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LIVING HERITAGE

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Maroota and Districts News

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VOLUME 26, ISSUE 6

CIRCULATION 2000

JUNE 2023

What's On

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

3-4th Jun - Sat/Sun Fords Farm Fruit Picking 1275 Singleton Rd Laughtondale Info: (02) 4566 3127

10-11th Jun - Sat/Sun DVBoat Club Winter Spectacular 312 River Rd Lower Portland Info: (02) 4579 1291

13th Jun - Tues Tech Savvy Seniors Classes Hawkesbury Library George Street Windsor Info: (02) 4560 4460

23-25th Jun - Fri-Sun *Craft Alive*

Interactive Classes
Hawkesbury
Showground
Clarendon
Info: (02) 4577 3591

24th Jun - Sat DLHHS Exploring Dubbo Gully Walk Meet at General Store Mangrove Mountain Info: 0405 321 478

2nd Jul - SunWinterfest Sydney Medieval Fair Showground Clarendon

Info: (02) 4577 3591

Put these in your diary!

林阳林



A Feat of Excellence

By..... Pat Schwartz

Warragamba Dam show cases the excellence of Australian Engineering. It was designed and built by the Metropolitan Water Sewerage and Drainage Board between the years 1948 to 1960.

Australia had the skill, ability and confidence to achieve this massive task in house.

It was originally known as the Warragamba Emergency Scheme because of the critical shortage of water that occurred in Sydney in the early 1940's. There was even talk of evacuating people from Sydney because of the lack of water.

The Dam is heritage listed and holds back the huge 75 square kilometre Lake Burragorang which is four times the size of Sydney Harbour. In recent years there has been controversy over the plans for future engineering of the dam for flood mitigation. Politicians and community groups have been active in promoting their opinions both for and against, but the substance of the matter lies in the engineering.

The rock strata on which the massive concrete wall is built has been continuously studied before, during construction and up to the present time. Calculations as to possible maximum flood events are also being updated as the climate changes and forecasts of greater rainfall are made.

In 1985, Sydney Water found that in the case of an extreme and rare flood event the Warragamba

Dam did not meet the then current dam safety standards. As an urgent response in the late 1980's the dam wall was strengthened and raised by 5 metres. The next step in early 2000 was the construction of a second spillway to divert flood waters to protect the dam wall.

The dam wall must be protected because if it were over topped by huge flood waters, breaching of the wall could occur and massive sections of the wall could collapse. Recently information has been provided to the Minns State Government concerning geotechnical risks associated with the dam wall.

More information will come to light as studies continue concerning these issues and more work may be required around the dam wall in the future.

'The important issue to remember is that in any discussion concerning the dam wall the engineering is paramount.'

The accompanying photograph shows the cover of a booklet that was produced by Sydney Water in 1996 to explain the importance of constructing the second spillway for the security of the dam wall.



Safeguarding Warragamba Dam



Proposed Auxiliary Spillway

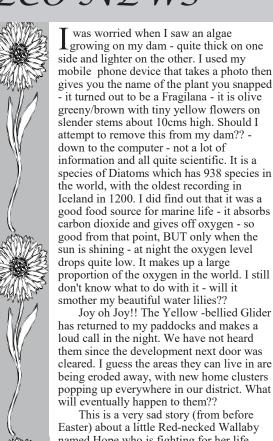
Sydney WATER

INSIDE...Eco News/Editors Notes/Quote *pg 2*, DLHHS /Ben's Poem *pg 3*, Men's Shed/Flood Poem *pg 4*, Vella Iverson *pg 5*, Convict Stockade/Julian Leeser *pg 6*, Noticeboard/Tasmania Here We Come *pg 7*, Hornsby Council News/Pastors Desk *pg 8*, Small Business Asset Writeoff/Rainfall/RFS *pg 9*, Hills Shire News/St Albans Markets/ *pg10*, North Ward News/Watertank Art/Recipe Corner *pg11*, Firewise *pg 12*, Galston CWA/Galston Guides *pg13*, Windsor Family Dental *pg14*, Church Services/Old Australian Photos *pg 15* School Snippets *pg16*, School Snippets/Tech Savvy Seniors *pg 17*, Village Directory *pg 18*, Birthdays/Kids/Robyn Preston MP *pg 19*, Vella/Iverson *pg 20*.

ECO-NEWS



With Liz Wilkinson



This is a very sad story (from before Easter) about a little Red-necked Wallaby named Hope who is fighting for her life. Sadly her mum was hit by a vehicle on Cliftonville Road and subsequently died. Our wildlife carer, Helen, on her way to a Living Heritage working bee, stopped to check and found little Hope in her mother's pouch. She weighed just 24 grams and was still warm, so she had a borderline chance of survival with many hours of dedicated care ahead for the carer, Lana, who is very experienced looking after pinkies (no fur). Macropods have a higher chance of dying in care than other natives, as they get very stressed. Thank you Helen for all the love and care you give our wounded animals. Update.. Hope didn't make it sadly. How can we stop the senseless road

kills??? DRIVERS PLEASE SLOW DOWN and drive with care in our rural areas. Remember ALL lives are precious don't have their death on your



conscience because you are too impatient to drive sensibly, to save our native creatures that make our rural areas so special. Safe driving saves human lives too!!

The human toll has been horrific lately.

I heard a small cry and went out to see what was in distress, and there on my doorstep was a Lace Monitor making a mewling sound. It just looked at me then wandered away towards my compost heap. I wonder what his problem was?

Since I have come back from my holiday, I have not heard the Yellow -bellied Glider. I hope he calls again at night - maybe I have been so tired at night I haven't heard it -- hope so!

Tasmania has a good idea to protect wildlife. In certain areas of high animal traffic the roads have a sign that says 'From Dusk to Dawn Speed Limit 40 (or 60, 65 depending on the roads location and animal populations)



Quote!

Sometimes the smallest things take up the most room in your heart!

Winnie The Pooh

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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

I just have to say a big grateful thank you to all of our contributors, for getting their articles, stories and ad changes in on time, ie; 15th month. This really makes my job as editor a much easier task. You are champs!

Thank you must also be said to Councillor Ellis, for her kind words about our dilemma in finding a new home for Eastbernd and the Living Heritage office. Although our books and historical articles are stored safely, we still do not have a permanent place to house them. Plans are underway to rectify this, and as soon as we have a definite answer, we will let you know.

Haven't the mornings been icy of late? I have created this issue of Living Heritage, snug in my 'Oodie' and Ugg boots. Starts to get a chill in the air around four in the afternoon too.

Even though the mornings and evenings are chilly, the nice warm sunshine appears throughout the day making it possible to enjoy outings and events. There are a few to take note of in the pages of this issue.

The Hawkesbury Show was a hit and success, even though the day I chose to go was the Friday, when it rained all day. There was still a good crowd there, and the lines to ride and eat were somewhat shorter, making the day more pleasant.

Nice to see the roads and potholes getting some attention. It has been quite scary trying to weave and dodge the craters, while taking note of any vehicles travelling towards you that you may meet on the wrong side of the road. Still, be careful and stay safe. The corner of Cliftonville and W/ferry roads is scary.

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

Y ears ago, houses had thatched roofs -thick straw-piled high, with no wood underneath.

It was the only place for animals to

get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof.

When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof...

Hence the saying it's raining cats and dogs.



The Dharug and Lower Hawkesbury River Historical Society

A.

Re-Scheduling the Exploring Dubbo Gully and Environs Walk for June 2023

The Dharug and Lower Hawkesbury Historical Society invites all to join us as we explore Dubbo Gully and environs on Saturday, 24th June.

We are fortunate to have Mari Metzke, Chair of the Convict Trail Project as our guide for the day. Mari grew up on a farm in Dubbo Gully and has extensive knowledge of the area. Mari has explored this region over many years and as a "local" has many anecdotes of the area.

We will firstly drive to Dubbo Gully cemetery – a local landmark on the road. Many original inhabitants of the area are interred here. We have the plans for the site so we can explore the names. We also hope to drive down to the site of *Fairview* the remaining house in the area and hear a little of its history.

Depending on the current Central Coast Council work, we may be able to explore some of the 19th century road construction in the area. Parts of the Great North Road go through this area from Ten Mile Hollow to Gosford. This was the major way to Gosford up to 1930 coming from Sydney.

Date: - Saturday, 24th June 2023.

Time:- 10.00am.

Meeting Location:- To meet at the 'Hub' the Mangrove Mountain General Store on the corner of Waratah Road and Wisemans Ferry Rod for a quick coffee before we head off.

Cost:-\$5 for Members and \$10 for Non-Members (Cash or contactless credit card payment will be available).

This is an easy to medium walk.

Bookings:- It is essential that you book in for this walk. Please contact Jan Kofron on **0405 321 478** and leave a message with your contact details and the number of participants or email enquiries@dlhhs.org.au by Monday 219th June 2023.

BYO Everything – lunch, snacks, water, sunhat, sunscreen & repellent. Sturdy shoes are suggested. We will have lunch in Dubbo Gully.

All welcome.

Robyn Downham Publicity Officer

Dharug and Lower Hawkesbury Historical Society

Draft 'Hawkesbury Place Plans' – Public Exhibition

Hawkesbury City Council is inviting community members to view and comment on a series of Draft Place Plans, which is now on public exhibition at **yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au** until Wednesday, 21 June 2023.

The series of Draft Place Plans has been created for towns and villages across the Hawkesbury to develop and celebrate the unique local characteristics of each place as well as provide a vision document to assist in applying for future grants.

A place plan is a long-term plan that provides a road map to guide future planning in local centres. The Plans will aim to Improve the sense of place, ensure local business has the conditions to thrive, and to create a place that instils pride in the community

The Draft Hawkesbury Place Plans has been prepared based on the outcomes of the community engagement in accordance with the Community Engagement Policy.

A copy of the Draft Place Plans can also be viewed at:

- Council's Administration Building, 366 George Street, Windsor, Monday to Friday during opening hours 9am to 4pm
- Richmond Branch Library, 29 West Market Street, Richmond, Mon to Fri 9:30am to
- Hawkesbury Central Library, George Street, Windsor, Monday to Friday 9am to 7pm, Saturday 9am to 1pm and Sunday 2pm to 5pm.

6pm and Saturday 9am to 1pm



Haven

By..Ben Anderson

The kitchen is my haven, my peaceful retreat, Where I find solace and comfort replete. With the sound of sizzling, the aroma so sweet, As I chop and stir, I feel complete.

I find joy in the process, the methodical pace. As I measure and pour, I'm lost in the space. Where time seems to stand still, and there's no race. And worries and stress simply fade without trace.

The chopping of vegetables, so crisp and bright, The hiss of oil, as it heats just right. The bubbling of soup, a cozy delight, All merge in harmony, and set things aright.

With each dish I prepare, I find my zen, As I pour my love into the pot in my den. And as flavours meld, I'm reminded then, Of the beauty in simple things, time and again.

So let the world spin, with its chaos and noise, I'll stay in the kitchen, with its calm and poise. And I'll cook and I'll bake, with all my toys, I savour the peacefulness, with all its joys.





May Front Page Correction

Please note that in the May edition of Living Heritage there is a correction required for the article 'The Giants Of Maroota'. It should read 'When Captain Phillip (not Captain Cook) sailed through Sydney Heads ...

Thank you to the reader from Middle Dural who alerted Living Heritage (LH) to this error.

(LH tries hard with editing but sometimes the gremlins sneak in.)

Anita Nicholas PHYSIOTHERAPIST

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Wisemans Ferry Men's Shed

The Flood

After the devastating floods of 2021-2022 we were invited to the Hills-Kellyville Rotary Pride of Workmanship & Community Service Award night, at Baulkham Hills on 8th May, 2023. We first met the men of Rotary last year when they attended our club and gave out 25 \$500 food and fuel vouchers, to select people in our community. A recent golf event at Riverside Oaks was formed in March 23 by Rotary to raise funds for three charities, which included Wisemans Ferry Mens Shed. This resulted in raising \$18,000.

Shed. This resulted in raising \$18,000.

The President of Rotary Hills-Kellyville Branch, Ian Pascoe, presented a cheque for \$10,000 to our President Adrian Acheson to help with the replacement of tools and materials lost during the floods. Adrian presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Rotary President, Ian Pascoe, in recognition of the sincere appreciation of their efforts.

The nearly finished walking track is yet to have its workout stations and rest areas completed but it is a dream-cometrue for our members to use to improve their health and wellbeing. We hope the community appreciates the effort we have made to oversee this much-needed asset.

We have an abundance of surplus tools up for sale, so if you need anything for your workshed we can possibly sell you something cheap. Call in Saturdays or Tuesdays to view.

Call Adrian on **0448 833 781** to enquire about your specific needs.



Presentation Night at Hills-Kellyville Rotary, where Wisemans Ferry President Adrian Acheson and vice-President Greg Hartley, received a cheque for \$10,000 from Hills Mayor Dr. Peter Gangemi and Rotary President Ian Pascoe



Adrian Acheson Presenting a Certificate of Appreciation to Rotary President Ian Pascoe of the Hills-Kellyville Branch

The following poem was written By the President of Hills-Kellyville Rotary after visiting our Mens Shed last year.

Adrian, Alan & Steve were there with Warren, Greg, Belinda and Brian too

At Wisemans Ferry they're a resilient few and many more just to name a few

The waters rose before their very eyes as the rain was relentless from darkened skies.

Families crushed and spirits broken but with inner strength and words unspoken

There's no reply there's nought they can do as Natures power she continues to share

With the ever-rising river and torrents od destruction and despair.

Making man and beast hide in fear, nothing to see or hear Just overwhelming anguish and tears.

Houses are ruined, belongings are gone, nothing is left All they have is their body and soul and just memories to hold.

They're working through it a day at a time to clean up the mud and rubble and grime

No showers no baths nowhere to sleep and try as they will their sanity they'll keep

Their clothes are dirty, tattered and torn their nails are broken their hands are worn

Their shoes are sodden but not a complaint

They stop and look skyward and beg help from a Saint.

We went to their village some few miles away so much need and what can you say

Distressed as we were to see what was there what can be done with so little to share

Time was the essence and they needed some care, some help Love and kindness their existence so bare

To feel the emotions and hear stories of grief in some small way with humble belief

We saw heart felt gratitude and sighs and relief
They were thankful and respectful for what we had to share
Yet something so small brought hope not despair.







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Beyond The Fence

Home Values Up - Rents Up - Skilled Migration Up

Before we dive into the topic of rental shortages, forecast migration and the impact on housing, let's take a quick look at the market over the past month.

At the time of writing mortgage holders got whipped yet again by the RBA delivering another 0.25% rate hike in May. This was not unexpected as inflation figures are still burning hot at 7% for the first 3 months of 2023. Although the RBA's focus is on inflation amongst other things, you couldn't say that they aren't keeping a keen eye on the property market. In particular the 3 consecutive months of growth notably in the east coast cities.

According to Core Logics Home Value Index, Sydney increased by another 1.3% taking the growth for the qtr to 3%. Core Logics Tim Lawless comments in the May 1st HVI Report that "Sydney dwelling values had recorded a -13.8% drop from the market peak to recent trough, however a 3.0% rise in values over the past 3 months leaves the market -11.2% below the recent high.

Clearly market sentiment is increasing and buyers are keen to get into the market. Low supply continues and with record low rental vacancies, many renters are choosing to buy their own home. This is great for those who can afford to do so but spare a thought for those trapped in an environment of low rental stock and rapidly rising rents. So why are there so few rental houses available? In the RBA publication - Bulletin March 2023, it shows a decline in household size noting a distinct decline during the Covid Pandemic.

"The average number of people living in each household has declined from around 2.9 in the mid-1980s to around 2.5 since the early 2000s. More recently, the AHS declined to historical lows of a little below 2.5 people per household. This was driven by changes in Sydney and Melbourne during the pandemic, which were more exposed to health restrictions, lockdowns and changes in migration flows from overseas". Share housing environments have decreased and people are choosing to Article By Trent Iverson

live either alone or with less people. Add to this a shortage in supply of new homes and in some areas permanent rentals were switched to short-term holiday accommodation to capitalise on the post covid "stay-cation boom."

As a further blow to renters, the Federal government has released its migration policy with an expected 700,000 to arrive in Australia by 2024. In a recent article on News.com.au, by Catie McLeod & Courtney Gould, it notes the Federal Governments budget is focused on a temporary "one off" catch up post Covid. 70% will be skilled migrants aiming to ease an ongoing skills shortage. The question is where will they live? The private rental sector is doing the heavy lifting and at near capacity. A recent government initiative "Build to Rent" scheme aims to incentivise investment into housing development where the property is owned by a single owner and the dwellings are available to rent as opposed to each being sold to individual owners. Sounds good in principle but can it meet the current demand that is literally on our doorstep now...

ELLAIV



6698 Wisemans Ferry Rd, Gunderman | FOR SALE \$725,000

RIVERSIDE HOME WITH RIVER VIEWS, CLOSE RIVER ACCESS

The home on a near flat 594sqm (approx) parcel offers 3 good sized bedrooms with 2 capturing the beautiful views of the river. A recently updated kitchen that flows through to an open plan meals/lounge/dining and out to the enclosed rear sundeck.

Contact Agent: Trent Iverson | 0409 738 388



1282 St Albans Rd, Central Macdonald | FOR SALE \$1,595,000

ECO FRIENDLY RIVERFRONT RETREAT - ARABLE ACRES

The spacious home is just 3 years old and offers a rural family retreat sitting on 30 acres (approx) of arable riverfront land. The home is elevated and flood free, offering 4 bedrooms and 2 beautiful bathrooms (ensuite to main).

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268 Settlers Rd, Lower Macdonald | FOR SALE \$495,000

2 BEDROOM COTTAGE - WORK IN PROGRESS

Gorgeous cottage awaiting it's new owner to complete it. Currently built to lock up stage (plus basic kitchen and bathroom facilities) the hard work has been done! Including a semi-inground concrete water tank, waste water system and concrete driveway.

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Convict Stockade Above Wisemans Ferry

By Hornsby Shire Councillor Nathan Tilbury on behalf of the Hornsby Historical Society

In January 1827, the first of three convict road gangs arrived in bushland above Wisemans Ferry, ready to construct the Great North Road down to the Hawkesbury River. This section of the planned road was very steep and demanded some skilled engineering. It also required the convict road gangs to be stationed in the district for a number of years in order to complete the work.

Eighty-two men were based in the area with about half those being convicts in leg irons, meaning they were repeat offenders or, at one stage, had escaped. Men in "Iron Gangs" and men in the "Road Parties" were kept in separate camps, a few hundred metres apart.

To minimize escapes from the convict stockades were laid out in a special formation. In order to securely store the gang's provisions a small sandstone building was located in the centre of the stockade. The stockades accommodation buildings were in a circular formation and constructed by the convicts themselves. Each had its own sandstone block foundations and fireplace. The walls, roof frames and floors were all made from timber sourced on site. Split timber from local casuarina trees produced the shingles that covered the

By late 1830, to keep the peace and further prevent escape attempts, a military stockade was established near the convict stockade.

In July 1832, the road to the Hawkesbury was completed and the last convict gang had been removed. In 1837, the Military post at Wisemans Ferry was relocated to Fernleigh (later renamed Spencer), where they were required to bring a culture of serious lawlessness, in the Mangrove Creek district, under control.

Any reusable material from the convict stockades and military post was auctioned off to local settlers. On the mountainside above the town of Wisemans Ferry, all that remains of the two convict stockades are the sandstone blocks of their fireplaces and foundations. Nearby sandstone quarries can also be identified.

Over the years there have been a number of archaeological studies conducted in and around these convict heritage sites. They have uncovered various convict relics including the remains of tools and leg irons.

Because of the risk of vandalism, the exact locations of these important stockade sites are kept confidential, and



they are managed and maintained by National Parks & Wildlife Services.







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







Car Boot Market

B erowra is soon to become a destination for residents looking to declutter some of their pre-loved items, as well as those who are searching for a bargain, with Hornsby's Car Boot Market and Clothing Swap on Sunday

25th June. This market day follows last year's launch of Council's



Council is encouraging locals to reduce the number of items sent to landfill, by instead opting to give their unwanted items a new lease on life. Some of the items that will be on offer at the Car Boot Market include toys, furniture, books, sporting equipment and other household items. For more details visit;

hornsby.nsw.gov.au/lifestyle/events/ sustainability/book-and-clothing-swap

Wisemans Ferry Seniors

We had no bus trips last month but we still had our fun and games on Monday mornings. We have been very busy planning some outings over the next months. We are planning a trip to the Pickle Wombat for lunch on Friday 2nd June, we will be care pooling for this outing. However we will be taking the bus out on 30th June when we plan a trip up the Putty Road and have lunch at a lovely restaurant we discovered on a previous trip into that area.

We already have a booking for Christmas in July at The Camden Valley Inn which is filling up very quickly. Looking ahead, we hope to go to the Bowral Tulip Festival in September and we are thinking of going on the River Postman boat in October when the weather warms up.

We are still looking for new members, but you do not have to be a member or a senior to join us for Bingo and on any of our bus trips.



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 Clubonce 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

Richmond/Windsor View Club

M eets every second Wednesday of the month at The Richmond

VIEW (voice, interest and education of woman) supports the Smith Family and Learning for Life. Contact:

Trish Carter 0417 010 619

Tasmania, Here We Come!

By Liz Wilkinson

Our car club organised a trip to tour Tasmania, so on the 13th April we set out - 14 people, 7 cars and not a Daimler among them! Our little Hyundai served us well.

As we were coming from all different directions and states, just a few of us met up at Albury for the first night. Next morning we mosied our way down to Beechworth for morning tea - this is one of my favourite towns - especially as it was where I first encountered the delicious cake..... Beesting at Beechworth Bakery - a must to visit!!

This town is very old and gold was discovered in the area in 1852, turning it into a thriving regional centre. We visited Beechworth Gold gemstone and gold gallery, which is housed in the former Bank of Victoria built in 1861. During the gold rush, all the gold was assayed in the vault within this building. I loved all the crystals, especially the window covered in gem slices. There are many very solid buildings remaining in Beechworth.

On we head, lunching in Seymour then through Melbourne and off to Geelong to join the queue for the Spirit of Tasmania. We were to leave at 9.30 pm but the ferry was quite late. I am amazed at how they organize and fill the ferry so efficiently - being a small car we were in the very bottom of the ferry. Both trips were quite smooth. Being on the bottom we were the last off, and made our way to Penguin where we were all meeting for breakfast. I loved all the penguin objects around town such as penguins holding garbage bins. Onward again through Burnie, Wynyard and finally to Stanley, our overnight stop in apartments right on the waterfront. We drove around Stanley looking at The Nut, which has a chairlift to the top but it was way too windy to attempt that.

In 1798 Bass and Flinders called the large round lump of land they found that looked like Christmas cake - "Circular Head". By 1850's it was called the Nut. It was the remains of an ancient volcano.. Next we saw Highfields which was the first European occupation in Tasmania's north west. Building was commenced in 1826 by convict labour for the Van Diemen's Land Company - an agricultural estate. The convict barracks housed 40 convicts then grew to 80.

Time to taste Tassie seafood for dinner.

Next morning we retrace our steps to Wynyard then follow the Murchison Hwy through beautiful rugged wilderness of the Hellyer Gorge. I just loved all the trees reaching right to the road with its huge variety, except when you come to an area that has been replanted - with trees all the same.

We stopped at Waratah to see the falls - this is the site of the first hydro electric power in Australia in 1883. I loved the petrol station with its bowsers called Urnie and Posh Percy. Next is Tullah, originally a mining town, then later a Hydro town on the shores of Lake Roseberry. Near here is Montezuma Falls - Tasmania's highest waterfall.

We drove onto Zeehan which was once a thriving mining town. The old public buildings are outstanding examples of early architecture - very elaborate. We followed a windy road down to Strahan, which used to be a Port but is now a tourist town with prices to match! We all dined at the local pub and then to bed ready for the next adventure on our trip.









Latest News





As a council, we are passionate about supporting and promoting arts and culture in Hornsby Shire. We are fortunate to be the home of not one but two high quality, national art competitions, the Remagine and Hornsby Art Prizes and exhibitions, both of which provide opportunity for established and emerging artists to showcase exceptional, unique art for the community to enjoy.

The annual Remagine Art Prize has a special focus on sustainability and the environment. It challenges artists to create works in response to the crisis we are facing with waste and over-consumption. Sixty-three original artworks are currently on display at the Wallarobba Arts and Cultural Centre in Hornsby. Catch it before it closes on 4 June.

The Homsby Art Prize promotes and celebrates outstanding original works of art.

This year's competition has a total prize pool valued at \$23,000, with a major prize worth \$10,000. For Hornsby Shire residents, there's also the opportunity to nominate their works for the Hornsby Shire Local Artist Award. Entries close on 5 September and the exhibition will be held in October.

The winner of the Hornsby Shire Emerging Artist category in last year's Hornsby Art Prize was Amelia Ruggerio from Hornsby. As part of our commitment to nurturing talent, this prize also attracted the opportunity for artists to exhibit their works at the Wallarobba Arts and Cultural Centre. And Other Things, an exhibition of Amelia's art, will be on show from 7-14 June and Lencourage you to support this talented local artist.

Philip Ruddock A0, Mayor, Hornsby Shire Council

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 14 JUNE 6:30 PM

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

EASTBEND MEETINGS 2023

MAY Monday 8th

AUGUST Monday 14th

NOVEMBER (AGM) Monday 13th



BEAUTY & MASSAGE

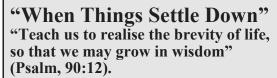
Shop 6, Wisemans Ferry

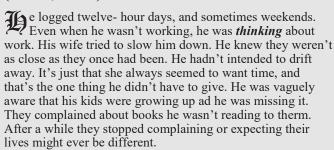


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FROM THE PASTORS DESK





"I'll be more available when things settle down", he thought. When he felt guilty, he told himself "I'm doing it for them". His wife asked him about going to Church but he said, "There'll be plenty of time for that sort of thing when things settle down," His doctor told him he had elevated blood pressure and high cholesterol but he told himself, there'd be plenty of time for that "when things settled down".

Quietly, efficiently, irresistibly, his body was preparing to do him in. One morning his wife woke at 3am, and he was not beside her. She went downstairs to drag him to bed and saw him sitting still in front of the computer, his head hanging low. She touched him but he didn't respond. When the paramedics got there they told her he had suffered a massive heart attack.....

"Things had finally settled down".

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



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	Oct		

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\$20,000 Small Business Instant Asset Write-Off

S mall businesses, with an aggregated turnover of less than \$10 million, will be able to immediately deduct the full cost of eligible depreciating assets costing less than \$20,000 that are first used or installed ready for use between 1 July 2023 and 30 June 2024.

"Immediately deductible" means a tax deduction for the asset can be claimed in the same income year that the asset was purchased and used (or installed ready for use).

If the business is registered for GST, the cost of the asset needs to be less than \$20,000 after subtracting the GST credits that can be claimed for the asset. If the business is not registered for GST, it is \$20,000 including GST

The write-off applies per asset, so a small business can deduct the cost of multiple assets.

The rules only apply to assets that fall within the scope of the depreciation provisions. Expenditure on capital improvements to buildings that falls within the scope of the capital works rules is not expected to qualify.

Assets valued at \$20,000 or more (which cannot be immediately deducted) can continue to be placed into the small business simplified depreciation pool and depreciated at:

15% in the first income year and

30% each income year thereafter.

The provisions that prevent small businesses from re-entering the simplified depreciation regime for 5 years if they opt-out will continue to be suspended until 30 June 2024. This will be particularly relevant to small business entities that chose to leave the simplified depreciation system in order to opt-out of applying the temporary full expensing rules to one or more specific assets.

This announcement effectively confirms that the temporary full expensing rules, which have provided an immediate deduction for the full cost of assets acquired from 6th October 2020, will come to an end on 30 June 2023. Small business entities that are considering acquiring depreciating assets with a cost of \$20,000 or more and business entities with aggregated turnover of \$10 million or more should keep this cut-off date in mind as 30 June 2023 approaches.

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 APR 20th To MAY 24th

Week 1. 6mm Week 2. 1.5mm

Week 3. nil

Week 4. 25mm Week 5. 14mm

Taken at South Maroota

Bush Philosophy

Never let the fear of striking out, keep you from the game!

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



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Hills Shire News



Work continues on maintaining the road network which has been impacted by floods and rains over the last few years. Council has recently conducted patching works on Sackville Ferry Road. This project involved removing failed sections of pavement and replacing them with new asphalt at various locations between the ferry and Wisemans Ferry Road. Patching work has also recently been carried out on Cliftonville Road. Patching on River Road will begin in mid-June and pavement stabilisation of a section of this road will be completed by September.

Additional resources for our rural areas of the Shire were also announced as part of our Draft 2023-2024 Hills Shire Plan. The Hills Shire Plan is a five-part document that provides the framework by which Council plans to operate during the financial year.

The plan includes a large expenditure on roads including approximately \$1.4m for Cattai Ridge Road rehabilitation and \$800,000 for Halcrows Road rehabilitation. The budget also includes approximately \$870,000 for progressing the design phase of the Horseworld Indoor Recreation Centre in Maraylva and \$500,000 for upgrades to flood warning infrastructure, which has been made possible through the NSW Government's WestInvest funding.

I would also like to thank the families who were part of the recent School Holiday Program at South Maroota Hall and Reserve. The Program was held in partnership with Youth Charity PCYC, and was a fantastic three days of sport, arts and crafts. Activities included bullrush, soccer, Bricks4Kids lego building, drawing sessions with Toon World and ended with a Colour Run.

Morning tea and lunch were provided each day and a coffee cart was also supplied for supervising parents.

I would like to thank the NSW Government Department of Communities and Justice who funded these activities through their Targeted Early Intervention (TEI) program. The South Maroota School Holiday Program is a wonderful initiative that provides school aged children living in the rural north fun and healthy activities, and we are looking into holding this program again next holidays.

Mayor of The Hills Shire Council, Dr Peter Gangemi

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North Ward News HILLS



Hello North Ward!

ouncil's community consultation period for the Draft Hills Shire Plan recently closed. The Hills Shire Plan is Council's annual document that sets out its operational and financial strategies and includes Council's resourcing and delivery program. This year's plan will see total expenditure of \$285.2M of which \$124.1M is to be spent on capital works. It is a fantastic plan, and I am looking forward to its delivery over the next financial year.

The Draft Hills Bush Fire Risk Management Plan is currently on exhibition. As the Chair of The Hills Bush Fire Management Committee, I encourage residents to review the plan and provide their feedback should they wish to.

Many residents have been in contact with me over the last few months about the road surface on Sackville Ferry Rd. Council's contractors are currently in the process of milling and rectifying pavement failures. I was glad to see that road repairs have been undertaken on Pages Wharf Rd and Mud Island Rd at Sackville North. Whilst the flood recovery has come a long way, there are still plenty to do in the way of road repairs.

Unfortunately, there is a process to be followed and sometimes this process is not a quick as one would like. There are a few issues that I am still working on with residents, council staff and State Government. I thank residents for their patience as we continue to navigate the flood recovery phase.

I am looking to start a few drop-in sessions in select areas in North Ward in the coming months. Basically, I will advertise where I will be, and the time and residents are free to come and meet with me. I think this will be a good way to increase community engagement between Councillors and residents. As always, feel free to contact me.

Deputy Mayor, Mitchell Blue

he Hills Shire Council takes great pride in helping the community for which it serves. The council works tirelessly to ensure that the community is provided for.

One such example has been the ability to help with a local institution, the Eastbend Rural Communication organisation. Established in 1991 by community-minded people, this group promotes the wonders of our local area and provides a valuable service by keeping the community informed of what is going on in an often forgotten part of the shire.

The council had the privilege of assisting this group after a recent event forced them to move premises and risked them having to shut down. Clr Virginia Ellis, together with Mayor Gangemi, have worked tirelessly to support this organisation, including providing advice, ideas for new sites, and even a monetary contribution.

Although only a token of what they have provided to the community, we hope that by aiding them in this endeavour they are able to continue their good work and be a local gem that we can be proud of.



Kind regards, Clr Virginia Ellis

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email: tonysimpson@ozemail.com.au

Refurbish Your Water Tank



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Recipe Corne

Recipe Corner With Liz

APPLE PIE

It's apple time with yummy apple pies. This recipe, that a friend gave me is a little different, but oh so easy to make as well as delicious to eat.

Pastry

250 grams butter softened, mixed with 3/4 cup sugar till blended...

I use a wooden spoon and blend by hand. Then add 2 and 1/3 cups plain flour, combine then press into a greased pie plate. May need 2 pie plates.

Peel and grate 5 green apples.

Add 2tsp cinnamon and 50g sugar (I use brown).

Fill the pies with the apples and bake till pastry is brown approximately 30 mins.

Keep checking.

Enjoy hot with cream or ice cream.

The second one I freeze when cold, to enjoy another day.





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Community Fire Wise

The Hills District Rural Fire Service

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE!

MAROOTA RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

quiet month for call-outs for the brigade this last month which was nice. We will be holding our AGM this month and are busy planning on how we move forward and grow into the future. Members are also busy obtaining further qualifications and reaccrediting their existing skills.

We need to build our membership and we encourage members of our community, young and older, to join this amazing organisation, to help sustain us going forward. If you think you can make a difference, contact our Captain on the details below or come to a meeting on the first Monday of any month and see what we are about.

Winter is the time to get busy, reducing the fire hazards around our properties. Trim back over-hanging branches and clear debris from gutters and buildings. Make sure you have a good Asset Protection Zone (APZ) around all of your buildings and fences. Make sure your gates and drive-ways are wide enough for large emergency vehicles to access and protect your buildings in the event of a fire.

Store fuel and flammables (woodpiles, chemicals etc) away from your house. Regularly maintain pumps, sprinklers and hoses, ready to fight a fire. Keep paddocks and lawns slashed and mown.

Most importantly.....

Maroota: Capt:

Canoelands:

24566 6196

Make and revise a Bush Fire Survival Plan, with many different scenarios for the whole family to be involved in http://www.myfireplan.com.au./.

Please remember, if you are conducting a pile burn, ensure you abide by your council regulations and also remember to **notify the RFS** (as well as your neighbours) 24 hours before you light-up www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/notify.

Only commence your burn if the weather is suitable

You are responsible for any fire that leaves your property and causes damage and penalties may apply.

For further fire information: www.rfs.nsw.gov.au.

...Robin Hitchcock



W/Ferry: **2**4566 4244 Mob: 20417 216 306 W/Ferry Capt: **2**0419 448 537 Sth Maroota: **20414 430 959** Hillside: **2**9652 2245 **2**4575 0433 **2**9652 2017 Glenorie:

Gosford Fire Cont: 24340 2911

24575 1601 Hawk Fire Cont: Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai

29883 2000 Fire Control: The Hills

29658 9000

Sackville North: **2**9658 9000 Mob **2**0419 522 088 Lwr McDonald: **2**4568 2168 **2**0409 322 236 St Albans: Spencer: **2**4566 4640

MAROOTA SOUTH RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

he brigade has just held its AGM, and there have been no significant changes to last year. Two of our deputies have moved roles. Phillip Bow is now a group officer (still a volunteer); and Mark Wilson has become an RFS employee, so cannot hold a field officer role.

Nick Taylor and Mark Wilson both received a St Florian's award for their work as helicopter crew at the Eugowra floods. They were on the first rescue helicopters that rescued numerous people on that day. Well done Nick and Mark. Both of their roles have been through a normal volunteer path that is available with RFS.

Call wise, we have had several calls to pile burns that have not been notified, which can cause substantial penalties. Please notify online via the RFS website, which must be done 24 hours prior to lighting. All neighbours that adjoin your property, and also those that will be affected by the smoke must be notified. Please ask if you are unsure.

..Garry Chatman

WISEMANS FERRY RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

n St. Florian's Day, 4th May, the Wisemans Ferry Brigade members received the Commissioner's Certificate of Commendation in recognition of sustained and selfless response to support its isolated community, particularly throughout multiple major fires & flood events since 2019.

During the colder months remember your house fire safety strategies and make sure you have an escape plan in case of fire. Recently, in a neighbouring suburb, there was a house fire that started in the roof as a result of a blocked chimney and flue fire. This should serve as a reminder to us all to have our chimney cleaned every two to three years as a minimum. Ensure your smoke alarms are in good working order; use fire guards on open fire places; and keep flammable items, such as clothes, away from heaters & fire places. Also remember to clean the lint filter in your clothes dryer after every use.

The cooler months are the best time to prepare for the forthcoming fire season. Grass fires are a particular concern for the next fire season especially since the extended wet weather & resultant luxuriant growth. Please trim overhanging branches from your roof; mow grass and clear around your home; clear and remove leaves and debris from your gutters; and prepare a hose that reaches all around your home. Margaret Cavanagh



Fire Control:

Galston CWA News



Our recent highlight was our Mother's Day Stall on 29th April outside Bendigo Bank. Despite the rain we had a very successful morning. Galston Village Pharmacy kindly donated a gift hamper for a raffle prize, and Swanes Nursery donated a Lime Tree. 1st prize went to ticket 781395, 2nd to 737207, and 3rd to 781463. All the proceeds of the stall will be donated to local charities and the community.

Hundreds of members of the CWA of NSW attended the CWA Annual Conference in Bathurst from Sunday 7^{th} May to Thursday 11^{th} May, including some of our members. A keen Galston cook had an entry in the Buttercake Section.

Our next meeting will be held Wednesday 14th JUNE. We meet at the Galston Community Health Centre, cnr The Glade and 17 Arcadia Rd, Galston. Please arrive at 10am for a

cuppa, followed by our business meeting. Please BYO lunch.

Visitors are very welcome to attend this meeting, and our craft day to be held on Wednesday 28th June – BYO lunch.

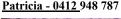
In June we may have a Guest Speaker, and a visit to Ebenezer, so please contact us below.

The photo shows some of the beautiful knitted and crocheted blankets we had for sale on our stall.

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. Some members make delicious jams and pickles for fund-raising, and would be happy to collect fruit from your garden if you have a glut.

More details from Jann - 0439 222 217 or





Galston Girl Guides

G alston Guides have been busy in and around the community this term. The girls were honoured to participate in both the Galston and Kenthurst ANZAC services. They recently hosted a Mother's Day pampering evening, with quizzes, games and a supper for Mum. Events this term included a movie night, a wide camp at Castle Towers, speed camping and a debating evening.



П

If your daughter is interested in making new friends, taking part in fun activities, community service or learning outdoors, then please contact admin@galstongirlguides.com to find out more about your daughter's free visits at Girl Guides.



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Matt Kean MP

Member for Hornsby

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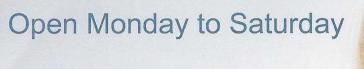
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- Organising Justice of the Peace applications
- · Recognising State achievements





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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

d Australian Photos

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.



Afternoon bus 218 Windsor to Wisemans Ferry



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PUBLIC SCHOOL



ANZAC Day ceremonies are always special at Cattai, and since this was held on the first day back it was even more

special than usual. Many of our students march at Wisemans Ferry and Pitt Town, but at school they run their own ceremony, listen to each other attentively and with respect, lay flowers made in class and remember those who have fought for our country. The children were wonderful. It was a great way to start the new term.



The whole school excursion was held at the Hawkesbury Show. The students went to learn about the various types of farming in the district, the different types of craft, cooking and horticulture they could carry out as a hobby and to see how their entries in the Lego competition fared.

Congratulations to Will and Freddie on their second place in the Team Building competition. The students were also able to watch Douglass and Freddie compete in the junior sheep judging. The painted geese were also visited. Well done to all the classes for their great entries. Everyone loved the reptile show and the pig races! It was a wonderful day of learning. Thank you to all the parent helpers.



Our Numeracy Parent Information session was another great success for the few families able to attend. The new syllabus and reporting methods were addressed. How the learning impacts each child was fully covered, leaving the parents with a clear view of the learning journey for their individual child. An evening covering the literacy



component will be held later in the term.

This term the students will be able to ride their bikes and scooters on even week Wednesdays. Other lunch time activities will be board games, Lego, SRC, drawing and cropping. The theme for sport this term is athletics with a coach attending the school to help the children. With parent assemblies, Athletics carnival, rewards day, excursions and other fun-filled ways to learn, this term is going to fly. What a way to go.

WISEMANS FERRY PUBLIC SCHOOL





the wonderful women in our lives. Thank you to the mums that joined us. It was great to get together to have a chat over a cuppa and some delicious

goodies. Water Tank Mural

We are loving watching our water tank

come alive and transform before our eyes. The mural inspired by some of the art produced at our student workshop is being painted by local artist Luke Kelly. The artwork features fauna found within our school grounds and the very cheeky blue-faced honey eater that frequents our playground and likes to eat the scraps left behind by the children after recess.

Wisemans Ferry Community ANZAC Day March and Service

Our students. along with students from our MMWaC learning community



gathered together to take part in the Wisemans Ferry Community ANZAC Day march and service. Our school leaders were involved in the ceremony by reading the 'Resolution of Loyalty', raising the Australian flag and laying a wreath. We had 60% of our students participate in this



important community event

which remembered those who have been involved in serving our country.

NSW State Swimming

Championships Congratulations to our Nigel Bagley relay team - Khloe, Jaxson, Kendall and Tenayah who competed at the NSW State

Swimming Championships at the end of last term. We are super proud of our swimmers who placed 28th in the state - an amazing achievement.

Star Wars Dress-up Day







Easter Hat Parade

The sun was shining and the bunny was frolicking in the garden and around the court. It was lovely to be

able to host our Easter Hat parade before Easter and to entertain our families and friends with the

parade. The students were certainly entertaining as they danced and jiggled around the court with the Easter Bunny. After enjoying some morning tea our students then stepped up to participate in our cross country



carnival. It was a challenge with the warm weather and the punishing course but all students did a fantastic job.

Hawkesbury Show Excursion







Solution to puzzle on page 19



The numbers in the shaded squares are 4 and 1

Added together The answer is 5

Note! Copy deadline is 15th month.





SCHOOL SNIPPETS

MACDONALD VALLEY PUBLIC SCHOOL

Small School...... Big Opportunities!

Congratulations to Ms Priestley and all the children for the beautiful artwork we were able to enter into the Hawkesbury Show. It was so exciting to be together at the show looking for everyone's paintings. Ours certainly did shine amongst the hundreds of other entries.



Above: Our painted geese





A big congratulations must go to Braiden for being awarded 3rd prize in the Years 5-6 age group in the primary school art competition "My favourite farm animal" for his painting of a goat. Braiden will be receiving \$5.00 prize money for his efforts as well!

We were also very excited to discover that Alex had been awarded "Highly Commended" in the K-2 age group in the same category for his favourite animal -a chicken.

These are amazing results considering that there were over 400 entries in each category! Well done **Braiden** and **Alex!**



MACDONALD VALLEY

VACANCIES AVAILABLE MONDAY 禁 WEDNESDAY

Are you looking for care for your little one in a safe nurturing environment? We have spots available on Mondays and Wednesdays, and provide the opportunity for 0-5 year olds to have fun learning experiences and make some new friends. We are located at Macdonald Valley Public School, Central Macdonald. If you would like to know more please email or phone us.

email: macvalleyfdc@outlook.com

phone: Simone Butler on 4568 2034 Rachel Slater on 0459 420 261

Tech Savvy Seniors Classes in June

Technology keeps on changing, so come along to one of the 'Tech Savvy Seniors' workshops being offered by Hawkesbury Library Service during May and June to help you keep up. If your smartphone or tablet baffles you, or you want to know about buying and selling online, or staying safe online, why not try these free workshops.

Beginner: Introduction to mobile devices

This workshop is for people who have never used a tablet or smartphone but are interested in finding out what they can be used for.

Tuesday, 13 June 10am to midday

All sessions will be held at Hawkesbury Central Library, 300 George Street, Windsor. Bookings are essential and can be made via www.hawkesburylibrary.eventbritte.com or call the Library on 4560 4460 to book.

The workshops are available for Library members aged 60+ only.

If you are not a member, it's free to join at https://







<u>aurora.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/</u> <u>library/Join.aspx</u> or visit the library during opening hours.

Tech Savvy Seniors is an initiative of the NSW Ageing Strategy and is funded through a partnership between the NSW Government and Telstra, and with the assistance and participation of Hawkesbury Library Service.







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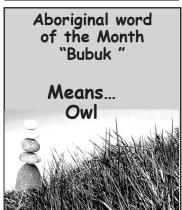
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	9	7	1		5	3		8
8			4	6		7	5	
4		1						
5		4	2		1		6	14.5
					7	1		
	6	3	9				2	7
3		6		8				5
				9	2	4		
9		8	5			2		3

71 Sand NOITULOS.....

BIRTHDAY CLUB June 2023..

1st - Leo Clissold will be 15

11th - Bobbie Cross will be 9

12th - Levi Wade will be 15

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