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LIVING HERITAGE

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Maroota and Districts News

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VOLUME 25, ISSUE 11

CIRCULATION 2000

NOVEMBER 2022

What's On

Maroota's Dharug Aboriginal Legacy

By..... Pat Schwartz

Dural Growers Market

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

Glenorie Growers Market

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

1st Nov - Tues *Melbourne Cup Day*

12-13th Nov - Sat/Sun

Arcadian Artists Exhibition and Trail Dural

Info: 0419 926 553

25th Nov - Fri

Westside Spring Vibe Dural Lane Hornsby Info: (02) 9847 6666

11110. (02) 3047 00

26th Nov - SatFerry Artists Gallery
End of year Exhibition
Wisemans Ferry

Info: (02) 4566 4385

26th Nov - Sat DLHRHS invite to Christmas Lunch Wombat Café ..see pg 3 Gunderman Info: 0405 321 478

27th Nov - Sun
Belmont House

History Tour St John of God Hospital North Richmond Info: (02) 4570 6100

Put these in your diary!

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Prior to European settlement, Dharug people had been living in the Maroota area for many thousands of years. Rock engravings, rock shelter art, stone artefacts and grinding grooves remain along the ridges and creek lines of Maroota and the surrounding districts to remind us of the Dharug people who once lived here.

Members of Eastbend Inc. were delighted to welcome Uncle Colin, Auntie Ros and Auntie Cheryl, all Dharug descendants, to the Resource Centre at Maroota School. They were able to share with Eastbend members, many stories and historical anecdotes.

Uncle Colin showed everyone two hand tools that had been passed to him by Marg Ramm of Maroota many years ago. These tools are shown in the photograph on this page.

Marg's husband had found them while ploughing and realised they were special, so had kept them. Many farmers over the years have found aboriginal artefacts while ploughing or tending their paddocks, and these provide a small window into how the Dharug people once lived.

Many of the rock shelters that are still rich with aboriginal art work, have a very special feel about them. After all, it is only a few generations since Dharug people would have been in these caves, so there is still a prevailing sense of their presence.

The Hawkesbury River and it's magical wetlands which surround the Maroota sandstone ridges, would have provided a rich food source for the aboriginal inhabitants, and the surrounding forests are still rich with an amazing variety of plants and animals.

The Old Northern Rd, convict built and following the path long used by aboriginal people down to the river, is a recognised historic feature.

How many more ancient pathways would there have been traversing the ridges and leading down to the rich banks of the Hawkesbury?

The fact that the Maroota plateau abounds so richly with links to it's Dharug aboriginal past, means that today's generation has a responsibility to care for and respect this precious area.









INSIDE...Eco News/Editors Notes/Quote *pg 2*, DLHHS/Ben's Poem/Ferry Artists/Hawkesbury Roads Report *pg 3*, Men's Shed/Riverside Oaks Fundraiser *pg 4*, Vella Iverson *pg 5*, Hornsby Council West Spring Vibe/Julian Leeser *pg 6*, Noticeboard/Linnwood House *pg 7*, Hornsby Shire Council/Pastors Desk *pg 8*, Good Business Strategy/Mums & Bubs/Bush Philosophy/Rainfall/RFS *pg 9*, North Ward News *pg 10*, RFS FireWise *pg 11*, W/F Realty *pg 12*, Galston CWA/Spencer Loo *pg13*, Church Services/Old Australian Photos *pg14*, Wesrock/Courtenay Author Talk *pg 15* School Snippets *16*, Carols in the Oval *pg 17*, Village Directory *pg 18*, Birthdays/Kids/Robyn Preston MP *pg 19*, Vella/Iverson *pg 20*.

ECO-NEWS



With Liz Wilkinson



The Walking Stick Cuckoo has arrived back from his Winter adventures abroad. It seems to be arriving earlier each year, must like its summer abode in Aussie land. It has been around since the middle of September. His call makes a very raucous noise - not at all pleasant especially when compared to the call of the Spangled Drongo calling his mate. I heard it early the other morning - it is a very pure sound, consisting of three rising notes. It does have other songs in its repertoire.

I read recently that the song of our Australian Butcher Bird is the most complex piece of music of any bird in the whole world. Sad to say its one that has disappeared from our place.

There is a new development starting just near our place, and I would like to know what is the need to remove all the trees from the nature strip??? There will be no trees left soon for our precious birds!!!!

Over the last few days, we have been bombarded with the sound (not a song yet) of a Black Cockatoo learning to sing. There were five of them perched on a tree peeling the bark to collect insects.

Yesterday I found a bee that could not fly - it was smaller than the European honey bee, but a similar, though lighter colour and stripes. Its head area was a little furry and golden, and the wings were crossed over. I couldn't find it in my bee book.

The gecko who lives on my front porch has appeared again after his winter nap. I haven't seen the one who lives in my studio yet - I hope he sleeps a little longer, he does make a bit of a mess!

Such a beautiful sunny day, but alas we can't go outside to enjoy it without ending up ankle deep in mud. My new gum boots, (covered in bees) certainly have had a good workout this Spring.



I have just seen Jackie Winter. He filled his beak up with as much as he could fit then took off, presumably to his nest to feed babies - a short time later he was back for a reload, but the Fruit Doves had cleaned up the left overs so I had to get a bit more for Jackie.

I mentioned in an earlier LH, the Fruit Dove who's mate was killed by flying into our window and its mate sat on it all night to keep it warm. We named it the Widow, and it has taken to following me around. If I go down into the bush area or up to the road (or anywhere outside) I hear a flutter and its almost on my head. If I am inside, it flies around all the windows until she finds you.

My daughter on the Central Coast, has had some unusual visitors in the back yard - a large swarm of bees landed in her tree, which were duly collected and a very wet and bedraggled young white Cockatoo who could not fly. All the flock were circling overhead making quite a racket.

Quote!

Tact is the art of making a point without making an enemy

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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

Usually in October, the weather warms up and the process of getting out pool up and running occurs. However, this year, I'm still in winter woollies and the thought of entering the pool, is not on my list of priorities.

On Tuesday 18th October, we had some special visitors at the Resource Centre. Colin Gale, Ros Fogg and Cheryl Goh, all Dharug people, had a meeting with us to discuss a way forward to protect the rock art that abounds in our district.

Thank you to the members of Eastbend, who attended to listen to the





interesting history of this area. Thanks also to Adrian and Warren from Wiseman's Ferry Mens Shed, who came to talk about their upcoming events.

Our Eastbend AGM will be on Monday November 14th at 12 noon at Maroota Resource Centre.

....Enjoy this issue...Carole

N ext time you look at a map consider where the word came from?



The word MAP is derived from Mappa Mundi, Mappa being from the Latin for napkin and Mundi for the world. A world drawn on a napkin.



John

The Dharug and Lower Hawkesbury River Historical Society





Invitation to our CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The Dharug and Lower Hawkesbury Historical Society would like to extend the invitation to the general public

to join us on Saturday, 26th November 2022 at the Wombat Café at 6135 Wisemans Ferry Road in Gunderman for a delicious 2 course Christmas Lunch.

Please arrive at 12.00pm to be seated by 12.30pm. There will be raffles on the day with some great prizes to be won.

Bookings essential: <u>enquiries@dlhhs.org.au</u> or by phone on 0405 321 478 (please leave a message) by Wednesday, 16th November 2022.

Cost: \$35 per head. Coffee and tea are not included. There will be a cash bar available.

All welcome.

Robyn Downham Publicity Officer

Dharug and Lower Hawkesbury Historical Society



Ferry Artists Gallery Invite

The Ferry Artists Gallery in Wisemans Ferry invites you to join us for our end of year exhibition and celebration titled "All Present".

Please come along and meet our established artists and our new members and find that unique and special gift for Christmas.

Our talented artists and crafters have been busy preparing for this wonderful event, so our walls will be adorned with a new hanging of artwork and our gift shelves will be full of original, creative and quality handcrafted items.

We very much look forward to celebrating with you from 2-4pm Saturday 26th November at the Ferry Artists Gallery in Wisemans Ferry Central shopping centre!



Fading Portraits

By..Ben Anderson

Fading portraits on the mantlepiece, A glow highlighting every crease. Remnants of a time of peace, Before kindness began to cease.

When rulers did not want for power, When from truth they did not cower. They did not need the tallest tower, To prove they cared for every flower.

The world now doomed to fall apart, Shattered down to it's dying heart. Destroying the universe's work of art, A ruin with nothing left to chart.

So many people are left in tears, While the others won't face their fears. They are left with burns and sears, And the rest just worry of their small careers.

Now we are left to hope and say,
"The world will not die this day!"
Together we will find a way,
To fix what we wrought without delay.

Hawkesbury Roads Report 1/2

C ouncil delivered a comprehensive and sobering report into the state of Hawkesbury's roads at the last Council meeting.



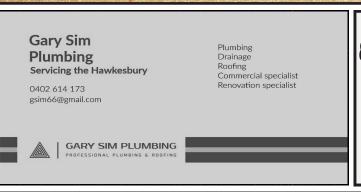
The report, which was called for by Mayor Sarah McMahon, provides a Hawkesbury-wide overview of the state of the roads, the internal and external issues contributing to the roads including systemic and structural issues within Council, a pathway towards overcoming these problems, and most importantly a commitment to resolving these issues to ensure delivery of a modern standard road network.

Changes already implemented at Council in the last 12 months include:

- A new internal structure that supports bringing our roads up to a modern standard
- Commenced a service review of our outdoor operations including better data and tracking
- Better flow of information for keeping our community informed
- Internal audit of our asset management processes.

Residents are encouraged to report potholes and road damage at www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/
resources/forms/roads-reporting-form

Council provides a daily updated list of road maintenance and repair projects for residents at www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/emergency/flood-emergency/flood-project-updates



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Wisemans Ferry Men's Shed

Infortunately, the Car Show we were planning for 20th November, 2022, has been put on hold due to our flood damage.

Painting is currently underway, with the appreciated help from Mens Sheds from the Central Coast area. Lots of damaged tools have been scrapped, and some hand tools have been sold through different markets. Some replacement tools have been donated through individuals, and some through brother Mens Sheds, and for this we are truly grateful.

In these times of stress and depression, you may desire to seek an alternative in your life. Our aim is to offer that alternative, in creating a new direction in your life by introducing you to a new life-style in wood-working, and to show that life is exciting. Life can be mundane, monotonous and crazy, but we offer a different pattern to your life. Both men and women are members of our club, but we suffered a severe set-back with this last flood, when we lost a few members from resettling in other areas.

We will shortly be getting back to going on bus trips in our own bus to interesting locations. The other big news, is that we are beginning to prepare the ground to establish a community garden, behind the Mens Shed. This should bring about a big boost to our attraction in the area. Funding has nearly finished, to begin work on the exercise walking track with work-out stations, and frisby golf course.

What about coming on down and enjoy a cuppa with us and see what we are up to? You can ring

Adrian Acheson on **0448 833 781** anytime to discuss any matter.

We are located behind the Wisemans Ferry Bowling Club. We are open Tuesdays and Saturdays 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.











The Community Recycling Centre Open Day



The CRC Open Day will run from 10am-2pm on Sunday 13 November. Sessions will commence at 10am, 11am and 12pm. (Please do not bring recycling on the open day.)

Go on a guided tour to discover how all your unwanted

items are processed and ask all your burning questions. Places are limited, so booking is essential. 29 Sefton Rd Thornleigh.

Book now at https://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/crcopenday





GOLF + DINNER EVENT

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

Riverside Oaks is making their venue and staff available on Friday, December 9th, for a FLOOD RELIEF FUNDRAISING EVENT which will take the form of a golf tournament and a dinner.

All funds raised will go directly to the **local charities**, which continue to do an amazing job helping families and businesses.

Date: Friday 9th of December

Venue: Riverside Oaks Golf Course

Event: Charity Ambrose Golf Day and Dinner

4-person Ambrose:

Handicaps provided on the booking site along with dietary's

Non-golfers welcome:

Time: 12:00pm Shot Gun Start

6:00 pm Dinner

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

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Beyond The Fence

Opportunity and Growth in Times of Crisis.

It is often said that in times of adversity lies opportunity... Well, it would be an understatement to say that our region over the past few years has had its fair share of adversities. Natural disasters such as bushfires and numerous floods have tested the resilience of communities locally and up and down the east coast. Local communities, as always, have come together to not only support each other but also the businesses that support them. Small and large businesses became community hubs, providing accommodation, shelter, supplies or donations during times of crisis.

During the past few years of challenges, the communities we service continue to grow and are evolving with new opportunities in alignment with developments that are currently underway or planned for the coming

Cluster subdivisions through Glenorie, Maroota and Sackville continue to increase in popularity, providing small manageable community acreages. We are seeing clients looking for that "right size" property, not to big, not too small, semi-rural lifestyle. Once quite townships such as Glenorie have seen

significant development with low rise residential and new high street retail shops. Whilst such development can be divisive, they can also provide new facilities, services and strengthen local business's benefiting the community.

We are nearing the completion of the new Wisemans Ferry boat ramp and berthing facilities with significant capacity to service the Hills and Hawkesbury boating community. This project has been a collaborative investment in the township by Hills and Hornsby councils and the NSW State government. Add to this the much anticipated redevelopment of the Retreat at Wisemans into the highly anticipated Wisemans Surf Lodge offering one of the world's finest wave parks. The Wisemans Ferry Inn has also just been recently acquired by Iris Capital renowned for the respectful rejuvenation of iconic pubs. Significant Investments in such communities instils confidence in townships, encouraging tourism and bringing growth to local businesses.

Local businesses new and old are evolving to the growing interest in the region. The once sleepy riverside township of Spencer is seeing

private and public investment. The new local owners of the general store, now known as The Anchor, are renovating the iconic store and offering a classic riverside experience to new clients visiting the village by road or the river. Central Coast Council also have invested in the township with the new public wharf, commissioned sculptures and public amenities.

Family-owned local businesses such as the Pickled Wombat in St Albans and The Wombat Café in Gunderman became local hubs for residents and emergency services during the recent floods by offering food, support and essential items. The historic Setters Arms Inn in St Albans is up for sale and is looking for new owners to bring new energy to this Sydney day-tripper icon. Post flood these businesses continue to grow with local and tourist support realising the value in these vital small businesses.

As the local agent we are always encouraged and excited by the continued interest and growth in our area.

Stay Safe. Trent Iverson



70 Jacks Lane, Maroota | FOR LEASE \$880 PER WEEK

LARGE FAMILY HOME - PRIVATE AND PEACEFUL LOCATION Centrally located in Maroota this generous 5 bedroom, 4 bathroom family home on 25

acres with inground swimming pool, self contained pool house and garage/workshop offers rural living at it's best.



Contact Agent: Paul Vella | 0418 649 294

7-9 Mooga Ave, Spencer | FOR SALE \$675,000

RARE DOUBLE BLOCK MOMENTS TO SPENCER VILLAGE - 1100sqm An ideal weekender or great first home with loads of character and well maintained. Two bedroom, one bathroom plus convenient outside loo! Large double garage/shed and beautiful escarpment views from the generous rear entertainment deck.

Contact Agent: Trent Iverson | 0409 738 388



5968 Wisemans Ferry Road, Gunderman | FOR SALE \$549,000

CHARMING CEDAR COTTAGE WITH RIVER VIEWS - 759sqm Affordable weekender and a great opportunity for Short Term Rental. 1 - 2 bedroom, open plan living/kitchen, great entertaining deck with views to the Hawkesbury River. Slow combustion fire, a/c, sealed road, mains power and color-bond garage.

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Westside Vibe Returns For One-off **Special Spring Edition**



F ollowing the resounding success of its May event, Hornsby Shire Council's popular Westside Vibe returns on 25 November. This one-off special spring edition of the popular laneway festival takes you on a sensory journey of taste, sound and atmosphere to leave you full of the joys of springtime.

Striking decorations featuring a rainbow of dazzling colours and gorgeous flowers will transform the area around Hornsby's Dural Lane into a garden in bloom for one night.

Hornsby Shire Mayor Philip Ruddock is looking forward to the return of the festival, saying that it is an opportunity for the community to come together again and celebrate local talent.

"I am thrilled that Council can once again present its most loved street festival, Westside Vibe, giving people the chance to enjoy food and drink, music, market stalls and have lots of fun. For this special edition, we're showcasing some of our best home-grown performers, supporting arts and culture here in Hornsby Shire. I look forward to seeing everyone there," Mayor Ruddock said

Westside Vibe Spring will come alive with music from a range of lively performers to get the party started

including talented artists from Danni Da Ros & her 'Famous Performing Arts' school, Action Dance and Hornsby Musical Society. Then boogie on down to music from the Hot Potato Band and Gang of Brothers.

Taste buds will be set alight by international food from over 14 of Sydney's best food trucks including Fritz's Weiners, Empanada Che, You Pizza, Yummy Time Dumpling, Authentic Turkish Gozleme. Piggy & Moo and Cool Delights, while pop-up bars by Kubarz will serve delicious drinks and cocktails to get you in the mood.

A vibrant market will sell a whole range of goodies for shoppers of all ages and kids' activities will add to the creative vibe of the festival.

Westside Vibe Spring will take place on Friday 25 November at Hornsby's Dural Lane, from 4pm to 9pm. Hornsby Shire Council presents all events according to government guidelines to keep everyone safe from COVID-19.

For more information visit: hornsby.nsw.gov.au/springwestsidevibe











As your Federal Member, I am here to:

Assist with accessing Federal **Government services**

Attend your local community event

Arrange congratulatory messages

Please contact my office if I can be of assistance.

JULIAN LEESER MP FEDERAL MEMBER FOR BEROWRA

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







Notice

All Primary schools are taking enrolments for 2023 at this time.

so if you know anyone who will be starting Kindergarten next year, please contact your local school and enrol before the end of the year.



Wiseman Ferry Bowling Club

We are Hiring

We need Bar Staff You must have current RSA and RCG Certification Come down and join our team Ring 4566 4307

Email manager@wfbc.com.au

Wisemans Ferry Seniors

e have been back at the club on a Monday playing Bingo, socialising and having a lot of fun. The club has also provided us with a new Bingo machine which adds to the fun and games

Our trip to North Richmond Panthers was a huge success, lunch was delicious and we stopped on the way at Freemans Reach, to stock up on fruit and vegies. We were joined by some members of the Sunshine Club.

For our next trip, which I am sure will be another success, we plan to go on the Sea Bridge. The energetic ones can walk it, while the rest go in the bus and then on to somewhere nice for lunch.

Visitors are always welcome to both Bingo and on our bus trips, you do not have to be a Senior to join us.



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

Something For You

The Windsor Probus Club offers a wide range of activities and connections for retirees in the Hawkesbury area.

If you are looking to make friends and connections while enjoying outings and activities please phone our Secretary Ann Jones on

0414 298945

so we can welcome you along to a meeting.

Free Legal Advice

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

45 664 911

Note! Copy deadline is 15th month

By Liz Wilkinson

fter the British car clubs having to postpone our very large display day - All British Day, held annually at Kings School for several years, because of covid and last year rain, we were all looking forward to meeting again and viewing the other marques, we were once again disappointed when the rain made the grounds too soggy to drive on. The various clubs had a last minute scramble to find other suitable venues to hold our displays. We were lucky enough to use the same grounds as the Masarati Car Club at Linnwood House in Guilford, where a small contingent of the Daimlers held our own display day. As well as socialising, eating and having our cars judged, we were lucky enough to see through the State Heritage listed house. The stately Linnwood house was built in Guilford on five hectares in 1891. It was built for George McCredie who was a prominent businessman, Mayor of Prospect and Sherwood and an independent state government member for the seat of Central Cumberland. He was given the task of cleaning Sydney of the rat plague, after the outbreak of Bubonic plague.

A few years after his passing in 1903, his wife leased the property to the Department of Education for use as a Boys Truant School. In one of the rooms, was a display of the boys at the school and the activities they were required to perform. This was the department's first and only Boys Truant School, which is a blessing, as on viewing the photos I was reduced to tears to think boys so young were placed in such places. In 1921 the Department purchased the property. In 1936 it was turned into a residential girls school for state wards. By 1966 it was a special training school for Home Science, for girls from deprived backgrounds. By 2002 the property was to be sold, and the Friends of Linnwood was formed to protect the history of the property.

It is a beautiful old home with large solid rooms. The most striking feature is the beautiful leaded glass windows on the main entrance, further down the hall and above all door ways to each room. A delight to see. The built-in safe was quite intriguing too, with its solid door made to look just like an ordinary wood grained door.

The house has lots of period furniture on display, unfortunately not original, as a fire swept through it at one stage, all collected by or donated to the Friends of Linnwood - lovely costumes dolls and other items of interest.

What caught my eye was a Coleman Benzene Lamp. It was purchased in 1920's and used in Wyalong, Henty, Mendorran and then at the Ford's home in Guilford, until power was connected about 1950. It is the only one of these I have ever seen - don't know how I'd feel safe using one!















Latest News





As I foreshadowed last month, Council recently approved a recommendation to engage with the Hornsby Shire community on a potential application to the NSW Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal for a Special Rate Variation (SRV). We are consulting with the community until 8 November, and we encourage you to have your say on this important issue that will help shape the future of Hornsby Shire.

We have worked very hard to identify cost efficiencies in our operations and keep rates low so, unlike many other councils, we have not needed to apply for a Special Rate Variation in over ten years.

The reality now is that Council is facing the same cost of living pressures as families and businesses in Homsby Shire. This potential rise in rates will allow us to secure long term financial stability, maintain our assets and fund the high priority initiatives you have told us are important for our beautiful Bushland Shire.

I encourage you to visit our project web page to read the supporting documents, take a short survey and make your submission at: https://yoursay.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/srv Printed copies of all the information relating to the SRV are available at Hornsby Shire libraries and our Customer Service Centre for those who do not have access to a computer.

In addition to the SRV, we have other important items that we want to engage with you on. As our population ages, it's important for us to have a local strategy to address ageing and to support older residents. Our draft Healthy Ageing Hornsby strategy is on public exhibition until 7 November.

We are seeking to work with the community to ensure that what we deliver culturally best reflects your needs and priorities. We are establishing an Arts and Cultural Advisory Group to provide strategic advice, feedback, and input during the development of our Art and Cultural Plan and we welcome nominations until 7 November.

To have your say on these important issues, or to nominate to become a member of the Arts and Cultural Advisory Group, visit yoursay.hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Philip Ruddock AO,

Mayor, Hornsby Shire Council

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 9 NOVEMBER, 6.30PM

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

EASTBEND MEETINGS 2022

FEBRUARY Mon 14th

MAY Mon 9th

AUGUST Mon 8th

NOVEMBER (AGM) Monday 14th



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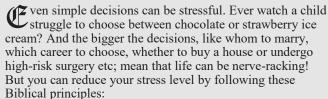


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FROM THE PASTORS DESK





1 Do The Research — "Anyone who answers without listening is foolish and confused" (Proverb 18:13). Get all the facts and avoid making decisions you'll regret. Knowledge has never been more accessible — through the internet, helpful books and.....especially God's word. "Your commands are my constant guide" (Psalm 119:98).

constant guide" (Psalm 119:98).

2 <u>Talk To God</u> – "Show me the right path, O Lord; point out the road for me to follow" (Psalm 25:4). Consulting God helps prevent premature decisions, clarifies your priorities and prepares you to hear His counsel. Is God interested in your decisions? Yes...."The Lord directs the steps of the godly. He delights in every detail of their lives" (Psalm 37:23).

3 <u>Be Open To New Ideas</u> – Don't get trapped in old mindsets. "An intelligent mind acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge" (Proverb 18:15). Clinging to the familiar can be crippling. God may choose to lead you along a new path of fresh insight. So, breathe deeply, seek His wisdom and open up your heart to receive it.

4 <u>Get Advice From Trusted Friends</u> – "It's a hard road that's walked alone," says an old Celtic proverb. So follow Solomon's counsel "A fool thinks he needs no advice but a wise man listens to others" (Proverb 12:15)

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

LIVING HERITAGE FOLDING DAYS

Dec	Mon	Nov	28th
Jan/Fe	bMo	nJar	16th
Mar	Mon	Feb	27th
Apr	Mon	Mar	27th
Apr		Mar	27th

We fold from 11am and usually it takes about 2-3 hours depending on the number of helpers.

If you have any spare time, we can

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Mob: 0428 234 228

Does your business have a strategy (a real one)?

s a business owner, can A you in simple terms state what your business' strategy is? Whilst it is an easy to use, and often overused term, any serious business will have one.

In very simple terms, strategy is your business' plan on how it will achieve its goals.

So what are your business' goals? If you haven't given that proper thought, start there. What do you want the business to look like? Who will it serve?

What will it do? How big will it be? What will it be known for?

When you have an idea on your goals, you can start to refine your strategy in the following areas:

Customers

Who are you serving? What are their needs? What do you know about them? How well are you set up to serve them?

Products and Services

What do you sell? What need/s does it fill? How will you deliver it?

People

Who do you have in your business at the moment? What roles do you have in the business? Do you have the right people in the right roles?



Where are you short?

Cash and Finance

Can you fund what you want to do? How will what we do, actually make money?

Even just starting the process of taking 15 minutes to start putting some very basic thoughts down on the above areas will help you refine your focus and thinking about your business.

And if you think your small business doesn't need to think about this, remind yourself of that thought when you are spending too much time working for too little return.

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.







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Rainfall for

SEPT 22nd To OCT 23rd

Week 1. 15mm

Week 2. 18mm Week 3. 27mm

Week 4. 49mm

Week 5. 2mm

Taken at South Maroota

Bush Philosophy
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Captain: Lilly Stepanovich: 0409 322 236

Senior Dep: Sherri McMahon: 4568 2013. sherrimcmahon4@gmail.com

Permit issuing officers: Lilly and Warwick:

https://www.stalbansrfs.org/



SPENCER RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

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

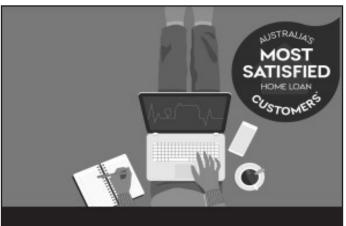
New members always welcome.

Captain Alison Wade T: 1415 668 953

E:captain.Spencer@ccrfs.org.au 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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North Ward News



Well, the rain just doesn't seem to stop. Great progress is being made on the Pages Wharf Rd repair at Sackville North. Stone retaining walls are being constructed and road stabilisation works being undertaken. Hopefully works are completed soon and then attention can turn to Chapel Hill Rd. Repair works to River Rd have commenced which is good to see, however given the damage caused, it may take some time. In Lower Portland, I am working with residents on flood evacuation routes and the ongoing clean-up of creeks, tributaries and drains following the flood. Hopefully, we have some movement on these issues shortly.

In late September, I attended a community day for disaster planning and recovery in Wisemans Ferry, organised by the Wisemans Ferry Rural Fire Brigade. Attendees heard from the RFS, SES, Police, Resilience NSW, Endeavour Energy along with Peppercorn Services. It was great day and really showed off the community spirit in The Hills. This was also Wisemans Ferry Brigades Get Ready Event. I would like to thank the Shire's RFS Brigades for their successful Get Ready Events educating our residents on bushfire preparedness. I understand things may be wet now, which has increased vegetation growth, but when everything dries out, we need to be prepared.

The rain continues to cause significant impact to the road network in the Shire, particularly in North Ward. Temporary emergency repairs continue to be carried out to make safe with more permanent repairs, through heavy patching being carried out when weather and contractor availability permit. I thank residents for their patience and whilst I know the situation isn't ideal, council staff and contractors are doing their best to get on top of these. Please continue to report potholes through council's website.

As the NBN installation begins to make its way to our more rural properties in North Ward, several residents have contacted me advising that they are experiencing issues having their council approved secondary dwellings connected to the network. Although telecommunication is not a council responsibility, I will advocate on their behalf to find a resolution.

If there is anything I can be of assistance with, please send me an email or give me a call. I am here to advocate on your behalf and am more than happy to assist where I can.

Councillor Mitchell Blue clr.blue@thehills.nsw.gov.au 0400 449 324

It is not right that our community must be faced with the pain and anxiety of SES alerts, potential evacuations, and rising dam levels when there are solutions.

Whilst we were fortunate that water levels did not rise as before, it is still front of mind that something needs to be done to address the situation and help diminish the effects of potentially devastating floods which we know will occur.

This week the NSW premier announced a proposal to raise the Warragamba dam wall by 14 metres and declared it a 'critical state significant infrastructure'. This will ensure the project is a priority and will not be delayed like so many infrastructure projects needed in the State.

Multiple reports show that the only effective long-term mitigation strategy to prevent flooding in our area is the raising of the dam wall.

This project is a huge undertaking and will likely take a decade to complete. The question that isn't being asked: what do we do in the short term?

After significant feedback from local residents, I intend to keep pushing to have the State Government amend legislation so that Warragamba Dam may be allowed to release water, which is currently not allowed, in order to avert or at least mitigate the impacts of future floods.

This will mean that in wet years or before significant weather events, water may be released in a controlled manner to protect communities like ours.

Flooding has serious impacts on our communities. Practically, people are restricted from traveling, roads become dangerous, homes are damaged and destroyed and lives put at risk, not to mention the anxiety around these events.

As a Hills North Ward councillor, I am fully supporting the motion that was put to the Hills Shire council to write to the NSW Minister for Water and the Member for Hawkesbury asking them to immediately amend the current legislation.

It is unacceptable to have residents time and time again gathering their only spared belongings and starting life over.

We cannot wait for the wall to be built and I will not stop advocating on behalf of the North Ward residents as they deserve to be looked after.

Should anyone wish to support this idea please feel free to get in touch via email at *clr.ellis@thehills.nsw.gov.au*Councillor Virginia Ellis

Michael Hawkins B.V.Sc

Jenni Taylor B.V.Sc

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Community Fire Wise

The Hills District Rural Fire Service

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE!

MAROOTA RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

The Bureau of Meteorology's extended and long-range forecasts show that above average rainfall is likely across much of eastern Australia, November to January. This will also increase the grass fuels in our landscape. It only takes a few consecutive days of high temperatures and the grass will dry out enough to cause huge risks of dangerous grass fires. It is imperative that we keep on top of property preparation and maintenance. We need to keep paddocks and grassed areas slashed and mown.

It is also storm season so the requirements to make your home safe during a storm are similar to preparing for bushfire. Keep trees trimmed off your roof and clear your gutters. Secure loose furniture around your home. Have an emergency plan ready in case you have to leave your home urgently. Check that lightning strikes after a storm have not ignited your property anywhere.

Although bushfires have not yet been an immediate threat, our brigade has still been called out to five incidents this last month. Three motor vehicle accidents (MVA's) in our area, an automatic fire alarm (AFA) at Glenorie and a dangerous tree at Maroota. We continue to train each month for such incidents.

Hopefully the weather will clear up enough to start enjoying outdoor time and BBQ's with family and friends. Remember to check your BBQ is in good working order before you use it, making sure there are no gas leaks and that gas jets are cleaned and dusted. Check the hose and fittings are not damaged. If you smell gas while using your BBQ, turn the gas off at the bottle immediately and re-check your hose and fittings. Be sure that children are kept clear when operating your BBQ and that you have a responsible adult (not affected by alcohol) supervising at all times.

Our brigade is looking forward to helping out with the BBQ at the Community Carols Night at Maroota Public School, Friday 2 December 2022 commencing 6pm. This is a fabulous evening so please come and join in the fun and good old fashion Carol singing.

...Robin Hitchcock



No news from Sackville North this month

Karen Karberis



Be alert! We don't want to see this again.....

MAROOTA SOUTH RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

A nother month another flood and with above average rainfall forecast this might be a theme of summer. This last flood was a little different as the roads were managed a little better, so traffic was stopped as it should be, having said that there was very little signage.

All local brigades have now gone onto a computer aided dispatch and while the residents will not see a lot of difference. For us it will take some local knowledge away as the radio operator will be in Homebush. The system will now send the closest vehicle and the brigade whose area the job it is in.

One of our first jobs on the system was to dogs trapped in flood waters at Cattai. There was a lot of confusion and we had to access areas that had been flooded to look for dogs that might or might not have been trapped. I would like to thank Riverside Oaks for allowing us to us their golf carts for looking in the area around Little Cattai creek.

The big positive from this job we found that Little Cattai creek access to the river is now clear. This should mean that the Little Cattai creek on Wisemans Ferry road crossing, should close and open closer to the Cattai bridge time. The road height is very similar but has been closing and opening later, due to a big plug of debris in the creek at the river.

We also attended a two car accident near the Stonehouse Café, and there was a need to close the road to stop oils been spread around the corners. Thankfully this didn't take us a super long time. Sorry to drivers who were delayed!

WISEMANS FERRY RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

T his month has been a reasonably busy one with our team assisting with the latest flood response. This included giving a local resident a lift back into Wisemans Ferry in the RFS boat so she could sit for her HSC exams.

We held our Community Recovery and Planning Day on 25th September on a beautiful sunny day at the Wisemans Ferry Bowling Club. The day was attended by about 170 people and there was plenty of time for the community to speak to the representatives and volunteers from those organisations that attended. This included local councils, Resilience NSW, SES, RFS, Peppercorn, Endeavour Energy, Red Cross, Police, and the Salvation Army. These organisations also set up information exhibits in the car park and there were free giveaways for the children as well as activities. The free morning tea provided by Grub on the Green, and a free sausage sizzle provided by The Freemasons Disaster Recovery team added to the success of the day.

We have a contact list of local Recovery Services available to support you if you're recovering from the impact of fires or flooding. This list includes what each organisation offers and their contact details. Please contact us via email at wfyrfs@gmail.com with "Community Engagement" in the subject line and we can forward a copy of that to you.

We are now in fire season (as of 1st October) so if you're thinking of conducting a pile burn, you must also obtain a permit from your local Rural Fire Service in addition to complying with your local Council requirements, and notifying Fire Control at least 24 hours prior to lighting up. Remember to check the weather and weather forecasts before lighting up!

During the 2019-20 fire season, huge parts of NSW were impacted by fire and while parts of the valley were burnt, large areas remain untouched which means our risk remains. Don't forget to establish and maintain asset protection zones around your property as fuel loads can build up quickly.

...Margaret Cavanagh

Hawk Fire Cont: \$\frac{2}{4575}\$ 1601 Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai Fire Control: \$\frac{2}{9883}\$ 2000 The Hills Fire Control: \$\frac{2}{9658}\$ 9000 

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Galston CWA News



It has been quite a year for the CWA Galston Branch! Circumstances beyond our control saw us locked out of the Galston Health and Community Centre for most of the year. We were fortunate enough to hold our meetings at t

were fortunate enough to hold our meetings at the Kenthurst rooms of the Castle Hill Branch, this at least allowed us to gather and get planning.

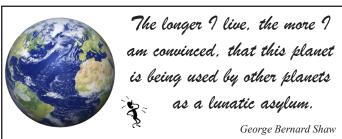
Despite being displaced, we managed to have a great year of fundraising through our market stalls and fashion parade, donating thousands to a variety of local charities. But as they say, there is no place like home, and it really does make a difference being able to utilise our own space back at the Community Centre.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our new office bearers elected at the recent AGM, and hope that with the new year coming we will be able to continue our efforts together with fundraising, creating items to sell at our stalls, supporting our community, and espousing all the values of the Country Women's Association.

If you are interested in being a part of the largest women's organisation in Australia, please come along to CWA Galston's next meeting on Wednesday 9th November at 10am at the Galston Health & Community Centre.

For more information please contact Jann 0439 222 217 or Debbie 0414 918 467. www.facebook.com/CWAGalston | galston.cwa@gmail.com







New Loos For Spencer

Demolition of the old public toilets is commencing but don't panic!

Porta-loos are being installed in the meantime.

Completion date has now been put back until later in December.

Perhaps it will be a Christmas present for Spencer? ...Robyn Downham





Caring for the Lower Hawkesbury River District



SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES & DONATIONS

LOOKING FOR A WAY TO CONTRIBUTE?

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

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

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- Opportunity to provide giveaways & promotional materials to guests on the day. Approximately 100 attendees.
- Acknowledgment on the Riverside Oaks website & social media platforms, including a link to your business website



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

ıstralian 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.



Middle Harbour Bridge 1890's



Watching the opening 0f the Sydney Harbour Bridge 29th March 1932

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Population growth, development is eating Sydney's food belt

and on the fringes of Greater Sydney set aside for growing vegetables, eggs, flowers, and other agricultural commodities was reduced by two-thirds (66%) in just five years, according to a recent study into urban sprawl on the city's outskirts.

The land — classified as 'peri-urban agricultural', was reduced from 292,644 hectares to 99,519 hectares, a loss of 193,124 hectares driven mainly by urban development.

In general, the term 'periurban agricultural land' refers to areas beyond the metropolitan fringe, at the interface between city and country.

Most seriously affected by urban sprawl was agricultural land on the outskirts of Greater Western Sydney, whose population is expected to increase from its current 2.4 million to 4.1 million in 2041. According to the study, market forces are also incentivising the development of peri-urban agricultural land.

By simply rezoning 'primary production' land in Western Sydney's Blacktown City area as 'high-density residential', its market value increases from \$12,387 per hectare to nearly \$10.5 million per hectare (as of 1 July 2020) - close to an 85,000 per cent

increase!

However, according to the report, local councils are often powerless to prevent the loss of agricultural land, with many planning decisions imposed on them by the NSW Government. The findings are contained in a study undertaken by Amy Lawton, of information and research service WESTIR Limited, and Nicky Morrison, of the School of Social Sciences at Western Sydney Uni.

According to the authors of the report, Greater Western Sydney has traditionally been seen as the 'Food Bowl' of the Sydney Metropolitan Region. "However, food production loss in the region is predicted to continue due to ongoing population growth placing acute pressure on remaining agricultural and rural lands, particularly for housing. "Further, and like many city regions internationally, Sydney has been hit by several shocks and stresses in recent times, highlighting the potential role of peri-urban agricultural land and its activities to not only local food security but to the overall functioning and resilience of the city and its region."

"The New South Wales government decision in 2006, to legislate two priority North West and South West Growth Areas in particular precipitated considerable loss of agricultural and rural lands to

urban development in the GWS region."

"Notable tensions exist between state and local govt decision-making in managing population growth and housing pressures while trying to protect existing peri-urban agricultural land and activity," say the authors. The study used so called 'Mesh Block' data collected by the

Australian Bureau of Statistics between 2011 and 2016 and which broadly identifies land uses in categories such as residential, commercial, primary production and parkland.

Further analysis was undertaken using satellite imagery to measure changes to designated urban growth areas and periurban rural land in areas termed Metropolitan Rural Areas (MRAs).

For a full copy of the report, go to https://

researchdirect.westernsydney.edu.au/ islandora/object/uws:66096/? fbclid=IwAR1-fp4ATq-CE2DxflA-



Christine Courtenay's Memoir On Bryce Courtenay

Free author talk

Join Hawkesbury Library Service for a discussion of the longawaited memoir of the late Bryce Courtenay



Australia's bestselling author - as told by his wife, Christine Courtenay at Hawkesbury Central Library on Monday, 7th Nov from 12:30pm to 1:30pm.

Bryce Courtenay was a born storyteller. The success of his extraordinary debut The Power of One made publishing history. In the years that followed Bryce continued to entertain and inspire thousands of devoted readers around the world with sweeping epics and larger-than-life characters that embody the strength and triumph of the human condition.

When Christine began penning her own memoir during lockdown, she found herself increasingly drawn to the remarkable story of her late husband's life and reflecting upon his astonishing literary legacy.

Christine uncovers the events that shaped the man behind the stories - a man complex, driven and unfailingly positive, who never lost sight of his childhood dream to be a writer. Bryce Courtenay: Storyteller is a fascinating, tribute to the life and work of Australia's most and enigmatic writers.

Hawkesbury Central Library is located at 300 George Street, Windsor. There will be a small cost of \$5 which will include light refreshments.

Bookings are essential via www.hawkesburylibrary.eventbrite.com or call 4560 4460.

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SCHOOL SNIPPETS

CATTAI PUBLIC SCHOOL



he end of Term 3 saw a flurry of activities. We sent our Stage 2 and 3 students to compete in the Hawkesbury PSSA Netball Gala Day. The day was warm, the courts were dry and the children were all very excited to be given such a great opportunity to represent their school. Many of the children had only played the game as part of their school sport curriculum. Whether novices or "old hands", male or female, they all had a great day trying their best and enjoying the experience. All the participants should be proud of their efforts.

The MMWC Academic Challenge was wonderful. After competing in their relevant schools for a place in the Challenge, all the students were excited to compete in the final round against students from the other schools. For the first time in 3 years the four schools met to give the students a chance to show their expertise in the academic subjects. Our children did very well, displaying their levels of achievements in reading, writing, math and spelling. There was some stiff competition but everyone gave it their best and should be congratulated on their wonderful results. We welcome the chance to complete the Challenge again next year.

The last day of term was partially used as a fundraising day. The students had the chance to raise money via an electronic link.....and yes, the family and friends took to this eagerly! Students came to school dressed in old clothes ready for a day of fun. After recess the course was built with obstacles and challenges related to sport. The children were given the details of the course and BANG!!! they were off on the inaugural Cattai Colour Course. The students jumped through ladders on the ground, balanced on beams, moved through a series of poles, threw the football to the target and the best of all....paired up with a friend to push them on a trolley through the COLA, all the while having many different coloured chalk powders thrown at them. There was chalk powder through their hair and ears, all over their clothes and causing the air to look very hazy. After all the fun everyone enjoyed a sausage sandwich before saying goodbye to friends and going home for a welldeserved holiday.

Term 4 started a little soggily but the roads were open in time for the Stage 2 and 3 students to attend the Football (Soccer) 6-a-side Gala Day. The students were ready for lots of fun and expenditure of energy. They played like Trojans, never giving up and consistently displaying great sportsmanship. They should all be proud of their never-ending efforts.

The rest of the term looks to be extremely busy with lots of academic, sporting and social events. Everyone is geared-up for all the forthcoming activities. Come and join in.



Cattai Colour Course



Netball Gala Day



Soccer Gala Day

MACDONALD VALLEY PUBLIC SCHOOL

Community Trivia Night

It was a fun night last Thursday at the Community Trivia Night!

The Pickled Wombat was at full capacity and Katy and her team treated us to a magnificent feast. Thank you so much to Katy for all your hard work organising the food and the Pickled Wombat looked amazing.

Thank you also to Peter from Planet Trivia for hosting the trivia for us. Nothing was too hard an ask for Peter, even accommodating a live cross to the school sleepover for questions from the kids! Thank you to Taronga Zoo for donating the prize for the kids.

Congratulations to the winning team of the night, Jenny and the Boys. They were very hard to beat and enjoyed sharing out the winning prize of vouchers to local businesses between them.

Thank you also to Glenorie RSL for their generous donation of wine and vouchers. There were many happy winners of these spot

many happy winners of these spot prizes throughout the night. And everyone left as a winner with beautiful plants donated by Lots-a--Colour. Thank you for your generosity in what has been a tough growing season.

The aim of the night was to provide some fun and relief for our community after a hard year of floods. We were so happy to be able to give back to everyone with the help of Wentworth Healthcare and their Wellbeing and Resilience Grant.

We also had the support of Kerri from Peppercorn, and Ross from NBMLHD Mental Health, thank you both for being there.

Thank you also to our amazing Principal, Sarah, and the P&C for supporting the event. Especially Dominique and Tanya for helping source prizes for the event.

And a huge thank you to our wonderful community for supporting us! It was so good to see everyone come together again and have the opportunity to catch up, relax and have fun.

School Sleepover

While the parents were enjoying a lovely meal and Trivia competition at the Pickled Wombat at the Community Trivia Night, our lovely students enjoyed a funfilled sleepover at the school!

Pizza, ice cream, games, lolly bags and a zoom with the Pickled Wombat to ask some questions for the Trivia Night were just some of the activities scheduled.

The pyjama dress-up theme was carried over to school the next day





and students were provided food for the day by the school.

WISEMANS FERRY PUBLIC SCHOOL



No news from Wisemans Ferry this month

MAROOTA PUBLIC SCHOOL

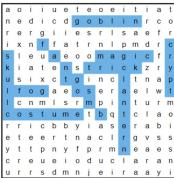








Solution to puzzle on page 19





IN THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY
WITH THE COMMUNITY AT HEART

Community Carols Night.

Enjoy an evening with good óle fashion Carol singing with the Hawkesbury Concert Band led by

Jessica Dickinson and Tom Carter.

Date: Friday 2nd December, 2022

at

Maroota Public School 4540 Old Northern Rd, Maroota 7pm - 9pm

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



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

For further information contact: Pastor Peter Goldstien 0428 234 228

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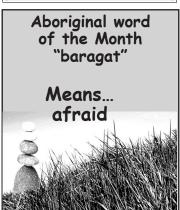
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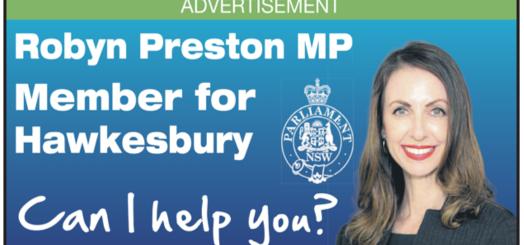
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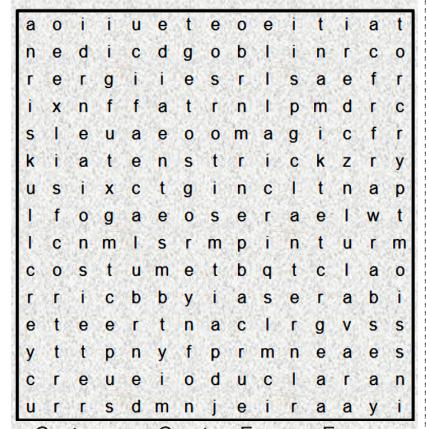
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See if you can find the Halloween related words in our word search



Fangs Costume Crypt Fog Goblin Lantern Magic Skull Tomb Trick 91 9gnq NOITULOS.....

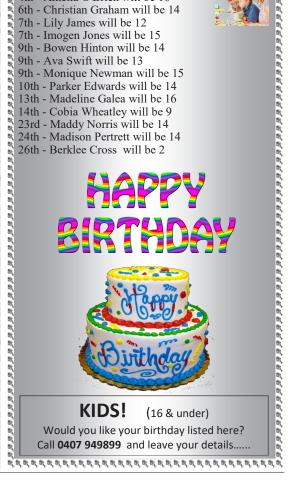
November

1st - Tahlia Martinez will be 13

4th - Amelia O'Brien will be 16

6th - Christian Graham will be 14

7th - Lily James will be 12









261 Settlers Rd, Lower Macdonald NSW 2775 Australia

1 1 3 3

\$1,390,000

Unique Prime Riverfront Opportunity

We are pleased to offer this unique opportunity to own a waterfront haven. Comprising nearly 2,000sqm of land and boasting a picturesque 38m front row position to the much desired Macdonald River.

Deep water access via a 3.7m wide boat ramp, near new jetty and a unique 9m pontoon great for larger boats, all designed to endure a significant flood event of which it has recently.

The property also offers an air conditioned 2 level studio weekender complete with open plan living, an inviting balcony and verandah to enjoy the fabulous outlook of the river and rural surrounds. There's also a double garage, 2 carports for 3 cars/boats, a concrete area for a game of basketball and a waterfront gazebo ideal for entertaining and enjoying the riverfront lifestyle.

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Contact

Trent Iverson 0409 738 388 trent@vellaiverson.com.au

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