

LIVING HERITAGE

Maroota and District News

"COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION"

VOLUME 24, ISSUE 5

CIRCULATION 2200

MAY 2021

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

Sunday Markets
Every Sunday
9am to 3pm
Windsor Mall
Info: 0418 869 685



1st & 8th May - Sat
Managing Challenging Behaviour in Kids
Neighbourhood Centre
Richmond.
Info: 4588 3502

Wednesdays
Dance Fun for all ages
Community Hall
South Maroota
Info: 0412 524 554

15th-16th May Sat/Sun
Annual Hobby and Motor Show
School of Arts
East Kurrajong
Info: 4576 5031

27th May - Sat
DLHHS Invite to "Australia's Backyard"
Guest Speaker
Judy Horton ...see pg 3
Wesleyan Chapel
Gunderman
Info: 0405 321 478

Put these in your diary!

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Living On A Flood Plain

.....by
Pat
Schwartz

Since first European settlement 120 floods have been recorded on the Hawkesbury flood plain. The first recorded flood was in 1799.

The accompanying photographs on this page are from the Hawkesbury Gazette November 22nd 1961 and feature the 1961 flood. It is worth noting (as shown by the excerpt from the Gazette on this page) that during this flood the flood gates on the Warragamba dam did not open until it became a necessity (3am on Monday) and by this time large areas of the district were under water. According to the Gazette, at the time the flood had reached 33ft at Windsor (10.058 metres) without any water coming from the Warragamba catchment.

The 1961 flood peaked at 49feet 6inches (15.09 metres) approximately 2 metres higher than the recent flood this year which has devastated so many people.

The risks of living on a flood plain were recognised by the Indigenous people and very quickly by the first European settlers. Governor Macquarie, alarmed already by flooding on the Hawkesbury, created the five Macquarie towns which he considered were above flood level for people to store their produce and build their homes out of flood reach.

After the 1867 flood, the highest on record, the government at the time considered not allowing building on the flood plain. This did not happen and floods can be quickly forgotten especially as there can be decades between major flood events.

However the statistics are clear and it is well and truly evident that floods will occur from time to time whether the Warragamba dam wall is raised or not.

The Hawkesbury flood plain is a wonderful site for farming and conservation but is it ideal as the site for thousands of homes to be built? Perhaps it is time for the government to re think it's current policies on allowing further development on these areas compromised by flooding.

The natural dynamics of the Hawkesbury River and it's floodplain need to be understood and respected or the drama and heart break caused by these events will continue.

GATES OPENED
Opening of the gates was delayed until this became an absolute necessity at 3 a.m., on Monday, but by this time the level had risen to 33 feet at Windsor without a drop of water from the Warragamba catchment area entering the swollen river.
The Civil Defence organisation at Windsor, working in co-operation with the Army, R.A.A.F. and Police and aided by a detachment of Water Police fully equipped with boats, trailers and two-way radio, did a magnificent job during the critical days of Sunday and Monday.

FLOOD LEVELS AT WINDSOR

Flood levels taken at the Windsor Bridge tell the story of the town's agony as the rising waters crept into homes from Cox Street, South Windsor, to the Peninsula.

SUNDAY
6.45 a.m. 33ft. 6in.
9.00 a.m. 33ft. 9in.
12.15 p.m. 34ft. 9in.
2.50 p.m. 36ft. 7in.
5.15 p.m. 38ft. 11in.
8.05 p.m. 41ft. 5in.
10.00 p.m. 42ft. 8in.
11.40 p.m. 43ft. 7in.

MONDAY
1.00 a.m. 44ft. 6in.
4.00 a.m. 46ft.
6.00 a.m. 46ft. 10in.
9.00 a.m. 47ft. 9in.
11.00 a.m. 48ft. 6in.
12.25 p.m. 48ft. 11in.
1.55 p.m. 49ft. 4in.
4.00 p.m. 49ft. 5in.
5.15 p.m. 49ft. 6in.

The river held its peak height of 49ft. 6in. at 5.15 p.m. until 10 p.m. on Monday when it fell one inch to 49ft. 5in. The slow fall continued as follows:
10.00 p.m. 49ft. 5in.
11.00 p.m. 49ft. 4in.
12 midnight 49ft. 2in.

TUESDAY
6.00 a.m. 48ft. 6in.
7.45 a.m. 48ft. 3in.
9.00 a.m. 48ft. 3in.
10.00 a.m. 47ft. 10in.

WEDNESDAY
8.00 a.m. 43ft. 7in.
The flood exceeded the highest this century (in February, 1956, 44ft. 11in.) by 4ft. 7ins.
It was only exceeded by the 1867 flood (63ft. 2in.) and a flood of 59ft. 17 in. corded in March, 1799 when the readings were:
5.15 p.m. 49ft. 6in. trer

These papers were kindly donated to Living Heritage by Michael Turner.



An Army Duck heads into the vast sweep of flood waters across the Windsor Road. On the right the water from the swollen South Creek has risen almost to the verandah of Podesta's Hotel and has reached the Macquarie Street intersection.

INSIDE...Eco News/Editors Notes/Quote pg 2, DLHHS invite to /Flood Levels from 1799 pg 3, W/f Mens Shed/Community Links/Colbee Park pg 4, Harris Iverson pg 5, Hamish Rodgers pg 6, Women of Maroota/Julian Leeser pg 7, Noticeboard/ Peninsular pg 8, July Superannuation Changes/Bush Philosophy/Rainfall/RFS pg 9, Hornsby Shire Council/Pastors Desk pg10, RFS FireWise pg 11, Church Services/Macdonald Valley Asc pg12, Your Health is Your Wealth/Mp's visit Wisemans pg 13, I ever Wondered Why?/Valley Happenings pg 14, Gallery Reopens/CWA pg 15, Village Directory pg 16, School and Community Snippets pg 17, School Snippets pg 18, Birthdays/Kids/SMARTsteppers pg 19, Wisemans/Ferry Realty pg 20.

ECO-NEWS



With Liz Wilkinson



March 15--What a lovely lot of rain we have had but frustrating when you want to work in the garden. Last night was very heavy and the frogs (one I haven't heard before) outside my bedroom window kept me awake.

March 24 --Oh dear that rain certainly turned into disaster for our whole area. The mud covering everything will need a good drop of rain to wash it away so the plant life can breathe again along the edges of roads and in the paddocks--what a mess.

My bottlebrush has some blossom starting to come out and I arrived home to find it covered in Scarlet Honeyeaters. The Eastern Spinebill has also been visiting this bush.

Over on my rock slab all the rain has made little ponds and a flock of six Eastern Rosellas were having a lovely time bathing.

I noticed a small spider climbing on my wall near my phone table when my husband wanted to know if it was poisonous. On a closer look it turned out to be a very colourful spider-- body black, with a red tail, then above that a yellow stripe , then up closer to the eyes was a pattern like a hand weight in white. It's long legs were grey and black and it's paws (tarsus) were a furry light grey. It jumped when I tried to take it's photo. I couldn't find it on the computer under Australian Spiders. Later I looked under jumping spiders and there it was but most of them had a yellow tail. Later that day I found another spider in the same area but this one had a yellow tail. It turned out to be a Gypsy Jumping Spider (*Astia hiriola*) It was first discovered in 1879 by Koch. Over the years there doesn't seem to be too many reported sightings but over the last few

years they have been reported in Brisbane, Gloucester, Echuca, and down the South coast and here they are now in our area. They can be found under loose bark in Eucalypt forest. The male is brighter than the female but she is bigger-5.5 to 5ml. The paws are used in a dance to attract the females.

While gardening yesterday I found a creature that I could not identify- I guess it might be a grub/caterpillar but it looks as if it has armour plating for its skin -dark grey in colour but it feels soft- its mouth and tiny legs are black.

Does anyone have a clue what this is???



Quote!

A life spent making mistakes is not only more honourable, but more useful than a life spent doing nothing!

George Bernhard Shaw

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.

Editor's Notes

I'm not sure about this retirement thing, it seems like I'm busier than ever. There is a bonus though in that you can choose what you do. I like that.

What a month we have had here in the Hawkesbury and further afield. Many of our residents have lost homes, Caravans, other dwellings and treasured possessions. There are people displaced after their van parks have closed, now finding it difficult to get rental accommodation. The light at the end of this tunnel starts with our wonderful community volunteers, who unselfishly give their time and compassion to those in need. Helping Hands in Windsor is one such place where help is given freely 24/7; if you need it, Linda will make sure you get it. Bless them.

Slowly but surely, life is beginning

to return to the old 'normal' with flights to NZ now happening. I really do miss not being able to just decide on a destination, book the flight, and travel without fear of picking up any unwanted viruses and getting sick. I was lucky to get a trip to Samoa in just before lockdown, but my feet are itching to explore this wonderful world once more. I can dream!

Farewell to Commissioner Garry Simms, he has been writing articles for Living Heritage for a long time and we will miss his informative contributions.

Last month we recorded a massive 369 mm in the rain gauge and this month a measly 6 mm. Now that the clean-up is well under way, we could have a little more rain for our gardens. Just a little?

....Enjoy your read...Carole

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Dharug and Lower Hawkesbury Historical Society



**The Dharug and Lower Hawkesbury Historical Society
Invite you to The History of the "Australian Backyard"
An afternoon with our Special Guest Speaker Judy Horton
– Australian Gardening Guru**

Please join us at the Chapel on Saturday, May 29th where we are delighted to welcome Judy Horton the face of gardening in Australia to talk about the development of what became known as the "Aussie Backyard". What do you know of the history of your backyard?

Judy Horton (OAM) esteemed horticulture and gardening advisor, has worked with the National Trust as a bush regenerator, is the author of two gardening books and many articles written for gardening magazines such as Gardening Australia. Judy is also a member of the Australian Institute of Horticulture, the Horticultural Media Association and was the Communication Manager and gardening advisor to Yates for over 22 years.

Whilst working at Yates, Judy had the opportunity to look after their archives and was able to gain much insight into the way gardening in Australia, particularly in the 20th Century was conducted. Judy will talk about various trends and social changes that affected Australian gardens of the time with of course many mentions of the "quarter acre block" of the day.

We will meet at the Chapel at 12.00pm for a delicious lunch at 12.30 pm.

Come and listen to Judy's fun talk that will have everyone recognising something they remember from past gardens. Judy will commence her talk at the Wesleyan Chapel, 6445 Wisemans Ferry Road, Gunderman after lunch.

Cost:- Members \$15/Non-Members \$20. Price includes a ticket in the raffle to be drawn on the day. Contactless payment will be available.

Bookings: essential to secretary@dlhhs.org.au or 0405 321 478 (leave a message) or by Monday, 24th May for DLHHS Members and by Wednesday, 26th July for Non-Members. All welcome.

Robyn Downham Publicity Officer



Thought you might like this photo I took at the ski park at Sackville North during clean-up assistance recently. Just one of the amazing sights. Good place to hide your beer perhaps?

*John Tapper
Maroota South RFS*



Windsor during the recent 2021 flood. Complete isolation for many and extensive damage to property.



Flood levels of the Hawkesbury River recorded at Windsor Bridge for floods 9.15 meters (30 feet) and over.

Year	Height (m)	Height Feet & ins.	Year	Height (m)	Height Feet & ins.
1799 March	15.25	50'	1895 January	9.30	30'6"
1800 March	12.20	40'	1898 February	9.61	31'6"
1806 March	14.64	48'	1900 July	14.08	46'1"
1806 August	14.33	47'	1904 July	12.22	40'1"
1806 October	9.15	30'	1916 October	10.83	35'6"
1809 May	14.64	48'	1922 July	9.45	31'
1809 August	14.49	47'6"	1925 June	11.36	37'3"
1816 June	13.88	45'6"	1934 February	9.15	30'
1817 February	14.03	46'	1943 May	10.11	33'2"
1819 February	14.03	46'	1949 June	11.97	39'3"
1819 June	14.03	46'	1950 March	9.20	30'2"
1857 July	9.91	37'6"	1950 April	9.20	30'2"
1857 August	11.44	37' 6"	1950 June	9.45	31'
1860 April	11.21	36'9"	1952 June	9.35	30'8"
1860 July	10.45	34'3"	1952 June	11.61	38'1"
1860 November	10.98	36'	1952 August	9.71	31'10"
1864 June	9.91	3'6"	1955 May	9.76	32'
1864 July	10.98	36'	1956 February	13.70	44'11"
1867 June	19.26	63'2"	1956 February	11.56	37'11"
1869 May	11.21	36'9"	1956 March	9.81	32'2"
1870 April	13.72	45'	1956 June	9.53	31'3"
1870 May	10.83	35'6"	1961 November	15.10	49'6"
1871 May	11.21	36'9"	1963-4 New gauge reduced 305 mm (1' approx)		
1873 February	12.66	41'6"	1964 June	14.51	47'7"
1875 June	11.82	38'9"	1969 November	10.06	33'
1877 May	9.15	30'	1974 May	10.28	33'9"
1879 September	10.52	34'6"	1978 March	14.31	46'11"
1879 September	13.91	43'3"	1978 June	9.55	31'4"
1889 May	11.74	38'9"	1986 August	11.30	37'6"
1890 March	12.12	39'9"	1988 April	12.65	41'6"
1890 March	10.52	34'9"	1988 July	10.74	35'3"
1891 June	10.83	35'6"	1990 April	9.80	32'2"
1894 March	9.68	31'9"	1992 February	11.00	36'1"

Flood Types and Effects

MINOR:

From about 5.8m. Causes inconvenience, minor roads and low-level bridges affected.

MODERATE:

From about 6.9m. Overbank flow occurs with damage to low lying homes and farms. North Richmond Bridge closes at 8.4m and Windsor Bridge at 6.9m.

MAJOR:

From about 12.2m. Widespread inundation. Large areas flooded, towns and properties isolated and waters encroach.

Extensive damage and hardship can occur (Notes by Garry Chatman)



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News From Wisemans Ferry Mens Shed

The members of the Men's Shed would like to acknowledge the magnificent effort of the volunteers together with the help of local Councils, State and Federal Services that assisted in the supply of essential services and emergency back-up during the recent flooding and inundation of housing and outbuildings in the area surrounding Wisemans Ferry. Most areas fronting the Hawkesbury River and its tributaries were devastated and whole townships and settlements went under and emergency services were scrambled.

An immediate evacuation and staging area was made at the Bowling Club and stranded and rescued residents were tended to and fed until evacuated to Castle Hill evacuation centre.

Our Men's Shed was only constructed 3 years ago and was Council approved above known flood levels but it was inundated by 900 mm above floor level.

This allowed most of our machinery and equipment and stored timbers to be ruined and it has taken almost 4 weeks to remove the mud and sediment from inside the shed.

We are calling on help from the public to donate any excess tools, machines, mower, timber, screws to allow us to get back to operational stability.

Contact can be made by ringing Adrian Acheson, President, on **0448833781**, to discuss any matter pertaining to helping.



RFS boat floating outside Mens Shed.



The Premier Hon. Gladys Berejikian and State Member for Hawkesbury Robyn Preston are talking to our members Rob Murray and Adrian Acheson about the emergency at Wisemans Ferry and surrounds.

Community Links

.....with Chief Inspector
Garry Sims APM



Fair well – thank you for your support

By Chief Inspector Garry Sims APM,
Hawkesbury Police Area Command Customer
Service Duty Officer.

My time in the local area has come to an end as I have accepted an offer from the Commissioner to transfer to the Blue Mountains Police Area Command – which is the area where I have lived since the late 1970's. I have served in the Hawkesbury for nearly six and a half years, which I can honestly say has been the most rewarding and satisfying time in the New South Wales Police, which sees my career now of over thirty-five years.

My time in the Hawkesbury has been made especially rewarding due to the involvement in the Wisemans Ferry and St Albans areas. I have made friends and been part of community activities which has added to my understanding of what the community needs in terms of a policing service. I have seen firsthand the qualities of people in this area and how they are genuine, respectful people who are really community minded.

I have experienced with the community the threats and risks presented by fire and floods, not to mention a pandemic! It has been rewarding seeing how resilient you are as locals and how you work to recover from the setbacks that have been encountered.

The Valley is a special place with many special people – with an environment that holds much scenic beauty and attractions. All in all, it has been an absolute privilege to have served your community and I will remember with fondness being able to contribute to making life safer. My closing comment is to ask you all to continue to look after one another, ask that important question “R U OK?” and to be there for others.

I will continue to maintain links with the area and will follow closely how things are going for you. So, for the last time in Living Heritage, I thank you for the opportunity of serving you for over six years – it has been an honour.

Community Feedback Sought



Hawkesbury City Council is inviting community members to view and comment on the Draft Plan of Management and Masterplan for Colbee Park, McGraths Hill. It is available on Council's website at www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au via the Have Your Say tab or the direct link

www.yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au and a hard copy is available to view at Council's Administration Building, 366 George Street, Windsor until Friday, 28 May 2021.

The Draft Plan of Management and Masterplan for Colbee Park, McGraths Hill has been developed in consultation with the community and it will guide how the park may be used.




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The Women of Maroota

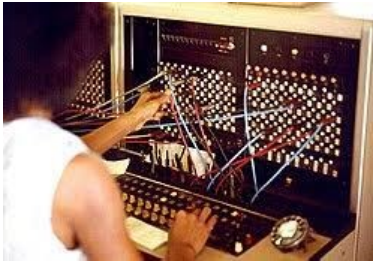
...compiled by
Ruby Ramm

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

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

ENA HICKMAN

Ena was the Maroota postmistress and telephone exchange operator in the 1960's and early 70's, which was operated from her home on Old Northern Road, next to what was known as Camilleri's Box Factory.



Like other country women, Ena was a good cook and keen gardener when she had spare time from her duties at the Post Office and telephone exchange.

In Ena's garden, I remember seeing a really wide range of interesting plants and shrubs. Amongst the garden of 'all sorts' was a coloured coleus collection; there were geraniums, various types of ferns, pampas grass, buddelias and hibiscus. Various kinds of plants collected over the years.

Ena was a devout Christian who attended weekly the local Baptist Church which, at this stage, had been bought from St. Marks Church of England at Sackville Corner.

Ena was a real comedienne, always ready to crack a joke, unexpectedly surprising her listeners with her jovial laughter. I shall always remember the time Ena gave us a ginger beer plant which had to be regularly fed. I was fascinated how it used to breathe (I guess this must have been the yeast expanding). When put into glass bottles, sealed with gold caps, it made a good home brew. And, to this day, I remember her recipe for chicken dip that

came from a small recipe book she gave Chrissie.

Ena truly was a warm, friendly woman and we enjoyed visiting her place, and when she returned the visits.

She was married to Charlie Hickman, a plumber, and they had four sons – Rodney, Tony, Christopher and Craig, who grew crops on the family's property. Charlie's mother, Ivy, lived in a little cottage on the property, and she loved to do tatting.



Remember these?





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- ➔ Attend your local community event
- ➔ Arrange congratulatory messages

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JULIAN LEESER MP
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR **BEROWRA**

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

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WISEMANS FERRY SENIORS

It has been a very quiet month for our group because of the floods which affected our members, No Bingo, No Meeting, and No Picnic in the park however we are back on deck again with our Monday Bingo and meetings.

Fortunately we have our tickets for the Premiers Concert in the city, an outing we are looking forward to after recent events and ironically we missed out on last year because of the floods last year with no ferries running.



Don't forget our Facebook page **Wisemans Ferry Bingo Group** and for any queries contact Jo 0419 413 523 or Margaret 0409 249 175

Tech Savvy Seniors - May

Intermediate: Using apps on your smartphone and tablet

Friday, 21 May from 10am to 12.15pm

Intermediate: Streaming TV and movies

Friday, 28 May from 10am to 12:15pm

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

NEIGHBOUR AID VOLUNTEER WANTED

Can you spare an hour or two each week, fortnight or month? Would you like to help older people living in your area?

Hawkesbury Neighbour Aid is desperately looking for volunteers in the Wisemans Ferry, St Albans, and Macdonald areas who would be interested in helping people over 65 by taking them shopping or to some appointments or a social visit in their homes

Full training and support provided. Reimbursement for out of pocket expenses.

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The Peninsular

By Liz Wilkinson

Anshou's tannery was built behind the Windsor gaol and had a common back wall topped with broken glass with the gaol which you can still see through a wire gate in Pitt St. As you drive across the bridge over South Creek, if you look behind the Old Toll House you can see the back wall of the gaol so not all of our history is destroyed.

In my research on the gaol I kept getting conflicting dates:

1. From the Singleton Argus 9th March 1936 was an article stating the demolition work had begun on the gaol and many relics such as old cedar doors and ironwork were taken to Parramatta to be used in their gaol. Windsor gaol was established in 1820 and added to in the 50's. This gaol though in good repair had not been used for some years (was everybody well behaved at that time?) so it was planned to sell the land for building blocks.

2. Next comes the sign-- Site of Gaol 1859-1936.

3. From the State Records Authority of NSW comes: The Watch House of Windsor was proclaimed and declared a Public Gaol Prison and House of Correction on 11th July 1859 and Windsor gaol was de-established on the 17th January 1899.

4. In the book *Early Days of Windsor* written by Rev. James Steele and with a forward by Tebbett attesting to its accuracy, it stated that in 1826 Windsor Grand Jury October 12th 1826 petitioned for additions and repairs to the local gaol and better accommodation at the Courthouse. The book also listed the names of gaol keepers, a few of which I'll give- George Loder (grandson of John Howe) held this office from 1820 or earlier until 1829; G Walpole from 1829-35 and Thomas Keenan until 1842. THEN I solved the quandary of the conflicting dates. The gaol built in 1859 was on the site of a still earlier gaol!!

I want the readers to know that this article was written prior to the devastating floods. I was dismayed to see on TV the houses that I had written about with flood waters surrounding them. My thoughts and prayers are with the people who live in these houses as well as all people affected by this flood as they go about the enormous task required to clean up and get back to normal life.



The 1 July 2021 Superannuation Changes

Changes from 1 July 2021 will impact on how much money you can contribute to superannuation and how much you can have in your retirement phase superannuation account.

In general, your superannuation is either in an accumulation account (when you are building your super), a retirement account (when you meet preservation age and certain conditions of release and can withdraw your super), or in between when you are transitioning to retirement (when you reach preservation age, are working reduced hours and take some of your superannuation as a pension).

The amount of money you can transfer from your accumulation account into your tax-free retirement account is limited by a transfer balance cap (TBC). From 1 July 2021, the current \$1.6m general TBC will be indexed to \$1.7m and once indexed, no single cap will apply to all individuals (each person will have an individual TBC between \$1.6m and \$1.7m).

Indexation will also change other superannuation caps and limits including:

*Non-concessional contributions (contributions from after tax income)

*Concessional contributions (contributions from before tax income such as super guarantee, salary sacrificed super amounts, or contributions you make and claim a tax deduction for etc.)

*Co-contributions (personal contributions made by low and middle income earners matched by the Government up to \$500), and Contributions you make on behalf of your spouse that are eligible for a tax-offset.

*Indexation will increase the concessional and non-concessional contribution caps from 1 July '21.

These caps are indexed by average weekly ordinary time earnings (AWOTE).

Cap	Current cap	Cap from 1 July 2021
Concessional contributions cap	\$25,000	\$27,500
Non-concessional contributions cap	\$100,000	\$110,000

The bring forward rule enables you to contribute up to three years' worth of non-concessional contributions in the one year. That is, from 1 July 2021, you could

contribute up to \$330,000 to your superannuation in one year. You can use the bring forward rule if you are 64 or younger on 1 July of the relevant financial year of the contribution and the contribution will not increase your total super balance by more than your transfer balance account cap.

If you utilised the bring forward rule in previous years, your non-concessional cap will not change. You will need to wait until your three years has expired before utilising the new cap limit.

1 July 2017 – 30 June 2021	
Total Superannuation Balance (TSB)	Contribution and bring forward available
Less than \$1.4m	\$300,000
\$1.4m - \$1.5m	\$200,000
\$1.5m - \$1.6m	\$100,000
Above \$1.6m	Nil

After 1 July 2021	
Total Superannuation Balance (TSB)	Contribution and bring forward available
Less than \$1.48m	\$330,000
\$1.48m - \$1.59m	\$220,000
\$1.59m - \$1.7m	\$110,000
Above \$1.7m	Nil

excludes withdrawals made under the COVID 19 relief measures.

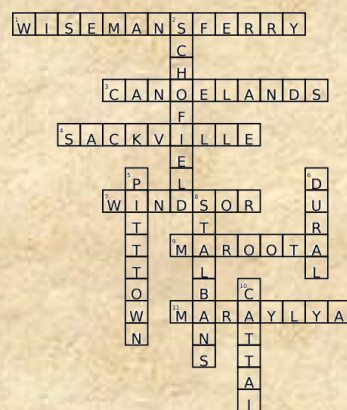
The material and contents provided in this publication are informative in nature only. It is not intended to be advice and you should not act specifically on the basis of this information alone.

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@bellpartners.com

Solution to puzzle on page 19



Rainfall for

MAR 25th To APR 21st

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

Taken at
South Maroota

Bush Philosophy

Teachers open the doors But you must enter by yourself!

CHECK YOUR SMOKE ALARMS

ST ALBANS RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

St Albans Station:
4568 2011



Captain Lilly Stepanovich:
0409 322 236

Senior Dep: Warwick Blacker:
4568 2177.

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



SPENCER RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

4778 Wisemans Ferry Rd,
SPENCER NSW 2775



New members always welcome.

Captain Alison Wade
T: 1415 668 953

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

Spencer Rural Fire Brigade

- 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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- Visit only if you're feeling well
- Call ahead to book a time if possible
- Practice safe distancing

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Latest News



For artistically and environmentally minded residents, now is the special time of year when you get to combine your passions with the annual Hornsby Shire Council Remagine Art Prize. There is \$11,000 in prize money on offer for the most creative entrants. It's always a highlight on the cultural calendar and we look forward to it every year. The theme this year is "Fast fashion, fast food, fast running out of resources".

The simple fact is that we are facing some major challenges in the environmental future of our planet. There are valid debates about the exact nature and extent of those difficulties, not to mention the best ways to address them,

but nobody can deny that we are standing at a crossroads looking at some very tough decisions. That's why it's important to use every possible avenue to encourage conversation within the community about how we should move forward. There are few better ways to speak to people than through art, engage them emotionally as well as intellectually.

There are a number of different categories, including a Youth Award. To find out more, visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au/remagine

Philip Ruddock AO
Mayor, Hornsby Shire Council

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY 12 MAY, 6.30PM

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

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FROM THE PASTORS DESK

Is It "YES" or "NO"
Matthew 5:37



Good negotiators understand that talking too much is a sign of insecurity and weakness. Sometimes the most potent word in any language is a simple "Yes" or "No". Without further explanation or elaboration. Most decisions eventually come to that point. In order to do that, you must be able to answer three questions:

Is This Decision Mine Alone To Make?

If so, don't hesitate, vacillate.... make the decision, but first stand on the scripture (James 1:5) "If any of you lack wisdom, ask God and it will be given to them without reproach".

What Will Happen If I Am Iffy?

Things will either get better or worse for one or more party. Weigh your decision carefully, best speak out the scripture (Proverbs 3: 5-6) "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, Lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways, acknowledge Him and He will direct your path".

Does This Decision Have a Moral and Spiritual Dimension?

When you compromise your convictions or character for popularity or profit, you end up morally and spiritually bankrupt. So hold to your values, base your decisions on them.

Let your Yes be "YES" Let your no be "NO"
Just a simple "YES I will", or "NO I won't".

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

LIVING HERITAGE FOLDING DAYS

Jun....Mon....May....24th
Jul....Mon....Jun....21st
Aug....Mon....Jul....26th
Sept....Mon....Aug....23rd

Anytime between 11am and approx 2pm

If you have some spare time come join us, help us fold while sharing a joke or information, over a cuppa or lunch.
At the Resource Centre,
4540 Old Northern Rd, Maroota.
Ph: 0407 949 899

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Community Chaplain

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email:
petergoldstien12@gmail.com

☎ 45 750 313

Mob: 0428 234 228



Community Fire Wise

The Hills District Rural Fire Service

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE!

MAROOKA SOUTH RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

Once again the weather has caused *chaos*.

With heavy rain there has been widespread flooding and damage along the Hawkesbury river system. See flood levels page 3.

Initially the brigade members were mainly involved with trees down and traffic issues, in particular at the Little Cattai area. I cannot understand why no signage at all on some of our flooded roads is thought to be acceptable by the road authorities.

Then, as the flood receded, there was lots of mud to wash, and assist residents with the heartbreaking efforts to save what they could. Many of our members assisted, getting very messy in the process.

Personally, I had a call at daylight to Pages Wharf Rd where the road had slumped into the river. At the time, there were indications of tyre skid marks on the fallen tar down to the river. Some of the roads residents were contacted by other residents to confirm their safety, police then confirmed the few that were not able to be contacted. Pages Wharf Rd remains closed.

Please note: the level of 13 metres does not make this a big flood as past records show. The level of the 2020 flood was 9.2 meters. There is a group on Facebook that call themselves the Hawkesbury Flood Statistics Unit, their information was on the mark and unbiased. You do not need

to be a Facebook member to access their information.

This last weekend, several of our members assisted with Hazard burn at Kenthurst, while others did their basic training, and still others did work at the station.

....Garry Chatman



Pages Wharf Road

WISEMANS FERRY RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

The Wisemans Ferry team have been extremely busy during the flood crisis assisting with evacuations, food drops, clean up, as well as generally supporting the community.

We would like to acknowledge the support from other agencies including the SES, Police, Fire and Rescue, and the Army who have worked tirelessly to support the Valley's communities. Many of these teams were from as far away as Cairns.

There are a large number of hard working individuals who organised a range of supports, too many to name individually here, except for a couple such as Margie Pratt from the Wisemans Ferry Bowling Club who coordinated donations, packing and delivery of food and essential items to stranded residents. Donations came from an astounding number of individuals and groups, both local and from further afield. Our local policeman, Bill Andrews, has gone above and beyond by rescuing those who may not be here today without his quick action.

Finally, without the support of neighbours and friends many of our residents would have been without any support for some time until emergency service teams could get to them. It is this support that makes the valley such a great and resilient community. There is a long haul for many of the valley's residents with clean up still progressing. A Flood Relief Centre has been established at the Wisemans Ferry Retreat at 5564 Old Northern Road Wisemans Ferry. The centre offers an extensive range of government and non-government services to help with financial, physical and emotional support for anyone affected by the 2021 floods. This is open 10am – 4pm weekdays and 10am-2pm weekends. There is also a Recovery Hub based at the St Albans RFS station with operating hours 10am-4pm Fridays and 10am-2pm Saturdays fortnightly from Saturday 17th April. Alternatively call Service NSW on

137788.

...Margaret Cavanagh Assistant Community Engagement Officer

Maroota: Capt: ☎4566 6196
" Mob: ☎0417 216 306
Sth Maroota: ☎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

MAROOKA RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

Another month, and our community has been thrown into yet another emergency scenario.....this time flood! We had been seeing and hearing warnings from SES and the Bureau of Meteorology for several months that the inevitable was bound to happen and to get ourselves prepared but I doubt that many could have believed the damage and devastation this event would cause. Floods typically follow long droughts and bushfires in this country and nature didn't disappoint. The Hawkesbury basin is notorious for big damaging floods as our history books can tell us.

The brigades in our area, swept into action to join the SES and Police in a huge rescue effort to save stranded people and animals at the peak of the floods. It was a mammoth task and they were supported immensely by the co-operation and dedication of the management and staff of the Wisemans Ferry Bowling Club which ended up the main evacuation centre in our area.

To say our community is resilient is an understatement, as volunteers came out of the woodwork to assist those affected by the floods. Some brought fresh fruit & vegetables while others brought packaged food or blankets, towels and toiletries and left them at the Bowling Club for distribution. Others donated feed for animals that were stranded. Others just kept turning up, day after day to the club to assist with the assembling of hampers for the emergency services to distribute to stranded residents. Brigade members of the district were amongst these and many volunteered countless hours to assist with cleaning up the worst hit areas of the flood waters. This especially was needed in the many caravan parks along the river. The clean-up will need to continue for many months and even years from this event.

An event such as this demonstrates the need to have emergency plans in place and be ready to evacuate our properties at a moment's notice for any type of emergency be it flood, fire or storm. Have you got your plans in place?

Meanwhile our brigade was also busy with other incidents this last month as well as the flood. These were- 11 March; Yard fire at South Maroota, 21 March; Multiple trees down Northern end of the shire, 22 March; Assist with sandbagging at Wisemans Ferry, 24 March; Trees down 4704 Old Northern Rd Maroota, 28 March; Smoke sighting Simpsons Fire Trail Maroota and 29 March; Assist FRNSW with a chemical leak at Wisemans Ferry.

....Robin Hitchcock

PREPARE.

ACT.

SURVIVE.

SACKVILLE NORTH RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

Well the end of March and the beginning of April came with an over indulgence of rain and devastation to many areas including ours. Flooding left unbelievable damage and rubbish is its wake in the Hawkesbury and our local communities and still struggling to recover. The RFS came to people's aid again to assist with clearing and cleaning up. Brigades travelled from many areas, and our Brigade had crews out for 4 days assisting with the mopping up and clearing areas of rubbish.

Lindt Chocolates generously donated many Easter Eggs to give to people affected by the floods. Our Brigade visited Ski parks and Camp in Lower Portland area to give some belated Easter Cheer to residents and the kids.

Good to see the spirit and determination in our community. St. George's Caravan park is still covered by tonnes of rubbish and debris.

Time to get out and begin getting ready for our next Fire Season while you enjoy the Autumn weather and the beautiful changing colours that come with it.

....Judith Barr

Hawk Fire Cont: ☎4575 1601
Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai
Fire Control: ☎9883 2000
The Hills
Fire Control: ☎9654 1244

Sackville North: ☎9654 1244
" Mob: ☎0419 522 088
Lwr McDonald: ☎4568 2168
St Albans: ☎0409 322 236
Spencer: ☎4566 4640

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

Sunday 2nd May 10am St Albans
(Harvest Festival)

Sunday 23rd May 10am St Phillips

Women's Coffee, Tuesdays at 10am

Blokes' Café, Fridays at 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

5pm - Young Adults Service

admin@pitttownchurch.com 4572 3262



Midway Christian Centre

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



Easter Sunday and Christmas Day will also have a service.

All welcome to the gathering starting at 9.30 am

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

Phone 4575 0313 0428 234 228

Ageing in the Valley –

What services are available? –

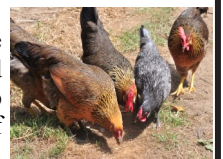
Thurs. 6th May 2021

For years people living in the Valley have struggled with getting access to services that will help them remain living in the community as they age. This session will be joint run by Uniting Care, Peppercorn Services, Meals on Wheels, Red Cross and Hawkesbury City Council.

A dedicated and professional support advisor from Uniting Care will be coming to the St Albans School of Arts and will be happy to answer any questions you have, about aged care. They can run through identifying your needs, setting a plan and making an application for assessment, take advantage of this expert advice. Transport can be arranged if needed.

Backyard Poultry - Facilitator Penny Pyett – Sat. 8th May 2021

Learn how to set up, manage and organise your backyard for chickens. The workshop will explain all the benefits of having your own chickens, providing advice and tips for beginners. They are easy and inexpensive to maintain, provide delicious fresh eggs and are a chemical-free way to control bugs and weeds in your garden. Plus they make great pets for kids!



Preparing your house for the fire season - Facilitator St Albans RFS – Sun. 16th May 2021

A well prepared home is more likely to survive a bush fire. Even if your plan is to leave early, the more you prepare your home, the more likely it will survive a bush fire or ember attack. A well prepared home can also be easier for you or fire-fighters to defend, and is less likely to put your neighbours' homes at risk. A well prepared home will also give you more protection if a fire threatens suddenly and you cannot leave. Come along and learn some basic maintenance tips to prepare your property.

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Your Health is Your Wealth -

Choosing to care for others.

The capacity of human beings to make space for another "I am here for you" can be so wonderful. Watching recent events on the news, I have so appreciated seeing communities and people from near and far all come together to help those needing support.

This beauty of the human spirit that shines through the darkness to help others is a priceless gift we can choose to share with another. Sometimes the most simplistic gesture of checking in with someone, letting them know you are simply there, is all that is needed to help give hope. To those workers on the front line physically exhausted helping and beyond. We would like to say THANK YOU for being you, showing kindness, support, compassion, and care.

The after effect of an event, not just a natural disaster, it could be something within your personal life that no one may even know about, can greatly impact our mental health in many vastly different ways. Some of us can feel the impact immediately while for others it can take time, possibly years before it is triggered, and a thought is there. If you are struggling with a thought, feeling or emotion please reach out to us, we are here for you. Sometimes the hardest thing can simply be we just do not know where to begin, so we drag ourselves out of bed each day, putting on that big smile, trying to forget what issues maybe going through you.

At Pathways Community Counselling Clinic, we value your thoughts and would like to offer you a caring hand to support you through your "whatever it may be". We care for you.

Call

0434 293 116



David Littleproud MP, visits Flood-affected Wisemans Ferry

Federal Member for Berowra, Julian Leeser MP, brought David Littleproud, Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management, and Emergency Management Australia Director General Joe Buffone to Wisemans Ferry to see the impact the recent floods had on the community.

"It was sobering showing Ministers the devastation the floods have caused the river communities in my electorate."

Mr Leeser facilitated a community meeting to hear about some of the challenges the community was facing in the clean up and to discuss what additional assistance could be provided to locals and volunteers on the ground. Commitments were made to get back to constituents on a range of issues including skip bins and recovery grants for affected river communities.

Since the meeting, Mr Leeser's office has been in contact with Hornsby Shire and The Hills Shire Councils to pass on the community's feedback about concerns over delays and the costs associated with accessing skip bins.

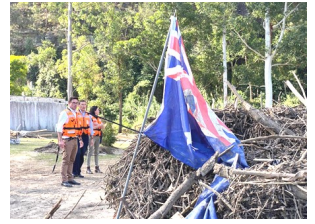
"It was important for us to meet with the community to gain a better understanding of the issues the floods have caused, and how we could address these issues."

The Australian Defence Force, Joint Task Group 629, has since been in the area doing a fantastic job assisting with the clean-up at Wiseman's Ferry, Lower Portland, and other communities impacted by the floods.

Julian Leeser said "Thanks to all the Defence Force Personnel who are working to lift spirits and offer practical help that is making an important difference in the clean-up effort."

Despite the tough circumstances, we heard so many amazing stories of locals helping each other out, and that is why I am proud to represent this electorate."

Grants are available to assist individuals and businesses affected by the floods. To access support call Service NSW on 13 77 88.



ADVERTISEMENT

Robyn Preston MP
Member for
Hawkesbury



Can I help you?

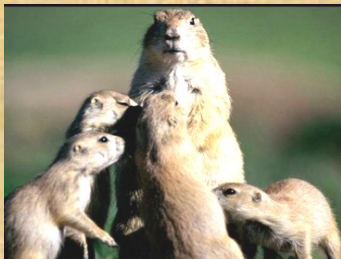


Phone: 02 4578 0300 **Email:** hawkesbury@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Mail: PO Box 505, Richmond NSW 2753

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Mums and their Bubs



Did you know?

Dolphins
sleep
with
one eye
open



Ever Wondered Why?

Q: Why do men's clothes have buttons on the right while women's clothes have buttons on the left?



A: When buttons were invented, they were very expensive and worn primarily by the rich. Because wealthy women were dressed by maids, dressmakers put the buttons on the maid's right. Since most people are right-handed, it is easier to push buttons on the right through holes on the left. And that's where women's buttons have remained since.

Q: Why do X's at the end of a letter signify kisses?

A: In the Middle Ages, when many people were unable to read or write, documents were often signed using an X. Kissing the X represented an oath to fulfill obligations specified in the document. The X and the kiss eventually became synonymous.



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Wisemans Ferry NSW 2775

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Wednesday to Friday 9:00 to 5:00

Closed Tuesday, Saturday & Sunday

Valley Happenings with Sherri

Hi All,
Good to see the water slowly receding around the valley. However every time we have rain, which seems every week, the water comes up again. A lot of you now have your own lake and water views.

Bet the new comers did not expect those views.

Note It seems most phones and ADSL internet is in the Valley. Satellite internet is still working at this stage.

Common News

The common is extremely wet at present, so stay off the paddocks if possible.

The **next muster** has been cancelled as has the next **working bee**. Due to other activities in the valley clashing.

We have put the **Fishing Competition** off until later in the year as there is no available weekends until October or November.

Common Dinner 22 May 2021

We have had a hell of a couple of years and it is time we took a big breath in, and blow it out. Come out for a night out, enjoy catching up with people you have not seen for a while or just get out of the house and enjoy a great night. Lets rejuvenate the spirit of the valley old and new. The next Common Dinner will be held on the evening of **22 May 2021**.

We have increased the numbers that can come due to the over-whelming response to our last dinner. Get in early so you don't miss out on a ticket. At present we have not set a location due to the amount of water still sitting around. We will advise you asap.

We will have the same caterers.

Entertainment will be Adam Eckersley and Brook McClymont. There will be a pictorial history on display (anyone with photos relating to the common we would love to get copies) contact me on **45682013**. The dinner is being sponsored by nbmphen.

There will be lucky door prizes.

Cost \$10 for adults children under 15 free

If you wish to pay by direct debit contact me for the details.

Please put your names as a reference

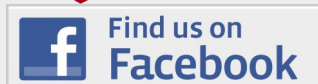
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Jodie Cox **45682216** Higher MacDonald or

Sharon Hall **(02) 4568 2211** in village

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Gallery Exhibition Openings Are Back!

Hawkesbury Regional Gallery is excited to announce that their popular exhibition opening events are back, commencing with two extraordinary travelling shows: *Promiscuous Provenance* from Shoalhaven Regional Gallery and *Safe Space*, touring from Museum and Galleries Queensland.

Award winning artist, Anna Glynn is the creator of *Promiscuous Provenance*, a stunning exhibition which explores colonial artworks by reimagining antipodean landscapes. Lively and appealing it combines 30+ new watercolour and ink works, 3D printed sculptures, and installation pieces, to explore our relationship with the colonial past by re-imagining the early settlers' depictions of the flora and fauna they encountered.

Safe Space, a major touring exhibition of contemporary sculpture, showcases the works of 12 acclaimed Australian artists:

Abdul-Rahman Abdullah, Alex Seton, Claire Healy and Sean Cordeiro, David Cross, Franz Ehmann, Karla Dickens, Keg de Souza, Michelle Nikou, Rosie Miller, Tim Sterling and Will French. It features diverse sculptural materials, techniques and scale, exploring different notions of space to spark the viewer's curiosity.

The Gallery is a COVIDsafe facility and our COVIDsafe plan and procedures will be in place.

Exhibition dates: May to 13 June 2021

Where: Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, Top floor, Deerubbin Centre, 300 George Street, Windsor

Cost: Free



Galston CWA News

And the winner is...

CWA Galston! We are so excited to share that we have won first prize in the Australian Seniors Insurance Agency competition against very worthy adversary Dural Men's Shed. We are so grateful to Australian Seniors for such a generous prize. It has been very difficult to fundraise in the usual ways over the past year and \$1000 will go a long way in our efforts to help and serve our community.

We also held our Mother's Day Market Stall in April to great success. Our first opportunity in a long while to get out and about, putting the hard work of all our branch members to a worthy cause.

A big, big thank you to all the wonderful locals who visited us at the stall and also to those who voted for CWA Galston at Australian Seniors in Castle Towers. Among the charities your support is helping are Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Women's Shelter, Hawkesbury Helping Hands, Share the Dignity, Sydney Wildlife, Winter Warmers and CWA of NSW disaster relief.

If you are interested in learning more about how we are making a difference, please come along to our next meeting on Wednesday 12th May and see what we're all about.

For more details about our meetings or fundraising please contact **Jann 0439 222 217** or **Pam 02 9653 1036**. www.facebook.com/CWAGalston | galston.cwa@gmail.com



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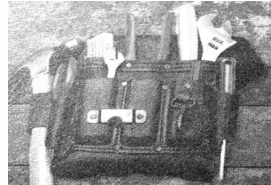
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MACDONALD VALLEY PUBLIC SCHOOL



Easter Markets 2021 was a wonderful day for our community to come together after all the challenges of the recent floods. Once again our families have proven that they are hard-working, optimistic, brave and resilient in the face of any disaster.

Thank you so much to our amazing P&C for their efforts to plan, prepare and pull off a spectacular day. They are so dedicated to our little school and their hard work is so appreciated!

Thank you for the generosity shown by our community - it was so wonderful to see you all and we are extremely grateful for the support given to our school by so many individuals and businesses by way of donations which made the day such a big success - our best result ever!



Our Principal above and at right enjoying the face painting at the Easter Markets!



Opportunity Class Selection!

We are so proud of our Year 6 student Poppy who has been offered an exciting new placement in the Opportunity Class at Richmond Public School.

Students at Macdonald Valley Public School achieve such a high standard of academic results and Poppy is most deserving of this wonderful opportunity.



Odd Spots!



The longest one-syllable word in the English language is 'screeched'.

Real diamonds can be made from peanut butter.

In a day, the average person walks four kilometres.

Women's hearts beat faster than men's.

Rubber bands last longer when refrigerated.

MAROOTA PUBLIC SCHOOL



Maroota Public School welcomes our students and their families back to school after a restful April holiday. After last term, enduring more rain than anyone without an ark could manage, the floodwaters have receded and we are looking forward to a jam-packed term of fun and learning. We look forward to welcoming Little Athletics to school on Wednesdays (with thanks to the LAP), this term. We anticipate much fun and learning of athletic track and field skills, ready for our upcoming athletics carnival, in Term 3!

We wish to congratulate Maroota Public School's own super-fish who made their way to Homebush Olympic Swim Centre to compete in the 2021 NSW PSSA State Championships. Their performance in the relay was inspiring. They swam their little hearts out, winning the first heat. The rest of the heat times were faster than Maroota's so, unfortunately, they missed out on the finals. All four students agreed that it was a fantastic and exciting experience. We are very proud that they represented their school so proudly.

Maroota Public School is gearing up to hold its annual Cross Country event. This Friday will see students in K-6 running Camilleri's Track, scoring house points for achievement and participation-hoping that their house will find itself as the Carnival Champion! Following our school Cross Country Carnival, fourteen speedy Maroota students will make their way to Woodbury Reserve in Glossodia to compete in the Small Schools Cross Country Carnival on Friday, 30th April. We wish them all the best.

Until next time...

Ann Smith (Relieving Principal)

Note!

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

Tour of Richmond Cemeteries

Rediscover some of the Hawkesbury's lesser known cemeteries on an excursion to some of Richmond's historic cemeteries - the Presbyterian Cemetery and the old Catholic and Methodist sites. Richmond's Presbyterian Cemetery was established in the 1860s, with over 100 headstones recording over 280 names.

One of the notable monuments that will be part of the tour belongs to the Bowman family who were well-known in the Hawkesbury. George was responsible for building the Church in West Market Street which he donated to the Presbyterian Church. He was Richmond Council's first mayor in 1872 and was also a representative in the Legislative Council in the 1850s.

The other cemetery to be visited will be the General Cemetery, now known as the Richmond Lawn Cemetery. These older portions have some unique and interesting headstones including James 'Da' Sullivan who is buried in the Catholic section. He died in 1948 in his 102nd year, with no less than 125 descendants.

Join us on this driving and walking tour and discover some of the stories behind those buried in these historic cemeteries. The tour will be held on Wednesday, 5 May and repeated on Saturday, 8 May from 9:30am to 11:15am. Cost is \$10 and bookings are essential. Visit www.eventbrite.com/o/hawkesbury-library-service-1184292197 or call 4560 4460 to book your place.

Organised by Hawkesbury Library Service, the tours are being held as part of the annual Australian Heritage Festival run by the National Trust during April and May. This is Australia's biggest festival of heritage and culture. For more details visit www.nationaltrust.org.au/ahf



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CATTAI PUBLIC SCHOOL



Wow!!! What a wet end to a wonderful Term 1. Due to the "big wet" our BMX track went under water as did our back fences. All was well once the water receded. The basement got wet due to excess rainwater but has since dried out with minimal damage to the sports equipment and other items stored in the area.

The school was non-operational for the week due to flooding, but in keeping with the systems set up during the COVID stay-at-home time, work was able to be sent home via Skoolbag and Google Classrooms. There is always a way to allow the students to keep up with their academic growth. The Fun Run, which would have seen parents allowed on-site for the first time in a year, had to be postponed but will now be held in Term 2. The Parent Assembly had to be cancelled but there will be more opportunities for these throughout the year.

The last day of school saw the students enjoy several Easter activities. The egg hunt was loved by all (who doesn't love chocolate?) as the children searched through the classrooms for the elusive foil-wrapped goodies. The Easter Hat Parade was wonderful to watch as the children displayed their latest creations in front of parents! Easter Hot Cross Buns were then served to end a great day and fabulous term.

Hopefully all the students had a great break and are now ready to re-start their school journey. Roll on Term 2 and it looks to be a beauty!!



WISEMANS FERRY PUBLIC SCHOOL



Dr Seuss Day

Dr Seuss is an acclaimed children's author and illustrator. He has written books such as: Cat in the Hat; Green Eggs and Ham; Hop on Pop; Ten Apples up on Top and Fox in Socks to name a few.

Dr Seuss was born on March 2 1904 and to celebrate his birthday we had a Dr Seuss dress-up day.



Henny Penny Hatchings

This term we have enjoyed watching our Henny Penny chickens hatch and grow over a two week period



Sydney West PSSA Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to Isabella, Kamali, Kai and Shay-Leih who attended the Sydney West PSSA Swimming Carnival Wednesday 17th March. We are very excited that this team finished in second place making them eligible to attend the NSW PSSA State Swimming Championships at Homebush on Thursday April 1. We are extremely proud of them and wish them all best.



Assembly

We were delighted to have our parents at assembly in week 8, the first time for a long time. We thank them for taking the time to join us in celebrating the achievements of our students. Congratulations to Kamali who was the recipient of the Principal's award and to all of the other award winners. Well done to the students in 3/4/5/6 who presented an entertaining fairy tale skit. I was extremely impressed with the way they learnt and remembered their lines.



Rhymetime and Storytime fun @ your Library



As COVID restrictions continue to ease in NSW, Hawkesbury Library Service is excited to announce the return of our popular Rhymetime sessions designed for children 18 months to three years. These sessions are filled with fun rhymes, songs and craft activities and will be held every Monday morning at 10am from Monday, 19 April, during school term at Hawkesbury Central Library, 300 George Street, Windsor. It is a great way to start the week with your little ones.

Preschool Storytime will also return with two times available each week, Tuesday at 11am at Hawkesbury Central Library, 300 George Street, Windsor and Thursday at 11am at Richmond Branch Library, 29 West Market Street, Richmond. This free activity is perfect for children aged three to five years with themed stories and fun craft activities.

The aim of these sessions is for children to be entertained while helping to develop their listening and interactive skills.

If you are unable to make it to the Library, try some of our online resources. Story Box Library www.storyboxlibrary.com.au is a must see for anyone who loves children's literature. Have your Hawkesbury Library membership handy to access hundreds of favourite stories read by Australian celebrities. Hawkesbury Library Service has a COVID-Safe plan in place. Participant numbers are limited, and social distancing requirements will be observed. Hand sanitiser and hand washing facilities will also be available. If you are feeling unwell, please do not attend.

For more information contact Library staff **4560 4460** or visit the library website www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/library

Aboriginal word
of the Month
"Dooral"
..means

Gully or valley



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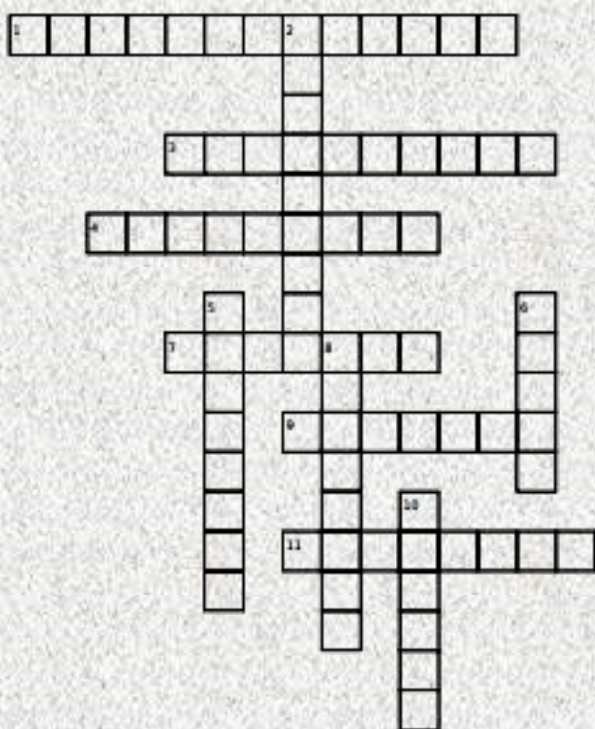
Across

- Small town named after convict, merchant and ferryman Solomon _____?
- Named after the bark sourced here to make Aboriginal canoes
- Settled in 1803, named after a Viscount, and has its own ferry crossing

- The largest of the Macquarie towns named after an English castle
- Dharug word for 'place of many springs'

Down

- Middle English translation for hut (schole) and open fields (feld)
- A smaller Macquarie town named after British statesman and Prime Minister William _____ the Elder
- Dharug word meaning gully or valley
- Historic village originally known as Macdonald and home of The Settlers Inn
- Originally named Caddie Park by Thomas Arndell
- Originally named Forrester, renamed in the 1920's by the Progress Association - presumably a Dharug word with unknown origin



BIRTHDAY CLUB

May 2021..

- 2nd - Shelby Mills will be 7
- 3rd - Kaylee Mackenzie will be 16
- 4th - Neave Hore will be 14
- 9th - Matilda Fletcher will be 13
- 10th - Knox Harper will be 11
- 10th - Isabel Allen will be 16
- 12th - Samantha Waters will be 16
- 13th - Zac Schneider will be 16
- 17th - Lilly Morris will be 10
- 17th - Amelia McGoogan will be 12
- 20th - Dominic Tov will be 10
- 20th - Marlee Gill will be 14
- 21st - Charlie Devine will be 13
- 25th - Marley Clay will be 5
- 27th - Jett Harper will be 13
- 29th - Dylan Wade will be 10
- 30th - Luke Fletcher will be 12



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