

# Hills to Hawkesbury

## Community News

26th March - 09th April 2021 | Vol 38 - Issue 06

Local Stories, Local Events, Local People and Local Businesses

FREE



# FLOOD COVERAGE

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# YOU ARE AMAZING



Floods around RAAF Richmond. | Photo courtesy Defence Media

From the SES volunteers braving dangerous flood waters to rescue people from their homes and the businesses that went out of their way to ensure that people had medications, food and basics, the flood has seen some extraordinary acts of courage and kindness.

The video of Simon from Hawkesbury Houseboats who jumped into a boat to head off a rogue container on the river at Wiseman's Ferry, steering it away from hitting a line of moored houseboats, was just one of the amazing images from the past few days.

There was pharmacist Lizzy Gripper at Windsor who packed crates of medication that had to be taken by helicopter to North Richmond, the Fire and Rescue NSW helicopter at Windsor being packed with groceries to restock stores the other side of the river and the police and SES boats out and about rescuing people and their pets.

Staff at clubs such as The Richmond Club who helped set up an evacuation centre and then assisted evacuating those in caravans at the Wanderest Travellers Park.

Castle Hill RSL and Castle Hill Showground were also centres for evacuation. See stories on pages 5, 11, 12 and 22.

Then there were residents who did everything to help friends and neighbours and organisations who filled thousands of sandbags.

Hawkesbury and Hills Council staff were out and about helping. Hawkesbury Mayor Patrick Conolly and Hills Mayor Michelle Byrne urged people to reach out for help.

We have compiled some images and stories that give a glimpse of what has happened. If you have a story you want to tell us email [contribute@hillstohawkesbury.com.au](mailto:contribute@hillstohawkesbury.com.au)

*Our Flood stories appear throughout the magazine. Our team would like to take this opportunity to wish you a Happy Easter.*



Police taking supplies to homes isolated in the floods



River Rescue | Photo by Hawkesbury SES



FRNSW taking grocery supplies from Windsor to Richmond



Pharmacist Lizzy Gripper from Blooms the Chemist helps load medications

## Hills to Hawkesbury

Community News | Local Stories, Local Events, Local People and Local Businesses

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# FLOOD FATALITY

By BEV JORDAN

A 25-year-old man driving to work for his first day as a contractor with a large commercial organisation was found dead in his hire car several metres below the water in Cattai Creek, next to Cattai Ridge Road Bridge, in Glenorie at 1.10pm on Wednesday, (March 24).

The Western Sydney man called emergency services at about 6.25am saying he had driven into flood waters and his vehicle was sinking.

The 000 operator stayed talking to the man but lost contact with him at 7.04am.

Officers from The Hills Police Area Command attended the scene on Cattai Ridge Road, near Hidden Valley Lane, along with SES Flood Rescue, shortly afterwards but could not find the vehicle.

Police divers located the vehicle, which was 6 metres under water, just after 1pm. Detective Inspector Chris Laird said there were signs that the man had tried to get out of the car but had not been able to.

Det Insp Laird said that the padlocked gate across the road was 10m under water and could not be seen. He confirmed that there were road closure signs on the road.

He said the man was a Pakistani national who had been living in Australia for some time. He has not yet been formally identified. He said his friends were devastated.

He said the 25-year-old had been driving a brand new Toyota Camry hire car.

"We can only speculate why he couldn't get out of the car initial examinations show he made all reasonable attempts and that will form part of our inquiries as to why



he couldn't leave the car," said Det Insp Laird.

He said part of the investigation would look at whether the electrics failed, preventing him from getting out of the car.

He said the coronial investigations would also look at whether the closure of the road was properly visible enough at

the time of the incident. Insp Laird said the locked gates across the road could were under water and could not be seen from the road way at all.

"What happened was a complete tragedy."

He said it was a very sad reminder not to attempt to drive into flood waters.

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## CAREFLIGHT FLOOD RESCUES

A seriously ill 50-year-old woman was airlifted to hospital by CareFlight on Monday (March 22) when floodwaters in North Richmond prevented her from going to hospital by road.

She had a serious infection that required urgent medical care.

CareFlight's Rapid Response Helicopter was tasked by NSW Ambulance at 6.10pm and landed 25 minutes later within the grounds of a sporting facility.

CareFlight's specialist doctor and NSW Ambulance critical care paramedic performed a clinical assessment on the woman. They conducted an ultrasound on the patient and prepared her for flight transfer to hospital. She was airlifted to Westmead Hospital in a serious condition.

Earlier in the afternoon the CarerFlight helicopter airlifted a 37-year-old pregnant woman in labor to hospital when floodwaters in North Richmond prevented her from going to hospital by road.

She was being transported by NSW Ambulance paramedics when flooding from the Nepean River prevented their crossing.

CareFlight's Rapid Response Helicopter was tasked by NSW Ambulance at 3:50pm and landed 20 minutes later on the road of Beaumont Avenue, North Richmond.

NSW Ambulance paramedics handed over the patient to CareFlight's specialist doctor and NSW Ambulance critical care paramedic who performed a clinical assessment on the woman.



Photo Courtesy CareFlight

The woman was airlifted to Nepean Hospital in a stable condition under ongoing monitoring from CareFlight's clinical team.

## CAR JACKING

An 18-year-old woman has been charged in relation to an alleged carjacking at Castle Hill on Tuesday (March 23).

Officers from The Hills Police Area Command were called to Gilbert Road, near Caterson Drive, Castle Hill, at about 4.40am on Tuesday after a 40-year-old man, driving a Holden Commodore, said he was flagged down by a woman claiming to be injured.

He said he stopped to help her and was subsequently threatened by two men armed with a knife. The men and woman stole the Commodore and fled the scene. A red Honda Jazz with two occupants was seen to follow the Commodore from the area.

Police attended a unit at Kellyville on Wednesday (March 24) at about 8pm and arrested an 18-year-old woman.

She was taken to Castle Hill Police Station and charged with aggravated take/drive motor vehicle with person in/on it – in company and aggravated take/drive motor vehicle with person in/on it – armed with weapon.

As investigations continue, police are appealing for anyone with information about the incident, or the identity of the men, to come forward.

One man is described as being about 180-185cm tall, aged between 16 and 20, wearing a white hooded-jumper and black jacket. The second male was wearing a black face mask and a black cap. Inquiries are continuing.

Anyone with information about this incident is urged to contact Crime Stoppers: **1800 333 000** or [nsw.crimestoppers.com.au](http://nsw.crimestoppers.com.au). Information is treated in strict confidence.

## STABBING ARRESTS

Three teenagers have been charged after a man was allegedly stabbed at a home in Rouse Hill earlier this month.

Emergency services were called to a home on Cornell Place at about 9.30pm on Saturday March 6 where officers from The Hills Police Area Command found a 22-year-old man with a single stab wound to his back.

He was treated by NSW Ambulance paramedics and taken to Westmead Hospital and underwent surgery.

Detectives from The Hills Police Area Command conducted a search warrant at Schofields on Thursday, March 18 and arrested a 17-year-old male. He was charged with wound person with intent to cause grievous bodily harm and common assault.

An 18-year-old man was arrested at Castle Hill on Saturday, March 20 and charged with assault occasioning actual bodily harm and common assault. A third male - aged 17 - was arrested at a house in Beaumont Hills on Monday March 22. He was taken to Castle Hill Police Station and charged with two counts of common assault.

## DRUG HOUSE

A \$61, 5000 Hydroponic Cannabis Crop has been seized in Carlingford.

Hills Police dismantled a hydroponic cannabis operation set up in a residential home on North Rocks Road, Carlingford on Monday (March 22).

Police were alerted at 4pm. The owners tried to do an inspection of the rental property and a real estate contacted police. Police discovered 123 plants at the property.

Enquiries are continuing.



## TEEN CHARGED

A 14-year-old girl has been charged with, wound person with intent to cause grievous bodily harm after allegedly stabbing another teenager at Rouse Hill on Thursday, March 18.

Emergency services were called to the Metro Station at Rouse Hill at about 4.10pm following reports of a stabbing. Officers attached to The Hills Police Area Command found a 16-year-old girl with injuries to her arm and chest.

The girl was treated at the scene by NSW Ambulance paramedics, before being taken to Westmead Hospital in a stable condition.

Following inquiries, officers arrested a 14-year-old girl who was taken to Castle Hill Police Station where she was charged and granted conditional bail.



# PROVIDING A SAFE HAVEN

**Hundreds of people have been finding support and comfort at Castle Hill RSL following flood evacuations along the Hawkesbury River.**

Castle Hill RSL was named a Flood Evacuation Centre and started accepting people, some with their pets, from Sunday.

The management team and staff rallied together to convert the club's auditorium, luxe lounge and other areas into a processing centre to assist authorities, and act as a respite centre for those in need.

SES members, police, ambulance, NSW Health, Red Cross, Salvation Army, Anglicare and Chaplains were at the centre to help evacuees register and get help with crisis assistance.

The Club supplied sleeping and showering facilities, hot food and drinks and a safe dry area for evacuees and their pets until assistance could be arranged.

Some waited for family and friends and others were given temporary hotel accommodation.

NSW State Emergency Services (SES) Commissioner, Carlene York (pictured) visited the centre on Wednesday.

CHRG CEO David O'Neil said: "CHRG prides itself on being a community hub for people to come together for friendship, support and social interaction.

"The Group is proud to be able to support our community at this

challenging time of need and work with the incredible women and men from SES, Police, community support agencies and volunteering partners to provide shelter, food and comfort at this time."

"The effort of all of these people, and the work of the CHRG team, has been fantastic and our facility is ideally suited to provide much of the infrastructure required to manage such a complex operation – from control centres to infectious disease isolation areas and shelter for people and their pets."

"It is confronting to see families sleeping with their belongings and pets in our function rooms, not knowing if they will have a home to return to. However, despite their adversity, everyone has been incredibly appreciative of the club and the various support teams, which is extremely humbling considering what they are going through. Times like these bring out the very best in our communities."

"This will be a long journey back, and whilst the club has been directly impacted by the loss of our Golf Course at Pitt Town, this doesn't even compare with the loss of people's homes and lives. We will be there to help where we can, well into the future."



EASTER LONG WEEKEND

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# RDA A GALLOPING SUCCESS

By LAWRENCE MACHADO

The benefits of working with animals are immense for people with disabilities and the Riding for Disabled NSW Tall Timbers Centre at Box Hill confirms this.

Maureen Richardson is grateful for the positive impact of RDA's programs on her granddaughter Violet, 10.

"When Violet first went to the centre, she was excited but very frightened near the horses," Richardson said. "But under the guidance of the head coach, Violet learned a lot about these animals. Now she rides once a week and has gone from being a frightened girl around horses, to gaining a lot in self-esteem. The RDA program is so beneficial, practical and provides real life experience, thanks to the wonderful volunteers. Violet loves it so much that told me that 'I am going to work at Tall Timbers one day.'"

Over the past 10 years, more than 1500 participants enjoyed the centre's programs, including 104 for the second half of last year.

Respected staff coach Nicole King has been at RDA for many years along with administrator Kerry Souter.

"Although COVID-19 shut us down for some time during 2020, we were still able to get back to a reduced program in the second half of the year," says Nicole.

"In addition to Groundwork programs for life skills to be learnt, we introduced allied health services, including occupational therapy and speech pathology, and soon counselling. Fundraising has been difficult over the last few years and definitely with Covid-19 now impacting, it is very difficult to plan and run fundraising events into the future. We are not government funded and our participation fees cover approximately 20 percent of our



core program costs, including horses, staff and property maintenance.

"We are looking at other avenues such as corporate partnerships and our allied health services to support the ongoing operations; we do so to try and keep the costs to our service users affordable."

Volunteers, like Kirsty Hardman, play a huge role at the centre, because there are 170 shifts to be filled each week if it's at full capacity.

Kirsty, a speech pathologist, coordinates a group of young riders once a week. "I have been a volunteer at RDA for 16 and half years, and I love it, because it brings a sense of achievement," she said.

"We feel excited when they gain a new skill and their smiles make it so worthwhile. You don't need to be a rider to volunteer at the RDA, as there is something for everyone."

Nicole says volunteer roles include working in their programs, helping in the stables, gardening, property maintenance and cleaning in addition to committee, fundraising or coaching roles. "COVID-19 has certainly impacted our volunteering levels and we are seeking to increase the consistency of volunteers across all areas," she said.

There is a wish list of things needed in their newsletter: [www.talltimbers.rdansw.org.au/wishlistitems/](http://www.talltimbers.rdansw.org.au/wishlistitems/). Details: 9679 1246



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# WORM FARM GETS MOVING

By BEV JORDAN

Simone La'Hay looks at the worm farm with Cara Watters from MRA Consulting

## Thousands of hungry worms are connecting residents in a North Kellyville apartment complex and improving outcomes for the environment.

The Hills Shire Council is running the three-month Worm Farm trial, the first of its kind by a council in Australia, and if the La'Hay family's response is anything to go by it is already a raging success with 84kg of landfill saved in the first two weeks.

Residents Paul and Kerry La'Hay say the biggest impact has been on their daughter.

"We joined the trial because we are trying to create a community for our daughter Simone," said Paul. "Simone is a real livewire and she absolutely loves people."

He said Simone took around 2kg worth of scraps each week to spread over the worm farm. "It gives Simone a chance to interact with people on a different level and the people in the complex enjoy interacting with her."

The 'skip bin-sized' worm farm, supplied by Worms Downunder, is located in a carpark – just beneath the complex.

It houses roughly 120,000 (30kg of) worms, which produce both worm castings and worm tea for the building to use in their shared garden plots and on their balcony verandas. Paul said it was great putting vegetable and fruit scraps to good use rather than throwing them in the red topped bin.

"We were chucking so much away, now it goes to the worm farm. In the first two weeks Regent Honeyeater Grove 20 pilot residences saved 84kg of landfill," he said.

Marie Akkary who is leading the 22 families involved said: "Their enthusiasm has been amazing and we wouldn't be able to do this without them. Growing up I watched my grandparents utilise their food scraps for the garden. (Their



Kerry, Simone and Paul La'Hay with the worm farm

garden was the most lush, fertilised soil I've ever seen ... as a result their garden always produced the tastiest fruit and vegetables. I wanted to share this with others especially the youth in our complex. Having them involved in this project not only provides education but a sense of importance for our next generation."

She is also informing non-participating residents about the process. "This project has brought our community closer together. It's been wonderful."

The project has been applauded by Hills Shire Mayor Dr Michelle Byrne: "A worm farm is fairly low maintenance, and it's a great way to process food waste. Worm tea and castings is highly regarded as a powerful natural fertiliser for plants."

Councillor Robyn Preston who has been advocating for such a trial said: "Apartments bring a massive increase in population and with that comes an increase in the food waste created by apartment occupants. Council is thinking creatively to find ways to manage this waste and recycling food scraps onsite has been something I have been advocating for," she said.

"I would like to see residents from other apartments adopting this recycling program if this trial is successful."

- The Hills Shire Council has teamed up with the NSW EPA and Compost Revolution to offer residents a 50% discount and free delivery on compost bins, worm farms and bokashi bins which have the potential to halve rubbish output
- For further details, visit [www.thehills.nsw.gov.au](http://www.thehills.nsw.gov.au) and type in 'Composting & Worm Farming' in the search bar.

## FLOOD DONATIONS

People are encouraged to donate money, items, skills and services online at [www.GIVIT.org.au](http://www.GIVIT.org.au).

The GIVIT organisation which, in partnership with the NSW Government and Local Councils, is managing donations during the recovery.

The organisation is working directly with Hawkesbury City Council, outreach teams, local charities and community groups to identify exactly what's needed. GIVIT then meets those needs through its online

warehouse, or by purchasing requested items locally using donated funds.

GIVIT is urging people to not send unrequested donations or bring unrequested donations into the impacted areas, or donations which can be bought locally. 100 per cent of the money GIVIT receives will be used to purchase essential items and services by people and communities impacted by the floods.

A spokesman said: "We want to make sure local organisations aren't inundated with donations they don't need, by encouraging people to donate the smart way through our website, [www.GIVIT.org.au](http://www.GIVIT.org.au)

GIVIT encourages charities, services and community groups supporting people impacted to register to access donations. Registration is free. The Red Cross has also launched a flood appeal. Its volunteers and staff have been providing psychological first aid and support to thousands of people since the start of the disaster evacuation centres in flood affected areas in NSW.

Donations can be made by visiting [redcross.org.au/NSWfloods](http://redcross.org.au/NSWfloods). Red Cross also has information at [redcross.org.au/emergency-resources](http://redcross.org.au/emergency-resources) about cleaning up after a flood and talking to children after emergencies.

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# NEW MOVES AT ALIVE 90.5

By BEV JORDAN

**After five years as Chair of the Board at Community Radio Station Alive 90.5 Gillian Schrickker has stepped down.**

The much-respected volunteer will continue her 19-year association with Alive 90.5, continuing broadcasting her on-air Gospel program Kaleidoscope on Sunday mornings from 7am.

The new Chairman is fellow volunteer Jerome Vagg, who said: it was with "great regret" that the Board had accepted Gillian's resignation as Chair and Board Member of Alive 90.5 FM.

"Gillian shepherded Alive 90.5 FM through very difficult times, bringing stability and certainty to the Station by consistently attracting sponsors and nurturing on-air talent.

"Gillian was always a positive and caring supporter of the station, presenters and me personally. I cannot thank Gillian enough."

Deputy Chair is volunteer presenter Darryn Capes-Davis who said: "Gillian and I worked hard over the last two years to improve the quality and reliability of our radio broadcast. We are sounding better than ever."

Gillian said what drew her to listening to Alive 90.5 nearly 20 years ago was the jazz program. "I called them up and they called me in for a chat and I used to go in and help and when people were away I would fill in. So I fell into it."

Her Kaleidoscope program started 10 years ago and three years later she was asked to join the Board and five years ago became Chair.

"I have loved it and have put all of me into it," she told the *Hills to Hawkesbury Community News*. She said her first aim was to create a Radio family. "I challenged myself to make it better every day. I want everyone to feel welcomed and feel that were coming to a place and enjoy what they were doing. It has grown. I promised myself we were not going to be the best kept secret any more. We have to get out more."

From local Carols by Candlelight, the Hills Winter Sleepout, The Hills Relay For Life and community events and school fetes, Alive 90.5 outside broadcast unit has been reaching out with great success.

She said the station has remained on air through the COVID pandemic. The station had a pool of 72 presenters with young presenters playing a part in new shows.

"My aim has always been to get young people involved ...we are certainly going in the right direction."

To find out more about Alive 90.5 visit [www.alive905.com.au](http://www.alive905.com.au)



Changing of the guard: Jerome and Gillian in December

**NSW SENIORS FESTIVAL**

## In Our Nature

### 13 - 24 APRIL 2021

The Hills Shire Council is holding three **FREE** events for seniors

### FREE Guided Bushwalks

#### Waterfall Walk, West Pennant Hills

**Grade:** Moderate - Graded fire trail and bush tracks.

**When:** 10am, Tuesday 20 April

#### Caddies Creek, Rouse Hill

**Grade:** Easy - Walk is entirely on paved paths, suitable for wheelchairs.

**When:** 10am, Friday 23 April

Local providers, Boronia Tours, will lead the bushwalks.

*Limited places. Bookings are essential.*



### FREE Film Screening

#### Six Minutes to Midnight (M)

Starring Eddie Izzard, Judi Dench, James D'Arcy and Jim Broadbent.

**When:** Thursday 22 April

**Where:** Event Cinemas Castle Towers

**Time:** 10:30am for an 11:00am screening

Tea, coffee and movie snacks will be provided. *Bookings are essential*

Bookings are essential for all events and open at 9am on Tuesday 30 March.

For bookings and further information [www.thehills.nsw.gov.au/seniorsfestival21](http://www.thehills.nsw.gov.au/seniorsfestival21)



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# FROZEN'S HILLS LINK



**TAMIKA ANDERSON**

Queen Iduna in Disney's Frozen the musical, Tamika Anderson is a Hills girl at heart. The former Hi-5 member, was a student at Model Farms High School Baulkham Hills until Year 10 when she left to study at the *Newtown Performing Arts High School*.

As well as playing the role of Queen Iduna (mother of Elsa and Anna), Tamika performs in the ensemble.

Tanika is deeply proud of the diversity in her family, her mother is Chinese Singaporean and her father is Australian with Scottish roots.

Her favourite Disney movie is Pocahontas because of her culture and ethnicity which is



The company of Frozen Photo by Lisa Tomasett

why Tanika sang *Colours of the Wind* when she auditioned for Frozen, saying she felt it only right to tell that story as her own truth.

She feels honoured to be a part of Frozen the Musical because of the diversity that it represents and wishes she could have had the opportunity to watch performers that looked like her when she was a little girl.

Tanika has always been a dancer and started her own dance school, 360 Dance at the age of 17, and based her own dance studio at her former school in Baulkham Hills,.

A graduate of *Brent St Studios*, Tanika went on to perform for a year as a singer and dancer at Universal Studios in Singapore.

At the age of 20 Tanika she joined the popular children's entertainment group Hi-5 at its fifth member. She has been seen in the TV

series - *Hi-5 House*, in over 70 countries around the world.

The one trip that totally captured her heart was the first four-day journey to Myanmar in 2015. It changed her life. She founded the ethical fashion label You & Mei, produced in Myanmar, to provide employable skills and pathways to independence for vulnerable young women.

Frozen has a total cast of 38, an incredible 440 costumes, and 65 tonnes of scenery.

It is playing at the Capitol Theatre until May 23. Extra matinees have been added on Thursday, April 8, Friday April 9, Thursday April 15 and Friday, April 16.

Tickets range from \$49.50 to \$199.50 plus handling fee through Ticketmaster 1300 558 878. Find out more at [frozenthemusical.com.au](http://frozenthemusical.com.au)

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# PARKINSON'S HELP

By BEV JORDAN

Antonino is 69 and has had Parkinson's disease for two years, he also suffered a stroke several years before and is being cared for by wife Maria.

At the moment, he is at The Hills Private Hospital undergoing a rehabilitation program and is doing daily exercises to improve his mobility so that he can walk again.

Maria said caring for her husband has been very challenging because of his stroke and said that the care at The Hills Private was amazing, all she wanted was "for him to be able to walk again, just a few steps, and they have done that here".

Nurse Unit Manager Liz Davidson says the hospital helps a lot of patients with Parkinson's, a neurodegenerative brain disorder that progresses slowly in most people.

It is estimated that 1 in 350 Australians now have the condition, and more than 35 people are diagnosed daily.

Mrs Davidson said that people manage the condition well at home but often came to rehabilitation when they were experiencing reduced mobility, and decreased function with speech and swallowing.

"Through Physiotherapy and occupational therapy, we get people to their best functioning capacity. There are assessments, a lot of guidance and occupational therapy will do home visits to assess what is needed. Parkinson's

medication can be quite complicated and we do a lot of education about the medications and how to manage them at home."

She said The Hills Private used a multidisciplinary approach with a weekly team meeting with family attended by doctors, nurses occupational therapy, physiotherapy and speech therapists to discuss the patient's rehabilitation.

She said many people with private health insurance who were struggling at home caring for a loved one who was having mobility issues did not realise that they could access rehabilitation services. The hospital also offers carers training.

"Patients don't have to be in a hospital to be referred for rehabilitation here. They can get a referral from their GP. If carers feel they need help they should go to their GP. I am amazed by how much functional mobility we get back for people to enhance their quality of life," she said.

World Parkinson's Day is April 11. To find out more about Parkinson's disease call 1800 644 189 or visit the website parkinsonsnsw.org.au



Liz Davidson with Antonino

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# THE KIDS ARE OK

Teacher Liz Ruis and student Laura Shaw with Saffron, Lavender and Cinnamon.

By BEV JORDAN

## Horses, dogs, birds and goats called Castle Hill Showground home during the worst of this week's flooding.

One of the first to arrive on Sunday (March 21) was Windsor High School Agriculture Teacher Elizabeth Ruis with the school's 13 prize-winning dairy goats.

The determined teacher made a three-hour journey from her home to take the school's much-loved herd to safety ahead of the floods.

In the 22 years, she's been teaching at the school this is the first flood evacuation she has had to undertake.

When the *Hills and Hawkesbury Community News* dropped in to Castle Hill Showground on Tuesday (March 23) Year 9 student Laura Shaw and her mum had turned up to care for the goats and give her teacher a much-earned break.

Mrs Ruis said: It's been great to be here, it is clean and dry and they are safe".

She said having the AWL mobile vet truck on hand had been excellent (see story page 22).

The determined teacher spent four days caring for the goats at Castle Hill Showground and took them back to Windsor High on Thursday (March 25).

Their next big outing is to Hawkesbury Showground on April 25 when all 13 are entered in the annual Hawkesbury Show.

Local Land Services spokeswoman said the evacuation centre at Castle Hill Showground had provided shelter for just over 60 animals, 34 horses, 10 dogs and 2 birds as well as the 13 goats.

Horse owner Coco Miles (pictured on the front page with Sapphire and Trigger) took 11 of their showjumpers to Castle Hill Showground and neighbouring equestrian Ludovic Bernadat took seven (Full story page 12).

The NSW Department of Primary Industries and Local Land Services are working together as Agriculture and Animal Services Functional Area – AASFA - to assist landholders and communities with animal welfare-related issues arising from the current flood emergency in NSW.

This includes the provision of emergency fodder, animal assessment and veterinary assistance, stock euthanasia and disposal, livestock feeding and management advice, and care of animals in evacuation centres.

Anyone wishing to register for assistance, for emergency fodder or livestock support should call the Agriculture and Animal Services Hotline on 1800 814 647.

Landholders can also register damage and losses through the primary industries natural disaster damage survey, a simple online survey to record damage to primary production and animals from natural disasters such as floods, fires, and storms.

To report damage, submit a survey [bit.ly/damage\\_survey](http://bit.ly/damage_survey)

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# SAFE AND THANKFUL

By BEV JORDAN

Horse owner Coco Miles from Windsor Stables on Pitt Town Road, McGarths Hill evacuated 26 horses with family, staff and friends on Sunday (March 21).

Most she said were dotted around at "family and friends places" but she took 11 to Castle Hill Showground where she has been living for the week.

Her family have been on the 60-acre property for nearly 20 years where they breed, train and coach show jumping horses.

It is the first time they have had to evacuate. "We had a plan. When the floods started coming in it was hard to know how it was going to progress, as they days went on it changed from being an ordinary Hawkesbury flood to the water really rising quickly.

"As soon as it started looking more than a low-level flood we started moving them to friends' places.

"Water did get to the house but we have a new facility that we only completed 18 months ago that's been inundated which included paddocks and shelters. At the end of the day it's just stuff, the horses and people got out ok."

Ludovic Bernadat who runs Bernadat Equestrian at Oakville evacuated seven of his prized horses to Castle Hill Showground.

He says he only opened up the centre 18 months ago and most of it was under water. The damage bill will be huge but at least his family and horses got out safely.

On Thursday he was in a kayak surveying the flood damage to his equestrian centre.



Ludovic Bernadat and Coco Miles caring for their prized horses at Castle Hill Showground



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"Australian Pump supports many industries from agricultural, mining and construction, even transport and hire, with their quality pumps and pressure cleaners," said Operations Manager Hamish Lorenz. "It's satisfying to work in industries that are key to the development of the country!"

From fitters and assemblers for the production team to product managers that can capitalise on market conditions, the company is keen to recruit from the Hills District.

"We find people love to work locally. It means less time wasted in traffic and of course local businesses all benefit," said Lorenz.

Aussie Pumps provide full training and particularly want to hear from young people seeking cadetships for an ongoing career in sales and marketing.

Check out their website ([aussiepumps.com.au](http://aussiepumps.com.au)) for full details of careers on offer and send your resume today [careers@aussiepumps.com.au](mailto:careers@aussiepumps.com.au).



The team at Aussie's Castle Hill Factory completes another run of pre-sold drain cleaning jettets.

## RECOVERY HELP

Disaster recovery assistance is now available following the severe storms and floods from March 10 onwards.

NSW Minister for Police and Emergency Services, David Elliott MP, said assistance was available to cover the costs associated with the operational response and support households, small businesses, primary producers, not-for-profit organisations and councils as they continued to repair damaged assets and essential public assets, such as roads.

Hawkesbury MP Robyn welcomed the announcement of disaster assistance provided through the jointly funded Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

"We know our community is resilient to disaster, but when the worst occurs it is a relief to know that there is help available."

- Help for eligible people whose homes or belongings have been damaged
- Support for affected local councils to help with the costs of cleaning up and restoring damaged essential public assets
- Concessional interest rate loans for small businesses, primary producers and non-profit organisations
- Freight subsidies for primary producers, and
- Grants to eligible non-profit organisations.

For information on personal hardship and distress assistance, contact Service NSW on 13 77 88. To apply for a concessional loan or grant, contact the NSW Rural Assistance Authority on 1800 678 593 or visit [www.raa.nsw.gov.au](http://www.raa.nsw.gov.au)

Further information on disaster assistance is available on the Australian Government's Disaster Assist website at [www.disasterassist.gov.au](http://www.disasterassist.gov.au) and Service NSW at [disasterassistance.service.nsw.gov.au](http://disasterassistance.service.nsw.gov.au)



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# LOTS OF LAUGHS FOR BRIDESMAID TALE

By LAWRENCE MACHADO

Theatre goers are in for a treat when the comedy, *Always a Bridesmaid*, opens at Pavilion Theatre on April 9.

The latest Castle Players show is set in the bridal parlour of Laurelton Oaks, Virginia and features four close friends, whom had made a vow on the night of their senior prom: to be there for each other's weddings.

The play stars the very versatile Baulkham Hills actress and stage director/costume director, Annette Snars, Norwest's Penny Johnson, Castle Hills newcomer Gina Willison, Stanhope Gardens' Chantal Vavasour and Canterbury's Leigh Scanlan, who is well known to theatre goers in the Hills after first appearing in 2000.

The friends have different and comic personalities which turns this play into one fine farce: serial bride Monette, Libby Ruth the hopeless romantic, Deedra the calm, intelligent judge, and tree-hugging Charlie.

*Always a Bridesmaid* explores friendships that last a lifetime and why, 30 years later, these girls are still making "the long walk" for each other, determined to honour their teenage vow.

Chantal grew up dancing, singing and acting in church plays and entertaining

family and friends. She first appeared on the Pavilion stage in 2017, as the bride, Rachel, in *The Perfect Wedding*. Incidentally, her groom in that play was Daniel Vavasour acting as Bill. And in a fairly tale ending, Chantal and Daniel fell in love and were married earlier this year, after their wedding was postponed from September 2020.

Willison makes her debut with the Castle Players and she could not have picked a better role and cast. The day she auditioned for a role, she admitted to director Meredith Jacobs that "This is the first time I've ever done this" However, Willison won over Jacobs with her natural warmth and enthusiasm.

Jacobs, who has directed some fine comedies, including *Secret Bridesmaids' Business*, *A Bad Year for Tomatoes* and *Biloxi Blues*, said she is delighted things are getting back to normal in the theatre after Covid-19 interrupted their season in 2020. The Earlwood star is one of the longest-serving members of Castle Players, having been there since 1989.



"This was supposed to be the second play of the 2020 season and we had just commenced rehearsals when lockdown hit," Jacobs said. "Now, we're back and preparations are in full swing for a whole lotta fun."

Over 30 years of involvement, Jacobs has done lighting op, sound op, stage management, box office, usher, actor, director, various roles on committee and play recommendation.

Other delights awaiting Pavilion Theatre patrons in 2021 include *The Cripple of Inishmaan* (June), *Entertaining Angels* (July-Aug), *The Witches* (Sept-Oct) and *Unnecessary Farce* (Nov-Dec) with brilliant young debut director Julian Floriano.

The Pavilion Theatre is located within the Castle Hill Showground, adjacent to the new Metro Hills Showground Station.

DETAILS: *Always a Bridesmaid* by Castle Hill Players at Pavilion Theatre, Castle Hill will be on April 9 to May 1: Wed, Fri and Sat at 8:15pm, Sun 4:30pm. TICKETS: \$25 for bookings please visit [www.paviliontheatre.org.au](http://www.paviliontheatre.org.au) or call 9634 2929.

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# The Hills Shire Council News

## Have Your Say on Draft Development Control Plan Amendments – Construction and Dedication of Local Roads

Amendments to The Hills DCP 2012 and the Growth Centre DCPs for North Kellyville and Box Hill are currently on public exhibition.

The amendments include the insertion of a new clause within each DCP to clarify that developers are responsible for the construction and dedication of roads which are not otherwise funded within a contributions plan.

The amendments aim to safeguard Council to the greatest extent possible against potential future appeals by developers with respect to the construction and dedication of local roads, claim reimbursement from Council or obtain a reduction in developer contributions payable.

## Submissions close at 4:00pm on Friday 22 April 2021

To view the Draft Development Control Plan amendments and to make a submission, visit Council's website and search for 'Have Your Say.'

## Have your say on the Community Grants Applications for 2020 – 2021

Council's Community Grants Program provides funding each year for innovative community projects and events that deliver sustainable and positive outcomes consistent with Council's vision for the community.

Applications for the 2020/2021 Community Grants Program were assessed on their alignment to the following local priorities:

**Events that Connect the Community** – This category aims to support events that build vibrant, connected and inclusive communities by bringing people together and showcasing the features of their community.

**Domestic Violence Prevention and Recovery** – This category aims to support initiatives and activities for the prevention of and recovery from domestic violence.

**Mental Health and Suicide Prevention** – This category aims to support services, initiatives and activities that promote good mental health, create strategies for managing mental health, actively support the participation of people with mental health issues in the community, and address suicide prevention.

**Community Participation Opportunities** – This category aims to support inclusive community participation opportunities for a range of community groups.

Applications for 2020/2021 have been assessed under Council's Community Grants Program Guidelines within the Community Grants and Donations Policy by the Community Grants Assessment Panel.

The applications that have been recommended for funding by the Panel are now on exhibition. To have your say, visit Council's website and search for 'Community Grants.'



## Save the date 2021 NSW Local Government elections

Saturday  
4 September

Voting is compulsory

[elections.nsw.gov.au/lge21](https://elections.nsw.gov.au/lge21)  
1300 135 736

Visit [www.thehills.nsw.gov.au](https://www.thehills.nsw.gov.au) to find out which ward you're in.

To register to vote, check your enrolment or to update your enrolment details, visit <https://www.elections.nsw.gov.au>





*Equinox Drive Reserve Consultation Plan*

## Council obtains grant to help make Box Hill playground more accessible

The Hills Shire Council, in partnership with the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE), is planning to provide more opportunities for accessible play in the growing Box Hill community.

Council received a \$276,631 grant under the DPIE's Everyone Can Play program to help transform a vacant

site, known as Equinox Drive Reserve, into a more accessible playground for children with a range of abilities.

The funding will also provide for a 2.5m wide shared pathway through the park with regional connections, concrete pathways, accessible park furniture and landscaping. A basketball shooting circle has also been included to cater for older children and youth.

Construction is set to commence on the park and associated playspace later this year. To stay up-to-date on the construction of Equinox Drive, visit [www.thehills.nsw.gov.au](http://www.thehills.nsw.gov.au) and search for 'Box Hill Release Area', then scroll down to 'Sportsgrounds, Reserves and Playgrounds.'



Have the latest information about new projects out for consultation, as well as updates on ongoing major projects at your fingertips. The Hills Have Your Say features information about current and upcoming projects seeking community feedback.

To subscribe to the Hills Have Your Say and receive updates on current consultations within the Hills Shire, visit Council's website and click 'Subscribe' in the top right hand corner of the home page. Then click on 'Subscribe to the Hills Have Your Say e-Newsletter' and fill out the form with your details.

### Making a Submission to Council?

Any person may make a submission to Council. Submissions which obtain objections must be specific in their content. Council's preferred method of receiving submissions is via Council's website through each exhibition's online submission form. To view current exhibitions, search for 'Have Your Say.'

### Council Meetings

**Ordinary Meeting: Tuesday, 13 April 2021 – 7pm, Council Chambers**

Due to the latest Public Health Order, limited seating is available at Council meetings.



**Are you enjoying The Hills Shire Council News? Scan the QR code to let us know.**



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# WHAT'S ON IN THE HILLS TO HAWKESBURY

**MARCH 27 | SATURDAY**

## **Earth Hour**

The world's largest grassroots movement swings into action at 8.30pm local time, when people are asked to switch off their lights for one hour in the symbolic event to support climate change action. Whether making the switch to a solar power system, switching to an electric vehicle, or simply switching off for Earth Hour, Australians can help protect the planet. For more information and to sign up head to [www.earthhour.org.au](http://www.earthhour.org.au).

**APRIL 5 | MONDAY**

## **The Hills Older Men's Network Inc (Hills OMNI)**

The Hills Older Men's Network Inc (Hills OMNI) meets on the first and 3rd Wednesdays of the month, 10am to 12.30pm at Castle Hill. The group is aimed at retired men over the age of 55 and provides an opportunity to talk in a non-judgemental, safe and supportive environment.

To find out more call Ron on 0424 462 153 or email [HillsOMNI1@gmail.com](mailto:HillsOMNI1@gmail.com)

**APRIL 7 | WEDNESDAY**

## **Castle Hill Art Society: Richard Chao**

Richard Chao is a world-renowned watercolourist living in Sydney, Australia. Taking a contemporary perspective, he depicts his interpretation on the human world in his realistic paintings. His models are people from every corner of the world with diverse and unique customs and cultures, as well as religions, which amaze him. Visitors are welcome to join with the Castle Hill Art Society 7.30pm at Castle Glen Community Centre, 157 Ridgescrop Drive, Castle Hill. Enquiries 9899 3179 [www.castlehillartsociety.org.au](http://www.castlehillartsociety.org.au)

**APRIL 10 | SATURDAY &  
APRIL 11 | SUNDAY**

## **Stamp, Coin and Collectables Fair**

East Kurrajong School of Arts, 1090 East Kurrajong Road, East Kurrajong. Saturday 9am-4pm and Sunday 9am-2pm. Dealers and club tables plus kids show bags. There will be a variety of stamps, covers, postmarks, commercial mail, cinderellas, postcards, thematics, coins and accessories. There will also be a good range of china, glass, retro wares and more. Refreshments available. Free entry and off street parking available. Details from Ann 02 4576 5031 or Phillip 0407 104 733 Website: [www.eastkurrajonghall.com](http://www.eastkurrajonghall.com)

## **Group challenge**

Choose to Challenge was the theme for a special Women's Day Breakfast organised by members of the Soroptimist International of the Hills.

President Jacqui McLachlan was MC at the event and introduced keynote speaker Jane Caro, Hills Mayor Michelle Byrne and Hills ANZAC ambassadors for 2020 Lillian White (Crestwood High) and Tahlee Arthur (Castle Hill High).

The event attracted 85 guests including Councillors Reena Jethi and the only male at the event Councillor Ryan Tracey.

**APRIL 14 | WEDNESDAY &  
APRIL 17 | SATURDAY**

## **Galston CWA**

The club's next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 14, from 10am at the Galston Health and Resource Centre. Drop in for a cuppa.

Be sure to mark your calendar now for CWA Galston's Mothers Day craft and cake stall. Members will be outside Bendigo Bank in Galston on April 17 from 9am selling all things handmade and homemade. Come and support your local not-for-profit and bag a few goodies for mum while you're at it.

For more details about our meetings or fundraising please contact Jann 0439 222 217 or Val 02 9653 1774. [www.facebook.com/CWAGalston](http://www.facebook.com/CWAGalston) | [galston.cwa@gmail.com](mailto:galston.cwa@gmail.com)

Topics discussed were consent, attitudes to women in Parliament, leadership opportunities for women and the need for change in school and education.

Soroptimist International of the Hills meets on the third Monday of the month at 6.30pm for a 7pm start at the Eucalypt Room at Anglicare Glenhaven Green, Old Northern Rd, Glenhaven.

To find out more call Cathy on 0435 837 118 or email [sithehills@siswp.org](mailto:sithehills@siswp.org)



**IWD Organising Committee from SI The Hills**

## **IT'S THE LAW**

Now that business is starting to get back to normal, Probus Clubs have started meeting once more. A special guest at the April meeting of the Winston Hills Northmead Combined Probus Club will be Professor Nicholas Cowdery AO, QC who will be talking on Criminal Law in New South Wales.

This is the second visit to this particular Probus Club, the first being around 18 months ago. Mr Cowdery was the Director of Public Prosecutions for NSW from 1994 to 2011. He is also a member of the board of the Rule of Law Institute of Australia and is the

Chairman of the Magna Carta Committee of the Rule of Law Institute, a body that celebrated the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta.

As a leading Barrister and former Prosecutor he is well versed in legal matters. Winston Hills Northmead Probus Club meets at 10am on the second Thursday of the month at Toongabbie Sports Club, 12 Station St., Toongabbie. Membership of the club is also currently open to persons aged over 55 years who are retired or semi-retired. Enquiries; [www.winstonhillsnorthmeadprobusclub.com.au/](http://www.winstonhillsnorthmeadprobusclub.com.au/)



# RURAL LIFE FOR A CITY GIRL

by GISELA HORNER | FRIENDS OF BELLA VISTA FARM VOLUNTEER

Ann Waters loves the rural life. She lives with her husband, daughter, two grandchildren, 30 chickens, four alpacas (which were a great attraction in February, the first Open Day of 2021), two dogs and two cats on a property in Kenthurst. Life is good.

Ann didn't start life in the country. She was born in Strathfield and for years moved many times with her parents and older brother to Balgowlah, Pymble, over to Auckland and back to Burwood.

She had started hairdressing in New Zealand and continued in this profession on their return to Sydney. However, the harsh chemicals used for perms played havoc with her skin so she took a job in administration at Grace Brothers Broadway; a much safer option!

Life changed dramatically for Ann when at 20 she met Wally, her husband of 50 years. Like her parents, the couple took to moving often throughout their marriage as opportunities presented themselves to Wally, an electrical engineer. Sydney prices were high so they moved to Wollongong where Wally worked for BHP.

When his section was disbanded, he accepted a job in the Newcon Colliery, Lithgow. They bought 26 acres and lived in a caravan whilst building their home. There

were only dirt roads and no electricity so conditions were very primitive. In the ensuing years, they paid for the electricity cable to be installed, which others then linked to, not contributing anything to the Waters' original installation. Not daunted, Ann, with three young children, raised lambs for the local farmers and opened her own craft shop in the nearby town Wallerawang. She set up a spinning wheel in the front window, a craft she now brings to Bella Vista.

After eight years, Wally was offered a senior supervisor role in a concrete construction company in the city, so the family moved again to North Rocks where the children went to school. Wally moved on to Multiplex where he stayed until his retirement in 2001. Kellyville was the next home on a suburban block which did not fulfil their dreams. When Wally joined the Kenthurst Men's Shed, rural Kenthurst became their home.

Ann's passion is to educate children about country life and history. Her contribution to Bella Vista is invaluable. She and Wally have built a beautiful doll's house, reflecting the colour scheme and style of the period and Ann has restored a Victorian cradle, both of which will be displayed in the upstairs nursery at Bella Vista. On Open



Ann with an alpaca at Bella Vista

Days, Ann is often seen dressed in period costume at her spinning wheel and children are fascinated to watch the wool that has come from the Farm's sheep, spinning on her wheel. Ann is a most valued member of the volunteer 'Friends' team at Bella Vista Farm.

Bella Vista Farm is open on the 1st Sunday of every month 10am-2pm. Entry is free. Covid rules are still observed. Take a stroll through the heritage gardens, have a delicious Devonshire Tea seated in a relaxed rural setting whilst enjoying classical music performed by the Hills Shire Symphony Orchestra. The Farm is located on the corner of Elizabeth Macarthur Drive and Norwest Boulevard, Bella Vista. If you are interested in becoming a member and have something to contribute to the Farm please write to: friends.bellavistafarm@gmail.com

# AUTUMN GARDENING

BY SUE MONTGOMERY | HORTICULTURIST

The autumn tones are colouring the countryside. It is wonderful driving through The Hills area and seeing the changes. Maples, claret ash, liquid ambers and birch look colourful with their yellow leaves and white bark. Autumn is a great time to spend in the garden, planting out bulbs and ground covers.

**Daffodils narcissus**, the early golden daffodils "King Alfred" look best if planted in clumps. Freesias are fragrant and colourful. As it is cooler we can get those jobs done, raking the leaves and composting them or putting them through the mulcher.

**The Camellia sasanqua** with their glossy green foliage and beautiful flowers are providing colour in the garden. They are popular garden plants and grow in a wide range of climate zones. They flower from autumn through winter and into spring.

**Shrubs** in flower at present are buddleia and davidii "Black Knight" - butterfly bush with arching branches and deep green leaves with conical clusters of nectar rich flowers.



Camellia sasanqua

**Plectranthus argentatus** is a low growing plant with silver-grey foliage plant in groups for visual impact.

Annuals and perennials also provide colour in the autumn garden, Gaura butterfly bush with pink and white flowers is looking great as are succulents such as Sedum "Autumn Joy" pink flowers and silver wax leaves.

Marigolds brighten the flower garden with yellow and orange flowers and the best contrast with blue salvias. Annuals require regular liquid fertiliser to promote strong growth.

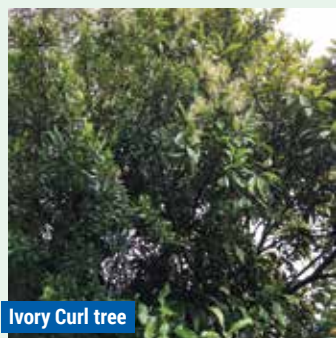
Sweet Peas are usually planted on St Patrick's Day, March 17 they are fragrant and colourful. Plant about 2 cm in soil and shoots will appear in seven days.

Belladonna lilies pink and white flowers spring up before the leaves. Evergreen trees that are flowering at present include Ivory Curl tree Buckinghamia with cream flowers up to 20 cm and glossy green foliage and Stenocarpus sinuatus - Firewheel tree with rich red flowers that the bees and parrots enjoy.

A visit to your local nursery will provide a great way to discover seasonal plants.



Buddleia butterfly bush



Ivory Curl tree

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Heavy rainfall and flooding can have many negative effects on your swimming pool. Your pool may need extra care to ensure it's safe and healthy. Luckily, Poolwerx and its fully trained pool technicians can assist.

During a rainstorm, contaminants get delivered into your pool water and your chemicals get diluted.

Combined with sunlight, these conditions are perfect for algae to grow and affect the health of your pool so you need to act quickly after rain.

If your pool isn't cleaned and the chemical imbalance isn't corrected quickly after a rainstorm, you can damage your pool equipment, causing the need for expensive repairs.

After heavy rain, make sure you:

1. Empty skimmer and pump baskets.
2. Remove large debris and leaves from the water.
3. Test your pool water and rebalance it.

But most importantly, check in with your local Poolwerx for advice or to book a service for assistance. Our expert technicians can assist you in cleaning and restoring your pool.

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# THE ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE GETS MOBILE

The Animal Welfare League NSW mobile vet truck with vet and vet nurses has been a huge help to evacuees at Castle Hill Showground.

The AWL team is providing emergency veterinary relief to companion animals and livestock and has attended to several panic-stricken horses that made their way into the showgrounds after they were rescued fleeing the floods.

They have also been assisting with general husbandry and feeding schedules to keep the animals healthy, with staff helping supply food, fresh drinking water, bedding, and towels to animals in need.

The Mobile Vet Truck (MVT) along with AWL NSW volunteers and staff were deployed to Castle Hill Showground at the request of the state government's Department of Primary Industries (DPI).

AWL NSW CEO Mark Slater said: "It is encouraging and uplifting to see the community come together to help each other in need. We are closely monitoring the situation and will continue to assist in relief efforts across the region."

Hills Shire Mayor Michelle Byrne visited the Castle Hill Showground and thanked Animal Welfare League NSW and for the "incredible work" they are doing to ensure the pets of people who have had to be evacuated are safe and well.

"It's great that council is able to offer the Showground as a facility that can be used in times of need, as our way of helping out," she said.

Australia's first, fully-fitted out B-Double vet trailer was designed to enable AWL NSW to travel to regional areas in NSW to provide desexing, vaccination and microchipping programs to communities doing it tough.



**Banjo (with Celine Berjot) and Bailey (with Derek Thompson) were evacuated with their owner from Pitt Town and were being looked after at the AWL truck.**

It features specially-designed areas to conduct minor animal surgeries (such as desexing) as well as an isolation room and over 35 recovery cages and is funded by community donations. To donate visit [www.awlnsw.com.au/floods](http://www.awlnsw.com.au/floods).

Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter at Mulgrave is closed to the

public after the shelter lost power. The animals have been evacuated and have been relocated to Blacktown Animal Holding Facility and an animal shelter in the Cumberland City LGA. A Hawkesbury Council spokesman said: "Rest assured our animals are safe and are being well looked after by our staff."

## BLADDER STONES

*Both humans and animals can get bladder stones, and if you've ever experienced bladder stones, you'll know how painful they can be.*

Goji the dog (pictured) recently presented to Sydney Animal Hospitals after his owners noticed that he was straining to urinate, as well as trying to urinate frequently and the urine he was passing was tinged with blood.

During his physical examination it was suspected that Goji was suffering from bladder stones, which was then confirmed with an x-ray.

Depending on their size and amount, surgery is often indicated to remove bladder stones and Goji had surgery to remove his.

Bladder stones are mineral deposits or crystals that accumulate over weeks or months as a result of disease, inflammation in the urinary system or sometimes diet – resulting in elevated levels of stone-forming crystalline compounds in the urine. It's a condition which can affect both dogs and cats.

Dogs or cats with bladder stones often display blood in their urine or have difficulty urinating – straining, and often only passing small amounts of blood tinged urine.

Bladder stones can also sometimes cause an obstruction – this is mainly in male dogs and cats, where the stones or crystals have to travel out the narrow urethra when the animal urinates. A blocked bladder is a potentially life

threatening condition and requires urgent veterinary intervention.

In addition to considering surgery, management of bladder stones involves treatment with pain relief and antibiotic medications. A urine test can be performed to determine the type of crystals which are present in the bladder, as different types often require slightly different management. Vets may also often recommend a special type of diet which can help to prevent the crystals from forming in the bladder.

If you have any further questions about bladder stones in pets, please speak with one of the veterinary team at your local Sydney Animal Hospitals Kellyville 8883 0533 or Norwest 8883 0411.

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





# SNIFFSPACE: A NEW ERA FOR DOGS

Tracey Horey is passionate about rescue dogs and animal welfare in general and is also a successful digital consultant with three businesses, her newest venture combines her skillset with her passion and is centred around canine well-being.

Sniffspace.com.au is a new platform that she and business partner Jignesh Patel have built to connect people happy to rent out their gardens, yards or property on an hourly basis to a dog owner keen for a safe and secure, private space to bond with their dog.

Rafferty, Tracey's Kelpie x rescue dog, is the inspiration behind the concept for private off-leash space which has been two years in the planning stages.

Tracey says Rafferty is anxious with strangers and big dogs so dog parks are not a positive environment for him, but he still needs to get out and explore.

"Australia has over 5 million dogs and, statistically around 40 per cent of them present with some kind of fear or phobia making it a stressful experience for them walking along a busy street, or playing in a populated park," she said.

"With the influx of adoptions during COVID, blocks getting smaller and the trend

of having a dog in apartments, more and more dogs may have poor social skills and the ability to socialise them from a young age has been greatly reduced.

"There has never been a greater need in our community to provide spaces for dogs to run free, on their own, with their owner. Without excursions to these kinds of areas our dogs' mental health really suffers."

It was during a brain-storming session with her business partner that she thought about the number of people with big yards and acreage who didn't use the space all the time.

"We thought Sniffspace would enable them to make a passive income by renting that space for an hour at a time to a dog owner that needs a secure space to bond and play with their dog or to train in a secure environment."

Since launching Sniffspace a few months ago they have 700 people already registered and hundreds of dogs waiting for spaces.

Tracey is now looking for more homeowners willing to rent their space to dog owners. Like popular house renting platforms, hosts can choose when their space is available by setting up standard



operating hours and blocking off days that aren't available to guests.

Access to the space must be through a side gate, not through the house.

To keep things transparent both hosts and guests review each other after every booking and Sniffspace ensures that dog owners register their dog's microchip and vaccinations.

To find out more visit [sniffspace.com.au](http://sniffspace.com.au)

Earn a Passive income with your back yard now!

# Sniff Space

### Introducing sniffspace.com.au

Sniffspace is set to be Australia's only directory of privately owned off-leash spaces for dogs and their owners.

#### Why host with Sniffspace?

- 🐾 Earn a passive income from your yard.
- 🐾 Help Aussie pups improve their mental health.
- 🐾 Free to list.
- 🐾 Set your own pricing.
- 🐾 Control your calendar.

Over 200 dogs registered and looking for your space today!

Sniffspace has secure, private spaces across the country waiting for your pup to explore them. Jump online and register your dog today!

#### Why your pup will love Sniffspace

- 🐾 Secure Sniffspaces are one click away.
- 🐾 Easy online booking.
- 🐾 Only you and your pup will be there.
- 🐾 Multiple filters including no dogs, no people & contactless entry.

Follow us on

## Sign up today at [sniffspace.com.au](http://sniffspace.com.au)



## DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Disaster recovery assistance is now available in The Hills and Parramatta local government areas following severe storms and floods from 10 March 2021 onwards.

For information on personal hardship and distress assistance, contact Service NSW on 13 77 88 or visit [disasterassistance.service.nsw.gov.au](http://disasterassistance.service.nsw.gov.au).

To apply for a concessional loan or grant, contact the NSW Rural Assistance Authority on 1800 678 593 or visit [www.raa.nsw.gov.au](http://www.raa.nsw.gov.au). Further information on disaster assistance is available on the Australian Government's Disaster Assist website at [www.disasterassist.gov.au](http://www.disasterassist.gov.au) and the NSW emergency information and response website at [www.emergency.nsw.gov.au](http://www.emergency.nsw.gov.au).

## INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES NOW OPEN

Sexual, domestic and family violence services can apply for a share of \$8 million in the COVID-19 Sexual, Domestic and Family Violence Infrastructure Grants program. The program offers one-off grants with a minimum \$25,000 value to eligible services.

Services can review the Funding Guidelines and submit an application using the SmartyGrants Portal via [womennsw.smartygrants.com.au/COVID-19SDFVInfrastructureGrant](http://womennsw.smartygrants.com.au/COVID-19SDFVInfrastructureGrant). Applications will close at 5pm (AEST) on Friday, 23 April 2021.

## SMALL BUSINESS REBATE SCHEME

The Small Business Fees and Charges Rebate will be available via Service NSW in early April and will run until 30 June 2022.

The scheme will allow eligible small businesses to draw down on a \$1,500 credit to offset the cost of eligible NSW and local government fees and charges. More information, including the program guidelines, are available at [www.service.nsw.gov.au/small-business-fees-and-charges-rebate](http://www.service.nsw.gov.au/small-business-fees-and-charges-rebate).

The Hon **David Elliott MP**  
Member for Baulkham Hills  
Minister for Police and Emergency Services

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Proudly serving the people and communities of Baulkham Hills, Bella Vista, Carlingford, Castle Hill, Kellyville, North Rocks, Norwest and West Pennant Hills.

Authorised by David Elliott MP, Suite 1, 25-33 Old Northern Road, Baulkham Hills NSW 2153. This publication is funded using parliamentary entitlements.

## CAREER REVOLUTION

Students, graduates and adults looking to turbocharge their careers will have access to tailored career advice through the establishment of Careers NSW.

The bold initiative by the NSW Government is an Australian first and will drive the State's COVID-19 recovery by ensuring every worker and student has access to careers advice regardless of their job, experience or education.

Careers NSW will provide a wrap-around service to not only connect people to accessible and quality careers guidance but to advise on educational pathways and qualifications that exist to match people to the skills they need to be employed faster.

A pilot of Careers NSW will begin online through Service NSW later this year with a full rollout expected in mid-2022. For more information, visit [www.service.nsw.gov.au/careers-nsw](http://www.service.nsw.gov.au/careers-nsw).

# NEW LOCAL COPS

The area has welcomed new police onto the beat following the first graduation ceremony of 2021.

Minister for Police and Emergency Services David Elliott, congratulated the incoming officers and welcomed the return to a full ceremony after last year's events were disrupted by COVID-19 restrictions.

"Over the course of last year, we have seen first-hand the crucial role our police officers play in protecting the community and we owe them a debt of gratitude for their efforts," he said.

Hawkesbury Police Area Command has welcomed two new probationary constables, The Hills PAC welcomed two and Quakers Hill PAC has welcomed seven new officers.

Member for Hawkesbury, Robyn Preston MP, said: "Our new police officers have chosen a career of service and will be a vital asset to the people of Hawkesbury".

The NSW Government has committed \$583 million over four years to deliver 1500 new police officers – the biggest single increase for the NSW Police Force in more than thirty years.

The probationary constables were the 194 who attested at the NSW Police Academy at the end of last month.

They have completed eight months of foundational training. They now complete 12 months' on-the-job training and study by distance education with Charles Sturt University. They officially graduate with an Associate Degree in Policing Practice once they have passed all academic and operation standards.



Hawkesbury MP Robyn Preston with Probationary Constable Joshua Rec, Probationary Constable Alexandra Martin and Detective Acting Superintendent Paul McHugh.





Referees Sarah Chahine, Olivia Lawne, Calliope Harvey and Maisy Macarthur.

## GIRLS WHO REF

By LAWRENCE MACHADO

Refereeing may not seem glamorous but several girls are taking up the whistle to control rugby league games.

All sports have challenges recruiting young referees but the trick is to give it a go and take it from there.

Parramatta District Rugby League Referees Association president Robert Morey himself started as a teenager and says it can be a very rewarding job, provided you stay on.

The association provides officials for the Hills, Seven Hills, Toongabbie, Parramatta, Greystanes, Holroyd, Fairfield, Cabramatta, Edensor Park and Mt Pritchard areas for the more than 180 games they run each weekend.

"I started to compete with my brother who had started the year before, showing him that I could do it better," Morey said. "I was 14 and this was technically my first job, a fun way to earn some pocket money."

Morey said they need around 20 new referees each season and they may later officiate in the Harold Matthews and SG Ball rep games. "I think you will enjoy it a lot more than you may anticipate and you will definitely make some good friends," said Morey, speaking from experience. "It is also a great way to get paid to keep fit."

Newcomer Maisy Macarthur, 13, says it's important to be confident in the decisions you make and to believe in yourself.

"As a female in a male-dominated sport, I am always going to face challenges and some of these include earning people's respect, and people believing I am too young," said the Eels fan. "Give it a go and don't be scared, everyone is so friendly."

Calliope Harvey, 15, is a second year referee who was inspired by her dad. A diehard league fan, Calliope gives it 110 per cent each week but admits it can be sometimes intimidating to take charge on the pitch. "To overcome this challenge, I like to reflect on how far I've come in such a short time and remember each week is a learning experience," Calliope said.

She said the structure is good and refereeing is "a great way to make a bit of extra pocket money".

Olivia Lawne, 18, is the veteran among the girls, having been a referee for six years. She started at 13 because she could not play league with the boys anymore.

"When I first started, I struggled with confidence, but like anything new, once you do it a few times, you improve and feel more comfortable," Olivia said.

"Give it a crack, you don't know what to expect or what it will be like until you try. We give you all the training and information you need."

The season officially starts after the April school holidays. To try out, contact Isaac El Hassan at: [recruitment@parramattarefs.com.au](mailto:recruitment@parramattarefs.com.au)

## ROBINSON BOOST FOR BULLS

By LAWRENCE MACHADO

Skipper Tim Robinson's return from suspension will boost the Hills Bulls in this Sunday's Ron Massey Cup away clash against the Mounties.

The Bulls were arguably the most impressive team in the first round, belting hosts Windsor Wolves 62-16, and had a bye last weekend, when all second round matches were postponed due to waterlogged pitches.

Robinson (pictured), 33, who played for the Sharks and Eagles during his NRL career, copped a one-match suspension during the trial games.

Coach Mick Withers said the hard-working forward, who started his junior career at Winston Hills Hawks, brings an extra edge to the side.

"We are happy to have Tim back because he is a leader and brings plenty of NRL experience to our game," Withers said. "We are looking to build on that big win against the Wolves, which was better than expected. We have prepared well in the off season and the players executed all their plans against the Wolves. However, the Mounties are a strong team and are coming off a good win over (reigning premiers) Wenty Magpies, which is why we are glad Tim Robinson is back."

Meanwhile, Windsor Wolves coach Chris Yates admitted the Bulls, "were too good, making us pay for our errors. We are not happy and we have a few areas to fix."

The Wolves have been struggling to train this week due to the heavy rains which have left their ground looking more like a swimming pool.

Some areas in Windsor have been among the hardest hit by the heaviest rains in decades. The Wolves are due to play Glebe-Burwood Wolves, also known as the Glebe Dirty Reds, on Sunday afternoon at Wentworth Park, Glebe.

The Windsor players have been keeping fit at their local gyms because no on-field training is possible. Yates said they are keen to be competitive in the rest of their games, starting against the Dirty Reds, the losing finalists in the 2020 President's Cup.

"We have asked the players to use their local gyms and we had to use wrestling mats at Zoo Fitness in Penrith for some much-needed team training," Yates said.

On Saturday, March 27, the Wolves play Cronulla Caringbah in the Sydney Shield where Windsor junior Dan Sullivan has been a standout.

**FIXTURES:** Sunday, March 28: Ron Massey Cup: Bulls v Mounties at Aubrey Keech Reserve, Hinchinbrook, at 4pm; Windsor Wolves v Glebe-Burwood Wolves at Wentworth Park, Glebe, at 2pm.

**SYDNEY SHIELD:** Sunday: Bulls v Rams at Hammondville Oval, Moorebank, at 3pm.

**SYDNEY SHIELD:** Saturday, March 27: Windsor Wolves v Cronulla Caringbah at Cronulla High School at 3pm.



Hills Bull captain Tim Robinson returns to the side.

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# SWEET MEMORIES



Easter time has become a time when many chocoholics consume mountains of Chocolate eggs and assorted sweet items. Which brings to mind some of the sweet times of the past. Who amongst you remembers buying packets of "Jaffas" and rolling them down the aisles at the local picture theatre? Or when you bought a packet of "Fantales" as you unwrapped each lolly you would read stories of the movie stars of the times. Perhaps you may have bought some "Gobstoppers" on the way to school and as you had one in your mouth you would not have been able to talk to your mates. Those were the days when we as youngsters did not concern ourselves with how much junk we put in our mouths.

Another thing from those heady days of yesteryear was the bubble gum with which we would attempt to blow a bubble so large that when it burst it would spread over your cheeks and nose. Toffee apples and home-made toffees were sold at the school fetes upon which you would, if perhaps, unlucky break your teeth.

Did you ever put "Fruit Tingles" into a glass of soft drink? This was an experiment done by a few people I knew in the past. Give it stir and watch the bubbles before drinking.

Remember the confectionary brands of "White Knight" and "Choo-Choo" bars. There were numerous chocolate and lolly brands that have either disappeared or changed over time. Brands such as "Small's Club

Chocolate" which was manufactured as a square block and marketed as "Father's favourite" that has now evolved into a regular block and called "Nestle's Club" chocolate. You were also invited, if feeling friendly, to "Share a Snack". Snack was made McRobertson's and was discontinued after acquisition by Cadbury. Their advertising slogan was "Feeling friendly share a Snack, six ripe flavours in every pack", Snack being a block of chocolate with each square filled with a fruity filling. Another Australian chocolate producer which has since disappeared was "Hoadley's". This company is keenly remembered by the youth and musicians of the 1960s for the famous "Hoadley's Battle of the Bands" concerts that toured the countryside giving performers and the youth of the day exposure to the musical culture of the times. Hoadley's products included the original "Violet Crumble" and "Polly Waffle". Some of the licorice brands of yesteryear have also disappeared due to societal change. Some of the brand names used would now be considered in poor taste and racially abhorrent. An Australian chocolate product now sold world-wide is "Freddo" frog which was created by MacRobertson's and after Cadbury's acquisition of the company it was introduced to many other countries. Mastercraft was yet another Aussie company that succumbed to foreign takeover whose products of "Golden Rough" and "Mint Pattie" are now produced by Nestle.

James Stedman Henderson's operated a company at Rosebery and the factory site was named "Sweetacres". They used that name on their products which included the afore mentioned "Jaffas" and "Fantales" That too also became subject to foreign control when "Nestle" bought the business and the "Sweetacres" name disappeared into oblivion. "Allen's" which manufactured products such as "Snakes" and "Jelly Babies" and many other sweet favourites has so far retained the name "Allen's" despite also being acquired by Nestle although I fear that the "Allen's" brand will, in the near future, also be relegated to history as I have noticed a creeping of the "Nestle" brand on newer stock of what was once "Allen's" products appearing in stores.

There are still a few Australian owned chocolate and confectionary manufactures such as Darrel Lea, Haigh's Chocolates, and Robern Menz who have bought back some of the former Hoadley's brands from Nestle.

What sweet memories do you have of past times? Why not write and let me know?



## Easter Cheer

By Maisie Grady

Easter's coming around again,  
How the time does fly.  
It isn't long since Christmas,  
The time quickly passes by.

We all enjoy a little time,  
To have a relaxing break.  
Perhaps visit a friend or relation,  
Share hot cross buns and cake.

Some will go on a trip away,  
Taking a coastal or country drive.  
After the stress of Corona Virus,  
Breathe fresh air and feel alive.

The children will be excited,  
With their Easter eggs on Sunday.  
Probably eating too much chocolate,  
As they romp about and play.

Then there's the Royal Easter Show,  
Ring events, exhibits and much to see.  
Show bags, cattle, horses, sheep,  
A fun day out it will surely be.

Those at church will reflect,  
On the meaning of this season.  
Christ died upon the cross,  
His love for us the reason.

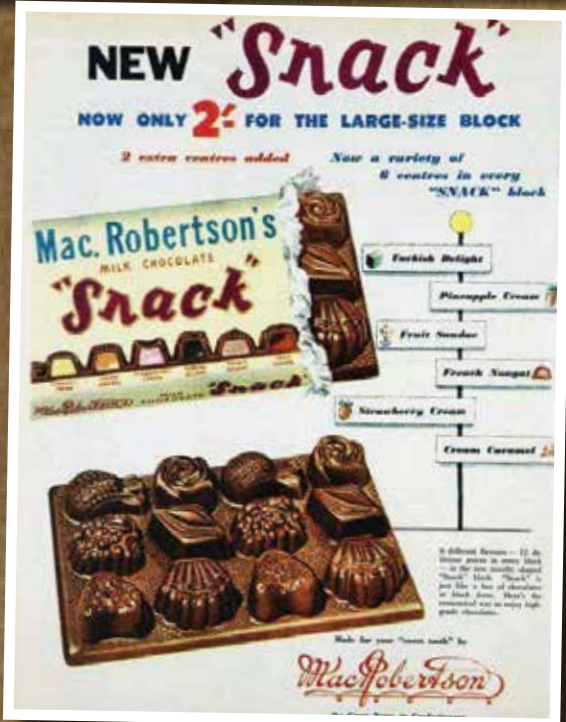
So, Happy Easter everyone,  
Be kind to each other.  
Thankful for our blessings,  
Extending good will to one another.



# AS WE WERE

PHOTOS FROM THE PAST

COLLECTION COMPILED BY  
**IVOR JONES** SHOWING LIFE IN  
 THE HILLS AND HAWKESBURY  
 AREA DURING PAST DECADES.





# COMMUNITY groups

## 2nd Castle Hill Rovers

www.gwsrovers.com.au

## Annangrove Environment Centre

02 9654 3571 (Thurs) |  
02 9843 0533 (Wed-Fri)  
gnolan@thehills.nsw.gov.au

## Arcadian Quilters

Meet in Galston Community Health Centre 1st and 3rd Wednesday mornings, evening group 2nd and 4th Mondays. New members welcome  
Carole | 9894 7749

## Australian Sikh Association

0433 580 539  
www.asainc.org.au

## Bushrangers Hash House Harriers

04 0828 9562

## Castle Hill Art Society

Castle Hill Art Society offers a place of art practice for artists of all ages, either in groups of various art media or classes for adults and children. Demonstrations and workshops by well-know artists are held monthly and members can participate in several exhibitions during the year. New members always welcome.  
www.castlehillartsociety.org.au  
9899 3179 (ans. machine)

## Castle Hill Senior Citizens Club Inc.

Club members invite anyone over 55 to come and meet a very active and friendly group of Seniors who play Carpet Bowls, Cards and Rummikub. Our Club building is on the corner of McMullen Ave. and Old Northern Rd., Castle Hill (opposite the new Metro station) with parking at the rear.  
9680 3958  
castlehillseniors@gmail.com

## Christ Church

An Anglican church located at 26 Pitt Town Road, Kenthurst, has a service at 9.30am every Sunday morning. You are most welcome to join us.  
Rev. Chris Baxter | 0423 119 131

## Cumberland Bird Observers Club

The Club conducts three outings a month to observe birds in their natural environment. General meetings are held at Castle Hill on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. New members are always welcome.  
Peter 0412 770 757 or Cathy 9809 5668.  
www.cboc.org.au

## CWA of NSW – Galston Branch

Our monthly meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month from 10am at the Galston Health & Resource Centre.  
Jann | 0439 222 217

## CWA of NSW – Castle Hill Branch

Holds its monthly meeting every second Tuesday at the CWA Hall, 2 Annangrove Road, Kenthurst (off Angus Road) from 10am. We also hold our Craft mornings for members on 1st and 3rd Tuesday's of the month from 10 to 12. Bring along your lunch if you wish to stay longer.  
Maureen | 0411 724 925

## Dural Country Club Bowls

04 2131 5074

## Dural Men's Shed

04 0247 8498  
www.duralmensshed.org

## East Kurrajong School of Arts

First Tuesday each month 10am to 1pm. Bring along any sort of craft activity you're interested in, bring pencil's or brushes to practice your drawing or painting with Ruth, browse the library for a book to read or simply just relax, have a cuppa and enjoy a chat from 10am to 1pm. Gold coin donation for morning tea.  
Ann | 02 4576 5031

## Galston VIEW Club

The Club always welcomes new members and holds monthly meetings. The Club raises money to support The Smith Family Learning For Life Program.  
Helen | 9614 1512

## Girl Guides Australia

There are great programs for girls aged from 6 to 18. They meet once a week in groups relevant to their age groups which are run by trained Leaders and Unit helpers. There are Girl Guide groups established at Castle Hill, Kellyville, North Rocks, Baulkham Hills, Crestwood and Galston. To find out more about the best day, time and group for your daughter call:  
Margo | 0417 657 433

## Glenhaven Probus Club Inc

Meets 10 am on 2nd Tuesday of each month at Castle Hill Bowling Club.  
secretary.glenhaven.probus@gmail.com

## Glenwood Men's Shed

James | 04 0333 8450

## Hawkesbury Artists & Artisans Trail

02 4567 7400  
Leanne@mellowcrest.com  
www.haata.com.au

## Hawkesbury District Agricultural Assn

4577 3591 (BH)  
www.hawkesburyshow.com.au

## Hawkesbury Nepean Chapter of the First Fleeters

Meets on 2nd Saturday of each month.  
Pamela Hempel | 0407 660 579  
www.fffnc.com

## Hawkesbury Woodcraft Cooperative Ltd

4721 8709

## Hills District Women's Bowling Club

Jenner Street, Baulkham Hills  
9639 2733  
www.thehillswomensbowls.com.au

## Hills Older Men's Network Inc

The Hills Older Men's Network Inc (Hills OMNI) meets on the first and 3rd Wednesdays of the month, 10am to 12.30pm at Castle Hill. The group is aimed at retired men over the age of 55 and provides an opportunity to talk in a non-judgemental, safe and supportive environment.  
Ron | 0424 462 153  
HillsOMNI1@gmail.com

## Hills/Toongabbie Music Club

Meets 2nd and 4th Fridays 7.30pm Northmead Scouts Hall 17 Whitehaven Northmead. Beginners to professionals all welcome.  
Allen | 0439 831 531  
allendavisguitar@gmail.com

## Learning in the Hills

9639 7918  
www.hca.org.au/learning-in-the-hills/

## Lions Club of Richmond Inc.

Geoff | 0412 969 651

## Lions Club of Windsor Inc

Pam | 0413 395 145

## Macquarie Towns Garden Club

Jill | 4575 3858  
www.macquarietownsgardenclub.wordpress.com/

## North Rocks Evening VIEW Club

Muirfield Golf Club, 58 Barclay Rd, North Rocks.  
Toni | 9871 1926 or 0411 693 076, or Margaret on 9872 1405  
view.org.au

## North Richmond Probus Club

Our meetings are on the second Wednesday of the month at 10.30am at Panthers, North Richmond, Beaumont Rd, N. Richmond.  
Joan Fewings | 0401813152  
northrichmondprobus@gmail.com

## Norwest Sunrise Rotary Club

We are a breakfast club and meet every Thursday morning at 7.20am. At the moment it is online but there are COVID-Safe Face to Face Meetings once a month. The Rotary Motto is Service Above Self. If you want to meet like-minded people please join us.  
norwestrotary.org.au

## Pennant Hills Mens Probus Club

John | 9487 1385

## Pennant Hills Combined Probus Club

Meets at Hotel Pennant Hills every third Monday of the month at 10am. New members and visitors welcome.  
Lorene | 0429 396594

## Pennant Hills VIEW Club

Meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 11am at Oatlands Golf Club. Meetings include a 2 course lunch followed by an interesting guest speaker. Visitors & new members are welcome.  
On the fourth Tuesday of the month a social outing is arranged for members.  
Margaret | 9873 2402

## Pitt Town Probus Club

Meets at 10:00am on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Pitt Town and District Sports Club, 139 Old Pitt Town Rd Pitt Town. New members welcome.  
Denise Fairfax | 0435 447 414

## Probus Club Of Round Corner (Dural)

Secretary, Julie  
PO Box 822, Round Corner 2158

## Probus Club of the Hills Inc

Ken | 02 96296459

## Probus Combined Kellyville Club

Meet 2nd Monday of the month at 10am. At The Glenhaven Community Centre: 76 Glenhaven Road, Glenhaven. New members welcome.  
Glensys | 0419 616 431 OR  
Veronica | 0408 025 577  
glensysclarke@hotmail.com

## Probus Club – Winston Hills Northmead Combined

Meets at 10am at Toongabbie Sports Club, 12 Station St., Toongabbie, 2nd Thursday of the month. New members welcome.  
secretary@winstonhillnorthmeadprobusclub.com.au  
Membership Officer | 0421 410 305

## RDA (NSW) Tall Timbers Centre

Equine assisted programs, Speech Pathology, Occupational Therapy and Volunteering Opportunities. Located at Gables/Box Hill  
9679 1246,  
admin@rdanswtalltimbers.org.au  
www.rdanswtalltimbers.org.au

## Red Cross, Castle Hill Branch

New meeting venue is Wesley Uniting Church, 32-34 Showground Rd. Castle Hill from 10.15A.M. To 11.45A.M. the second Friday in the month. New members always welcome.  
8850 7056

## Richmond/Windsor VIEW Club

Richmond/Windsor VIEW Club Which Supports The Smith Family Learning for Life meet on 2nd Wednesday of the month starting at 11.30 at Panthers North Richmond  
Christine Walshaw | 0416073483

## Scouts Australia - Greater Western Sydney Region

9639 2488  
www.greaterwestscouts.com.au

## Sleep Disorders Australia - NSW

02 9990 3514  
www.sleepoz.org.au

## Soroptimist International The Hills

This is the local branch of a worldwide organisation for women celebrating 100 years promoting awareness, action and advocacy. It holds monthly dinner

meetings, theatre nights, fundraising fashion parades and a public speaking competition as well as seminars. Meetings are on the 3rd Monday of the Month at Glenhaven. 6.30pm for a 7pm start. Visitors are always welcome.

Cathy | 0435 837 118

sithehills@siwp.org

## STaR Association

8850 1269 | www.star.org.au

## The Hills Community Aid and Information Service Inc

9639 8620

## The Hills Learning Centre

02 8850 0555  
RSVP | info@thehillslc.com.au  
facebook.com/thehillslc

## The Hills Shire Garden Club

9624 5034

## The Inner Wheel Club of Baulkham Hills

We are invited to meet each month with a group of friendly ladies who are involved in fundraising for charity and enjoy social activities. Due to Covid, our meeting dates and venue are varied.  
Robyn | 9639 2742

## The Sydney Hills Branch of the Association of Independent Retirees

Meeting on Friday, at Beecroft Presbyterian Church Hall, Welham Street Beecroft. Meeting commences at 10.45am. The future topics will be Health, Centrelink, Retirement, Technology Safety and others.  
Lauris Rennie | 9634 1186  
Pam | 0412 737 234  
airsydneyhills@gmail.com

## The National Seniors Australia Are you over 50?

9639 1814  
www.hillnsa.com

## The Hills District Pipe Band

Practices in the Harvey Lowe Pavilion at Castle Hill Showground every Tuesday night from 7.30pm-9pm. The band warmly welcomes new members and gig enquiries. Facebook and Instagram: @hillsdistrictpipeband  
suzie whitaker | suz801@live.com.au  
www.hillsdistrictpipeband.com

## The Hills Trefoil Guild

Elaine | 0417 330 196

## Thursday Ladies Tennis Competition in the Hills District

hillsladiestennis.org

## Wanderers Bushwalking and Outdoor Club

Meet every second Tuesday in the month at Crestwood Community Centre, Drive, Baulkham Hills at 8 pm  
4562 465 906  
www.bushwalkingnsw.org.au/wanderers

## Windsor Probus Club

Meets at 10am on the 1st Wednesday of each month at Windsor Golf Club, McQuade Ave, South Windsor. New members always welcome.  
Membership Officer Alan | 0407721461 or Secretary Ann 0414298945

## Winston Hills Joey Scouts

9862 8482 | hsara@optusnet.com.au

## Wisemans Ferry Community Men's Shed Inc

Meeting Tues and Sat 9am - 5pm  
Alan Hunt | 4566 4626 or 0428 784 425  
Adrian Acheson | 0448 833 781

## YMCA NSW Community Visitors Scheme

9633 8209 or 0402 255 193

## Zonta Club of Sydney Hills

0414 641 408  
www.zontadistrict24.org



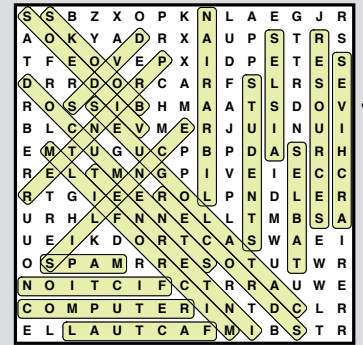
# PUZZLE

## WORD SEARCH

- AFFIRMATION
- ALIMONY
- APPELLANT
- BAD FAITH
- COERCION
- COMPLAINT
- CONFESSION
- DEFENDANT
- DISSOLUTION
- DUPLICITY
- ESCROW
- EVIDENCE
- EXECUTOR
- FELONY
- GOOD FAITH
- HARASSMENT
- INJUNCTION
- LITIGATION
- PROBATE
- REPEAL

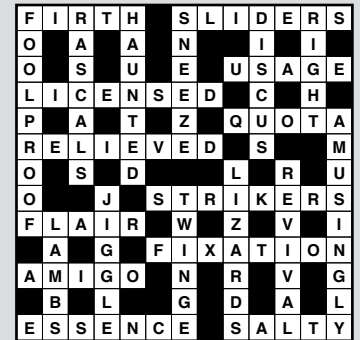


## WORD SEARCH



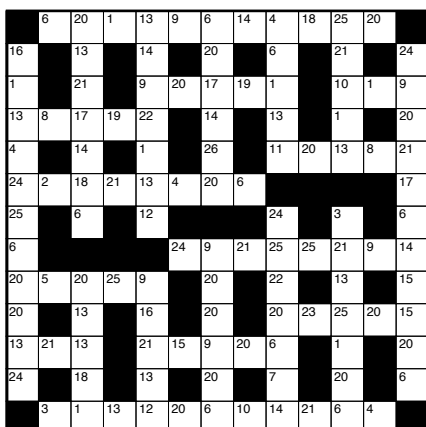
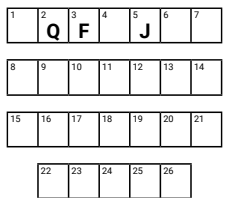
Answers from last issue

## CODE WORD



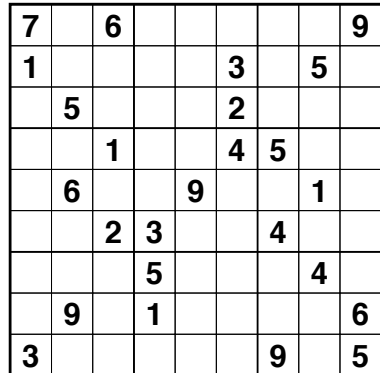
## CODE WORD

Numbers in the grid (1-26) correspond to each of the letters of the alphabet from A-Z in some order. Solve the puzzle and fill in the letters in the key provided as you find them. Three letters are provided to give you a start.

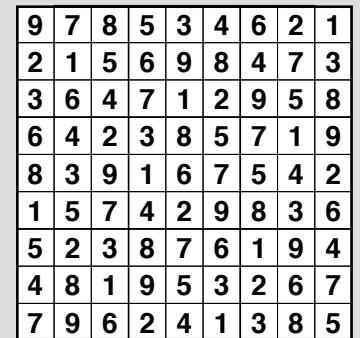


## SUDOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 to 9.



## SUDOKU



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1		2			3	4		5		6		7
			8									
9								10				
11						12						
												13
14		15		16						17		
	18									19		
20												
21						22						
23									24			

**ACROSS**

- 1. Military force
- 3. Small streams
- 9. Among
- 10. Legend
- 11. Cooling device
- 14. Large primate
- 16. Gold block
- 17. Grassland
- 18. Productive insight
- 21. Sound
- 22. Central bolt
- 23. Moving at speed
- 24. Creative disciplines

**DOWN**

- 1. Relating to trees
- 2. Dominant theme
- 4. Pub
- 5. Uncomplimentary
- 6. Entangle
- 7. Appear to be
- 8. Lawfully
- 12. Number after seven
- 13. Automata
- 15. Prior
- 19. Opposite of lower
- 20. Unit of linear measure
- 22. Relations

**SUDOKU**

Rating: ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 to 9.

								4
9				6		1		7
7			4		1		3	
8	7	6			3	5		
4	1		6	8	2		9	3
		2	5			6	1	8
	5		3		4			9
6		3		7				1
2								

*Answers from last issue*

**CROSSWORD**

D	A	I	S	W	E	A	K	N	E	S	S
I	N	M	N	A	A	A	P				
A	S	P	H	A	L	T	L	A	R	G	O
M	U	L	I	E	N	N					
E	A	T	E	N	T	R	I	D	E	N	T
T		O	Y	D	S	A					
R	A	D	I	U	M	B	O	S	T	O	N
I	I	R	E	S							
C	U	S	H	I	O	N	C	E	L	L	O
A	E	S	J	O	E	U					
L	E	A	C	H	O	P	P	R	E	S	S
L	S	E	I	E	K	L					
Y	I	E	L	D	I	N	G	E	S	P	Y

**SUDOKU**

5	9	4	2	6	3	7	8	1
8	6	2	1	7	5	4	9	3
7	3	1	4	8	9	2	5	6
4	8	6	5	9	2	1	3	7
3	1	7	6	4	8	9	2	5
9	2	5	3	1	7	8	6	4
2	5	9	7	3	4	6	1	8
6	7	8	9	5	1	3	4	2
1	4	3	8	2	6	5	7	9



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