

LIVING HERITAGE

Maroota and District News

"COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION"

VOLUME 24, ISSUE 9

CIRCULATION 2200

SEPTEMBER 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

In response to the evolving situation with Coronavirus (COVID—19), most events will not be running for the foreseeable future in the Hills, Hornsby and Hawkesbury areas.

We look forward to giving you a full calendar of regional events when it is safe to do so.

We are not sure at this moment, what events are likely to be cancelled. There is no certainty that Greater Sydney will be out of lockdown before the end of September, so please keep checking what restrictions are in place and above all
**Stay Safe
Stay home!**



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The Koala Roar and More

..by
Pat
Schwartz

From August until February the Koala world is becoming increasingly busy with the breeding season at hand. The males are actively looking for a mate and bellow more frequently. The bellow or roar is a very distinctive sound which is easy to hear if Koalas are nearby. Male Koalas usually bellow at night so if anyone hears this sound please report it to **Lilly 0424844740, Pat 0419321276** or the Facebook Page Hills Hornsby Rural Koala Project.

It is thrilling to know that in the last few years Koalas have been returning to the Hills and Hornsby rural areas after the devastating fires of 2020.

Hills Hornsby Shires have large areas of magnificent bushland which harbour many species of native animal. However sadly, wildfire is the largest threat to all creatures in these places and in particular Koalas in their tree habitat.

We can only hope that in the future flexible and well planned fire management will minimise the risk and impact of wildfire.

Koala sightings have created such interest that a network of representatives of a number community groups has been formed and is called the Hills Hornsby Rural Koala Project (HHRKP).

Members of this network are involved in night walks with spot lights and with the deploying of cameras to monitor the presence of Koalas. With such huge areas of bushland to cover it is challenging and sightings are rare.

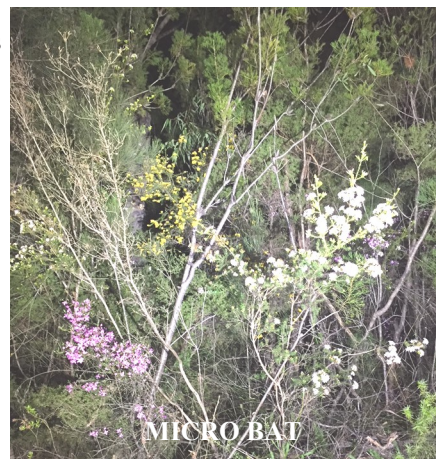
However the exciting by-product of these

investigations is the sighting and capturing on film of some of the many different animals that live in our very special bushland. Night time observations can include wallabies, bats, owls, small marsupials etc.

For more information, to share any interesting animal sightings or anything that sounds like a Koala roar, please contact the HHRKP Facebook page or the above phone numbers.



RING TAIL POSSUM



MICRO BAT



TAWNY FROGMOUTH



MALE TRAPDOOR SPIDER

INSIDE...Eco News/Editors Notes/Quote pg 2, River Cares/Poem/Isaac Newton pg 3, New Name for Nursery/Mail Box pg 4, Harris Iverson/Beyond the Fence pg 5, Hamish Rodgers pg 6, Women of Maroota/Julian Leaser pg 7, Noticeboard/Gulf of Carpentaria pg 8, Business /Bush Philosophy/Rainfall/RFS pg 9, Hornsby Shire Council/Pastors Desk pg10, RFS FireWise pg 11, Storytime on Zoom /Valley Happenings pg12, Your Health is Your Wealth/Random Acts of Kindness pg 13, Church Services/White Balloon Day pg 14, Dual Naming Policy/CWA pg 15, Village Directory pg 16, Better Internet Connections pg 17, School Snippets pg 18, Birthdays/Kids/SMARTsteppers pg 19, Wisemans/Ferry Realty pg 20.

ECO-NEWS



With Liz Wilkinson



I had an interesting phone call on the 30th July from an elderly, upset gentleman, named Sam, who like me, feeds the birds.

He has had a pair of Magpies coming to visit for a number of years and as their babies are old enough, they bring them along too until it is time to chase them off to fend for themselves. Over the last few years they have had two, then three and this year four babies. One of these babies was especially tame and would follow Sam around. It was time for mum magpie to send the babies on their own way but this little one was clever enough to come for a visit at a later time than mum. Sam had not seen him for three or four days when he suddenly appeared but could not stand up- he just lay on his side. Sam picked him up only to discover a rubber band wrapped four times around his two legs. Sam freed him and he was starving. I was shocked that anyone could do such a cruel thing. That person should be ashamed of him/herself and remember the laws of Karma - What you give out comes back to you threefold. Thank you Sam for your phone call and I hope Baby is still alright.

As I sit in my breakfast nook I look out across the paddocks to a tree lit up with yellow wattle blossoms - a delight to see but no wonder I am sneezing so much. That tree brightens up my day in this lock down.



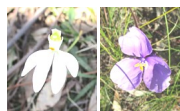
On my walk along the track nearby I see evidence of Spring around the corner with lots of flowers just starting to bloom. Hardenbergia violacea (False Sarsparilla) is everywhere twining over other plants - I love its deep purple colour. I saw Slender Rice Flower, lots of Native Iris, Grey Spider Flower, Cone Sticks and several different yellow and deep orange flowers that as a child I called them all Bacon and Eggs but they are quite distinct in form I will have to take my book with me next time!

As I come back to my place I spot a Wonga Wonga Vine (Pandorea pandorana)

just breaking into bloom near my front gate, climbing over a little gum tree. It started me thinking about the name Wonga - we have the vine and Wonga Pigeon. (I have four of them joining the melee on my lawn at feeding time.) I thought it would be an aboriginal word so I looked it up and to my surprise, it was an old Romany word for coal and thus used as slang for money in the 18th and 19th century. In aboriginal it means meeting place of the rivers - "Wongaratta"

One of my favourite times of the year is when the Caladenia orchids are blooming. I have been watching the top paddock for a few weeks then yesterday (7th) I saw the first little flower head nodding in the breeze - so delicate!

I was just watching two Magpies and a Wonga on the lawn, the Magpie moving closer to Wonga and as it did so, it dropped its wing down- is this its normal sign of aggression?



Wonga pigeon



Magpies



Apostle Bird ... and Apostle bird hiding from eagles

Quote!

The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams!

Eleanor Roosevelt

Living Heritage News

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Adelphi Design & Print ☎ 02 9652 1193

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

What can I say?

This is the third month that we have been in some kind of isolation and, at the moment, a complete State lockdown.

Try as I might, I have found it very difficult to search out good news stories. I don't think our world will ever be the same again and I feel for our kids and grandkids having to live like this.

The disasters overseas; fires, floods, wars, earthquakes, landslides, volcanic eruptions etc have just added to the devastation that Covid has caused. I have lived a long time and never been in a situation like this in my lifetime.

I feel so fortunate that the choice my husband and I made to move to this area, more than 40 years ago, has given me the freedom to live in a caring community and have space to be able to go for a bushwalk on my own property. To wake up each morning to a wonderful vista and birdsong, is something I will never take for granted.

Not everyone has this available to them, and I can't imagine what it must be like to be living in an apartment building in a town during this stay-at-home time.

I asked last month if anyone has any uplifting stories to send me, and I can tell you that it is apparent that there aren't any. However, I have seen many acts of kindness throughout the Hawkesbury that are worthy of a mention. There are those 'crafty' people amongst us who are making cute gifts and leaving them throughout local parks and riverfronts. Others are leaving little gift bags and even money attached to trees for people to find. And so many are collecting and distributing food and toiletries to give to the needy. This is what brings a smile and joy to give hope that this situation will soon end.

September 1st is National Wattle Day, do you remember celebrating that at school? I remember wearing a sprig of wattle given out by the teachers. Do they still do that?

....Enjoy your read...Carole

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River Cares



Once again we find ourselves in the throes of a government-imposed health order; being locked in our homes isn't exactly fraught with joy. As with all major global concerns, humour finds a way. Laughing in the face of adversity is an innately human trait, particularly for us Aussies. Humour, laughter and playfulness helps foster resilience and provides a coping strategy to better manage and reduce stress.



Before lockdown River Cares proudly hosted the inaugural Community Information Day on Saturday, 1st May which was well received and strongly supported by the residents in the region and the various organisations that attended on the day. A special thank you to Donna and Greg for allowing us to hold this event at the Malaluka caravan park in Spencer and to Mick Hatton for the setting up of marquees etc. River Cares would also like to thank everyone who attended and to all the organisations that supported our inaugural Community Information Day.

At the beginning of June, Warren Brown and Rachel Kneeves from the Council came to our shores for a Coastal Management Pop-up session to promote awareness of our waterways. Local artist and sculptor Pete Rush spent almost a month with us and created 'Serenity' which Pete has dedicated to Mikol Furneaux, a local resident who sadly passed away in late June.

During lockdown Jane and the staff at the General and Mr One at Spencer Thai have come to the fore to help the Community by providing meals and various essentials. Other residents have also been doing their best to support each other during this time. Uniting Services have provided 'virtual' classes to do in the comfort of your home (please contact Jodie Gatehouse on 0468 569 131 to register) and for domestic services Monique Douglas can be contacted on 0435 232 468. The River Cares Committee have been continuing to work with Colin Lynch and Karen Witt from the Disaster Relief Team and Breanna Pollock from the Council on the Community Emergency Plan.

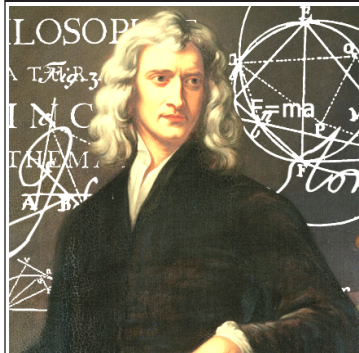
After lockdown we can look forward to a visit by Better Homes and Garden who will be filming Serenity and interviewing Pete Rush. Photographer Bernie Humphries and Pete Rush will be adorning Serenity with masses of pink flowers to promote breast cancer awareness. Breanna Pollock from the Council will also be returning to Spencer to continue the information sessions such as the Accidental Counsellor and various creative workshops.

On behalf of the entire Community, River Cares would like to thank Alan Papas Vice-President and Cath Wade Secretary for all their help, support and hard work since the formation of our new community group in July 2020. Alan and Cath will be stepping down from the Committee and will be leaving Spencer to start a new chapter in their lives. River Cares will be looking for local residents to volunteer to fill the positions of Vice-President and Secretary asap. Again thank you all for your on-going support.

Robyn Downham President



Working From Home May Surprise You!



When you have to work from home, and end up discovering gravity!

In 1665, Isaac Newton had to work from home when the University of Cambridge temporarily closed due to the Bubonic plague. It was the most productive period of his life, and he used that time to develop his theories on calculus

When I

When I'm down or alone
Always she's there
Her instincts are honed
Kind words are prepared

Her heart reaches out
As many limbs as it can
To soothe my sadness or doubt
It's gone in a short span

You could say the same
But wait! there is more
She plays videogames,
Only good ones, no more

Her cooking is godly,
Her taste is refined
Some disagree quite oddly
I guess it's all in their mind

She's a role model
some one to look up to
leaves no time for twaddle

Can the same be said of you?
While she's ordinary,
she remains like no other,
I'm not talking about my girlfriend,
only my mother.

Benaged 12



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Community Nursery Has a New Name



Based on a recommendation by members of the Hornsby Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Consultative Committee (HATSICC), Hornsby Shire Council has renamed its popular Britannia Street, Pennant Hills community nursery as the **Warada Ngurang** (pronounced Wa-ra-da Noo-rang) **Community Nursery**.

A combination of Darug and GuriNgai language words, the new name which means 'Place of Waratah' was endorsed by a HATSICC sub-committee comprised of Traditional Owners who met in February to identify potential names for the nursery. The name 'Warada Ngurang Community Nursery' was subsequently formally adopted as a policy of Hornsby Shire Council at its General Meeting of 14 April 2021.

Auntie Tracey Howie, speaking on behalf of both the GuriNgai and Darug peoples, said; "The Darug and GuriNgai Peoples are delighted and honoured that the Pennant Hills community nursery has adopted an Aboriginal name from the Darug and GuriNgai languages to identify the area from a cultural perspective.

'Warada Ngurang' means the 'Place of Waratah' in recognition of the prolific waratahs in this region.

"We congratulate Hornsby Shire Council and the Community Nursery for their continued respect and promotion of the GuriNgai and Darug Mobs in the Hornsby Shire," said Auntie Tracey. "The new name for the nursery is a very welcome development," said **Hornsby Shire Mayor, Philip Ruddock**.

"In June 2020, Council received correspondence from a community member and volunteer at the nursery suggesting that Council consider renaming the facility with a suitable local Aboriginal name.

"It was on that basis that Council resolved in part to develop a policy for assessing naming or dual naming suggestions in consultation with HATSICC, traditional Aboriginal Elders and language and knowledge holders."

"The naming of the Warada Ngurang Community Nursery further affirms the beneficial connection that Council is forming with the Traditional Owners," said Mayor Ruddock.

It was planned that a smoking ceremony and Welcome to Country would mark the occasion of the naming of the Warada Ngurang Community Nursery, however COVID-19 restrictions have made that impossible so far.

A formal ceremony will occur when COVID-19 restrictions permit.

However, signage bearing the nursery's new name is in place.

The Warada Ngurang Community Nursery is managed by Council's Natural Resources Branch, assisted by many dedicated local volunteers.

More than 45,000 plants are produced each year at Warada Ngurang Community Nursery, many of which are given away to residents at our Free Native Plant Giveaways.

Plants are also utilised by local schools, Council's Bushcare program, citizenship ceremonies, bushland restoration projects, Catchment Remediation Rate projects, street trees, donations and for National Tree Day.

All the plants grown at the Warada Ngurang Community



Nursery are sourced from local bushland reserves across the Hornsby Shire; either by seed collection or through other propagules.

As such, the nursery has an onsite seed storage facility to provide future plants for various projects.

Over 175 different species are propagated at Warada Ngurang Community Nursery.

The nursery is accredited through the Nursery and Garden Industry of Australia and is the only local government nursery to acquire this accreditation in the state of NSW.

The nursery won the 2014 Best Government Nursery Award in NSW and ACT from the Nursery and Garden Industry Australia, while also being one of four finalists for the national award.



From Pamela

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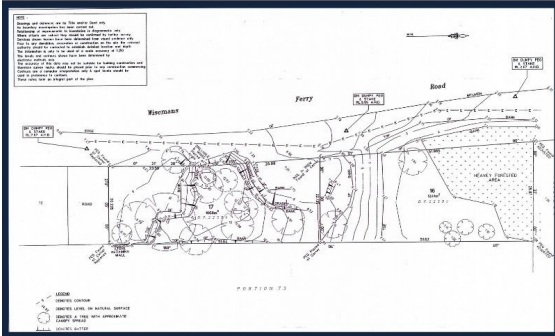
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FOR SALE - EOI Guide \$2.5m

BEYOND THE FENCE

Lockdown 2.0 - The Calm before the Storm? At the time of writing we are entering our 8th week of lockdown with what appears to be little end in sight. Community transmission continues to rise and the race is on to vaccinate as quickly as possible. So how has this impacted property sales during this period?

As at Saturday 14th August 2021 Domain reported an impressive Sydney clearance rate of 83% compared to 66% for the same time last year. If we look at the finer details the total number of properties listed for auction was significantly less which has fueled prices due to low supply as many vendors are hesitant to list due to the lockdown order. Although auctions aren't common in our market they are a good indication of buyer demand and confidence around the property market.

The real estate industry has been deemed by the NSW government as an essential service with a number of very strict conditions. Post lockdown 1.0 in 2020 our region along with other semi-rural and rural areas experienced solid growth in demand and prices. Since the second lockdown we are starting to see a similar trend appear as we are

experiencing an incredible surge in enquiries from buyers wanting to relocate to the region. This is a topic we have spoken about many times in previous issues. As a result we and the industry in general are anticipating a significant increase in demand as Spring approaches and lockdown restrictions start to ease. Is now the time for you to take advantage of this potential surge?

The "work from home" movement continues to become the way of the future. Most of NSW is currently under a stay at home order so what better time to prepare your home for sale. Properties that are well presented and maintained are more appealing to a potential buyer. Spring is upon us, so take the time to tidy the gardens, feed the lawns or paint the house.

It is important for us to embrace this as a new normal. Buyers are adapting to new ways to inspect and purchase properties and we are continuing to sell homes at premium prices. Now may be the perfect time to take advantage of this very unusual time!

Stay Safe - Trent Iverson

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The Women of Maroota

...compiled by
Ruby Ramm

We are pleased to continue 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.

Ivy Mary Cooper (nee Weaver)

Born: at Forrester NSW, 4th July, 1919
Married: George Cooper 19th June, 1953
Children: Frances

Ivy was one year old when her family moved to Maroota and settled on their property "Landsdale". She had a happy childhood and growing up, she made many friends. There also were plenty of cousins, aunts and uncles to spend time with whom lived around the Hawkesbury.

After leaving school, Ivy went to work picking crops for the local farmers.

Being a keen gardener, she took pride in the cottage garden she grew at

"Landsdale". Her love of gardening was to stay with her till her last days.

At one stage, Ivy became the "postie", delivering mail on the Mud Island-Sackville run, and pedalled 17 miles (27.359km) the round trip on a "Ruby Rim" ladies bike. No mean feat for a woman, as the packaged mail was often heavy.

When she was 34, Ivy married George Cooper, a travelling salesman and ex-serviceman World War 11, and they made their home at North Richmond.

Ivy worked hard to save enough money to help buy the property and in later years, she and George managed to have a re-sited house put there as an improvement on their first dwelling.

George then got a job at Riverstone Meatworks.

When George passed away in 1932, Ivy managed to keep the homefires burning due to her own initiative and thriftiness. She sold some of her garden flowers on the roadside to supplement her pension, and agisted out a paddock at the back of her house to the neighbours for their horses.

She grew a few vegetables for their own needs.

Ivy kept on being active around her "little home" and garden until sadly she passed away there on 17th February, 2006.

I remember her for her quick wit and mischievous laughter.

She always had an ear for listening and sympathizing with me over my many worries and troubles during our many telephone conversations, but then she was noted for loving "a good yarn". She also often spoke of her shopping sprees, looking for bargains and she loved receiving visitors to ease the loneliness of her quiet life.



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

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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.



Advertise your event, notice or sale on our Noticeboard



Something New

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 **0414298945** so we can welcome you along to a meeting.

Mmmmm.....

What spice do I get to go with that?

A surprise for shoppers at Glenorie Woolworths last week, a 3 metre python. Luckily it was found by a shopper who is a snake handler, captured, and returned to the bush.

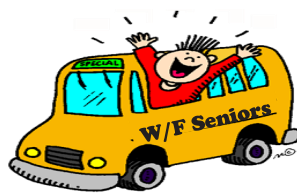


Wisemans Ferry Seniors

First the good news. Finally we have our bus back on the road. It passed going over the pits with flying colours, thanks to the good efforts of Peter Goldstein. Many thanks Peter, it must have been very trying at times.

Now for the bad news. We are unable to go anywhere in it while this lockdown is on. Our trip to the city to see Vivid is put on hold. Maybe one day we will get there, probably not this year. We certainly will be off on some trips as soon as we are able.

Our proposed money raising raffle has to be postponed until we are able to mix freely again.....



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

WHEN THIS LOCKDOWN IS OVER... LET'S NOT TELL SOME PEOPLE

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45 664 911



Diary of a Trip to the Gulf Of Carpentaria.

By Liz Wilkinson

With a 518k trip ahead of us today, we head for Cloncurry. We passed large areas of grassland with very few live trees but lots of dead ones. We bypassed Winton (we are stopping here on the return journey) and travelled to Kynuna for a coffee stop at the Blue Heeler Pub. This pub was built in 1889 when the town had two other pubs and a population of 700. It is the nearest place to where Banjo Patterson wrote *Waltzing Matilda*. It was the pub he drank in and the first place where *Waltzing Matilda* was performed. The pub had rough hewn wooden furniture and an amazing décor - quite an experience even though the coffee was not good!

Next stop - Crocodile Dundee Pub at McKinlay for lunch where the coffee was good. After that the vegetation was grasslands with small trees and heaps of termite nests (one of which was wearing a bra). You would think no-one lived out here, as all the stations were a long way from the road - you just see a few cattle here and there but the bird life was prolific.

Cloncurry was much smaller and older than I expected, with very few places to eat. Fortunately, we were to dine at the motel. Copper was found in the Cloncurry area in 1861 by John McKinlay while searching for Bourke and Wills. At the time of WW1, Cloncurry was the largest copper centre in Australia. Qantas was conceived in Cloncurry, born in Winton and grew up in Longreach and it was the first base for the Royal Flying Doctor Service in 1928.

Next we are on our way (442k) to Karumba, our most northern point in our trip. We took the Bourke Development Road - not good to be travelling on - one lane only and road trains have legal right of way, so you have to get off onto the sloping gravel edge—much concentration needed! At first, the land was very flat and sparse but, after some time, a few small hills appeared with rocky uprisings and denser vegetation, some cattle, a few horses on the properties, and all the creek beds along the way were bone dry. We came across the beautiful white trunked gums that we saw outside Windorah. Our morning tea stop was at the Bourke and Wills Roadhouse where there were twenty plus Apostle Birds making quite a racket - lots of babies among them. An eagle swooped on them but they hid on the bottom rung of the fence and were safe!

On again to Normanton for lunch where we had sparse picking for lunch. We passed the Purple Hotel where Neville Shute's "A Town Like Alice" was born. Coming out of Normanton were lots of wetlands with heaps of white water lilies. This is a great place for twitchers to visit with much bird life. On the way to Karumba were large stretches of land still covered in water from the big wet. Beware of crocodiles!! I saw two Brolgas up very close, just next to the road - wow how special! At Karumba our motel was on a point with a waterfront spot looking out into the Gulf.....Next month stay tuned for the Karumba experience.



Are COVID-19 Grants and Funding Tax Free?

Most people would think that money provided by the Government to support people and business during a crisis would be tax free? Otherwise, it's like giving money with one hand and then taking it away with the other, isn't it?

But, the tax laws don't work like that. To make a payment tax-free, legislation is required to enable it to be classified as exempt income or non-assessable non-exempt income. In general, any income received will be Assessable unless the Government has legislated for it to be tax-free. JobKeeper for example was not tax free and anyone who received it in 2020-21 will need to declare it in their income tax return. Businesses also will need to declare JobKeeper income in their tax return even if the full amount flowed directly to employees.

At the Federal Government level, the Prime Minister recently announced that the COVID-19 Disaster Payment will be tax free and legislation enabling this change is before Parliament. Prior to this, disaster recovery grant payments to primary producers and small businesses for floods between 19 February and 31 March 2021 were also made tax-free. Other payments however, such as Pandemic Leave Disaster Payment, are taxable.

The Treasurer has also been granted the power to make COVID-19 relief provided by the States and Territories tax-free but only from 13 September 2020, and only if they request the Commonwealth Government to make it tax free. If you're confused, it's not surprising. The result is a mix of tax treatments depending on what support you received and from whom.

To date, only a series of Victorian business grants are tax-free. The recent business grants in New South Wales, Queensland and South Australia have not as yet been declared tax free (but we expect that this will change).

The general rule is that grants are likely to be taxable unless they are specifically excluded from tax. If the grant relates to your continuing business activities, then it is likely to be included in assessable income for income tax purposes. The position can be different in cases where the payment is made so that the entity can commence a new business or cease carrying on a business but there will still often be some tax implications.

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

JUL 22nd To AUG 19th

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

Taken at
South Maroota

Bush Philosophy

*Do not fear
failure, but be
terrified of regret!*

CHECK YOUR SMOKE ALARMS

ST ALBANS RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

St Albans Station:
4568 2011

Captain: Lilly Stepanovich:
0409 322 236

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

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



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SPENCER NSW 2775

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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

Mums and their Bubs



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Latest News



Stay safe. We're still here for you.

While Sydney is again experiencing COVID lockdown restrictions, your Council is continuing to provide the highest standard of service to our community.

Although we have needed to close our facilities, and withdraw some services within the community, be assured that we are doing our best to take care of you during this difficult time.

We continue to operate all our waste collection services, for example. Indeed, Council has recently introduced kerbside 'bulky waste' collection services for apartment complexes as well as on-call 'user pays' collections for houses – the first such upgrade in more than ten years.

Many of our services are available online, including submitting Development Applications and service requests. Similarly, we shifted many of our events and activities to online platforms last year, and continue to do this where we can.

Where possible, our staff are working online to continue to deliver essential services across the Shire. And when our outdoor teams do need to be in the community, we have strict 'COVID safe' practices in place to ensure their safety and yours. The wellbeing of our community and staff are our priorities as we work together to defeat COVID.

For details, please visit our website or follow us on Facebook.

hornsby.nsw.gov.au

facebook.com/HornsbyCouncil

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING LIVE STREAMED FROM COUNCIL'S WEBSITE

WEDNESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER, 6.30PM

For more Council information visit

hornsby.nsw.gov.au

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FROM THE PASTORS DESK



"TEMPTATION"

Is there a particular temptation that's constantly meeting and beating you at every turn? God has made a way for you to turn temptation into triumph!

The enemy of life is called the tempter; and knows which temptations you succumb to most easily. But **Apostle Paul** writes *"No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man"*.

Covid-19 is such a tempter and is a scourge to humanity. It feeds on apathy to regulations and consumes our energy and freedom. Jesus Himself was tempted as we are, yet He had no sin (**Hebrews 4:15**). Why?? *"In that He Himself has suffered, being tempted"* (**Hebrews 2:18**). Many think that once saved and no longer will face temptation. No!! When we saved more temptation from others and life in general.

The same wind that blows at your back on your way to hell will blow in your face on your way to heaven. Temptation never takes a holiday. It will hit when you feel strongest, knock you down and make you feel weakest. (**1 Corinthians**) Tell us the truth *"God is faithful who will not let you be tempted beyond what you are able"*.

He answers prayer, particularly the prayer Jesus told us to pray. *"Do not lead us in to temptation, but deliver us from evil"* (**Matthew 6:13**).

"God Bless" each and everyone in this time of trial and tribulation!

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

LIVING HERITAGE FOLDING DAYS

Oct....Mon.....Sept.....27th
Nov....Mon.....Oct.....25th
Dec....Mon.....Nov.....22nd
Jan/Feb.....Mon.....Jan....17th

Folding cannot be done by our volunteers at the moment Due to Covid restrictions.

Ph: 0407 949 899

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Community Fire Wise

The Hills District Rural Fire Service

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE!

MAROOKA SOUTH RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

This month has seen us all given restrictions none of us would have ever considered to be possible in Australia. As we looked at the news we thought we might have not had as many problems as other parts of the world. Yet now the problems are here.

The brigades are still available to attend emergency calls if we are required. We are also going to do some hazard reduction work that is the most essential, if possible, in a safe manner.

This last month, we have attended 4 pile burns that have gotten a bit out of hand. One at Wisemans Ferry was the biggest job, and took crews from 5 brigades.

Training has been mostly stopped, but essential maintenance is still occurring.

Till next month, stay safe, abide by the rules, and get vaccinated as soon as possible.

Fire Restriction will start October 1st, BUT, if conditions get dangerous, they might start earlier. Remember to Log your pile burns on NSWRFSS.com.au. Please ring me if you cannot understand the process.

Members are here to help.

....Garry Chatman

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

SACKVILLE NORTH RURAL FIRE BRIGADE



Here are some photos of Sackville North Brigade bringing some Easter goodies to some of the people impacted by the floods

Judith Barr

MAROOKA RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

We find ourselves still in lock-down due to Covid-19 restrictions so brigade activities are still limited except for emergency call outs. The only incident for the month was a Search and Rescue, assist Police in the Canoelands area but thankfully there was a stop put on the call as the person was found safe and well. It is a timely reminder though, that if you are going on bushwalks (as many are doing during this lock-down) to be sure and let someone know where you are going and at what time you intend to return. Then in the event of anything going wrong, help can be arranged for you promptly and with minimum resources.

We are now heading into spring and the beginning of the bushfire danger period. It has been a wet, cold winter but don't let it fool you into thinking we won't have a severe fire season. Wet weather leads to significant fuel growth and increases the risk of bush fire. Now is the time to clean up your properties and complete any pile burning that still needs to be done. Remember, if you intend to burn, assess the weather and notify us of your burn and your neighbours as well at least 24 hrs before you light up. It is easy to notify us by going to www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/notify.

Now is also the time to create or up-grade your **Bushfire Survival Plans**. One of the hardest things is deciding if you will stay and defend your home or leave early. To help you make this decision, there is now a "Bush Fire Household Assessment Tool" (<https://assessmyrisk.rfs.nsw.gov.au>).

Clicking on this link will step you through questions such as the age of your house, the vegetation and slope of your land, your physical condition, other occupants or animals that are part of your household. Things to consider and help you make an informed decision on whether to stay or leave in the event of a bushfire threatening.

....Robin Hitchcock

WISEMANS FERRY RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

This month has been a reasonably quiet one again due to the Covid lockdown but the team have attended two call outs. The first of these was to assist where electricity lines had come down, and the second was to a grass fire in Singleton Road.

Get Ready weekend is set for September 11th & 12th this year and once again due to the Covid lockdown we won't be able to meet with residents or conduct face to face sessions. Instead, we will include information on our Facebook page (Wisemans Ferry Rural Fire Service) and you can ask questions via Facebook or email us "Attention Community Engagement" on wfyrrfs@gmail.com We will endeavour to answer your questions as quickly as possible, however, please remember we are volunteers and many of us work as well so sometimes it may take a few days to get back to you.

You should also be thinking about establishing and maintaining asset protection zones around your property before the summer fire season starts again. An asset protection zone will provide a buffer zone between a fire prone area and your house, sheds and other buildings on your property.

For residents wanting to conduct pile burns please go online at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/notify or phone Fire Control Central 24hrs before lighting up or you will not obtain approval to burn. Current council permit requirements remain unchanged.

...Margaret Cavanagh Assistant Community Engagement Officer

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

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

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

Sackville North: ☎9654 1244
" Mob ☎0419 522 088
Lwr McDonald: ☎4568 2168
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Storytime and Rhymetime on Zoom

Hawkesbury Library Service is pleased to announce that it is bringing its popular drop-in pre-school programs Storytime and Rhymetime online via Zoom.

Zoomtime Rhymes are held every Monday from 10am to 10:30am and offer our younger audience, the opportunity to rhyme and sing along to well know nursery rhymes, and the opportunity to interact with other children from the safety of their home. The session is fast paced and jammed full of songs and rhymes.

Zoomtime Stories are held every Thursday from 11am to 11:30am and is a fun and engaging event for children aged from 3-5 years, who enjoy listening to stories. The session includes stories, songs and rhymes based around a specific theme.

The free events will be held every week while the libraries remain closed. Bookings are essential and can be made using Eventbrite [hawkesburylibrary.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com.au/organisers/hawkesbury-library-service) The Zoom links are provided when the booking is made.



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Valley Happenings with Sherri

Preparing Your Property for Fire Season

There are a few things everyone should be looking at doing around your place before the weather gets too hot in relation to cleaning up your property before the fire season kicks in, possibly at the end of August.

Clean the fire break lines that the RFS and NPWS put around your property in the 2019/2020 fires, use blowers, rakes and if necessary a chainsaw to cut any fallen trees off the fire lines.

The St Albans RFS will be having a virtual online Get Ready Weekend due to Covid.

Bulbs and Bees

It seems like spring has arrived early as all our bulbs have started sprouting and our bees have started swarming. Today we caught 2 large bee swarms in one tree. If the bees do not have enough room they will swarm, if they have too much they spend a lot of time trying to keep the babies at the right temperature.

If like us you allowed 2 brood boxes over winter you may have to split them sooner rather than later. Just adding a super may not work as the brood boxes are full to the rim with babies due to the unusually warm weather.



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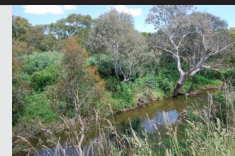
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Your Health is Your Wealth -

Could a routine help me?

We are all familiar with how routines can help us. Routines can give us structure and clarity, especially during stressful periods in our lives. The current COVID pandemic is an extremely stressful period for most of us. Let's explore routines and how they might bring you some comfort and stability during these difficult times.

When you hear or read about routines, there is usually a strong focus on self-discipline and structure. Routines are often associated with maintaining focus, productivity, organisation and looking forward to a future goal. We are a little bit different at Pathways Community Counselling Clinic.

We like to invite flexibility and openness within the structure of a routine. This is a refreshingly different approach and one in which you get to decide what is best for you. Practising some simple mindfulness meditation techniques or using expressive art therapy are great tools to honour both yourself and your routine. In a world that is becoming increasingly rigid and controlled, creating a routine that supports flow and individuality just makes sense.

How would you like to have more space and time for what you need and want in life? Routines are good, but 'youtines' are where the magic happens. Be kind and considerate to yourself when creating a balance between work, chores, hobbies, self-care, exercise and caring for others. The most important routine you can have is self-care.

If you're struggling to find a balanced 'youtine' then please reach out to us. We are a small community business, and our caring Counsellors are waiting to support you in every way.



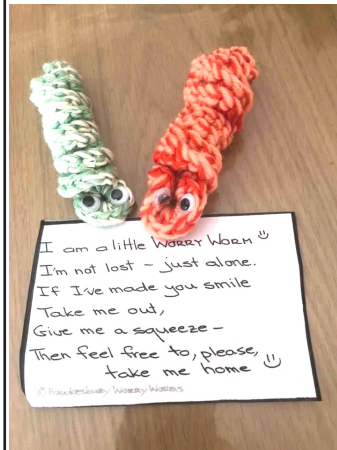
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Pathways Community Counselling (Facebook)

We are big believers in working together and supporting our community. Our door is always open and we welcome you in. To speak to one of our counsellors, reach out today and contact us on 0423 293 116. Your first Session is free. <https://www.pathwayscounselling.org.au/>

Random Acts of Kindness

Sometimes, troubling times brings out the best in people. People in the Hawkesbury, (and I'm sure there are many other places) have gone 'crafty' and are putting smiles on faces of kids and adults alike. A Facebook page called Hawkesbury Local Lockdown Inspiration has shown people placing painted rocks, gift bags, crafty things, money, books, and all manner of things throughout the district to give joy to our community. They usually have accompanying messages of hope attached.

I have included some of them here (stolen from Facebook) and I hope you get some pleasure from them as well.



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Member for Hawkesbury



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RM6591217

Aboriginal word of the Month
"Yarramundi"
(Yellomundi)

Means
Storyteller



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Michael Wilkinson,
Lay Assist 0400 735 530
Guy Cox, Parish Secretary
4568 2188

Holy Trinity Catholic Church Spencer



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For more information
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Pitt Town Anglican

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10am - Family Services with Kids Church
5pm - Young Adults Service

admin@pitttownchurch.com 4572 3262



Midway Christian Centre

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Easter Sunday and Christmas Day will also have a service.
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Bravehearts' White Balloon Day

Dedicated to preventing child sexual assault and exploitation, Bravehearts' White Balloon Day will be held on Friday, 10 September 2021 during National Child Protection Week.

The Mayor of Hawkesbury, Councillor Patrick Conolly is encouraging community members to support White Balloon Day.

"We all have to work together to protect children and young people," Mayor Conolly said.

"We need to raise awareness about how to prevent child sexual assault and exploitation and keep kids safe. "Every child has the right to feel safe and every adult has the responsibility to do what they can to ensure their safety," he said.

"I encourage our community to support Bravehearts' White Balloon Day on Friday 10 September."

Simple ways to participate in Bravehearts' White Balloon Day:

Wear white, purchase a White Balloon Day pin or make a

donation at <https://whiteballoonday.com.au>

Download the Personal Safety

Guide <https://bravehearts.org.au/personalsafety>

Visit <https://whiteballoonday.com.au> for more information on supporting Bravehearts' White Balloon Day.

Please care for the environment and our wildlife and do not release or buy balloons.



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Dual Naming Policy Acknowledges Traditional Owners

Hornsby Shire Council has endorsed a draft policy for assessing naming and dual naming proposals for Council facilities, with names to be drawn from the Darug and GuriNgai languages of the Shire's Traditional Owners.



The draft Dual Naming and/or Renaming of Council Facilities policy was endorsed for public exhibition by Council at its 11 August 2021 meeting.

Hornsby Shire Council has a history of Aboriginal naming of sites and facilities, including the Wellum Bulla Materials Handling Facility at Mount Kuring-Gai, the Wallarobba Arts and Cultural Centre at Hornsby In September 2020, Council considered a Notice of Motion regarding the dual naming of existing Council sites.

Subsequently, Council resolved to develop a draft policy for assessing naming or dual-naming suggestions in consultation with the Hornsby Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Consultative Committee (HATSICC), local Traditional Aboriginal Elders and local language and knowledge-holders.

"The draft policy encourages the adoption of local words of Aboriginal origin for naming or dual-naming proposals of Council facilities, with certain exceptions such as for war memorials, place names governed by other authorities, and place names with similar spelling or pronunciation within five kilometres of Hornsby Shire", said Hornsby Shire Mayor, Philip Ruddock.

"The policy outlines how Council will consider dual-naming or renaming requests, including how we should, upon receipt of such requests, seek the advice of local Traditional Owners and HATSICC before determining a name or dual name."

Proposals considered under the policy may include names or words from the Darug or GuriNgai language that recognise or describe historic flora or fauna; geographical features or landmarks; significant events, gestures or occupations, and historic persons, community events or connections.

The community is encouraged to review the draft policy and make formal submissions at hornsby.nsw.gov.au/yoursay.

Please note!
Copy deadline is 15th of the month

Galston CWA News



Decoupage is not dead? And neither is Paper Mache? Introducing a new hybrid craft that is fun for all ages, really affordable, and has so much versatility, it is definitely worth a try.

Materials

- Paper of choice - tissue paper, paper napkins, scrap-booking paper, coloured or painted copy paper, magazine cuttings, etc.
- Surface of choice – MDF coasters, cork placemats, tin cans, stretched canvas, boxes, old fridge magnets, etc.

Tools

- Scissors
- Glue brush

Instructions

- *Cut your chosen paper into different shapes.
- *Arrange and glue the paper to compose a design you are happy with on your chosen surface. Smooth out the shapes with your fingers as you go if there are any bubbles or creases.
- *Trim any overhanging paper to size.
- *Finish off by carefully applying a coat of PVA glue to the entire surface to act as a protective varnish.

So come on – get creative, take your mind off things, regulate stress, and express yourself with paper!

For more ideas and paper crafts visit www.facebook.com/CWAGalston

Please contact Jann 0439 222 217 or Pam (02) 9653 1036 for details of when our monthly meetings will resume.



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SCHOOL SNIPPETS

CATTAI PUBLIC SCHOOL



Well, this is not quite the start we had hoped for Semester 2. Always up for a challenge, the teachers and students are learning to cope with the new “norm” and doing so very well.

All the students are still travelling on their own Learning Journey even though most of the students are doing so from home. Parents have access, either as hard copies or on Google Classrooms, to lessons set at each child's level. The students are still thriving and maintaining a positive attitude towards their work. All work is submitted weekly and teachers are then able to set new tasks at the level suitable for each child. A very onerous task for the staff, but one which is enabling students to continue a forward momentum in their gaining of knowledge and hence reaping rewards.

The extra-curricular activities booked for this term have either been postponed to Term 4 or cancelled. In this way, the students will still be able to incorporate their learned knowledge with the real world and so consolidate their understanding of facts and issues covered in class work.

Students are now enjoying Zoom meetings, not just for having the teachers present to help with difficult topics and concepts, but also to participate in some of the more social aspects of schooling. Lockdown has limited their ability to connect with other people and this is one way it is hoped that the students will renew friendships and maintain mental stability. So far, everyone is loving it.

The P&C Bingo Night has been postponed until next term. The Cattai Catch will, at this point, still go ahead early in October. Watch this space.

We, as everyone else, are hoping the students will return to face-to-face schooling before the end of the term. Either way, the students are doing very well (as are the parents!) and should be proud of their perseverance and adaptability. Well done.

MAROOKA PUBLIC SCHOOL



...and so we enter another period of lockdown. These truly are strange times that we live in!

The sad decision to cancel our second Marooka Muster, in a row, had to be made. It was an easy decision to make (given the restrictions) but a difficult decision to live with. A great deal of work had gone into making the Muster the huge success it was going to be. Our organising committee, sponsors, stallholders, entertainers and amazing community – we thank you all for your commitment and ongoing support. We will be back!

Our students have proven to be extremely resilient, continually learning from home for six weeks and having been in lockdown for 8. What a great bunch of kiddos we have! And parents, let's not forget our parents. We understand that it's been a long 8 weeks for them! We thank them, wholeheartedly for their support. Facilitating Learning from Home is not an easy task Our parents have done, and continue to do, an amazing job. Thank you for helping us to end this virus.

Well, the days are beginning to lengthen and the weather is showing us a hint of Spring. Things are looking up! Enjoy some of the beautiful outdoors.

Until next time...
Ann Smith....Principal



WISEMANS FERRY PUBLIC SCHOOL



This is certainly not the way any of us would have thought term three would have kicked off but here we are smashing 'learning from home'. Firstly, I'd like to thank our families for stepping up to the challenge and supporting 'learning from home', it is a massive task.



2021 NSW Premier's Reading Challenge
Congratulations to Kiera (Year 4) on being our first

student in 2021 to complete the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge

Weekly Photo Challenges

We have started a weekly photo challenge and will continue with this challenge whilst we are learning from home. There will be a new theme each week. First was the Olympics as they were underway in Japan. Some students showing us their Olympic spirit.



MACDONALD VALLEY PUBLIC SCHOOL



"A small school with big aspirations!"

Remote online learning

Well done Macdonald Valley Public school community, pulling together and embracing change for the greater good. Thank you for supporting and encouraging the children's learning through this time of lockdown. Great to see the children logging

into Google Classroom and participating in the videos, and activities we have provided. Fabulous learning from fabulous learners!



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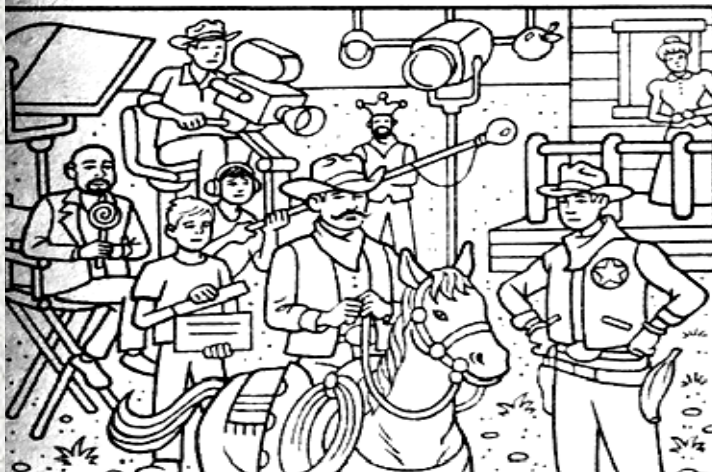
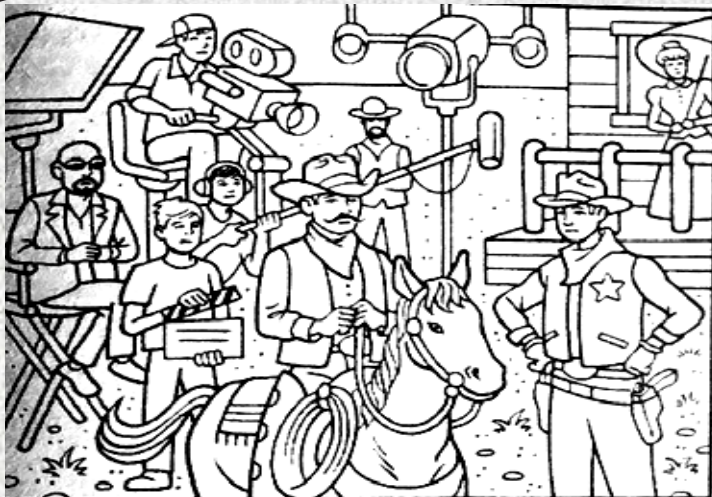
Kids Corner



BEST PUZZLES, FACTS, JOKEs, GAGs ETC...with Gail...

On The Set

Can you find the 12 differences between these two movie sets?



BIRTHDAY CLUB

September
2021...



- 5th - Sienna James will be 13
- 5th - Abbey Buchanan will be 16
- 8th - Riley Barron will be 16
- 8th - Amelia (Milly) Boland will be 16
- 11th - Melannie Meng will be 13
- 12th - Naomi Stechly will be 15
- 14th - Shayla Kleinig will be 14
- 14th - Freya Reed will be 15
- 14th - Charlie Mills will be 12
- 16th - Camilla de Zwaan will be 10
- 19th - Chloe Edward will be 15
- 20th - Jack McDonough will be 10
- 21st - Chloe Carpinato will be 11
- 21st - River Lambert will be 12
- 24th - Samantha Kuhn will be 13
- 25th - William Bradshaw will be 13
- 27th - Kyra Ramm will be 16

KIDS!

(16 & under)

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