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Forster Fortnightly

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

FREE

Thursday 23 January 2025

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Circulation 7,000 No.113

Midcoast Festival of Sail

On Wallis Lake during February. See page 7 for details



Wild weather hits NSW coast

Last week, most of the NSW coast experienced days of heavy rain and damaging winds. Below is a timeline of how events unfolded in our local area with SES Forster Pacific Palms Unit playing a major role in assisting our community.

• On 15 January the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) announces a NSW coastal hazard warning and advises heavy rainfall and damaging winds to develop on Friday.

• On 16 January, a low pressure system is forecast to develop that night and on Friday off the northern NSW coast, resulting in heavy rainfall about the Hunter and Mid North Coast

as well as damaging winds along the coastal fringe from Sydney to Seal Rocks.

On the same day local SES Forster Pacific Palms Unit offers sandbags for anyone in need.

Gloucester receives flood watch alerts.

• On 17 January local SES receives 14 calls for assistance that afternoon/evening, ranging from tree jobs to roof jobs to sandbag jobs.

BOM advises minor flooding may occur along the Myall River in Bulahdelah. NSW SES Stroud Unit announces parts of Bulahdelah flooded.

Continued on page 12.



Above: Photo of damaged trees at Pacific Palms by Jerry Edwards.



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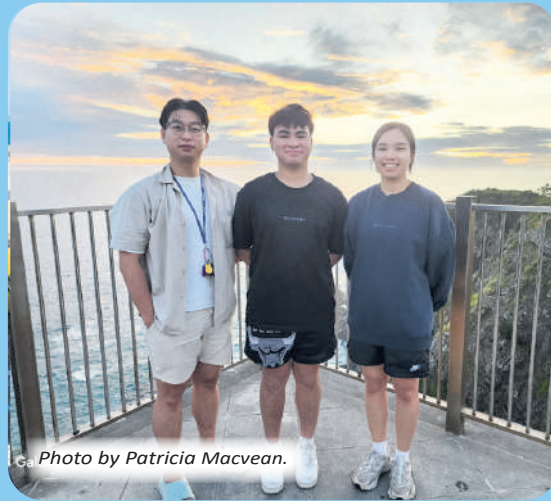


Photo by Patricia Macvean.

- Business Hours are 9:30am to 5pm (Mon - Fri).
- When submitting stories, please note - around 300 words is best with high resolution photos sent separately (in largest size). Please include names for photos left to right and your contact details.
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Wild weather hits NSW coast



Above: High water levels at Pipers Creek in Forster. Photo by Roberta Pearce.

Continued from page 1.

On the same day BOM gives initial warning of minor flooding along Wallis Lake in Forster and Tuncurry with the high tide.

• On 18 June, local SES declares Failford Road closed due to flooding.

On the same day, BOM warns that the following areas may be impacted by dangerous floodwaters: low lying roads, bridges, causeways and areas near Wallis Lake in Forster and Tuncurry.

Local SES sandbag nearly every house with flooding at Point Rd Tuncurry.

A Flood Watch is announced for parts of the Northern Rivers, Mid North Coast, Hunter and Central Coast.

Wingham receives flood watch alerts.

• On 19 January, Carissa Bentley, Deputy Unit Commander at SES Forster Pacific Palms Unit, stated: "Over the last 10 days we have been extremely busy. It all started at 3:30am Wednesday 8th January. Since then we have had 88 calls for assistance. Our busiest day was yesterday (18 Jan) with 34

calls for assistance plus 2 calls for Flood Rescue (1 at Bulahdelah and 1 at Mount George) and 2 self activate evacuations on Point Road.

We all continue to be standby 24/7 and ready to respond when called upon.

Don't forget we have sandbags ready and available all year round at our unit, Lot 2 Grey Gum Road Tuncurry."

• Carissa Bentley would like to thank...

Lumpy's Nursery for providing sand for the sand bagging.

Salt by the Sea for providing food for the SES Unit and helpers.

The community for helping fill sandbags and being prepared.

Mid Coast Council afterhours on call crew from Forster/Tuncurry Depot, Tuncurry RFS, Green Point RFS, Diamond Beach RFS, Pacific Palms RFS and their own members from SES Forster Pacific Palms Unit. All of who cleared trees from roads and roofs, monitored road closures and provided assistance to the community.

Compiled by Mary Yule.

Water, Boat & Essential Emergency Services Expo postponed

"The collaborative organisation by our fellow safety partners has been excellent. Our major concern was the weather," said Geoff Anderson, Marine Rescue Forster Tuncurry Unit Commander. Unfortunately, the event scheduled for 8 January, 2025 was eventually cancelled due to extreme weather conditions.

"This decision was made with the safety and well-being of everyone involved, and as our top priority," said Diane Hallam Marine Rescue Forster Tuncurry PR Officer

"Disappointing as this postponement has been, all is not lost," UC Geoff said. "The heavy lifting in planning the expo is still in place, and we are looking forward to bringing the event to fruition later in the year." He added that the chosen date considered tides, as the strong water flow adjacent to the Cape Hawke Harbour and the Forster Marina entrance could pose a safety risk with the large number of vessels expected, also trying to access the small precinct for the Blessing of the Fleet.

"We have rescheduled the date for the Water, Boat & Essential Emergency Services Expo to Wednesday, 1st October 2025."



Photo of Marine Rescue vessel waiting in the rain by Diane Hallam.

"We greatly appreciate the dedication and hard work of our team of coordinators, volunteers, first responders and participants in planning this event. More information regarding the rescheduling will be announced soon," said PR Diane.
 By Annie Evans.

Harry Train's family make contact with French Historian

In our last edition, the Forster Fortnightly published an article seeking family of Harry Train in our local area. French Historian Bernard Fuetry wanted to invite family and friends to a special memorial service in honour of all airmen who fought in the region of Avesnois during World War II. The service is to be held on 26 April 2025 in the village of Boussieres sur Sambe in northern France. Harry was a Pilot Officer with the RAAF and survived a plane crash and imprisonment in German occupied France in World War II.

Bernard was very happy to inform us that the family of Harry Train had read the article and made contact with him.

Another step closer on Stage Two Redevelopment of Manning Base Hospital



Tanya Thompson, Member for Myall Lakes, is pleased to announce that the detailed design for Stage 2 of the Manning Base Hospital Redevelopment has been completed. The Review of Environmental Factors (REF) for the initial demolition works is now on public exhibition until midnight on Monday, 17 February 2025.

"The enabling works, which involve the demolition of the administration building, facility management unit, mortuary, and old fever ward, along with the relocation of two bulk oxygen tanks, are an exciting first step towards the construction of a new and improved hospital for our community," said Mrs Thompson.

These essential works will prepare for improved inpatient accommodation and

better connectivity across the hospital campus, ensuring that the Manning Base Hospital meets the growing needs of the Myall Lakes Electorate.

"The community has been eagerly anticipating this redevelopment, as have I. This step provides further certainty that the project is moving forward," Mrs Thompson added.

The redevelopment project, part of the \$180 million Lower Mid North Coast Health Service project, is designed to enhance health services across the region, including the Forster-Tuncurry health facility. Mrs Thompson has requested a meeting with Minister Park in early February to discuss updates on the Forster site.

"The planning and design stages, though time-consuming, are critical in ensuring the redevelopment is tailored to our community's unique needs," Mrs Thompson explained.

"As the works are being conducted on the existing hospital site, it is important to stage them in a way that does not compromise the daily operations of our hard working staff and clinicians."

Community engagement is a crucial part of the process. Feedback received during the public exhibition period will be instrumental in finalising the design details before demolition works commence later this year.

Health Infrastructure and Hunter New England Local Health District are continuing to work together to ensure priority health services are delivered for the Taree and wider Manning Valley community as part of the redevelopment project.



Above: Aerial photo showing the buildings within the Manning Base Hospital boundaries in red. The four buildings highlighted in beige are proposed to be demolished in the early works for Stage 2 Redevelopment.

The project team appreciates the valuable time and input provided by staff, stakeholders and the community into the design process for the redevelopment

"I encourage all residents to review the Review of Environmental Factors and share their feedback. This is an opportunity for the community to have their voices heard and contribute to the shaping of our future health services," said Mrs Thompson.

For more information and to provide feedback, visit: www.hinfra.health.nsw.gov.au/projects/on-exhibition

Editor's note:

1. Once you open the link (on left) click on the blue text that reads 'Manning Base Hospital Redevelopment Stage 2 - Review of Environmental Factors'.
2. A title 'Documents on exhibition' will appear with a 'Manning Base Hospital REF HI Demolition' pdf below it.
3. Lower down the page, a blue tab 'Appendices' can be opened to view many associated documents.
4. In Appendix - 'Appendix J Preliminary Construction Management Plan' you can view Stage 2 plans on pages 11, 12, 13 and 14.

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club forster CLUBFORSTER.COM.AU

Term 1 for Forster Tuncurry University of the Third Age (U3A)

Forster Tuncurry University of the Third Age (U3A) returns for Term 1 2025 - Monday 10th February to Friday 4th April 2025.

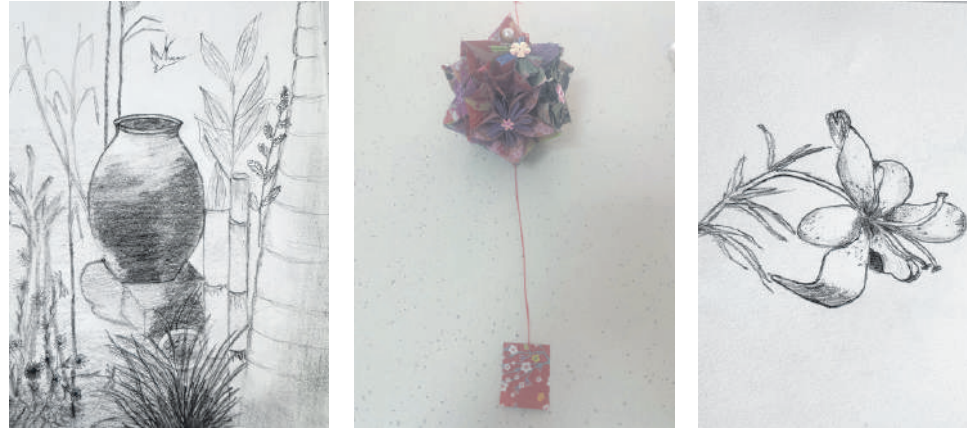
The University of the Third Age (U3A) is NOT a University but a non profit organisation that offers a friendly and relaxed learning environment.

U3A welcomes retired and semi retired people over 50 to join our group. Classes and activities are provided by our members and include gentle exercises, board games, history or travel talks, media discussion, philosophy talks, writers, collectors, cinema, walking group and book clubs, plus other beneficial learning and social events.

We also have some "Pop-Up" classes as extras, such as Pencil Drawing and Origami, when there is availability in the program.

Classes are held upstairs (lift available) at our beautiful venue, Cape Hawke Surf Lifesaving Club at One Mile Beach.

Enrolment days are Monday 3rd February and Tuesday 4th February 2025 between 10am and 12 noon.



Above: Different activities are provided by our members.

Why not come along to our Welcome Morning Tea Monday 10th February between 10am and 12 noon and meet some of our friendly members, who will gladly share with you why they enjoy their U3A!

Our fee of \$60 per person per year entitles members to attend as many classes as they wish

For more information go to our website: www.forstuncurry.u3a.net.org.au

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Year of live performances at Tuncurry Memorial Hall

Exciting performance programs are already in place for 2025 in Historic Tuncurry WW1 Memorial Hall.

What a year of fabulous entertainment we have to offer already as the Hall embarks on a new 5-year plan to become the local venue of choice for community groups, individuals and Performing Artists!

So far, we have confirmed the following live performances for 2025 with more events currently being negotiated.

• Grace & Hugh with their 6-piece band. Sunday 9th Feb

- Daniel Champagne singer/guitarist. Sunday 2nd March
- Steven Gill Piano Recital. Sunday 30th March
- Steel City Sue in Concert folk singer, original compositions. Sunday 13th April
- Musicals – My Journey, Barry Patterson Tenor & Steven Gill piano Sunday 11th May
- Sinfonia Mid North Coast our community orchestra TBA June
- Company of Voices. Sunday 31st August
- Friends Gala Concert choral group, solo and ensemble instrumentalists featuring local musicians. Sunday 12 October



If you have an idea for a live musical performance, feel free to contact us. (See contact details below). Weekend spots are filling fast!

Our historic WW1 Memorial Hall is not a council-owned hall but is managed for the Crown by a small committee of volunteers. Changes are under way at the Hall with recent refurbishments completed and further upgrades planned! Supporting these events will help raise funds for our local hall upgrades.

Join our team of Volunteer Friends and helpers! Like our Face Book page!

Contact Chair Leigh Vaughan 0417 289 077 or Steven Gill Secretary 0438 755 565.

See future editions of the Forster Fortnightly for more details on live performances at Tuncurry Memorial Hall in 2025.

Left: Performers Grace and Hugh.

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'Strictly Social' Dancing in Forster

Welcome everyone to a New Year of opportunities for learning new skills and meeting up with old and/or new friends!

Social Dancing at Club Forster will resume Tuesday 4th February so, if by chance, you would like to be more physically active and socially connected in 2025 come along and join us!

Whether you're new to dancing or want to refresh/expand your dance repertoire the emphasis is on the enjoyment of dancing to great music in a safe environment with like-minded people.

The night begins with a 'Learn to Dance' Group Lesson from 6pm. Two dances in differing styles are offered during the one hour class. Then hone your new skills by staying for the 'Social Dance' which begins at 7pm and concludes at 9pm.

The music programme caters for an extensive repertoire of dance styles (Ballroom, New Vogue etc) with the opportunity to dance either Sequence or Freestyle modes.



The LAST Tuesday of the month is our 'Live band' night. Everyone is welcome to meet for dinner from 5pm in the Club Forster Bistro prior to the commencement of an evening of fabulous music and dancing from 6.30 until 9.30pm.

Dancing gently challenges your body, engages your brain and encourages

social interaction with others - which all promote physical, mental and emotional wellbeing!

Best wishes for 2025 and we look forward to introducing you to the joy of social dancing each Tuesday night at Club Forster, Strand Street, Forster.

Enquiries: Kay 0412 314 449, Jenny 6554 3110 or Mark 0412 384 077.

JT travels to Forster

Throughout the year, television personality James Tobin (JT) is taking Weekend Sunrise on an adventure all around New South Wales. On Sunday, 12th January 2025, it was Forster on the Mid North Coast that was the focus of the broadcast.

The current travelling program serves to remind Australians that they can enjoy an incredible and affordable holiday in their own country. The campaign delivers a key message about locations, and businesses which offering Australians a cost-effective holiday option that does not compromise on experience or enjoyment.

By the time the Sunday's 7:00-10:00 am program commenced transmission from Forster Main Beach, the precinct was already a hive of activity. Beach Bum's café was crowded,

Destination Barrington Coast tourism had set up an information tent, swimmers aplenty were in the water and ultra-marathon athlete, Damien Rider, was launching his small pedal-by-wire catamaran on the next leg of his incredible 800-kilometre mental health awareness journey from the Gold Coast to Bondi.

Throughout its 3 hours, Weekend Sunrise visits included interviews with multiple local businesses and groups including Beach Bums Café, Forster Run Club, Forster Turtles swimmers, Saltwater Surf School, Forster Town Park Markets, Waterline Boat Hire and Wharf Street Distillery.

Even though the time spent on Forster Main Beach was restricted, the crowd swelled as holidaymakers in accommodation opposite the beach spilled out to catch a piece of the



action after being surprised by viewing the live broadcast on television.

Story and photo by Annie Evans.

2025 Midcoast Festival of Sail



Great Lakes Sailing Club is pleased to announce the Midcoast Festival of Sail, three consecutive weekends of championship and fun sailing during the month of February 2025. This exciting festival promises something for everyone, from thrilling races to family-friendly activities, and is proudly supported by Midcoast Council.

Enjoy the action at Wallis Lake, where spectators can watch top tier sailing competitions or simply soak in the stunning lakeside scenery. Public viewing areas will be available at the southern end of the club grounds, while the main grassed area will be reserved for competitors and boat rigging.

The Great Lakes Sailing Club is conveniently located 10 kilometres south of Forster, off The Lakes Way. Racing will take place within the eastern side of Wallis Lake just offshore from the Great Lakes Sailing Club grounds.

Festival highlights:

• **Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th February 2025:** Round 2 NSW Sabot Titles: During Round 1 of the NSW Sabot Titles, held at Drummoyne in late 2024, 50 Sabots competed. We anticipate a similar turnout at Wallis Lake in the Midcoast area for Round 2.

• **Sunday 16th February:** Try Sailing Day for everyone: The Great Lakes Sailing Club will hold an open invitation event on Sunday 16th February for everyone to try sailing as a sport.

Morning session (10:00am - 12:00pm) and afternoon session (1:30pm - 4:00pm) subject to weather constraints. There will be a wide range of sailing boats available to inspect and sail with plenty of helpers during the day. Children aged 8+ must be water proficient and accompanied by a parent. Life jackets will be provided or can be brought along. Free for all participants, including a sausage sizzle, thanks to the support of Midcoast Council.

• **Saturday 22nd & Sunday 23rd February:** NSW Hobie 14 Open Class and Hobie 16 Women's State Titles:

- Hobie 14 Open Class: A fleet of nearly 20 competed at Wildcat 2024, and up to 30 boats are anticipated at the NSW Championship.
- Hobie 16 Women's State Titles: The Hobie 16 Women's class has always been a strong enduring championship at both State and National level. Additionally, Youth Class racing will be included in this division sailing a variety of Hobie classes on yardstick, allowing sailors of all ages to compete in this division for a NSW Hobie class title.

About Great Lakes Sailing Club

Since 1971, the Great Lakes Sailing Club has managed the Wallis Lake site in partnership with NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service. The club has hosted numerous state and national championships, as well as more than 50 annual Wildcat Regattas. The 2024 Wildcat Regatta drew 95 entries from across Australia, showcasing competitors from all states and territories except Tasmania and the Northern Territory.

For any enquiries, please get in touch via: greatlakesailingclub@gmail.com or follow our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/



Great Lakes Sailing Club 2025 Midcoast Festival of Sail

• Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th February 2025: Round 2 NSW Sabot Titles
 • Sunday 16th February: Try Sailing Day for everyone
 • Saturday 22nd & Sunday 23rd February: NSW Hobie 14 Open Class & Hobie 16 Women's State Titles

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Manning - Great Lakes Police District update

Dear readers,

There has been no rest for your local police during this busy time of the year - having recently completed two major police operations and continuing our focus to prevent, disrupt and respond to crime - particularly property theft from holiday accommodation in Forster-Tuncurry and break, enter and steal offences at residences in the Forster and Pacific Palms areas:

- We conducted our largest operation of the year - 'Operation New Year's Eve 2024' - which saw almost 60 police deployed across the Police District to ensure people could celebrate the New Year and have a safe and fun night. I am pleased to report there were no significant incidents relating to violence or anti-social behaviour on the night. This only occurs when people make good choices - especially when out drinking alcohol - and you have local hard working police working through the night to keep everyone safe.

- We also participated in the 13 day State-wide Road Policing operation - 'Operation Christmas/New Year 2024 /2025' - between 20 December and 1 January - which targeted the major causal factors contributing to road trauma (more on that below...) and resulted in nil fatal or serious injury crashes occurring during the operation. You will be proud to know your local police conducted over 4,000 random breath tests during the operation, resulting in 17 people being caught drink driving.

The number of people caught drink driving may seem low when you consider how many drivers were breath tested, but it is still too many given you only need one drunk driver to cause a crash that kills or seriously injures themselves, their passengers or other drivers or pedestrians - with devastating impact on those involved, their families, first responders and the community. Also, disappointingly, 16 people returned positive roadside drug tests.



These results are evidence that people still make poor choices regarding drink/drug driving and for this reason your local police will continue to focus much of their energy on targeting these activities as part of efforts to reduce road trauma.

1. As mentioned above, the major causal factors contributing to road trauma, are:

- Excessive speed
- Alcohol and drug impaired driving
- Fatigue
- Non-wearing of occupant restraints and helmets
- Distractions (mobile phones etc.)

PLEASE, PLEASE DRIVE SAFELY FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS SCHOOL HOLIDAY PERIOD AND AVOID DOING ANY OF THE ABOVE ACTIVITIES THAT WOULD PLACE YOUR LIFE - AND THE LIVES OF OTHERS - AT RISK.

- In addition to their road policing duties, a local Highway Patrol crew from Forster stopped a truck on the Pacific Highway, Possum Brush, on 6 January. Investigations resulted in the officers locating inside the truck 20,000 individual vapes, over 1,600,000 cigarettes (yes...you read that right) with an estimated street value of more than \$3,200,000. Super effort that! The 32-year-old male driver was charged with Goods in custody, Restricted substance sold by non-wholesaler and traffic offences and was refused bail by police.

2. Lastly, don't forget to:

a) Protect your home

Always secure your windows and doors.

Lock your gates, sheds and garages (particularly garage doors).

Don't leave spare keys "hidden" (they generally aren't) outside your home.

Don't leave valuables, mobile devices or keys (home or vehicle) in clear view.

Fit quality security doors, windows, locks, alarms, lighting and warning signs and consider installing CCTV cameras that allow you to remote view.

b) Protect your bicycle

Never leave your bicycle unattended and unsecured.

Always use a good quality bike lock to secure your bicycle - no matter where it is - because if it can be taken, it can be taken.

If staying at holiday accommodation, consider securing your bicycle inside your caravan/cabin or inside your vehicle (and never leave your keys in your vehicle!)

Please remember to be kind to each other and don't forget to say "G'day!" to your local police!

Chief Inspector Timothy Bayly, OIC of Forster Police Station.



Above: Inspector Timothy Bayly.

Clean up commences in MidCoast area

Tanya Thompson, Member for Myall Lakes, has announced that the waste levy has been waived for residents in the MidCoast Local Government Area (LGA) affected by recent storms and flooding. This exemption is part of a broader effort to assist communities in their recovery from the recent natural disaster.

The Natural Disaster Waste Levy Exemption, which is now extended to include the MidCoast LGA, will allow residents to dispose of storm-related debris without incurring the usual waste levy fee. This exemption is backdated to 15 January 2025 and will remain in place until 28 February 2025. Requests for extensions will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

The waiver covers a variety of storm-related waste, including damaged building materials,

furniture, carpets, garden debris, and food waste. While the waste levy is waived, landfill operators may still charge a gate fee or tip fee for their services.

Additionally, Mrs Thompson has pushed the Minister for Emergency Services to ensure the MidCoast LGA is included in the Natural Disaster Declaration.

"I have been in constant communication with the Minister for Emergency Services to ensure that our region receives necessary support.

"The inclusion of the MidCoast in the Natural Disaster Declaration will further assist our community in accessing the resources and assistance needed for recovery," said Mrs Thompson.

Tanya Thompson also thanked the first responders, agencies, and volunteers for their efforts during this challenging time. "I thank all of our emergency services volunteers and personnel for their brave responses to requests for assistance, their efforts are truly appreciated by all. These amazing people go above and beyond to help our community."

"I encourage everyone to stay informed, stay safe, and reach out if you need assistance," concluded Mrs Thompson.

For residents needing further assistance or information, please call Tanya Thompson's office on 6555 4099 or email myalllakes@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Police Legacy Fundraiser



Pulling up their sleeves, active local Police served up a big feed at a Bunnings BBQ Fundraiser on Sunday 12 January in support of NSW Police Legacy.

Legacy, established in 1987, supports the families of deceased NSW police officers, both serving and retired. It provides long-term care to over 1,300 Police Legatees, ranging from newborns to 103 year olds.

Support includes social events like statewide lunches, Christmas celebrations, and adventure camps. Youth programs offer grief counseling referrals, mentoring, driver safety, and work readiness courses. Seniors receive bereavement support, aged care advocacy, and wellbeing checks.

Funded entirely by police payroll donations and community fundraising, NSW Police Legacy's largest expense is supporting education grants for Legacy families, from preschool to tertiary levels.

Manning and Great Lakes Police would like to thank everyone who came out to the BBQ Fundraiser to support Legacy. Your generosity and kindness made a real difference to those who need it.

Story and photo by Geordie Yule.

Tanya's Community Update



The much-loved Myall Lakes Seniors Concert Series is back for 2025! With four concerts across Taree and Forster, promising world-class entertainment for our wonderful seniors.

Save the date:

Monday, 10 March 2025 at 10:30 am & 2:00 pm, Club Forster

Tuesday, 11 March 2025 at 10:30 am & 2:00 pm, Club Taree

This year's line-up:

- Amber Jade: Award-winning instrumentalist
- Greg Hayes: Hilarious impressions and comedy
- David Cazalet: Acclaimed Elvis impersonator
- Jenifer Green: Multi-award-winning host and vocalist
- The Steve Isoardi Trio: Back by popular demand

Tickets are available now by calling my office on 6555 4099.

Reserved tickets can then be collected at Club Forster and Club Taree. Entry is by gold coin donation, with proceeds supporting the Mental Health Carers Support Group and Manning Valley CanAssist.

This is an event I look forward to every year, as it's a way to celebrate and thank our seniors for their contributions to our community! Don't miss out, tickets sell out quickly.

Tanya Thompson MP
6555 4099 | myalllakes@parliament.nsw.gov.au

PACIFIC PALMS BOWLING CLUB

Your local Bowling Club

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Happy Hour 3pm to 5pm Members Swipe Draw at 5:30pm Club Super Draw 6pm Bingo From 10:30am	Raffles from 6pm Club Super Draw 6pm	Mufti Bowls & Raffle from 12:30pm Happy Hour 3pm to 5pm	Raffles from 6pm Super 100 Draw Live Music Friday 8pm	Fishing Club Raffle starts at 3pm & 4pm Happy Hour 3pm to 5pm	Sunday-BBQ, Bowls & Tunes Chook Run Bowls 10:30am Outdoor Bar 1pm - BBQ 2pm Live Music at the Green 2:15

There's always something happening at the Palms!

LIVE MUSIC
Friday nights from 8pm



Rueben Carr
24th January



Glen Mead
31st January

BACKYARD BAR & BBQ
26th Dec - 26th Jan

The Backyard Bar and BBQ will be open 5 days a week during the school holiday every Wednesday to Sunday

Bar opens at 1pm & BBQ 2pm. BBQ serving up off the hook BBQ treats. Beat the dinner rush and grab a cracker feed from the BBQ.



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11:00 till Late
Lunch 12pm & Dinner 5:30pm
Courtesy Bus from 4pm

Tanya Thompson, Member for Myall Lakes presents...

ENTRY GOLD COIN DONATION

2025 MYALL LAKES Seniors CONCERT



Jenifer Green
Multi Award Winning Vocalist / Host



Amber Jade
Award Winning Instrumentalist



Greg Hayes
Comedian



David Cazalet
International Elvis Impersonator

Club Forster Auditorium
Monday 10th Mar 2025
2 great concerts - 10:30am & 2pm

Club Taree Auditorium
Tuesday 11th Mar 2025
2 great concerts - 10:30am & 2pm

Reserve your tickets now,
call my office on 6555 4099



Seating is limited - Limit 2 tickets per household



Koala hotspot discovered around Bootawa Dam near Taree, NSW

Underneath a clear, summer sky, amid the screeching chorus of cicadas, koala experts track through bushland around a large water-supply dam on the New South Wales Mid North Coast.

It does not take long to spot a koala nestled in the treetops.

Thermal drone surveys have revealed the Bootawa Dam site, near Taree, is home to one of the state's most significant koala populations.

Aerial and audio surveys of the site conducted during 2024 by the MidCoast Council have shown a colony of about 60 koalas, some with joeys.

The council says that equates to about one koala for every 2.5 hectares of land - about seven times higher than the average density found within the MidCoast Local Government Area.



Above: Senior Ecologist Matt Bell & Koala Project Officer Caitlin Orr at Bootawa Dam site.

"We've actually found one of the state's highest density koala populations here," said MidCoast Council koala project officer Caitlin Orr.

"We've always known anecdotally that it was high, but we had no idea that it had reached this level ... the population is breeding and doing really well."

Koalas have been considered endangered in NSW under the state's Biodiversity Conservation Act since May 2022.

The MidCoast Council's senior ecologist Matt Bell said the findings at the Bootawa site were "exciting" for a species considered at risk of extinction in NSW by 2050.

"It wasn't until we did the detailed studies [that] we knew how important it was by the quite incredible densities we found here," he said.

Ms Orr said further surveys would be done this year to track the health of the colony and to learn more about what makes the site so special.

It's hoped the findings can be used to boost koala habitat in other parts of NSW where the marsupials aren't faring as well.

"We aren't sure of the perfect combination that's led to this high density," Ms Orr said.

"Having that big permanent water source that's always there means all the trees are nice and healthy and koalas always have that water source, even in the drought."

Enhancing koala safe spaces

Work is also being done to further enhance koala habitat at the Bootawa Dam.

According to the NSW government, the Bootawa Dam site sits within an identified Area of Regional Koala Significance.

These are places where koalas have the "potential to persist over the long term".

Funding from the NSW Koala Strategy supported the thermal drone surveys at Bootawa, and the MidCoast Council also received money from the Commonwealth Saving Koalas Fund for long-term conservation measures.

NSW Department of Environment senior project officer John Turbill is now working closely with the MidCoast Council to ensure the koalas at Bootawa continue to thrive.

"The data from the drone surveys will help council guide future conservation initiatives for this significant and high-density koala population," Mr Turbill said.

Bush regeneration work includes native tree planting and the removal of weeds, including lantana, which has been shown to restrict koala movements across the landscape.

Koalas and cattle

Landowners around the Bootawa Dam are also working with the council and other agencies to improve vital koala corridors.

"Male koalas need to find partners to breed with, so the landscape and connections in the landscape are really important for koala conservation," Mr Bell said.

Hillville cattle farmer Bill Hopkins, who lives near the Bootawa Dam, said he was committed to providing food for both cattle and koalas, even if it meant giving up some valuable grazing pasture.

"As a landowner we have to sacrifice a bit ... it's important to have that mixture between the cattle and koalas," Mr Hopkins said.

He said weed removal work on his property was yielding results.

"Pathways are opening up and we are noticing a lot more koala movements now," Mr Hopkins said.

"We are starting to see a lot more males and for the first time this year we are starting to see mothers and joeys ... I find it really rewarding."

Lauren Booth, who also owns on a property near the Bootawa Dam, has been involved in extensive tree-planting projects.

Right: Bill Hopkins is regenerating his property.



Above: A koala and joey at Bootawa Dam bushland. Photo by Erin Master.

"It's something we felt was necessary since we discovered there were so many koalas in the area ... the most we've ever seen in one day was five or six on the property," she said.

"If each landowner does one small project ... all of these projects add up into something really worthwhile."

Story and photos by Emma Slossian. ABC Mid North Coast, 12.01.2025



Our Local Wildlife



Buff banded Rails

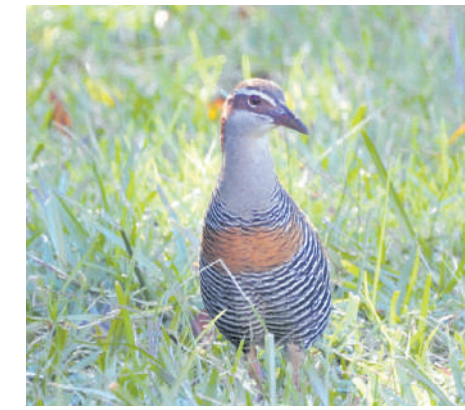
Buff banded Rails (*Gallirallus philippensis*) are quiet secretive birds and proof that we still don't know everything about our natural environment.

They are solid medium-sized birds, 300 to 330 millimetres in length and weighing 130 gms in adulthood. Males and females are similar with upper bodies that are mottled chestnut and underparts that are barred black and white but with a broad rusty chestnut band across the centre of the chest. Their chins and throats are grey and their eyes are red with a grey eyebrow. They have a rich chestnut brown stripe between the eye and bill which extends to the back of the neck. Their bills, feet and claws are light pinky-brown. Like all rails their wings are relatively small and although able to fly they spend more time walking with a distinctive upward tail which flicks if they are alarmed. Juveniles are much paler with indistinct bars and only a faint orange tint. Young chicks are fluffy black.

Usually solitary but sometimes in pairs, they are birds of wetlands and waterways where they prefer to stay hidden in low dense vegetation such as sedges, long grass and rushes making only brief dashes from cover. They can also be found in mangroves and coastal tidal flats and, despite their shy nature, on some resort islands in the Great Barrier Reef they have become quite bold. They are largely silent, although loud creaky squawks have been heard during breeding season - it is not known if this is from both sexes and whether it is a challenge or enticement.

As omnivores they have a varied diet including crustaceans, molluscs, insects, small invertebrates, seeds and plant matter. Foraging occurs mostly during the early morning or late afternoon/evening.

Some of the gaps in our understanding of their behaviours occurs particularly around breeding. For example, it is not known if they are monogamous or not, what courting rituals they engage in and how nest building responsibilities are shared.



Breeding season is between September and January although it is believed this may vary if conditions are suitable and two broods may be raised in a good season. Nests are made of grass or reeds pulled down and woven into an unlined cup and well hidden. The eggs hatch after 19 days and the chicks are precocial meaning they are able to stand, move and feed themselves within 24 hours. Both parents will continue to care for them, and it is believed that the female may feed them as well.

Buff-banded Rails are believed to migrate around the coastal areas of Australia and up into southern and western New Guinea but can also be fairly sedentary if the habitat is rich enough to support them. In our area they appear to be mostly present in late Winter and early Spring. It is not known if they breed locally.

They are not considered to be a threatened or endangered species but because of their secretive natures it is not clear how well or otherwise these birds are actually doing. Clearly their reliance on wetlands, tidal mudflats, mangroves and clean healthy water systems means they are dependent, like so many of our native species on the ongoing preservation of these habitats.

Story and photo by Kym Kilpatrick FAWNA Hallidays Point.

Bumper holiday season



Above: Large numbers of visitors this season is great news for local businesses. Photo by Patricia Macvean.

While official figures are still rolling in, the latest holiday season has seen large numbers of visitors coming to the beautiful Barrington Coast.

Illegal camping and parking were hot topics leading into the holiday period; however, MidCoast Council has praised the behaviour of the vast majority of visitors to the region.

Rangers have been making themselves visible at many of the usual hotspots including Seal Rocks, Tea Gardens and Hawks Nest, Pacific Palms, Crowdy Head and Harrington.

MidCoast Council's Director of Liveable Communities, Paul De Szell said although rangers were out in force, their presence was primarily about education.

"The last thing we want to do is ruin someone's holiday here and their experience," he explained.

"Our rangers are primarily out there to educate. If, after the initial conversation, there is still an

issue that is when a fine will be handed out as a last resort."

With the holiday season past its peak, only 150 to 200 fines have been issued so far for parking and illegal camping offences.

Mr De Szell was also excited about what the bumper holiday season means for businesses and the local economy.

"When you consider that this has been one of the busiest holiday periods for the Barrington Coast with tens of thousands of visitors over the past few weeks, we are pleased that the message about visitor behaviour is being heard and that so many people have been able to enjoy their holidays here," he said.

"I look forward to sharing the official figures of visitors and the economic benefit in the coming weeks. It's too early to say at the moment, but anecdotally it has been one of the best years for visitation, which is great news for our local businesses."

The Perfect Venue

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- CONFERENCES
- FUNCTIONS

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with Jan Cristaudo

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 Members \$200 — non-Members \$240
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✉ david.gillespie.mp@aph.gov.au 🌐 davidgillespie.com.au 📺 DavidGillespieMP

Authorised by Dr David Gillespie MP, National Party of Australia, 144 Victoria Street, Taree NSW 2430.

Assisting NSW RFS Communications

Once a week, a group of volunteers from the local area attend Taree Fire Control Centre, to operate the Mid Coast Communications for NSW RFS.

This volunteer work is vital in helping to reduce the pressure on the Sydney Operational Command Centre, especially when things become busy during bushfire season. The communications are vital, ensuring safety of firefighters and for firefighting brigades to carry out effective attacks on bushfires.

The Mid Coast District is one of 45 Districts across NSW and has Fire Control Centres at Wauchope and Taree. These Fire Control Centres form the administrative and operational base of the District.

Some of the people that form our Mid Coast 'South' Communications Brigade, formerly located at Tuncurry, have previously been involved in bushfire fighting but others have no experience in the field and intend to stay in communications only. We connect with the firefighting brigades across the District as part of our role.

Coming from various backgrounds, this group has been trained to operate the radios that communicate directly with firefighters on the ground and aerial resources. They have also been trained to enter information into a computer aided system, manage a whiteboard tracking system for incidents and some handwritten recording.

Background of a volunteer

This month we are focusing on the background of one member of MidCoast South



Above: Jenny Pither volunteering with Taree Fire Control Centre.

Communications (Comms) Brigade, Jenny Pither, who has dedicated her 'spare' time to attending duty at Taree once a week where possible.

Jenny is the Founder and Director of Allied Health Admin and Consulting and manages to fit the crucial RFS support work into a busy life schedule that combines work and motherhood

and all the running around that's involved in this. Jenny also recently flew to New York to attend a special event, the Stevie Awards, for business women, where she received two awards acknowledging her achievements as a woman in business: Silver - Best Female Entrepreneur in Business Services with 10 or Less Employees; Gold - Management Team of the Year at a Women-Owned or Led Organization with 10 or Less Employees.

With over 20 years of experience in the medical and Allied Health industry, "I've dedicated my career to helping practitioners navigate the often overwhelming world of administration," says Jenny.

"My journey in this sector has spanned various roles in Radiology, General Practice, and Allied Health, equipping me with a well-rounded expertise that I bring to my consultancy services. I've been honoured with several awards, including being a Silver Awards Winner at the Beam Awards for 2023 and a multi-year finalist in the Australian Women's Small Business Champion, Roar Awards and AusMumpreneur Awards. These accolades are a testament to my commitment to excellence in the field."

Jenny's work team's core values highlight what she brings from her business experience to the Comms team, and makes her an effective RFS volunteer. She conducts her volunteer work in an efficient and professional manner with a relaxed, friendly and confident personality.

Jenny's WHY for joining the RFS:

During the 2019/ 2020 fires in our region, having friends who were greatly affected and



Above: Jenny Pither receiving business awards.

listening to the fireground radios on a daily basis Jenny knew that she needed and wanted to give back to her community.

Initially sending an EOI to join a firefighting brigade Jenny was contacted by the Captain of MidCoast South Communications Brigade. This is when Jenny realised her skillset was better used in Communications.

Since commencing with comms, Jenny has been fortunate enough to meet some amazing people and hear some amazing stories from experiences over the years from colleagues.

For Jenny, her cup is most full when volunteering and giving back to her community.

Consider how you could adapt your life to include helping the NSW RFS. Perhaps you hear an echo of your own thoughts and background when reading Jenny's brief bio.

Contact us on Facebook: NSW RFS Midcoast South Communications, or our Captain, Richard Pratt: 0407807007.

who bought books and for helping make it so successful.

The next Rotary Book Fair is in the July 2025 School Holidays from Friday the 11th of Monday 14th July 2025 at the Tuncurry Memorial Hall.

Brad Fletcher, Mick Larter and Mark Davies - Community Services Team RCLMC.

On the left is a photo of just some of the empty boxes after a very successful Rotary Book Fair in January 2025. One highlight is that we had an approximate 25% increase in Children's book sales (from the last Book Fair).

A big thanks to Forster Tuncurry Removals, the Man Walk fellows, as well as all the Rotary Volunteers and Partners for all your help. Most importantly, thank you to everyone



Successful Book Fair for January!



GOT A PROBLEM? TELL US ABOUT IT.

We know things don't always go to plan.

With over 10,000km² to cover, delivering your every day services like roadworks, water, and bin collections, can be challenging.

If you've got an issue or see something that needs addressing, tell us about it.
midcoast.nsw.gov.au/report 02 7955 7777

Your work in progress



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GLAICA is a community-based organisation for the community and is committed to providing a home for residents.

All suites air-conditioned with individual ensuites and room sizes 28.5sqm - 31.3sqm

Now open for viewing

Contact 5502 6555

For further information please contact GLAICA House Tuncurry during business hours

Mon - Fri 9:30am till 4pm (02) 6554 5521

The Grin Bin



Doodley Squat



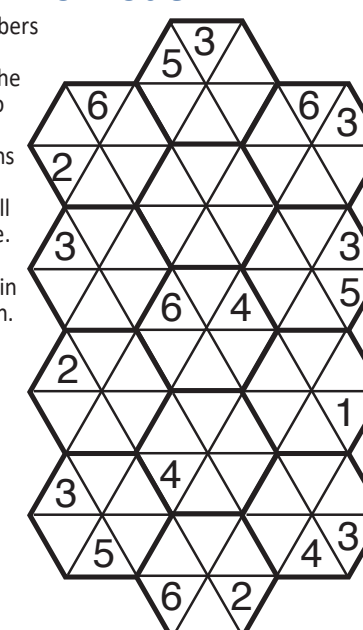
Sudoku

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

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

Quick Workout

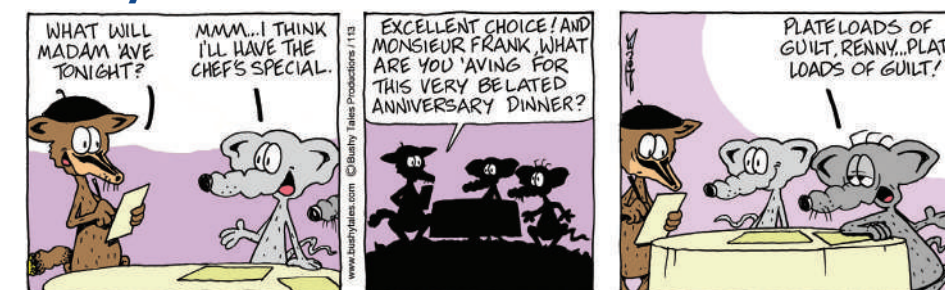
Fit the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 into the hexagons so that where the hexagons touch, the numbers will be the same. No number is repeated in any hexagon.



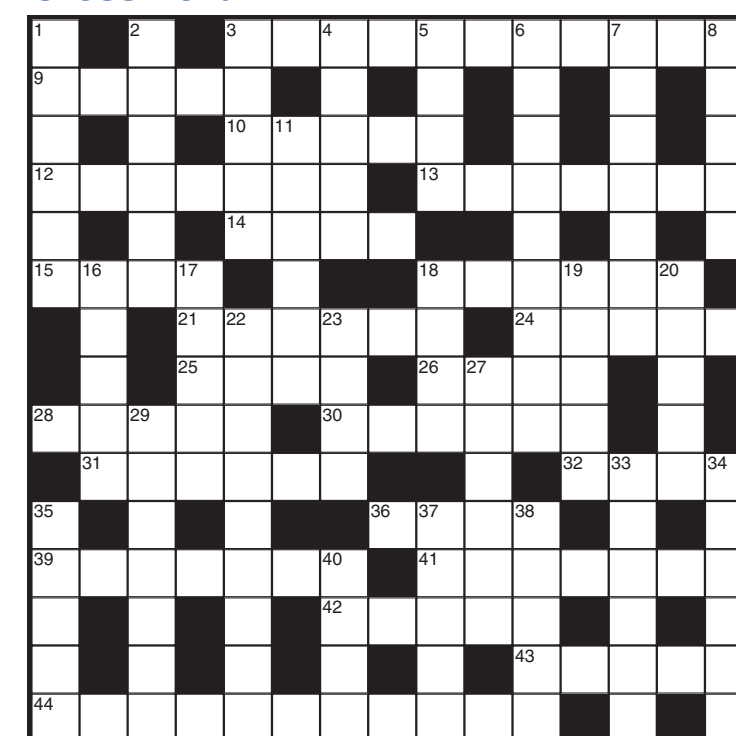
Swamp



Bushy Tales



Crossword



- ACROSS**
- 3 Going beyond prudence
 - 9 Customary
 - 10 Male honey bee
 - 12 Edicts
 - 13 Tarnishing
 - 14 Emit fumes
 - 15 Coarse file
 - 18 Drive forwards
 - 21 Come forth
 - 24 Present
 - 25 Be carried
 - 26 At all times
 - 28 Commence
 - 30 Deprive of cover
 - 31 Depended on
 - 32 Pace
 - 36 Legal document
 - 39 Keeps
 - 41 Greed
- DOWN**
- 1 Steering device
 - 2 Pretenders to medical skill
 - 3 Church office bearer
 - 4 That group
 - 5 Tools
 - 6 Medicines counteracting poisons
 - 7 Aimed at
 - 8 Dance
 - 11 Staggered
 - 16 Pale yellow
 - 17 Danger
 - 18 Sly look
 - 19 Skin openings
- 20 Cavalry weapon**
- 22 Bellittles**
- 23 Tall grass stalk**
- 27 In accordance with a vow**
- 29 Well-bred**
- 33 Three-legged stand**
- 34 Like better**
- 35 Bartler**
- 37 Black bird**
- 38 Stories**
- 40 Pretended**

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 Good: 9 words

FOCUS Very good: 19 words

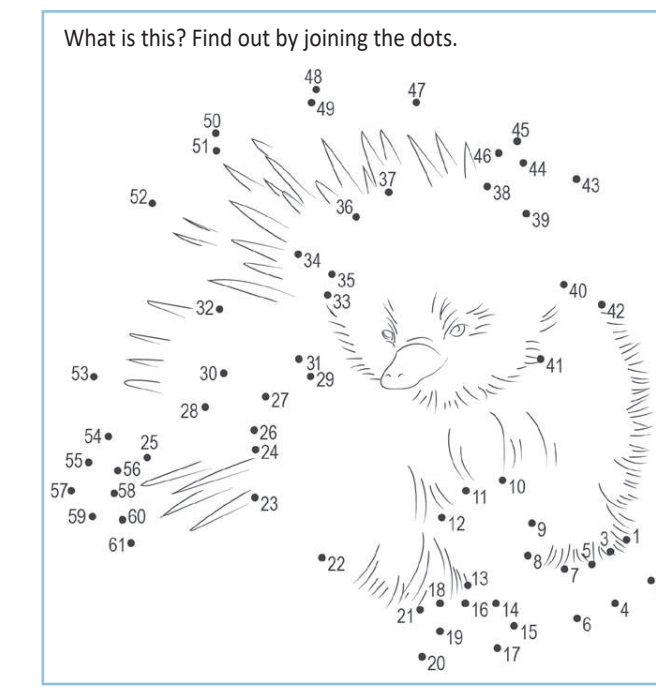
Excellent: 26 words

Reference: Macquarie Concise Dictionary Focus No. 3947

Spot the 5 Differences



Join the Dots



Solutions

Puzzles and pagination supplied by Auspac Media

THE 5 DIFFERENCES: Helmets emblem changed, part of helmet missing, yellow emblem on shoulder pad changed, red emblem on chest upside down, arrow on chest reversed.

FOCUS: acme amen arenat ante came cant carten cement cent cean exact ENACTMENT enema etna man mean meat menca name neat necten nett teen tenant tenet tent

WEEKLY CROSSWORD

YOUR FORTNIGHTLY TV GUIDE

January 23 - 29

	ABCTV	SBS	SEVEN	NBN	TEN
THURSDAY	6.00 Morning Programs. 10.30 Back Roads. 11.00 Antiques Roadshow. 12.00 News. 1.00 The Newsreader. 3.00 Back Roads. 3.30 Grand Designs. 4.15 Long Lost Family. 5.00 A Bite To Eat. 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. 6.30 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30 7.30. 8.00 Back Roads. 8.30 Long Lost Family. 8.20 Back Roads. Design. 10.05 Dr Karl's How Things Work. 10.35 News. 10.55 Escaping Utopia. 11.55 Grand Designs. 12.45 Long Lost Family. 1.30 Rage. 3.00 Parkinson In Australia. 4.25 Gardening Aust. 5.30 7.30.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 Great Australian Railway Journeys. 3.05 Plat Du Tour. 3.05 Destination Flavour China. 3.40 The Cook Up. 4.10 Britain By Beach. 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.35 Outback Adventures In Western Australia. 8.30 Silk Road From Above. 9.30 The Darkness. 10.25 SBS News. 10.55 Divided We Stand. 11.50 Divided We Stand. 12.45 Blanca. 2.45 Home Is Where The Art Is. 3.35 Make Me A Dealer. 4.25 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 10.00 MOVIE: Morning Show Mysteries: Countdown To Murder. (2019) 3.00 The Chase. 4.00 News. 5.00 The Chase Aust. 6.00 7News Local. 6.30 News. 7.00 Home And Away. 7.30 Cricket. The Women's Ashes. Twenty20 International Series. Australia v England. Game 2. 10.30 Seven's Cricket: The Spin. 11.15 Pam & Tommy. 12.15 Cycling. Santos Tour Down Under. Men's Stage 3. Highlights. 1.15 Black-ish. 2.00 Shopping. 4.00 NBC Today. 5.00 Sunrise 5am News. 5.30 Sunrise.	6.00 Today. 9.00 Today Extra. 10.30 Australian Open Tennis Pre-Show. 11.30 Tennis. Australian Open. Day 12. 3.30 Tennis. Australian Open. Afternoon 12. 4.30 Tipping Point. 5.00 Tipping Point Australia. 6.00 NBN News. 7.00 Tennis. Australian Open. Night 12. 11.00 Tennis. Australian Open. Late night 12. 12.00 New Amsterdam. (MA15+) 1.00 First On Scene. (MA15+) 1.30 TV Shop. 2.30 Global Shop. 3.00 TV Shop. 4.00 Believer's Voice Of Victory. (PG) 4.30 GolfBarons. (PG) 5.00 Today Early News. 5.30 Today.	6.00 Morning Programs. 7.30 Farm To Fork. 8.00 Bold. 8.30 Deal Or No Deal. 9.00 Lingo. 10.00 Judge Judy. 10.30 I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here! 12.00 Farm To Fork. 12.30 Family Feud. 1.00 News. 2.00 Wheel Of Fortune. 2.30 Lingo. 3.30 News. 4.00 Neighbours. 4.30 Bold. 5.00 News. 6.00 Deal Or No Deal. 6.30 The Project. 7.30 I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here! 9.00 The Graham Norton Show. 10.10 News. 10.35 The Voice Of Victory. (PG) 4.30 Stephen Colbert. 12.30 Shopping. 4.30 CBS Morning.
FRIDAY	6.00 Morning Programs. 12.00 News. 12.30 Press Club. 2.00 Fake Or Fortune? 3.00 Forever Summer With Nigella. 3.25 Grand Designs. 4.15 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 5.00 A Bite To Eat. 5.25 Antiques Roadshow. 6.30 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30 Monty Don's History Of The British Garden. 8.30 Silent Witness. 10.15 You Can't Ask That. 10.35 Live At The Malthouse. 11.40 News. 11.55 Grand Designs. 12.45 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 1.30 Rage New Music. 5.00 Rage.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 Great Australian Railway Journeys. 3.05 Destination Flavour China. 3.35 The Cook Up. 4.05 End Of The World: The Mayans. 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.30 MOVIE: The Goldfinch. (2019) 10.10 The Day The Rock Star Died. 10.40 SBS News. 11.10 De Gaulle. 12.10 Kin. 2.55 Home Is Where The Art Is. 3.45 Peer To Peer. 4.15 Peer To Peer. 4.45 Destination Flavour. 5.00 NHK World English News Morning. 5.30 Late Programs.	6.00 Sunrise. 9.00 The Morning Show. 12.00 Seven Noon News. 10.00 MOVIE: Morning Show Mysteries: Death By Design. (2019) 3.00 The Chase. 4.00 News. 5.00 The Chase Aust. 6.00 7News Local. 6.30 News. 7.00 Home And Away. 7.30 Tennis. Australian Open. Night 13. From Melbourne Park. Hosted by James Bracey. 11.00 MOVIE: Those Who Wish Me Dead. (2021) (MA15+) 1.00 Customs. (PG) 1.30 TV Shop. 4.00 Skippy. 4.30 Global Shop. 5.00 TV Shop. 5.30 Drive TV.	6.00 Today. 9.00 Today Extra. 11.00 Australian Open Tennis Pre-Show. 12.00 Tennis. Australian Open. Day 13. 4.00 Tennis. Australian Open. Afternoon 13. 6.00 NBN News. 7.00 Australian Open Tennis Pre-Show. 7.30 Tennis. Australian Open. Night 13. From Melbourne Park. Hosted by James Bracey. 11.00 MOVIE: Those Who Wish Me Dead. (2021) (MA15+) 1.00 Customs. (PG) 1.30 TV Shop. 4.00 Skippy. 4.30 Global Shop. 5.00 TV Shop. 5.30 Drive TV.	6.00 Drew Barrymore. 7.00 The Yes Experiment. 7.30 Farm To Fork. 8.00 Bold. 8.30 Deal Or No Deal. 9.00 Lingo. 10.00 Judge Judy. 10.30 I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here! 12.00 Farm To Fork. 12.30 Family Feud. 1.00 News. 2.00 Wheel Of Fortune. 2.30 Lingo. 3.30 News. 4.00 Family Feud. 4.30 Bold. 5.00 News. 6.00 Deal Or No Deal. 6.30 The Project. 7.30 MOVIE: Catch Me If You Can. (2002) (M) 10.20 10's Late News. 10.45 The Project. 11.50 Stephen Colbert. 12.30 Shopping. 4.30 CBS Morning.
SATURDAY	6.00 Morning Programs. 12.00 News. 12.30 Paradise. 1.25 Miriam Margolyes In New Zealand. 2.25 Extraordinary Escapes. 3.10 Croc Watch. 3.55 Lucy Worsley: Agatha Christie Mystery Queen. 4.55 Eat The Invaders. 5.30 Dr Karl's How Things Work. 5.55 Hear Me Out. Australia Day. (PG) 6.30 Back Roads. (PG) 7.00 News. 7.30 Australian Of The Year 2025. (PG) 8.45 Beyond Paradise. (PG) 9.45 Vera. (M) 11.15 Miniseries: Until I Kill You. (M) 12.50 Rage. (MA15+) 5.00 Rage.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 Sailing. Grand Prix. Round 2. Highlights. 3.00 Women's Weekly Football. 3.30 Going Places. 4.00 Railway Journeys UK. 4.35 Forgotten Frontlines. 5.35 Auschwitz: Countdown To Liberation. 6.30 News. 7.30 Magical Train Journeys In Switzerland. 8.30 Catswold And Beyond With Pam Ayres. 9.20 Great Australian Walks. 10.15 Ruby Wax: Castaway. 11.15 Ralph And Katie. 11.45 Ralph And Katie. 12.50 Ralph And Katie. 1.25 Late Programs.	6.00 NBC Today. 7.00 Weekend Sunrise. 10.00 Morning Show. 12.00 Horse Racing. Carrington Stakes Day, Caulfield Australia Day and Sunshine Coast Cup Day. 5.00 News. 5.30 Border Security. 6.00 Seven News. 7.00 Cricket. The Women's Ashes. Twenty20 International Series. Australia v England. Game 3. 10.30 MOVIE: Dracula Untold. (2014) (M) 12.30 Cycling. Santos Tour Down Under. Men's Stage 5. Highlights. 1.30 Travel Oz. (PG) 2.00 Shopping. 4.00 It's Academic. 5.00 My Greek Odyssey. (PG)	6.00 Morning Programs. 12.30 David Attenborough's Green Planet. 1.30 The Road To The Open: A New Chapter. 2.00 Australian Open Tennis Pre-Show. 3.00 Tennis. Australian Open. Afternoon 15. 5.00 News. 5.30 RBT. 6.00 NBN News. 6.30 Australian Open Tennis Pre-Show. 7.30 Tennis. Australian Open. Night 15. 12.00 The First 48. 1.00 Customs. 1.30 TV Shop. 4.00 Believer's Voice Of Victory Chapter. 5.00 Today Early News. 5.30 Today.	6.00 Morning Programs. 8.00 I Fish. 8.30 Everyday Gourmet. 9.00 My Market Kitchen. 9.30 Drew Barrymore. 10.30 I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here! 12.00 Australia By Design: Innovations. 12.30 Exploring Off The Grid. 1.30 The Yes Experiment. 2.00 4x4 Adventures. 3.00 Silvia's Italian Masterclass. 3.30 Farm To Fork. 4.00 My Market Kitchen. 4.30 GCBC. 5.00 News. 6.30 Dog House Journeys. 8.30 Ambulance UK. 1.00 Australia. 10.30 Ambulance UK. 1.00 Shopping. 5.00 Hour Of Power.
SUNDAY	6.00 Morning Programs. 12.00 News. 12.30 Landline. 1.00 New Leash On Life. 1.30 Gardening Aust. 2.25 Monty Don's History Of The British Garden. 3.35 Extraordinary Escapes. 4.20 Magnis's Big National Health Check. 5.20 Hear Me Out. Australia Day. 5.55 Antiques Roadshow. 6.55 Governor-General's Australia Day Message. 7.00 News. 7.30 Australia Day Live. 9.30 MOVIE: Shine. (1996) 11.15 TBA. 12.40 Rage. 3.10 Australia Remastered. 4.05 Gardening Aust. 5.05 The Great Acceleration.	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.00 Speedweek. 2.55 NITV News Special. 3.00 Grand Tours Of Scotland's Rivers. 3.30 NITV News Special. 3.35 Black Anzac. 4.30 NITV News Special. 4.35 Auschwitz: Countdown To Liberation. 6.30 NITV News Special: Day 26. 6.30 News. 7.30 MOVIE: Bran Nue Dae. (2009) 9.05 The Lost City Of Melbourne. 10.00 Bettany Hughes: Treasures Of Jordan. 11.35 Splice Here: A Projected Odyssey. 2.00 Home Is Where The Art Is. 2.55 Love Your Garden. 3.50 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 12.00 Cycling. Santos Tour Down Under. Women's One-Day Classic. 2.00 Cycling. Santos Tour Down Under. Men's Stage 6. 4.30 Border Security. 5.00 News. 5.30 RBT. 6.00 NBN News. 6.30 Australian Open Tennis Pre-Show. 7.30 Tennis. Australian Open. Night 15. 12.00 The First 48. 1.00 Customs. 1.30 TV Shop. 4.00 Believer's Voice Of Victory Chapter. 5.00 Today Early News. 5.30 Today.	6.00 Morning Programs. 12.30 David Attenborough's Green Planet. 1.30 The Road To The Open: A New Chapter. 2.00 Australian Open Tennis Pre-Show. 3.00 Tennis. Australian Open. Afternoon 15. 5.00 News. 5.30 RBT. 6.00 NBN News. 6.30 Australian Open Tennis Pre-Show. 7.30 Tennis. Australian Open. Night 15. 12.00 The First 48. 1.00 Customs. 1.30 TV Shop. 4.00 Believer's Voice Of Victory Chapter. 5.00 Today Early News. 5.30 Today.	6.00 Morning Programs. 9.30 Australia By Design: Architecture. 10.00 Pooches At Play. 10.30 The Chef's Garden. 11.00 Luxury Escapes. 11.30 Buy To Build. 12.00 I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here! 1.30 Cook With Luke. 2.00 Farm To Fork. 2.30 Basketball. NBL. Round 18. Brisbane Bullets v Melbourne United. 4.30 GCBC. 5.00 News. 6.00 Sunday Project. 7.00 I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here! 8.30 MOVIE: Gemini Man. (2019) 10.40 FBI. 11.30 Sunday Project. 12.30 Shopping. 4.30 CBS Morning.
MONDAY	6.00 News. 9.00 News. 10.00 McCartney 3. 2. 1. 10.30 Vera. 12.00 News. 1.00 Australia Day Live. 3.00 TBA. 5.25 Antiques Roadshow. 6.25 Hard Quiz. (PG) 7.00 News. 7.30 7.30. 8.00 Escaping Utopia. (PG) 9.05 MOVIE: Strictly Ballroom. (1992) (PG) 10.35 News. 10.50 The Business. 11.10 Planet America. 11.40 Home Delivery. (PG) 12.10 TBA. 2.25 Rage. (MA15+) 3.20 Parkinson In Australia. 4.30 Gardening Aust. 5.30 7.30.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 Such Was Life. 2.10 Amazing Railway Adventures. 3.00 Plat Du Tour. 3.05 Destination Flavour China. 3.35 The Cook Up. 4.05 Who The Bloody Hell Are We? 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.30 Who Do You Think You Are? 8.35 Stock Atken Waterman: Legends Of Pop. 9.50 Video Killed The Radio Star. 10.20 SBS News. 10.50 Beyond Signs. 11.50 Christian. 12.45 Christian. 1.40 Christian. 2.50 Late Programs.	6.00 Sunrise. 9.00 The Morning Show. 12.00 News At Noon. 1.00 MOVIE: Morning Show Mysteries: Murder Ever After. (2021) (PG) 3.00 The Chase. 4.00 News. 5.00 The Chase Aust. 6.00 7News Local. 6.30 News. 7.00 Home And Away. 7.30 Cricket. Big Bash League. Final. 10.30 Big Bash League Post-Game. 11.00 Motorway Patrol. (M) 11.30 Highway Caps. (PG) 12.00 Friday Night Lights. (M) 2.00 Home Shopping. 4.00 NBC Today. 5.00 Sunrise 5am News. 5.30 Sunrise.	6.00 Today. 9.00 Today Extra. 11.30 9News Morning. 12.00 MOVIE: Infamously In Love. (2022) 2.00 Pointless. 3.00 Tipping Point. 4.00 9News Afternoon. 5.00 Tipping Point Australia. 6.00 NBN News. 7.00 ACA. 7.30 Married At First Sight. (M) 9.30 TBA. 10.30 9News Late. 11.00 Chicago Med. (MA15+) 11.50 Casualty 24/7. 12.40 Tipping Point. 1.30 TV Shop. 2.30 Global Shop. 3.00 TV Shop. 4.00 Believer's Voice Of Victory. 4.30 ACA. 5.00 Today Early News. 5.30 Today.	6.00 Morning Programs. 7.30 Farm To Fork. 8.00 Bold. 8.30 Deal Or No Deal. 9.00 Lingo. 10.00 Judge Judy. 10.30 I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here! 12.00 Farm To Fork. 12.30 Family Feud. 1.00 News. 2.00 Wheel Of Fortune. 2.30 Lingo. 3.30 News. 4.00 Neighbours. 4.30 Bold. 5.00 News. 6.00 Deal Or No Deal. 6.30 The Project. 7.30 I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here! 9.00 The Ex-Wife. 11.00 FBI: Most Wanted. 11.00 News. 11.25 The Project. 12.30 Stephen Colbert. 1.30 Shopping. 4.30 CBS Morning.
TUESDAY	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.00 Call The Midwife. 2.00 Fake Or Fortune? 3.00 Forever Summer With Nigella. 3.25 Grand Designs. 4.15 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 5.00 A Bite To Eat. 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. 6.30 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30 7.30. 8.00 Dr Karl's How Things Work. 8.30 Eat The Invaders. 9.00 Croc Watch. 9.50 Nungaloo Nyinguloo. 10.45 News. 11.00 The Business. 11.20 Prosecuting Evil. 12.45 Grand Designs. 1.30 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 Such Was Life. 2.05 Amazing Railway Adventures. 3.00 The Weekly Football Wrap. 3.30 Plat Du Tour. 3.35 The Cook Up. 4.05 Who The Bloody Hell Are We? 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.30 Who Do You Think You Are? 8.35 Stock Atken Waterman: Legends Of Pop. 9.50 Video Killed The Radio Star. 10.20 SBS News. 10.50 Beyond Signs. 11.50 Christian. 12.45 Christian. 1.40 Christian. 2.50 Late Programs.	6.00 Sunrise. 9.00 The Morning Show. 12.00 News At Noon. 1.00 MOVIE: Murder, She Baked: A Plum Pudding Mystery. (2015) 3.00 The Chase. 4.00 News. 5.00 The Chase Aust. 6.00 7News Local. 6.30 News. 7.00 Home And Away. (PG) 7.30 The 1% Club. (PG) 8.35 MOVIE: The Equalizer 2. (2018) (MA15+) 11.05 MOVIE: Skyscraper. (2018) 1.00 Friday Night Lights. (M) 2.00 Shopping. 4.00 NBC Today. 5.00 Sunrise 5am News. 5.30 Sunrise.	6.00 Today. 9.00 Today Extra. 11.30 9News Morning. 12.00 MOVIE: Love At First Like. (2023) 2.00 Pointless. 3.00 Tipping Point. 4.00 9News Afternoon. 5.00 Tipping Point Australia. 6.00 NBN News. 7.00 ACA. 7.30 Married At First Sight. (M) 9.15 Barbie Uncovered: A Dream Home Divided. (M) 11.15 9News Late. 11.45 The Equalizer. (MA15+) 12.35 Tipping Point. (PG) 1.30 TV Shop. 2.30 Our State On A Plate. (PG) 3.00 TV Shop. 4.00 Believer's Voice Of Victory. 4.30 ACA. 5.00 Today Early News. 5.30 Today.	6.00 Morning Programs. 7.30 Farm To Fork. 8.00 Bold. 8.30 Deal Or No Deal. 9.00 Lingo. 10.00 Judge Judy. 10.30 I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here! 12.00 Farm To Fork. 12.30 Family Feud. 1.00 News. 2.00 Wheel Of Fortune. 2.30 Lingo. 3.30 News. 4.00 Neighbours. 4.30 Bold. 5.00 News. 6.00 Deal Or No Deal. 6.30 The Project. 7.30 I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here! 9.00 The Ex-Wife. 11.00 FBI: Most Wanted. 11.00 News. 11.25 The Project. 12.30 Stephen Colbert. 1.30 Shopping. 4.30 CBS Morning.
WEDNESDAY	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.50 Fake Or Fortune? 3.00 Forever Summer With Nigella. 3.25 Grand Designs. 4.15 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 5.00 A Bite To Eat. 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. 6.30 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30 7.30. 8.00 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30 7.30. 8.00 Guy Montgomery's Guy Mont Spelling Bee (NZ) 9.45 Planet America. 10.20 Spicks And Specks. 10.50 News. 11.05 The Business. 11.20 Aftertaste. 12.20 Grand Designs. 1.10 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 1.55 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 Such Was Life. 2.10 Amazing Railway Adventures. 3.00 Plat Du Tour. 3.05 Destination Flavour China. 3.35 The Cook Up. 4.05 Who The Bloody Hell Are We? 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.35 The Real Crown: Inside The House Of Windsor. 8.30 Wonders Of The Moon With Dara O'Brain. 9.25 Miniseries: Playing Nice. 10.20 SBS News. 10.50 Pagan Peak. 11.40 Rogue Heroes. 12.50 Agent Hamilton. 1.40 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.00 MOVIE: Murder, She Baked: Just Desserts. (2017) 3.00 Pre-Game Show. 3.30 Cricket. First Test. Sri Lanka v Australia. Day 1. Morning session. 5.00 The Chase Aust. 6.00 7News Local. 6.30 News. 7.00 Home And Away. 7.30 Cricket. First Test. Sri Lanka v Australia. Day 1. Late afternoon session. 11.00 The Suspects: True Australian Thrillers. 12.00 Black-ish. 1.00 Late Programs.	6.00 Today. 9.00 Today Extra. 11.30 9News Morning. 12.00 MOVIE: Uptown Girls. (2003) 2.00 Pointless. 3.00 Tipping Point. 4.00 9News Afternoon. 5.00 Tipping Point Australia. 6.00 NBN News. 7.00 ACA. 7.30 Married At First Sight. (M) 9.30 TBA. 10.30 9News Late. 11.00 Chicago Med. (MA15+) 11.50 Casualty 24/7. 12.40 Tipping Point. 1.30 TV Shop. 2.30 Global Shop. 3.00 TV Shop. 4.00 Believer's Voice Of Victory. 4.30 ACA. 5.00 Today Early News. 5.30 Today.	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.35 Media Watch. 2.00 Parliament. 3.00 Forever Summer With Nigella. 3.25 Grand Designs. 4.15 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 5.00 A Bite To Eat. 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. 6.25 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30 7.30. 8.00 Dr Karl's How Things Work. 8.35 Irresistible: Why We Can't Stop Eating. 10.05 The Artist's View. 10.35 SBS News. 11.05 Beyond Signs. 12.05 Fargo. 1.05 Fargo. 2.00 Home Is Where The Art Is. 2.50 Late Programs.

January 30 - February 5

	ABCTV	SBS	SEVEN	NBN	TEN
THURSDAY	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.00 Australian Of The Year 2025. 2.15 Fake Or Fortune? 3.25 Grand Designs. 4.15 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 5.00 A Bite To Eat. 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. 6.30 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30 7.30. 8.00 Back Roads. 8.30 Long Lost Family. 8.20 Back Roads. Design. 10.05 Dr Karl's How Things Work. 10.35 News. 10.55 Escaping Utopia. 11.55 Grand Designs. 12.45 Long Lost Family. 1.30 Rage. 3.00 Parkinson In Australia. 4.25 Gardening Aust. 5.30 7.30.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 Hold Up. 2.10 Amazing Railway Adventures. 3.00 Plat Du Tour. 3.05 Destination Flavour China. 3.35 The Cook Up. 4.05 Australia Uncovered: Our African Roots. 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.30 Finding Your Roots. 8.30 Silk Road From Above. 9.30 The Darkness. 10.25 SBS News. 10.55 Divided We Stand. 11.50 Blanca. 1.50 Blanca. 2.45 Home Is Where The Art Is. 3.35 22 Kids And Counting. 5.00 Today Early News. 5.30 Today.	6.00 Sunrise. 9.00 The Morning Show. 12.00 Seven Noon News. 10.00 MOVIE: Morning Show Mysteries: Death By Design. (2019) 3.00 The Chase. 4.00 News. 5.00 The Chase Aust. 6.00 7News Local. 6.30 News. 7.00 Home And Away. 7.30 Cricket. The Women's Ashes. Test Match. Australia v England. Day 1. Afternoon. 3.30 Cricket. First Test. Sri Lanka v Australia. Day 2. Morning. 5.00 The Chase Aust. 6.00 7News Local. 6.30 News. 7.00 Home And Away. 7.30 Cricket. First Test. Sri Lanka v Australia. Day 2. Afternoon. 8.10 Sri Lanka Vs Australia: Tea. 8.30 Cricket. First Test. Sri Lanka v Australia. Day 2. Late afternoon. 11.00 Late Programs.	6.00 Today. 9.00 Today Extra. 11.30 9News Morning. 12.00 MOVIE: Benny & Joon. (1993) 2.00 Pointless. 3.00 Tipping Point. 4.00 9News Afternoon. 5.00 Tipping Point Australia. 6.00 NBN News. 7.00 ACA. 7.30 Taronga. Who's Who In The Zoo. (PG) 8.30 MOVIE: The Intern. (2015) (M) 11.00 My Life As A Rolling Stone. (M) 12.10 Tipping Point. (PG) 1.00 Explore TV: Trade Routes Of The Middle Ages. 1.30 TV Shop. 4.00 Skippy. 4.30 Global Shop. 5.00 TV Shop. 5.30 Garden Gurus.	6.00 Morning Programs. 7.30 Farm To Fork. 8.00 Bold. 8.30 Deal Or No Deal. 9.00 Lingo. 10.00 Judge Judy. 10.30 I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here! 12.00 Farm To Fork. 12.30 Family Feud. 1.00 News. 2.00 Wheel Of Fortune. 2.30 Lingo. 3.30 News. 4.00 Neighbours. 4.30 Bold. 5.00 News. 6.00 Deal Or No Deal. 6.30 The Project. 7.30 I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here! 9.00 The Graham Norton Show. 10.10 News. 10.35 The Project. 11.25 Stephen Colbert. 12.30 Shopping. 4.30 CBS Morning.
FRIDAY	6.00 Morning Programs. 12.00 News. 12.30 Paradise. 1.25 Miriam Margolyes In New Zealand. 2.25 Extraordinary Escapes. 3.10 Croc Watch. 3.55 Lucy Worsley: Agatha Christie Mystery Queen. 4.55 Eat The Invaders. 5.30 Dr Karl's How Things Work. 5.55 Hear Me Out. Australia Day. (PG) 6.30 Back Roads. (PG) 7.00 News. 7.30 Australian Of The Year 2025. (PG) 8.45 Beyond Paradise. (PG) 9.45 Vera. (M) 11.15 Miniseries: Until I Kill You. (M) 12.50 Rage. (MA15+) 5.00 Rage.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 Such Was Life. 2.10 Amazing Railway Adventures. 3.00 Plat Du Tour. 3.05 Destination Flavour China. 3.35 The Cook Up. 4.05 Who The Bloody Hell Are We? 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.30 Who Do You Think You Are? 8.35 Stock Atken Waterman: Legends Of Pop. 9.50 Video Killed The Radio Star. 10.20 SBS News. 10.50 Beyond Signs. 11.50 Christian. 12.45 Christian. 1.40 Christian. 2.50 Late Programs.	6.00 Sunrise. 9.00 The Morning Show. 12.00 News At Noon. 1.00 MOVIE: Morning Show Mysteries: Murder Ever After. (2021) (PG) 3.00 The Chase. 4.00 News. 5.00 The Chase Aust. 6.00 7News Local. 6.30 News. 7.00 Home And Away. 7.30 Cricket. Big Bash League. Final. 10.30 Big Bash League Post-Game. 11.00 Motorway Patrol. (M) 11.30 Highway Caps. (PG) 12.00 Friday Night Lights. (M) 2.00 Home Shopping. 4.00 NBC Today. 5.00 Sunrise 5am News. 5.30 Sunrise.	6.00 Today. 9.00 Today Extra. 11.30 9News Morning. 12.00 MOVIE: Infamously In Love. (2022) 2.00 Pointless. 3.00 Tipping Point. 4.00 9News Afternoon. 5.00 Tipping Point Australia. 6.00 NBN News. 7.00 ACA. 7.30 Married At First Sight. (M) 9.30 TBA. 10.30 9News Late. 11.00 Chicago Med. (MA15+) 11.50 Casualty 24/7. 12.40 Tipping Point. 1.30 TV Shop. 2.30 Global Shop. 3.00 TV Shop. 4.00 Believer's Voice Of Victory. 4.30 ACA. 5.00 Today Early News. 5.30 Today.	6.00 Morning Programs. 7.30 Farm To Fork. 8.00 Bold. 8.30 Deal Or No Deal. 9.00 Lingo. 10.00 Judge Judy. 10.30 I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here! 12.00 Farm To Fork. 12.30 Family Feud. 1.00 News. 2.00 Wheel Of Fortune. 2.30 Lingo. 3.30 News. 4.00 Neighbours. 4.30 Bold. 5.00 News. 6.00 Deal Or No Deal. 6.30 The Project. 7.30 I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here! 9.00 The Ex-Wife. 11.00 FBI: Most Wanted. 11.00 News. 11.25 The Project. 12.30 Stephen Colbert. 1.30 Shopping. 4.30 CBS Morning.
SATURDAY	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.00 Call The Midwife. 2.00 Fake Or Fortune? 3.00 Forever Summer With Nigella. 3.25 Grand Designs. 4.15 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 5.00 A Bite To Eat. 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. 6.30 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30 7.30. 8.00 Dr Karl's How Things Work. 8.30 Eat The Invaders. 9.00 Croc Watch. 9.50 Nungaloo Nyinguloo. 10.45 News. 11.00 The Business. 11.20 Prosecuting Evil. 12.45 Grand Designs. 1.30 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 Such Was Life. 2.05 Amazing Railway Adventures. 3.00 The Weekly Football Wrap. 3.30 Plat Du Tour. 3.35 The Cook Up. 4.05 Who The Bloody Hell Are We? 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.30 Who Do You Think You Are? 8.35 Stock Atken Waterman: Legends Of Pop. 9.50 Video Killed The Radio Star. 10.20 SBS News. 10.50 Beyond Signs. 11.50 Christian. 12.45 Christian. 1.40 Christian. 2.50 Late Programs.	6.00 Sunrise. 9.00 The Morning Show. 12.00 News At Noon. 1.00 MOVIE: Murder, She Baked: A Plum Pudding Mystery. (2015) 3.00 The Chase. 4.00 News. 5.00 The Chase Aust. 6.00 7News Local. 6.30 News. 7.00 Home And Away. (PG) 7.30 The 1% Club. (PG) 8.35 MOVIE: The Equalizer 2. (2018) (MA15+) 11.05 MOVIE: Skyscraper. (2018) 1.00 Friday Night Lights. (M) 2.00 Shopping. 4.00 NBC Today. 5.00 Sunrise 5am News. 5.30 Sunrise.	6.00 Today. 9.00 Today Extra. 11.30 9News Morning. 12.00 MOVIE: Love At First Like. (2023) 2.00 Pointless. 3.00 Tipping Point. 4.00 9News Afternoon. 5.00 Tipping Point Australia. 6.00 NBN News. 7.00 ACA. 7.30 Married At First Sight. (M) 9.30 TBA. 10.30 9News Late. 11.00 Chicago Med. (MA15+) 11.50 Casualty 24/7. 12.40 Tipping Point. 1.30 TV Shop. 2.30 Global Shop. 3.00 TV Shop. 4.00 Believer's Voice Of Victory. 4.30 ACA. 5.00 Today Early News. 5.30 Today.	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.00 Call The Midwife. 2.00 Parliament. 3.00 Forever Summer With Nigella. 3.25 Grand Designs. 4.15 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 5.00 A Bite To Eat. 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. 6.25 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30 7.30. 8.00 Dr Karl's How Things Work. 8.35 Irresistible: Why We Can't Stop Eating. 10.05 The Artist's View. 10.35 SBS News. 11.05 Beyond Signs. 12.05 Fargo. 1.05 Fargo. 2.00 Home Is Where The Art Is. 2.50 Late Programs.
SUNDAY	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.50 Fake Or Fortune? 3.00 Forever Summer With Nigella. 3.25 Grand Designs. 4.15 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 5.00 A Bite To Eat. 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. 6.30 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30 7.30. 8.00 Guy Montgomery's Guy Mont Spelling Bee (NZ) 9.45 Planet America. 10.20 Spicks And Specks. 10.50 News. 11.05 The Business. 11.20 Aftertaste. 12.20 Grand Designs. 1.10 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 1.55 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 Such Was Life. 2.10 Amazing Railway Adventures. 3.00 Plat Du Tour. 3.05 Destination Flavour China. 3.35 The Cook Up. 4.05 Who The Bloody Hell Are We? 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.35 The Real Crown: Inside The House Of Windsor. 8.30 Wonders Of The Moon With Dara O'Brain. 9.25 Miniseries: Playing Nice. 10.20 SBS News. 10.50 Pagan Peak. 11.40 Rogue Heroes. 12.50 Agent Hamilton. 1.40 Late Programs.	6.00 Sunrise. 9.00 The Morning Show. 12.00 News At Noon. 1.00 MOVIE: Murder, She Baked: Just Desserts. (2017) 3.00 Pre-Game Show. 3.30 Cricket. First Test. Sri Lanka v Australia. Day 1. Morning session. 5.00 The Chase Aust. 6.00 7News Local. 6.30 News. 7.00 Home And Away. 7.30 Cricket. First Test. Sri Lanka v Australia. Day 1. Late afternoon session. 11.00 The Suspects: True Australian Thrillers. 12.00 Black-ish. 1.00 Late Programs.	6.00 Today. 9.00 Today Extra. 11.30 9News Morning. 12.00 MOVIE: Uptown Girls. (2003) 2.00 Pointless. 3.00 Tipping Point. 4.00 9News Afternoon. 5.00 Tipping Point Australia. 6.00 NBN News. 7.00 ACA. 7.30 Married At First Sight. (M) 9.30 TBA. 10.30 9News Late. 11.00 Chicago Med. (MA15+) 11.50 Casualty 24/7. 12.40 Tipping Point. 1.30 TV Shop. 2.30 Global Shop. 3.00 TV Shop. 4.00 Believer's Voice Of Victory. 4.30 ACA. 5.00 Today Early News. 5.30 Today.	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.35 Media Watch. 2.00 Parliament. 3.00 Forever Summer With Nigella. 3.25 Grand Designs. 4.15 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 5.00 A Bite To Eat. 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. 6.25 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30 7.30. 8.00 Dr Karl's How Things Work. 8.35 Irresistible: Why We Can't Stop Eating. 10.05 The Artist's View. 10.35 SBS News. 11.05 Beyond Signs. 12.05 Fargo. 1.05 Fargo. 2.00 Home Is Where The Art Is. 2.50 Late Programs.

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Local Calendar

Your 'Local Calendar' lists free events. Max 4 lines. It is the responsibility of the organisation to update their information.

January

Sat 25 Jan - Tuncurry Market
8am to 1pm at John Wright Park, Tuncurry.
Enquiries: Anne 0417 400 994

Sun 26 Jan - Pacific Palms Market
9am to 1pm Pacific Palms Community Centre.
Community Library Stall open in hall.
Enquiries: Jennifer Doyle 0401 968 516

February



Sat 1 Feb - Real Food Market
8am - 11am Pacific Palms Community Centre.
Come meet your local farmers.
Enquiries: Sue Williams 0438 433 063.

Sun 2 Feb - Hallidays Point Car Boot Sale
7am to 12pm Hallidays Point Shopping Village
Enquiries: 0403 042 088

Sun 2 Feb - Black Head Bazaar Market
8am to 1pm Wylie Breckenridge Park, Black Head Rd.
Check website for ground closures.
www.facebook.com/blackheadbazaar

Sun 9 Feb - Forster Town Market
8am to 1pm, Town Park, Oyster Pde Forster.
Search Forster Town Park Market on Facebook.



Sat 15 Feb - Forster Farmers Market
8am to 12pm Forster Info Centre, Little St.
Enquiries: Linda 0421 347 273

Sat 18 Jan to Sun 16 Feb - Summer Exhibition
Open Sat & Sun 10am - 4pm or when flags are flying.
Forster Gallery, 34 Lake St Forster.

TUNCURRY MARKETS
John Wright Park
Saturday 25 Jan
8am - 1pm
Bookings Essential
Enquiries 0417 400 994

What's on around town & beyond!

Summer Exhibition at Forster Gallery

Forster Gallery and Great Lakes Art Society proudly presents our

Summer Exhibition 2025

Sat 18 January - Sun 16 February

FORSTER GALLERY - 34 Lake St, Forster
Open Saturday and Sunday, 10am - 4pm or when the flags are flying
www.forstergallery.org



Artwork appearing at Summer Exhibition 2025 at the Forster Gallery (pictured left) on Lake Street Forster.

Top right: "Peering Out" by Keran Roberts.
Right: "Desert Moon" by Roz Baker.

Great opportunity to learn Bridge

Here is your chance to finally learn the game of Bridge at your local club!

The Great Lakes Bridge Club is holding a series of free beginner lessons starting in March. (Please see advertisement below right for details)

Great Lakes Bridge Club is a friendly and supportive community club and welcomes all newcomers.

100 year old Jacqui Jennings is their oldest club member and loves playing the game with other members.

Jacqui said, "I've been playing Bridge for 40 years, starting in Scotland before moving to this area 35 years ago, where I've continued playing ever since."

"I love the game because it keeps my mind active and allows me to spend time

with people I enjoy. Over the years, I've accumulated more than 300 points."

"I still drive to play Bridge on Mondays and Wednesdays and stay for competitions."

"Newer players typically play on Tuesdays and Thursdays."

By Geordie Yule.



Above: 100 year old Jacqui Jennings (on the left) loves playing Bridge.



Left: Great Lakes Bridge Club members in front of the Bridge Centre on Lakes Street, Forster.

Photos by Geordie Yule.

BRIDGE LESSONS FOR BEGINNERS

The Great Lakes Bridge Club is offering free lessons for people wishing to learn to play Bridge. Weekly lessons will begin on Tuesday 4 February 2025 and go for 7 weeks. Start time is 2pm and will go for approx. 2 hours.

The Bridge Club is located at 34C Lake St, Forster
Enquiries: Sylvia Goodwin 0431 066 388
www.greatlakes.bridge-club.org

Australia Day Activities

Pacific Palms S.L.S.C Presents

AUSTRALIA DAY 2025
Local Vibe on the Beach
Sunday 26th January 2025

SCOTTY CLARK TRIO 12.30pm till 6pm
Sausage sizzle
12.30pm to 2pm
Band starts - 2pm

MITZYS

www.pacificpalmslsc.org.au
Pacific Palms Surf Lifesaving Club
www.instagram.com/pacificpalmsurflifesavingclub/



Live bands and sausage sizzle at Pacific Palms Surf Club in 2024.



Citizenship Awards at Breakfast on Black Head Beach.

Australia Day 2025

Hallidays Point Community Unites in Celebration
Breakfast on Black Head Beach
7 - 9 AM, Sunday 26th Jan 2025
Free Egg & Bacon Roll or Sausage Sandwich
Billy Tea or Coffee

- Flag Raising
- Australia Day Ambassador
- Local Young Citizen of the Year Award
- Local Citizen of the Year Award
- Live Aussie Songs
- Prizes for Best Australia Day Outfit
- Families & Individuals

Proudly Sponsored by:
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COOMBA FEST '25
January 26, Coomba Park Foreshore
8am - 6pm

GIANT RAFFLE

FIRST PRIZE
2 x stand-up paddle boards
each valued at \$599 (RRP)
Donated by Coastal Realty - Forster/Tuncurry

SECOND PRIZE
\$50 MEAT VOUCHER
Donated by Wharf Street Gourmet Butchery, Forster

THIRD PRIZES
10 X \$25 MEAT TRAY VOUCHERS
Donated by Coastal Realty - Forster/Tuncurry & supplied by Wharf Street Gourmet Butchery, Forster

RAFT RACE WINNER
\$100 BCF VOUCHER
Donated by Coastal Realty - Forster/Tuncurry

Tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5. On sale at Aquatic Club B80 January 10, 17 & 24 from 5.30pm and at Coomba Fest.

- KIDS' RACES
- CHOCOLATE WHEEL
- FOOD & DRINKS
- MARKET STALLS
- RFS TRUCK DISPLAY
- TUG O' WAR

Proudly presented by: Coomba Aquatic Club Inc. With thanks to our sponsors: Coastal Realty, Wharf Street Gourmet Butchery, Pollards, and Tuncurry.

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Mixed bag and Feedback

Letters to the Editor

'Letter to the Editor' is the place for our community to share their thoughts and feedback. Maximum 250 words unless prior arrangement. 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 author's name and town are required, unless specifically requested otherwise. Send your letters to info@forsterfortnightly.com.au

Proposed suspended walkway Memorial Drive Forster

The proposed suspended boardwalk over Wallis Lake outlined in The Forster Fortnightly (January 9 Edition) at first seems like a wonderful concept for both visitors and locals to better enjoy the waterfront.

A closer look at the project both on paper and on site leads to some misgivings.

I believe the structure will ruin the view of the lake and hinterland from Gregory Reserve that already provides a great vantage point for appreciating the foreshore and beyond.

The path through Gregory Reserve already provides excellent access to the area and does not need to be duplicated by way of the proposed Boardwalk. The only improvement required is where the path goes under the bridge.

I would recommend the Council shelve this project and instead focuses more on construction of similar projects between Paradise Marina and Barclays on Little Street. This is the area of the waterfront that needs the most improvement for pedestrian and bicycle access and traffic.

By Greg Cousins - Forster.

Regular maintenance needed at Great Lakes Aquatic Centre

I am concerned at the deterioration of the Great Lakes Aquatic Centre (GLAC), formerly run by YMCA, now run by Belgravia Leisure. This is a valued public asset, yet it appears that necessary maintenance is not being regularly undertaken by Midcoast Council.

At this point in time, only the change rooms and toilets are earmarked for upgrading. Other repairs only appear to be done as problems occur - eg when rain leaks onto the Pickleball and basketball courts - though leaks still occur with heavy downpours. A pickleball player was badly injured recently in a fall, breaking their wrist.

Members of the GLAC have been sweeping and cleaning the courts due to the cleaner having been on extended leave.

The facility, in general, is in a filthy state, with a cockroach infestation and rust in the subframe of a concrete slab in the pool area. Paint is flaking off the walls. Solar panels are needed to offset power costs.

By Graeme Glossop - Forster.

Reply from MidCoast Council

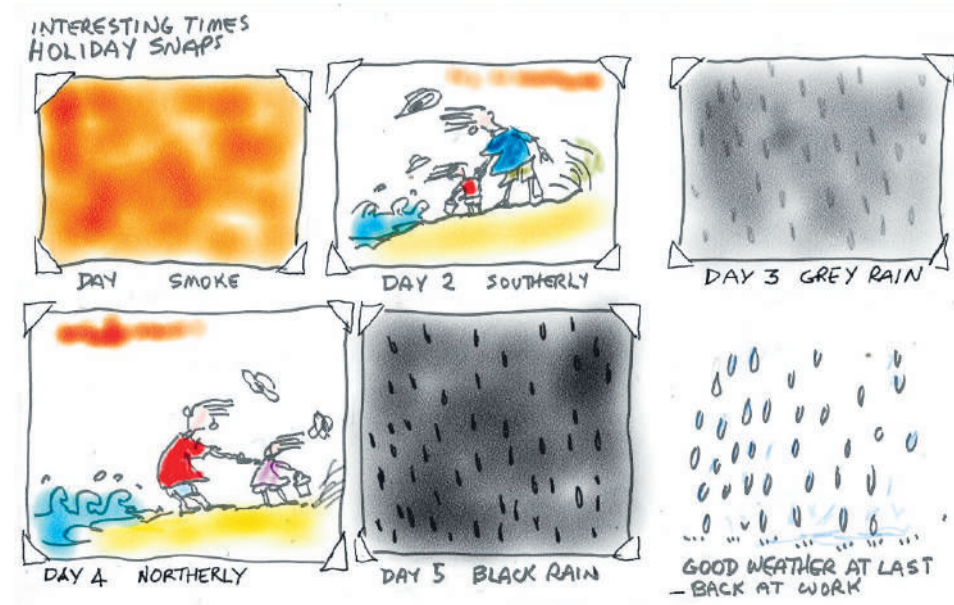
The Council resolution is to utilise up to \$300,000 from the Great Lakes Aquatic Centre (GLAC) Reserve for the purpose of upgrading the change rooms and toilets is an absolute

commitment - tenders to be sourced before the end of June 2025, for work to be done over Winter.

The Council resolution has a commitment that \$300,000 is available for Solar Panel installation at GLAC. However, we are holding off commencing this project to see if we are successful with our grant application through the Community Energy Upgrade Program. If we are successful, we will only require \$150,000 from the GLAC capital reserve and the other \$150,000 will come from the grant.

Maintenance and operational budgets are held separately and in the contract with Belgravia - they are responsible for certain maintenance. We do have a 10 year capital works plan that is revised as priorities change or more information becomes available. The GLAC 10 year capital works plan currently includes replacement of dehumidifiers (complete), change room upgrades, solar installation, variable speed pump replacement, replacement of electro chlorinators, structural repairs, new pool covers, and resurfacing the concrete in the acid tank bund (embankment/causeway.)

It is always a challenge to manage the risks and priorities of the complete community assets portfolio within available rate funded budgets.



www.moir.com.au

Trump promises to jail radical left climate extremist Mother Nature "on day one"

POLITICAL SATIRE: Incoming US President Donald Trump says he will put an end to the disruptions caused by troublemaker Mother Nature, promising to lock up the dissident as soon as he takes office.



At a rally today, Trump said he would waste no time in putting an end to the climate chaos. "There's this socialist activist called Mother Nature - have you heard of her? Very bad. She's going around causing wild fires and floods and tornadoes - all sorts of trouble. We're going to put an end to that," he said to loud cheers.

"She has caused billions of dollars in damage. A lot of people are saying it could be more. Maybe trillions. And yet she is allowed to do whatever she wants. Well we're going to lock her up," he said.

In a Tweet today, Trump claimed Ms Nature had entered the country illegally at the Mexican border.
www.theshovel.com.au

Book Review

The Rock and the Sand

It was an old book, dog-eared, brown and spotted that, not read recently, we decided to cull - I hate culling but limited room in the library requires it to make room for new books. Then, we thought of putting together a special collection, as we do from time to time, in this case of books about inspiring people. The author, Mary Durack, is one of Australia's pioneers in the Kimberley and so I looked again at her book published in 1968.

It is about missionary work in the Kimberley in the period 1878-1967. Her insight and quality of writing kept me reading. Indeed, with recent accounts of town camps and disturbances in Alice Springs, have we actually resolved the myriad issues that Mary recounts from Aboriginal loss of their customary land and practises and abuse by the dispossessors?

It also raises fundamental comparisons between Aboriginal "Dreaming" and European society: what "dreaming" do we have beyond materialism? Is our quest for knowledge and understanding, and burgeoning recognition of the importance of the environment an answer? Does "integration" into European society and economic system provide the reason for being, as distinct from living, that their "Dreaming" provided?

Mary Durack starts with the Swan River area. "The people of the dream watched the people of the clock come out of the sea ... and assumed they were the spirits of long dead ancestors. The strangers, for their part, secure in the certain values of expanding empire, had no doubt that the simple but apparently intelligent primitives would soon appreciate the blessings of civilization." "Both people were mistaken, for the clock was not a toy but a way of life, as the dreaming was a way of life.

Neither could appreciate the other's logic."

The first twenty-four chapters deal in detail with the trials and tribulations of the missions in remote areas in the Kimberley and indeed their incredible perseverance. While at first diving for pearl shell and stock handling sustained both communities the sub human attitudes of and treatment by pearlers and pastoralists that included chain-gangs, and shanghaiing, destroyed much good work. Moreover, with Japanese and Malay divers taking over pearling, and payment required by law for stockwork reducing demand for aboriginal stockmen many were left unoccupied and disenfranchised in camps around towns. Education without employment exacerbated this situation. Nor did they show interest in agriculture to supply Broome, with fruit for example, coming up from Perth.

Chapter twenty-five onward reveals an understanding and kindness by the missions lacking in distant government offices who reckoned they knew better. The book is a revealing account of a period of Australian history and of man's inhumanity to man. Mary Durack, in 1968, however, saw that while attitudes in government and the Australian community had changed for the better, some policies and measures were to prove counter-productive. "Aborigines had acquired a sense of importance without incentive or self-respect, freedom with nowhere to go, a living without a way of life." (p328). Maybe there is much to learn from her account.

By John King - Librarian

Pacific Palms Community Library is open Tuesday to Saturday 10am to noon, and at the Pacific Palms Market Sundays (last Sunday of month) 9am to 1pm.

Screen Reviews

TV Show Reviews by Leon Batman.

Blitz - Movie 2024 Apple

A recent release on Apple, Blitz stars Saoirse Ronan from the movie Brooklyn. Blitz is set in London during WW1 and 9 year old George is evacuated to the countryside to be safe from the continual bombings of London by the Germans. George resents being separated from his mother and defies her wishes by escaping from the train he is forced to travel on. George then embarks on a journey of his own to reunite with his family.



My Brilliant Friend - SBS 4 Seasons 2018 - 2024 Italian with subtitles

The final season on the brilliant Italian drama has finally been released on SBS. This critically acclaimed drama of 2 girls growing up together in Naples comes to a finale with girls both married and living vastly different lives. The series is based on Elena Ferrante's 2011 book My Brilliant Friend. If you haven't previously watched this great Italian drama, please do as you will be surprised how good this series is.

Presumed Innocent - 1 Season 8 Episodes Apple TV 2024

A suspenseful legal thriller based on the 1987 book of the same name, centres on Rusty Sabich the Chicago Assistant District Attorney who is charged with the murder of a co-worker who is also his lover. This leaves Rusty fighting not only to keep his family together but proving himself innocent with the help of an old friend against a prosecutor who is out for revenge on Rusty. An edge of your seat drama that will want you to binge the entire season.



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June DENCE

Late of Forster and Epping
Passed away peacefully on Monday 13th January 2025
Aged 102 years
Beloved wife of Ian (Dec)
Loving mother and mother-in-law to Robyn & Joe and Jan and Bob
Proud and loving grandmother of Michael, Greg, Kelly, Brett and Jake
Great grandmother of Milo, Boris, Piper, Mila, Anya, Dimi, Max and Magnolia
Survived by sister Lyn

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend June's Funeral Service to be held at the Great Lakes Funerals Chapel, 85 The Lakes Way, Forster on Tuesday 28th January 2025 commencing at 11am prior to cremation

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Great Lakes FUNERALS

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Weekly Diary

The 'Weekly Diary' is FREE to promote community group information. Max 4 lines. It is the responsibility of the organisation to keep their information current.

Mondays

Great Lakes Ladies Probus Club

4th Monday of the Month
10am Forster Bowling Club
Contact Sandra 0478 609 258

Forster Hospital Pink Ladies

Meetings held the 2nd Monday of each month Forster Palms Motel at 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

Forster Tuncurry Seniors

Breeze Parade Forster
Carpet Bowls 12.45 – 3:45pm
Contact 6505 2686

The Man Walk - walk, talk and support

Meet 7am Mondays at the Rock Pool, Tuncurry. BBQ/soup once a month.
Contact Steve Rogers 0407 200 615

Great Lakes Evening VIEW Club

Meetings held 4th Monday of the month with 6:30pm dinner at Sporties.
Phone Pat 6554 5466

Club Forster Travel Club

Meetings held the 3rd Monday of each month
2pm Wallis Lake room, Club Forster
Contact Mal Prewett 0455 157 785

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 6555 7219

Al-Anon Family Groups

Does someone you love drink too much?
7.30pm Salvation Army Hall, South St, Tuncurry.
Contact: 1300 252 666

Alcoholics Anonymous

12pm Women's Meeting, Daily Reflections
Uniting Church Hall - Cnr Macintosh & Lake St,
Forster 1300 222 222

Forster Tuncurry Lions Club

Meetings held 3rd Monday each month.
Club Forster 6:30 for 7pm Dinner.
Contact President Sue Newton 0418 607 292

Tennis Forster

Every Monday 8.30am - 11.30am Mixed
Organised Social Forster Tennis Club, Lake
Street. Enquiries: Jaime 6554 9120

Great Lakes Vietnam Veterans Association

Sub-Branch meet at Unit 3/80 Kularoo Drive,
Forster, between 10am to 1pm
Email: vvaglforster@gmail.com

1st Forster Tuncurry Scout Group Cub Section

Scout Hall Cnr Lake & McIntosh Sts Forster,
Mondays 5 - 6.30pm for 8 - 11 years. Enquiries:
leanne.richardson@nsw.scouts.com.au

Mixed Social Tennis

Monday 9 - 11am at Tuncurry Sporties courts,
Beach St. Contact Danny 0409 549 799

Coomba Fitness Group

9am - 10am, in the Coomba Aquatic Club
Gazebo. All levels of fitness welcome. Contact
Lindy on 0415 392 554

Forster Tuncurry Men's Shed Inc.

48 Midge Orchid Rd Darrawank
Open 8am to 5pm Monday to Friday.
Contact Richard 6515 2249

Tuesdays

Forster Shores Combined Probus Meeting

Held 3rd Tuesday of the month, 2pm Sporties
Club, Tuncurry. 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 Pacific
Palms Recreation Club, 9.30 for 10.00am start,
Feb to Nov. Ring Jim on 0418 201 167

Rotary Club of Lower Midcoast

Meet 6pm on first and third Tuesday of each
month at Sporties, Tuncurry.
Call Lance Fletcher 0409 850 671.

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 Beach Bowling Club
Enquiries Kayleen 0416 184 684.

The Coomba Mens Shed

Open Every Tuesday 8.30am - 12pm
86 Moorooaba Rd, Coomba Park.
Contact Warren Arnold 0407 721 604

Alcoholics Anonymous

8pm I.D. Meeting at Community Centre Hall,
behind Recy car park, 3957 The Lakes Way,
Pacific Palms 1300 222 222

Pickleball Tuncurry

9:30am at tennis courts behind Sporties.
Enquiries: Sonia 0427 309 032.

Club Forster Social Dance Club

Every Tuesday we have Learn to Dance 6-7pm
then Social Dance 7-9pm.
Enquiries: Kay 0412 314 449

Great Lakes Speakers Club

Meet every FIRST & THIRD Tuesdays each
month Feb to early Dec, Club Forster 6.50pm
for 7pm start. Contact Graham 0424 426 280

Hallidays Point Surfing Mums

Meet every Tuesday 10:30am at Black Head
Beach near surf club.
Enquiries: Vanessa on 0452 247 440

1st Forster Tuncurry Scout Group Venturer

Section, Cnr Lake & McIntosh Sts Forster,
Tues 6.30 - 8.30pm for 14 to 18 yrs. Enquiries:
leanne.richardson@nsw.scouts.com.au

Forster Tuncurry Radio Sailing Club

Tuncurry Racecourse Lake – 1pm
Contact Bruce 0466 153 616

Coomba Park Tennis Club

Every Tuesday 4 - 6pm Mixed Social Tennis
Enquiries: Text Melissa 0403 309 807

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

Thank you to everyone who has supported the
group this year. Our next meeting will be, 5
February 2025. Contact Lorraine 0410 588 736

Seaside Heritage Quilters

are in recess until
4th February, 2025. Our first meeting for 2025
will be on 5th February at 10am at the Masonic
Hall, Lake St.

Club Forster Table Tennis

Each week new players welcomed.
6 - 9pm. Contact Harold 5591 7133 or Bruce
0414 532 496

Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service

Forster Tuncurry Group
First Wednesday of the month, 3pm Sporties
Tuncurry. Enquiries: Ruth 0434 234 511

Forster Tuncurry Evening View Club

Meet Second Wednesday of each month
6.00pm for 6.30pm Club Forster
Contact Lorraine Tilley 0408 055 109

Great Lakes Knit and Spin

Every Wednesday 10am – 12pm,
Forster Civic Centre, Wallambah road.
Email: vvaglforster@gmail.com

Great Lakes Suicide Prevention Network

Meet third Wednesday of every month at 6pm
Tuncurry Beach Bowling Club & on zoom. Email
greatlakesspn2428@gmail.com for details.

Forster Digital Photographic Club (FDPC)

Meets third Wednesday each month, 7pm in
the Wallis Lake Room at Club Forster, Strand
Street, Forster. Enquiries: Keith 0468 351 107

Alcoholics Anonymous

9am, As Bill Sees It Meeting
Girl Guides Hall - Opp Council Playing Fields
Lake St, Forster 1300 222 222

Alcoholics Anonymous

8pm, I.D. Meeting at Salvation Army Hall
7 South Street, Tuncurry
1300 222 222

One Mile Beach Dunecare

Every Wednesday, 8:30am Carpark at
Collendina Park, Beach end of Strand Street
Contact Mark Linton 0402 045 718

Hallidays Point Men's Shed

Meet 9am to 2pm in premises behind
Community Church, 27 Diamond Beach Rd.
Enquiries: Stephen Cox 0418 146 067

Dementia Infomation drop in at Forster Library

4th Wed of the month 9.30 - 11.30am. Speak
with local Dementia Alliance representative on
local services. Contact Christine 0408 548 698

Coomba Fitness Group

9am - 10am, in the Coomba Aquatic Club
Gazebo. All levels of fitness welcome. Contact
Lindy on 0415 392 554

Twin Towns Tennis Club

8am Mixed Social and 7pm Night Comp every
Wednesday. Capel St Tuncurry.
Contact Ellise 0411 476 063.

Great Lakes Historic Automobile Club Inc.

Meets first Wednesday every month at
7pm Tuncurry Beach Bowling Club
Visitors are welcome. Laurie 0402 315 215

Thursdays

Coomba Mens Shed

Open every Thursday 8.30am-12pm.
86 Moorooaba Rd, Coomba Park.
Contact Warren Arnold 0407 721 604

Codependents Anonymous

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

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 6557 5627

Knit and Knatter

1st Thursday of the month 1-3pm, Tuncurry
Community of Christ, 4 Manning Street
Tuncurry. Contact Wendy Ballard 0411 036 171

Forster Keys Progress Association

Dad's Army/Navy volunteer clean-up
Every Thursday 7am - 9am, Community Hall
36A Elizabeth Pde. Contact: Brian 6555 5076

Lodge Forster Great Lakes United

Meets third Thursday of the month
7pm at the Lodge Hall, 27 Lake Street
Enquiries: Bob Mackinnon on 0437 854 466

Tennis Forster

Every Thursday 12.30pm – 4pm Men's
Organised Social Forster Tennis Club, Lake
Street. Enquiries: Jaime 6554 9120

Great Lakes Vietnam Veterans Association

Sub-Branch meet at Unit 3/80 Kularoo Drive,
Forster, between 10am to 1pm
Email: vvaglforster@gmail.com

1st Forster Tuncurry Scout Group Joey Section

Scout Hall Cnr Lake & McIntosh Sts Forster,
Thursdays 5 - 6 pm for 5 to 8 years. Enquiries:
leanne.richardson@nsw.scouts.com.au

1st Forster Tuncurry Scout Group Scout Section

Scout Hall Cnr Lake & McIntosh Sts Forster,
Thursdays 6.30 - 8.30pm for 11 - 14 years.
Contact: leanne.richardson@nsw.scouts.com.au

Mens Social Tennis

Thursday 9 - 11am at Tuncurry Sporties courts,
Beach St. Contact Danny 0409 549 799

Great Lakes Concert Band

Rehearses Thursdays 5-7pm at Club Forster in
Cape Hawke Room. New players very welcome.
Enquiries: Lynne 0488 146 915

Twin Towns Tennis Club

8am Mixed Social every Thursday, Capel St
Tuncurry. Contact Ellise 0411 476 063.

Fridays

Forster Country Women's Association (CWA)

3rd Friday of the Month, 9:30am to 11:30am
Coolongolook Room at Forster Civic Centre,
Lake Street. Contact: Annette 0411 028 857

Wallis Lake History Group

1st Friday of the Month, 1.30pm Great Lakes
Room, Club Forster, Strand St. World History by
Members. Call Jim Peters on 0418 201 167

Forster Tuncurry Seniors

Breeze Parade Forster
Carpet Bowls 9:15 - 12pm & Games 1pm - 4pm
Contact 6505 2686

Forster Tuncurry Red Cross

1st Friday of the month at 9:30am.
Please contact Judy on 0403 400 875 to find out
new venue.

Alcoholics Anonymous

1pm, I.D. Meeting at Masonic Lodge Hall - 27
Lake Street, Forster 1300 222 222

Pickleball Tuncurry

9:30am at tennis courts behind Sporties.
Enquiries: Sonia Rockley 0427 309 032

Tuncurry Beach Dunecare

Every Friday, 8:30am Barry Stonham Park,
Rockpool Road, adjacent to new playground
Contact Mark Linton 0402 045 718

Ladies Social Tennis

Fridays 9 -11am at Sporties Tennis Club,
Beach St Tuncurry.
Enquiries: Yvonne on 0418 422 392

Coomba Fitness Group

9am - 10am, in the Coomba Aquatic Club
Gazebo. All levels of fitness welcome. Contact
Lindy on 0415 392 554

Twin Towns Tennis Club

8.30am Mixed Social every Friday, Capel St
Tuncurry. Contact Ellise 0411 476 063.

Saturdays

Forster parkrun community 5km run/walk

Pebble Beach Playground off Head St
7:45am for 8am start every Saturday
facebook.com/Forsterparkrun

Club Forster Table Tennis

Each week new players welcomed.
12:45 - 3pm. Contact Harold 5591 7133 or
Bruce 0414 532 496

Forster Country Women's Association

CWA are serving Devonshire teas, 3rd Saturday
of month 9:3am - 12pm, Coolongolook Rm,
Forster Civic Centre. Enquiries: 0411 028 857

Great Lakes Rural Australians for Refugees

2pm at St Albans Church Hall, Forster.
Regular monthly meeting on the last Saturday
of the month. Enquiries: 0418 650 694

Great Lakes Orchard Society Meeting

Meets second Saturday of the month
2pm Forster Public School, Head Street.
Enquiries: John 0408 034 633

Community Meals & Pantry



Above: Volunteers Jenny Medland (on the left) and Cathy Footit at Tuncurry Community Brunch.

Tuncurry Community Brunch

All are welcome to our sit-down Community 'Brunch' Mondays 9:15 - 9:45am.

Pantry doors are open 9:45 - 11am with pantry essentials, fresh produce and cleaning & hygiene items.

Open during school terms at FORSTER TUNCURRY CHURCH OF CHRIST, 14 Douglas Ave Tuncurry. Donations welcome.

"Bring what you can – take what you need."

Enquiries: Tamara Clarke 0412 962 144 or Bret Clarke 0407 483 070 or see our Facebook.

Tuncurry Community Morning Tea & Lunch

Every Friday the TUNCURRY SALVATION CHURCH at 7 South Street is serving Community Morning Tea & Lunch.

10:30am - Doors open for cake & coffee, place names for produce market.

11am - Produce Market, \$5 bag of staples & meal ingredients are available.

11:30am to 1pm - Lunch served
Enquiries: Pastors Nicole & Tony Bezzina on 6554 6101. www.facebook.com/Forstersalvos

Forster Community Lunches

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.

People can also bring a bag and choose which food items they would like to take home from the produce tables.

Enquiries: Volunteer Coordinator Meg Loring on 0409 840 054 or the CatholicCare Office on 6539 5900.

Forster Library



• Family History Advisory Group - provides support with family history research. Volunteers will be available Tuesday & Thursday 10am - 12 pm, Monday, Wednesday & Friday 2pm - 4pm in the Family History room on Level One of the Library. Or email familyhistory@gmail.com

Star Pet



Historical tidbits about 'Bungwahl'



Above: The Enright's Hotel existed around the same time as the Caledonia Hotel (of which no pictures survive). The Enright's Hotel later became the Court House Hotel.

Taken from information on file at the Great Lakes Museum

Bibby Harbour

Home and burial place of William and Lydia Bramble.

William had already been in Bulahdelah for a few years when he took land on the Myall River north of Tea Gardens known as Bramble Green. There is a story handed down that when the A.A. Co. quit the land here and the land had not yet been surveyed and broken up for sale, the Governor gave William Bramble the authority to run his cattle from Port Stephens to Port Macquarie. William already had property at Salamander Bay and Salt Ash. We know he did

run cattle from Tea Gardens to Smiths Lake, Bungwahl using the natural boundaries of the lakes instead of fences. We know he built a fence from Myall to Smiths Lake.

A place between the two is still often referred to as the "Big Gate". When surveys were done, he took up Bibby Harbour and later an adjoining area east of it which was called Kataway. Ten years later his daughter, Lydia, married James Palmer (Septimus) and she went to live there. William registered the land in her name.

Buckman's One-Horse Mill

This part of the lake was referred to as "One-Horse" by the fishermen. It would have been a temporary mill right from the beginning, like

many others in the area, set up and worked until existing logs in the immediate surrounds were milled. The name "One-Horse" came from the power of the steam driven mill. A steam mill would have been a very proud acquisition in the period of change to steam power.

Caledonia Hotel & Boarding House

It is believed the first idea for the boarding house came from Uncle James Wort. He and his wife, Eliza (Lydia Bramble's twin sister) had run an Inn at Bulahdelah prior to buying the property referred to by locals as Paynes Paddock. In 1870, their nephew George Bramble and his wife Sarah (nee Avery) (Aunt Sally) built an hotel on the site. The hotel was a "stop over" place between Forster and Bulahdelah with facilities for feeding and stabling horses. They were renowned for their generous meals. A large kitchen garden was attached to the hotel. George, like all the Brambles, had always butchered. He had cattle running on various paddocks, kept pigs and cured his own bacon so food was always plentiful. The "gallows tree" stood up the Forster Road opposite the Bungwahl Store. It was a red gum and had a horizontal limb about 10 feet from the ground. A little yard was built around it and the beast to be killed was driven in with several others. A block and tackle on the limb did the lifting and the beast was killed and dressed on the spot. Coarse salt was dabbed in on both sides and then placed in a cask of brine. He kept the hotel going for some years although he worked as a teamster. His wife, with the help of the Worts, ran the hotel.

The Church of England Church

The bell and the stained glass windows were imported from Scotland by Mr. Alex. Roll. At first a service was only held once a month, the minister having to make the rounds of his parish on horseback. It has been the setting of many lovely local weddings and christenings and most of the village people were laid to rest from this little wooden structure. Many who



Above: A sketch of Bungwahl from 1913 includes Bungwahl Hall.

were born here but left, returned to lie at rest amongst their own people. The Bible used in the church was presented by Mrs. John Mayers, Christmas 1923 in memory of her husband. It had already been in the Mayers family for over 40 years.

Cemetery on the hill behind Bungwahl Church

In the early days of the colony, you would inter your dead wherever convenient. Mostly country people were buried on the property where they died. Around this area it was fruitless to wait for a minister and imperative to bury the body quickly. There was usually someone willing to say a few words or, if possible, read a service. People followed the notion the higher you were laid to rest, the nearer you were to heaven. It was a pleasant thought but not so pleasant for those carrying the casket. It was a particularly steep climb to this resting place. Mourners, the ladies dressed in their long garments with tight waists and bustles found the walk a difficult one. Only a few who are buried here have their headstones intact.

By Anne Masters - Director/Volunteer of Great Lakes Museum.

Great Lakes Musuem is open Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri from 10am - 1pm and Sun 1 - 3pm at 1 Capel Street Tuncurry.

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Local Identity - Mitch Jennings

Interview by Vanda Gooley.

36-year-old Mitch Jennings is an author, journalist, screenwriter, comedian and brand-new dad. His debut novel A Town Called Treachery was published in August 2024.

Mitch was born in Coffs Harbour, the eldest of 4 (now eldest of 7 in blended families). His parents, Graeme and Cathy are both teachers, with Graeme currently College Principal at Great Lakes College. (Graeme recently featured in the Forster Fortnightly as a Local Identity.)

His childhood was, 'Happy, overwhelmingly so.' It was a warm household full of love that was extended to all friends brought home. The children were all encouraged to pursue their passions and be the best they could be at whatever they chose.

Mitch is married to wife Angela and they welcomed their first child in June 2024, son Harvey, 'who is perfect. We're also proud parents to the world's cutest French Bulldog, Guinness.'

He Graduated from Great Lakes College in 2006. His current day job is local government communications, after 13 years as a journalist. He considers himself lucky to also earn something of a living as a writer following the publication of his first novel.

Mitch said, 'It was a winding road to get here.' Growing up he had two dreams, being an NRL footballer, and becoming an author, 'the latter my most prized.' He figured, if he failed at those, he could find something adjacent to them. Sports journalism, primarily covering the NRL, proved that for him.

It allowed Mitch to indulge his passion for rugby league, and sport in general, while also making a living in a vocation that allowed him to get paid to work on his writing craft. "Genuine sports writing is unfortunately a dying art these days, but I was lucky enough to make it my job for a long time as the Chief Sports Writer at the Illawarra Mercury for 11 years between 2013-2024."

Mitch continues to pursue sports writing projects, but writing fiction has always been his passion and deepest held desire. It formed his educational choices, switching from a Bachelor of Laws to Bachelor of Arts (English) - graduating from Western Sydney University in 2010. Mitch then enrolled in a Master of Creative Writing degree at Swinburne University, graduating in 2015. He said, "It took a little while to put it into practice, but the COVID pandemic proved the impetus to get me moving on that goal again."

"Writing is one of those things where it feels like you still have plenty of time to do it, but that's exactly why it can so easily pass you by. I'm not quite sure where it came from, but I just had a 'if not now, then when?' moment." He's glad he listened to that intuition.

The result was a manuscript he entered in the 2022 HarperCollins Banjo Prize, one of the country's biggest prizes for an unpublished manuscript. Mitch was shortlisted, but was ultimately the runner-up. It looked like the end of the road for that manuscript, but to his surprise HC gave him an opportunity to re-submit with some edits and it was published in August this year.

"It's been a whirlwind since. I've been blown away by the critical response and that of

writing peers I had long admired. I am currently working on book number two and, while it's torture at times, I love every second I spend working on it."

Likewise, the authors who provided cover quotes for A Town Called Treachery are a virtual 'who's who' of Mitch's favourite writers. Having Hayley Scrivenor, Gabe Bergmoser, Jack

lovely wife, Angela, who was clearly not that far off having a baby, and she introduced me to Mitch and said he also happened to have a book coming out soon.

Mitch asked me to read A Town Called Treachery before it was released - which can go either way, to be honest! - but luckily, I loved the book. It's always a pleasure to hear Mitch talk about how intertwined becoming a dad and his first book are for him, and I think he's pulled together a tender, loving, honest portrait of both boyhood and fatherhood, with a killer plot. It was also a delight seeing Mitch at some of the first events, with tiny baby Harvey curled up in the back of the room.

Really, I think this book is just such an exciting addition to the Australian writing scene, and it's always a delight to get to talk 'writing' with Mitch. He may look like a tough-as-nails guy, but he's just as likely to have a yarn about literary craft and vulnerability over a few beers at the pub as sport or Cold Chisel!"

Longtime friend and former classmate Lori Whiteman said...

"When I think of a crime fiction author, my mind definitely wouldn't go straight to a boy's boy footy obsessed boxer and comedian, that's for sure.

Through school he'd be wrestling his mates and talking footy throughout recess and lunch, but then he'd head off to go to his extension 2 English class. Never judge a book by its cover they always say, and Mitch is a perfect representation of that.

Mitch is a beautiful friend, who is not afraid of showing his sensitive side whether it be his own battles, or supporting others through their demons.

Honestly, this guy is a downright absolute matter of fact legend of a man, and boy oh boy, can he write!

Do yourself a favour and read 'A Town Called Treachery'. You won't regret it!"



Heath and Matt Ryan Davies as friends and contemporaries - is mind-blowing.

Mitch continues to be amazed by how wonderfully supportive the Australian community of writers really is, and said it's impossible not to be inspired by it.

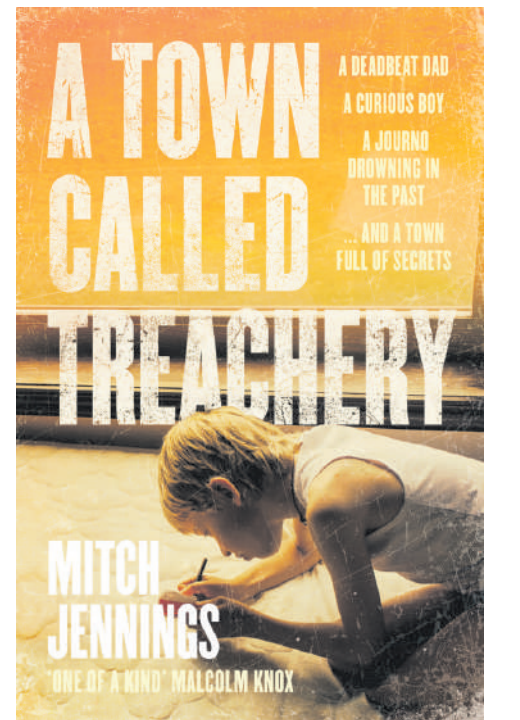
His father's career in teaching meant the family moved around a lot through his early childhood, but says Forster was the first place that ever felt like home, and the only place that truly feels like it today.

Forster is such a beautiful place, the natural beauty speaks for itself, "but it'll always be the place life really began for me and where I took shape as a person. The memories of growing up in Forster are still my most vivid, and getting back there always brings a visceral reaction for me."

"When I think of sitting at the top of North Oney sand dune, warming up on the back field of Harry Elliott Oval, and hitting that bridge on the way in or out, I get a feeling in my gut that tells me it'll always be home." "It's a wonderful community, full of great people always sharing a wink and a smile at the fact they get to live life in a place most people can only escape to on holiday if they're lucky."

Mitch said he's ordinarily not one for mottos, but he has his dad to thank for the one that has always stuck with me - 'yesterday's history, tomorrow's a mystery.' "It's not always easy to live by, but I do my best."

Hayley Scrivenor (best-selling author of Dirt Town and Girl Falling) said this about Mitch... "I first met Mitch at a local book launch for someone else's book. I was chatting to his



Prominent Australians call for climate laws to protect future generations

A number of prominent Australians have written to the federal government urging them to introduce a law that would compel politicians to consider the health and wellbeing of future generations when making decisions related to climate change.

The campaign for what is known as duty of care laws is being spearheaded by 20 year old youth climate activist Anjali Sharma, who previously sued the government over a coal mine expansion.

The letter has been signed by former Australian of the Year Grace Tame, Pacific leaders such as the Vanuatu climate envoy Ralph Regenvanu, author Tim Winton, former Liberal leader John Hewson, Olympian Emma McKeon, former Socceroo and activist Craig Foster, and businesswoman Lucy Turnbull, alongside other organisations and individuals.

It was released to coincide with the confirmation that 2024 was the hottest year on record.

"A child turning 10 years old this year has lived through the 10 hottest years on record. How many more records will be broken in this child's lifetime? How many more broken records will future generations witness?" the letter read.

Climate change will affect "the lives of today's children tomorrow and those of their children much more than ours", the UN's climate reports have found.

They say unless there are drastic cuts to emissions there will be more disasters, heat stress and less water and food availability.

A government's 'duty of care'

Ms Sharma worked with independent senator David Pocock to propose a duty of care



Above: Climate activist Anjali Sharma and Independent senator David Pocock at Canberra.

amendment to the Climate Change Act in 2023.

"[It's] basically to ensure that government decision-makers, when making decisions in the realm of climate change, must do so with the health and well-being of young people as a paramount consideration," Ms Sharma said.

It would apply to projects releasing more than 100,000 tonnes of carbon emissions over their lifetime and "broaden the grounds on which the government decision-makers have to scrutinise their decisions by", according to Ms Sharma.

"Right now, that's things like biodiversity, like endangered species. But there's no consideration in there of future generations. And to us, that seems ridiculous," she told the ABC.

Continued on page 24

GenCost 2024-25 draft report released for consultation

Public consultation opened today [9 December 2024] on the draft GenCost 2024-25 Report, an annual assessment of Australia's future electricity generation costs used in infrastructure planning.

GenCost is a technology-agnostic and policy-neutral report published by CSIRO, Australia's national science agency, and the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO).

It focuses on cost estimates for new build electricity generation, storage, and hydrogen technologies, providing business leaders and decision makers with updated capital costs and data comparisons for their planning and financing studies.

The draft report found renewables continue to have the lowest cost range of any new-build electricity generation technology, for the seventh year in a row.

It also found inflationary pressures continue to ease but the impact on each technology's unique raw material inputs and supply chains remains mixed.

Key points

- Large scale solar photovoltaics (PV) capital costs have fallen 8% two years in a row.
- Battery costs recorded the largest annual reduction with capital costs falling 20%.

- Onshore wind generation costs increased 2% (but at a reduced rate from an 8% increase last year), reflecting ongoing but moderate increases in equipment and installation costs.

- Gas turbine costings increased 11%, reflecting the additional cost of being hydrogen ready which is now an industry standard.

- Modelling nuclear's long operational life factor across all new-build electricity generation technologies presents no unique cost advantage over other technologies.

CSIRO's Director of Energy, Dr Dietmar Tourbier, said GenCost provides objective cost benchmarks using the best available and verifiable data.

"GenCost's annual update delivers data-based forecasts that support informed decision-making across the energy sector," Dr Tourbier said.

"Collaboration and transparency are central to this process, and the feedback we receive plays a vital role in ensuring our data and projections are relevant and impactful."

Nuclear updates

Since GenCost provided the first detailed costings for new-build, large-scale nuclear electricity generation in Australia, three considerations have emerged regarding a facility's:

- Longer operational life (60 years)
- Estimated capacity factor range for Australia (the average time it operates at full capacity)
- Estimated development time (the planning, regulatory, community and construction activities anticipated to introduce a new domestic electricity source).

CSIRO Chief Energy Economist and GenCost lead author, Mr Paul Graham, said today's draft report found no unique cost advantage in nuclear technology.

"Similar cost savings can be achieved with shorter-lived technologies, including renewables, even when accounting for the need to build them twice," Mr Graham said.

"The lack of an economic advantage is due to the substantial nuclear re-investment costs required to achieve long operational life."

The draft report found GenCost's previous analysis of nuclear's capacity factor range of 53-89% fair and remains unaltered based on verifiable data and consideration of Australia's unique electricity generation sector.

It also reported that global median nuclear construction times have increased from 6 years to 8.2 years over the last 5 years, placing a development timeframe of between 12-17 years. Based on this analysis, GenCost maintained the total development lead time for



nuclear in Australia will be at least 15 years.

GenCost's modelling methods and data sources are published online and its authors actively respond to and engage the spectrum of interests across the electricity generation sector. Collaborative partner, AEMO, complements this through provision of industry data, technical review of information and facilitation of consultation.

The draft GenCost 2024-25 report is open for consultation until 11 February 2025. Feedback should be sent to AEMO.

<https://aemo.com.au/consultations/current-and-closed-consultations/2025-iasr>

The final GenCost 2024-25 report will be released in the second quarter of 2025.

Prominent Australians call for climate laws

Continued from page 28.

The proposal was rejected by a Senate inquiry, which concluded the bill would fail to achieve its aim. It did, however, concede that policies and assessments would benefit from more emphasis on the implications for children and future generations.

The government agreed with the inquiry's findings, adding that it was already taking strong action to cut greenhouse gas emissions which was central to protecting Australian children.

Ms Sharma and the young activists supporting her campaign want to use the inquiry's findings to negotiate with the government on the bill, saying it would help move politics beyond the "short-termism that we've seen plague our politics for so long".

In response to questions from the ABC, Climate Change Minister Chris Bowen gave no indication as to whether the government would reconsider the proposed duty of care laws, but agreed that "climate action is needed".

Suing the government

The Sharma case was heard by a single judge in the

Federal Court, and initially, the young activists won. However, the minister appealed the decision to the full Federal Court, and the decision was overturned. As part of the findings, the chief justice stated that such a duty of care was best introduced as legislation through parliament, rather than imposed by the courts.

Importantly, the court never disputed the argument that climate change and the fossil fuel emissions driving it were a risk to future generations.

Since then, Ms Sharma has been working on ways to bring forth the legislation in the federal parliament.

"It was extraordinary that there was a duty of care

held at first instance. But no, I don't think that this is the remit of governments. I think it's essential for judges to be active in climate change," Ms Markley-Towler said.

Despite the leadership of the country being up for grabs in an election year, Ms Sharma said she did not approach the Coalition with the same demands.

"To be honest, it was addressed directly to the government because they're the ones that have spoken all this rhetoric about climate action, about ending the climate wars, about creating a future for young people," she said.

www.abc.net.au Published 11 Jan 2025.

Busy summer for Dylan



Above: Some members of the State's Junior Blue's team. Dylan is second from right.

Forster Surf Club member Dylan Kincade has had a busy couple of months with surf life saving competitions that have taken him around NSW and NZ.

In December last year, he was selected for the NSW Interstate Team and competed at the Wanda Surf Club in Cronulla. There the team went in all surf carnival events including Sprints, Flags, Board, Ski, Surf race (swim) and Ironman (swim, ski and board) as well as a life saving relay and beach relay.

The NSW Interstate Team of 20 members won the competition while Dylan said he performed "pretty well" and was second in the flags and sprints. The Flags and Sprint are still his favourite events.

"It was such an awesome experience having the opportunity to represent my town and state in an Interstate Team. This is something I'll remember for the rest of my life."

Dylan then competed for two days in the Super Surf Team Lead Competition with his Under 17 State team, the 'Junior Blues', at Wanda Surf Club on the 14 and 15 December where his team won the overall title.

From 5 to 8 January, Dylan competed for the NSW Country Team in NZ where they stayed at Long Bay (30 minutes from Auckland). This is an annual event held every 2 years and rotates between the teams of Central Coast in NSW, NSW Country Team and Northern Region in NZ. In this NZ comp the teams competed at three different surf clubs based at Orewa, Waipu Cove and Omaha Beach.

"It was such an awesome experience in NZ. It was a nice change of scenery, and the people were very kind, warm and inviting. It was fantastic to have a trip away in a sport I love.

Last weekend Dylan competed in the last round of Beach Stormers at Manly Beach. The weather and conditions were pretty miserable with rain, wind and rough surf. He

even received a 'cork' injury when another participant knocked him in the hand during the Flags which affected his performance. However, he still did very well by coming 3rd overall in the Under 17s in the Beach Stormers series and 2nd in the opens.

This weekend he has the Country Title at Warilla Barrack Point Surf Club, which is 2 hours south of Wollongong. There's also The Aussies in March where you compete as an individual at a National level.

Then Dylan has the NSW competition in March and The Aussies in April which is another National event.

Dylan is proud to be the first Forster Club member to make the Country Team in more than 20 years and the State Team for an even longer time.

"I've made friends for life within the teams and clubs I get to visit. It's great to meet new people and make new friends."

"I would like to thank my coach Beth Lee, my family and the whole community for getting me to NZ. My whole family comes to watch me compete in most events - Mum, Dad and my brother Rylie. My Nanny and Poppy come to the big ones.

"My training is going really well and I'm back into that now."

Dylan is also part of a surf rescue patrol with his Forster Surf Club and will complete Year 12 at Great Lakes Senior College this year.

By Mary Yule.

Pacific Palms Bowling Club's Major Singles Final



Winner - John Kell.

On Sunday, December 15, 2024, the club's Major Singles final unfolded under sweltering conditions.

The match, which began at 11:00 am, saw John Kell and Richard Dennis face off to determine the 2024 Major Singles Club Champion. John got off to a flying start, displaying remarkable skill to establish a 9-1 lead by the 7th end. However, Richard staged an impressive comeback, narrowing the gap to 12-9 by the 13th end.

Undeterred, John regained momentum and surged ahead to an 18-9 advantage by the 17th end. The final eight ends were closely contested, but John ultimately sealed victory with a 25-15 win.

Congratulations to John Kell for an exceptional performance and well-deserved triumph. Commendations are also due to Richard Dennis for his resilience and sportsmanship in a high-standard match, especially considering the challenging, steamy conditions.

By M.Collins- President PPMBC.

Below: The race for the Flag. Dylan is on the right representing NSW Country.



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An Early New Years Eve celebration at the Golfie

Affectionately known as "the Table of Knowledge" the gathering of 15 ladies brought together a collective 400+ years of membership of the Forster Tuncurry Golf Club on Tuesday. Included were past Presidents, Captains, Secretaries and committee members, along with past Champions and their playing buddies.

These included Vera Champion, Betty O'Donnell, (visiting from SA), Audrey Crow, Dorothy Brownsmith, Kay Cush, Maureen

Harnish, Carole Carmont, Jenny Newton, Trish Wall, Margaret Steel, Judy Lowry, Lynne Mackin, whom have all served on our ladies committee or have won championships, or both.

This event did not go unnoticed by our GM, and he acknowledged them with a drink to toast the day.

By Jenny Newton.



Above: Carol Carmont, Audrey Crow, Vera Champion, Dot Graham, Kay Cush, Betty O'Donnell, Trish Wall.



Above: Lynne Mackin, Dot Brownsmith, Sue Butterworth, Maureen Harnish, Margaret Steel, Kay Allen

2024 - 2025 Major Pairs

Our 2024-25 Major Pairs Championship came to its thrilling conclusion at the end of 2024 for the Tuncurry Forster Womens Bowling Club.

In both the Semi-Finals they went down to not only the last end, but also the last bowl to be played. In the game between Julie Curry and Karen Carlton they defeated Vicki Piper and Gae Re 20-17 and in the game between Sue Ryan and Ruth Higham they defeated Robyn McDonnell and Helen Campbell 23-22.

The Final of the Major Pairs Championship between Julie Carry and Karen Carlton against Sue Ryan and Ruth Higham commenced on 15th November under cloudy skies.

However, after End 7 the rain set in, and play was suspended for the day, with Sue and Ruth leading Julie and Karen 6-2.

The game resumed on 25th November and the scores continued to be close throughout, with only a shot or two the difference. Going into the last end, Sue and Ruth were leading 15-13 and it was anyone's game. Julie and Karen won the last end with four shots to take out the 2024-25 Major Pairs Championship 17-15.

Congratulations to all Tour Finalists on a great game of bowls. Congratulations to Julie and Karen on winning consecutive Major Pairs Championship.

By Sue Ryan - Communications Officer.



Above: Runners Up Sue Ryan and Ruth Higham. Winners Karen Carlton and Julie Curry

Couch potato to 20km on the Wallamba River: A life experience by Deanne Gatt

In February 2024, I attended a Learn to Paddle at Wallis Lake with the Great Lakes Pearl Dragons. I was determined to get fitter and make friends along the way.

I was about to find out more about dragon boating history, technique, regattas and teamwork. On 8 December 2024, I decided to be part of the Great Lakes Pearl Dragons' Darawank Adventure Paddle, followed by brunch at the Brass Bell Café.

I arrived at the riverside in Darawank at 7.30am, paddle and drink bottle in hand, thinking how hard will this be; what was I thinking? Coaches had reassured me that I could do it...I had trained enough...I could do it! My team was going to do it!

Off we set, heading towards Tuncurry, down the Wallamba River, passing familiar landmarks I have driven past so many times.

We swapped sides every 15 minutes and had a drink, which was a lovely "break" and a few lollies were passed down the boat to keep us going.

We were so lucky to have a spotter's boat accompany us, to ensure our safety along the way. We paddled an hour in one direction. And no, we didn't make it to Tuncurry ... but it felt like it!

As we turned around to commence the homeward journey, the sun beat down on

our arms and necks. We continued to stroke effortlessly, and the music started to play - the rate picked up and for the next hour, we continued with some (really horrible) singing of 80's pop tunes.

There was no better feeling than coming around the bend and seeing the cabins at Discovery Park, where we launched our boat over an hour ago. We knew we would soon be out of the sun and able to rest.

I was done!

To be able to complete 20kms is a feat I never knew I could accomplish. The coaches and the team members are very inclusive and have encouraged and motivated me to do better. The cuppa, conversation and laughs are my incentive to challenge myself on the water, as the hard work doesn't seem as onerous if you give it a go.

If you are curious to try and would like to meet new friends, travel, get fit and have fun, give the Great Lakes Pearl Dragons a call and join us. No matter where you are in your journey - it's time to create a new direction. Try something different with a dedicated, caring and resilient team, who will help you along the way. Come join us!

www.greatlakespearldragons.com.au



Mermaids missing, but kids had a magical morning



Along with unicorns, mermaids are among five-year-old Lillian McMillan's favourite things.

She had hoped to see one at Coomba Aquatic Club's recent Junior Learn-to-Sail morning for kids aged 5-16, but wasn't too disappointed when one didn't appear during her first taste of sailing under the patient coaching of instructor Chris Hutchison in Wallis Lake at Coomba Park.

Lillian quickly got the hang of steering the club's lightweight Open Bic dinghies and was keen to return for another lesson.

"Steering was fun!" she declared to her grandmother, Julia Collins, who brought Lillian and brother Rueben, aged 9, from Forster for the club's weekly school holiday sessions.

Visiting from Sydney, the pair were among nine youngsters whose parents braved grey skies and the threat of rain for one-on-one coaching by the club's five experienced instructors, along with enjoying other aquatic fun and the club's free sausage sizzle lunch.



Above: Craig Ennelhainz and Cole



Above: Instructor Craig Emmelhainz enjoyed a snag with his six-year-old grandson, Anthony.

One more of the weekly school holiday Learn-to-Sail sessions remain this month: Tuesday the 28th. Offered by the club as a community initiative, the sessions will again be held during the holidays in April.

As they gain more confidence, the youngsters can progress to bigger (and faster) craft. While the lessons are free, the club welcomes donations to assist with the costs of maintenance and repairs to keep the boats in top condition.

For details, please call Club President, John Price on 0477 087 401.



Above: Barb, Sue and Narelle had the barbie sizzling for this hungry young crew... from left, Rueben McMillan, Max Pearson, Lillian McMillan, Lucius Flardo and Angus Pearson.



Above: Instructor Chris Hutchinson explains the basics of sailing to five-year-old Sydney visitor Lillian McMillan. Her post-lesson smile said it all...

Club Forster Social Golf Club



Above: (L-R) Neil Waller, Robyn Rogers, Linda Barr, Sharon Evans, Grant Mathews, Damien Vaughn.

A Single Stableford event was held at Forster Golf Course 5th January by the Club. It was played in ideal golf weather and the course was in good shape.

Mens

A Div. 1st. Paul Nicholas 28, 2nd. Robert Thompson 27, 3rd. Grant Mathews 26.
B Div. 1st. Neil Waller 37, 2nd. Les Cawthern 33, 3rd. Damien Vaughn 31.

Ladies

1st. Linda Barr 31, 2nd. Robyn Rogers 25, 3rd. Sharon Evans 24.
Nearest to pin 2nd shot.

4th hole, Gary Cook, Allan Brinckley, 6th hole, Linda Barr, Damien Vaughn, Paul Nicholas, 11th hole, Di Wilson, Neil Waller, Ken Woods.
14th hole, Di Wilson, Martin Pottinger, Paul Nicholas.

Our next game is on 2nd Feb at Tuncurry Golf Course, arrive at 7am for 7.28am hit off. 16th Feb is an away game, venue TBA. We welcome 3 new players to our club - Neil Waller, Robert Thompson, & Sam Nowland. All enquiries contact Ken Woods on 0401767257.

Story and photo by Warren Warner.

Big hype and big numbers at Worlds Half Ironman Championships in NZ

Three triathletes from the Forster Tri Club competed in the Ironman 70.3 World Championships in NZ, 14 and 15 December 2024. Emma Sewell competed on Saturday and placed 42 in her age group in a time of 5:20:10. Damien Hiles and Aaron Echinor competed on the Sunday with Damien placing 93 in his age group in 4:49:46 and Aaron placing 121 in his age group in 4:33:59.



Above: Aaron Echinor and Damien Hiles in NZ.

Aaron would definitely do this event again and said, "This race is a big step up from Half Ironman events in Australia. There is such a significant hype and very big competitor numbers. There were over 6,000 racing with around 4,000 men and 2,000 women on the weekend. America had the most with about 1,500 competitors and Australia next with about 800. It's an annual race at a world level and open to anyone who qualifies." "I was very much mid pack and nowhere near the front. It was not my fastest time but this is Worlds."

out of the 3 of them. She will be racing more triathlons this season.

Aaron also said Damien Hiles was after a better time but enjoyed the day and the time spent with his family on holidays in NZ. He has done so well since he started back two years ago. He plans to compete at the Half Ironman at Port Macquarie in May later this year to defend his title of first in his age group for 2024.

By Mary Yule.

Leading up to the event Damo and Aaron trained together once or twice a week, especially for the longer bike rides. All three went in shorter Forster Tri Club triathlons to practise quick transitions.

In May, I plan to compete in the 120km Gran Fondo cycling event that goes along the Great Ocean Road in Victoria. I'll train more in cycling but will always keep a bit of everything going [swim, bike and run].

I also want to do the 100km Ultra Trail in the Blue Mountains. We always get a good local crowd doing it. Our sporting community is growing with more younger ones joining our local clubs Forster Runners, Forster Run Club and Forster Tri Club. We also have the swimming clubs Forster Turtles and Mudcrabs, so there are plenty of sporting clubs, new people to meet and motivate you, lots of fun and more social events to join in with.

Aaron said Emma Sewell was definitely happy with her results as she improved her time from last year and placed highest in her age group



Right: Emma Sewell racing in NZ.

Forster Tuncurry Boardriders: Riding the Waves of Community



Our Commitment to Youth and Development

The club is dedicated to nurturing the next generation of surfers. We will be offering a variety of opportunities for our young surfers, including access to junior development clinics, coaching sessions, and competitive opportunities.

Over the years, Forster Tuncurry Boardriders has produced numerous talented surfers who have gone on to achieve success at local, state, and national levels. We take pride in our members' accomplishments and continue to support them in their pursuit of excellence.

Join Us

If you're looking for a fun, supportive, and active community to join, we invite you and your family to become a member of the Forster Tuncurry Boardriders Club. Whether you're a seasoned surfer or wanting to find your feet in a supportive environment, we have something for everyone.

Membership Benefits:

- Regular competitions and events
- Social gatherings and activities
- Access to coaching and training programs
- Compete at regional, state and team events
- Discounted membership rates for families and youth
- Personal accident insurance

Stay Connected

Follow us on social media to stay up-to-date on all the latest news, events, and awesome wave action! Find us on Instagram and Facebook where we post regular updates, competition locations each month and much more!

Contact Us

For more information about joining the club, please visit our website or reach out:

www.forstertuncurryboardriders.com
info@forstertuncurryboardriders.com

We look forward to welcoming you to the Forster Tuncurry Boardriders family!



Forster Tuncurry Boardriders

Forster Tuncurry Boardriders, established in 2015, is at the heart of the local surfing community, fostering a passion for riding waves and building lifelong friendships. With a vibrant community and a commitment to fostering talent, the club continues to be a beacon for surfers of all ages and skill levels.

Over the years, our club has grown into a vibrant community, offering a range of programs and activities for surfers of all ages and abilities and club boasts a diverse membership, including families, individuals, and youth. Members enjoy regular competitions, social events, and training sessions, all designed to share our stoke of the ocean and riding waves together.



JOIN FORSTER TUNCURRY BOARDRIDERS

2025 registrations now open!

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See website or scan the QR code for more details



forstertuncurryboardriders.com

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