



# Forster Fortnightly

Your local independent community newspaper distributed fortnightly to  
Hallidays Point, Tallwoods, Tuncurry, Forster, Pacific Palms,  
Charlotte Bay, Smiths Lake, Coomba Park, Bungwahl & Seal Rocks.

FREE

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## 40 years of friendship through sport

Country Connection Netball Club has as its motto 'Friends in Sport'. This amazing story of friendship is better described as 'friendship through Sport.' It is a friendship that spans forty plus years. These pals continue to maintain a close friendship and keep adding to their 40 plus years of friendship through many regular morning teas and lunches.

"We can do that", was the directive I [Gail Brown] heard Yvonne Emerton make to Carol when she had been informed that no parent had put their hand up to coach the Under 6 soccer team. So, Carol bought a 'How to Play Soccer' book, and the coaching partnership of two young Forster mums began. I observed this coaching partnership turn into many years of friendship until we lost Yvonne in 2020.

For three seasons I enjoyed watching this team of boys learn basic ball skills whilst having lots of fun. I vividly recall Carol running onto the field whenever a boy was emotionally or physically 'injured' to apply the 'magic' lotion. I wonder how these boys, now 50-year-old men, would feel knowing that the TLC came from a de-labelled jar of cold cream?

It was my pleasure to keep watch over our girls on the sideline while Carol encouraged our sons on the field. It was this involvement that was to be the foundation of our friendship, a solid base that continued into our involvement as age managers and trainers in Forster SLSC Nippers.

My attraction to local water sports was primarily due to the skills I had to offer. I was from a surfing family, swam competitively, held Officials' Accreditation with NSW Amateur Swimming Association and an Instructor and Senior Examiner of the Royal Life Saving Society of Australia. Carol had been water skiing from the age of 12, was water aware and a competent swimmer. Carol values teamwork. Each boy or girl team that Carol worked with came to realise that 'a one-man band' did not end with a satisfying result.



Above: Laraine Stein, Carol Barclay, Pauline Carr and Gail Brown. Photo supplied.

A little local history – In March 1970, Queen Elizabeth 11, as part of the Captain Cook Bicentenary, sailed into Botany Bay on the Royal Yacht Britannica. A flotilla welcomed the yacht. Amongst the watercraft was the Forster Water Ski Club's precision ski troupe – Kay Barclay, Di Coombes, Barb Coombes, Gerda Mathers, and Carol. Carol recalls the roughest water conditions and the need for the girls to work as a unit.

Carol and I met Pauline when she registered her three children at Forster SLC Nippers. Pauline's family had moved to Forster from Winston Hills, and she immediately wanted her children to become water safe whilst having the opportunity to make friends. We observed Pauline as a parent encouraging her children in becoming competent surfers. A

natural progression was for the children to join the Forster Amateur Swimming Club. As race secretary I was pleased to have Pauline step into the role of race recorder. It was at Forster ASC, during the Bullring days, when Pauline and I met Laraine. Now Laraine says that she had no skills to offer but every club wants a least one Laraine. Laraine did whatever was asked of her – timekeeping, judging, marshalling and later in the netball days, canteen supervisor, marker of the grass courts and cutting up of oranges for the teams. Yes, everything and anything. All tasks carried out with a smile. Who wouldn't want Laraine as a pal?

Pauline was one of a group to form Our Lady of Lourdes Netball Club, a club in which she played, umpired, and coached. Pauline's administrative knowledge gained as an

office bearer of the Baulkham Hills Netball Association was integral, along with that of Joan Schubert, Vicki Jansen and other knowledgeable women, in the formation of the Great Lakes Netball Association. As a member of the submission team of five, Pauline along with Vicki Jansen, Joan Schubert, Carol and myself, the GLNA won the Inaugural Prime Ministerial Women and Sports Award in the Local Community Initiatives category.

Local identity, and friend through sport, Ruth Stocker rescued my daughter from sideline spectating of her brother's many sports. Ruth suggested that Deana accompany her, and daughter Wendy to play for the Forster Netball Club in the Taree & District Netball Association competition. As mothers' do, I found the time to watch play while standing courtside with Carol, Laraine, and Pauline. Before long my hand went up for managing a Taree and District Netball Association (T & DNA) representative team, and Vice President to the then T& DNA President, Pauline. It seemed as we girls were 'joining at the hip'.

Any community involvement be it sport or the many local special interest groups: U3A, art classes, yoga, book clubs and the list can go on, encourages friendships and support for each other. Special skills are not a requirement, as with simple involvement of being able to lend a helping hand, slowly but surely builds one's own set of skills. Friendships will occur naturally, and YOU are part of the community.

We four wanted to be involved in our children's sport for we recognized that sport is a great conduit to friendship. Our children's involvement, be it competitive or simply for the social interaction, assisted them in belonging to this community. They likewise have made some lifetime pals through sport.

Our club, Country Connection Netball Club has as its motto 'Friends in Sport'. Our motto will be 'Friends through Sport', a friendship that spans forty plus years.

Contributors: Laraine Stein, Carol Barclay, Pauline Carr and Gail Brown. Assisted by Vanda Gooley.

## Is Forster Tuncurry getting an Urgent Care Centre or a public hospital and when?

At a recent Legislative Council public hearing (inquiry into budget estimates 2021-2022 for the Health portfolio, 10th March) Labor spokesperson for the Myall Lakes electorate, MLC Courtney Houssos [pictured right], asked the NSW Minister for Health, Brad Hazzard, for confirmation of the Hunter New England Health (HNEH) clinical service's plan for an Urgent Care Centre (UCC) in the Forster Tuncurry area rather than a public hospital with emergency services.

A UCC is type of walk-in clinic focused on the delivery of urgent out-patient care in a dedicated medical facility outside of a traditional emergency department (ED)



**COURTNEY HOUSSOS:** Minister, I wanted to take you through the specific reference to the new promised Forster-Tuncurry hospital.

located within a hospital. Urgent care centres primarily treat injuries or illnesses requiring immediate care but not serious enough to require an ED visit. [www.wikipedia.org]

"The Hon.

This [document from HNEH] says that the Forster-Tuncurry hospital will actually be set up as a satellite urgent care centre. Ms Pearce, you might be best placed to explain this. How many nurses are likely to be employed at an urgent care centre?

**Secretary of Ministry of Health, SUSAN PEARCE:** I think we would have to take that on notice, noting that an urgent care centre is a different proposition to an emergency department.

**Mr BRAD HAZZARD:** Sometimes what they are doing is they are looking at the particular demographic. I think Forster-Tuncurry has an older population more likely to come in and it depends on whether there are other GPs in

town and what is the likelihood of the numbers coming through. There are a whole lot of other factors that would need to be sorted out on that front.

**The Hon. COURTNEY HOUSSOS:** The clinical services plan goes through the fact that there is a low number of GPs in the area and, therefore, it [UCC] would be a nurse-practitioner-led model. It also goes on to talk about the need to consider an aged-care model obviously given the demographics.

Ms Wark, can I turn to you because I asked you about the hospital in March last year? You said at the time that we would need to wait for the

Continued page 2.

# Forster Fortnightly

**Next deadline 5pm Wednesday 13th April, to be published Wednesday 20th April, 2022**

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## Pet of the fortnight

### Archie is a 12-year-old Schipperke!

A Schipperke is a small breed of dog that originated the 1600's in Belgium.

Unfortunately, Archie had to be surrendered last year when his owner passed away. He found a loving new home where his mum said he was the perfect dog and couldn't fault him apart from he can be quite vocal. Due to this reason and living in an apartment complex, Archie is once again on the lookout for a new family.

Archie has lived with another small dog and has since made some new friends in larger dogs since being in care. He is house trained with using a doggy door and takes himself out to toilet when needed. He loves to play with his toys and then snuggle up on your lap for lots of pats and cuddles.

Love to home Archie? Please contact our Dog Welfare Officer on 0490 165 148. AWL NSW Rehoming Organisation Number R251000222.



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## An Urgent Care Centre or public hospital for Forster?

Continued from page 1.

clinical services plan before we would start the planning for the hospital. Have you purchased the land for the hospital now that the clinical services plan has been completed?

**Chief Executive Officer, Health Infrastructure REBECCA WARK:** No, we have not, but we have done a site investigation report and investigated approximately 10 sites as possibilities.

**The Hon. COURTNEY HOUSSOS:** Do you have a time frame for purchasing the land?

**REBECCA WARK:** The clinical services plan will need to be approved by the Ministry of Health and then we can do some planning concurrently with that.

**The Hon. COURTNEY HOUSSOS:** Do you know when the clinical services plan will be signed off by Health? Do you have a time frame for that?

**REBECCA WARK:** No, I will have to take that on notice.

**The Hon. COURTNEY HOUSSOS:** The land has not been purchased; you have got 10 sites. I am not sure who I should refer this to. The budget gave a \$7.9 million allocation between four electorates for an external consultant about, I assume, investigating the plans. Are you able to give a breakdown of how much of that money

was spent on the Forster-Tuncurry hospital [project]?

**Mr BRAD HAZZARD:** I am happy to take it on notice. I would be surprised if they could actually do that, but maybe.

**The Hon. COURTNEY HOUSSOS:** That would be great. Of the 10 sites, Ms Wark, are they in Forster? Are they in Tuncurry? Can you give us any more information on those?

**REBECCA WARK:** They are in both of those areas, I understand it, and there is a preferred site now that is within those reports.

**The Hon. COURTNEY HOUSSOS:** Do you have any kind of time frame for when that might be purchased? I understand you are waiting for the clinical services plan, but do you have a deadline? Can you say by the end of the year?

**REBECCA WARK:** As I understand it, it has only been announced. There is only budget for planning at this stage. That is the work that we are doing, the planning work."

**Editor's note:** The above quotes from the March inquiry have been condensed for space requirements.

See response from MP Stephen Bromhead and Minister for Regional Health Bonnie Taylor on opposite page.

## Now underway - Failford Road upgrades and Blackhead roundabout



Above: GM Adrian Panuccio, Mayor Claire Pontin and MP David Gillespie.

Work has started on two major road upgrades for the MidCoast, jointly funded by the Federal and NSW governments.

Motorists can see important upgrades happening on Failford Road at the busy intersection with the Pacific Highway, to reduce accidents.

Federal funding of \$3.6-million and NSW funding of \$902,000 will deliver safety features including flexible wire rope barriers and audio-tactile line marking on the edges and down the centre of Failford Road.

The \$4-million roundabout and safety upgrades at The Lakes Way/ Blackhead Road intersection are also now underway.

Federal Member for Lyne, Dr David Gillespie joined MidCoast Mayor Claire Pontin on Thursday to announce the start of work on the busy roundabout site.

"The upgrades here on Blackhead Road will deliver the safety upgrades the community has called for, with a three-leg roundabout, including traffic calming, line marking, lighting and signage," Dr Gillespie said.

"This notorious stretch of road has seen too many accidents and near misses. We are

committed to removing this road black spot, so it's good to see work finally underway."

Member for Myall Lakes Stephen Bromhead said the works would include service adjustments, some changes to nearby property access, kerb and guttering, road and drainage works, as well as bus bays and footpaths.

"With work expected to take around 12 months to complete, there will be significant periods of traffic control during the construction, so we are asking motorists to remain patient and allow extra time in their travel," Mr Bromhead said.

"Improving the safety of these critical arteries ensures safer trips to and from school, work and the shops, which is why we are investing in building a safer and stronger regional NSW." MidCoast Council Mayor Claire Pontin welcomed the collaboration between all three levels of government.

"We continue to work closely with NSW and the Australian governments to deliver important improvements to the travel routes that connect us as a community," Mayor Pontin said.

# Easter message of love

There's an ad playing on TV at the moment of a boy trying every conceivable method to get a very large easter egg out of a tree. He finally succeeds and next morning, his sister, who has a broken leg, wakes to find the egg at the foot of her bed. The brother quietly smiles to himself at the joy he has brought. An act of love for someone broken.

There's a bible story of an event which occurred leading up to the week before Jesus is arrested and crucified. It involves a woman who pours perfume, worth a year's wages over Jesus' feet. An act of love for someone about to be broken. Then there is Easter story itself. The arrest, torture, death of a man, who was also the son of God. An act of love for a people who were broken. What was broken was nothing physical but rather the relationship that the people had with God. They had ignored Him, they relied on themselves rather than Him, they thought they knew better. Happiness would be found in what they accumulated for themselves, worth would be measured by what they achieved. But all that happened was they moved further and further from God. So Jesus came and through his death, and his resurrection three days later, he offered a way to restore that relationship, to mend what was broken. You and I are members of this group of people Jesus died and came back to life for. It is the reality of this offer that we celebrate at Easter



All three acts are of selfless giving; generous, abundant and full of love. Yet it is only the last one which offers the repairing of something which is actually core to our being, the relationship we have with our creator. It is in this offering that we are promised new life, one

immersed in a love which forgives and sees us as worthy.

That's the best Easter story there will ever be.  
 Happy Easter from Pastor Geoff Battle.  
 Forster/Tuncurry Uniting Church

### Services over Easter

- 14th April Maundy Thursday Service Tuncurry Church 7pm
- 15th April Good Friday Service Forster Church 9am
- 17th April Combined Sunrise Service 'The Tanks' Forster 6am
- 17th April Easter Sunday Service Forster Church 9am
- 17th April Easter Sunday Service Pacific Palms Community Centre 5pm

### Brommie's Community Update



#### Plans Underway for Forster Public Hospital

Despite suggestions to the contrary, I am fighting for a Public Hospital in Forster and will not settle until this happens. Hunter New England Health have proposed an Urgent Care Centre in our region, however that is far less than what I have promised, what we need, and what the government has committed to.

We have promised a public hospital in Forster and that is what will be delivered. There is no denying the need for it, with ample reports showcasing how necessary this is.

A Clinical Services Plan has been completed and Health Infrastructure NSW is continuing to seek a site to recommend as the base for a Public Hospital in Forster.

Health infrastructure NSW has a multi-billion dollar budget available for capital works and I will ensure the health needs of the Forster-Tuncurry communities and surrounding areas is met.

As Minister for Regional Health, Bonnie Taylor states, there's \$20million allocated for the planning of Forster Public Hospital and it will ensure that the health needs of the Forster-Tuncurry communities and surrounding areas is met.

Mark my words, we will have a hospital.

## Statement on public hospital in Forster



I note media reports suggesting a public hospital won't be delivered in Forster.

Let me be clear - the NSW Nationals in Government promised to deliver a public hospital in Forster and we will deliver on that promise.

The NSW Nationals have a strong track record of delivering for the Myall Lakes community, including \$100 million for Stage 2 of the Manning Base Hospital redevelopment to complement the \$40 million upgrade already delivered by this government as part of Stage 1.

Left: MP Stephen Bromhead with Minister for Regional Health, Bonnie Taylor.

As part of the NSW Government's recent \$500 million funding injection to deliver enhanced health services for regional and rural NSW, \$20 million has been allocated towards the planning of a public hospital in Forster.

It is normal process for funding to be allocated as each stage progresses.

As we move forward with delivering this important project, Member for Myall Lakes Stephen Bromhead and I will continue to update the community.

By Bonnie Taylor,  
 Minister for Regional Health.  
 Thursday, 31 March 2022

# Stephen Bromhead MP

## Delivering for Myall Lakes

**\$60,000**  
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Authorised by Stephen Bromhead MP, 1-9 Manning Street, Tuncurry NSW 2428, funded using Parliamentary Entitlements April 2022.

## Local Woman of the Year Award 2022

Margaret Shannon is being celebrated with a Local Woman of the Year Award in recognition of the significant contribution she has made to the Myall Lakes community.

Member for Myall Lakes, Stephen Bromhead congratulated Mrs Shannon on the honour, acknowledging her hard work for the region.

"Margaret is an outstanding advocate for our community with her work within the tourism and business industry and I congratulate her on this well-deserved honour," Mr Bromhead said.

"Margaret is a partner and owner in Tiona Holiday Park and truly showcases the best of our region.

"She is an active member of the Forster-Tuncurry Business Chamber and the Great Lakes Tourism Industry Association, and was a driving force behind the entry of Forster-Tuncurry in the 2021 Tourism Top Town Awards, which saw Forster-Tuncurry achieve finalist status.

Margaret has won a number of other awards including the Brides Choice Award for Best Wedding Venue 2021, Brides Choice Award for Highly Commended Wedding Venue Coordinator 2021 and Mid Coast Regional Business Awards Winner for Most Outstanding Start-up 2021.



The Local Woman of the Year Awards is an annual program which recognises and celebrates the support women give to their local communities across NSW.

## Funding for new community hall at Rainbow Flat



Federal Member for Lyne David Gillespie congratulates Rainbow Flat residents on their successful funding application of \$742,125 to build a new community hall and evacuation centre.

On the evening of November 8, 2019, Rainbow Flat residents were forced to seek shelter at

the local petrol station, along with 23 Rural Fire Service vehicles, engaged in property defence during the Hillville fire.

Mark Johnson [pictured far right in black shirt] is one of a number of local residents who is rebuilding after losing his home in the November 2019 fire.

## Volunteer lunch for Forster Tuncurry Jockey Club

Words can't describe how much we appreciate our wonderful volunteers.

Today we held a special lunch for our hard workers to say a very big THANK YOU. There were plenty of Lucky Door prizes and a great day was had by all.

A special presentation made to retiring Vice President, Adrian Wood for his outstanding 17 years service of a gold watch.

A well deserved presentation to a valued

member of Tuncurry Forster Jockey Club (TFJC).

A special thank you to Matt McQuillan and his offsider Broc Buderus for the spectacular cooking on the spit - it was delicious!

Right: Thank you cake for the volunteers.

Far right: Retiring Vice President Adrian Wood (left) being presented with a gold watch from President Garry McQuillan.



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## We must act now says Labor party candidate

Alex Simpson [pictured right], Labor candidate for Lyne electorate and a renewable energy scientist, has outlined Labor's energy policy and the job creation that will accompany it.



'Reports from the International Panel on Climate Change make it clear we must act now,' Mr Simpson said. 'Labor's emissions targets meet the best possible outcomes outlined in that report, with power bills, massive job creation, and stronger local manufacturing set to power the Australian economy for decades to come'

'As serious as the climate problem is, never have we had as great an opportunity to solve it. Scientists like those I've worked alongside have been working hard to improve our energy technologies, allowing us to reach for a low-emissions future,' Mr Simpson continued.

'To make the most of this, we need a government not tied down to yesterday's ideas. Labor has a Powering the Nation plan that puts jobs and regions at the centre of this transition strengthening our economy to secure a better future.'

Labor's plan has the official support of the National Farmers' Federation, the Business Council of Australia, the Australian Chamber of Commerce, and the Australian Industry Group.

'We need a fit-for-purpose power grid. Once complete, Snowy 2.0 will have to wait for the power grid to be able to accommodate it. We also need to cater for people who can't afford solar panels. Their electricity bills continue to rise, forcing those who can afford less to pay more.'

Labor's plan has a solution to both issues, investing \$20 billion for an urgently needed upgrade to the national power grid, and \$100 million for community solar power stations. The plan commits a further \$200 million to provide communities with local batteries, giving residents an opportunity to buy and sell energy among their community, and driving down electricity bills.

The proposed projects will create 600,000 jobs, with five out of six in the regions. These figures are based on detailed modelling by Reputex, a leading company in the energy field, that also shows household power bills will be cut by \$275 a year by 2025 under Labor's plan.

'Lower electricity bills will be the fuel of our manufacturing sector and will drive Labor's A Future Made in Australia plan, committed to bringing manufacturing home', Mr Simpson explained.

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## Great Lakes Evening View Club update



Above: View members enjoying the International Women's Day breakfast.

More outings are in the pipeline such as a craft/games day, a come and try croquet as well as our usual monthly dinner meetings.

VIEW stands for the Voice, Interests and Education of Women. This organisation is a great way to meet and make new friends having fun at the same time whilst raising funds to support the Smith Family.

If you are interested in becoming a member of our View club, feel free to come along to a dinner meeting held on the 4th Monday of the month at Club Forster at 6pm (until Sporties club is back in action). Just make yourself known at the door where you will be welcomed!

By Judy Long - Publicity Officer  
Great Lakes Evening View Club.

We have been busy since the beginning of 2022 starting in January with our AGM and Australia Day celebration. In February, a coach day trip attended by over 40 members to Port Macquarie for lunch, some shopping and a show to see "Oliver" at the Players Theatre was organised and thoroughly enjoyed. Then in March, a combined View Club International Womens Day Breakfast was held at Club Forster with some very interesting guest speakers.

Below: (L to R) 20-year badge presenter Pat Gregory with recipients Colleen Algate and Pat Andrew.



So we continue on with March, where our 'special BLING' theme dinner meeting at the Forster Golf Club was a huge success for the 65 attendees. Everything on the night including the table settings, the food, the service, some dancing, some singing, some chat and of course, some laughing was first class. Two members received their 20 year membership badges. What a night it was!

## Star Volunteer



**What does this organisation do in our community?**

In general, we maintain the park area and help out the people of Green Point.

We look after the hall, the park, children's play gym and tennis courts. The children's play gym is made of timber and needs regular painting. The hall needs to be kept clean and opened for bookings. There are 2 - 3 of us who take care of the grass cutting and mowing (our mowing equipment is supplied by Council). Any proceeds from the hall go back into the Association for anything we may need.

We also maintain the 'Point' area where families like to meet and where children swim. We have a couple who mow it regularly and our members keep it free from weeds. We seem to be quite a happy village and we like to keep the place attractive. Green Point is much loved by its residents.

Every year we run a Village Xmas light competition and a Xmas party where everyone is invited. It is much enjoyed.

**Best part of the job?**

I think it is the satisfaction you get as a volunteer when helping the village you live in and being part of a group of caring people to work with. It's the camaraderie and friendships you make when you are part of a group. It's also about the cup of tea/coffee and a chat afterwards, when you get to catch up on personal issues with other people.

**Name:** Margaret Blackwood

**Organisation:** Green Point Community Association

**What is your role?** I look after the bookings of the hall at Green Point Park and the maintenance around this area.

I was the President for 7 years and have been the Vice President for another 7 years. I work with Jo Currans, who is the current President.

Contact Margaret Blackwood on 6555 9255 for volunteering and helping your village at Green Point.

**Dob in an amazing Local Volunteer!**  
Please send a high resolution photo and answers to  
info@forsterfortnightly.com.au

## Easter Fair at RDA Rainbow Flat

**SAVE THE DATE - SATURDAY 16 APRIL 10 TO 2PM**

Riding for Disabled Association (RDA) NSW Manning Great Lakes is having an Easter Fair at its Rainbow Flat facility, co-hosted by the Forster Manning Mustang Car Club.

**Our location is 1856 The Lakes Way, Rainbow Flat NSW 2430. Free parking will be available - please use our main entrance for access.**



Our Easter Fair is a RDA fundraiser, designed to be a fun day out for adults and families where they can look at and ride in the Mustang cars, see our horses and what we do with them, see a real Fire Engine up close and get a bite to eat. There are two fantastic auctions through the day with plenty of goodies to bid for. All funds raised will go towards the ongoing operational costs of our centre. [See advertisement on right]

- Admission per person is a \$10 donation, kids under 16 are free.
- Each entry ticket will go into a raffle for one of three Mustang Rides.
- Mustang Car Club will offer RDA NSW

Manning Great Lakes riders a spin in their beautifully prepared and presented Mustang Ponies.

- Car buffs can view the Mustangs (up to 12 on display) and be able to be taken for a spin for a small \$10 donation.
- A sausage sizzle, cold drinks and ice cream will be available, along with horse grooming, riding displays, auctions, a fire engine and crew, and possibly a visit by the local ambulance crew.
- A Live Auction will commence at 12 noon and includes more than \$10,000 worth of goods and services generously donated by local businesses!!!
- Excess RDA saddles, reins, bridals, and other horse gear will be sold via a Silent Auction which commences at 10am. The winners will be announced by the auctioneer at the completion of the Live Auction.
- EFTPOS will be available to pay for items won in the Live and Silent Auctions. Please bring cash for all other purchases.

### RDA Manning Great Lakes

RDA is a voluntary organisation providing equine-assisted activities for people with disabilities to develop and enhance abilities through programs such as riding, dressage and carriage driving. Horses provide vital mental and physical stimulation for our disabled participants, improving their confidence, increasing their autonomy and delivering immeasurable amounts of pleasure. Most of our disabled participants are children.

Our facility at Rainbow Flat has been in operation for over 22 years and draws disabled participants from our local community.

By Ed Binney - President  
RDA NSW Manning Great Lakes



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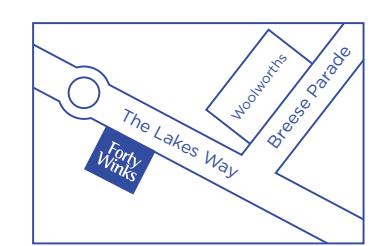
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## MP Gillespie visits FT Lion Club's Trampoline & Mini Golf Park

The purpose of Mr Gillespie's visit was to observe firsthand the outcome of the Stronger Communities Programme Application (2021) which he and the National Party were instrumental in Forster Tuncurry Lions Club being awarded a \$15,000 grant. The visit was organised by 'Lion' Bernard Pearson.

Dr Gillespie surveyed the work Forster Tuncurry Lions Club had committed with \$6,000 of their own monies along with over 600 volunteer hours for installation and completion.

The contribution has ensured the longevity of the family friendly 45-year-old site and now complies with OHS and public safety obligations.

Forster Tuncurry Lions Club is grateful for the windfall having suffered so much loss of income during the past Covid 19 Pandemics.

Monies were used to replace trampolines and install safety screens, lighting for evenings which ensure our young families have something to enjoy during peak holiday times.

The Trampoline & Mini Golf Park is utilised by visitors and locals alike where we ensure a healthy and safe family environment. All proceeds go back into the community.

We appreciate the community's support during all our fund-raising campaigns towards such things as drought, flood and community need.

Forster Tuncurry Lions Club is grateful to Dr Gillespie for his contribution and support for many ongoing needs.

"Proud to be a Lion"

By Margaret Kentwell – Publicity Officer  
Forster Tuncurry Lions Club

Below: (Back L to R) Bernard Pearson, Mick McGrath, John Imber, Peter Sloan, John Monks, Greg Marshall, Cheryl & Bruce Atkinson (Front) Dr Gillespie, Dot Monks, Margaret Kentwell and Angela Marshall.



## Local ladies walk for Parkinson's Disease



Above: Tracey Bancroft, Elizabeth Maher and Vicki Thomas at Main Beach, Forster. The three raised almost \$4,000 for Parkinson research.

Three local ladies walked to raise funds for Parkinson's Disease last Sunday 27 March 2022, braving the rainy weather and raised nearly \$4,000 between them. The main walk was held in Federation Square in Melbourne, but fundraisers could choose to walk locally which these three ladies did after encouragement from Tracey, Elizabeth's neighbour and friend,

walking 10 km.

Parkinson's Disease is close to their hearts with all three knowing loved ones close to them with this disease. They are hoping that next year's walk will attract more people in the Forster area to join them. A very big thankyou to all the people who donated to this cause.

## Homemade gifts for local police to give out



Above: Members of Halliday's Point Lions Club with District Inspector Timothy Bayly outside the Forster Police Station, Manning Great Lakes Police District.

Members of Halliday's Point Lions Club attended Forster Police Station on Wednesday 23 March, to be presented with a 'Certificate of Appreciation' from Manning Great Lakes Police District in recognition of the 414 handmade quilts, blankets and teddy bears donated to the Police District. The items were made by members of the Halliday's Point Lions Comfort Quilt's and Rugs, Halliday's Point Quilters, Halliday's Point Craft Group, Halliday's Shores Craft Group and other individuals.

These items are greatly appreciated by local police officers who can provide them to victims

and witnesses - children and adults - in need of comfort and warmth as visits to police stations can often be an unexpected and daunting experience.

Police are also aware that teddy bears have a positive developmental impact on children and can be a great tool to reduce stress and anxiety.

All police attached to the Manning Great Lakes Police District extend their thanks not only for the time put into making these beautiful items but also the generous purchasing of materials to make them.

## 20 things you can do now to fight the rising cost of living

All the evidence suggests we are entering a very tough year for the cost of living in Australia and it will change how some people live. So here are 20 concrete ideas how you can navigate the price growth and save a buck.

1. Most health funds have raised rates again on April 1. To postpone that hike, switch to one of the 12 funds that have postponed the increase: NIB, AIA, Bupa, Medibank, AHM, GMHBA, Frank, TUH, Teachers Health, UniHealth and Nurses & Midwives Health, or HCF.
2. See if you can get incentives that now range up to eight weeks free or \$600 cash back for switching.
3. Are you one of the 50% of homes with Telstra? If so, you can probably save hundreds of dollars by switching your NBN and mobile plans to a rival brand. Get rid of the landline; when was the last time it rang?
4. Still with Foxtel too? Again, you might be able to get the same content for hundreds of dollars less each year via the streaming services.
5. Already got multiple streaming subscriptions? Cancel one - you can always turn it back on later.
6. Search for "unclaimed money" and "lost super". There are billions of dollars sitting in government coffers just waiting for people to come along and claim what's theirs.
7. Thankfully, energy bills have been dropping, but you might still be able to save hundreds by switching retailers. Check your local government comparison website Energy Made Easy.
8. If you have the right roof for solar, there are now plenty of \$0 down options if you don't have the cash upfront, and state and federal government incentives range up to almost \$10,000.
9. To beat the price shock at the bowser, use the new breed of apps to find the cheapest day of the week to fill up your tank, and the cheapest petrol station. Try Motormouth, Ezy
10. If you regularly use a particular station, see if they have a discount scheme such as Coles/Woolies shopper docket, Ruckus Energy, 7-Eleven's "Fuel Price Lock" or United Petroleum's 4c/L discount nationally.
11. Drive less if you can. Maybe sell that second car. Or bite the bullet, go electric and power your car with the panels on your roof.
12. Re-finance your mortgage if it's not competitive. Some smaller lenders will give you cash back for switching, plus a sub-2% rate - try Suncorp, loans.com.au and HSBC.
13. If you have an offset account and a credit card, put your savings in the offset and expenses on the card to make the most of the interest-free days, but pay it off every month to avoid interest.
14. If you have debts, start with the most expensive (the highest interest rate) and pay it off in instalments.
15. Shop smart. Use the unit pricing on the shelves. Check out the weekly half-price specials. Go to a second supermarket at least once a month, so you can make the most of their specials too - maybe hit Aldi or Costco and bulk-buy non-perishable products when they're super-cheap.
16. Dump products that have skyrocketed by 50% to 94% in the past year, such as soft drinks and instant coffee.
17. Eat less meat. Grow more vegies.
18. Use your Flybys or Woolies Rewards points for a discount on your shop, not to buy stuff in their online store - you usually get more bang for your buck that way.
19. Eating out and takeaway are comparatively expensive. Maybe limit them to once a week.
20. Sell some stuff on Gumtree or Facebook Marketplace - and buy what you can there too.

By Joel Gibson. Published 3/31/2022.  
www.smh.com.au

**A CHOICE OF 15 MEALS FOR \$15 EA!**  
Members \$15 | Visitors \$20  
AVAILABLE 7 DAYS FOR LUNCH

WIN UP TO \$50K

**Bingo DELUXE EVERY MONDAY**  
From 10am  
Introducing P.E.T.s  
**20 GAMES FOR \$3**  
• \$235 in prizes to be won at each session  
See Bingo House Rules displayed at each session for more information

**MARINE RESCUE NSW Forster Tuncurry**

**CASH HOUSE**

**EVERY TUESDAY**  
Books on sale 5.30pm | Start 6.30pm

**EVERY THURSDAY**  
Books on sale 10.15am | Start 11am

**ONLY \$13 TO PLAY 32 GAMES**  
30 CLUB/CASH GAMES • \$10 FOR 6 BOOKS  
2 JACKPOT GAMES • \$1.50 PER SHEET  
Think! About your choices. Gambling more, enjoying it less! For free and confidential information and advice about problem gambling, please contact Gambling Help 1800 858 858.

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**Dr. David GILLESPIE MP**  
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR **LYNE**  
**GETTING IT DONE** for Lyne

**OUR COMMUNITY IS A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE, WORK AND RAISE A FAMILY.**

**NOW UNDERWAY: \$4.5 MILLION FAILFORD ROAD UPGRADES**

Work has started on major road upgrades for the Manning-Great Lakes, jointly funded by the Federal and NSW governments.

Motorists can see important upgrades happening on Failford Road at the busy intersection with the Pacific Highway, to reduce accidents.

Federal funding of \$3.6 million will deliver safety features including flexible wire rope barriers and audio-tactile line marking on the edges and down the centre of Failford Road.

Improving these critical local arteries ensures safer trips for us all.

**Dr. David GILLESPIE MP**  
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR **LYNE**  
*He Listens. He Cares. He Delivers.*  
**THE NATIONALS** for Regional Australia  
Authorised by David Gillespie, The Nationals, Shops 2 & 3, 43 High Street, Wauchope NSW 2446

**Wauchope Office**  
02 6586 4462  
Corner of High and Hastings Streets, Wauchope, NSW 2446  
david.gillespie.mp@aph.gov.au

**Taree Office**  
02 6557 8910  
144 Victoria Street, Taree, NSW 2430  
DavidGillespieMP  
david\_gillespie\_mp  
davegillespiemp

## Leadership Ceremony at Forster Primary School



Forster Public School recently held the Leadership Induction Ceremony to induct its 2022 School Leaders, Sports Captains and School Representative Council representatives.

Congratulations to all our fabulous school leaders. We look forward to a wonderful 2022. Pictured above: (Back) Lachlan (Vice Captain), Ruby, Cohen, Taj, Levi and Ecko.

(Front) Jasper, Mali (Captain), Ava, Mrs Kate Mutch (Assistant Principal Stage 3), Hannah (Captain), Katie, Sam (Vice Captain) and Mr Peter Johnson (Relieving Principal).

## 2022 MidCoast Youth Award nominations open

Do you know an outstanding young person? If you do, why not nominate them for a 2022 MidCoast Youth Award?

Open to anyone aged 18-24 living, working or studying in the MidCoast local government area, the awards recognise achievements in the arts, community service, leadership, sports, wellbeing, resilience and entrepreneurship.

Last year, Hailey Trudgeon won a wellbeing award for her 'narrative therapy' work helping children tell their stories about the fires in Old Bar. She is just one of 13 local talents to win a \$250 cash prize.

"Young people like Hailey are the heart and soul of our community," said Mayor Claire Pontin. "It's so important we recognise the fantastic contributions young people make in our community every day."

Nominations open as the MidCoast gears up to celebrate NSW Youth Week.

Held from 4 to 14 April, Youth Week is an opportunity for young people to get involved in community activities and

make their voices heard. There's loads happening across the region, including movie nights, art workshops and a special exhibition at Manning Regional Art Gallery displaying the work of our youth.

**Nominations for the 2022 MidCoast Youth Awards are open until Sunday 26 June. The awards are an initiative of MidCoast Council and Taree PCYC with support from local service providers and businesses.**

For more information, go to [www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/youthawards](http://www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/youthawards).

To find out more about Youth Week activities, visit [www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/youthevents](http://www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/youthevents).



Above: Hailey Trudgeon won a wellbeing award for helping children tell their stories about the fires in Old Bar.

## Pacific Palm's Green Team beach clean up



look out for and collecting micro plastics. Even when the students are not participating in the school's clean up they always remember to 'Take 3 for the Sea' helping keep our environment litter free and marine life safe.

The Green Team is a year 6 Leadership Team who have an interest in environmental issues and practical solutions to help look after our school and the wider community. Green Team members fulfil roles within the school such as looking after our worm farm, recycling, garden care and other school sustainability practices.

By Melissa Shoesmith - Student Welfare Officer Pacific Palms Primary School

The sun finally appeared for 'Green Team' to run their beach clean up at Boomerang Beach.

It was a timely event for the Pacific Palms students as the recent flooding has seen more marine refuse than normal wash up on our pristine local beaches.

The Green Team participated in the beach clean ups each term, doing their part for the Tangaroa Blue Foundation which is an Australia-wide not-for-profit organisation dedicated to the removal and prevention of marine debris.

Students found many larger pieces of debris but were also on the



## Sampson & Delilah



We sell quality clothes specialising in natural fibres - including labels Foil, Naturals, Tirelli, Yarra Trail, See saw, Ping Pong and Corfu. We also sell plants and collectables.

**Sale 50% off dresses and 20% off clothes (ex new arrivals and already discounted)**

Open Monday to Friday: 9:30am - 3:30pm  
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19 Wharf Street Forster Enquiries: 0424 160 976



Tully's Tuncurry News: 6554 6407  
Tulls News Forster: 6555 7207  
Easter Cards & Gifts



### The Grin Bin



### Swamp



### Doodley Squat



### Bushy Tales



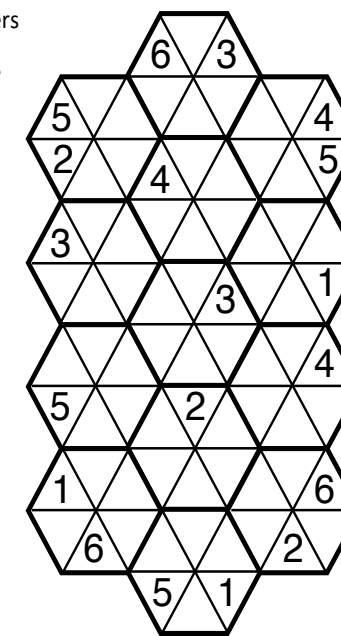
### Sudoku

Fill in the blank cells using numbers from 1 to 9. Each number can only appear once in each row, column and 3x3 block.

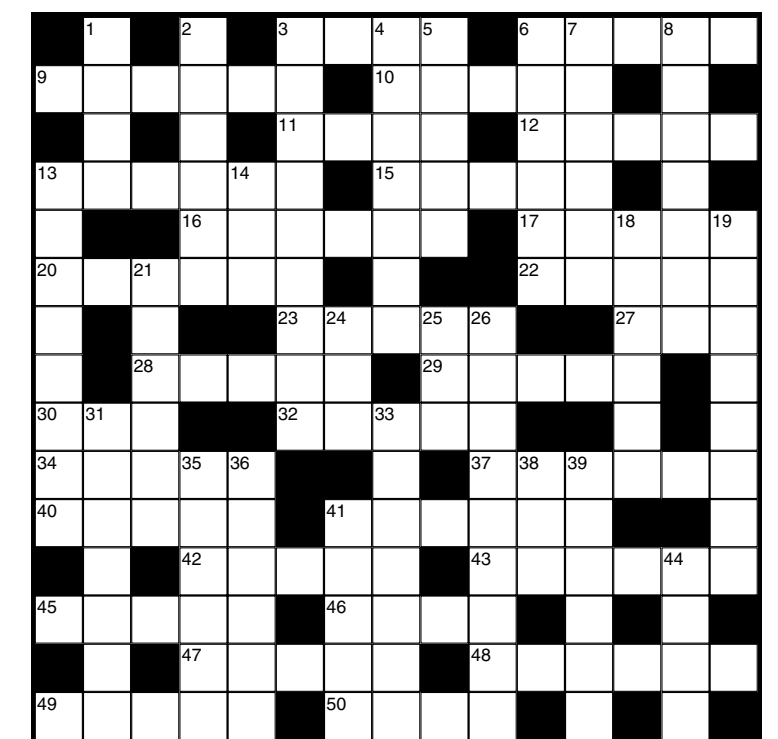
1	9	6			3	5	
3							
6	7	8				4	
	7			6		2	
	8	3	5			4	
	3	6		8		5	7
	1		4		9		
						8	

### Quick Workout

Fit the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 into the hexagons so that where the hexagons touch, the numbers will be the same. No number is repeated in any hexagon.



### Crossword



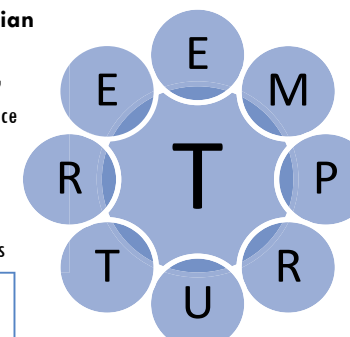
- ACROSS**
- 3 Muslim leader
  - 6 Corolla leaf
  - 9 Malignant substance
  - 10 Evil spirit
  - 11 Implement
  - 12 Patient and uncomplaining
  - 13 Soup
  - 15 Man's name
  - 16 Buccaneer
  - 17 Send money
  - 20 Sea nymphs
  - 22 French river
  - 23 Church office bearer
  - 27 Japanese monetary unit
  - 28 Food dressing
  - 29 Parts of speech
  - 30 Obtain
  - 32 Held principle
- DOWN**
- 1 Sport
  - 2 Leak out
  - 3 Cross, as lines
  - 4 Taken as one's own
  - 5 Confused fight
  - 6 Puzzling questions
- 7 Meal course**  
8 Silly  
13 Portions of a writing  
14 Spirit  
18 Failed to hit  
19 Offered  
21 Corroded  
24 Sheltered side  
25 First woman  
26 Withdrew from enemy  
31 Highest mountain  
33 Closest  
35 Inherent character  
36 Made harsh sound while sleeping  
38 Do wrong  
39 Found fault constantly  
41 Prison rooms  
44 Therefore

### Focus

An All Australian Word Game

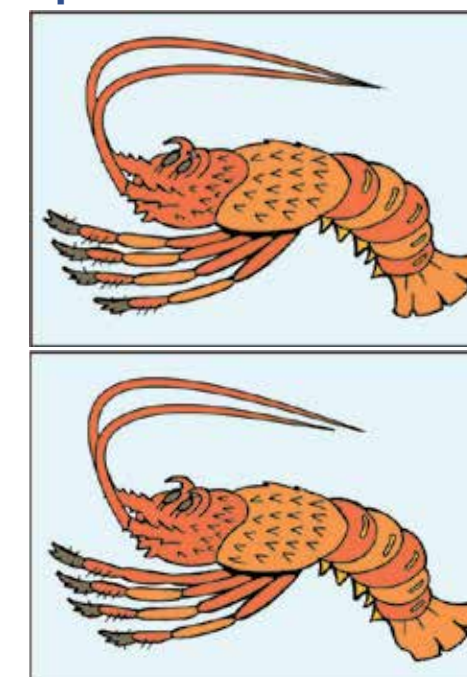
- \* Each word must contain the centre 'Focus' letter and each letter may be used only once
- \* Each word must be four letters or more
- \* Find at least one nine letter word
- \* No swear words
- \* No verb forms or plurals ending in 's'
- \* No proper nouns and no hyphenated words

**TODAY'S FOCUS** Good: 13 words  
Very good: 23 words  
Excellent: 33 words

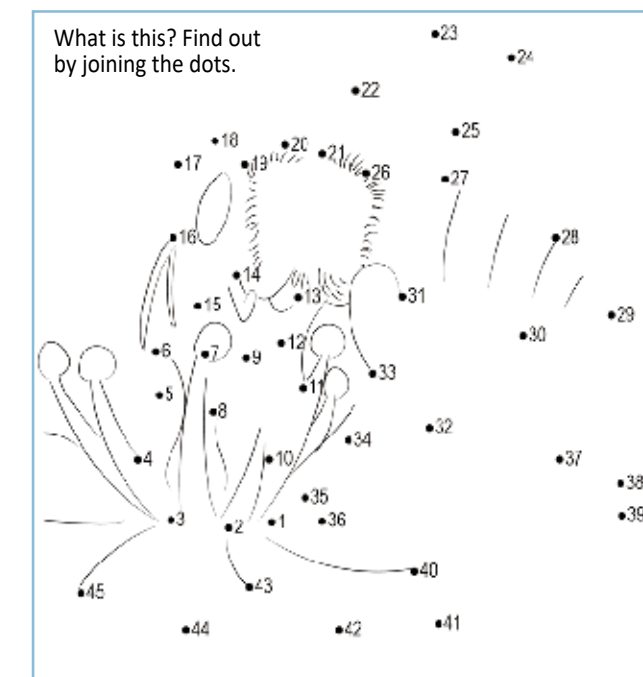


Reference: Macquarie Concise Dictionary  
Focus No. 3877

### Spot the 5 Differences

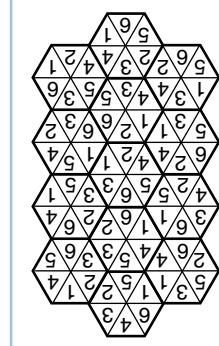


### Join the Dots



### Solutions

Puzzles and pagination supplied by Auspac Media



**SPOT THE 5 DIFFERENCES:** Antennae shorter, segment missing from leg, extra spike on back, missing hair from leg.

**JOIN THE DOTS:** lobster

YOUR FORTNIGHTLY TV GUIDE

April 6 - 12

Table with columns for days of the week (Wednesday to Tuesday) and channels (ABCTV, SBS, PRIME7, NBN, TEN). Each cell contains a list of TV programs with their start times.

April 13 - 19

Table with columns for days of the week (Wednesday to Tuesday) and channels (ABCTV, SBS, PRIME7, NBN, TEN). Each cell contains a list of TV programs with their start times.

Advertisement for Club to Club featuring a swimmer and the text 'Swim 3.8km around the headland from Cape Hawke to Forster'.

Advertisement for Clubhouse Farewell event on Sunday 10th April 4pm - 8pm, including details about the demolition of the current clubhouse.

Advertisement for Pacific Palms Bowling Club featuring a bowl of food, a bowling ball, and details about club raffles, bistro deals, and trading hours.

Local Calendar

The 'Local Calendar' lists free events organised by community groups & organisations.

April

**Thurs 7th April Jan - Manning Great Lakes Birdwatchers** 8am start, Minimbah Nature Reserve. Enquiries 0431 878 395

**8th April to 1st May - 40th Open Art Exhibition** Forster Art Gallery, Lakes Street. Enquiries: 6557 2880 [See advertisement below]

**Sun 10th April - Forster Town Market** 8am - 2pm, Forster Town Park on Head Street. Enquiries: 0437 634 056

**Wed 14th to Tues 18th April - Giant Book Fair** 9am - 4pm every day, Tuncurry Memorial Hall. By Rotary Club of Lower Midcoast. Enquiries: Clive 0412 653 061



**Sat 16th April - Forster Farmers Market** 8am - 12pm Forster Info Centre, Little St. 3rd Saturday of the month. Enquiries: Linda 0421 347 273

**Sat 16th April - Super Garage Charity Sale Great Lakes Palliative Care** 8am - 2pm, 32 Manning St, Tuncurry. Opposite John Wright Park.

**Sun 17th April - Great Lakes Museum Market** 8am - 1pm Great Lakes Museum, 1 Capel St Tuncurry. Enquiries: 6554 6275

**Sat 23rd April - Anzac Tribute and Morning Tea** hosted by FOGLLS & Great Lakes Museum, 10am at the Museum in Capel St Tuncurry. [See advertisement opposite page]

**Sat 23rd April - Manning Great Lakes Birdwatchers** 8am start, Firefly. Enquiries 0431 878 395

**Sat 23rd April - Tuncurry Market** 8am - 1pm at John Wright Park, Tuncurry. Bookings essential. Enquiries: Anne 0417 400 994

**Sun 24th April - Pacific Palms Market** 9am - 1pm Pacific Palms Community Centre. Enquiries: Jennifer Doyle 0401 968 516

May

**Sun 1st May - Black Head Bazaar**, 8am - 1pm Wylie Breckenridge Park, Black Head Rd. www.facebook.com/blackheadbazaar

ART SHOW AND SALES

**40th Open Exhibition**  
8 April - 1 May 2022  
Presented by Great Lakes Art Society Inc.

**FORSTER GALLERY**  
24 Lake Street FORSTER NSW 4428  
www.forstergallery.org  
admin@forstergallery.org  
Enquiries 043228800

What's on around town and beyond  
**Giant Book Fair over Easter at Tuncurry Hall**



The Rotary Club of Lower Midcoast is holding a Giant Book Fair at Tuncurry Memorial Hall in Point Road Tuncurry over Easter between 14th to 18th April 2022. The Book Fair will be open from 9am until 4pm each day.

Once again thousands of books will be available, both fiction and nonfiction. The majority of books are sold per centimetre measured by the thickness of the books. All fiction books will be sorted in alphabetical order and nonfiction books will be sorted in many categories.

This is a wonderful opportunity for you to stock

up on summer holiday reading while at the same time assisting Rotary to raise funds for many community projects.

So, whether you are looking for a good novel, a cookbook, a travel book, a gardening book, or a children's book, you will be amazed by the large selection available. Rotarians will be there to assist you find what you are looking for. If you would like to know more phone Clive Davies 0412 653061.

Rotary look forward to seeing you at their Book Fair. Free entry.

By Clive Davies. Photo supplied.

Book Review



Merridy Eastman's book **How Now Brown Frau** is her account of marrying a Bavarian German and living in Munich for five years. It shows how different Australian and German cultures are and the travails and trials of learning to speak a new language. Indeed she had to rely on her husband for crucial dealings with German bureaucracy and professionals. When she went to see a gynaecologist about her pregnancy she found that he and her husband spoke German in front of her even though both spoke English and she understood not a word; she had to demand they speak English.

It appears that assertiveness is generally limited to little old ladies with sharp elbows and sharp tongues pushing through to get a seat on a bus or tram. Merridy found herself being berated at length by an old lady for not picking up a small bit of paper at her feet on the tram. She did not, of course, understand what was being said.

That said, Merridy did reveal to her mother-in-law the phrase she used when someone has gone too far, namely "Pull your head in". In her mother-in-law's reiteration to her son it became "Pull your head off".

Merridy reveals how tricky a foreign language can be. Wanting the window open she said Ich bin heiss thinking this meant 'I am hot' only to discover it means 'I am hot for sex'. She should have said Mir ist heiss translated as 'Me is hot'. Much silent embarrassment all round. Surprisingly, it seems that English is not commonly understood (but then, how many Australians understand let alone speak Japanese or Bahasa Indonesia or any of the Chinese dialects?) Her German classes are revealing; her fellow students came from Spain, Russia, Turkey, England and Sydney.

The contrasts between German and Australian culture are very noticeable. Smiling in public is generally not acceptable, certainly not pointing, and silence is the norm on public transport and in public generally; to transgress brings frowns and disapproval. But, the trains run on time, and people are punctual. Dress is generally less casual, and daily exchanges in passing quite formal and limited. None of the raucous behaviour Australians are accustomed to, except maybe at Oktoberfest when some six million people converge on Munich and drink between five and six million litres of beer.



Surfing in Bavaria?? Ja, Ja. River surfing and Merridy's husband is right into it, literally. Having thrown his surfboard into the standing wave in the river he falls off, is carried around the bend under a bridge to emerge at a small beach. There is, too, a Fosters' tent, Fosters being the sponsor for this sport.

Perhaps the most revealing chapter is Merridy having a caesarean delivery in a very precise and strict German hospital which, she says, doesn't offer pethidine even though it was invented in Germany. "I am in a lot of pain; do you speak English?" she asks the nurse. "Nein" was the stern reply. End of story.

By John King - Librarian.

**Pacific Palms Community Library in the hall**  
Open Tuesday to Saturday 10am to noon and Pacific Palms Market Sundays 9am to 1pm

Do you recognise these names?

Early farmers to the district - part 1

Over one hundred years ago, had you been travelling around the Cape Hawke District you would no doubt have called upon some of the following people who were listed in a census made in 1885 by the Legislative Assembly.

**James Hadley**, mill worker for J.W Breckenridge had taken up 100 acres named Bennett's Head and there on was raising 6 horses, 40 head of cattle and 1 pig.

On the other side of the valley was the local schoolmaster, **George Underwood**, with a holding of 100 acres called Sea View. Upon this he grazed 3 horses, 16 head of cattle and 2 pigs. Later when his eldest son reached manhood, he expanded this stocking to set up a dairy on the eastern slope of Reservoir Hill - down hill from where the Pioneer Estate is set today, whilst on the site occupied by the golf course house, he had his killing depot and from here retailed meat to the public and milk from the dairy.

Below: George Underwood and family.



Out on the Hawke in the valley between the "two hillocks" as Cook described them, ran Dunn's Creek, and along the northern bank **Thomas Dunn** held 100 acres, but being a sick man was not actively farming, merely occupying the place for the owner Tom McBride who finally took it over in 1888.

Meanwhile, **Tom McBride** who was the man in charge of the transport arrangement for the Hudson's Brothers Mill at Nerani, was living at Tarbuck Brush and on 10 acres was carrying some 20 head of horses and 17 head of cattle.

No doubt these, the teams that were used to tow the trolleys along the rail lines, used to transport the timber from up round Booti Booti to Smith's Lake. These were horse drawn vehicles. Besides Dunn on the Hawke, **William Mulconery** held 40 acres with but 1 horse and 8 head of cattle and a pig.

In the same area **William Fraser** held 20 acres with 2 horses and 12 head of cattle and Lachlan Fraser a little further down held 90 acres but had only 3 horses and a dozen pigs.

**Robert and Thomas Dunn** were both far from occupied with grazing of larger herds of cattle - Robert held 540 acres at Coomba Coomba (as he called it) with 70 horses, 420 head of cattle, 14 sheep and 3 pigs.

Further south at Burrak Beak, **Thomas Dunn** held 1220 acres with 5 horses and 120 head of cattle, 14 sheep and 20 pigs.

Back in Forster, **John Wylie Breckenridge**, who took over the 40 acres of **George Godwin** on



Above: Horse drawn team in Myall area.

the Mark Street corner, was not allowing the land to rest having, on census date, a stocking of 10 horses, 35 head of cattle and 2 pigs.

**George Godwin**, meanwhile, having moved to Wamwarra on Smiths Lake was holding 120 acres, stocked with 3 horses, 50 head of cattle and 9 pigs.

An extract from *The Advocate*, 'Winds of Change' article written by Mick Constable dated 9/9/1985.

Interested in history and would like to volunteer - come along to the museum on Tuesday or Wednesday - have a cuppa and a chat with the volunteers on duty.

Anne Masters - Director/Volunteer Great Lakes Museum

[See advertisement on opposite page for their combined Anzac Tribute with FOGLLS]

Great Lakes Art Society powering into 2022

As preparations mount for the 40th Annual Open Exhibition at our newly rebranded gallery (Forster Gallery), the society is experiencing a welcome boost in membership. Membership is now over 150. The society has attracted quite a few new members who mostly say they are keen to develop their artistic skills and explore new skill sets. Other new members have recognised the social benefits of joining, especially those new to town, and are eager to participate in the activities provided. One of our main aims is to provide the opportunity for community development in visual arts. Please note that we are not all experts by any means and some of our most treasured members don't even paint or sculpt (YET).



Above: Open entry "After the Tempest, One Mile Beach", W Barry.

Membership forms are available at the gallery and online. We'd love to see more youthful members (did I say that correctly?) and more indigenous participation. Telling life stories and yarnning through art has great potential for remediation and reconciliation. Look out for a superb entry in the Open!

Very generous support for the 40th Open has been provided in the form of major prize monies from Ray White Forster, Stacks the Law Firm, Big 4 Tuncurry, and Lakes and Ocean Hotel. Generous sponsors are Forster Bowling Club, Bruce White Orthopaedics, Midcoast Council, Forster Tuncurry Quota, Forster Tuncurry Lions and Great Lakes Paddocks. Such great organisations, thank you.

Our Judge this year is Alice Laura Palmer, International Contemporary Artist, Creative Consultant and Educator, who brings great experience from the Florence Academy of Art. It will be so worthwhile to hear her comments.

Our fledgling drive to include more initiatives for the youth of our area has resulted in the provision of 4 new prize categories for youth, including sculpture and 3 Dimensional works. We hope to develop this involvement in the

near future. As another welcome development some of the Art Teachers from Great Lakes College are leading by example and have also entered the Open. (That takes some of the pressure off this ex PE teacher at least).

Further development is being encouraged by numerous workshops being run throughout the winter period; John Wilson workshop (Creative Landscapes in Oils), 14 - 15 May, Chan Dissanayake is returning to do a 2 or 3 day watercolours workshop in June with the potential for plein air sessions (outdoors), 25th - 27th and Harry Westera, (Coastal Scenes in Watercolour) will run 10th and 11th September.

See: www.forstergallery.org/workshops

Opening night, this Friday at 5pm, is a limited ticket event (it may be too late by now) so please ring ASAP to book on 0412 188 544. [See advertisement opposite page.]

Please visit us at 34 Lake Street, Forster between 10am and 4pm during the exhibition 8th April - 1st May, 2022.

By Wayne Barry.

40th Annual Exhibition entries from Tuncurry Campus

Congratulations to these talented artists who are taking part in the 40th Open Exhibition at Forster Gallery. A massive achievement for Georgia, Maddie,

Shyanne, Ellenor, Birch, Angela, Jazz, Lilly, Madi, Isabella and Tom.

By Lisa Dorahy - Art Teacher.

Great Lakes College Tuncurry Campus



Above left: Jazz with artwork. Above right: Madi with artwork. Left: Georgia with artwork. Below: Tom's artwork.



**Friends of Great Lakes Library Service**  
In partnership with **Great Lakes Museum** Present

**ANZAC TRIBUTE**  
at **Great Lakes Museum**  
Capel Street TUNCURRY

*Del Heake, OAM*

- Air Force Nurse
- Served in Malaysia & Vietnam

*Del will speak on the "Legacy of War"*

**Saturday, 23rd April**  
Time.....10 a.m.  
Cost.....FREE

**Program:**  
10:00 a.m. Address by Del  
10:30 a.m. Morning Tea  
11:00 a.m. Address by Roberta

*Roberta Small*

- Great Lakes FM Radio Presenter since 2003
- Active community member

*Roberta will speak about "Music & Morale" during war.*

View many photos of local soldiers who 'went to war' and valiantly served their country. Also enjoy a wander through the original Tuncurry School, Cheers Cottage, Tuncurry Lock-up, Saddlery, Machinery Shed and the main building which houses military memorabilia, indigenous items, ship models and much more.

**COME AND JOIN US**  
**FORSTER TUNCURRY SENIOR CITIZENS**  
WE ARE LOCATED IN THE COMMUNITY HALL IN THE MID NORTH COAST BUILDING NEXT TO THE ARTS & CRAFTS CENTRE IN BREEZE PARADE

- CARPET BOWLS ARE MONDAY AFTERNOON 12.45 - 3.45 PM
- CARPET BOWLS ARE FRIDAY MORNINGS 9.45 - 12 PM
- GAMES ARE FRIDAY AFTERNOON 1 - 4 PM
- BINGO IS ON A SATURDAY AFTERNOON 12.30 - 3.30 PM

AFTER COVID RESTRICTIONS WE ARE WANTING TO GET UP & RUNNING AGAIN!  
WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE CARD PLAYERS PLAYING AGAIN & ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO ORGANISING BUS TRIPS ONCE MORE

PLEASE COME & JOIN US - THE OFFICE PHONE NUMBER IS 6505 2686  
A MESSAGE BANK IS AVAILABLE IF UNATTENDED & WE WILL RETURN YOUR CALL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE OR CALL IN & SEE US WHEN ACTIVITIES ARE TAKING PLACE AT TIMES ABOVE

WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU - BOTH OLD & NEW MEMBERS



## Community News

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## Weekly Diary

The 'Weekly Diary' is FREE to promote community group information. Max - 4 lines.

## Mondays

**Green Bikes Community Workshop**  
Open 9 - 12pm. Supplying parts & free help with bike problems. Tuncurry transfer station. Budding mechanics welcome. 0458 809 975

**Great Lakes Ladies Probus Club**  
4th Monday of the Month  
10am Forster Bowling Club  
Contact Lorraine Tilley 0408 055 109.

**Inner Wheel Club of Forster Tuncurry**  
2nd Monday of the Month.  
1pm Club Forster.  
Contact Lorraine Tilley 0408 055 109.

**Forster Hospital Pink Ladies**  
Meetings held the 2nd Monday of each month Forster Bowling Club 1.30 pm. Afternoon tea afterwards. Contact Cathy Cook 0429 265 656.

**Boomerang Bags Forster Tuncurry**  
9:30am -12:30pm every second Monday  
Tuncurry Memorial Hall  
Ring Leonie Dowell 0430 623 332

**Heart Foundation walking group**  
7:30am Community Health Centre  
Breeze Parade, Forster  
Contact Bev 0408232 094

**Forster Tuncurry Seniors**  
Breeze Parade Forster  
Carpet Bowls 12.45 - 3:45pm  
Contact 6505 2686

**The Man Walk - Walk, talk and support**  
7am Mondays at John Wright Park, Tuncurry.  
Contact Steve Rogers 0407 200 615

**Great Lakes Evening VIEW Club Dinner Meeting** 6 for 6.30pm start, Wallis Room - Club Forster. 4th Monday every month  
Phone Pat Gregory 6554 5466

**Club Forster Travel Club**  
Meetings held the 3rd Monday of each month  
2pm Wallis Lake room, Club Forster  
Contact Judy 0408 640988

**Manning Great Lakes Parkinson's Support Group**, Last Monday of the month  
1.30pm Club Forster  
Contact Ken, 0427 021 877, Phil 0439 418 478

**Quota Club of Forster Tuncurry**  
Meets 1st and 3rd Monday each month  
Club Forster. Lunch 12.30pm  
Meeting 1.30pm, Enquiries 65557219

**Al-Anon Family Groups**  
Does someone you love drink too much?  
7:30pm Salvation Army Hall, South St, Tuncurry.  
Contact: 1300 252 666

## Tuesdays

**Forster Shores Combined Probus Meeting**  
3rd Tuesday of the month  
2pm Club Forster.  
To attend contact Peter Dreise on 0407 842 905

**Great Lakes Prostate Cancer Support Group.**  
Fourth Tuesday of every month  
7pm Club Forster  
Email: jipatchwood@gmail.com

**Pacific Palms Probus Club**  
Meets second Tuesday each month at Moby Resort, Boomerang Beach 9.30 for 10.00am start, Feb to Nov. Ring Jim on 0418 201 167

**Rotary Club of Lower Midcoast**  
Meets first Tuesday each month at Sporties, Tuncurry at 6pm. Meets third Tuesday at Club Old Bar. Call Lance Fletcher 0409 850 671.

**Heart Foundation walking group**  
7:30am Beach Bums cafe Beach St & North St  
social coffee after walk  
Contact Lorna 0420 587 532

**Wallis Lake Dining Group**  
We dine out on the 1st Tuesday of the Month at various restaurants  
Please call Jim Peters on 0418 201 167

**Hallidays Point Combined Probus Meeting**  
1st Tuesday of the month  
10.00am at Black Head Surf Life Saving Club  
To attend contact Ian Campbell 0417 928 791

**Wallis Lake Tourers Travel Club Inc.**  
Meet 10am 2nd Tuesday of the month  
Tuncurry Memorial Hall on Point Rd  
Enquiries Kayleen 0416 184 684.

**Great Lakes Orchid Society Meeting**  
Meets second Tuesday of the month  
7.30pm Forster Public School, Head Street.  
Enquiries: Graham 0414 256 654

## Wednesdays

**Green Bikes Community Workshop**  
Open 12 - 3pm. Supplying parts & free help with bike problems. Tuncurry transfer station. Budding mechanics welcome. 0458 809 975

**Great Lakes Breast Cancer Support Group**  
First Wednesday of every month.  
4pm Tuncurry Beach Bowling Club/membership  
Email: facilitator@breastfriends.org.au

**Heart Foundation walking group**  
7:30am Community Health Centre  
Breeze Parade, Forster  
Contact Bev 0408 232 094.

**Seaside Heritage Quilters** - all abilities  
Meet 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month  
10:30 - 3pm Forster Masonic Hall, Lake Street.  
Contact Diane De Wright 0491 150 910

**Club Forster Table Tennis**  
Each week new players welcomed.  
6-9pm Contact Phil 65554774

**Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service**  
Forster Tuncurry Group  
First Wednesday of the month, 3pm Sporties  
Tuncurry. Enquiries: Janet 0404 328 875

**Forster Tuncurry Evening View Club**  
Meet Second Wednesday of each month  
6.00pm for 6.30pm Club Forster  
Contact Lorraine Tilley 0408055109.

## Thursdays

**Coomba Mens Shed**  
Open every Thursday 8.30am-12pm.  
86 Moorooaba Rd Coomba Park.  
All men welcome to come along & participate.

**Codependents Anonymous**  
Difficulty maintaining relationships?  
5.30 - 7pm Uniting Church, Tuncurry.  
www.codependentsanonymous.org.au

**Heart Foundation walking group**  
7:30am Community Health Centre  
Breeze Parade, Forster  
Contact Lorna 0420587532

**Great Lakes & Manning Stroke Recovery Club**  
We meet every 2nd & 4th Thursday of month.  
New members and visitors are most welcome.  
Contact can be made by ringing 1300 650 594.

**Al-Anon Family Groups**  
Does someone you love drink too much? Help is available! 12.30pm Uniting Church, Cnr South & Bent St, Tuncurry. Contact: 1300 252 666

**Forster District Combined Probus Club**  
9.45am First Thursday of every month (except January) Club Forster. Contact Secretary Christine Armstrong 02 6557 5627

**Knit and Knatter**  
1st Thursday of the month 1-3pm., Tuncurry  
Community of Christ, 4 Manning Street  
Tuncurry. Contact Wendy Ballard 0411 036171

## Fridays

**Forster Country Women's Association (CWA)**  
3rd Friday of the Month, 10.30am CWA Rooms,  
Little St, Next to Information Centre, Forster.  
Contact Annette Fischer 65555 9928

**Heart Foundation walking group**  
7:30am John Wright Park, Tuncurry  
Social coffee after walk.  
Contact Lorna 0420 587 532

## Saturdays

**Forster parkrun**  
Pebble Beach Playground off Head St  
7:45am for 8am start  
facebook.com/Forsterparkrun

**Club Forster Table Tennis**  
Each week new players welcomed.  
1:15 - 3:30pm Contact Phil 65554774

**Forster Country Women's Association (CWA)**  
Meet 9am to bake scones 3rd Saturday of month (same day as Farmer's Market), Little St.  
Contact Annette Fischer 0411 028 857

## Sundays

**Walk 'n' Talk For Life**  
Last Sunday of the month  
9am Lone Pine Park, Tuncurry  
www.facebook.com/walkntalkforlifetuncurry

**Ocean Breathing on the sand at Bugess Beach**  
At sunrise 1st Sunday of the month  
Updates prior at: facebook.com/MusubiDo  
Emma Barton 0434 173 850.

## Forster Library Programs

**1. The Better Reading Better Communities program** - Volunteer Literacy Tutors are available to support members of the community (children & adults) with improving reading, writing and learning English as a second language. This a free service. Contact Meredith Campbell on 7955 7421 to discuss or for more information.

**2. Homework help** - available during school terms for primary and secondary students every Wednesday 3-5pm. We provide free tutor support, afternoon tea, printing/photocopying and Wi-Fi. No bookings are required. Phone 79557001 for more information.

**3. Storytime - stories, songs & craft**  
For 3 - 5 years of age  
10:30 - 11:30am Wednesdays during school term. Bookings are required at www.library.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/Events

**5. Baby Rhyme Time - music, songs & books**  
For new born - 2 years of age



## Meals &amp; pantry items available in our local community

**The Forster Tuncurry Church of Christ is providing a Community Pantry for those who may find themselves in need.**

We are providing frozen meals (from Eastern Tiger Restaurant) and basic essentials that you may find in the pantry. We also provide some basic cleaning and personal hygiene items too.

You can find us at 14 Douglas Avenue, Tuncurry. Feel free to drop in on Mondays from 9:30am - 11:30am.

Alternatively, you can contact us on 0407 483 070 or on Facebook (search for Forster Tuncurry Church of Christ).

Pastor Bret Clarke



## The Forster Tuncurry Community Kitchen

The Forster Community Kitchen is serving lunches to the community Monday to Thursday 12 - 1pm. All are welcome. Lunches are served in the Catholic Church Hall located behind the Catholic Parish at 33 Lake Street, Forster.

Enquiries: Volunteer Coordinator Michelle Robinson 0447 184 917 and the Catholiccare Office 6539 5900.



## Community News

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## Support the newspaper that supports our town!

We can help your business grow when you advertise with us:

- Reach you exact local customer base at Hallidays Point, Forster-Tuncurry, Pacific Palms, Smiths Lake and Coomba.
- High circulation with the most popular newspaper in the region. 6,000 FREE copies jump of the stands!
- Published in hardcopy AND digital version for 2 weeks.

We give you great value:

- Ads of all sizes to suit everyone's budget.
- Great deals for regular sponsors.
- Prices easy to see online at www.forsterfortnightly.com.au

When you advertise with us:

- You are supporting everyone in your community with a FREE respected & trusted news source.
- Locals love to see what services are available in their own backyard.
- Your money stays in your local community.



Thank you to the following businesses & organisations whose advertising helped provide this 43rd edition FREE for our community.

Forty Winks  
MidCoast Council  
Steve Bromhead Office  
David Gillespie Office  
Tuncurry Beach Bowling Club  
Tuncurry Mitsubishi & Hyundai  
Great Lakes Y  
Pacific Palms Bowling Club  
Friends of Great Lakes Library Services & Great Lakes Museum  
Department of Health  
Treasury Department  
Samson and Delilah  
Forster Tuncurry Senior Citizens  
Forster Surf Club  
Local Handyman  
All Age Driving Tuition  
Fabulous Hairdresser  
Great Lakes Prostrate Support  
Great Lakes Art Society  
Tully's & Tulls Newsagency  
Midcoast Animal Hospital  
Peter the Carpenter  
Ronnie's Lawnmowing  
Reviva Reuse Shop

Forster Fortnightly - Proud to be a local family-owned newspaper.



## Trades and Services

**Ronnie's Lawnmowing**  
• Lawn mowing & edges  
• Gardening & weed spray  
No job too small!  
Discounts for pensioners  
Call Ronnie 0403 406 526

## NEED A HANDYMAN?

Painting  
Garden maintenance  
Gutters cleaned  
Rubbish removed & more

No job too big or small  
Excellent pensioner discounts

CALL ME ON 0477-916-167



**CARPENTER**  
\*Doors & Fitouts \*Extensions  
\*Gyprock \*Renovations  
\*Decks \*Maintenance  
30 years experience - Licensed - 290817C  
Call Peter 0468 946 196

## Great Lakes Prostate Cancer Support Group

Invites men and their partners to our meetings - held 4th Tuesday of each month 7pm at Club Forster.

This support group provides information, resources and guest speakers to support men and their families.

Contact Phil Rodham 65572063 or email greatlakespcsg@gmail.com



Proudly sponsored by the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia.

Inviting all clients existing and new to FAByouLOUS Hairdressing

Jodie Riley - a senior hairdresser that has been working in Tuncurry for the previous two years - has relocated to Sarah's Scissor Run at 1/112 Manning St, Tuncurry.

\* Colour technician  
\* Style cuts men & women (barber fades)  
\* Perms

Mon - Fri  
Contact Jodie on 0499 992 202



## DRIVING LESSONS

Automatic & Manual Accredited  
Older Driver Assessor  
Keys2Drive Coach  
Driver Rehab Trainer  
ALL AGE  
Driving Tuition

6554 5400



Reuse shop  
Midge Orchid Rd, Tuncurry  
#WASTE2WAGES

## Classifieds

## Seeking Pet/House sitter

This occasional job requires 1, sometimes 2 overnight stays in Forster. Care for well-trained elderly inside cat. Would suit retiree/ pet lover. Phone 0407567188



Above: Free copies of Forster Fortnight at Halliday's Foodworks.

We encourage you to support our local advertisers who help make this paper FREE to pick up & read each fortnight.

## Summary from MidCoast Council meeting - 23 March 2022

### 1. 64 projects underway to improve community spaces

There are currently 64 projects underway across the region to improve public spaces, including amenities, sporting ground, playground, park and beach access upgrades.

Over the past months 13 projects have been completed - including the following:

- storage sheds at Bulahdelah Showground and Wingham Tigers Junior Rugby League Club,
- playgrounds at Tuncurry Rockpool and Old Bar Park,
- fish cleaning tables, dog park at Harrington,
- lighting at Wingham tennis club,

### 2. MidCoast Ageing Strategy

The MidCoast Ageing Strategy 2022-2026 was formally endorsed. This strategy outlines actions that aim to improve the lives of people aged 65 years and older living in and visiting the MidCoast local government area. The strategy identifies key stakeholders who can assist with implementation.

### 3. Land acquisition

Council resolved to progress with the acquisition of land to allow for the widening of a section of Old Bar Road between Redbank Cemetery and Metz Road.

### 4. Audit Risk and Improvement committee annual report

ARIC is a committee of Council, responsible for reviewing Council's strategic and operational plans and risks across a broad range of governance matters. The objective of the committee is to provide independent assurance and assistance to the Council on risk management, control, governance, internal audit, organisational performance and external

accountability responsibilities. The committee is also to provide information to the Council for the purpose of improving the Council's performance of its functions. There were six audits undertaken in 2020-21 including a financial health check and audits of project management, work health and safety, records management, fuel cards and motor vehicle registration and driver licensing functions.

### 5. Financial statement submissions

A report on the submissions received from members of the public on the 2020-21 financial statements was tabled. Two submissions were received and have been provided to the Audit Office of NSW. Based on the content no changes have been made to the reports.

### 6. Roads and bridges improvements underway

The major projects reported on included the completion of the concrete roundabout at the Northern Gateway, Cundletown (work is still underway on pavement tie-ins and drainage), the roundabout at Farquhar and Primrose Street Wingham, and reconstruction of 350 metres of road Diamond Beach Road.

Work is continuing on improvements to Cowper Street Taree and Likely Street Forster.

Approximately three kilometres of road is being reconstructed at Waitui Road, Hannam Vale.

As part of the rural rehabilitation program and the regional rehabilitation program work is underway at:

- Avalon Road, Dyers Crossing • The Bucketts Way, Allworth
- The Bucketts Way, Stony Creek • The Lakes Way, Palm Lakes
- The Lakes Way, Boolambayte • The Lakes Way, Wattlely Hill
- The Bucketts Way, Mill Creek • Wingham Road / Youngs Road • The Lakes Way / Blackhead Road roundabout

Bridge renewals have been completed at:

- Parsons Bridge, • Little Tiri Bridge, • Killabakh Creek Bridge,
- Yarratt Road, • Moorak Creek Bridge

Work is also expected to be completed on bridges at Curricabark Road Gloucester and Cox Bridge Caparra over the coming months.

### 7. Water and waste water improvement programs

A range of programs are underway to maintain and improve water and waste water systems.

These include renewal programs for sewer treatment plants, sewer pump station switchboards, water mains, chemical systems, and SCADA systems.

A smart meter trial is continuing in Stroud Road and has helped to identify concealed leaks.

Updates were also provided on the following projects:

- Gloucester Reservoir and associated mains
- Gloucester Sewage Treatment Plant Replacement
- Hallidays Point Sewer Pump Station no.13
- Pacific Palms Sewage Treatment Plant, Stage 1
- Hawks Nest Sewage Treatment Plant
- Nabiac Water Treatment Plant upgrade and borefield expansion.

### 8. The meeting also resolved to:

- lodge a request to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment to manage a planning proposal to amend the zoning in several areas of Crown Land used by the Wallis Lake Recreation Clubs
- request the NSW Department of Planning and Environment to allow Council to progress to community consultation on a planning proposal to rezone 3.8 hectares of land in South Forster from rural landscape to low density residential and environmental conservation. The intended outcome is to allow for the development of residential lots.

### The next Ordinary Meeting of 27 April 2022 will be webcast live from 2pm.

The weblink will be available on the morning of the Meeting. Agendas are usually available on the website by 1pm on the Friday prior to the meeting date. The minutes of the meeting will be available on the website a few days after each meeting.

Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting. Social distancing should be maintained. All meetings will be held at the Council Chambers located in Yalawany Ganya on Biripi Way, Taree.

For full details of all reports visit:

[www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/Council/Council-Meetings/Meeting-Agendas-and-Minutes](http://www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/Council/Council-Meetings/Meeting-Agendas-and-Minutes)



# AUSTRALIA'S ECONOMIC PLAN

**Employment's up, so we're taking the next step.**

There are now 260,000 more people in work than before COVID. And Australia performed better than major advanced economies through the pandemic. That's why we're taking the next step.

To find out more, visit [economicplan.gov.au](http://economicplan.gov.au)



**13.3 million**

**+260,000**  
More people in work than before COVID

**13 million**

**March 2020 - January 2022**  
Data: ABS Labour Force, Australia

Authorised by the Australian Government, Canberra.

## Forster-Tuncurry Mayoral column



Above: Mayor Claire Pontin with Ernest Sampaul, Lakshmi Rajendran, David Sampaul and Jonathan Sampaul.

### Harmony Day

I was pleased to be able to be part of a very special Harmony Week celebration at Yalawany Ganya (MidCoast Council chambers in Taree) recently.

A total of 23 MidCoast residents officially became Australian citizens during a week that is designed to celebrate our diversity.

It was an honour to officiate at the citizenship ceremony during a week that is all about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone.

### Keeping up with Council news

I encourage everyone to keep up to date with Council's activities by signing up for Council's weekly e-newsletter or keeping an eye on our Facebook page.

The 'have your say' section on the Council website also provides a range of information on items we are seeking your input on and provides updates on projects we have underway.

## Landcare and Council working together

MidCoast Council and Mid Coast 2 Tops Landcare Connection have been working together on many environmental community projects in the Mid Coast LGA (Local Government Area). On 29th March these two organisations signed a 'memorandum of understanding' (MOU) to formalise this partnership with an agreed understanding of how they plan to work more closely together at managing our natural resources.

Mayor Claire Pontin said, "We can't look after this wide area [Mid North Coast] without the help of this dedicated group. We can achieve much more by working together."

"Landcare volunteers do a lot of wonderful work to help improve the ecological health and biodiversity of our community lands and reserves. We really appreciate this work and this memorandum of understanding recognises this and will help us give them practical support."

President of MidCoast 2 Tops Landcare Connections, Robyn Lamond said, "Well-resourced and supported Landcarers can make a significant contribution to improved management of our natural resources, on public and private land, across a wide range of environments: agricultural land, creeks, rivers, the coast, and urban areas. Together, Landcare and Council seek to enhance and protect biodiversity, water quality, regeneration of soils and building climate resilience."

"All these outcomes boost our economy: building soil health improves production and quality; improving our natural systems supports tourism and recreation; landholders being more resilient leads to stronger communities. Local food production is more important than ever, with supply chains now often interrupted by extreme weather and world events."

### What is the Mid Coast 2 Tops Landcare organisation?

Mid Coast 2 tops Landcare was founded in 2019 and represents 3 long-standing



Above: Mayor Claire Pontin (left) and President Robyn Lamond after signing the Memorandum of Understanding.

Landcare networks – Manning Landcare, Manning Coastcare and Karuah & Great Lakes Landcare. Each of the 3 districts has a Landcare Coordinator who has been funded part-time since 2015 by the State Government. This organisation is mainly made up of volunteers with over 400 members and 23 local groups involved. Robyn Lamond is the President of Mid Coast 2 Tops Landcare while Jessica Leck is the Regional Landcare Coordinator. These two individuals initiated and founded the MOU agreement.

### How the Council and Landcare partnership works

The Landcare Coordinators work closely with the many Landcare volunteers and assist them with a mix of project planning, funding applications, workshops, equipment, plants and anything else that they require. This frees up the volunteers so they can focus on the groundwork at project sites. The volunteers know their local environments and notify their Coordinators where attention and resources are needed. The Landcare Coordinators liaison with Council staff to plan and support these projects.

Examples of current projects – some lasting 6 months to 10 years and more.

- Funding and improvement of the 2 Council nurseries at Tuncurry and Taree. Local native plant stock is grown for bushfire recovery and replanting.
- Private conservation grants which encourage private landholders to work with Council and Landcare on a biodiversity framework.
- Branch Project – 8 neighbouring properties have worked together to fence off and protect 270 hectare of wetlands and 30 hectares of riparian land (land alongside wetlands or river).
- Long-term community weed engagement by helping landholders identify and remove weeds.
- Manning River Catchment project to restore the natural habitat along the river including river watch monitoring and recruiting landholders.
- William Wynter Park Project in Taree to restore the natural park and biodiversity with local Lions Club and Men's shed involvement for public access and enjoyment.
- Friends of Brown's Creek in Taree. Restore natural foreshore and walkways with engagement of local houses, businesses and work for the dole program.
- Manning Coast care have recently celebrated 25 years of protecting the coastal environment with planting, signage and fencing with their 100 volunteers.

"Mid Coast 2 Tops Landcare Connection and MidCoast Council are stronger together, through partnership, in achieving our mutual goals of environmental stewardship and community engagement," said Robyn Lamond.

Story and photo by Mary Yule.



## COMMUNITY NEWS

MIDCOAST FOCUS

### Careers at Council

### WE'RE HIRING

We are seeking suitably qualified people to fill the roles of:

- Administration Support Officer x 2
- Apprentice Horticulture, Parks & Gardens
- Contracts Officer
- Domestic Assistants - EOJ
- Environmental Health Officer - Waste Water
- Finance Officer
- Landfill Supervisor - Gloucester
- Library Assistants - Gloucester & Taree
- Senior Project Manager
- Support Connections Assistant
- Systems and Finance Officer Disability Services
- Waste Analyst Levy and Accounts

Visit our website for further information and to apply.

### Youth Week 4-14 April

Youth Week is an opportunity for young people to get involved in community activities and make their voices heard. There's plenty of events happening across our region including movie nights, art workshops and a special exhibition at Manning Regional Art Gallery displaying the work of our youth.

To find out more about Youth Week activities visit [www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/youth](http://www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/youth)

**Do you know an outstanding young person?** Nominations are open for the 2022 MidCoast Youth Award to anyone aged 18-24 living, working or studying in the MidCoast area, with achievements in the arts, community service, leadership, sports, wellbeing, resilience and entrepreneurship. A \$250 cash prize is awarded to each winner. Nominations are open until 26 June.

For more information on the Awards including the nomination form, visit [www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/youthawards](http://www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/youthawards).

### Integrated development proposal

We have received the following Development Application:

**Development Application No: DA2022/0214**  
**Proposal:** 88 lot Manufactured Housing Estate  
**Applicant:** Allam Property Group Pty Ltd  
**Property details:** Lot 1 DP 304132  
**Property address:** 40-80 Chapmans Road, TUNCURRY NSW 2428

**Consent authority:** Hunter and Central Coast Regional Planning Panel

**Other approvals:** Integrated development - Section 100B, Rural Fires Act 1997

**Approval bodies:** NSW Rural Fire Service

**View applications:** On our website or at our offices

**On exhibition until:** 19 May 2022 at 4.30pm

**Make a submission:** Submissions must be made in accordance with our guidelines and to meet legislative requirements. Please visit our website for information.

### Bulky waste continues

While the Bulky Waste kerbside collection is an eagerly anticipated annual event, no-one wants their neighbourhood to look trashy for longer than necessary. That's why we've broken our region into specific collection zones, each with their own collection schedule. To avoid being fined, place your waste out no earlier than two days prior to the pick-up date for your zone.

**Manning region**

- currently underway, continuing through six zones until 22 April.

**Gloucester region**

- begins on 2 May (single zone).

**Great Lakes region**

- begins on 9 May and continues through six zones until 24 June.

To find out when the collection is taking place in your zone, what items will be accepted and the rules around placing your waste on the kerb, look for the brochure in your letterbox or visit [www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/bulkywaste](http://www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/bulkywaste)

### Have your say

We're currently inviting community feedback on:

- Integrated development proposal DA2022/0214 - 40-80 Chapmans Road, Tuncurry - 88 lot Manufactured Housing Estate
- Development proposal DA2021/2374 - 32 Yamba Street, Hawks Nest - Commercial development with shop top housing
- Integrated development proposal DA2022/0188 - 70 Carmona Lane, Forster - Manufactured Housing Estate
- Integrated development proposal DA2022/0173 - 64 Head Street, Forster - Demolition of existing dwellings (2), 6 x 4 storey townhouses and subdivision (6 lots)
- Development proposal DA2021/2456 - Huntington Circuit, Harrington - Multi residential housing (79), Community Title subdivision (79 lots)

Visit the Have Your Say page on our website for further info.

Stay up-to-date on what everyone's talking about by registering for our weekly update. Delivered directly to your in-box, our weekly "News Wrap" email gives you a snapshot of our latest projects and initiatives, in less than 5 minutes. Along with news about roads, rates and rubbish, find out about our environment, local arts and culture, playgrounds and sports grounds, projects that are open for feedback, and everything in between. Visit [www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/newswrap](http://www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/newswrap) for more information and to subscribe.

For more information contact us: ph 7955 7777 | [council@midcoast.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@midcoast.nsw.gov.au) | [www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au](http://www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au) | [midcoastcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/midcoastcouncil)

# Out & About

Partnership signing between MidCoast Council & Mid Coast 2 Tops Landcare at Council Chambers 29th March 2022. Photos by Mary Yule.



Above: Drew Ross, Southern Catchment Officer at Council, Isabelle Strachen, Private Land Conservation Officer, Jessica Leck, Regional Coordinator of MidCoast 2 Tops Landcare and Alisha Madsen, Northern Catchment Officer at Council.



Above: Bob McDonnell, Environmental Projects at Council, Chris Scott, MidCoast 2 Tops Landcare Secretary, Nick Coleman Council, Adrian Panuccio General Manager at Council and (front) Lyn Booth, Coordinator of Manning Landcare.



Above: Helen Kemp, Manning Coastal Landcare Coordinator, Joel Dunn, Karuah and Great Lakes Landcare Coordinator and Anthony Marchmont, Natural Assets Officer at Council.



Above: Robyn Lamond, President of MidCoast 2 Tops Landcare, Helen Hannah, Taree Landcare Coordinator, Claire Pontin, Mayor and Tanya Cross, Sustainability & Natural Assets Coordinator at Council.



Left: Volunteers at Taree Landcare. Photo supplied.

Below: Jessica Leck and Louise Duff, Catchment Coordinator at Council.



## Our Local Wildlife

### Port Jackson Sharks

Have you ever noticed a curious spiral shaped object about 7 to 8cm wide and 15cm long made from what looks like leathery kelp washed up on our beaches? If so, did you know what it was?



Give yourself top marks if you knew it was the egg casing of a Port Jackson Shark (although the related Crested Horn Shark egg casing looks very similar but has long thin threads or tendrils out of one end). Egg pictured above.

Port Jackson Sharks (Heterodontus portusjacksoni) are found all along the east coast of Australia at least to Southern Queensland. The term 'portusjacksoni' refers to their commonality in Port Jackson harbour whilst the term 'Heterodontus' refers to their teeth structure.

Unlike our common image of sharks, Port Jackson sharks have a relatively small mouth with small front teeth for biting and blunter

back teeth for grinding. Their primary prey are small invertebrates such as sea stars, sea urchins and gastropod molluscs.

Apart from the small mouth, the other identifying features of the Port Jackson shark is the blunt head and dark black banding colouring over the back and sides on a background body colour of grey, light brown or fawn. The band crosses over the face and usually passes right over the eyes and includes a harness shaped band that crosses over the back before the first dorsal fin. There are large crests over the eyes and the nostrils connect to the mouth through grooves giving them the ability to both eat and breathe simultaneously. Unlike other sharks they are also able to breathe whilst immobile.

They have two similar sized dorsal fins with each fin having a spine at the leading edge. The spines are thought to be venomous. They can grow to 165cm in length although most will grow to 137cm. Males are larger than females who typically grow to between 80 and 95cm.

Tagging research has shown that although many Port Jackson sharks feed in the Bass Strait, they congregate off NSW shores to



breed, migrating some 600 to 800 kilometres to do so. Breeding season is between August and November and it is then that they can be seen laying their eggs in rocky reefs close to shore.

The young (called pups) hatch after ten to twelve months and will be between 18 and 25cm long at that time. They need to be independent from the beginning. Evidence suggests that they will stay in nursery areas including lakes and estuaries until close to maturity.

Port Jackson sharks are long lived, and take a long time to sexually mature. Females become sexually mature between the ages of 11 and 14 years at a length of 70 to 90cms. Males reach maturity at the size range of 55 to 70cm at around 8 to 10 years. They are believed to be able to live more than 30 years.

Port Jackson sharks are considered harmless to humans although if interfered with could no doubt give a painful bite.

They are nocturnal, that is active at night. During the day they can be found in flat areas with some shelter from currents (i.e. caves). Normally males and females are separated but it is during the mating season that they gather together in large numbers close to the shore. After breeding males move into deeper water,



Above: Photo of Port Jackson off Forster headlands by Steve White - [www.oceanbeachandcountry.com.au](http://www.oceanbeachandcountry.com.au)

followed by the females once they have completed egg-laying. They have been sighted in deeper waters off the shelf to 275 metres. Most will then migrate back to the southern feeding ranges. Individuals return to the same breeding sites each year.

It is hard to know the conservation status of Port Jackson sharks. Research evidence suggests that up to 89% of eggs are preyed upon. They can become victims to fishing by-catches. Their late maturity, limited rate of eggs laid per season and high mortality rates of embryos could all lead to decreases in population.

By Kym Kilpatrick – FAWNA member  
Hallidays Point

## MidCoast Koala Mapping

MidCoast Council is calling on residents to report sightings of koalas as part of a project that maps and defines the distribution, population and trends of the species across the Council region. The project is funded by a \$33,000 NSW Government grant as part of the Saving Our Species Iconic Koala Project.

"Defining the nature of our local koala populations and better understanding the range of threats affecting them will be critical to conserving the species into the future" says Council's Senior Ecologist, Mat Bell.

"It has been widely reported that koala

populations across most parts of NSW are declining. Unfortunately, this also appears to be the case for koalas across the MidCoast," said Mat Bell.

This funding from the NSW Government will allow Council to engage with the community, key stakeholders and relevant experts to identify where local koala hotspots are. We can then better understand local population trends, determine the amount of habitat that is presently available and better define, and then respond to, the range of threats. Such threats can include habitat loss as well as dog attacks, road-kills and disease.



The first phase of the project is to compile a database of all available koala records. In this regard, community input is being sought.

You can report koala sightings via a link at [www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/Environment/Environmental-Projects/MidCoast-Koala-Mapping](http://www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/Environment/Environmental-Projects/MidCoast-Koala-Mapping)

Koala stakeholder workshops will also be undertaken as part of the project.

"Our long term aim is to ensure that koalas are present in the natural landscapes of MidCoast Council for many generations to come. The more people who contribute to this project, the more it will help us achieve this aim."

# Mixed bag and Feedback

## Letters to the Editor

'Letters to the Editor' is the place for our community to share their thoughts and feedback. Letters are best limited to 250 words and be constructive in nature. Material that is offensive, defamatory or overtly political will not be published. This newspaper intends to provide an opportunity of reply for any person/organisation involved before publication. The writer's name and town will be included unless specifically requested otherwise.



### Palm Sunday – a day to focus on Justice for Refugees, End the Cruelty

Following the recent Government announcement to accept the New Zealand resettlement offer for refugees, Great Lakes RAR will hold a Palm Sunday stall at Forster Markets, Sunday April 10. The offer made 9 years ago, will allow 450 people to leave Nauru to live in NZ. It has cost the Australian taxpayer \$11,000 per person per day to detain these 107 people in Nauru. 80 of whom are already formally recognised as genuine refugees seeking protection.

Local RAR (Rural Australians for Refugee) members will share the information that we are a nation with a tradition of fairness, decency and openness. While we can rightly be proud of our immigration history, our recent treatment of asylum seekers is considered inhumane and

costly by many in Forster and Tuncurry, and more broadly throughout the nation.

The horrific scenes from Ukraine reminds us that people must flee for safety from persecution and impending death. The same urgency occurred in Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran, Myanmar, Sudan and The Congo. Australia has join other nations in giving asylum to refugees however the current detention policy is viewed internationally as cruel and unnecessary.

Further information regarding this matter can be obtained by contacting the Great Lakes RAR coordinator Margaret Gardner on 0419 682 526.

Margaret Gardner  
Great Lakes Rural Australians for Refugees



moir.com.au

Right: 'Great catch' off the Forster Breakwall.

Photo by Patricia Macvean.



## Star Pet



**Name:** Koda  
**Age:** Nearly 2.  
**Breed:** English Staffy Bull Terrier.  
**Likes:** He loves walking in the morning, his food, playing with other dogs and chasing the ball. When he's had enough of the ball he runs just out of reach and doesn't give it back.  
**Dislikes:** He doesn't like it when Dad gets crook on him and he doesn't like the rain.  
**Claim of Fame:** When he knows he's in trouble he looks up at me to say "It wasn't me."

If you would like to see your beloved pet featured in Star Pet please submit a high resolution photo and answers to [info@forsterfortnightly.com.au](mailto:info@forsterfortnightly.com.au)

Left: South Tamworth fans at the Women's State Pennant Championships held in Forster. Nearly 60 teams from around NSW attended this event with their supporters. [See back page]  
Photo by Mary Yule.



Left: The Hayes family about to enjoy the live show Mama Mia at the Manning Entertainment Centre in Taree.  
Photo by Patricia Macvean.



## Sailing at Coomba during April School Holidays



Sunday 10 April 9m to 11am (also Aquatic Day for adults to 2pm)  
 Monday 11 April 9am to 11am  
 Sunday 17 April 9am to 11am  
 Monday 18 April 9am to 11am

All participants must wear flotation vests (bring your own or borrow the Club's), plus suitable footwear (boat shoes or sneakers). A parent or guardian must be present throughout the session.

The April school holidays commence 7 April so if you have a child or children aged 7 to 18 yrs who would like to try sailing, come along on any or all of the days listed to the Club in Coomba Aquatic Gardens opposite north end Warramutty Street, Coomba Park.

A donation will assist with running costs. Places are limited to 20 and you must register by contacting Ian Peden on 0417 245 579 or ian.japara@gmail.com

## 2022 NSW HANSA Regatta held at Coomba

On a weekend of contrasting weather, the NSW Champions were decided over a series of six races in strong Southerly winds which caused the final race on Saturday to be cancelled when the wind reached up to 28 knots (51kph).

This was the third occasion on which the NSW HANSA Class Titles have been held in Coomba Park - the others being 2017 and 2020. [HANSA are known for their stable boats.]



Above: Sailing competitor Wendy Evans.

With sailors travelling from Perth, Canberra, Lake Macquarie, Port Stephens, Sydney plus members of the Australian Deaf Sailors Association, competition was bound to be keen across the four Divisions. Only the 2.3m One Person Division had one entrant which showed good judgment by both the sailor, Wendy Evans and those who decided not to battle the strong wind in a small boat against a sailor with international experience.

Being a State Regatta, the rules were carefully monitored by the officials on board Peter B's

Below: At the start of a 303 1-person race, the fleet of boats passes the Starter's Boat, Carmel D. Photo by Ian Peden.



## The annual 'Keith' Triathlon at Forster Keys

What an amazing way to finish our season. The weather and conditions were perfect and the racers were keen as ever to battle it out for the annual trophy. 'The Keith' was going to be anyone's race.

Competitors were given their handicaps and then the race was on! Tracey started out first in the 700m swim with Rod 24 minutes behind, Louise 30 minutes, Ashley 32 minutes, while Richard and Aaron left a huge 42 minutes behind the first starter. Racers then took on the 20km ride. Tracey kept her lead, although Rod and Louise started to close the gap. By now Ashley and Richard had exited the water quickly to join this catch-up effort. With the 5km run ahead, and Tracey still holding a 2km lead, it was going to be a massive finish. The lads were quickly catching Tracey, but she showed sheer determination and maintained her lead. With the last 1km looming all competitors were on the same lap! Tracey managed to stay in front and took the line honours! Rod held onto to his few seconds of handicap and came in moments later to claim the trophy! Ashley and Louise were next in and only a minute behind.

We thank everyone that competed in



Above: Entrants in the Keith Tri held on Sunday the 4th March. Photo above by Tristan Marshall. Photo below by Roberta Pearce.

any of our events this season. Our presentation night will be soon. Details will be placed on our Facebook page By Tri-man.



Above: Placegetters Rod Every (first) on left, Ashley Burke (second) at back and Louise Every (third) on right with World Triathlon Champion Keith Pearce (seated front).

## Dragonboat Regatta great success at Forster Keys

What a triumph! All the disappointment of cancellations of regattas over the past few years were forgotten when the Great Lakes Pearl Dragons put on another great regatta over the weekend of 26 and 27 March.

There were 17 clubs supporting the regatta from the south coast to north coast, including Sydney.

It was clear from the smiles on everyone faces that all the dragon boaters loved being back racing at Forster. Despite the challenge of the weather, including rain and knee-deep mud for wranglers, the event ran smoothly. On Saturday, the Great Lakes Pearl Dragons participated in the 2km race. Boats get to overtake on the course but need to follow strict rules for the execution of the turns on a 500m long course.

SUDU from Shellharbour won this event in under 12 minutes. New paddlers who haven't attended a regatta previously are initiated by walking through the paddle guard of honour and totally enjoyed the experience of the regatta. For the Pearlers, our new paddlers

were Ivan Bensimon, Helen Campbell, Joe Jeffries and Marika Koroi. The 2pm presentation held at Lakeside Tavern was well supported by the paddlers keen to have some shelter from the rain and enjoy some refreshments. Raffles were attended with seafood trays as prizes.

We hoped for respite from the rain on Sunday, but it was not meant to be. Again, teams returned ready for the fast and furious 200 metre races. It was a full day schedule with final positions based on the combination of 2 times. Winners included: Sports Mixed - Newcastle Hunter Red, Sports Women - Newcastle Hunter Red, Sports Men - Kempsey/ Nambucca and Sports women 10s - Manning River.

Mayor Claire Pontin, a previous Pearl Dragon awarded the winners their trophies. Geoff Roberts from Dragon Boats NSW stated he "Loved the regatta" and passed on congratulations to the Great Lakes Pearl Dragons.

By Janis Radford. Photo supplied.



## Tomaree Trail Running Festival



Sunday the 27th of March saw the running of the Tomaree Trail Running Festival at Tomaree National Park near the beautiful coastal town of Port Stephens.

After constant rain during the two weeks leading up to the event the organisers must have been worried whether the event would even proceed. Last minute course alterations were necessary to ensure the safety of the entrants. Most of the course was either on sand or sand-based fire trails so the rain actually firmed the surface and became much easier for runners to tread. There were three distances on offer to the 400 entrants, half marathon, 13km and 6km.

Over 200 trail runners took off at 9am along a stretch of soft sandy beach which led to a long steep sand dune. The enthusiastic ones sprinted to the peak of the dune whilst others conserved their energy and power hiking, knowing they still had 20 km to go. During the next two to four hours runners "enjoyed" some stunning scenery with a mixture of forest, single tracks, water crossing, wide beaches and sculptured sand dunes. As a trail run it was quite technical with a reasonable amount of elevation (400 metres).

The first male to cross the line was Tom Fisher from Victoria in an amazing time of

1h 28m The first female was Cecilia Mattas from Mereweather in the time of 1h 48m. Local running groups, Forster Runners and Trailblazers (MNC) were well represented with 13 entrants. The fastest male was Ash Montesi in 2h 5m and the fastest female was Leonie Montgomerie in 2h 18m (1st in her age group) closely followed by Lindy MacDonell in 2h 27m.

The hundred or so trail runners commenced their 13 km run at 9:30am. The course offered similar challenges to the half marathon with steep inclines, declines, slippery rocky surfaces and beach running. First male home was Oli Pitts from Budgewoi in the blistering time of 1h 12m, the first female was Katherine Parker (Tomaree Trotters running group) in a time of 1h 14m. Forster Runners and Trailblazers (MNC) had five entrants and notable results include the quinella (age group) of Steve Perrin 1h 41m and Vic Sant 1h 43m.

Overall, the organisers (In2Adventures) can be pleased with the festival. It was extremely well run and there were plenty of smiles to match the weary bodies.

Membership enquires for Forster Runners and Trailblazers (MNC) can be directed to David Hughes at 1956hugggy@gmail.com

By Dave Hughes. Photo supplied.

## Forster Surfclub's future plans

The Lower North Coast Junior Nipper Development Program may have come to a conclusion but planning for the future is already in progress. At Forster SLSC, Nova Grosvenor and Troy Brooks have again taken on the roles of Co-Chair for the 2022-2023 season. Youth Group Coordinator, Braydan Lee, and his mother, Beth Lee (pictured right), a long-term Nipper Development Officer, both understand the importance of maintaining the interest and advancement of the older Nippers as they transition from a junior to a senior surf club member. These junior members are integral in the pipeline to future active beach patrols. The Youth Group also ensures that this next generation has the knowledge and skills which, one day, may save their own life or the life of another.

### Forster Clubhouse Farewell

A series of events also provide further pipelines to the future within the Forster SLSC, the first of which is a Forster Clubhouse Farewell on Sunday, 10th April, from 4pm until 8pm. Although club members and the wider community are looking forward to a 'state-of-the-art' new club facility, there is also a need to celebrate the history associated with the current outmoded and deteriorating building. All existing and past members have been invited to this commemoration to enjoy a barbeque, drinks and memories prior to the demolition of the building following the final surf patrol on Anzac Day, 25th April. The redevelopment of the clubhouse site will commence with the erection of a permanent 100 square metre shed on the grassed area behind the present structure. Following the storage of equipment in the new shed, demolition of the current edifice will commence.

In promoting the Forster Clubhouse Farewell, Forster SLSC President, John Quinn, said, "Our club is more than the bricks and mortar. These

walls hold generations of memories and we want to honour that." Quinn continued that he wants to ensure that any former club member who would like to enjoy a final visit has the opportunity to be welcomed by current members and to reminisce.



### Club-2-Club Ocean Swim

Another event to complement the farewell on Sunday, 10th April, is the Dorsal Club-2-Club Ocean Swim. Multiple events include the 3.8 km swim from Cape Hawke SLSC to Forster SLSC while the shorter 250m and 500m swims are held on Forster Main Beach in front of the surf club. This beach is north facing and well protected from the worst of the conditions, should they come into play.

Forster is indeed fortunate to have two local surf clubs where comradeship, competition, social interaction and team building is valued. Accordingly, jet ski, IRB and surf ski water safety for swimmers in all races will be conducted by members of the two local clubs.

This Club-2-Club event is not just a local 'club v club' competition but is listed on the national ocean swims event directory, oceanswims.com, which has been at the forefront of the sport of Australian ocean swimming for more than 20 years. Competitors from across Australia have already entered for 2022. Information can be found on the website, oceanswims.com, with entries closing on Saturday, 9th April, 2022.

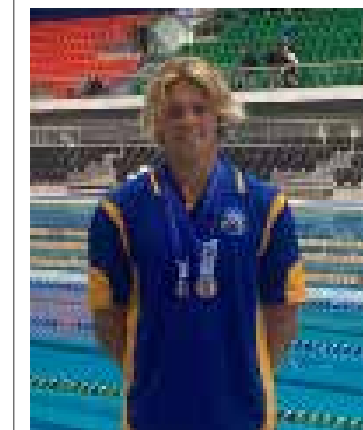
Story and photo by Annie Evans.

## Great Lakes College results at State Swimming

Congratulations to Joel Fleming (pictured below) on winning gold in the 16 years 50m and 100m freestyle at the State Swimming Championships. He swam 24.36 in the 50m

final and a PB of 24.34 in the heat.

The Great Lakes College relay team were finalists in the U14s 4x100m freestyle. They won their heat and came 8th in the



finals. Well done girls! (Pictured above, left to right, are Sophia Lee, Audrey Dorfling, Kalani Ryan and Eva Keen.)

Eva Keen (on far right) also won bronze in the 14 years 100m backstroke. Congratulations Eva Keen. Full story on all State swimmers to come.

## Tuncurry Beach Bowling Club make semis

Our women's No.2 Pennant side did our Club proud at the NSW State Pennant finals falling just short in the semi-final against eventual winners, Munmorah United.



This followed rousing wins against Asquith, Sawtell and Turros Heads in the early rounds. We congratulate Di Boddington, Robyn

McDonald, Elaine White, Kay Negus, Trish Wilson, Pam Coleman, Moya Witton and Sarah Boddington on a memorable campaign.

## Tanya volunteers 200 times!

"Today we are celebrating Tanya Connell's 200th time as a volunteer with Forster parkrun. Every week the trio Tanya, Paul and their mascot Oscar, come early to help set up parkrun before Tanya takes up her position as the Token volunteer. She is hardworking, reliable and wonderful to have as part of our parkrun family. Parkrun would not be the same without these three. Thank you and congratulations to Tanya," said Chris Newell, Co-Event Director (ED) at Forster parkrun last Saturday 3rd April.

A few words from Tanya's husband Paul Connell.

"We started going to parkrun in Maitland where we used to live. Around five years ago we moved to Forster and volunteered a couple of times at the Taree parkrun. When the Forster parkrun started in 2016 we said we wanted to help straight away."

"I like to run the 5km while Tanya likes to volunteer. She calls herself the 'Token Lady'. She gives a place token to each runner and walker as they cross the finish line and works as a team with Buddy Lum [who is the regular



Above: Chris Newell (ED), Tanya Connell and Lindy McDonnell (Run Director).

timekeeper]. She also makes sure the tokens are ready for the following week and that none are missing. During Covid she washed all the tokens with disinfectant every time for months."

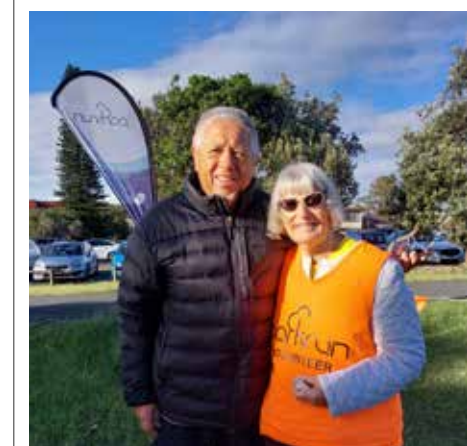
"When we lived in Maitland Tanya won the Volunteer of the Year Award for her years of work with Meals on Wheels. Then she worked for St Vincents in east Maitland. I'm very proud of her."

This free 5km community event starts at 8am every Saturday at the Pebble Beach Playground off Head Street. Forster. Newcomers are encouraged to be there for the 7:45am race briefing. Participants are reminded to be registered with parkrun Australia and bring their printed barcode.

www.facebook.com/Forsterparkrun

Story and photos by Mary Yule.

Left: Timekeeper Buddy Lum with the 'Token Lady' Tanya.



# Women's NSW Pennant Finals for bowls held in Forster



Above: The Forster Women's Bowling Club who hosted the finals.  
Right: Loretta (left) and Barbara worked at the BBQ for the six days of the Competition.

What a big 6 days, 18th to 23rd March, at Forster Bowling Club where the 2021 Women's State Pennant Finals were played (postponed due to Covid.) Pennants is the top event on the Bowls calendar and it is a major achievement for any team to get into the finals.

There were nearly 60 teams of 8 players from all over the state who played four different grades at both Forster Bowling Club and Sporties Tuncurry.

Forster Women's Club assisted in the running of the event by holding a BBQ each day for both players



and spectators, as well as providing some fun with raffles and 100 clubs. Each day at least 12 volunteers worked hard to help make the event a success. The Women's Executive thanks them for their friendly and efficient help. We also wish to thank a number of the menfolk.

"Overall, a resounding success for all the clubs and hospitality industry for Forster and Tuncurry", said Bowls Coordinator Jason Morse. "We had around 400 to 600 players a day and around 200 to 400 spectators a day, depending on 'final' days."

Results: Grade 1 Tuncurry Sporties, Grade 2 Munmorah, Grade 3 Cabramatta and Grade 4 Tathra Beach.

Thanks to all involved.

By Yvonne Hughes - President  
Forster Women's Bowling Club.

Photos supplied.

# First Women's NSW Pennant Flag for Tuncurry Sporties!



Above: (L to R) Sue Langridge, Sharyn Newcombe, June Kilpatrick, Nancy Shaw, Julie Curry, Lyn McVicar, Donna Hampson, Karen Carlton and Helen Bush - Side Manager. Photo John Huckstepp.

The Women's State Pennant Finals for Grade 3 were played at Tuncurry Sporties and Foster Bowling Clubs between 18th-20th March. The bowls played during the three days were exceptional, and in the end, it was the hometown Team of Tuncurry Forster Sports W.B.C. Grade 3 Pennant Team who stormed home in the Final at Forster Bowling Club to win the 2021 Grade 3 Women's State Pennant Flag.

Across the three days, all players from the Sporties Side played to their full ability by winning 2 of their 3 games to win their Section on 11 points. The Semi-Finals were held at Foster Bowling Club and Tuncurry Forster Sports opponents were Gynea Bowling Club. In the early stages the scores were fairly even

and then the Sporties Side hit their straps with Karen Carlton's team winning their rink 24-9 and Nancy Shaw's team winning their rink 24-15 to claim victory and win the game 48-24.

In the Final it was Tuncurry Forster Sports up against The Rules Club Wagga and what a game of bowls! For the first three quarters of the game, very little separated the two sides with the lead changing multiple times. The quality of bowls put down by both sides was incredible, entertaining the rink side crowd. The pivotal moment came with six ends to go, when both Tuncurry-Forster Sports rinks picked up scores of four and five to catapult them into a ten-shot lead. From there, they stormed home with

Karen Carlton's team rink winning 22-16 and Nancy Shaw's team rink winning 31-20, to claim a 53-36 victory, and the first Women's State Pennant Flag in the club's 33 year history!

Congratulations to Julie Curry, Lyn McVicar, Donna Hampson, Karen Carlton, Sue Langridge, Sharyn Newcombe, June Kilpatrick and Nancy Shaw on playing tremendous and at times spectacular bowls throughout the 3 days to win the Women's Bowls 2021 Grade 3 State Pennant Flag. Also, THANK YOU to Jenny Grant (the Side's Reserve) and Helen Bush (their Side Manager) and to all the supporters who cheered and supported the Sporties Side over the three days.

By Sue Ryan.

## 2 WEEKS ACCESS FOR 2... JUST \$22!

\*T&Cs apply.





SCAN HERE FOR OFFER

**Great Lakes Aquatic & Leisure Centre**

51 Lake Street, Forster  
6555 4617 | [ymcansw.org.au/greatlakes](http://ymcansw.org.au/greatlakes)

