

LIVING HERITAGE

Maroota and Districts News

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VOLUME 26, ISSUE 5

CIRCULATION 2000

MAY 2023

What's On

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

28-30th Apr - Fri/Sun
Hawkesbury Show
Showground
Clarendon
Info: 4577 3591

4th May - Thurs
CMRI Fashion Parade
Bowling Club
Windsor
Info: 4547 7211

6th May - Saturday
Convict 100 Mountain Bike Marathon Race
Dharug/Yengo National Parks
St Albans
Info: 0474 551 331

14th May - Sun
Mothers Day
All over Australia



21st May - Sun
East Kurrajong Hobby & Motor Show
School of Arts
East Kurrajong
Info: (02) 4576 5031

Put these in your diary!



f Find us on Facebook

The Giants Of Maroota

By.....
Pat
Schwartz

These magnificent giant trees (*Eucalyptus deanei*) grow in the wide valleys of Maroota Forest.

The valleys with their deep well watered soils provide the conditions for the eucalypts to thrive, they are a hidden gem of the Forest.

Maroota Forest was once a State Forest and the giant *deanei* were logged selectively for their long straight trunks. Individual trees were selected and cut but there was no wide scale logging. As a result, the forest as a whole was not damaged, but at the time it lost many of its huge trees.

Wonderfully, there are still some huge *Eucalyptus deanei* left (As shown in the photograph) and hundreds of medium sized trees growing rapidly.

Giant *deanei* can live up to 400 years, so the remaining trees in the Glenorie/Maroota area may have been silent witnesses to the families of the Dharug aboriginals living undisturbed, until the ring of convict axes and European settlement changed their lives for ever.

When Captain Cook sailed through Sydney Heads, some of these giant eucalypts may already have been 150 years old.

As development pressures threaten, we need to work together to ensure that examples of life on our planet such as the *Eucalyptus deanei*, still thrive.

(For more information call Pat 0419 321 276)



INSIDE...Eco News/Editors Notes/Quote pg 2, DLHHS /Ben's Poem pg 3, Men's Shed/Refurbish your Water Tank pg 4, Vella Iverson pg 5, CMRI Fashion Parade/Hawkesbury Show/Julian Leeson pg 6, Noticeboard/Recipe Corner/Clarendon Tavern pg 7, Hornsby Council News/Pastors Desk pg 8, Selling a Business/Rainfall/RFS pg 9, Hills Shire News/St Albans Markets/ pg10, RFS FireWise pg11, BMX Track-your say/River Councils Plan pg 12, Galston CWA/North Ward News pg13, Windsor Family Dental pg14, Church Services/Old Australian Photos pg 15 School Snippets pg16, Mothers Day Stories pg 17, Village Directory pg 18, Birthdays/Kids/Robyn Preston MP pg 19, Vella/Iverson pg 20.

ECO-NEWS



With Liz Wilkinson



In this over commercialised, plastic world, take the time to see the beauty of nature all around you. I was marvelling at all the tiny spider webs covered with dew amongst my grass - those little spiders must have laboured for hours to achieve this tiny web circle of beauty, that provide their food source - oh that it could be so simple for man! I have two different types of webs - the ones near the house are like a balloon deflated a little and slightly squashed, and the ones near the front gate are like a saucer sloping down to a hole in the centre, so their prey roll down to the dinner table!

Another spider story - I walked out onto my verandah to feed the Fruit Doves and walked into a strand of spider web. After peeling it off, I walked to the end of the verandah - about five metres away and saw a large round web stretching sideways, all covered in dew. Unfortunately it didn't last long, as the Doves pranced around and managed to destroy it - poor spider to lose all that hard work. A few days later I noticed he'd given up and moved to the other end of the verandah.

Our wild life carer Helen, has two more possums to raise, this time they are ring tails and so cute.

I have some Dahlias out in flower at the moment, and the bees are busy collecting pollen - lots of native bees (Trigona carbonaria) and some European ones as well. The natives are very pushy and annoy the others, crawling all over them and at times forcing them away.

I mentioned my friend Joan's Snail Plant before, but now it's in full bloom - in the photo you can see just where it gets its name - the unopened flowers resemble a snail - they look so pretty, clambering all over an old tree.

Walking in my yard the other morning, I spotted a stunning bird that I had not seen before, and being me, I just had to stop and talk to it - it showed no fear and just moved closer and peered at me as if to say, what's this strange creature doing?! It was a Golden Whistler - black head, white throat,

bright yellow breast, and collar and yellow edging to the wing feathers that are grey/brown. A few weeks back I heard an unusual bird call, and listened to it as it moved right across two of my paddocks, but could not catch a glimpse of it. When I looked up the Golden Whistler on the internet, that was the birdsong that I'd heard.

We have a Wonga bird with a deformed leg, but it still manages to struggle around. When I go out to feed the Bronzed-Winged Pigeons, he is often there too. He takes off when he sees me, but I'm trying to tame him - now he doesn't run as far away.

The other morning when I walked out onto the verandah, the sun was hitting just our valley - it looked so good with the white mist rising from the rivers behind it - such a peaceful start to the day.



Bee on Dahlia



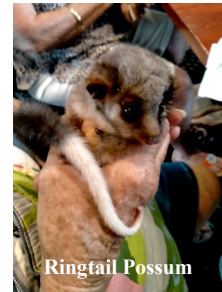
Saucer spider web



Ball spider web



Snail flower



Ringtail Possum

Quote!

You must be the change you wish to see in the world!

Gandhi

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

This issue is coming to you from the sunny-warm Sunshine Coast. My daughter Gail, grandson Arryn and I, decided to drive up to Queensland and see my other daughter Deborah, and other grandchildren. This is the first big trip I have done in my Delica van. The trip was uneventful, easy and quite economical, which was a surprise, as I have a roof-top tent on top. Twelve hours of driving (shared by the three of us), and four short pit-stops, and we arrived safely.

Another bumper issue of our magazine, with so many stories/articles to try to fit into the pages. It sometimes does my head in, but I always enjoy the finished product. Welcome to our new advertisers, we couldn't make this mag work without you. It's nice to know

that when we lose one advertiser, another comes along to save the day.

How about taking a trip to the Hawkesbury Show on Friday to Sunday 28th to 30th April. This event is always a hit with locals and visitors alike. A great family day out.

The Childrens Medical Research Institute is having a fundraising Fashion Show at the Bowling Club in Windsor, on 4th May. The details are on page 6, so go along and treat yourself to some lovely fashions, while raising some much needed funds for sick children.

And let's not forget Mother's Day on May 14th, how will you acknowledge your mother? See kids hilarious opinions of their mums, on page 17. That'll make you smile!

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

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children. Last of all the babies.

By then the water was so dirty you could actually loose someone in it. Hence the saying,

"Don't throw the baby out with the bath water."

Did you know?
With John



The Dharug and Lower Hawkesbury River Historical Society



On Saturday 25th March 2023 at the historic former Wesleyan Chapel built in 1855 located in Gunderman, 54 people attended the Dharug and Lower Hawkesbury Historical Society's 40th Anniversary. We were fortunate to welcome our inaugural President Lorraine Banks (who drove up from Canberra) and had the well wishes of Heather Winch, one of the founders of the Society. Also in attendance were previous Presidents of the Society, members from the Dural and Districts Historical Society, the Convict Trial Project and the Hornsby Shire Historical Society.

The name of the Society was chosen at the first meeting in March 1983. The initial assumption was to be called Wisemans Ferry and Districts Historical Society, but as most people present lived on the north side of the River and as it was believed the Dharug people lived in the area, the original members wanted the historical Society to encompass the first occupants as well as the history of our European settlers so they agreed to be called the Dharug and Lower Hawkesbury Historical Society.

As befitting such an auspicious day we welcomed emeritus Dr Grace Karskens as our guest speaker. Grace has been involved in researching and exploring the Hawkesbury and environs for many years from her earlier work on the history of the Great North Road and its convict builders to the secret history of Dyarubbin, the Hawkesbury-Nepean River which is the subject of her highly acclaimed publication *People of the River Lost Worlds of early Australia*. Grace explained this book examines early settler history and the great experiment of settlement, aboriginal history, environmental and flood history and the interactions of all of them.

Grace explained that over the last forty years there has been a revolution in our view of history. Whilst she always wondered growing up in the bushland suburb of Baulkham Hills who lived here before us schools did not mention Aboriginal people in the telling of our history. The submerged history which treated us as if the land was a blank sheet when the Europeans arrived has been revolutionised.

Grace described her study of the river as a humbling but evolving journey in which she was helped by a group of Darug women. The chance discovery of Rev. John McGarvie's list of over 170 Aboriginal place names in geographical order along the Hawkesbury and Macdonald rivers which he documented in 1829 has given rise for further research. *The Real Secret River: Dyarubbin* became a collaborative project that drew together Darug knowledge holders, artists and educators with historians, linguists and archaeologists to reconnect the names McGarvie collected back to their river places.

These place names list culturally significant locations each name holding a spiritual meaning for Aboriginal people despite many of these indigenous names being forgotten after colonisation. Each name would describe the geography, or landmark or even a cultural event. Wisemans Ferry was called *Woolloomoorang* and Sackville was called *Dorumbolooa* which means 'rainbow moves through'.

Of the 170 Aboriginal place names the Darug women have sourced over 90 of the names and it seems there was a whole country of Aboriginal names hidden (or lost) beneath the place names given by white settlers. This work is still ongoing. A sumptuous afternoon tea followed to celebrate the 40th Anniversary in the function centre of our wonderful neighbours, Primrose and Roy Fox at the Missions. Many stories were shared and a glass was raised as the Anniversary cake was cut by Lorraine. Many thanks to all who joined us and in particular our guest speaker, Dr Grace Karskens.

Robyn Downham Publicity Officer
Dharug and Lower Hawkesbury Historical Society



Library

By..Ben
Anderson

Ancient treasures,
Dusty books.
Forgotten words,
In hidden nooks.



Tall oak shelves,
Silent rooms.
Leather covers,
Musty fumes.

Cozy warmth,
Dimly lit.
Private shadows,
In which I sit.



Literary escape,
Quiet time.
Lost in words,
This is mine.



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Wisemans Ferry Men's Shed

Now that we have recovered from the devastating floods, this is still a great place to be. Where men and women of all ages, from all walks of life, can come together to enhance their health in friendship, enjoy a cuppa, a good yarn & regain that sense of camaraderie that they may feel they lost when they retired, moved home and lost their backyard shed or any number of other reasons. Our main aim is to unite men and women of all walks of life, ages and persuasions, provide education to promote good health and assist them to become healthy and satisfied members of our community whilst providing skills, friendship and a sense of accomplishment and someone to talk to should they feel the need. Mental health and stimulation are our goals. Shed activities include but are not limited to:

A cuppa.

A cuppa and a yarn.

Woodworking and metalwork.

Bus trips

Guest speakers.

Establish Community garden.

Getting the walking track completed.

We do not have any Government financial support. All funds for our operation are sourced from:

Annual car show.

Community work.

Donations from local business and individuals.

Sale of products made.

We are desperately trying to build up our membership to enable us to continue our good work in our Community. We lost a lot of good members after the floods due to the displacement of members to other districts.

Call Adrian on 0448833781 or Warren on 0421705810 to enquire. We attend the Shed on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. The Shed is located behind Bowling Club.



Pre floods

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Beyond The Fence

Is Spring really the right time to sell your home?

Before we tackle this age-old question, let us take a quick look at the market in March and importantly what the chatter around interest rates is.

The Sydney market once again saw an increase in home prices for the month of March with an incredible 1.4% increase in value according to Core Logics Home Value Monthly Index. This result was more than four times that of February and the highest monthly increase since October 2021. We covered this prediction in last months Beyond The Fence with prices being fuelled by continuing low supply. This re-enforces most economists position that the market has bottomed and showing signs of growth.

It also appears that interest rates may have peaked or nearing the peak after the first pause in rate rises from the RBA in April. CBA Australia's largest mortgage lender has cut its Fixed interest rate by 0.4% and is not the only bank to do so. In a recent

article by Nila Sweeney in the Financial Review, Amp Capital economist Shane Oliver commented "Increases in fixed-rate costs had led the way up in the mortgage market in the past and reductions in fixed-rate costs would lead it down also, Dr Oliver said. "Fixed rate mortgages started to increase well ahead of the rise in variable rates in the recent cycle, and we will see exactly the same thing."

This leads me into the headline question around the right time to sell your home. We have been programmed to believe that there is a "Spring Selling Season" where suddenly all new stock comes to market, and we are spoilt for choice. Often this can be the case but it's not an exact science. Traditionally sellers will lock down over the cooler months and prepare their homes for this magical selling period in Spring. Now this may be true over the long term and yes there is warmth in the air and flowers are starting to bloom but what about those buyers that are in the

market to buy right now? If we go back to the basics of economics with supply versus demand, then now may be the right time to sell. We are already experiencing a significant shortage in supply and with buyers in the market ready to purchase hence a growth in values over the past two months. With the potential slowing of rate hikes, confidence is returning to the market. Investors now have the ability to budget and estimate with greater accuracy as to how much their investment will cost them.

So always look at the bigger picture and consider all the influencing factors that may impact the market. Real estate is not a precise instrument and often we can take advantage of anomalies within the market at any given time. This is great time for buyers and sellers, so consider if a winter sale could be an advantage for selling your home.

Stay safe,

Trent Iverson

VELLAIVERSON



4976 - 4978 Wisemans Ferry Rd, Spencer | FOR SALE \$490,000

AFFORDABLE RIVER COTTAGE WITH RIVER VIEWS - 2 TITLES

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86 Singleton Road, Wisemans Ferry | FOR SALE

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Sydney side of the river with Hawkesbury River and rural views this 3 bedroom home plus self contained studio is less than 1km from the village of Wisemans Ferry and an easy commute to the Hawkesbury or Hills. Contact us to arrange your inspection.

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Fashion Parade

**Maroota Committee of the
Childrens Medical Research
Institute
Are holding a fund-raising
Fashion Parade**

Thursday 4th May, 2023
Windsor Bowling & Sports Club
Cnr Tebbutt and George Streets,
Windsor.

10.30am for a 11am start.
\$20 includes fashion show, lunch
and raffle tickets.

Help a worthy cause.
Buy some of the latest fashions
from Rainbow Fashions
Tickets will be sold prior to the
event for catering purposes

Please phone any of the following,,,

Kaye - 0407 211 183
Noelene - 0407 411 938
Margie - 0419 155 882

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE

2023 Hawkesbury Show

Way back when...

The first Hawkesbury Agricultural Show was conducted at Clarendon in 1845. An article in the Sydney Morning Herald at that time described the 1845 show; it tells that Windsor was empty and the road from Windsor to Clarendon was filled with people on horseback, in carts and gigs or walking to the show.

"Upwards of 3000" attended and they were served by a number of booths 'seven of them publicans'.

The show was held in two adjoining paddocks. The Hawkesbury District Agricultural Association shared the racecourse grounds from 1880 to 1986.

These arrangements ceased when the show moved into the present grounds in Clarendon.



Experience the magic and excitement of the 2023 Hawkesbury Show.

Thousands of attractions, rides, show-bags, animals, competitions and treats for the whole family to enjoy.

Friday 28th April to Sunday 30th April



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



julian.leeser.mp@aph.gov.au



julianleeser.com.au



julianleesermp



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

NOTICE BOARD!



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MACDONALD VALLEY



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MONDAY WEDNESDAY

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email: macvalleyfdc@outlook.com

phone: Simone Butler on 4568 2034

Rachel Slater on 0459 420 261

Wisemans Ferry Seniors

Our trip to the Blue Mountains was a huge success, our first stop was at Glenbrook to view the Panorama Gallery at the rear of Mountain View Cafe which was truly spectacular. Of course we couldn't leave the Cafe without first enjoying a morning tea of coffee and yummy donuts. Then on to the mountains for a sight-seeing trip which of course included the Three Sisters where we found a nice pub to have lunch.

On the way home we found a local store to stock up on some fresh fruit and vegetables.

We were joined by members of the Sunshine Club and a couple of visitors, all who went had a great time. We are planning some more trips like this, remember visitors are always welcome to join us for these trips and to Bingo on a Monday morning. You do not have to be a senior to takepart in the fun.



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



Your local registered Sydney Wildlife Carer is Helen Coy

0427 358 096

Free Legal Advice

Tony Simpson Law Firm will be running a free legal aid service from his new office – behind the Doctor's Surgery, next to the Sunshine 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



Richmond/Windsor View Club

Meets every second Wednesday of the month at The Richmond Club.

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

Contact:

Trish Carter **0417 010 619**

Recipe Corner With Liz

Fruit Slice

Ingredients:

1 cup sugar
1 cup self raising flour
1 cup coconut
1 cup chopped dates
1 cup sultanas or raisins- I prefer raisins-more flavour
2eggs, beaten
125g butter melted

Mix all the dry ingredients in a large bowl. Add melted butter and beaten eggs. Mix well and place in paper lined tray. Sprinkle the top with sunflower and sesame seeds. Press seeds into mixture (adds flavour and nutrients)
Bake at 180 or 170 fan forced oven for 35-40 mins.

Cut into pieces when slice is cool



The Clarendon Tavern....a local eatery. By Liz Wilkinson

A few times in recent months I have been out with groups of friends and we had lunch at the Tavern at Clarendon.

The food is delicious with a \$12 selection on the menu (as well as a more expansive menu) which includes a HotRok steak on 350 degrees volcanic stone. The steak is placed on the rock still raw and cooks itself as you slice it off. It is accompanied by yummy chips on one side and a fresh salad on the other. I have not indulged in this as yet - I went the last time with the intention of ordering it, but when I looked at someone else's meal, I thought I wouldn't be able to do justice to it, and still go home and cook (and eat) an evening meal for my husband. I shall just have to wait until he comes along with me! My friends who had this dish said the steak was absolutely divine.

It is a family owned pub between Windsor and Richmond at 244 Hawkesbury Valley Way. It serves 18 different beers and 50 odd ciders. You can sit indoors in various places or outside in the courtyard which has a kids playground and arcade machine zone. It has lots of activity happening each week with bingo, pool nights, trivia and live bands. You can also buy take-away or have delivery.

Hot tip 1:

Don't sit under the television unless you don't mind noise!

Hot tip 2:

If you want the HotRok steak - BE early- it can sell out!

Enjoyable Meal!



Latest News



Last month, Council endorsed the draft 2023-2026 Delivery Program, including the Operational Plan 2023/24 (DPOP), plus the budget for the year ahead, for public exhibition. Following the challenges of recent years, our key priorities are to remain financially strong and to build a resilient Shire, well prepared for a growing population.

As we prepare for the Hornsby Shire of the future, it is essential that our infrastructure is of a standard that our growing community deserves. I'm therefore proud that we will spend just over \$80 million on capital projects, largely funded by external grants and development contributions.

This expenditure will increase liveability and build resilience by creating a safe and efficient transport network, upgrading our open spaces and natural surrounds, building thriving village centres and progressing our major projects at Hornsby and Westleigh.

The DPOP will be on public exhibition for community

feedback until 15 May at yoursay.hornsby.nsw.gov.au. We look forward to receiving your comments.

Hornsby Shire Council is supporting the 2023 Australian Liveability Census. This nation-wide research project will help us understand liveability from you, our community's perspective and see how we are faring compared to the rest of the country.

Everyone deserves to live in a community that reflects their values and needs, so it's important for everyone to have their say in the Census. The insights collected include what matters most to you, how your current neighbourhoods are performing and your ideas for improvements. Our local area can then be compared to others near and far.

The Australian Liveability Census is open until 30 June 2023 and all participants will have the chance to win one of 50 x \$100 vouchers. I encourage you all to share your views at yoursay.hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Philip Ruddock AO,
Mayor, Hornsby Shire Council

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 10 MAY, 6.30 PM

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

EASTBEND MEETINGS 2023

MAY Monday 8th

AUGUST Monday 14th

**NOVEMBER (AGM)
Monday 13th**



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FROM THE PASTORS DESK

THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD THINKING

"The Wisdom of the Prudent is to Give Thought to Their Ways" (Prov 14:80)

In his book *"As a Man Thinketh"*, James Allen says, *"All that a man achieves or fails to achieve, is the direct result of his thoughts"*. Do you believe that? If you do, you'll place a high value on good thinking. It will become a priority in your life. Success doesn't come by accident. You don't stumble into it then figure it out afterwards. Whether you're a businessperson a minister, a teacher, a parent, or whatever, your level of success will increase dramatically if you place a high value on good thinking. The better your thinking, the better your prospects in life. Playwright Victor Hugo said, *"A small man is made up of small thoughts"*.

People who don't develop and practice good thinking usually find themselves at the mercy of circumstances – or other people's thoughts. They're unable to solve problems. They find themselves facing the same obstacles over and over. And because they don't think ahead, they're habitually in reaction mode. An old German proverb says, *"Better an empty purse than head"*. Good thinkers overcome difficulties, including lack of resources. And generally, poor thinkers are at the mercy of good thinkers.

Ponder these words:

"Capital isn't so important. Experience isn't either. You can get both these things. What's important is ideas. If you have ideas, you have the main asset you need, and there isn't any limit to what you can do with your life."

Solomon writes:

"As he thinketh in his heart, so is he". (Prov 23:7)

And the good news is.....it's not too late for you to become a good thinker!

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



LIVING HERITAGE FOLDING DAYS

Jun.....Mon.....May.....23rd
July.....Mon.....Jun.....26th
Aug.....Mon.....Jul.....24th
Sept.....Aug.....Mon.....28th
Oct.....Sept.....Mon.....25th.

We fold from 11am and usually it takes about 2-3 hours depending on the number of helpers. If you have any spare time, we can always use some help.

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Community Chaplain*

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Selling A Business?

The pros and cons of earn-out clauses

Earn-out clauses for the sale of a business are increasingly common. We look at the positives and negatives that every business owner should consider.

Business transactions often include earn-out clauses where the vendors 'earn' part of the purchase price based on the performance of the business post the transaction. Typically, an earn-out will run for a period of one to three years post transaction date.

There are two main reasons to include an earn-out in a sale:

1. To bridge a gap in the sale price expectations between the vendor and the purchaser. The earn out represents an 'at risk' form of consideration. If the business produces the result, the vendors are rewarded through a higher sale price.
2. To incentivise the vendors who are continuing to work in the business and maintain the growth momentum of the business post sale

Advantages of earn-outs include:

- The ultimate sale price has a performance component to it – both buyer and seller benefit.

- May assist in achieving a sale where a price impasse would otherwise prevent the sale.
- If the calculation of the earn-out is transparent and easily measurable, there should be no dispute between the parties.
- Creates equity where the business has lagging income, new business initiatives in play at the time of sale or a high growth rate.
- The incremental sale price can be effectively funded by the business out of realised growth.

The key to an effective earn-out is in their construction, both from a commercial and a legal perspective. Get them right and they can enhance the continuity and succession of a business.



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.co

Rainfall for MAR 23rd To APR 19th

Week 1. 8mm
Week 2. 31mm
Week 3. nil
Week 4. 19mm
Week 5. 6mm

Taken at South Maroota

Bush Philosophy

*Autumn is a
second spring
when every
leaf is a flower*

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:
<https://www.stalbansrfs.org/>



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SPENCER NSW 2775

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welcome.

Captain Alison Wade
T: 1415 668 953

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

Spencer Rural Fire Brigade

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

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Hills Shire News



THE HILLS
Sydney's Garden Shire

After the three major floods that devastated our community in 2021 and 2022, Council has been encouraging The Hills community and the wider population to visit Wisemans Ferry and support our local businesses.

Wisemans Ferry is an absolute jewel in the Shire, steeped in its unique scenery, history and ambiance. Council has allocated significant resources into improving facilities in the region, such as the recently reopened Wisemans Ferry Park. The park is one of the most popular and picturesque parks in The Hills Shire, featuring expansive playground equipment, grassed areas, covered seating, BBQs, amenities, hidden beaches and the convict road kiosk.

Wisemans Ferry is also the gateway to the water recreation activities on

the Hawkesbury River, and it was a privilege to recently open a new major boat ramp and pontoon. This project was delivered by Hornsby Council and co-funded by The Hills Shire Council and the NSW Government to relieve the pressure on existing ramps up and down the Hawkesbury River and to provide a boost to the rural economy of the area. It's been wonderful to see the multitude of recreational watercraft that have been putting it to good use for activities such as water skiing or fishing.

Hawkins Lookout is one of the best viewpoints in the Shire and showcases unbeatable Hawkesbury River scenery. The Hills Shire Council will further improve this facility by installing a new picnic shelter thanks to funding made available under the Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program. The contract

for construction has been awarded for this project, with construction works occurring over the next few weeks.

The future of Wisemans Ferry looks even brighter with a new Development Application approved just days before Christmas for a world class surf lodge on the grounds of The Retreat. Hornsby Council are also improving their park south of the Boat Ramp, with a range of recreational facilities being restored and installed.

It is wonderful to see more visitors returning and exploring what the region has to offer including bushwalks, colonial history, camping grounds and local businesses like nurseries, fooderies, cafes and gift shops. Please encourage your friends and networks to discover what we have in the wonderful north of the Shire.

**Mayor of The Hills Shire,
Dr Peter Gangemi**

St Albans Village Market

MOTHERS DAY WITH A DIFFERENCE!

Plan a great day out for the whole family starting with a drive alongside the scenic Macdonald River just 21km past Wisemans Ferry.

We are opposite the iconic Settlers Arms Inn & an awesome new playground leading down to the river.

Sunday, May 14, 10am - 2pm
2 Wharf St, St Albans
in the Northern Hawkesbury

St Albans Village Market
www.stalbansvillagemarket.com.au

Wentworth Healthcare
All entertainment kindly funded by Wentworth Healthcare

Give yourself a treat on Mothers Day - and bring the whole family, grandparents included.

This is a special day on our market calendar where we've got something for everyone, just so that the Mums of all ages can relax and enjoy a great day out.

Start with a 4 min car ferry ride to excite the kids, then a meandering country drive for Dad, add in farm yard animals and a great park, a very funky band, and of course - great shopping. The perfect recipe for a wonderful Mothers Day!

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Community Fire Wise

The Hills District Rural Fire Service

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE!

MAROOKA RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

With the cooler months now upon us, it is important for all residents to be aware of the **increased potential for house fires**. There are more than 1100 home fires each winter. A fire can take hold in three minutes, yet it only takes seconds to prevent one.

It is simply to reduce the chance of a fire in your home by:
Installing an adequate number of suitable **Smoke Alarms** and testing them regularly (most important!)

Having a Written Escape Plan in case of a fire and practicing it regularly with all the members of your household.

Having a Safe Meeting Place, known to all your family (eg Letterbox or other safe location at the front of your house).

Having additional fire protection tools such as **Fire Extinguishers and Fire Blankets**.

Make sure Keys to all locked doors and windows **Are Readily Accessible** in case you need to escape.

Never Leave Cooking or other any other open flame including **Candles or Oil Burners Unattended**.

Clean the Lint Filter of your **Clothes Dryer** each and every time you use it.

Never Smoke in Bed and take extra care if consuming alcohol whilst smoking.

Check your Heaters, Electric Blankets and Open Fire Places before using and make sure they are in good working order. Take extra care when using these. Make sure there is a screen around an open fire place.

Don't Overload Power Points and switch off appliances when not in use.

Always Keep Lighters and Matches Out of Reach of Children and educate them that they are "Tools not Toys" and are not to be played with. They are only to be used by responsible adults.

Ensure that everyone in your household **Knows the Emergency Phone Number....Triple Zero (000)**.

If you need to escape your house due to fire, **Once Out, Stay Out!**

Never Go Back into a Burning Building! Go to your **Safe Meeting Place**, phone triple zero and wait for the emergency services. For further information on Fire Safety in your home go to www.fire.nsw.gov.au

...Robin Hitchcock

PUT YOURSELF IN THE PICTURE

Recruiting Volunteer Firefighters now.



SACKVILLE NORTH RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

No news from Sackville North this month

Karen Karberis

Margaret Cavanagh

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

MAROOKA SOUTH RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

Thanks, firstly, to all the residents that made contact with us at Maroota South election polling station. More importantly, thanks to all those that gave a donation to keep the brigade running, and purchasing all the items we need to do so.

What a great time of the year we are in, and there has just been enough rain to keep the grasses growing and green.

Many of our residents have taken advantage of the weather to do some pile burns.

While many of these burns have been reasonably legal, it has been disappointing to see other residents that have been totally irresponsible.

If we are called to an illegal fire, we **MUST** report the facts, and residents might face significant penalties. If anyone is unsure of the requirements, please contact me to discuss.

Recently, I attended a day to give the brigades some plans as to how to move into the future. One of the major topics was how we engage the community to recruit new members. With that in mind, we need to grow our membership, or run the risk of not been able to assist the residents when called.

So, later this month we will encourage residents to come to the station on Saturday April 29th between 10am to 3 pm.

Come and see the equipment we have, see how you might be able to assist us to offer your assistance to support our community.

So, watch our Facebook page, to get more information, or just give me a call.

....Garry Chatman

WISEMANS FERRY RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all new residents in our valley. If you are new to the area and would like assistance on how to create and maintain an asset protection zone on your property or would like information on pile burns, please contact the volunteer team either via Facebook or our email wfyfrfs@gmail.com. No question is too small or too big.

You can also find a wide range of information and resources on the RFS website at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/resources including information and a checklist on developing a personalised Bush Fire Survival Plan, Standards on Pile Burning and Standards for Asset Protection Zones.

We have reached the end of the 2022/2023 fire season and as we have had so much rain we have accelerated growth and ground fuel ready for the fire season next spring and summer. Now we are in the cooler months' it's time to mow, slash & rake and once all has dried out you can conduct pile burns in line with your local council's fire regulations. Ensure you notify RFS via either the QR code or via the web at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/notify or phone Fire Control Centre for your area, a minimum of 24 hour before lighting up.

As the colder months are just around the corner, we should all be aware of home fire safety. Make sure you have your chimneys cleaned every couple of years as a minimum, and check that all cords on electrical appliances are in good order. Remember to check that your fire alarms are working too.

Have Your Say On New Woodbury Reserve BMX Pump Track And Trails

Hawkesbury City Council is designing a new BMX pump track and bike trails to be built at Woodbury Reserve in Glossodia, and we want residents to have their say on the plans.

The new riding facilities are part of the \$9 million redevelopment of the 19.2ha reserve, with funding secured through the State Government's WestInvest program (\$5.42 million), the State Government's Open Spaces Program: Places to Play grant (\$455,000) and the Federal Government (\$3 million).

The need for the facilities was identified by the community as part of the development of the Woodbury Reserve Masterplan in 2021. In consultation with the Hawkesbury Hornets BMX Club and its members, a draft design has been created for the broader community to view and provide feedback.

Residents can view the plans and leave their feedback at www.yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au/woodbury-reserve-bmx or at Council's tent at the Hawkesbury Show (28-30 April) until 5pm Sunday 30 April.

Hawkesbury City Mayor Sarah McMahon said it was clear from community feedback that there is a big demand for pump tracks, riding trails and bike paths in the Hawkesbury.

"That is why we are bringing online a number of new and improved bike riding opportunities over the next few years," Mayor McMahon said.

"Woodbury Reserve will get an exciting BMX pump track and formalised riding trails. We are also well advanced in designing a BMX pump track for Colonial Reserve in Bligh Park, and we will soon begin designing a new BMX track at Peel Park in North Richmond.

For our road riders, we will complete the shared path link between Windsor and Richmond with a new pedestrian and cycling bridge over Rickabys Creek and extend the shared path from North Richmond with the Kurmond to Kurrajong cycleway – both WestInvest projects."

The pump track and trails at Woodbury Reserve will form part of a new recreational hub in Glossodia which will be delivered over the next 24 months. Upgrades to Woodbury Reserve include:

New playground

New multi-purpose sports courts

Upgraded amenities building and additional new building

Improved and additional parking within the site

Shared path network with better connections

Improved access to natural areas

Additional shelters with barbecue facilities

Designated dog off-leash area



Learn more about Council's WestInvest projects at <https://www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/for-residents/westininvest-projects>



Dharug & Lower Hawkesbury Historical Society AGM



The Dharug and Lower Hawkesbury Historical Society Re-scheduled the Annual General Meeting to be held on Saturday, 27th May 2023

Followed by an afternoon with our Special Guest Marilyn Wood, a previous DLHHS president and long-time member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and the Society of Australian Genealogists (S.A.G.)

The AGM is to take place at the Chapel at 1.00pm and we encourage our members to attend so we can elect a Committee to help the Society to function in 2023. We encourage any member who would like to get involved to nominate for committee or any other position.

An invitation extends to the general public to join us for the afternoon.

After the AGM is conducted Marilyn will be talking about her project with S.A.G. to research and write about the lives of women who lived during Australia's colonial period. The bones of each woman's story will be factual, but their lives will be written in the mode of historical fiction, recreating the sounds, smells, the atmosphere and the social customs of colonial Australia.

Marilyn will talk about her ancestor and some of the highlights (and low lights) of Ann Stephenson's life in the convict society of Paramatta. A woman although small in stature was not afraid to open her mouth, and could only be removed from the courthouse by the vigorous intervention of 2 constables. Marilyn will also talk about another ancestor (from her extended family) Elizabeth Perry, most famous for her marriage to James Ruse, with whom she co-partnered the pioneering of agriculture in the New South Wales colony and how when they moved from Parramatta to the Hawkesbury district where their domestic life took an unconventional turn. Come along and hear other stories about the strong, feisty and resilient women living during the colonial period that were dismissed as either "damned whores or God's police" who worked hard, drank, swore, fought, mocked and survived colonial society.

We will serve afternoon tea after Marilyn's talk.

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

Bookings essential: enquiries@dlhhs.org.au or **0405 321 478** (leave a message) by Tuesday, 23rd May.

Address:- Wesleyan Chapel, 6445 Wisemans Ferry Road, Gunderman.

All welcome. *Robyn Downham* Publicity Officer



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Galston CWA News



The CWA of NSW was busy in April with CWA Tea Rooms at the Royal Easter Show. The final number of scones made this year could reach over 40,000.

Also, hundreds of members of the CWA of NSW will be attending a CWA Annual Conference to be held this year in Bathurst from Sunday 7th May to Thursday 11th May, including some of our members. A keen Galston cook will be in the Land Cookery State cooking competition and we wish her well.

Our next meeting will be held Wednesday 10th MAY. We meet at the Galston Community and Health Centre, corner of Glade and 17 Arcadia Rd, Galston. Please arrive at 10am for a cuppa, followed by our business meeting. Please BYO lunch. I am sure we will discuss the results of our Mother's Day Stall on Saturday 29th April.

Visitors are very welcome to attend this meeting, and our craft day to be held on Wednesday 24th May – BYO lunch.

The photo shows members at a CWA State Conference in 2020.

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

We are always happy to receive yarn and fabrics for charity sewing and knitting. Some members make delicious jams and pickles for fund-raising, and would be happy to collect fruit from your garden if you have a glut.

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



North Ward News



There is plenty happening in North Ward at the moment. Work continues at Brindle Parkway Reserve which will be the first sports reserve in Box Hill. Works completed to date include the bulk earthworks and importation of fill. The construction of a new amenities building has commenced and carpark works continue.

It is great to see the southern extension to Kenthurst Park now finished. A much-needed addition to the Kenthurst community.

Council's Minor Community Grant program has increased from \$1,000 to \$2,500. The Annual Community Grant program has increased from a maximum limit of \$15,000 to \$25,000. I am proud to support the many deserving community organisations whose programs, events and services help engage and better our community here in The Hills.

The Minor Community Grant and Other Financial Assistance programs are open to applications all year round, while our Council's Annual Community Grants Program will open in September for applications. Please contact me if you would like assistance in how to apply for grants such as these.

Council recently voted to put the draft Hills Shire Plan on public exhibition. This plan is councils' delivery, operational and resourcing plan for the next financial year. It is councils' budget in brief terms. Please have your say on this important document. I am pleased to see the following major items for North Ward included;

At councils meeting on 18th April,

I was honoured to be elected as Deputy Mayor of the Hills Shire Council by my Councillor colleagues for the remainder of this term. As the Deputy Mayor, some of my priorities are to increase community engagement, fast track key infrastructure projects in the new release areas, highlight North Ward through tourism, address key infrastructure issues, continue to work on flood recovery, but most of all, provide a voice to residents - be that person they can rely on to help them out and advocate on their behalf. I have the community at heart.

I have and continue to be a keen learner, always asking questions. In many cases, questioning the status quo and why. Residents often set challenges for Councillors, and I am more than happy to take them on and achieve results and outcomes, mostly through thinking outside of the box.

I would like to thank the community and those that continue to support me along the way. I want you to know that I am here to serve the community, represent you, advocate for you and achieve results where I can. Please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards, Councillor Mitchell Blue Councillor – North Ward
0400 449 324 | clr.blue@thehills.nsw.gov.au

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 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

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.



Miners huts, gold rush era.



Gone! So sad ...



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SCHOOL SNIPPETS

CATTAI
PUBLIC SCHOOL



Well, the end of Term 1 approaches already, and what a wonderful ending it was.

Naplan time. All the students were well prepared for this computer exercise. The students completed each day with a sense of achievement and approached the next task in a positive manner. All the year 3 and 5 students should be proud of their efforts. They were asked to do their best and as they completed each day's test, it seemed that is exactly what they were doing.

We have been lucky to have Miss Diener back at school, working with students and teachers in the areas of phonics, writing and typing. This is a great addition to the classroom for our students and allows the teachers extra support in those areas.

The Parent Assembly was wonderful, hosted by C3. Firstly, the hot lunch where many students were joined by their parents. Then the actual assembly. The students had almost forgotten all the little protocols set up by the school and students, but most of them had been re-established by the end of the assembly. As usual, there were the birthday congratulations, the Achievement and Sports Awards, the Principal's Awards and the good behaviour recognitions as well as the displays from each class. C1 spoke about their



drawings of their favourite thing about school, C2 explained the growth cycle of their plants and C3 stated their writing aims for the year. It was a fabulous return to "normal" activities led by the children.

Year 6 students visited Milestones to work with the pre-schoolers in an activity called "Learning with Leaders". Our students trialled the lessons with our C1 class and then had a fabulous time working with the pre-schoolers on activities such as finger painting their name, oz tag, number hunt and playdough letters. All the activities were educational but also dealt with fine motor skills. Our students showed great leadership qualities as well as the ability to work well in group situations. These activities help our incoming kindies for 2024 when they attend induction days and see some familiar faces and also instil a sense of achievement in our school leaders.

The Fun Run was a lot of fun.

Each age group ran a different number of laps of the school, with the older students vying for places at the Zone Cross

Country. While some people thought it was a great excuse for a walk and a chat, most ran hard to try and achieve a PB. All the students were given well deserved ice blocks at the end, as they were all quite hot and ready to cool down under our gum trees and wait for the rest of the students to complete their course. All the children should be praised for their behaviour and physical effort to complete their run.

On the last day the children had an Easter Egg Hunt followed by the Easter Hat Parade. Each class group paraded around the quad three times and struck a pose at the end of each "hop". The hats were rabbit, the students eggcited and the Easter puns made by the School Leaders were not very punny! The parents adored it and many photos were taken.

The winners of the colouring competition were awarded Rabbit Eggs as prizes.

It was an eggstravagant way to end the term. Hoppy Easter was had by all!!!

Keeping Cats Safe



\$500 cat enclosure giveaway encourages residents to 'avoid a cat-astrophe' by keep their cats safe at home

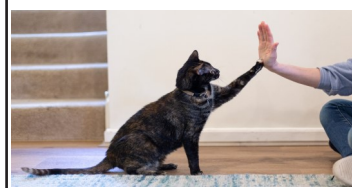
Cat owners in Hornsby Shire have the chance to be given a plush pad worth \$500 for their furry friend as part of Hornsby Shire Council's 'Keeping Cats Safe at Home' giveaway in partnership with the RSPCA NSW.

This May, the first 60 people to upload a picture of their cat 'safe at home' to Hornsby Shire Council's website will win a cat enclosure worth \$500.

The RSPCA NSW's 'Keeping Cats Safe at Home' program aims to encourage and support cat owners to prevent their cats from roaming away from their properties to both keep cats safe and to protect native wildlife. They risk getting hit by a car, fighting with other cats, being poisoned, or harmed, being attacked by roaming dogs, getting lost, contracting diseases such as FIV, or being dumped by disgruntled neighbours. They also pose a significant risk to our precious Australian wildlife due to their natural hunting behaviour.

However, cats can live a happy, safe and stimulating life indoors. For tips and information on how your cat can live its best life indoors visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au/catsathome.

The 'Keeping Cats Safe at Home' cat enclosure giveaway runs in May. For more information visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au/catsathome



Children on Mothers

What Are Mothers For?

"They give you an allowance and then borrow it back when they run out of money to shop."

Arnold, age 10

"Mothers are there in case nobody else will marry you."

Jay, age 5

"Mothers are the ones that bring you into the world, but that only happens after God has put the finishing touches on you."

Julia, age 9

"Mothers keep the love and yummy bikkies coming."

Vern, age 7



"The mother is the one who gets the thermometer out, and if you pass the test, you get a free holiday from school."

Sam age 8

Mum's Greatest Personal Strength

"I count on my mother for love, and she never let's me down."

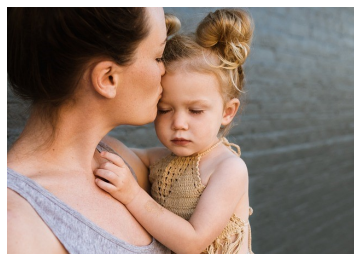
Debra, age 9

"The thing that I'm amazed at is that she always knows the answers to questions."

Alison, age 8

"She has a good personality, That's why I picked her."

Del, age 6



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY



Why Mothers are most Important

"Because mothers cook much better than fathers."

Roger age 8

"Mothers bring you into life, and then they teach you that life isn't as tough as it looks sometimes."

Corinne age 9

"It would be hard to have children without them."

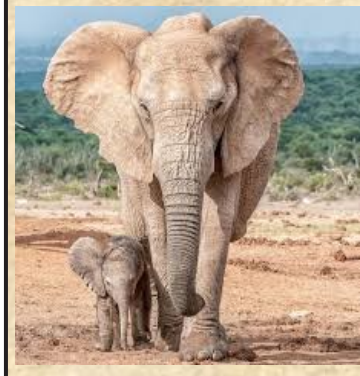
Kimberly, age 7

"Mothers teach you how to talk. If it wasn't for them, you wouldn't be able to blab with your friends on the phone."

Maura, age 9

Excerpts from a book by David Heller

Mums and their Bubs



Mothers hold their children's hands for a short while, but their hearts forever.

~Author Unknown

Note!

Copy deadline is

15th month...

Mothers Day In Australia

What Do People Do?

Sunday 14th May

Many people appreciate their mothers or mother figures, which include stepmothers, relatives, guardians (eg. foster mothers), and close family friends. Some organizations have Mother's Day patrons who work together with the media and general community to raise awareness on Mother's Day events that aim to raise funds for charitable or non-profit causes.



Mother's Day events and activities may include:

- Organized walks or runs to raise money for causes such as breast cancer research.
- Visits to the zoo, movies, or botanical gardens, or other places of interest.
- Breakfasts, brunches, lunches, afternoon teas or dinners at restaurants, cafes, or at home.
- Handmade gifts or cards being presented to mothers or mother figures.
- Flowers, chocolates, clothing, gift vouchers and other gifts that are given to mothers or mother figures.
- Mother's Day poems being printed, broadcast, or presented to mothers and mother figures.
- Mother's Day stories being publicized in magazines, newspapers, radio, television or the internet.



- Many families may also spend the day having a picnic in the park or the beach on Mother's Day, if the weather allows it. Father's Day is also celebrated in Australia on the first Sunday of September to honour fathers and father figures.

Background

Many Australians follow the Mother's Day traditions that stem from observances in countries such as the United States and the United Kingdom.

The Mother's Day date in Australia is the same as the date observed in the United States, which is the second Sunday of May each year. However, it is an Australian who is credited with having started the tradition of giving gifts on Mother's Day: Janet Heyden, a resident of Leichhardt Sydney, started a campaign in 1924 to collect gifts for lonely aged mothers.



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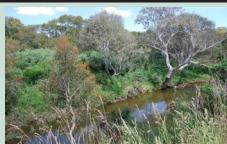
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Aboriginal word
of the Month
"eora"

Means...
people



Kids
Corner



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Happy Mother's Day



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S K K E N E S J L P X Q J O K
Q R I U D T S H L W C F O C I
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S T G G L E S M I K O C S L G
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L Z C S C A R D C Y H L O E P
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B Q P L R G Y H U G S R E L U
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BIRTHDAY CLUB

May 2023..

2nd - Shelby Mills will be 9
4th - Neave Hore will be 16
9th - Matilda Fletcher will be 15
10th - Knox Harper will be 13
17th - Lilly Morris will be 12
17th - Amelia McGoogan will be 14
20th - Dominic Tov will be 12
20th - Marlee Gill will be 16
21st - Charlie Devine will be 14
25th - Marley Clay will be 7
27th - Jett Harper will be 15
29th - Dylan Wade will be 12
30th - Luke Fletcher will be 14



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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