

# LIVING HERITAGE

## Maroota and Districts News

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VOLUME 26, ISSUE 3

CIRCULATION 2000

MARCH 2023

### What's On

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

**12th Mar - Sun**  
**Classic Car Display**  
**Vintage Cars,**  
**Tractors, Motor Bikes,**  
**machinery etc. flood**  
**affected tool sale**  
**Bric.a.Brac etc....**



*The Sunshine Club will be selling a collection of donated dolls...*

*...see below, to raise much needed funds.*  
**Men's Shed**  
**Wisemans Ferry**  
**Info: 0448 833 781**



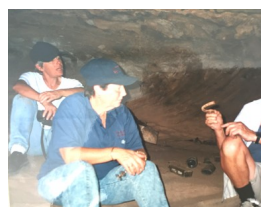
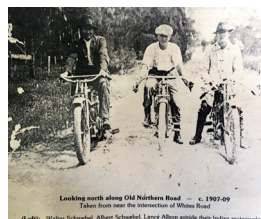
*Put these in your diary!*



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## A Quarter of a Century Documenting Maroota and Environs

By.....  
 Pat  
 Schwartz



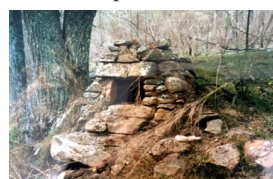
After 25 years, the Eastbend Rural Communications Inc is moving from the Resource Centre in Maroota School.

Eastbend produces the Living Heritage magazine, which for the last two and a half decades has recorded district information past and present. As a result, much valuable material has collected in the Resource Centre over the years. This collection must now find a new home and is being moved into temporary storage.

A huge thank you to Eastbend members, Steve Cain, and the Wiseman's Ferry Men's Shed for helping with what turned out to be a very large move. (Pictured below)

Eastbend, taking its name from the dramatic bend to the east of the Hawkesbury River at Wiseman's Ferry, was and is inspired by the amazing nature of the Maroota Plateau. This area is rich in thousands of years of aboriginal history, unique geology, rare and diverse plants and animals and a European settlement history going back to convict times.

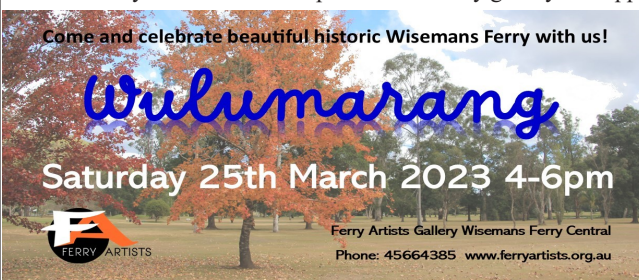
Amongst the photographs here, which are part of the Eastbend collection, is Uncle Colin Gale describing artefacts in an overhang beside the MacDonald River, another of a trio of Walter Schwebel, Albert Schwebel and Lance Allsop from around 1907 with their motorbikes. In future editions, the Living Heritage Magazine plans to showcase some examples from the Eastbend collection every month.



The Ferry Artists enjoyed the company of many of its members and friends Saturday 12th February for the opening of our Annual Art Sale. Hawkesbury Mayor Sarah McMahon opened the exhibition for us and we welcomed many sales. The Art Sale will run through to 20th March when we rehang the gallery for our next show "Wulumarang" which opens on 25th March.

All artwork in the current sale is under \$250 and it's well worth a visit to find that special piece at such a reduced price.

The Ferry Artists are a non-profit community gallery and application for membership is always welcome.



**INSIDE...**Eco News/Editors Notes/Quote pg 2, DLHHS invite/Dr Karskens/Boat Ramp/Vale Melba Douglass/Ben's Poem pg 3, Men's Shed/Car Display pg 4, Vella Iverson pg 5, Visit to Canberra/Julian Leeser pg 6, Noticeboard/Recipe Corner pg 7, Hornsby Shire Council/Pastors Desk pg 8, Full Throttle 2023/Rainfall/RFS/ pg 9, North Ward News/St Albans Village Market pg10, RFS FireWise pg11, W/F Realty pg 12, Galston CWA/Community Concern pg13, Windsor Family Dental pg14, Church Services/Windsor Family Dental pg 15 School Snippets 16 & pg 17, Village Directory pg 18, Birthdays/Kids/Robyn Preston MP pg 19, Vella/Iverson pg 20.



## ECO-NEWS



With Liz Wilkinson

What a commotion to be woken by this morning- an incessant cry from one of the Wood Ducks. Deciding I'd better investigate, I went outside to find only one of the pair walking around and around and giving a loud mournful call. I went to feed her but she walked off up the hill, then her mate flew in. Something must have frightened them as they were skittish all day.

I heard another commotion a few days later and watched as a few birds flew across the yard and into a tall gum tree, making a sound that I did not recognize. Later they were closer in a very dense leafed tree so I was able to get a closer look - a pair of just out of the nest Crimson Rosellas.

Pamela has had a few visitors to her place lately. A very cheeky Lace Monitor went for a wander on her veranda, and a Green Tree Snake was enjoying the sun, also on the veranda. Outside she saw a large Goanna at the base of a tree. Must be reptile heaven!!

I've heard the Spotted Drongo lately calling for his mate.

On Christmas evening a friend of mine was outside in the cool when a cicada landed on her arm. What an unusual creature it turned out to be. It didn't fly away as its wings were just drying and it crawled on her son's arm too. It was a white cicada with blue wings that darkened as they dried. They are very rare and stay in the ground for 18 years instead of the usual 7.

Whilst gardening I found the wings and part of the carcass of a cicada that had been feasted on by a bird-it had the biggest wings of any cicada that I have ever seen.

I usually only have one pair of Wood Ducks who come for a snack. The other day I walked out to feed them and there they were 9 ducks in total - a family with 4 teenagers and 3 more adults.

Last night (Feb 4th) we saw what we thought was a huge moth flying around in our house. When it settled on a wall I saw that it was an Insectivorous Bat - I have not seen one around here since the development next door was commenced and the



White Cicada



Large Cicada Wing



Monitor Lizard



Goanna



Green Tree Snake

developers emptied the huge dam that was there. The bats love to swoop over the dams collecting insects. Amazingly they consume at least half their body weight in insects per night, mainly moths and can eat 3000 insects in a single night - including mosquitoes, so they are good pest exterminators. Insectivore bats are incredibly intelligent, comparable (or more) to dolphins and horses. They live 10 - 20 or even 30 years. Maybe this one has come from the disturbed area in the new development on Sackville Ferry Road near the Rural Fire Brigade.

If a little bat comes into your home DO NOT TOUCH IT. Open the doors/windows so it can fly out and only use long leather gloves if you have to remove it. If it bites you or touches you seek medical advice.

Nevertheless they are very cute!

## Quote!

A Nation  
that forgets  
its past - has  
no future!

Winston Churchill

## Living Heritage News

## Published by:

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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 .....

Wow! What a bumper issue this is...

While we try to support all candidates in an Election, we can only include them if they submit their copy. I have had to take out some of our regular items to make space for all of the ads that came in. We can't of course knock back any paying customers, so I'm sure you will understand our need to do this.

On a more sombre note...we had had to move from the Resource Centre premises we have occupied for 25 years. This has been a difficult time for us, as being volunteers and a not for profit organisation, finding another home has been a challenge. At this point in time, my lounge room and main bedroom are housing all of the documents, historical items, books, photos and other office paraphernalia that are the property of Eastbend Rural Communications Inc.

A call out to community.....

If you hear of any unused building that we could turn into our Resource Centre, we would be most grateful. Ideally, the Maroota district would be most suitable, and it would need to be rent free, or peppercorn rental, for obvious reasons.

The Living Heritage has recorded all events and happenings for the past 25 years. All of the documents pertaining to issues that affect the residents, have been recorded along with accompanying photos, and kept safe in the Maroota Resource Centre for this long time. We are hopeful that a solution will be found.

The State Election is on Saturday 25th March, research as much as you can about their policies, and make a wise choice for our State of NSW.

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

The next time you are washing your hands and complain because the water temperature isn't just how you like it, think about how things used to be in medieval times.

Did you know?  
With John





## The Dharug and Lower Hawkesbury River Historical Society



**We invite you to  
"The Real Secret River - Dyarubbin"**

**An afternoon with Special Guest  
Speaker Dr Grace Karskens**

Please come and join the members of the Dharug and Lower Hawkesbury Society as we celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our first meeting held at the Wesleyan Chapel in Gunderman on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2023. Come and have a relaxing time after completing your voting earlier in the day.

As befitting such an auspicious day we are pleased to welcome Dr Grace Karskens as our guest speaker for the afternoon. Dr Karskens' highly acclaimed publication *People of the River – Lost Worlds of Early Australia* is the result of her studies of Dyarubbin – (Hawkesbury/ Nepean Rivers) and it's peoples from the earliest settlers. Grace will be speaking about her research and her discoveries and work with the indigenous groups in the area.

We will be having a High Tea complete with an anniversary cake of course.

**Time:-1.30pm.**

**Place:-** Wesleyan Chapel, 6445 Wisemans Ferry Road, Gunderman. Grace will commence her talk at 1.30pm and afternoon tea will be served afterwards.

**Cost:-** \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members.

Bookings essential: Email the [secretary@dlhhs.org.au](mailto:secretary@dlhhs.org.au) or phone/text on 0405 321 478 by Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> March.

All welcome.

Robyn Downham Publicity Officer...DLHHS

## New Boat Ramp For Wisemans

**New Wisemans Ferry boat ramp brings hope to flood affected community**

Following the devastation of two major flood events in 2022, a new three-lane boat ramp at Wisemans Ferry has been launched, breathing new life into the recreational facilities of the picturesque Hawkesbury River community. Project-managed by Hornsby Shire Council and co-funded by The Hills Shire Council and the NSW Government, the new boat ramp is complemented by a new pontoon, a new car park with 163 bays for vehicles and boat trailers and 29 bays for single vehicles, and a new amenities block. It will greatly increase the ability of locals and visitors to enjoy the water.

The boat ramp and associated facilities are now ready for a wonderful year ahead. Hornsby Shire Council also secured funding from the NSW Government to construct a new playground, which is now open, as well as a walking trail and village green which will be built in 2023.

NSW Maritime Executive Director Mark Hutchings said it was great to see the project, which was part of the NSW Government's Boating Now program, come to fruition.

"The Boating Now program, now its fourth round, has invested in about 330 projects since it began in 2014, providing funding to improve maritime infrastructure and facilities across NSW," he said.

For information about the new facilities at Wisemans Ferry visit

<https://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/wisemans-ferry>



## Ode to Chocolate

By..Ben  
Anderson

Rich and smooth,  
Melts on my fingers.  
A sweet delight,  
deliciousness lingers.



So many types,  
which do I choose?  
They're all so tasty!  
Treats I can't refuse.

Dark, milk, and even white.  
Dainty shapes or great big blocks.  
Pretty paper and shiny foil,  
The perfect thing for a gift box.

A dark, dainty, delicious, delight,  
a constant companion amid turmoil.  
How I love you, dearest chocolate,  
in your stupendous taste, most royal.

## In Loving Memory of

Melba Carlyne Douglass

1st December 1931 ~ 13th February 2023



Melba will be forever remembered by the people in the district, as the 'lady with a smile'. She was always up for a hug and a kind word, but could also be very mischievous and funny.

She was a pioneer woman of the area when women made up the majority of committees to get things done. When she was in charge of the bookings for South Maroota Hall, it was a seamless process, tell her the date and she would have the keys ready for you. Unlike now, where it is more difficult to book.

We will miss you Melba.....

## Anita Nicholas PHYSIOTHERAPIST

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## Wisemans Ferry Men's Shed

### ANOTHER FREEBIE – FLOOR TILES 450 X 450 WHITE OR GREY

Another generous offer by the Wisemans Ferry Men's Shed to offer FREE tiles to people affected by recent flooding. Ring Adrian on 0448 833 781 to secure your supply.



We ask for assistance in moving this supply to the Men's Shed as they were delivered to wrong address. Does anybody have a forklift and truck to move these tiles one kilometre to the Men's Shed?

We still have a small supply of free paint to give away if you come to our shed on Tuesdays to see our selection. We also have some tinted paints in yellow and black.

Apart from a small amount of final cleaning we are ready to go into full operation but we are calling out for extra members of men and women to replace members moving out of the area after recent floods. We have members coming from all walks of life - the bond that unites them is that they are men and women with time on their hands and they would like something meaningful to do with that time.

Come see for yourself the progress we have made in our shed—but we need new members.

We are united in helping others in our community.

We extend an invitation to people with computer skills to help get our computer course started. We also need planners for our community garden with ideas on design and layout.

We are located behind the Bowling Club at Wisemans Ferry and we operate on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 9.30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**SUNDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2023  
9.30 TO 2.00PM**

**WISEMANS FERRY COMMUNITY MENS SHED  
CLASSIC CAR DISPLAY**

VINTAGE CARS, VINTAGE MOTOR BIKES  
VINTAGE TRACTORS, VINTAGE MACHINERY  
TROPHIES, BBQ, STALLS, FLOOD AFFECTED  
TOOL SALE

**THE WISEMANS FERRY SUNSHINE GROUP INC**  
WILL BE HAVING A STALL WITH PORCELAIN DOLLS  
FOR SALE CAKES, BRICK BRAC  
TROPHIES

**BEST IN SHOW, MOST ORIGINAL, BEST MODIFIED,  
LONGEST TRAVELLED, LADIES CHOICE, PEOPLE'S  
CHOICE**

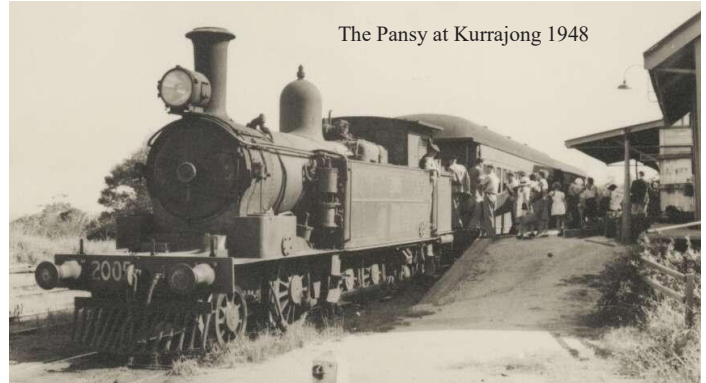
**LOCATED BEHIND THE Wisemans Ferry  
BOWLING CLUB**



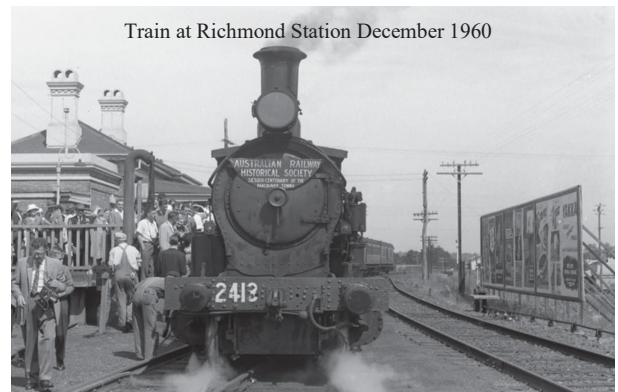
**RING ADRIAN  
ON 0448 833 781  
TO BOOK**

## Old Australian Photos

A suggestion was made that we do a series of the wonderful old photos that we post on our Living Heritage Facebook page. These photos are an historical record of the people, towns and cities of our great country. We hope you like them.



The Pansy at Kurrajong 1948



Train at Richmond Station December 1960



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# Beyond The Fence

## Is there a silver lining amongst the interest rate tsunami?

As we power on into the new year it appears there is no respite for households with a mortgage. February delivered another 0.25% rate rise with a warning from the Reserve Bank Governor Dr Philip Lowe that there is more pain to come as inflation remains at its highest level for decades. Dr Lowe has received significant criticism around his repeated stance that interest rates would not increase until 2024.

A recent article by John Hawkins published in "The Conversation" 17th February 2023 points to the return of the inflation stick as the RBA's weapon against chronic high inflation. Mr Hawkins comments, "It is about 30 years since the Reserve Bank "snapped the inflation stick" by adopting a policy intended to keep inflation, on average, within a 2-3% target range. Since then, inflation has indeed averaged 2.5%." But inflation is now 7.8%,

its highest level since 1990. Lowe said this was "way too high" and that the bank was determined to get the rate back below 3%".

In a statement released by the RBA Governor, he notes that inflation is expected to decline to around 4.75% this year and returning to a target range of 3% by mid-2025.

It does however appear that buyers may be factoring in rate rises and taking advantage of the correction in prices. Interestingly at the time of writing, Core Logic reports a remarkable Sydney clearance rate of 78% with the Hills/Hawkesbury specifically at 76.9%. There was also a 16% increase in the number of auctions from the previous week, yet numbers are down considerably year on year.

This positive sentiment is shared by real estate veteran and property commentator

John McGrath. In a recent article in the Sydney Morning Herald, Mr McGrath said the housing market was showing signs –judged by weekend auctions – that buyers believe interest rates are near their peak, and this has sent them back into buying properties. "Our view is the next stage of the market will be a consolidation, featuring a plateauing of prices, followed by further upward growth in property values in 2024."

In our local market, buyer enquiry has remained strong, particularly in the mid-tier, tree-change sector. Well presented, well priced homes continue to attract significant interest from buyers. Stock levels continue to remain low supporting underpinning a plateauing of prices.

Stay safe,

*Trent Iverson*

## VELLAIVERSON



### 42 Singleton Rd, Wisemans Ferry | FOR SALE \$495,000

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# A Visit to Canberra and the National Museum By Liz Wilkinson

Firstly a correction from last month's story - the old car was not the one used by Queen Elizabeth II on her first visit to Australia but a 1926 Crossley Landaulette that the late Queen Mother drove in, to the opening of Parliament in 1927 when she was the Duchess of York. This car was restored in the 70's.



The Queen's Daimler (DE36) is one of two intact survivors of six originally commissioned by the Australian Prime Minister Ben Chifley in preparation for the 1948 proposed royal tour by King George. When this was cancelled due to ill health, two cars were sold to the Maharaja. Being unable to sell the rest as they were too expensive, the remaining four Daimlers were shipped to Australia in 1949, and added to the pool that at times were used by the Governor General - Sir William McKell. The four cars were readied for duty when the young Queen came on tour in 1954. This tour was a massive undertaking so that as many people as possible could get to see the Queen.

After the tour the now six year old cars were replaced by newer Humber vehicles. The DE36 went to the Governor of S.A. - Sir Robert George and graced many vice regal occasions. By 1960 it was again a surplus car. It had several more SA owners, then went to a private museum.

After passing through many interesting

sections of the museum, we finally get to the section that is the reason for our visit. We are in a room full of plastic bubbles that house individual cars and other treasures. The Queen's Daimler was out of its bubble awaiting our viewing. The seats had been removed and were in a special bubble for treatment, as they had found moths that were beginning to hatch with the warmer weather. The cars are vacuumed and checked weekly to prevent dirt accumulation and pests appearing.

As well as the special Daimler we saw many more cars - all with a history such as the first Holden that was sold commercially, a steam engine that laid out all the roads in Canberra and the Peace Bus that drove around during the two hundred years commemorations. I was very taken with an old tractor that pulled a long trailer covered in gadgets - this was taken all over the country to sharpen knives, saws, mowers and mend just about



anything.

What a great visit - I could have spent days there just absorbing our country's history. I would recommend a visit to anyone as the museum covers the social history of our country. I thank the museum staff for showing us through these treasures and allowing us to take photos.





## 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

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



## NOTICE BOARD!



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### Need a Car Detail?



Local lad, Ethan Clohessy, has restarted his car detailing business, after Covid and the floods made it difficult to keep it going. **What a way to start off!**

The Men's Shed Community Bus has been sitting idle for quite a while now, and so, always up for a challenge, Ethan gave it a go on a steamy hot Saturday recently, and it came up shining. Like to have your car detailed? Call....

**0488 253 954**



### Local Hornsby Mechanic Needs Help to Participate in World Transplant Games, Perth 2023



Support Wayne

**Perth 2023 Australia World Transplant Games**

Local heart transplant recipient Wayne Broady is raising funds to attend the **World Transplant Games**

in Perth, from 15-21 April 2023.

Wayne is a Hornsby local who is lucky to be alive after suffering a massive heart attack back in 2017 while swimming at Hornsby Pool. Relatively fit and healthy, with no prior warning signs or symptoms, the actions of the lifeguards on duty at the pool, and the paramedics who subsequently attended, meant that Wayne made it to hospital in time that day.

After receiving a donor heart in 2018, Wayne and his family (wife Anna and sons Matthew and Sean) are eternally grateful for the gift of his life, and he is determined to make the most of the extra time he has been given to spend with his family. As a result of his hard work and commitment during his recovery,

If you would like to help Wayne represent Team Australia at the World Transplant Games by making a donation please visit:

<https://www.mycause.com.au/p/304532>

Alternatively, if you are a local business owner willing to assist with any in-kind support, please contact Wayne directly at [wayne@broady.net.au](mailto:wayne@broady.net.au).



Your local registered Sydney Wildlife Carer is Helen Coy

**0427 358 096**

### Free Legal Advice

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

**45 664 911**



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## Recipe Corner With Liz

We will start our new corner with a delicious, easy to make, gluten free treat.

### Date Wafer

Heat together in a medium saucepan until soft :

- 3/4 cup chopped dates
- 125 g butter
- 1/2 cup brown sugar (I always use dark)

Remove from heat and add 1 tsp vanilla and 4 cups rice bubbles.

Prepare tin by lining with baking paper and sprinkling with coconut. Spoon mix into tin and sprinkle with more coconut. Place in the refrigerator until hard. Remove and cut into slices. There is no need to keep in fridge. Yum



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# Latest News



Hornsby Shire Council held its first general meeting for 2023 on 8 February and elected Councillor Warren Waddell as Hornsby Shire's new Deputy Mayor for a 12-month term. Congratulations to Councillor Waddell and thank you to the outgoing Deputy Mayor, Councillor Tilbury for your ongoing valued contribution to the community.

This month, people across Australia will join together to do their bit for the environment by taking part in Clean Up Australia Day. This wonderful Australian tradition gives people the opportunity to take positive, practical action to clean up their surroundings and make where we live a better place.

I'd like to take the opportunity to thank all the community groups, schools, young

people and businesses who will roll their sleeves up and give their time on 5 March. Your contribution to our beautiful Bushland Shire is much appreciated.

What we do with our waste is the central theme to our annual Remagine environmental art prize and exhibition. And we're calling on all kinds of artists across the Shire to submit a piece of work for this year's competition. This year's theme is 'Wasteland or Wonderland' and it is open to digital stills, sculpture, mixed media, painting, photography, print making, ceramics and drawing. Entries are open until 26 April. Visit [hornsby.nsw.gov.au/remagine](https://hornsby.nsw.gov.au/remagine) to find out more.

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

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

For more Council information visit  
**[hornsby.nsw.gov.au](https://hornsby.nsw.gov.au)**

## EASTBEND MEETINGS 2023

**MAY Mon 8th**

**AUGUST Mon 14th**

**NOVEMBER (AGM)  
Monday 13th**



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## FROM THE PASTORS DESK

**Be patient, it'll happen in God's time!  
"Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently  
for Him" (Psalm 37.7)**

The old saying "You can't always have what you want," isn't necessarily true. *When you "Delight yourself in the Lord....He will give you the desires of your heart". (Psalm 37.4).* But usually He makes you wait.

**Dennis Wholey** says; "Waiting is an art....if you can wait two years, you can achieve something you could not achieve today, however hard you worked, however much money you threw at it, however many times you banged your head against the wall". There are things you can't have today that you'll be able to have in the future. So it doesn't make sense to drive yourself crazy and put your life on hold struggling to accomplish something now....that will be easy when the time is right.

**James** says; "Don't try to get out of anything prematurely. Let it do its work so you become mature". (**James 1:4**) God allows certain things to take place in our lives to teach us important principles like;

- a) developing new skills and ways of thinking
- b) showing grace and controlling our responses
- c) maintaining our faith when times get tough

**Paul** writes; "Patience is the power to endure whatever comes with good temper" (**Col 3:12**) Be glad for all God is planning.....be patient in trouble, and prayerful always" (**Rom 12:12**)

When you spend time in God's waiting room, He's developing qualities in you that simply can't be developed any other way. When He's finished, you'll come out stronger and wiser. And you'll have the maturity to handle what He has in mind for you. So don't let the enemy rattle you or engineer circumstances that put you into overdrive.

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



## LIVING HERITAGE FOLDING DAYS

Apr.....Mon.....Mar.....27th  
May.....Mon.....Apr.....23rd  
Jun.....Mon.....May.....23rd  
Jul.....Mon.....Jun.....26th  
Aug.....Mon.....Jul.....24th

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

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**Ph: 0407 949 899  
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Community Chaplain*

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email:

[petergoldstien12@gmail.com](mailto:petergoldstien12@gmail.com)



**Mob: 0428 234 228**



# Full Throttle In 2023

**I**n a volatile market, keeping to a strategy, or let's face it creating one, can be tough.

The downside of not taking time out for your strategy is that there is a tendency to keep a short-term focus at an operational level to try and pick quick wins to generate financial returns. Sometimes in the process, this short-term focus undermines longer term value and returns. Here are our 'must dos':

## Know what your position is.

A business health check is an analysis of the current state of your business. It is an analytical review of its operation with view to providing a broad overview of operating performance and identifying potential issues.

Understanding your position will reveal your risks and capacity to develop.

## Know what to look for.

Once you know your position, the next question is what are the measures that are going to give you the best insight into business performance. In a volatile market, this information will give you what you need to make informed decisions at any one point in time.

## Prepare to make quick decisions.

If you know your position and have the data you need, be prepared to make quick decisions and take the first mover advantage. If you have the two elements above, you have your radar for identifying opportunities and mitigating risk. Most businesses are simply a replication of what they see. While the pandemic and market instability is difficult, we have also seen a wave of innovation as people adapt to find solutions.

**Don't bank on a single opportunity.**

If COVID has taught us anything it is that things change, and we need to adapt and change with the circumstances. While one single opportunity might make all the difference, an overreliance on one product, service, or methodology of delivering those products and services, exposes you to risk.

## Understand your end game.

What are you aiming for? Family empire? Fast growth and sale? Sustainable growth and sale as a retirement plan? Public listing? Even if you plan on simply running and growing your business for decades to come, that is a decision. Your end game and your progress towards that end game impacts your structure, focus, and decision making.

## Document your strategy.

Document your strategy - knowing it in your head is not enough. This does not have to be an onerous *War & Peace* approach. It is understanding what you are aiming for, and breaking that down into measurable objectives, then into measurable outcomes and timeframes (preferably actionable against rolling 90 day plans). This approach also makes management meetings a lot more meaningful.

*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,*

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

## Rainfall for

JAN 5th To FEB 22nd

Week 1. nil  
Week 2. 35mm  
Week 3. 20mm  
Week 4. nil  
Week 5. nil  
Week 6. 13mm  
Week 7. 110mm

Taken at South Maroota

## Bush Philosophy

*Arrogance  
is the mother of  
ignorance*

## CHECK YOUR SMOKE ALARMS

### ST ALBANS RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

St Albans Station:  
4568 2011



Captain: Lilly Stepanovich:  
0409 322 236

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

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



### SPENCER RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

4778 Wisemans Ferry Rd,  
SPENCER NSW 2775



New members always  
welcome.

Captain Alison Wade  
T: 1415 668 953

E: [captain.spencer@ccrfs.org.au](mailto:captain.spencer@ccrfs.org.au)  
Facebook:

### Spencer Rural Fire Brigade

- 2nd Monday of Month – Meeting @ 18.30
- 3rd Monday of Month – Maintenance @ 18:30
- 4th Monday of Month – Training @ 18:30

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Jenni Taylor B.V.Sc



& ASSOCIATES \* VETERINARY SURGEONS

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# North Ward News

**THE HILLS**  
Sydney's Garden Shire

Well, here we are charging on into the new year.

Following advocacy by The Hills, Hawkesbury and Hornsby Councils, the NSW State Government has provided metropolitan councils with additional funding to assist in road repairs. The Hills has been successful in receiving just over \$11 million for pothole road repairs. This funding will greatly assist. I thank residents for the ongoing patience with the repairs as council work through this and for continuing to report issues to council. Works are now occurring on Sackville Ferry Rd to repair the surface near the Ferry and the Cliftonville Rd repairs are well underway. Flood repairs and recovery works are still ongoing. I have been working closely with residents to resolve some long-standing issues and I look forward to having some of these closed out soon.

Council has been successful in receiving an additional \$6.6 million in west invest funding for a number of projects. This is in addition to the \$15 million already received for the proposed indoor recreation centre at Horsecworld and flood warning systems. The competitive round has also seen funding for a new autism specific school for The Hills District at Box Hill.

The consultation period is currently underway for the proposed Mason Rd Reserve at Box Hill. Please have your say. As always, Council continues to work hard to deliver parks in Box Hill as quickly as possible.

Until next time. *CLR. Mitchell Blue*

## St Albans Village Market



**THE MOST FUN OLDIES BAND IN THE HAWKESBURY**

**WELCOME TO YOUR ULTIMATE FAMILY MARKET!**

Look forward to a daytrip alongside the scenic Macdonald River. We are opposite the iconic Settlers Arms Inn & an awesome playground leading down to the river.



**FREE SHETLAND PONY RIDES**



**GIANT SIZED OLD FASHIONED KIDS GAMES IN THE SHADE WITH DEDICATED SEATING**



All entertainment kindly funded by Hawkesbury City Council



**MEET WITH YOUR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES**



**FREE KIDS ART WORKSHOP**

Sunday, March 12 10am - 2pm  
2 Wharf St, St Albans in the Northern Hawkesbury

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



**We've got it all on Sunday March 12 at St Albans Village Market from 10am**

For music lovers of all ages **Three Degrees of Separation** are bringing "a bit of pop, some rock'n'roll, a touch of country and a lot of soul".

For the kids we have **FREE Shetland Pony rides** plus giant games in the shade, and **Zilch Artz Studio** returns with their very popular **FREE Kids Art & Craft Workshop**

For the local community, we have representatives from **Hawkesbury City Council**, including our **Mayor Sarah McMahon**

And remember – the 1<sup>st</sup> 20 coffees are always free to market visitors, from 10am

**Gold Coin Donation per Adult Entry gives ticket in daily lucky door prize of stallholder samples.**

# DELIVERING for HORNSBY

- ✓ **\$440m rebuild of Hornsby Hospital**
- ✓ **\$70m towards the widening of New Line Road**
- ✓ **Delivering \$7.2 billion in cost of living assistance to households**
- ✓ **\$200 active kids voucher and \$200 seniors energy rebate**
- ✓ **Delivered 200 new or upgraded schools across NSW**



Scan for more info

**MATT KEAN MP**

**Liberal for Hornsby**

[f MattKeanMP](https://www.facebook.com/MattKeanMP) [@ MattKeanMP](https://www.instagram.com/MattKeanMP)

[@Hornsby@nswliberal.org.au](mailto:Hornsby@nswliberal.org.au)

Authorised by Chris Stone, Liberal Party of Australia, NSW Division, Level 2, 131 Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000.





# Community Fire Wise

The Hills District Rural Fire Service

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE!

## MARROOTA RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

Our brigade was called to six incidents in the last month, two MVA's on Wisemans Ferry Rd, Maroota; An electrical fire on Old Northern Rd; A bushfire on Canoelands Rd; A car fire on Canoelands Rd and a power pole alight on River Rd, Lower Portland.

Five of our members, Karen, Chris, Tanya, Dot and Keira also attended and assisted at the Australia Day Celebrations at Bella Vista. This was a fabulous day, well attended by residents from far and wide and it was a great opportunity to engage with them on fire safety both in the home and living in bushland.

This is an example of the various opportunities you have as a volunteer in the NSW Rural Fire Service. We don't always just fight house or bushfires. We are available to assist with various emergencies 24/7. Whether it be fires, car accidents, search and rescue, storm or flood damage or helping educate school children in fire safety. We are the world's largest volunteer fire service, made up of more than 70,000 dedicated volunteers right across NSW. It is so rewarding being a volunteer.

There is professional training available, offering opportunities to learn new and valuable skills which can also assist you in day-to-day life and even your workplace. It's a great opportunity to meet new people and be part of a wonderful organisation with a very proud history. It becomes a new family.

Maroota and surrounds are growing rapidly and we are looking for new members to join our RFS family. We meet at 8pm on the first Monday of the month at Maroota Station on Old Northern Rd, next to Vella Iverson Real Estate.

Feel free to phone our Captain, Peter Kazzi on 0417216306 for a chat or go to our website

[www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/volunteer/join-the-nsw-rfs](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/volunteer/join-the-nsw-rfs) for further information on becoming a volunteer.

...Robin Hitchcock

## WISEMANS FERRY RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

This month the team have attended a number of call outs with wires down in St Albans Road, a fire in River Road, the boat ramp opening, and two motor vehicle accidents one of which was in Gunderman, and the other in River Road, Leets Vale.

The new boat ramp opening in Wisemans Ferry on 4<sup>th</sup> February was a great success and was attended by a large number of local residents. A sausage sizzle was provided by the Wisemans Ferry RFS team and displays on the day included the fire boat displaying the fire hose – the spray looked amazing as it set a backdrop to the proceedings. The boat ramp was officially opened by Hornsby Mayor, Phillip Ruddock; Hills Mayor, Peter Gangemi; and Member for the Hawkesbury, Robyn Preston MP.

### Current Fire Situation

Permits for pile burns are still required until 31<sup>st</sup> March which is the end of the fire season. There are RFS standards for pile burns that recommend the following:

Only dry or dead vegetation may be burnt (no household rubbish such as plastics, wooden pallets or cardboard boxes).

Build long and low piles no greater than 2m in length or width, and no higher than 1.5m. This will spread the heat. Piles that are too high produce more intense heat and retain the heat for longer.

Do not add logs greater than 150mm in diameter. Instead use large logs to provide habitat and prevent erosion on your property.

If possible, place the pile in an area where it will receive direct sunlight to dry out the pile before burning.

Margaret Cavanagh

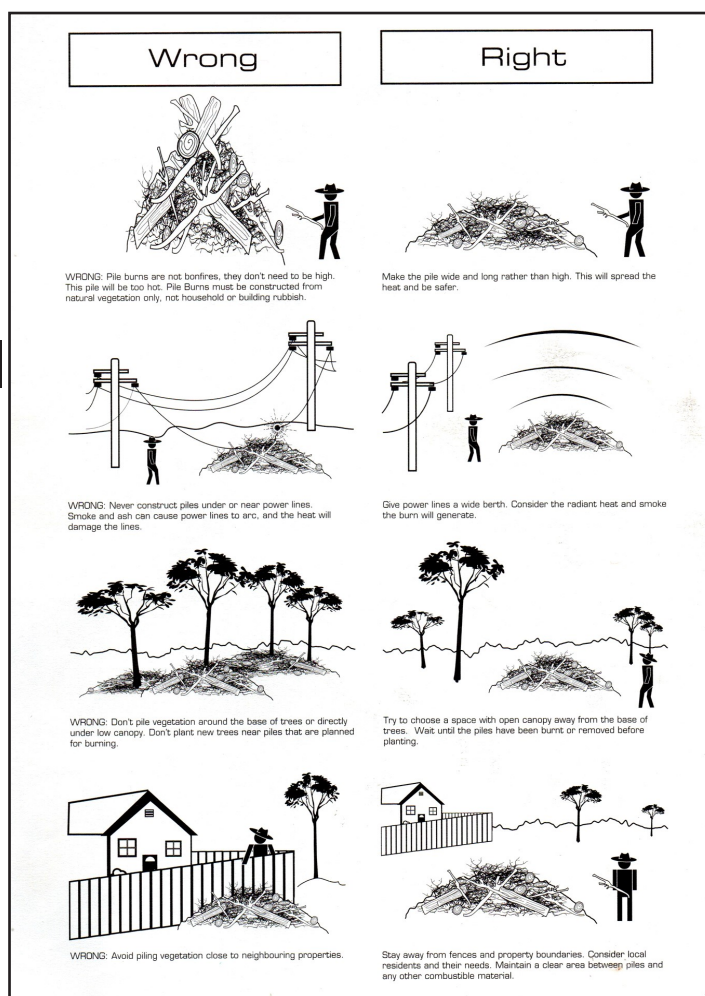
## MARROOTA SOUTH RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

We are now two months into 2023, and the weather has been very mixed, to say the least. In late January, the Maroota South area received between 60 to 105 mm in a very short time. This storm started numerous fires in the Maroota forest area, but the rain extinguished them.

Then, just a few days later, we received a further 60 mm, and this storm also had a lot of lightning and hit the phone system. While this all ended well this time, it might not have had we not received the rain. Incidentally, some of the Lower Portland area has received nearly none of the rain.

There is a new app that every community member should have and use. This app is now called Hazards Near Me, and is an upgrade of the Fires Near Me app, but importantly, it now has flood information all on the one app. If you had the old Fires Near Me, you should find it automatically when the app updates to the Hazard app. You can then put in your settings and your watch zones so you are alerted as to what is happening in that zone. When there is adverse weather, please leave your phone on and connected to a data source so you receive any notifications.

....Garry Chatman



## SACKVILLE NORTH RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

No news from Sackville North this month

Karen Karberis

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

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

**Hawk Fire Cont:** ☎4575 1601  
**Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai**  
**Fire Control:** ☎9883 2000  
**The Hills**  
**Fire Control:** ☎9658 9000

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





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## Galston CWA News



Our next meeting will be held Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March. We meet at the Galston Community and Health Centre, cnr The Glade and 17 Arcadia Rd, Galston. Please arrive at 10am for a cuppa, followed by our business meeting, and BYO lunch – a sandwich or something to heat in the microwave. Stay for a Craft afternoon. Members and friends who have made craft items for competition will bring them along for judging. Visitors are very welcome to attend.



On Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March, we will be visiting historic Bella Vista Farm for a Tour and morning tea.

At our Craft Day on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, from 10am, we will be making items for our Mothers' Day stall to be held at the end of April. BYO Craft in progress or ideas.

Our Branch Handicraft and Cookery place winners will be judged again at a special Nepean Group judging day. This is at Kenthurst on 23<sup>rd</sup> March, and those winners will go on to enter the State judging in early May at Bathurst.

The photo shows Anne and Janet with lovely baby items recently donated to us for stalls and charities.

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

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

More details from Jann - 0439 222 217  
or Patricia - 0412 948 787

## Community Concerns !

We need

YOU!



## EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Hi Sackville North/ Lower Portland Community,

I am asking for expressions of interest in forming a Progress Association that covers the Lower Portland/ Sackville North area.

The Progress Association will be aimed to advance our local community issues and bring them to the attention of the council/ state representatives. Progress associations have been known to bring about positive outcomes in the communities that they represent.

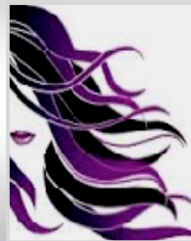
If you have any questions or are interested in participating, please get in touch with me on the below details:

Name: Miro Maodus

Phone: 0434 701 633

Email: [miro\\_maodus@hotmail.com](mailto:miro_maodus@hotmail.com)

## WISEMANS FERRY HAIR DESIGN



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**FOR NSW UPPER HOUSE**

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Cate Faehrmann MP has been fighting for environmental and social justice in the NSW Upper House for the past five years.

With a long history of human rights activism, Cate campaigns for fair pay and safe patient ratios for healthcare workers; standing up to the powerful gambling industry and fighting against the devastating impact of poker machines that are designed to addict the people who can least afford it.

Cate has taken the plight of Australia's koalas to the world, while the Liberal-National state government continues to wantonly bulldoze their critical habitat. Cate has also been working hard to protect NSW from over-development, where poor planning has allowed bushland to be cleared without environmental impact assessments or appropriate infrastructure.

Vote 1 Cate Faehrmann for the Upper House to ensure Cate can continue to hold the NSW Government to account.



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## Wisemans Ferry Anglican Church



River Road, Wisemans Ferry  
**Church Service and Sunday School**  
 Every Sunday at 9am  
 Morning tea afterwards - All Welcome  
 For more information call  
 Phone 4572 3262

## Uniting Church at Leetsvale

Off River Rd, Leetsvale Caravan Park turn-off  
 Please Contact Alan Prosser for more information  
 Ph 4341 7946



## Anglican Parish of St Albans

**Next service at St Albans is....**  
 First Sunday of the month -

10am St Albans

**Blokes' Coffee: Fridays 10am**

**Women's Coffee: Tuesdays 10am**

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



## Holy Trinity Catholic Church Spencer

*Vigil*

2nd Sunday of each month at 4:00 pm  
 For more information

Phone 4377 1374 4377 1168



## Pitt Town Anglican

**Sunday Church Services**

8.30am - Traditional Services

10am - Family Services with Kids Church



## Midway Christian Centre



**Services commencing every last Sunday**  
 of the month except July and December 9.30am  
 Easter Sunday and Christmas Day will also have a service 9.30am  
 All welcome to the gathering.

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

Phone 0428 234 228

## Windsor Family Dental

Advertisement

Windsor Family Dental Surgery is a family - oriented clinic that has been based out of George Street, Windsor with a proud history of serving the Hawkesbury community and beyond since the last 40 years. The clinic originally known as Windsor Dental has exchanged hands through three to four generations of dentists throughout that time, the most recent of which occurred when Dr Suzanne Williams retired from the clinic after serving the community for over two decades. Dr Suzanne Williams has recently sold the practice to Dr Aditya Shukla (also known as Dr Ady) after they both worked together in late 2022. Dr Ady qualified as a dentist from Griffith University, Queensland and brings to you 10 years of experience working in both major dental hospitals and private practices in both Queensland and NSW. Dr Ady is a caring dentist that enjoys the opportunity to serve the Hawkesbury community and provides the following services:

All aspects of Family and Children's dentistry (including \$1000 of free dental care for eligible families on the Child Dental Benefit Schedule)

Implant Surgery and Wisdom teeth removal

All aspects of restorative dentistry including Dentures, Crowns and Bridges

All treatment can be offered under General Anesthesia at the local St John of God Hospital to help manage anxious patients in an appropriate manner

Seniors concession available

Payment plans can be offered upon inquiry

Extended hours including Mondays to Fridays 9am to 6pm and Saturdays 10am to 4pm

Dr Ady is passionate about community involvement and has participated in numerous volunteer trips both locally and overseas as a dentist amongst teams of health professionals. These include trips to Cherbourg in regional Queensland as a team member of the Hope 4 Health organization where the local indigenous community's emergency dental needs were met through a mobile dental camp. Additionally, he has also volunteered as a dentist in Fiji as part of a medical camp organized by the Sai organization of Australia, which involved providing emergency dental care to the local communities and teaming up with medical students and local health professionals in educating everyone about the importance of preventive dental care and oral health maintenance.

Dr Ady and his team of support staff includes their highly trusted and experienced assistant Susan O'Brien who has been involved in a key support role at the clinic for many years. Dr Ady and his team look forward to supporting and caring for the Maroota district and wider Hawkesbury community.



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# SCHOOL SNIPPETS

## MACDONALD VALLEY PUBLIC SCHOOL



**W**onderful Start to Term 1  
It's been a wonderful start to the year. The children are happy and very settled. Routines are in place and learning has been able to begin from day 1.

Thank you, Mrs Mitchell! On behalf of the school, I would like to express our thanks to Wendy Mitchell, Harvey and Alex's grandmother, for her initiative in raising an amazing \$510 for our art program. We are so grateful for her support and that of the community who participated in the ongoing raffle. This money will allow us to purchase resources that will be used to produce art works which we will enter into the Hawkesbury show. Such a fantastic community - thank you!

Busy in the Garden! The busy bees at Mac Valley have been buzzing around the garden picking produce, planting seeds, and doing a general tidy up in the beds. We all decided to try our luck with a late summer bean crop, planting the seeds in neat rows. The herb bed got some dill, parsley, and basil seeds too; we are hoping for lots of lovey soft

herbs for cooking. Best of all, we all enjoyed tasting the harvest. There were plenty of cherry tomatoes to go around, but the cheeky cockatoos ensured we only had one sweetcorn cob to share between us all



### MACDONALD VALLEY



VACANCIES AVAILABLE

MONDAY WEDNESDAY

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

email: [macvalleyfdc@outlook.com](mailto:macvalleyfdc@outlook.com)  
phone: Simone Butler on 4568 2034  
Rachel Slater on 0459 420 261

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☎ 0418 484 960

✉ [amandacoles@stonerealestate.com.au](mailto:amandacoles@stonerealestate.com.au)  
[stonerealestate.com.au](http://stonerealestate.com.au)



VOTE **1**

# TANIA SALITRA

FOR HORNSBY

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- Fix our broken healthcare system
- Invest in public schools and TAFE
- Protect our environment from over-development
- Phase out the pokies

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<https://greens.org.au/nsw/policyplatform2023>

Authorised by A. Blake, The Greens NSW, 19A/1 Hordern Pl, Camperdown NSW.





# SCHOOL SNIPPETS

## CATTAI PUBLIC SCHOOL



What a great start to the new school year! The students all arrived with big smiles and lots of news about their holidays

Kindy children started slightly later than the rest of the school and were tested in order to gauge their academic growth over the coming year. A big welcome to all our new students.

Our school promotional photos were taken by MSP. The children were eager to be part of these great pictures and sat, smiled and

Our outdoor play equipment has been replaced since the floods last year, the soil has now been treated for any unwanted chemicals brought in by the floods so the

grass areas are now able to be used, and after a lifetime of pleading and fighting with council, government bodies and legal issues, our principal won!!!! And so now the carpark is tarred.

BMX is back!! Yes, it is very hot for wearing long sleeves, long pants, gloves and helmets, but to see the children whooshing around the track, they seem to not care. The track was repaired last year after the floods ruined the entire surface, so it is wonderful to see it back in use. .

The SRC used Sweetheart Day as their first fund raiser for the year. The students were allowed to wear pink or red mufti and make a gold coin donation. Also, cupcakes were offered for sale. All monies raised will be sent to Heart Kids.



## WISEMANS FERRY PUBLIC SCHOOL



### From the Principal's Desk

We are extremely excited to welcome our students and families back to school, for 2023. We know that the year ahead will be filled with many wonderful learning experiences for our students and we are looking forward to what 2023 will bring. This week we welcomed our newest Wisemans Ferry students to school with the start of Kindergarten. We look forward to watching Harry, Hudson, Benji, Mackenzie, Philip, Daisy, Billy and Skylah grow and develop as they embrace big school life. I'd also like to welcome Connor who started in year one this year.

Welcome to the Duck, Hall and Kirk families who are new to Wisemans Ferry, we know that you will enjoy the nurturing family atmosphere of our wonderful school.

### First Day of School

It was great to be greeted with

huge smiles and tales of the holidays on the students' return to school. All students are happy to be back at school and have settled straight into their learning routines



Solution to puzzle on page 19  
Itinerary



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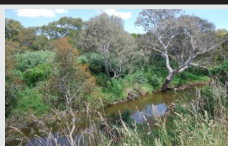
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Aboriginal word  
of the Month  
"Yarramundi "

Means...  
Storyteller.



Kids  
Corner



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

See how many 4 letter words  
you can make from this grid  
You must use the letter 'I' in  
each word, and one needs to be all 9 letters.



.....SOLUTION page 17

## ADVERTISEMENT

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## BIRTHDAY CLUB

March 2023..



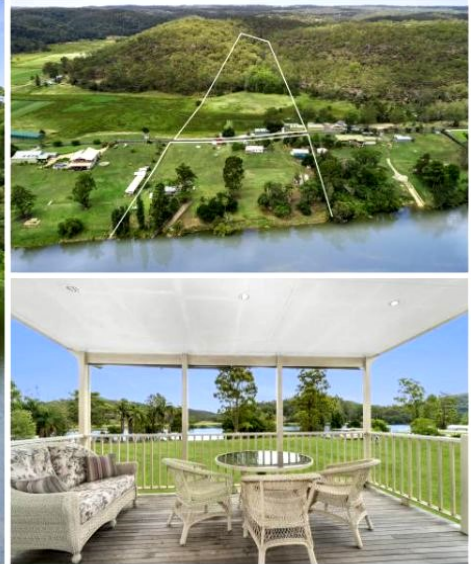
4th - Maria Dominello will be 11  
6th - Lillyamber Berthold will be 12  
9th - Bella Wheatley will be 13  
10th - Zsa Zsa Millward will be 14  
13th - Angus Fletcher will be 16  
13th - Christian Sherrington will be 14  
15th - Lucy Ramm will be 11  
19th - Kaylee Hinton will be 13  
20th - Oscar Brown will be 14

**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY**

**KIDS!** (16 & under)

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Contact Agent

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