look forward to a great year ahead and to meeting with you in whatever paths we cross.

In early December, Council completed stage one of the Halcrows Rd rehabilitation project. The final two stages will commence early this year. \$750,000 of works were required to repair the road following higher than usual truck activity caused by the closure of Wisemans Ferry Rd at Little Cattai Creek when it was washed away in the July 2022 flood.

Residents came together to farewell the Box Hill and Nelson Community Centre in early December. A new community centre will be built on Nelson Rd in the new Anthony Skarratt Reserve in the near future. Thank you to those residents that celebrated the old halls history in the Box Hill Nelson community. Also in Box Hill, construction has commenced at Brindle Parkway sports complex. The complex is scheduled to open in 2024.

Last month also saw the completion of \$2 million or safety upgrades on Cattai Ridge Rd at Glenorie. These funds came from the Australian Government's Black Spot Program. Thanks to Julian Leeson for his support with this funding.

The new Wisemans Ferry Boat ramp is open! This project was managed by Hornsby Shire Council and co funded by The Hills Shire Council and the NSW Government. I called into have a look myself and it was great to see so many boats using the facility and enjoying the great weather. I would encourage any resident with a boat to check it out.

It is no secret that the Shire's road network has suffered significantly over the past twelve months given the unprecedented amount of rain. The number of pothole repair requests has dramatically increased, and Council has tried to stay on top of these. Council has twice increased its road maintenance budget to help with this. A smart car is currently inspecting the condition of the entire 1023km road network in The Hills. This car is fitted with GPS, cameras and a profilometer. This will assist in optimising Councils upcoming road rehabilitation program. The NSW Government has recently announced road maintenance funding for The Hills. Each council in NSW will receive funding for repair proportional to the length of the respective road network. I thank residents for contacting me to discuss road repairs and for the patience shown.

As we approach Australia Day, I would encourage residents to head to Bella Vista Farm. The events main entertainment includes Kate Ceberano. See you there!

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.  
Until next time.

*Clr Mitchell Blue*

# St Albans Village Market



Follow us for Monthly Special Events

[www.stalbansvillagemarket.com.au](http://www.stalbansvillagemarket.com.au)



## Sunday Market

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IN THE NORTHERN HAWKESBURY

Go to Website for Best Directions

**St Albans Village Market is back on  
Feb 12, and then the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in  
every month Feb – Dec, from 10am –  
where the first 20 coffees  
are always free!**

Plan a day or more in the Macdonald Valley around your visit to one of the best little markets in the Hawkesbury.

Enjoy the multiple resorts nearby, plus a great range of airBnB – where daytrippers, weekenders, caravaners & campers are all taking the 4min car ferry ride across the WEBBS CREEK FERRY near Wisemans Ferry and then the 21km sealed & scenic drive alongside the picturesque Macdonald River to historic St Albans.

This market is directly opposite the iconic convict built Settlers Arms Inn and an awesome new playground on the banks of the river.

**Follow Us on Facebook, Instagram  
or our Website for Updates on  
Monthly Special Events.**

Message or email to [info@stalbanvillagemarket.com.au](mailto:info@stalbanvillagemarket.com.au)  
if you'd like to be sent stallholder detail

## WISEMANS FERRY HAIR DESIGN



Shop 7/5557 Old Northern Road  
Wisemans Ferry NSW 2775

**0245 664 300**

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Wednesday to Friday 9:00 to 5:00

Closed Tuesday, Saturday & Sunday



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# Community Fire Wise

The Hills District Rural Fire Service

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE!

## MAROOKA RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

Welcome to the New Year 2023. We hope you have had the opportunity to relax and catch-up with family and friends over the Christmas break. Our brigade is ready to continue to protect, advise and educate our community, young and older, about living bushfire ready. We are also ready if needed, to deal with any major weather events or other incidents that may happen.

What we ask of our community is for you to help us to be able to protect you by doing all you can to have you, your family and your properties prepared for a bushfire emergency.

The greatest concern for us this season is grass fires! Grass fires on farms and property can destroy homes, crops and livelihoods. They are unpredictable, can start easily and they move fast. They can move up to three times faster than a bushfire. Many of our brigades have already been called to several grass fires throughout our districts. For you to be prepared, you need a written bushfire survival plan and to frequently discuss it with your family, adjusting it for different scenarios if need be. Practise these plans regularly. We also need you to keep grasses, and paddocks slashed and mown to protect your home and infrastructure. Make sure also to keep leaves, branches and debris cleared from gutters and around your buildings.

Did you know that grasslands cover approximately 80% of NSW? After all of the rain we've experienced across the state, we've seen prolific grass growth. With the warm weather, this grass is drying out and becoming a threat to many communities. Remember our end of the shire has not experienced severe bushfire for more than 20 years. It therefore is extremely vulnerable.

Please prepare your property now, to assist us to help you from a threat of fire. For more information, visit the #NSWRFS website: [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/plan-and-prepare](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/plan-and-prepare)

...Robin Hitchcock

## WISEMANS FERRY RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

### Happy New Year

### Wisemans Ferry Brigade activity.

From 21 November to 30 December WF Brigade attended call outs to Pile Burns without permit- One in River Rd & one in Singleton Road, an MVA on Old Northern Road near Hornsby Lookout, Assist Ambulance - St Albans & Storm Damage - ONR.

### Coming Event.

The new boat ramp & car park at Wisemans Ferry official opening is on the 4<sup>th</sup> of February from 10.00am, this will be open to the community for all to attend. See details in this newsletter. Wisemans Ferry Brigade will be there assisting with the BBQ. Please feel free to come & say hi and have a chat.

### Be prepared.

Now that the holiday season is coming to an end, with the heat and the fuel on the ground having dried out so much, please keep an eye on the fire danger ratings and ensure your asset protection zone around your home and sheds are maintained to a safe standard, remember to make sure overhanging branches are removed from rooflines, gutters are cleared, grass is cut short and after any storm make sure you check your property for any lightning strikes that can start spot fires. High temperatures and hot dry wind create a high risk of fire, so we need to be prepared.

If you are planning to do a pile burn during this fire season, make sure you have the permit required from the Fire Brigade in hand & the weather conditions are right, we have already had several people light piles without permits. Please be aware that if a fire is sighted and 000 is called, the volunteers in the Fire Brigades will be called out and must attend. To save inconvenience & the brigade volunteers wasting time please be sure to have those permits in place.

Wishing all a safe & happy time for the remaining summer period.

Dot Bell

## MAROOKA SOUTH RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

A new year is here again. Grasses have dried and are ready to burn, should the weather become really hot and windy trouble could ensue. With the New Year the brigade needs to again start all our training that needs to be reaccredited.

The end of 2022 saw the brigade involved with a number of incidents on our roads. With this in mind, please encourage your friends and family to drive to the conditions. If you do see an incident, please call 000 and try to report the incident as precisely as possible. It is really annoying when we get on scene and find the job we were called to, is nothing like what has actually occurred.

Christmas Eve saw residents gather on the sides of the road waiting for Santa to arrive on the fire truck. It is very pleasing to see the support given to the brigade. There are so many new faces in the crowds gathered, and we needed an extra 50 leaflets from last year to letterbox.

The biggest concern is that, despite the extra properties to protect, we have no extra members or resources to do this with.

....Garry Chatman



**WARNING!**  
Candles, incense and oil burners  
are one of the biggest causes

**fire**

## SACKVILLE NORTH RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

The Sackville North Brigade hopes everyone had a wonderful new year. May 2023 be good to the community. If your New Year's resolution is to give back to the community, meet new people or learn new skills, our brigade is always open to new members.

Contact us on Facebook or pop in on the monthly meeting held on the first Monday of the month at 7.30pm.

Karen Karberis

**Marooka: Capt:**  
Mob: ☎0417 216 306  
**Sth Marooka:** ☎0414 430 959  
" ☎4575 0433  
**Canoelands:** ☎4566 6196

**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  
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**STONE**

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**[stonerealestate.com.au](https://stonerealestate.com.au)**

## Galston CWA News



Our last meeting for 2022 was our most enjoyable Christmas Lunch on 14<sup>th</sup> December.

We have a break until our first meeting for 2023, Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February. We meet at the Galston Community and Health Centre, cnr The Glade and 17 Arcadia Rd, Galston. Please arrive at 10am for a cuppa, followed by our business meeting, and BYO lunch – a sandwich or heat something in the microwave. Stay for a Craft afternoon.

Visitors are very welcome to attend.

We will be finalising our activities for the year, including guest speakers, a fashion parade and stalls. Popular Craft items for stalls will be made so stock is available. Some members plan to attend a Nepean Group Handicraft Day on 1<sup>st</sup> February at Kenthurst, on beading.

We were pleased to receive some welcome items from a donor to give to Mothers and Babies in need.

The Country Women's Association is the largest women's organization in Australia. Funds raised support the welfare of women, children and communities.

We are always happy to receive yarn and fabrics for charity sewing and knitting.

More details from

**Jann - 0439 222 217 or Patricia - 0412 948 787**



### Yoga with a View

Monday Classes - Wiseman's Ferry  
Community Centre

General class 10.00 - 11.30 am \$20

Chair yoga 12.30 - \$12

5  
for seniors & those with limited mobility,

**Tina 0410 433 538**



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**REFRIGERATION &  
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## Some Oakville History

A reader sent this in from the FaceBook page, 'Oakville and District Residents Group', posted by Edward Cassidy.

Here's a bit of Oakville history

Menin rd used to be called McKeever's Rd

It was changed I think around the 50s

It was named after my Great Grand Father Patrick McKeever who was granted the land in 1890s. I was digging through our old shed and found the old road sign, must be 100yrs old



**Riverside Oaks**  
GOLF RESORT

## SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES & DONATIONS



### LOOKING FOR A WAY TO CONTRIBUTE?

We will be running Raffles and an Auction in the evening to raise money.

Donations of any goods and services for the event would be greatly appreciated and acknowledged through our database on our website and social media.

#### Hole Sponsorship \$2000+GST

- 4 spots playing in the Golf Day and at Dinner
- Opportunity to display banners on tees & greens of 2 holes during the event & the duration of the weekend following the event.
- Display of business signage on the putting green outside the clubhouse in view of function rooms & Brasserie during the event & duration of the weekend following the event.
- Business logo & acknowledgment on all promotional material, including the Riverside Oaks website as well as other media.
- Opportunity to provide giveaways & promotional materials to guests on the day. Approximately 100 attendees.
- Acknowledgment on the Riverside Oaks website & social media platforms, including a link to your business website.

#### FOR SPONSORSHIP ENQUIRIES

Please contact:

**Cody Harper - Director of Golf**  
Riverside Oaks Golf Resort  
[directorofgolf@riversideoaks.com.au](mailto:directorofgolf@riversideoaks.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

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.



**Old Windsor Post Office**  
Late 1800's to early 1900's



**The former Windsor Bridge and Thompson's Square 1879**  
courtesy of State Library of NSW

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# SCHOOL SNIPPETS

## MACDONALD VALLEY PUBLIC SCHOOL



### Community BBQ Breakfast

At such a busy time of year, it was lovely to have so many people join us for our Community BBQ Breakfast. Thank you Uncle Col for your acknowledgment of country alongside of the children, we really look forward to working with you next year to engage further with learning about and learning through the Aboriginal history and culture of the region.

A huge thank you to the RFS for making the time to come out to the school this morning. It was very special for us to be able to thank you in person for all that you have done to support the community throughout the challenging weather events. Bringing your truck was the icing on the cake for us too! Our breakfast was supported by the Australian Tennis Foundation. As part of the grant we received to teach the children tennis, there was a request to take the celebrations into the community which we well and truly did! We look forward to doing it all again next year, of course with our great BBQ chef, Mr Hughes.

### Gingerbread Houses

Students enjoyed making Gingerbread Houses in the last week of Term 4 to take home to their families for Christmas.

### Movie/Fun Day

This year our Year 6 Farewell celebrations included a Movie/

Fun Day. Everyone got up nice and early for the trip into Richmond Regent Cinema where we all got to watch an advanced screening of Puss In Boots; The Last Wish. Afterwards we all enjoyed pizza in the park followed by water play back at school and then the last ringing of the bell by Matilda. This year all our students also went to The Pickled Wombat after school for a farewell afternoon tea with our school families



Students return to school:  
Tuesday, January 31, 2023

## Hornsby Council Welcomes Funding Announcement



Following its joint campaign with The Hills Shire Council and Hawksbury City Council for funds to repair potholes, Hornsby Shire Council has welcomed the pledge today by the NSW Premier of \$500 million to repair flood damaged roads across the State.

Hornsby Shire Mayor Philip Ruddock said the extreme weather events of 2022 were unprecedented and resulted in significant damage to roads across Hornsby Shire, particularly in the rural areas, and that he is grateful to the NSW Government for its commitment to help.

Last year, Council responded to thousands of reports of potholes across the Shire, made significant repairs to roads at Wisemans Ferry, Arcadia, Glenorie and Canoelands and continues to address road failures. Council will liaise with State Government to determine eligibility and details of the funding and make its application accordingly.



## Awesome Mailboxes



From Pamela

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# SCHOOL SNIPPETS

CATTAI  
PUBLIC SCHOOL



Well, what a fun, jam-packed end of year we had!! So much to do. So much to learn and experience. So many traditions to uphold.



The whole school went on an excursion to the Dyarubbin Experience and the Cooee Mittagarr display in Windsor. The students had the chance to learn about the ways of the local Indigenous People, their customs and their language. This was a follow-up to work covered throughout the year in HSIE as well as an activity carried out during Education Week. It was great to try and match our language to that of the Dharug people, draw pictures and try to make sentences. The children had a great time and learned many stories about the Cattai area. It was a fabulous experience.



Rewards day!!! The whole school attended a Tru Ninja experience as the reward for the points accumulated throughout the school. The children had a fabulous day learning parkour, balance, rock climbing and trying very hard not to fall over laughing! Everyone seemed to enjoy the day as they learned new skills and completed a course. While many students had never attempted such sports, everyone had fun and wanted to stay for more. It was great to see them all enjoying themselves so much while exercising.

The C3 class finally had the chance for their sleep-over. Pizza, movie, friends and fun ..... what more would a happy bunch of school elders need? A night-hunt using torches found the resident Tawny Frogmouth. After a sound night's sleep in the classroom it was bacon and eggs for breakfast before heading home.

Swim school is now a part of the school's yearly calendar. The students were divided up into groups according to their swimming ability and age and then

driven to and from the pool by available parents. By the end of the week all the children, the biggest



cohort to attend in the last 7 years, had improved their swimming ability and swimming style as well as their water fitness, ready for the Swimming Carnival. This is a great, and timely, activity for the children and a big thank you to Pitt Town Swimming for continually allowing our students this great opportunity.

It is that time of the year when the students need to think about the leadership of the school for next year. The Year 5 students did an admirable job explaining why they would be good leaders. Each child in Year 6 next year will be part of the greater leadership team



of the school and so many and varied roles needed to be filled. All the children should be proud of their efforts at speaking about their abilities in front of the whole school, and the wonderful way they conducted themselves.

The day of the School Swimming Carnival was warm and full of excitement. All the children were ready for a great day of racing. Most of the students attempted at least one event. It was wonderful to see the determination in those challenged by the distance, and the speed and grace in those accomplished swimmers. The teacher/student/parent relay was a lot of fun. In all, the day was a huge success, again bringing all the students together as they cheered and chanted for their team or friends. Some students will go onto the Small Schools Carnival next year.



Congratulations to everyone for a fabulous event.

Celebrations of Learning was a wonderful night. After everyone filled up on pre-ordered burgers organised by the P&C, it was on with the formalities of the evening. Every child was recognised for an area in which they had excelled over the course of the year. Students in each year were also awarded first place for English and Mathematics. At the end of the night the new leaders were announced. It was exciting seeing the "who's who" of Cattai for next year. Congratulations to all next year's leaders.



The Mini Fair is hosted by the Year 6 students to help raise funds for their gift to the school. The children set up or organise activities for the school to partake at a small cost. While the jumping castle is always a lot of fun, many children went to the petting zoo, guessing competition, face painting, fairy floss and table tennis ball toss. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and were very ready for their pre-ordered hot lunch. It was a great day, and the Year 6 students should be proud of their efforts.

The Year 6 Farewell saw the students, teachers and parents come together to celebrate the culmination of three stages of schooling. It was a fun evening with lots of stories. While many of the students will be attending the same high school, for others it was the beginning of a new stage of schooling. Good luck for the future to all our leavers. Work hard, aim high and enjoy the next part of your educational journey.

Movie day was organised by the SRC and was a lot of fun. The students were bussed to Richmond Regent Twin Cinema where they could watch the movie of their choice while consuming snacks pre-ordered from the kiosk. Everyone had a lot of fun and filled up on ice cream and popcorn. After the movie it was across the road to



the park for lunch and some exercise. It was a great day and again gave everyone the chance to enjoy the company of others.

The final school activity for the year was the Community Breakfast. Teachers and staff set up and served breakfast to all the students, parents and carers. Bacon and egg rolls, pancakes and juice were the mainstay of most. After all tummies were full, parents had organised holiday meetings with friends and teachers had cleaned up, the students performed for the parents for the last time in 2022. The C3 students performed a murder mystery. C1 performed their version of "Going on a Bear Hunt". The C2 children performed their own play based on the Santa story and The Bad Elf. It was a wonderful way to end the year. The students then spent the rest of the day playing board games and socialising. The year 6 boys even had a chance to ride on the newly re-furbished BMX track. When the year 6 students left the school for the final time, they each rang the bell and left through the Guard of Honour. What a wonderful way to complete the year!



Next year will see a change in staff but not in the expectations of the school and students. When the children in years 1-6 return on Tuesday January 31 and the Kindergarten children return on Thursday February 2, all procedures, activities and fun will start again!!!

**Students return to school:**  
Tuesday, January 31, 2023

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Solution to puzzle on page 19

CRAB  
Cider, rum, ale and brandy.

# SCHOOL SNIPPETS

## WISEMANS FERRY PUBLIC SCHOOL



Whilst the year seems to have passed us by so quickly in a sense it has also dragged out. Like the trend of the last few years, the 2022 school year has provided our school and our community with many challenges – we have tackled floods and felt the effects of COVID-19, yet again. At the end of term one most of our students and half of the staff had experienced the COVID virus. But despite these obstacles we have all shown great resilience to push through and continue.

Resilience determines how we cope with life's little knocks and what steps we take to get back on our feet, how we deal with disappointments that occur because life is not fair, how we push through the barrier to succeed despite the obstacles in the way. Resilience is one of our school's values and not only have our students show outstanding resilience in 2022, but so has our community – despite the impact of the floods on our community – our wonderful little school was able to provide a place of normality for our students – a safe place where students could come to every school day and be with their friends and their teachers.

At Wisemans Ferry Public School, we are very lucky to have dedicated and passionate staff who are willing to take on the extras so that our students are given the best educational experiences. In 2022, our staff met the challenges head on and reflected our school values in everything they did, every day. Our staff continue to demonstrate resilience and a passion for teaching Wisemans Ferry students, despite the changes they face daily. I want to acknowledge and thank our wonderful staff, who are an absolute pleasure to work with.

Thank you to every parent and community member who has assisted us in some way this year. I'm talking about the P&C members, the scripture teachers, the people who assisted us with running our carnivals, to the community members that helped with our school gardens, to our parents and community members that have helped in the classroom. In a small school, volunteer help is vital, it is much appreciated, and it is something that I will never take for granted.

Thank you to our students. You are absolutely delightful! You are a credit to yourselves, your parents and our school and you are the reason why our staff are so passionate about their work

and why we are motivated to provide as many opportunities for them as possible.

### Presentation Night

Our Presentation Night was evidence that our little school is well and truly a hub of academic and sporting excellence. It was great to have so many of our families and friends join us for this special occasion.

Working at Wisemans Ferry involves being a part of a team - my team at Wisemans Ferry are amazing. Thank you so much Karen, Kez, Ben, Louky, Jenny, Jenni-Mae, Alexis, Sue and Keith for everything you do for our students and school community. Your energy and love for this school is overwhelming.

Congratulations to all our award winners!

Congratulations to our 2023 leadership body:

**School Captain** – Bree-anna

**School Captain** – Khloe

**House Captain** (Marra Marra) – Kiera

**House Captain** (Dharug) – Leah

**House Captain** (Wollemi) – Xavier

### Year 6 Graduation

On Wednesday night, we celebrated the end of primary school with our year 6 students and their parents at their 'Graduation Ceremony'. We had a lovely evening. The event was hosted at the 'Heritage Café' and I would like to thank the amazing Cory and Tia for their outstanding hospitality – everything was just perfect. I'd like to thank Jodi who was our baker – she whipped up over 70 delicious cupcakes which formed our graduation cake. There was even enough to share with all students on Thursday.

We had lots of laughs, shed some tears, listened to Mrs Dorbis ramble on, watched the year 6 video, year 6 were presented with some mementos of their time in primary school and then we played dress-ups for our photo booth. To Jackson, Tori, Amber, Tyler and Kamali,

Over the last three years you have demonstrated to me that you are well equipped to deal with the challenges that lay ahead. As you move onto High School, feel confident that you have the necessary knowledge, the skills and the values to perform well in whatever you choose to do. One of the things that I've learned over the years is that 'life is a journey'. No-one knows what lies ahead of them but I do know that you should make the most of every opportunity that comes your way.

Celebrate your successes and be resilient in times of adversity. Be proud of yourselves and your past achievements and good luck for the future.

Always remember that Wisemans Ferry Public School students are respectful, co-operative, resilient learners who demonstrate kindness and always strive to achieve their personal best.

Remember the values you have learnt here at Wisemans Ferry PS. As you become a young adult, there will be times when your values are tested. Be strong and always be true to yourself. Then, no matter what happens, you will truly own your journey.

**Set your goals high and always dream big because you are only as big as the dreams you dare to live.**

### School Disco

Our end of year disco was run by the amazing staff from Bop Till You Drop, everyone had a blast.

### Year 5 Leadership Program

As part of the leadership program Khloe organised fundraising events to raised money for a new school teardrop banner and Bree organised the "Anything but a Backpack Day", where you come to school with your morning tea and lunch in anything but a



backpack. Our students were very creative.

### Metella Road Public School

The leadership team from Metella Road Public School surprised the students and staff with their generosity by providing gifts for the families effected by the 2022 floods. Thank you Metella Road Public School!

**Students return to school:  
Tuesday, January 31, 2023**

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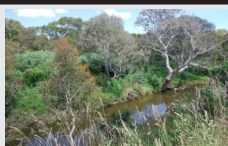
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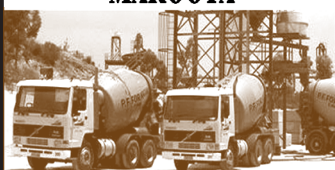
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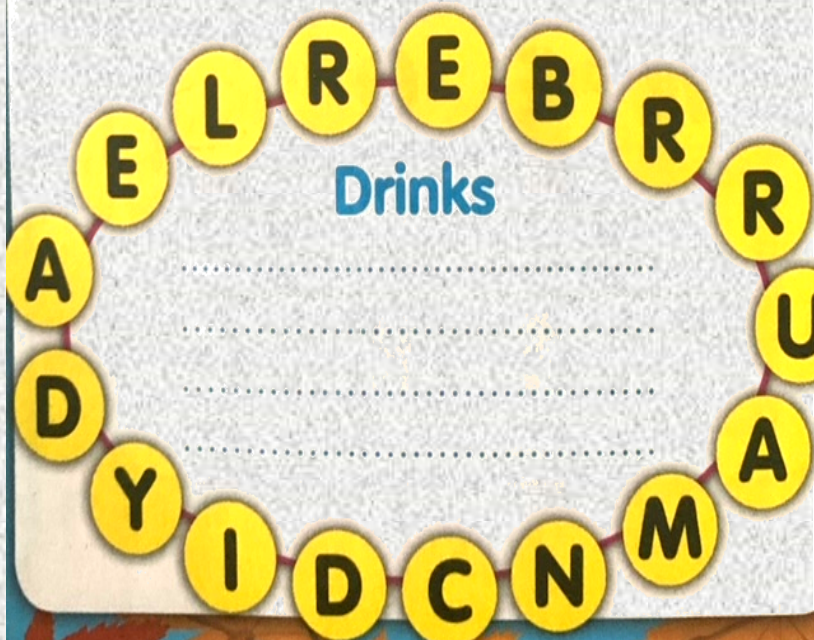


## Kids Corner



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

*Hidden around the circle, are four types of drinks. To work out what they are, find a starting point and move around the circle clockwise, using every second letter, until you have used them all. When you've found all four words, rearrange their first letters to find a word starting with "C".*



91 a8pd NOILATOS.....

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## BIRTHDAY CLUB

January 2023..

- 4th - Stella & Sophia Moss will be 13
- 5th - Avery Jane will be 2
- 6th - Alina Graham will be 12
- 7th - Montanna Lenord will be 15
- 9th - Paige Cunneen will be 16
- 11th - Gemma Carpinato will be 14
- 13th - Michelle Kinsela will be 15
- 13th - Mathew Morris will be 16
- 15th - Lucy Aylward will be 15
- 16th - Jack Helwig will be 13
- 15th - Phoebe Zoernleib will be 15
- 16th - Cole Zoernleib will be 15
- 16th - Clayton Smith will be 16
- 20th - Isaiah Marincic will be 1
- 22nd - Johanna Yannakouros will be 16
- 29th - Ella Hudson will be 15



February 2023..

- 15th - Tarnoo Ramm will be 13
- 15th - Madison Rowley will be 16
- 19th - Byran Christie will be 13
- 25th - Arthur Piper will be 16
- 26th - Jessica Littman will be 15
- 27th - Xavier Walker will be 11



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

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