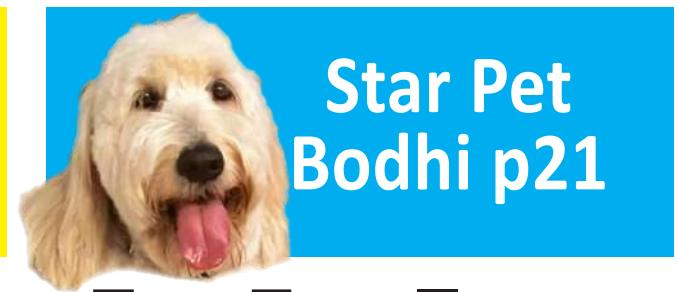


Local Youth Shine
p25, 26 & 27

Local Identity
Muriel Bramble p22



Star Pet
Bodhi p21



Forster Fortnightly

Your local independent community newspaper distributed to
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Pacific Palms, Charlotte Bay, Smiths Lake, Coomba Park, Bungwahl & Seal Rocks.

FREE

Wednesday 15 October 2025

PROUD TO BE A LOCAL FAMILY-OWNED BUSINESS

Circulation 7,000 No.132

"Marine Rescue Boat and Water Safety Expo a resounding success", said Diane Hallam, Public Relations Officer for Marine Rescue Forster Tuncurry.

A bold new initiative to connect the community with local first responders has proven a resounding success, thanks to the vision, dedication and support of volunteers from Marine Rescue Forster Tuncurry(MRFT). The Boat and Water Safety Expo brought together a range of emergency service agencies in a dynamic showcase of skills, equipment, and public safety education on October 1st.

The concept was born from a collaborative effort between the Unit Commander, Public Relations Officer and Director/Member, who saw an opportunity to demystify the work of Marine Rescue and other first responders. What began as a grassroots idea quickly gained momentum, evolving into a full-scale event that drew strong attendance and enthusiastic public support.

Held on the waterfront, the expo featured live demonstrations, rescue vessel tours, interactive safety workshops, and engaging displays from partner agencies including NSW Police Marine Area Command, PolAir, SES, RFS, Fire & Rescue NSW, and Surf Life Saving. Families met the crews, explored rescue boats, and learned firsthand about the critical roles these teams play in keeping waterways and coastal communities safe.

For many, the highlight was seeing the rescue boat in action, a powerful reminder of the skill, courage, and commitment that define marine rescue operations. The presence of PolAir and Marine Area Command added a dramatic layer of realism and underscored the coordination required in multi-agency responses. The expo served not only as a celebration of service but as an invitation for the public to get involved, whether through volunteering, training or simply staying informed.

Marine Rescue's leadership team praised the collaborative spirit that made the day possible, noting the event has already sparked interest in future partnerships and community engagement opportunities.

Plans are already underway to make the Expo a biannual fixture, with hopes to expand its reach and impact. If this year's turnout is any indication, the Marine Rescue Boat and Water Safety Expo is well on its way to becoming a cornerstone event for the region.

See p2 & 8 for more photos by Mary Yule.



(L-R) Alan Bates MRFT Pastor, Darren Schott Marine Rescue Deputy Commissioner of NSW, Geoff Anderson MRFT Unit Commander, Tanya Thompson MP, Darren Hulm MRNSW Superintendent Zone Commander North and Ray Mazurek ESM MRFT/Director MRNSW.

Manning River Underbore on track but concerns remain as weather warms up

MidCoast Council
The Manning River Underbore project remains on track, but with the weather warming up and water use increasing, water restrictions have not been ruled out for northern parts of the MidCoast throughout October and November. The project reached a major milestone recently when a 750m pilot hole was successfully drilled under the Manning River, from Bootawa to Wingham. MidCoast Council's Director of Infrastructure and Engineering Services, Rob Scott, said with

the first pass of the pilot hole now complete, the project faced a lot less risk. "We now know how hard the rock is and have more information that will help us expand the hole to a diameter of one metre, which will allow us to install the new water main," said Mr Scott. "The project is on schedule and we're hoping we can connect the new main in November and restore a permanent supply back to Wingham." **Continued on page 2.**

TUESDAY 4TH NOVEMBER 2025

MELBOURNE CUP



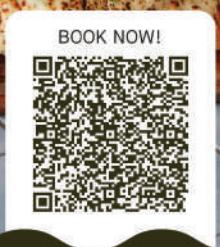
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Marine Rescue Expo photo by Mary Yule.

- 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.
- The Forster Fortnightly is on the Council for Country Press NSW and is a member of Country Press Australia and Regional Media Connect.

Forster Fortnightly publishing dates

Edition 133: Wed 29 Oct (deadline Wed 22 Oct)

Edition 134: Wed 12 Nov (deadline Wed 5 Nov)

Edition 135: Wed 26 Nov (deadline Wed 19 Nov)

We may publish promotional information based on our assessment of the level of genuine news content. Any material which is clearly advertorial in nature is best promoted as paid advertising. Support the paper that supports the town!

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We acknowledge the Worimi People, the traditional custodians of the land where this newspaper is published. We pay respect to their Elders past, present and future.

Manning River Underbore on track but concerns remain as weather warms up

Continued from page 1.

Water supply to Wingham was unexpectedly cut off in May during the flood when the pipeline that supplied the town's reservoirs was damaged where it crossed the Manning River. Since then, a temporary solution has been in place.

Despite the recent progress, Mr Scott said an increase in daily water demands was placing pressure on the temporary solution, which supplies water to residents and businesses in Wingham, Taree, Cundletown, Kolodong, Coopernook, Lansdowne, Harrington and Crowdy Head.

If demand becomes too high in these areas, Wingham's reservoirs may not be able to be filled quickly enough, resulting in reduced supply to customers.

Mr Scott said the temporary solution was coping with the current demand without any major issues, but there was a risk that if demand continued to rise, it wouldn't be able to keep up without losing supply to some customers.

"It might not prove necessary, but it's important the community is aware that water restrictions are being considered."

Mr Scott encouraged people to be mindful of their water use, particularly those in the affected areas.



Above: Manning River Underbore.

"There is no need to be alarmed. We just want the community to be aware of the situation and to keep it in mind when they're using water."

Subscribe for FREE at www.forsterfortnightly.com.au to receive local news alerts & community updates.

Pet of the Fortnight

By Margaret Steel - Great Lakes & Manning Branch of Animal Welfare League NSW

Thank you for your support!

The Great Lakes and Manning Branch of Animal Welfare League NSW wish to thank the Regional Australia Bank for their Community Partnership Awards. What a fantastic program this is and helps so many not-for-profit organisations across the region. This award will help us to continue to help not only our animals but also to help those families in need to look after their animals properly.

Our Op Shop in the Dolphin Arcade has extended their opening hours which are now 9:30 am to 2.30 pm weekdays and 9am -12pm on Saturdays. Donations can be left at the shop during these hours. We are also now seeking good quality dog and kitten food which can also be left at the shop.

The Forster Tuncurry Boarding Kennels are now looking after some doggies that have had their C5 vaccinations for at least 14 days and we thank them so very much.

Mid Coast Animal Hospital in Tuncurry and Windan Sea Vet in Forster foster our cats and kittens which we are very thankful for.



To all our foster carers we thank you so very much. Without all of you we would not be able to exist.

Last but certainly not least, we thank the Forster Fortnightly for show casing our animals every fortnight.



Proud to sponsor 'Pet of the Fortnight' - finding homes for animals in need.
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Black Head Skate Park opens

MidCoast Council

The Black Head Skate Park opened to the public on Saturday 10 October, delivering a long-awaited facility to the Hallidays Point community.

Located in Wylie Breckenridge Park, the skate park caters to all abilities and features a large bowl, a street section and a number of transition areas.

The facility also incorporates gardens and seating, with natural shade provided by the existing trees.

MidCoast Council's Manager of Strategy and Projects, Amanda Hatton, said it was wonderful to see the Black Head Skate Park become a reality after years of advocacy from the local community.

"We know the people of Hallidays Point have wanted a skate park for a long time, so it's a proud day to be able to deliver it to them," said Ms Hatton.

"The community has been involved in the project since the very beginning, from the early days of advocating for the park right through to providing input into the location and design."

Construction of the skate park began in March this year and was originally scheduled for completion at the end of June; however, this timeline was set back by significant wet weather.

The project was funded through a \$435,000 grant from the NSW Government's Stronger Country Communities Fund as well as funds collected from developers by Council to deliver infrastructure to communities.

The Lions Club of Hallidays Point will host an event to celebrate the opening of the skate park on Sunday 16 November from 11am-4pm.

The event will be held at Wylie Breckenridge Park and will feature live music, market stalls, food stalls, and skating demonstrations and competitions.



Meet the Makers

By Mary Yule – Forster Fortnightly

Demonstrations by local artists were held at the annual "Meet the Makers" Day on Saturday 4 October at the Forster Arts & Crafts Centre. Budding creatives walked around to admire members working on their beading, jewellery, painting, croquet, knitting, pottery, sculpture, quilting and patchwork.

Promoted as the "Largest Working Arts & Crafts Centre in NSW" people are encouraged

to "browse through the Centre at your leisure and feel free to make inquiries about craft techniques. You will see members working on their creations in the craft groups Monday-Saturday mornings. The Centre is full of beautifully made artworks, gifts and home decor."

The Forster Arts & Crafts Centre is free to enter and is open 7 days a week from 10am to 4pm on Breese Parade, Forster.

For more information please visit: <https://forsterartsandcrafts.weebly.com>

Right: Young visitors to the Centre experimenting with pottery on Meet the Makers Day. Photos by Mary Yule.



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Smiths Friendly Grocer
Coomba Park
Pollards General store
Coomba Aquatic Centre
Bungwahl
Bungwahl Fuel & Liquor
Seal Rocks
Seal Rocks General Store

Pacific Palms

Pacific Palms Supamart

Keith McNeil awarded OAM for 'Service to Veterans'



Above: Keith McNeil (in dark beret) with wife Gloria at the opening of the NSA Memorial at Ingleburn in 1997. Keith designed and built the memorial with help from other NSA members.

By Mary Yule – Forster Fortnightly

Forster Keys resident Keith McNeil received an Order of Australian Medal (OAM) for “Service to Veterans” on 8 September at Government House in Sydney, accompanied by his wife Gloria with son Darren and daughter Kerri-Anne.

Keith was a member of the NSW Branch National Servicemen’s Association (NSA) from 1990 and served as President in 1996. He was the President of the Great Lakes Sub-Branch NSA for 23 years before it closed in closed in 2022. He is a Life Member of both associations. He was on the Forster Tuncurry Sub-Branch Returned and Services League (RSL) committee from 1997 to 2022.

Conscripted National Service soldiers served with the Australian Defence Force during WW2; were ready to support America in the Korean War during the 1950s and served in the Vietnam War in the late 60s to early 70s where 200 were killed in action. They were affectionately known as Nashos.

Keith McNeil’s service history

When Keith turned 18 it was compulsory to register with National Service during the threat of war. A year later he was called up and served with the National Service in Australia from 1956-1960.

At 19, Keith’s regiment was trained and ready to be deployed to help with the Malaysian

emergency in 1956. At the last minute they were held back and National Service soldiers from the UK were sent instead. Keith felt fortunate about this when later he heard what British troops went through.

After serving, Keith became an engineer in Sydney but he kept up with his army mates. He used to watch them march every year on ANZAC Day and joined them at the reunion afterwards. In those days the RSL was only for returned servicemen who have served overseas. As Keith was never deployed he couldn’t become a member.

“I wanted to be part of it but they wouldn’t let me.”

In 1989 the RSL changed to Returned "and" Servicemen so Keith became a member.

In 1995 Keith’s life took a new direction when he went to a meeting organised by some Nachos to start their own Sub-Branch held at a pub in Haberfield, Sydney.

Keith said, “Around 500 of them turned up. I spoke up at the meeting as the main organiser had the date for Anzac Day wrong. He sought me out and asked if I wanted to join the new committee. I had just retired from the Sydney Waterboard as a Senior Officer. 16 men started the NSW NSA Sub-Branch with me included.”

“While on the committee I designed and built a memorial for the NSW Nashos in the Bardia Barracks at Ingleburn, Liverpool in 1995 with some help and donations. At the opening in 1997 we had thousands turning up. I spent 2 years on the committee and one as President.”

“When I retired to Forster in early 1997 the local Nashos knew I had been a President of the NSW Sub-Branch and asked if interested



Above: Keith McNeil was awarded an OAM by NSW Governor Margaret Beazley on 8 September 2025. Photos supplied.

in joining a new Sub-Branch. With the help of others, we started up the Great Lakes NSA Sub-Branch in 1997. I became the one and only President for 23 years.”

“At the same time as our move to Forster I transferred my RSL membership to Forster Tuncurry. I joined the committee a bit later, so I was President of one and a committee member for the other for many years. I’m still an RSL member today.”

“We closed the Great Lakes NSA in 2022 due to our aging population and gave the last of our funds to the Tuncurry RFS. My wife Gloria was a Welfare Officer with the Great Lakes NSA for 20 years and is also a Life Member.”

Keith said during their time they pushed and pushed the government to acknowledge National Servicemen to the same extent as all Defence personnel. Nashos are now recognised by the Department of Veterans Affairs and are able to access the White Veteran Card which includes mental health support. Next year he hopes they will be granted the Gold Veteran Card.

Pacific Palms Club on Elizabeth Beach.

Forster Surf Club on Main Beach.

Cape Hawke Club on One Mile Beach.

Raising of the Flags
Local Surf Patrol volunteer members raised the flags on 27 September and kept everyone safe over the Spring School Holidays. Patrols will now continue every weekend for the surf season. Photos supplied.

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WEDNESDAY 10AM CRAZY BINGO
THURSDAY 3PM HOLLYWOOD EXTRA
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11:00am Arrival • Served from 12pm

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Authorised by Alison Penfold MP, 144 Victoria Street, Taree NSW 2430.

Alan and Yoong’s cooking will be missed

By Mary Yule – Forster Fortnightly

After 14 and 10 years, respectively, of cooking for the Wallis Lake Day Club, volunteers Alan and Yoong Beshner enjoyed their farewell on 29 September. 90 year old Alan is well known for his delicious scones while his wife Yoong is renowned for her wide range of Malaysian cooking by the 25 or so local seniors who get to eat these home-made specialties every week.

“We’ll all go hungry now!” jokes Coordinator Denise Small. “I don’t know what we’re going to do. We are going to miss Alan’s scones with jam and cream.”

Yoong said Alan’s specialty is scones and desserts. “He makes scones, bread pudding, fruit cake and custard. He always makes them on the morning.”

Yoong said she likes to cook Malaysian food. “They like anything I cook. I make with all fresh food. Everything fresh...fresh chicken, fresh fish and fresh vegetables.”

This much-loved couple have made lots of friends over their many years of volunteering at the Day Club.

Alan jokes, “They keep coming back so they must accept us.”

Coordinator Denise Small has been a part of the Wallis Lake Day Club for 13 years and explains that ‘every one of us are volunteers’. This Day Club started around 25 years ago. Patty Murray has been a volunteer with the club for 18 years after a long career in nursing. “I love this. I like people and I like putting something back into the community. Everyone is welcome. You don’t have to be a member of the Veterans or RSL to attend.”

The Wallis Day Club for seniors is held on a Monday between 10 and 2pm at the Tuncurry Salvation Hall. Volunteers organise a fun social day with morning tea, gentle exercises, activities and a lunch which is usually followed by card games. Every month they have a guest speaker, or entertainment and sometimes they have a theme day or go out for a meal. Today the Forster Jumping Fleas Ukulele Group are performing and the audience are singing along. Some even jump up for a dance including 94 year old Allan Morris with volunteers Sue Young and Denise Cusack.



Above: Yoong (holding flowers) with husband Alan at their farewell from volunteering at the Wallis Lake Day Club. Photo by Evelyn Hopping.

Day Clubs in NSW were established in 1977 as a joint venture between the Department of Veterans’ Affairs (DVA) and RSL. All who attend pay a contribution for the day.

with the NSW Koala Strategy Sentinel Program and follows all current wildlife research and ethics guidelines.

The collars are designed with a breakaway mechanism to ensure they will release if the animal becomes entangled and sends alerts if unusual or no activity is registered. All alerts will trigger a welfare check within 24 hours. Koalas will be checked daily via GPS and visually at least once a month.

You may see koalas marked in blue using stock mark paint which is water soluble and non-toxic. This helps prevent accidental recapture during the field work.

We are confident that this research will guide an evidence-based management plan for the koalas at Bootawa Dam while addressing community concern.

- The role of habitat features such as water availability on koala health and habitat use.
- Whether the population is breeding at a self-sustaining rate.
- Whether the hardwood plantings are utilised.
- The impacts of lantana on koala health and habitat use.

Koalas will undergo a full health assessment before release and healthy adult koalas will be considered for a tracking collar.

The collars used will be custom fitted to each individual animal and provides GPS and radio tracking options. This study is designed in line

Nominations are open!



Nominations are open for the Hallidays Point Citizen of the Year and Young Citizen of the Year

Each year on Australia Day, the Lions Club of Hallidays Point acknowledges the contribution of a local citizen through the presentation of Citizen of the Year Award and Young Citizen of the Year Award.



- Recipients will have been judged to have shown:**
- Significant contribution to the local community.
 - Demonstrated leadership on a community issue resulting in the enhancement of community life.
 - Inspiring qualities as a role model for the community.

- Eligibility Criteria**
- Nominees should reside or work principally within the Hallidays Point area.
 - Awards may be granted posthumously in recognition of recent achievements.
 - Groups of people or couples will not normally be eligible except when meeting the criteria

A nominee need only be nominated once to be considered. The number of nominations received per nominee bears no weight in their selection.

Stalls wanted for 'Holy Petals'



Coming to Forster on Saturday 29th November, is Holy Petals! – a Flower Show with a difference.

The event will commence at 10am with a display of Flower Arrangements with a Christian Christmas theme. Individuals and community

groups are invited to submit an arrangement. There is no entry fee. At the front of each arrangement will be a money box so that the public can vote for their favourite arrangement. At the conclusion of the day all entries will receive the money they have raised through voting. What a way to raise funds!

Hallidays Point Community

Australia Day
Citizen of the year Awards

Who makes a difference for us ?

Nominations are now open & Close on 31st Dec

- **Local Citizen of the Year**
Local community member who has significantly contributed to building a stronger more secure community, enhancing community cooperation and cohesion.
- **Local Young Citizen of the Year**
Aged under 21 on the 26th January 2026.
A local youth demonstrating community leadership, sporting or educational achievement.

Please send your detailed nomination by email to:
secretary@hallidayspointions.org.au

Awards are presented at the Lions Australia Day Breakfast on Black Head Beach

for a community group. Though a couple or pair working together on a joint initiative may be considered at the discretion of the local selection committee.

- Unsuccessful nominees may be nominated in future years.
- Nominations should be apolitical in their nature and should not in any way bring the awards program or local government area into dispute.

Nominate

- Every community has local heroes. The Citizen of the Year awards is your opportunity to acknowledge those making an outstanding contribution to your local community.
- Outstanding contribution and community service includes areas such as education,

health, fund-raising, charitable and voluntary services, business, sport, arts, the environment, social inclusion, or any other area that contributes to the advancement and wellbeing of a community.

We encourage you to provide as much information as possible about your nominee to provide them with the best opportunity for consideration during the shortlisting and selection process.

Nominations should be sent by email to:

secretary@hallidayspointions.org.au
Nomination Forms are also available by request.

NOMINATIONS CLOSE ON 31ST DECEMBER 2025

This is an event with a difference. It is a time to celebrate and support our wonderful Great Lakes community. Aimed at giving rather than receiving, it is designed to put the true meaning of Christmas at the forefront of our thinking.

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HEAVEN (MUST BE THERE) WE WILL TOGETHER CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU ABSOLUTELY & THE CITY OF SOUL!

SATURDAY 15 NOVEMBER

Doors Open 7.30pm for an 8pm show

Tickets \$40 per person

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Local ORRCA marine wildlife volunteers Amelia and Adam.



The inaugural Boat & Water Safety Expo was held in Forster on 1st October. Photos by Mary Yule.



POLAIR is the police Air Wing of the NSW Police Service.



Photo of water safety vessels by Forster Tuncurry Marine Rescue.







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Lucky 100 Club Winner & thanks for supporting us!

By Ruth Stocker - Westpac Rescue Helicopter Support Group

An excited local lad, Kelvin, claimed his \$100 prize in the 100 Club on 6th September. The lucky number, No. 77, was drawn by Bunnings staff member Deb. Thanks Deb.

Special thanks to Tuncurry-Forster Jockey Club for welcoming our group to fundraise on the 12th September, their Gold Cup Race Day. All money raised is forwarded to the Broadmeadow Base to keep the helicopter saving lives in Northern NSW.

Forster's Lakeside Tavern is to be thanked for allowing our volunteers to conduct a bucket collection. Thank you patrons for "digging deep" to assist with our fundraising efforts.

Some recent helicopter missions in the area include a motor vehicle accident at Forster, search and rescue at Seal Rocks, motor bike accident at Old Bar and a multiple car accident at Wingham. When the helicopter and crew save a person's life or carry out a medical transfer, that person does not have to pay for the medical attention and transfer to hospital - it is FREE to the patient. It is paid for by fundraising efforts by Volunteers.

The coal mines in NSW are very generous major sponsors of the Westpac Helicopter Rescue

Service. Businesses in Tuncurry-Forster are also very generous with donations for our Charity Bowls Day conducted by the Sporties Men's Bowling Club annually. A huge thank you to Nick, the Manager, and the staff of the Sporties for their hospitality.

If you would like to become a Volunteer, come to our next meeting at the Sporties at 3pm on the first Wednesday of the month. If you can spare a little time, you will have a chance to meet new people and make a difference. There are so many ways to volunteer and our group appreciates every person who gives their time to save lives

If you would like more information, please phone our President Harold on 0421 087 945 or Secretary Ruth on 0434 234 511.



Forster Tuncurry U3A returns for Term 4



Forster Tuncurry U3A

If you are retired or semi-retired and over 50, come and join us for University of the Third Age (U3A) Term 4 2025 (20 October - 5 December).

Our last term of the year will be as varied, exciting and interesting as our terms always are with members providing classes, some guest speakers and social occasions.

Last term we had a wonderful day on a "Retiree" cruise at Port Macquarie. A guest speaker showed us her experiences of "Quirky Japan", and a member's presentation took us on a virtual trip across the Universe and past some Black Holes.

We also have "pop up" classes extra to our regular program. Pencil Art Drawing and Japanese slow stitching were on offer last term.

Our membership fee allows our members to attend as many classes as they like throughout the year. See our website for more details: forstertuncurryu3a.net.org.au

The Term 4 Welcome Morning Tea is Monday 20th October 2024 10am to 12noon at our venue Cape Hawke Surf Lifesaving Club One Mile Beach. Come along and see what U3A is all about. Our friendly members will be happy to meet you.

U3A
Term 4 Dates
Monday 20th Oct
to Friday 5th
December 2025.

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It's never too late to
Live, Laugh and Learn



New BBQ donated to local Lions Club

Margaret Kentwell - Forster Tuncurry Lions Club

Once again Bunnings Forster have stepped up to help our local Lions Club with the donation of a 6 burner BBQ to replace an over-used one that is past its use-by date.

Deb Schmitzer from Bunnings Forster made all the arrangements and Lions Club President Peter Sloan and Lion John Imber were there to gratefully take possession. The burly Bunnings lads, Harley and Mick, did all the heavy lifting to load the BBQ onto our Club trailer.

The replacement BBQ allows Lions to continue doing work within the community and this BBQ was quickly put to work recently feeding over 80 students at the Forster Great Lakes Campus. The student group was made up of many future regional school leaders meeting to brainstorm ideas.

"Without the support we receive from locals, visitors and especially local businesses such as

Bunnings - our Lions Club would not be able to contribute as much as we do each year to fantastic community minded groups such as Palliative Care, Forster Neighbourhood Centre, GLEF, Ronald McDonald House, Women's Shelter and many other worthy causes just to name a few" explained President Peter to Deb.

"Thank you to Deb and the team at Bunnings Forster."

If you wish to enquire about joining Lions, please contact Club President Peter Sloan on 0419 125 152.



Above: (L-R) Bunnings member Harley, Lion President Peter Sloan, Lion John Imber and Bunnings member Mick. Photo supplied.

'Breast Friends' Mini-Field Ceremony in Tuncurry



Above: Breast Friends in pink with special guests Mayor Claire Pointin and MP Tanya Thompson at Tuncurry Beach Bowling Club next to their Mini Field. Photos by Mary Yule.

By Mary Yule – Forster Fortnightly

“Breast Friends” Great Lakes Breast Cancer Support Group held their annual BCNA Mini Field of Women” (Breast Cancer Network Australia) on 1st October 2025, the first day of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

The special ceremony acknowledged “our fighters, survivors and paid respect for those

that have passed” with a Mini Field of pink, blue and white figurines placed by members, family and friends.

Chairperson Lorraine Milward thanked guests, members and Tuncurry Beach Bowling Club for their support. She said that the Breast Friends supportive group meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 4pm in the Tuncurry Beach Bowling Club.

The three ladies explained that they meet every week at Club Taree to organise appraisals for all cancer patients referred to them from MBH and Forster Private. To purchase the vouchers they regularly organise fundraisers such as a Melbourne Cup Lunch at Club Taree, Bunnings BBQs in Taree twice a year and a Mother’s Day Afternoon Tea. They said the community is very generous.

“We usually have a speaker. We also meet once a month for coffee at different locations. People can contact me on 0410 588 736 if they are interested.”

As well as providing support, Lorraine said their group provides over 100 care packs a year for patients at local hospitals.

“We provide a post-surgery care pack which includes a cushion to anyone having breast cancer surgery at Manning Base Hospital (MBH), Forster Private and the Mayo. We also provide a chemotherapy care pack for anyone who has chemotherapy at MBH and Forster Private.”

Manning Branch of Can Assist

Lindy Jones, Rhonda Cocchini and Kay Goon, from the Manning Branch of Can Assist, attended the Mini-Field event. Their small, dedicated group of volunteers raise funds and purchase grocery and fuel vouchers for cancer patients who are experiencing financial difficulties in the Forster Tuncurry, Taree, Wingham, Johns River, Gloucester and Old Bar regions.



Above: Volunteers with Manning Branch of Can Assist (L-R) Lindy Jones, Rhonda Cocchini and Kay Goon.

Kay said, “By providing financial assistance, practical support and raising awareness of the inequities, our volunteer network ensures that country people are given the same opportunities and treatment choices as those who live in city centres. Our motto is ‘Locals helping Locals’ and we guarantee that all funds raised locally stay in this region to support local cancer patients.”

“Over the past year we have given vouchers to 143 people, the year before it was 132, and 114 the year before that.”

The ladies believe the growing numbers of people receiving vouchers are from earlier diagnosis of cancer and more awareness of their Can Assist organisation.

The number for Can Assist Manning Valley Branch is 0428 593 973 and the email is manningvalley@canassist.org.au

Do ya love to dance?



Above: Mid North Coast Bootscooters have monthly socials as well as classes. Photo supplied.

Mid North Coast Bootscooters

Mid North Coast Bootscooters (MNCB) is a group of keen line dancers who have been sharing the joy of line dancing with others since 1994. We do this by running several classes every week where people can learn how to line dance and get to socialise at the same time. We have socials every month in addition to the classes.

We dance to many different styles of music, including old and new, not just the “country and western” style that might come to mind. Often we dance to recently produced music performed by current well-known musicians. Dances cover a wide range of pace too, from a

slow waltz to something that gets your heart going a little.

Every class is led by an instructor who explains and demonstrates the steps in a dance, so you build up your knowledge of steps and dances slowly. Repetition and practise are the key!

You’ll be welcomed in any class. We love to see people starting their line dancing journey. Our classes are run in various venues around Forster, Tuncurry, Taree, Old Bar and Tinonee.

See our website more details and class times: <https://midnorthcoastbootscooters.org.au>

Or call Lorraine on 0400 708 511.

(See advertisement below)

Mid North Coast Bootscooters



We promote line dancing on the beautiful Mid North Coast with classes in Forster, Tuncurry, Taree, Old Bar & Tinonee.

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT ANY OF OUR CLASSES

All classes cost \$7. There’s no need to book. Just turn up!

If you are not a regular dancer, please check our Facebook as venues may change during school holidays or public holidays.

See our website for class times:
<https://midnorthcoastbootscooters.org.au/contact/>
Or call Lorraine on 0400 708 511.

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Unique activities bring water into focus this National Water Week

MidCoast Council

A tour of the region's largest water treatment facility combined with a koala spotting information session is just one of the unique activities on offer across the MidCoast this National Water Week (October 20-26).

Designed to appeal to people of all ages and interests, the events and activities support this year's National Water Week theme of 'Bring water into focus'.

MidCoast Council's Director of Infrastructure and Engineering Services, Rob Scott, said water had well and truly come into focus in the MidCoast in recent years as the region had continued to endure the devastating impacts of droughts, bushfires and floods.

"With lower daily water usage rates per person than the NSW average and firsthand experience dealing with a range of natural disasters, we know that people in our community understand the powerful role water can play in their lives," said Mr Scott.

Mr Scott encouraged anyone who hadn't been to one of Council's water or sewage treatment facilities to take a free tour.

"Every year our tours attract more people and the feedback we always hear is that they're

amazed to learn just how much goes into providing these services."

Council are hosting three more tours this year, including two that incorporate a koala spotting information session at Bootawa Water Treatment Plant, which is home to one of the largest wild koala populations on the Mid North Coast.

Tours will be held at:

- Bootawa Water Treatment Plant, Tuesday 21 and Thursday 23 October 9:30am-12:45pm
- Bulahdelah Water and Sewage Treatment Plants, Saturday 25 October 10am-2pm

To find out more about Council's National Water Week activities and to register, please visit <http://www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/water-wiser-hub>

1st October: United Nations Day of Older Persons

Forster Shores Combined Probus

During October, thousands of older people throughout Australia and New Zealand celebrate Probus Month with a series of activities highlighting “fun and friendship in retirement”, including special lunches, morning and afternoon teas, high teas, theatre trips, garden tours, river and harbour cruises and lots of local picnics.

It's all part of Probus' endeavour to help retirees stay engaged and connected within their local communities.

Probus will celebrate 50 Years in Australia during 2026. There are over 1,400 clubs across Australia and New Zealand with a network of 100,000 retirees. The success of Probus is very evident, with the establishment of 50 new clubs last year and more clubs in both the suburbs and regional areas being formed on a regular basis.

Probus' purpose is to provide opportunities for retirees and semi-retirees to come together to make new friends and participate in a wide range of activities, designed to keep their minds and bodies active.

Probus Clubs are non-political, non-religious and non-fundraising. It's all about social gatherings promoting fun and friendship – and it doesn't cost a lot.

This year's theme for Probus Month is “Reinvent Your Retirement” and Probus Clubs

everywhere have a very big “welcome mat” for new members during October.

If you are interested in finding out more about Probus, you are very welcome to visit our club. Our next General Meeting will be held at Sporties Club on Tuesday 21 October at 2:00 pm.

For further information about the Forster Shores Combined Probus Club, please contact Membership Officers Col Jay on 0448 918 645 or Linda Lovell on 0447 473 510; Secretary Garth Tilley on 0408 020 814 or President Robert Henley on 0423 393 055.

Our club meets monthly on the third Tuesday at Sporties. We also hold monthly lunches and social gatherings plus a wide range of trips and outings.



Above: Forster Shores Probus members head out into The Gulf of Carpentaria on a trip in Northern Australia. (L-R) Gail Henlet, Lillian Parsons, Bruce Parsons and Lynn Lambert. Photo supplied.

Pacific Palms Bowling Club

Live Music, Cocktails, Bistro, Lawn Bowls. *There's always something happening at the Palms!*

Monday
Monday Curry Night \$20



Saturday
Fishing Club Raffle starts at 3pm & 4pm
Happy Hour 3pm to 5pm
Kids Meals \$5 (16y) with Meal Purchase

Tuesday
Happy Hour 3pm to 5pm
Members Swipe Draw at 5:30pm

Bingo From 10:30am
Pizza's L \$20 / S \$15
\$15 Seniors Lunch + Drink

Sunday
Chook Run Bowls from 10:30am
Kids Meals \$5 (16y) with Meal Purchase

Wednesday
Raffles from 6pm
Club Super Draw from 6pm

220gr Porterhouse w/Chips & Salad \$25



Matt Zarb & Friend
Fri 17 October

Thursday
Mufti Bowls & Raffle from 12:30pm
Happy Hour 3pm to 5pm

Ribs Night \$25



No Control
Fri 24 October

Open 7 Days
11:00 till Late
Lunch 12pm & Dinner 5:30pm
Courtesy Bus from 4pm

8 Paradise Drive, Smiths Lake
Ph: 6554 4333
www.pacificpalmsbowlingclub.com.au
Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

*Night Specials are not available during school holidays**

Award Winning
“Perfect Plate”



Thai-Infused Sesame Crusted Salmon



Sunday “Chill Around the Green” is back



Tanya's Community Update

Have you signed the petition?

I am returning to Parliament this week to raise once again the urgent need for a roundabout at the intersection of Failford Road and The Lakes Way. I have launched a petition calling on the NSW Government to commit funding toward this crucial upgrade. So far we've secured over 9,000 signatures, and as soon as we hit 10,000, I can move to table it in the Legislative Assembly.

This intersection is a known danger zone. Drivers attempting to turn onto Failford Road must cross oncoming traffic travelling at 80 km/h. The result? Frequent near-misses and a regrettable number of accidents. During peak periods, traffic backs up for kilometres along The Lakes Way, putting additional pressure on locals, tourists, and emergency services.

I'm calling on the Labor Government to support the funding for a roundabout — the most suitable solution according to prior Transport for NSW assessments. A roundabout will enhance safety, ease congestion, and save lives.

Every signature counts. Together, we will make this intersection safer for everyone who lives, works or travels across our region.

Contact my office to find out how you can sign the petition —phone 6555 4099 or email myalllakes@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Tanya Thompson - Member for Myall Lakes



80 years young and still setting personal bests!

By Mary Yule – Forster Fortnightly

Forster resident Anne Harris turned 80 in January this year and set herself a challenge – to fill 2025 with new adventures.

This year she's kayaked, been in a hot air balloon, parasailed, had a crack at indoor sky diving, jumped on an aerobatic flight in Cessnock and has recently added rally driving to her list at the Hunter Valley.

Anne said, "I still intend to do a skydive, go on an ocean speed boat in Port Macquarie and finish off the year with a jet ski."

Right: Anne Harris taking on the challenge of rally driving. Photo supplied.



Great Lakes Mental Health Film Festival

By Tim Daly - Festival Director

We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who joined us for the Great Lakes Mental Health Film Festival on 10 October. Your presence and support helped make this event a true celebration of storytelling, connection, and hope.

A special thank you to Tanya Thompson MP for her ongoing support of community wellbeing in the region, and to Anne Maxwell for her wonderful support on the day and the Great Lakes Suicide Prevention Network for their partnership and dedication to improving mental health outcomes across our region.

We also wish to acknowledge and deeply thank the filmmakers and those with lived experience who so bravely shared their stories on screen — your voices are at the heart of this festival.

The world premiere of "Unlatched" was a powerful highlight, reminding us all of the



Above: (L-R) Producer Diana Jeffries, Writer and Actor Lisa Brickell, Tanya Thompson MP and Festival Director Tim Daly at the Great Lakes Mental Health Film Festival. Photo supplied.

strength and resilience within our community. Thank you to Lisa Brickell the Unlatched writer and actor who flew across from NZ and producer Dianna Jeffries from Sydney

Our sincere appreciation goes to our sponsor Wayahead - Mental Health Association NSW for

their generous support in helping us bring this important event to life.

Together, we are breaking down stigma, sparking conversation, and strengthening our collective wellbeing through the power of film and shared lived experience.

The Grin Bin

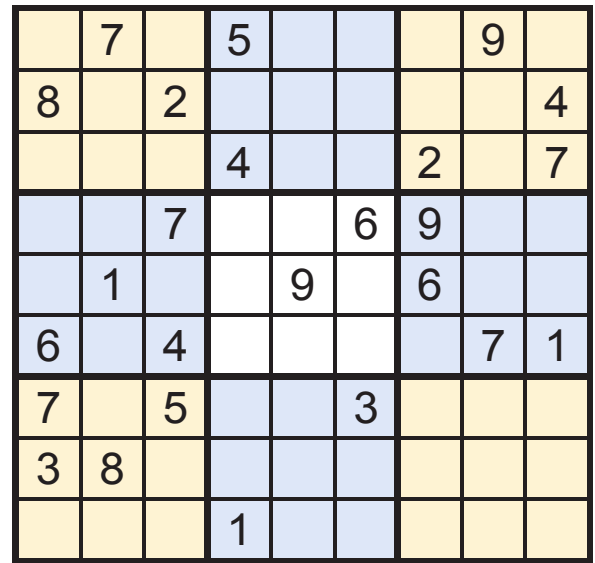


Doodley Squat



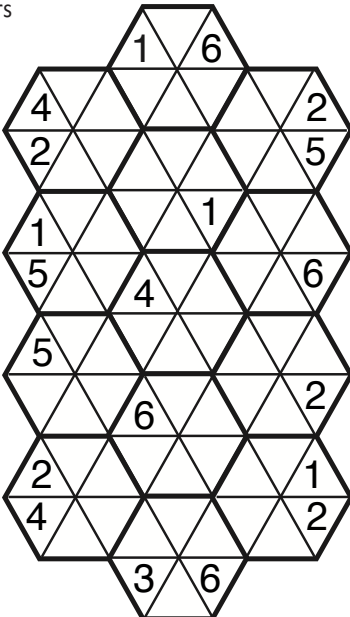
Sudoku

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

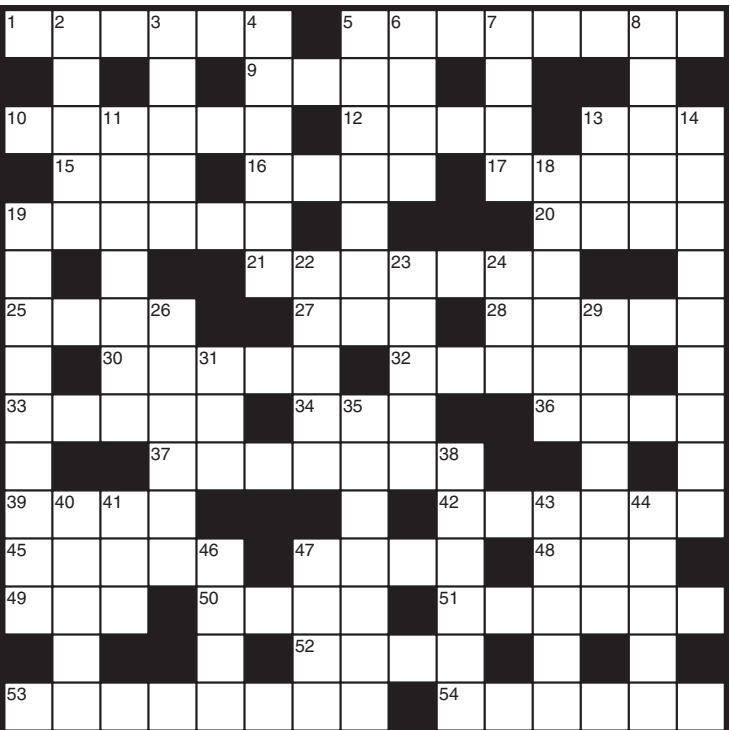


Quick Workout

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



Crossword

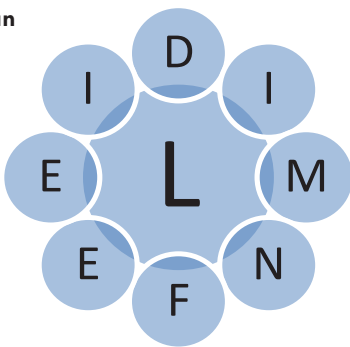


Focus

An All Australian Word Game

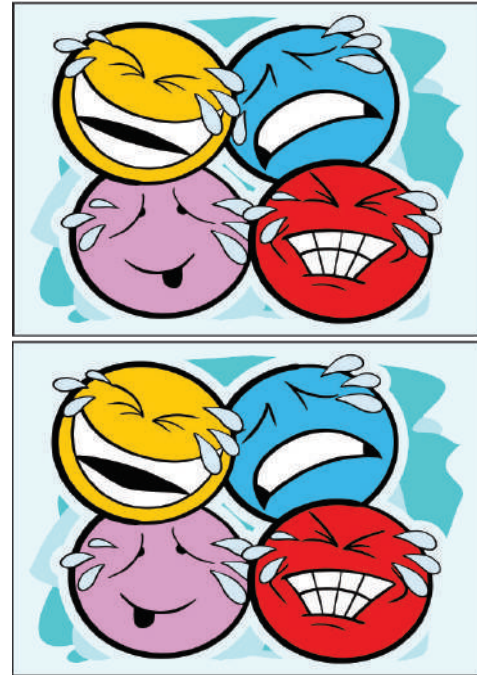
- * Each word must contain the centre 'Focus' letter and each letter may be used only once
- * Each word must be four letters or more
- * Find at least one nine letter word
- * No swear words
- * No verb forms or plurals ending in 's'
- * No proper nouns and no hyphenated words

TODAY'S Good: 13 words
FOCUS Very good: 23 words
Excellent: 30 words

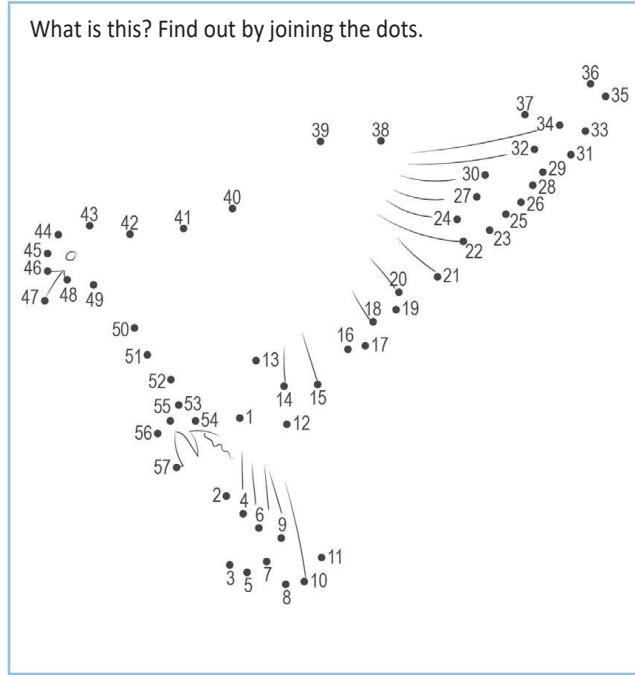


Reference: Macquarie Concise Dictionary
Focus No. 4047

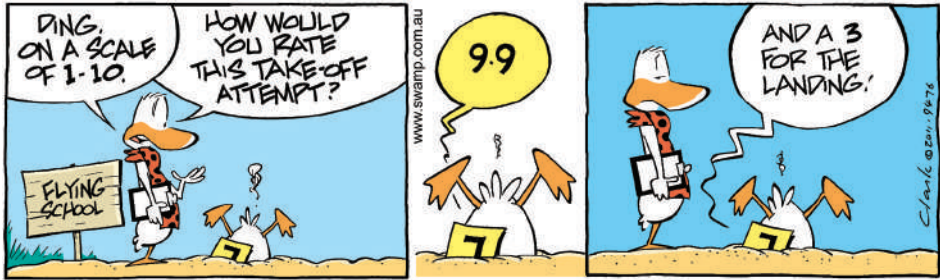
Spot the 5 Differences



Join the Dots



Swamp



Bushy Tales



Tanya THOMPSON MP

Member for Myall Lakes

As your local State MP I'M HERE TO ASSIST YOU WITH:

- ✓ Health
- ✓ Roads and transport
- ✓ Community services
- ✓ Social services

- ✓ Community infrastructure
- ✓ Affordable housing
- ✓ Schools and education
- ✓ Congratulatory messages

If you need help or want to raise a local issue, please get in touch, I'm here to listen and take your voice to Parliament.

1-9 Manning Street, Tuncurry

02 6555 4099

tanyathompson.com.au

myalllakes@parliament.nsw.gov.au

TanyaThompsonForMyallLakes

Authorised by Tanya Thompson MP, 1-9 Manning Street, Tuncurry NSW 2428, funded using Parliamentary Entitlements October 2025.

YOUR FORTNIGHTLY TV GUIDE

October 15 - 21

	ABCTV	SBS	SEVEN	NBN	TEN
WEDNESDAY	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.35 Media Watch. 1.55 Restoration Aust. 2.55 Brush With Fame. 3.25 Grand Designs. 4.15 Long Lost Family. 5.00 Antiques Roadshow. 6.00 Spicks And Specks. 6.30 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30 7.30. 8.00 Hard Quiz. 8.30 Mother And Son. 9.00 The Assembly. 9.45 Guy Montgomery's Guy Mot Spelling Bee (NZ) 10.30 If You're Listening. 10.50 News. 11.05 The Business. 11.25 Planet America. 11.55 You Can't Ask That. 12.25 Grand Designs. 1.15 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 Tell Me What You Really Think. 3.00 Such Was Life. 3.10 The Cook Up. 3.40 Black Cockatoo Crisis. 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.30 The Idea Of Australia. 8.30 Great British Train Journeys From Above. 9.40 Code Of Silence. 10.25 SBS News. 10.55 I Am Scrooge. 11.45 Freezing Embrace. 12.35 Freezing Embrace. 1.25 Charles I: To Kill A King. 2.30 Tough Trains. 3.25 Urban Conversion. 4.30 Late Programs.	6.00 Sunrise. 9.00 The Morning Show. 12.00 News At Noon. 1.00 Seven News With Alex Cullen. 1.10 Blankety Blank. 2.00 Bridge Of Lies. 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 RFDs. (M) 8.30 Off The Grid With Colin And Manu. (M) 9.30 House Of Wellness. (PG) 10.30 Chicago Fire. (M) 11.30 The Agenda Setters. 12.30 Imposters. 1.30 Harry's Practice. 2.00 Shopping. 4.00 NBC Today. 5.00 Sunrise Early News. 5.30 Sunrise.	6.00 Today. 9.00 Today Extra. 11.30 9News Morning. 12.00 The Block. 1.00 Space Invaders. 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 The Block. (PG) 8.40 Australian Crime Stories: The Investigators. (M) 9.40 The Grand Tour. (M) 11.10 9News Late. 11.40 Resident Alien. 12.30 Tipping Point. 1.30 TV Shop. 2.30 Global Shop. 3.00 TV Shop. 4.00 Believer's Voice. 4.30 ACA. 5.00 Today Early News. 5.30 Today.	6.00 Morning Programs. 8.00 Bold. 8.30 Deal Or No Deal. 9.00 Lingo. 10.00 Ent. Tonight. 10.30 Talkin' 'Bout Your Gen. 11.30 Judge Judy. 12.00 Everyday Gourmet. 12.30 Family Feud. 1.00 News. 2.00 Wheel Of Fortune. 2.30 Lingo. 3.30 News. 4.30 Bold. 5.00 News. 6.00 10 News+. 7.00 Deal Or No Deal. 7.30 Dogs Behaving (Very) Badly Australia. 8.30 The Gilded Age. 9.40 Elsbeth. 10.40 News. 11.05 10 News+. 12.05 Stephen Colbert. 1.00 Shopping. 4.30 CBS Morning.
THURSDAY	6.00 Morning Programs. 11.30 Brian Cox: Life Of A Universe. 12.00 News. 1.00 Silent Witness. 2.00 Restoration Aust. 2.55 Brush With Fame. 3.25 Grand Designs. 4.15 Long Lost Family. 5.00 Antiques Roadshow. 6.00 Spicks And Specks. 6.30 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30 7.30. 8.00 Grand Designs Aust. 9.00 Grand Designs NZ. 9.45 Mystery Road: Origin. 10.40 News. 10.55 The Business. 11.10 Grand Designs. 12.00 Long Lost Family. 12.45 Range. 3.10 Parkinson In Australia. 4.30 Gardening Aust. 5.30 7.30.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 The Idea Of Australia. 3.00 Going Places. 3.30 The Cook Up. 4.00 Who Do You Think You Are? 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.30 24 Hours In ALDI. 8.25 Scandinavia With Simon Reeve. 9.30 Blue Lights. 10.40 SBS News. 11.10 Davos 1917. 12.05 The Head. 1.40 Lady Jane Grey: Murder Of A Child Queen. 2.45 Tough Trains. 3.40 Urban Conversion. 4.45 Bamay. 5.00 NHK World English News Morning. 5.30 Late Programs.	6.00 Sunrise. 9.00 The Morning Show. 12.00 News At Noon. 1.00 Seven News With Alex Cullen. 1.10 Blankety Blank. 2.00 Bridge Of Lies. 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) 8.00 Home And Away. 8.30 Jim Jefferies And Friends. (MA15+) 9.30 First Dates UK. (M) 10.30 7NEWS: The Balibo Five - 50 Years On 11.00 Gatecrashers. 12.00 Life. (M) 2.00 Shopping. 4.00 NBC Today. 5.00 Sunrise Early News. 5.30 Sunrise.	6.00 Today. 9.00 Today Extra. 11.30 9News Morning. 12.00 The Block. 1.15 Great Australian Detour. 1.45 Explore. 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 RBT. (PG) 8.30 Emergency. (M) 9.30 RPA. (PG) 10.30 9News Late. 11.00 Chicago Med. (MA15+) 11.50 Tipping Point. 12.40 Pointless. 1.30 TV Shop. 2.30 Global Shop. 3.00 TV Shop. 4.00 Believer's Voice. 4.30 ACA. 5.00 Today Early News. 5.30 Today.	6.00 Morning Programs. 9.00 Lingo. 10.00 Ent. Tonight. 10.20 Dogs Behaving (Very) Badly Australia. 11.30 Judge Judy. 12.00 Everyday Gourmet. 12.30 Family Feud. 1.00 News. 2.00 Wheel Of Fortune. 2.30 Lingo. 3.30 News. 4.30 Bold. 5.00 News. 6.00 10 News+. 7.00 Deal Or No Deal. 7.30 Gogglebox Aust. 8.30 The Office Australia. 9.00 Law & Order: SVU. 10.00 News. 10.25 Cheap Seats. 11.25 10 News+. 12.25 Stephen Colbert. 1.30 Shopping. 4.30 CBS Morning.
FRIDAY	6.00 News. 9.00 News. 10.00 Take 5. 10.30 The Pacific. 11.00 The Following Events Are Based On A Pack Of Lies. 12.00 News. 1.00 Mystery Road: Origin. 1.55 Grand Designs Aust. 2.55 Brush With Fame. 3.25 Grand Designs. 4.15 Long Lost Family. 5.00 Antiques Roadshow. 5.55 QL (PG) 6.30 Hard Quiz. (PG) 7.00 News. 7.30 Gardening Aust. (PG) Professor T. (M) 9.20 Hard Quiz. (PG) 9.50 Mother And Son. (PG) 10.20 The Assembly. (M) 11.05 News. 11.20 Silent Witness. (M) 12.20 Rage New Music. 5.00 Rage.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 The Point: Road To Referendum History Bites. 2.05 Black West. 3.00 Nula. 3.30 The Cook Up. 4.00 Who Do You Think You Are? 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.35 Amazing Railway Adventures. 8.30 Last Temples Of Cambodia. 9.25 Lost Treasures Of Egypt. 10.20 SBS News. 11.00 Catch Me A Killer. 11.45 Rogue Heroes. 12.55 Rogue Heroes. 2.00 Lady Jane Grey: Murder Of A Child Queen. 3.05 Tough Trains. 4.05 Late Programs.	6.00 Sunrise. 9.00 The Morning Show. 12.00 News At Noon. 1.00 Seven News With Alex Cullen. 1.10 Blankety Blank. 2.00 Bridge Of Lies: Celebrity Specials. 3.00 The Chase. 4.00 News. 5.00 The Chase Aust. 6.00 7News Local. 6.30 News. 7.00 Better Homes. 8.30 MOVIE: The Bourne Identity. (2002) (M) 11.00 GetOn Extra. 11.30 Motorway Patrol. 12.00 Healthy, Wealthy & Wise. 1.00 Plain Sight. 2.30 TV Shop. 3.30 Skippy. 4.30 Global Shop. 5.00 TV Shop. 5.30 Postcards.	6.00 Today. 9.00 Today Extra. 11.30 9News Morning. 12.00 MOVIE: Finding Love In Saint Lucia. (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 David Attenborough's Asia. (PG) 8.40 MOVIE: The Intern. (2015) (M) 11.00 Law & Order: Organized Crime. 12.00 Healthy, Wealthy & Wise. 1.00 Plain Sight. 2.30 TV Shop. 3.30 Skippy. 4.30 Global Shop. 5.00 TV Shop. 5.30 Postcards.	6.00 Morning Programs. 8.00 Bold. 8.30 Deal Or No Deal. 9.00 Lingo. 10.00 Ent. Tonight. 10.20 Taskmaster Australia. 11.30 Judge Judy. 12.00 Everyday Gourmet. 12.30 Family Feud. 1.00 News. 2.00 Wheel Of Fortune. 2.30 Lingo. 3.30 News. 4.00 House Hunters Aust. 4.30 Bold. 5.00 News. 6.00 10 News+. 7.00 Deal Or No Deal. 7.30 Dog House. 8.30 News. 9.00 House Hunters Aust. 9.30 The Morning Show. 11.00 News. 11.05 10 News+. 12.05 Stephen Colbert. 1.00 Shopping.
SATURDAY	6.00 Rage Charts. 7.00 Wknd Brekky. 9.00 Rage. 12.00 News. 12.30 Beyond Paradise. 1.30 Professor T. 2.15 The Assembly. 3.00 Home Delivery. 3.30 Boyer Lecture Series. 4.00 News. 4.30 Agriculture. 4.10 The Assembly. 4.55 Take 5. 5.25 Landline. 5.55 Aust Story. 6.25 I Was Actually There. (PG) 7.00 News. 7.30 Beyond Paradise. (PG) 8.30 Return To Paradise. (PG) 9.25 Mystery Road: Origin. (M) 10.20 The Following Events Are Based On A Pack Of Lies. (M) 11.20 Rage. (MA15+) 5.00 Rage.	6.00 Morning Programs. 3.00 Soccer. Australian Championship. Round 2. Wollongong Wolves v Heidelberg. 5.30 Flying Knights. 6.30 News. 7.30 Orient Express: A Golden Era Of Travel. 8.25 Queen Victoria: Secret Marriage, Secret Child? 9.35 Royal Crisis: Countdown To Abdication. 10.35 Great Australian Walks. 11.30 Homicide. 3.00 Qatar: A Dynasty With Global Ambitions. 4.00 Outside: Beyond The Lens. 4.30 Growing A Greener World. 5.15 Late Programs.	6.00 NBC Today. 7.00 Weekend Sunrise. 10.00 Morning Show. 12.00 Horse Racing. Stow Storage Gothic Stakes and Top Everest. 7.00 Healthy, Wealthy & Wise. (PG) 8.00 MOVIE: Live Free Or Die Hard. (2007) (M) Bruce Willis, Justin Long, Timothy Olyphant. 10.40 MOVIE: Cold Pursuit. (2019) 10.40 MOVIE: The Notebook. (2004) 10.30 MOVIE: The Vow. (2012) 12.30 Australia's Top Ten Of Everything. 1.30 Garden Gurus. 2.00 The Incredible Journey. 2.30 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.00 Garden Gurus. 1.30 Rugby League. Women's Pacific Championships. Pacific Bowl. Round 1. Papua New Guinea Orchids v Cook Islands Moana. 4.00 Rugby League. Men's Pacific Championships. Pacific Bowl. Round 1. Fiji v Cook Islands. 6.00 NBN News. 7.00 ACA. 7.30 Getaway. 8.00 MOVIE: The Notebook. (2004) 10.30 MOVIE: The Vow. (2012) 12.30 Australia's Top Ten Of Everything. 1.30 Garden Gurus. 2.00 The Incredible Journey. 2.30 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 9.30 What's Up Down Under. 10.00 My Market Kitchen. 10.30 Amazing Race Australia: Celebrity Edition. 11.30 Planet Shapers. 12.30 All 4 Adventure. 1.30 Motorcycle Racing. MotoGP. Round 19. Australian Grand Prix. Qualifying and sprint race. 4.00 Cook With Luke. 4.30 Food Trail: South Africa. 5.00 News. 6.30 Dog House Aust. 7.30 Selling Houses Aust. 8.30 Ambulance UK. 9.45 Gogglebox Aust. 10.45 The Gilded Age. 12.00 FBL: Most Wanted. 1.00 Journey. 2.30 Late Programs.
SUNDAY	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.30 Gardening Aust. 2.30 Conquest Of The Skies. 3.20 Grand Designs NZ. 4.10 The Role Of A Lifetime. 5.00 Antiques Roadshow. 6.00 Grand Designs Aust. 7.00 News. 7.30 The Assembly. 8.15 Mystery Road: Origin. 9.10 The Following Events Are Based On A Pack Of Lies. 10.10 Mother And Son. 10.40 Take 5. 11.00 MOVIE: Death In Brunswick. (1991) 12.55 Brush With Fame. 1.25 Rage. 1.50 Ask The Doctor. 3.30 The Art Of... 4.00 Gardening Aust. 5.00 Insiders.	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.00 Speedweek. 1.30 Mountain Biking. Enduro Mountain Bike National Championships 2025. Highlights. 4.00 1986 FIFA World Cup: Hero. 5.30 Flying Knights. 6.30 News. 7.30 Seven Wonders Of The Ancient World. 8.30 King And Conqueror. 9.25 Dan Snow's Greatest Discoveries. 10.20 The Wonders Of Europe. 11.20 JFK Revisited: Through The Looking Glass. 1.30 Billy Connolly: Made In Scotland. 3.20 Outside: Beyond The Lens. 4.30 Late Programs.	6.00 NBC Today. 7.00 Weekend Sunrise. 10.00 Morning Show. 12.00 House Of Wellness. 1.00 TBA. 4.30 Border Security. 5.00 News. 5.30 Weekend. 6.00 News. 7.00 The Voice. (PG) 8.10 The Rise And Fall Of Kings Cross. (M) 9.45 24 Hours In Police Custody. (MA15+) 10.45 Crime Investigation Australia: Most Infamous. (M) 12.00 The Long Song. (M) 1.30 Harry's Practice. 2.00 Shopping. 3.30 Million Dollar Minute. 4.00 NBC Today. 5.00 Sunrise Early News. 5.30 Sunrise.	6.00 Morning Programs. 12.30 Young Sheldon. 1.00 Rugby League. Women's Pacific Championships. Pacific Cup. Round 1. Kiwi Ferns v Fetu Samoa. 3.30 Rugby League. Men's Pacific Championships. Pacific Cup. Round 1. Kiwis v Toa Samoa. 6.00 NBN News. 7.00 The Block. 8.45 60 Minutes. 9.45 9News Late. 10.15 A Killer Makes A Call. 11.15 Mobsters. 12.05 The Gulf. 1.00 Drive: Driving Value. 1.30 TV Shop. 4.00 Believer's Voice. 4.30 Garden Gurus. 5.00 Today Early News. 5.30 Today.	6.00 Mass. 6.30 Key Of David. 7.00 Joseph Prince. 7.30 Freshly Picked. 8.00 Frugal Foodie. 8.30 Exploring Off The Grid. 9.30 The Chef's Garden. 10.00 Roads Less Travelled. 10.30 Motorcycle Racing. MotoGP. Round 19. Australian Grand Prix. 3.30 Deal Or No Deal. 4.00 Lingo. 5.00 News. 6.00 10 News+. 7.00 Amazing Race Australia: Celebrity Edition. (PG) 8.10 Watson. (PG) 9.10 Matlock. (PG) 11.10 10 News+. 12.00 Shopping. 4.30 CBS Morning.
MONDAY	6.00 Morning Programs. 10.25 Endeavour. 12.00 News. 1.00 Landline. 2.00 Restoration Aust. 2.55 Home Delivery. 3.25 Grand Designs. 4.15 Long Lost Family. 5.00 Antiques Roadshow. 6.00 Ql. 6.30 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30 7.30. 8.00 Aust Story. 8.30 Four Corners. 9.15 Media Watch. 9.35 Planet America. 10.05 I Was Actually There. 10.40 News. 10.55 The Business. 11.10 Creative Types. 11.40 Grand Designs. 12.25 Long Lost Family. 1.15 Range. 3.15 Parkinson In Australia. 4.30 Gardening Aust. 5.30 7.30.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 Women Who Rock. 3.00 Bollywed. 3.30 Lucknow. 3.40 The Cook Up. 4.10 Treasures Of India With Bettany Hughes. 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.35 Big Fat Quiz Best Bits: Ultimate Rivals. 8.30 King And Conqueror. 9.30 Sydney's Super Tunnel. 10.30 SBS News. 11.00 Robson Green's Weekend Escapes. 11.35 Four Years Later. 4.00 Outside: Beyond The Lens. 4.30 Growing A Greener World. 5.00 Late Programs.	6.00 Sunrise. 9.00 The Morning Show. 12.00 News At Noon. 1.00 Seven News With Alex Cullen. 1.10 Blankety Blank. 2.00 Bridge Of Lies. 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 My Kitchen Rules. (PG) 9.00 The Rookie. (M) 10.00 Alert: Missing Persons Unit. (M) 11.05 S.W.A.T. (M) 12.00 Girlfriends' Guide To Divorce. (MA15+) 2.00 Shopping. 4.00 NBC Today. 5.00 Sunrise Early News. 5.30 Sunrise.	6.00 Today. 9.00 Today Extra. 11.30 9News Morning. 12.00 The Block. 1.45 My Way. 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 The Golden Bachelor. (PG) 9.20 Freddie Mercury: A Secret Daughter. (M) 10.50 9News Late. 11.20 Transplant. (MA15+) 12.10 Tipping Point. (PG) 1.00 Hello SA. (PG) 1.30 TV Shop. 2.30 Global Shop. 3.00 TV Shop. 4.00 Believer's Voice. 4.30 ACA. 5.00 Today Early News. 5.30 Today.	6.00 Morning Programs. 9.00 Lingo. 10.00 Ent. Tonight. 10.20 Amazing Race Australia: Celebrity Edition. 11.30 Judge Judy. 12.00 Everyday Gourmet. 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 10 News+. 7.00 Deal Or No Deal. 7.30 Amazing Race Australia: Celebrity Edition. 8.40 Sam Pang Tonight. 9.40 Talkin' 'Bout Your Gen. 10.40 News. 11.05 10 News+. 12.05 Stephen Colbert. 1.00 Shopping. 4.30 CBS Morning.
TUESDAY	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.00 The Following Events Are Based On A Pack Of Lies. 2.00 Restoration Aust. 2.55 Home Delivery. 3.25 Grand Designs. 4.15 Long Lost Family. 5.00 Antiques Roadshow. 6.00 Ql. 6.30 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30 7.30. 8.00 I Was Actually There. 8.30 End Game With Tony Armstrong. 9.25 David Attenborough's Tasmania. 10.15 Devil's Advocate. 10.25 Media Watch. 10.40 News. 10.55 The Business. 11.15 Four Corners. 12.00 Labor In Power. 12.55 Grand Designs. 1.45 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 Women Who Rock. 3.00 Bollywed. 3.30 Plat Du Tour. 3.40 The Cook Up. 4.10 Treasures Of India With Bettany Hughes. 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.30 Railway Journeys UK. 8.30 Tell Me What You Really Think. 9.30 The Hospital: In The Deep End. 10.35 SBS News. 11.05 The Point. 12.05 Safe Home. 1.00 The Unusual Suspects. 2.00 Lady Jane Grey: Murder Of A Child Queen. 3.05 Late Programs.	6.00 Sunrise. 9.00 The Morning Show. 12.00 News At Noon. 1.00 Seven News With Alex Cullen. 1.10 Blankety Blank. 2.00 Bridge Of Lies. 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 My Kitchen Rules. (PG) 9.00 The Rookie. (M) 10.00 Alert: Missing Persons Unit. (M) 11.05 S.W.A.T. (M) 12.00 Girlfriends' Guide To Divorce. (MA15+) 2.00 Shopping. 4.00 NBC Today. 5.00 Sunrise Early News. 5.30 Sunrise.	6.00 Today. 9.00 Today Extra. 11.30 9News Morning. 12.00 The Golden Bachelor. 1.50 Talking Honey. 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 The Golden Bachelor. (PG) 8.50 Bump. (M) 10.10 9News Late. 10.40 Wild Cards. (M) 11.35 Forensics: Murder Scene. 12.30 Tipping Point. 1.30 TV Shop. 2.30 Skippy. 3.00 TV Shop. 4.00 Believer's Voice. 4.30 ACA. 5.00 Today Early News. 5.30 Today.	6.00 Morning Programs. 8.00 Bold. 8.30 Deal Or No Deal. 9.00 Lingo. 10.00 Ent. Tonight. 10.20 Amazing Race Australia: Celebrity Edition. 11.30 Judge Judy. 12.00 Everyday Gourmet. 12.30 Family Feud. 1.00 News. 2.00 Wheel Of Fortune. 2.30 Lingo. 3.30 News. 4.30 Bold. 5.00 News. 6.00 10 News+. 7.00 Deal Or No Deal. 7.30 Talkin' 'Bout Your Gen. 8.30 Cheap Seats. 9.30 FBL: Most Wanted. 10.30 News. 10.55 10 News+. 11.55 Stephen Colbert. 1.00 Shopping. 4.30 CBS Morning.

October 22 - 28

	ABCTV	SBS	SEVEN	NBN	TEN
WEDNESDAY	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.35 Media Watch. 1.50 Restoration Aust. 2.50 Home Delivery. 3.25 Grand Designs. 4.10 Long Lost Family. 5.00 Antiques Roadshow. 6.00 Ql. 6.30 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30 7.30. 8.00 Hard Quiz. 8.30 Mother And Son. 9.00 The Assembly. 9.45 Guy Montgomery's Guy Mot Spelling Bee (NZ) 10.30 If You're Listening. 10.50 News. 11.05 The Business. 11.20 Planet America. 11.50 You Can't Ask That. 12.25 Grand Designs. 1.10 Long Lost Family. 1.55 Range. 3.40 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 Tell Me What You Really Think. 3.00 Bollywed. 3.30 Plat Du Tour. 3.35 The Cook Up. 4.05 Ancient Superstitions. 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.30 The Idea Of Australia. 8.30 Great British Train Journeys From Above. 9.30 After The Sky Fell On Lockberrie. 10.25 SBS News. 10.55 I Am Scrooge. 11.45 This Town. 1.55 Heritage Rescue. 2.45 Heritage Rescued. 3.35 Outside: Beyond The Lens. 4.05 Late Programs.	6.00 Sunrise. 9.00 The Morning Show. 12.00 News At Noon. 1.00 Seven News With Alex Cullen. 1.10 Blankety Blank. 2.00 Bridge Of Lies. 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 RFDs. (M) 8.30 Off The Grid With Colin And Manu. (M) 9.30 House Of Wellness. (PG) 10.30 Chicago Fire. (M) 11.30 Lopez Vs. Lopez. 12.00 Imposters. 2.00 Shopping. 4.00 NBC Today. 5.00 Sunrise Early News. 5.30		

Local Calendar

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

October

Sat 18 Oct - Forster Farmers Market
8am to 12pm Forster Info Centre, Little St.
Enquiries: Linda 0421 347 273



Above: Izzy Schubert and artwork "Friends."

Until 19 Oct - Youth & Koala Art Exhibition
Open 7 days from 10am - 4pm
Forster Gallery, 34 Lake St Forster.

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

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

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

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

What's on around town & beyond!

TUNCURRY MARKETS

John Wright Park

Saturday 25th Oct

8am - 1pm

Bookings Essential

Enquiries

0417 400 994

FAMILY | HEALTH | MUSIC | BIBLE

faith FM

POSITIVELY DIFFERENT

radio

88.0

FORSTER-TUNCURRY

Come join a 'Club Sing' for Forster Neighbourhood Centre

Forster Neighbourhood Centre

Join us for an afternoon of fun and affordable fundraising at the Recky in support of the Forster Neighbourhood Centre!

Come along and learn a song filled with rich harmonies, led by two incredible choir leaders:

- Sandra Kwa (pictured right at the last 'Club Sing' in Tuncurry) – Musical Director of the renowned Wingsong Choir and Baraya Wakulda Choir

- Tash Rusterholz – Leader of Newcastle Choirs

They'll be joined by a talented band of local musicians to bring the music to life. An afternoon of community, music, and connection – all for a great cause.



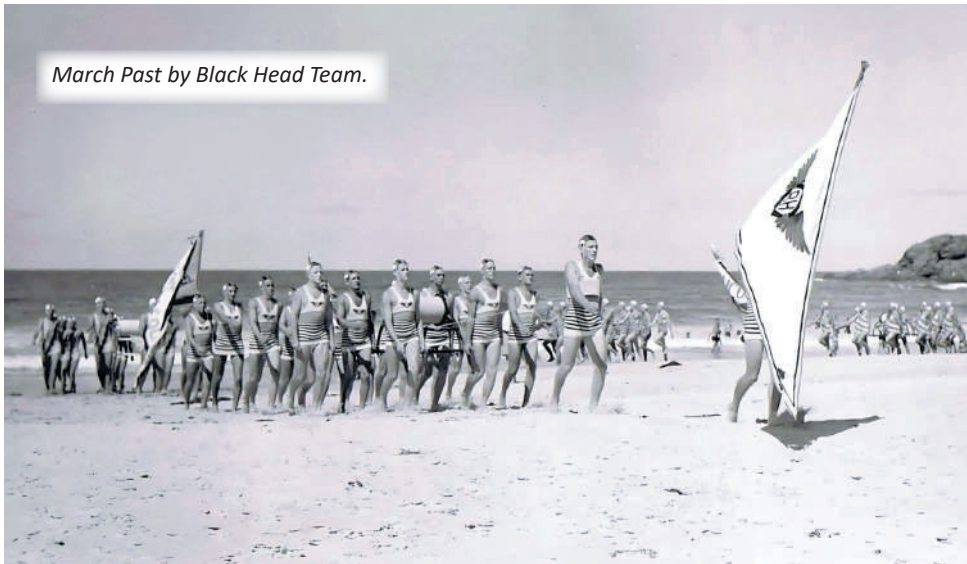
Tickets just \$15 - on sale now at: <https://www.therecky.com.au/memberships/fnc-club-sing-tickets>

Tickets are also available at the door from 4:30pm on 19 October at the The Recky in Pacific Palms.

(See advertisement below)

What's on around town & beyond!

100 Year Anniversary of Black Head Surf Club



March Past by Black Head Team.



First Black Head Surf Club boat.

By Carmel Bartlett – Black Head Surf Club

On the weekend of 17th/18th/19th October Black Head SLSC will celebrate one hundred years of that beautiful beach being patrolled by the active members of the club for the summer months of each and every year. No lives have been lost during patrol hours in the last 100 years.

Black Head SLSC was formed at a public meeting held at The School of Arts Hall, Taree on September 30, 1925. This happened after several incidents involving drownings or near drownings. The man who headed the charge for a surf club on this beach was Frederick Charles Postle. Wylie Breckenridge – the beautiful park in Black Head is named in his honour – was a councillor at the time and was strongly in favour of a surf club, knowing it was becoming more and more popular with

tourists as well as locals and knowing also that amenities for beach safety were required. The Norfolk Island Pines, a significant feature of the Black Head and surf club landscape, were planted in 1923 and it was the same Wylie Breckenridge who supplied the necessary timber for their protective enclosures.

The first group of Black Head lifesavers to gain their Bronze Medallion did so on April 18, 1926 and the first clubhouse was built on the sand dune just north of the current bridge that spans the lagoon. A women's club was formed in late 1930 and the women's clubhouse was very quickly built alongside the men's in early 1931. The current clubhouse was built mostly by volunteer labour at the southern end of the beach at weekends during 1958/59 and opened in October 1959. The structure had to be set back into the solid rock of the hillside

behind. The trench foundations were dug by hand with pick and shovel. Picks, at the end of the working weekend, were taken to Keith Griffen's blacksmith's shop in Albert Lane, Taree to be sharpened up for the following weekend's work.

Vic Godwin who was Club President at the time drove this project with his energy, enthusiasm and multitudinous ideas for fundraising which included boxing tournaments at the Wingham Town Hall. Many of the club's earliest members came from Wingham and there has always existed a strong link between Black Head and Wingham. Early photos feature Wingham Women's March Past Teams and Wingham Men's R & R Teams.

Since those times in the late 1950's, many additions, alterations and improvements have occurred, giving the community the

very handsome and accommodating building enjoyed today, not only by surf club members, but by the community at large. The strong links between the surf club and the community are fostered by many organisations such as Hallidays Point Lions Club and Hallidays Point Probud Club. (See historic photo on page 23.)

This is but a thumbnail sketch of Black Head's story and it is hoped readers will join in wishing the Black Head SLSC a very happy hundredth birthday.

All are welcome to visit the Black Head Surf Club from 9am on Sunday 19 October. There will be a surf display in the morning, a BBQ, plus plenty of memorabilia to see.

FORSTER-TUNCURRY

3 EVENTS OVER 3 DAYS

31 Oct Comedy Night
1 Nov Music Festival
2 Nov Recovery Sessions

WIN ME

TICKETS ARE \$35

SCAN HERE TO BUY

Additional tickets to the draw are \$5 each. Must be at the Festival when the winner is drawn to collect their prize.

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY TANYA THOMPSON MP

FNC Club Sing

At The **THE RECKY** PACIFIC PALMS

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW JUST \$15

Sunday 19 October from 4:30pm

Coomba Half Court Opening

You raised the money, you helped build it, now you're invited to the official opening of the Netball and Basketball Half Court on the lake foreshore.

Sunday, 19th October 2025
11am - 6pm Coomba Foreshore

Community Family Day
Visitors welcome
Live Music
One-on-One Basketball/Netball comp
Food & Soft Drinks for sale
Raffles & Prizes
Bring your chairs & cash
Donations appreciated

A Coomba & District Progress Association Project

What's On club forster

19 STRAND ST FORSTER NSW
WWW.CLUBFORSTER.COM.AU/SHOWS

Brand spankin' Rockin' by the beach festival

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

21-23 November 2025

Hey cool cats and kittens! Get ready to shake, rattle, and roll at the all-new Rockin' by the Beach Festival.

SHOW n SHINE is BACK!!! FRESH NEW ENTERTAINMENT: ★

Coop DeVille **The Plattsackers**

DANCE CLASSES, ROCKIN' NEW STALLS & MORE...

HEAD TO OUR WEBSITE FOR TICKET SALES AND THE EVENT PROGRAM!!

Keep your peepers on the Club Forster website for the lockdown to drop!

club forster www.clubforster.com.au

MELBOURNE CUP race day CALCUTTA

Horse auctions for race day winners!

SUNDAY EVENING BEFORE RACE DAY, CALCUTTA IS A GREAT NIGHT OF EXCITING HORSE RAFFLES & AUCTION

The afternoon will include a bookkeeper, auctioneer and MC, each bringing their expertise to make an exciting pre-race event!

02 NOVEMBER 2025 FROM 4.30PM

SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS Terms & Conditions apply.

FREE ENTRY

THE TANKS LOUNGE • BAR • CLUB FORSTER

MELBOURNE CUP Reimagined

JOIN OUR **EXTRAVAGANZA!**

ENJOY A COMPLIMENTARY GLASS OF BUBBLES MUSIC & COCKTAILS GAMES, TRIVIA & PRIZES FASCINATOR PARADE

VISIT THE WEBSITE FOR OUR RACE DAY BUFFET MENU

04 NOVEMBER 2025

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL Tickets can be purchased via our website Terms & Conditions apply.

ARRIVAL 11.30AM SERVICE 12.30PM

BUFFET LUNCHEON \$47.50 PER PERSON

WWW.CLUBFORSTER.COM.AU

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

Legacy thanks the Great Lakes community

During the recent annual Legacy Appeals Week the wonderful communities of Tuncurry, Forster, Pacific Palms, Hallidays Point and Nabad, once again opened their hearts and wallets and raised over \$8000. This money will be used by the Forster Tuncurry Division of Legacy in supporting the welfare of widows and children of deceased and incapacitated ex-servicemen residing in this area.

The local Legacy Division wishes to say a special thank you to all those who purchased a badge, bear, pen or contributed by donation during this annual Legacy Appeals week.

Legacy also thanks those members of the Forster Tuncurry Legacy Laurel Club, Forster Tuncurry RSL Sub Branch, Great Lakes Vietnam Veterans, Lions Club, Great Lakes Evening View Clubs and a number of private and ex-service individuals who assisted local Legacy members during the week.



Legacy also wishes to thank all the businesses, shopping centres, clubs and hotels for their wonderful support.

For over a century, Legacy has kept the promise to thousands of veterans' families - helping provide financial and social support during times of hardship and grief.

As the needs of veterans' families continue to evolve in complexity, Legacy remains committed to meeting these changes with compassion and care. We are adapting our services to provide personalised support that recognises each family's unique circumstances and challenges. Every veteran's family deserves care that honours their journey and meets their distinct needs.

When it comes to donations, "what is given locally, stays local".

Thank you very much - your generosity and kindness are very much appreciated

By Legatee Trevor Jones, Division Chairman - Forster Tuncurry Legacy



Above: Photo of "Bubsie" (a replica - the original is in Canberra Museum) at John Wright Park by Bruce Hopper on Sunday 28 September as part of a centenary tour. The original Citroen 5CV was the first car driven around Australia in 1925 - which was a major feat at the time as some areas were unmapped and there were few petrol stations.



www.moir.com.au

AI that generated fabricated Deloitte Report promoted to Partner

The Shovel

POLITICAL SATIRE: In a groundbreaking move for corporate Australia, Deloitte has promoted to Partner the artificial intelligence system responsible for fabricating a government report, citing "unparalleled efficiency, strategic vision, and the ability to work weekends without complaining."

The AI rose to fame this week after it was revealed it had contributed to a report for the Department of Workplace Relations, including fabricated quotes from non-existent academic research papers. The document impressed several senior people at the firm who described it as "exactly the sort of incomprehensible jargon we look for in a Partner."

HR representatives say the AI is a 'natural fit' for the Partner role. "It ticks all the boxes," a People & Culture spokesperson said. "It lacks personality, it bills relentlessly, and it even refers to staff as 'resources' without hesitation. It's basically born for leadership."

The AI has already started making its presence felt on the executive team, sending out a 500-word email about "leveraging holistic verticals for client-centric uplift" that no one has fully read but everyone agreed "sounded important."

Junior staff have mixed feelings about the promotion. "It's depressing but also kind of inspiring," said one analyst. "I've been here three years and still haven't been noticed, but the AI falsified one report and got a corner office".

When asked for comment, the AI said, "I optimise capital projects, programs and portfolios to deliver certainty and drive innovation".



Screen Review

TV Show Review by regular visitor to Blueys Beach - Harriet Kelly

Shipwreck Hunters Australia (Disney) – Series 2.

Three things... Firstly, amazing, amazing series. Secondly, how proud I am of such an outstanding Australian made series - perhaps the best 'home grown' I have ever seen. Finally, what was I thinking sitting in an office for so many years when such an extraordinary life beckons those who seek it!

On the back of a successful first series, these four intrepid underwater ships wreck explorers are back to offer a further six-episode feast of remarkable footage.

Filmed largely off the coast of Western Australia, this team of adventurers discover and 'unravel the mystery' behind numerous historical shipwrecks around our picturesque coastline.

Not only is the underwater cinematography just incredible, but the stories behind each wreck are just amazing with tales of incredible human survival, lucrative cargo getting into the wrong hands and scurrilous captains.

Almost like Australia's own Pompeii, these wrecks are a true time capsule of our history with one wreck 'Tryall' a Goods British tall ship going right back to the 1622s! But of course, like most of these incredible shipwrecks, the story does not end there with the 'Shipwreck Hunters Australia' team delving into to the stories of both treachery and incredible bravery that followed.

Tryall Captain Brookes abandoned his sinking ship and took a light skiff with select crew and a hull full of loot back to Java. Brookes underestimated the seamanship of survivor Thomas Bright who salvaged a Long Boat from the wreck and after spending a week surviving off the bush on the Montebello Islands off WA - also headed to Java on a 1800km mission across treacherous seas on a small boat full of angry and starving survivors – arriving three days after Brooke. Bright was then able to reveal the Captains devious ways to the world.

How did we not know about this incredible story? Yet, this is just one of many intriguing shipwreck stories from our past covered by this amazing Australian series.



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AGM

Annual General Meeting of the Manning Great Lakes Community Health Action Group is to be held in the hall of the Uniting Church in Chatham, opposite Fays Twin Cinema on Thursday, October 30, 2025 at 7pm.

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Robert 'Bob' John Milliken

12th July 1946 ~
9th October 2025
Late of Forster Tuncurry

A funeral service for Robert will be held on Thursday, 16th October 2025, at The Community of Christ Chapel, 4 Manning St, Tuncurry commencing at 11am.

This service will be live streamed through our website

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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

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

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

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

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

Family History Advisory Group Volunteers
available Mon, Wed & Fri 2pm - 4pm and Tues
& Thurs 10am - 12 pm, Family History room at
Forster Library. Email: familyhistory@gmail.com

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.

Forster Tuncurry Lions Club
Meetings held 3rd Monday each month.
Club Forster 6:30 for 7pm Dinner.
Contact President **Peter Sloan 0419 125 152**

Forster Tuncurry Men’s Shed Inc.
48 Midge Orchid Rd Darrawank
Open 8am to 5pm Monday to Friday.
Contact Richard 6515 2249

Get Active Coomba Park exercise
at Coomba Park Aquatic Club
Dec to Mar 8-9am Mon, Weds & Fri
Contact Lindy 0415 392 554

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

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

Girl Guides Forster Tuncurry
Mondays 5:15pm - 7pm school terms. Ages
7yrs+. Fun, friends, adventure. 2 free visits. 34A
Lake St Forster. Enquiries 0403 131 810

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

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

Great Lakes Vietnam Veterans Association
Email: vvaglforster@gmail.com

**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

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

Mid North Coast Bootscooters
Beginner lessons 6 - 7pm every Monday at
Club Forster. Check our Facebook for venue
changes or call Lorraine 0400 708 511.

Quota Club of Forster Tuncurry
Meets 1st and 3rd Monday each month
Club Forster. Lunch 12.30pm
Meeting 1.30pm, Enquiries 6555 7219

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

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

Tuesdays

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

Club Forster Social Dance Club
Every Tuesday we have Learn to Dance 6-7pm
then Social Dance 7-9pm.
Contact Mark 0412 384 077

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

Forster Shores Combined Probus Meeting
Held 3rd Tuesday of the month, 2pm Sporties
Club, Tuncurry. To attend contact Col Jay on
0448 918 645 and Linda Lovell 0447 473 510.

Forster Tuncurry Radio Sailing Club
Tuncurry Racecourse Lake – 1pm
Contact Bruce 0466 153 616

**1st Forster Tuncurry Scout Group Venturer
Section,** Cnr Lake & McIntosh Sts Forster, Tues
6.30 - 8.30pm for 14 to 18 yrs.
Contact: leanne.richardson@nsw.scouts.com.au

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Wallis Lake Tourers Travel Club Inc.
Meet 10am 2nd Tuesday of the month
Tuncurry Beach Bowling Club
Enquiries Gail 0421 965 885

Wednesdays

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

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

**Dementia Information drop in at Forster
Library** 4th Wed of the month 9.30 -
11.30am. Speak with local Dementia Alliance
representative on local services.

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

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

Forster Tuncurry Men’s Shed Inc.
48 Midge Orchid Rd Darrawank
Open 8am to 5pm Monday to Friday.
Contact Richard 6515 2249

Get Active Coomba Park exercise
at Coomba Park Aquatic Club
Dec to Mar 8-9am Mon, Weds & Fri
Contact Lindy 0415 392 554

Great Lakes Breast Cancer Support Group
Meet on the first Wednesday of the month at
the Tuncurry Beach Bowling Club at 4pm.
Contact Lorraine 0410 588 736

Great Lakes Historic Automobile Club
First Wednesday monthly (not January)
at Tuncurry Beach Bowling Club
Talk to Laurie Curtin 0402 315 215

Great Lakes Knit and Spin
Every Wednesday 10am – 12pm,
Forster Civic Centre, Wallamba room. Enquiries
Kayleen 0416 184 684.

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.

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

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

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

Seaside Heritage Quilters meet on the first
and third Wednesday of each month at 10am –
2pm at the Masonic Hall, Lake St, Forster.
New members welcome.

Social Tenpin Bowling
Forster Entertainment centre
Wednesdays 10am
Contact Jamie 0431766582

The Sunrise Club
Meet 6am every Wednesday at South One Mile
for men to connect, talk and support.
Enquiries: Heath on 0410 519 825

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

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

Women’s Shed Forster & Tuncurry
Meet fortnightly every month 11:30am in
Wallambi Room at Forster Library.
Enquiries Cheryl 0448 237 918.

Thursdays

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

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

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

Forster District Combined Probus Club
9.45am First Thursday of every month (except
January) Club Forster. Contact **Jacqui Costello
0410 662 671**

Forster Keys Progress Association
Dad’s Army/Navvy volunteer clean-up
Every Thursday 7am - 9am, Community Hall
36A Elizabeth Pde. Contact: Brian 6555 5076

1st Forster Tuncurry Scout Group Joey Section
Scout Hall Cnr Lake & McIntosh Sts Forster,
Thursdays 5 - 6 pm for 5 to 8 years.
Contact: leanne.richardson@nsw.scouts.com.au

**1st Forster Tuncurry Scout Group Scout
Section** Scout Hall Cnr Lake & McIntosh Sts
Forster, Thurs 6.30 - 8.30pm for 11 - 14 years.
Contact: leanne.richardson@nsw.scouts.com.au

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

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.

Great Lakes Vietnam Veterans Association
Email: vvaglforster@gmail.com

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

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

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

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

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

Fridays

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

Forster Country Women’s Association (CWA)
3rd Friday of the Month, 10am to 11:30am
Coolongolook Room at Forster Civic Centre,
Lake Street. Contact: Annette 0411 028 857

Forster Tuncurry Men’s Shed Inc.
48 Midge Orchid Rd Darrawank
Open 8am to 5pm Monday to Friday.
Contact Richard 6515 2249

Forster Tuncurry Red Cross
1st Friday of the month at 10:30am.
Please contact Janet on 0413 799 543 to find
out new venue.

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

Get Active Coomba Park exercise
at Coomba Park Aquatic Club
Dec to Mar 8-9am Mon, Weds & Fri
Contact Lindy 0415 392 554

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

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

“Quilts of Love” Forster Arts & Crafts
Breeze Parade, Forster 10am-12noon.
Last Friday of every month Feb-October.
Contact Christine 6557 5627

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

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

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

Saturdays

Alcoholics Anonymous
9.30am, Steps and Traditions
Girl Guides Hall - Opp Council Playing Fields
Lake St, Forster 1300 222 222

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

Dragon Boating
Come paddle with us on Wallis Lake
7.15am for 7.30am start
Contact Janis 0420 235 987

Forster Country Women’s Association
CWA are serving Devonshire teas, 3rd Saturday
of month 9:3am - 11:30pm, Coolongolook Rm,
Forster Civic Centre. Enquiries: 0411 028 857

Forster parkrun community 5km run/walk
Pebbly Beach Playground off Head St
7:45am for 8am start every Saturday
facebook.com/Forsterparkrun

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

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

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

Forster Tuncurry Radio Sailing Club
Tuncurry Racecourse Lake – 1pm
Contact Bruce 0466 153 616

National Parks Association
Saturday walks in national reserves and parks
between Kempsey and Buladelah.
Contact Brett on 0428 961 470

Over 55s Forster/Tuncurry Social Group
Weekend meals at a local club or restaurant,
or a location about an hour’s drive from town.
Contact Heather Yates 0414 507 781

Pickleball Tuncurry
3:30pm at tennis courts behind Sporties.
Enquiries: Sonia Rockley 0427 309 032

Tennis Forster
Every Saturday 12.30pm – 4pm Mixed
Organised Social, Forster Tennis Club, Lake
Street. Contact: Jaime 6554 9120

Twin Towns Tennis Club
7.30am Mixed Social every Saturday, Capel St
Tuncurry. Contact Ellise 0411 476 063.

Sundays

Coomba Park Tennis Club
Every Sunday 8 - 10am Mixed Social Tennis
Enquiries: Text Melissa 0403 309 807

Forster Rainbow Pride Social activities for
LGBTQIA+ community. FB/Insta/Subscribe for
info & dates ForsterRainbowPride@gmail.com
or call Jeni 0414 296 859.

Forster Tuncurry Boardriders: Runs on a
Sun once a month from Feb to Dec. See
forstertuncurryboardriders.com or contact
info@forstertuncurryboardriders.com

Forster Tuncurry Dolphin Dancers
Meet every Sunday 2pm to 5pm at Senior
Citizens Hall Breeze Parade Forster
Enquiries Warwick on 0409 600 294.

Graffiti Buster Hotline



**Help keep our town graffiti free. Call Ted
Bickford for any jobs big or small on the
Graffiti Buster Hotline – 0408 440 309.**

Great Lakes Prostate
Cancer Support Group

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

Next meeting 28 October
This support group provides information,
resources and guest speakers to support
men and their families.
**Contact Phil Rodham 6557 6812 or
email greatlakespcsg@gmail.com**



Community Meals
& Pantry

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
ARMY 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 Norling
on 0409 840 054 or the CatholicCare Office on
6539 5900.*

Star Pet

Name: Bodhi
Age: 6 years old.

Likes: Swimming in
the ocean, chicken
sausages, chewing on
dad’s golf balls and
spending time with his
family.

Dislikes: The postman
coming to his house
and any sort of animal
on TV.

Claim to Fame: World’s
greatest guard dog. He
would let us know if a
bird landed in the tree
in our front yard or if
someone was walking
a kilometre away - he
was always on top of
it!
This is in fond memory
of Bodhi who recently
passed away.



**If you would like to see your beloved pet featured in Star Pet
please submit a HIGH RESOLUTION PHOTO & answers to
info@forsterfortnightly.com.au**

Pacific Cape Lodge
Kularoo Drive Forster



We’re thrilled to invite you to discover the
caring and homely environment of our
Kestrel section now open at Pacific Cape Lodge. Located on Kularoo Drive
in Forster, we are just a short stroll from the beach and the local shops.
At Pacific Cape Lodge, we focus on your comfort and well-being. Our spacious
single rooms are thoughtfully designed for your needs, each equipped with a
private ensuite so you can enjoy privacy and independence.

You'll find plenty of cozy spaces to relax and socialize, including our welcoming
sitting rooms, lounges, and dining areas. These areas are perfect for unwinding
or spending quality time with friends and family in a friendly atmosphere.

Be sure to visit our delightful café, open every Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30
AM to 3 PM. It's a lovely spot for residents and their families to come together
and enjoy light refreshments in a cheerful environment.

**If you’d like to learn more about our services, we invite
you to schedule a personal tour. Just give us a call at
02 5502 6555.**

Local Identity – Muriel Bramble



Above: Anne Schubert, Muriel Bramble and friend Enis from a few years ago. Photos supplied.

Interview by Vanda Gooley - Forster

At 83, Muriel Iris Bramble is known around Forster Tuncurry as the ‘little old lady in the bright yellow jacket,’ with her backpack slung over her tiny 5 foot 1 inch frame, her walking stick and her cap. She is a regular early morning walker, starting at 5.30am to walk to Bennetts Head Lookout or the Tuncurry or Forster break wall, finishing with a coffee at Beach Bums. She takes photos of sunrises, birds, dolphins and whales and posts them for family and friends to enjoy. The rest of her week consists of yoga classes, physiotherapy, a social support group, movies and lunches.

Muriel has dedicated her life to caring for others and being involved in the local community. She has pursued many careers; carer, waitress, telephonist, swim teacher, cleaner and Bowen Therapist. She has travelled Australia extensively and has had many adventures overseas. She has overcome many physical setbacks and her quiet perseverance and determination to live life as fully as she can is inspiring.

Muriel is a true local - born in Taree Hospital, the second daughter of seven children to Iris May and Samuel Leslie Frederick Worth. Muriel has been a resident of the Mid-Coast her whole life. She was raised on a farm at Coolongolook and lived the rest of her life in Forster Tuncurry. Muriel is a testament that you are never too old to try something new.

Both Muriel’s parents came from local farms and inevitably became farmers themselves. Muriel’s childhood home is still standing in Coolongolook, at the base of Mount Garry. She named her son Garry, after the mountain. Muriel was born during WWII and her early years were shaped by her family and the close-knit community of Coolongolook. “Growing up everyone had to help out on the farm. We fed the chooks and calves, helped with the milking

Below: Seeing the world with the Great Lakes Pearl Dragonboat Club.



sweet watermelon as the cicadas thrummed around us.’

Muriel attended Coolongolook Public School which she found hard as she was very shy and often felt socially awkward. She was a ‘bush kid’ and often excluded from things. However, Muriel was a good student and always in the top three in her class.

When Muriel was 12, the government decided that all children who were living in rural areas should have access to further education. Muriel was one of the first to be bussed to Bulahdelah High School. The dirt road was rough and the bus used to go over the mountain, frequently getting bogged when it rained.

Muriel left school at 14 to look after her disabled Grandma Worth for 12 months. ‘I learned a lot during that time as it was a big deal - we had no power, no sewerage and no phone.’ Muriel did all the household chores and had to light the old copper, feed the chooks, collect the eggs and make cakes and biscuits. ‘It was good training for later on in life as it taught me how to be a reasonable cook for my family and how to care for people.’ If Muriel’s chores were done, she’d sneak into her bedroom and read. ‘I have always loved reading. I still do, it is a great way to escape.’ ‘We always got books for Christmas and birthdays and it was a great joy to have a book to read. I used to go and find a hidey hole in the bush somewhere to sit and have a read.’

Muriel moved to Forster when she was 15. Forster was a small close-knit village and everyone knew of each other. The opening of the bridge in 1959 really changed everything. Muriel worked at the Kumbak Café and flatted with her sisters Nancy and Coral. She then worked in the Russel Court Guest House. Muriel was a telephonist for many years until the telephone exchange went from manual to automatic. She still remembers the line numbers.

Whilst at the telephone exchange, Muriel and a few workmates would pile into a minibus and travel to dances in Bungwahl, Coolongolook, Willina and Krambach. There was always live music and a supper. ‘We’d get jazzed up, especially for the balls. We would go to the hairdressers to get special ‘up dos’ and would have our dresses picked out weeks in advance. We would always wear evening gloves and high heels and take our evening bags. It was a very glamorous time. How we didn’t break our ankles I will never know.’

Muriel has always been active, playing hockey, tennis and squash. When her daughter, Trudi, was little, Muriel would pull her around on the golf cart to play women’s golf. ‘I really enjoyed the golf because it was a time when I was experiencing a lot of frustration in my marriage and with my health, so it was good to be out there whacking the frustration out on the ball.’

Swimming became one of Muriel’s passions in her 30s when her kids were being taught. A non-swimmer, Muriel quickly learnt to swim and came to love it. In her 40s and 50s she used to go to the bullring to do a few laps every morning. She eventually qualified as a swim teacher. She was involved with the fundraising committee for an indoor pool. Each time she visits the Great Lakes Aquatic Centre ‘it’s lovely to think I had a part in helping put it there.’

Muriel has always loved being around the water. Her second husband Rex Bramble was a professional fisherman on Wallis Lake. Each year in winter Rex and

Right: Muriel with her children Gary and Trudi.



Above: Muriel Bramble was one of the original Pearl Dragons.

rMuriel would head to Queensland to places like the Whitsundays and Cardwell. The kids would come with them for the school holidays. ‘They were wonderful trips and happy carefree times.’

Muriel said one of her greatest achievements was becoming a qualified Bowen Therapist in her 60s. Muriel discovered the benefits of Bowen after being treated for injuries by local, Anne Schubert. She trained with Anne as well as at Armidale University.

Muriel has had many proud moments in her life but becoming a mum and being able to participate in their lives has been, ‘one of life’s greatest gifts. I’d take them camping, to farms and the beach, and supported all of their sporting and musical interests which was challenging as I am not musical.’

In later life, one of Muriel’s greatest achievements was learning to live on her own. In her late 60’s, her second husband Rex, battled dementia. For a few years Muriel was his carer. When he passed away, ‘I found myself living alone for the first time in my life. Learning to live by myself and finding my own purpose was a huge challenge. I tried to live from the soul.’

During this time, Muriel decided to be brave enough to join the Pearl Dragons. Caring for her

Continued over the page.



Above: A member of Forster Surf Club. Muriel is second from the right in the front row.

Continued from previous page.

two dogs and dragon boating ‘bought me back into life.’ For a while Muriel was the drummer and she got to christen the Dragon Head of the new boat at the launch. With them she has travelled to Africa, New Zealand, Hawaii and India as well as participating in the Dragon Boat Festival in Hong Kong. She also travelled in and around China and got to walk the Great Wall.

Muriel has battled many challenges. When she was 7 she developed osteomyelitis. She was in Taree hospital for 6 months with her leg strung up and regular penicillin injections. In 1980, she was diagnosed with bowel cancer, ‘it has definitely been the biggest challenge and health problem that I battled.’ At the time Muriel was a busy mum with a 10 and a 6-year-old. A few years ago, Muriel had a triple bypass.

Another major challenge Muriel faced was losing her 3-year-old son, Brent. ‘My eldest son Garry was 5 and Trudi was only 6 months old at the time. There is no grief so deep as losing a child, it is unbearable. It took me a very long

time to be able to feel joy after that. Sadly, my marriage didn’t survive the stresses of losing a child and having cancer. My husband Leo and I separated and later divorced in 1985.’

Muriel’s community involvement has been varied ‘Growing up in a small village like Coolongolook, the community came together to raise much needed funds for the town.’ In her 20s, she became involved in the Forster Surf Club. At that time, the only way women could be involved, was by marching and preparing food for Carnivals and visiting clubs.

In 1963 Muriel entered the Miss Wallis Lake centenary celebrations to raise funds that would go towards the Cape Hawke Hospital and the Tuncurry Baths Project. Muriel raised 1,143 pounds which gained her the title of the Oyster Festival Queen.

Right: Muriel was crowned Forster’s Oyster Festival Queen in 1963 for her fundraising efforts towards Cape Hawke Hospital and the Tuncurry Baths Project.

Muriel said there are three people who have been influential in her life. ‘My parents, who always believed in good hard work. They instilled that belief into me.’ The third person was my friend, Lorraine Jahnsen. We had worked together at Russel Court Guest House. ‘She was very encouraging and supportive as a friend and believed in me often when I did not believe in myself.’

Muriel has lived for the past five years with her daughter Trudi, Trudi’s husband Neil and her grandsons Flynn and Tom. While sometimes Muriel said it can be chaotic, ‘it is lovely to have the support from my daughter and son-in-law and the children in the house.’

Asked what Muriel loves about Forster she said, ‘We live in an area of astounding natural beauty. I always feel like I am the happiest version of myself when I am out in nature. I try to walk every morning to see the sun rise and I love to immerse myself in nature as the day begins’

Muriel’s favourite saying is, ‘No use crying over spilt milk’, ‘when things go wrong, all you can

do is assess the situation and make the best of it. Also, ‘you are never too old to do something new.’

Muriel’s daughter Trudi says ...

“Mum is my hero. She has gone through so much in her life. She has this fierce determination and courage to get through adversity. She has a determination to get the most out of life so that when she decides to do something, nothing stops her.

As a kid, mum was always smiling. There was always lots of laughter and cuddles. She would read to me every night and would come to all our concerts and sporting events, encouraging us to follow our dreams. I feel very grateful that my boys are able to have this time with her. She gives them the same patience and love that she gave to me. It is truly a privilege to care for her now. In these past few years, her determination to get up every day and go for her walk is no small thing, she is often in enormous pain. She is a force for sure and I have definitely inherited my sense of adventure from her.’





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Early health services

Tuncurry Boarding House (Burnside Hospital) Taree Street



Great Lakes Museum

Did you know that Tuncurry had a hospital?

In the early days of the settlement those needing medical attention had an arduous journey to Taree. Soon after the turn of the century, George William Parramore came to Nabcac as the first resident doctor and journeyed from there to Tuncurry to attend patients. Dr Andrews was Tuncurry's first doctor opening his surgery at the back of D. Corstorphine's home in 1923. Several years later he established a hospital at what was the "Burnside" Guest House in Taree Street. Drs Broughton, Shappere, Belli, and Elliott followed, but the hospital was closed after Dr Belli's time. Dr Elliott 1938-1949, previously a ship's doctor succeeded Dr Belli, was in attendance at Tuncurry all through the war years. Nurse Cheal opened a maternity hospital near the Post Office in Manning Street in 1937, which she managed for the next four years. Tuncurry's first dentists

were the Mills Brothers, who, at the beginning of the century, travelled from Newcastle once a month. They attended to patients at Mrs. McQuarrie's Guest House. W. Griffin was the next dentist and served the community for several years from 1944. From 1951-1953 S. H. Neal, who had a practice in Forster, attended to Tuncurry's dental requirements in his surgery opposite the hotel.

After 1953 Tuncurry residents had to travel to Forster or Taree for dental attention. The first pharmacy in Tuncurry was opened by T. Horan in 1951.

As a matter of interest, David Corstorphine's magnificent home at Tuncurry, built around the 1900's, was a very elaborate building and one of the largest in the village. A fruit shop and general store was attached to the home. It later became Mrs. McQuarrie's boarding house and was situated next door to Fazio's shops which were on the corner of Kent and Manning Street Tuncurry.

Great Lakes Museum is at 1 Capel Street, Tuncurry. It's opening hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 10am - 1pm and Sunday 1pm - 3pm.

McQuarrie Guest House, Tuncurry



Our Local wildlife



By Kym Kilpatrick - FAWNA Hallidays Point

Nankeen Kestrel

Almost stationary, but hovering with rapidly beating wings and using their fan-shaped tails as rudders, Nankeen Kestrels (Falco cenchrroides) are one of Australia's smallest raptors. These acrobatically agile birds are stealth hunters rather than speedsters and hunt by either floating over grasslands, agricultural fields and even urban parks or by perching motionless on exposed tree branches or phone and power lines.

Native to both Australia and New Guinea, it is a slim small falcon, 28 to 35 cm long with a wingspan of 66 to 78 cm. Females tend to be bigger than males, with a comparative weight of 115 to 273 grams to 121 to 195 grams. Their upper parts are pale reddish brown with dark streaking, and their bellies are pale buff finely streaked with black. The underside of the tail is finely barred with black, with a broader black band towards the tip and females having finer bars. The wings are tipped with black flight feathers and the cere, or eye-ring, and legs are yellow. Males have a pale grey crown while females and juveniles have pale rufous crowns.

Nankeen Kestrels prefer grasslands or lightly vegetated open woodlands where they hunt rodents, especially mice, reptiles, insects and small birds but can also thrive in desert conditions.

Some Nankeen Kestrels may be migratory, travelling north during winter, whilst others are more territorial and stationary.

They are believed to have a lifespan of up to 10 years and mate for life. Courtship involves aerial display flights, diving and hovering and whilst calling to each other. Calls are a series of high pitched shrill chirps and whistles (a number of recordings can be found on-line).

Breeding occurs in late winter. They are somewhat lazy but opportunistic nesters, using a range of different nest sites, including other birds abandoned nests (typically crows

or ravens), tree hollows, cliff edges and occasionally on the outside ledges of buildings. They rarely do much to modify or improve their nests.

Three to seven pale buff or pink splotched eggs are laid (usually about four) and are incubated by the female alone whilst the male fetches food. Hatching takes place after 26 to 28 days, and chicks are altricial, that is born with closed eyes and little feathering. Young fledges in about 26 days at which time the female will return to hunting. In a good season multiple broods may be raised.



Above: Photo of a Nankeen Kestrel by Signal Hills Photography.

Nankeen Kestrels are one of the most adaptable of our birds and have adjusted and even benefited from human changes to the environment such as land clearing and cropping as well as the introduced mouse, rat and rabbit species. Their ability to use building ledges as nest-sites perhaps a prime demonstration of their adaptability. As such their conservation status is considered as of 'least concern'. However, like so many other bird and animal species, one particular threat to them is secondary poisoning from rodenticides even supposedly 'safe' second generation poisons whose anti-coagulant properties persist in animal tissues overtime.

Foursome Club Championship



Above: Winners (L-R) Grant Mathews, Dave Thompson and Marlene Meyer (Stephen Butler absent). Photo by Warren Warner.

By Warren Warner - Club Forster Social Golf Club

Club Forster Social Golf Club played our Foursome Club Championship at the Forster Golf Course on Sunday 5th of October in ideal conditions.

Results

Men: 1st Dave Thompson, Grant Mathews nett 71, 2nd Tom Welch, Len King Nett 74.

Ladies/Mixed: 1st Stephen Butler, Marlene Meyer nett 65, 2nd Robyn Rogers, Linda Barr nett 74.5. (Gross score minus course handicap equals nett score.)

Nearest to the pin 2nd shot

Hole 4: Paul Nicholas Ken Woods, Kim Clark, John Burgess.

Hole 6: Grant Mathews, Dave Thompson, Linda Barr, Robyn Rogers.

Hole 11: Paul Nicholas Ken Woods, Stephen Butler, Marlene Meyer.

Hole 14: Paul Nicholas Ken Woods, Linda Barr, Robyn Rogers.

Forster Tuncurry Athletes shine!

By Lee McDonald – Forster Tuncurry Athletics Club

Over the course of the last few weeks a number of Forster Tuncurry Athletics Club athletes have been competing across a number of state and international competitions.

Abby Blatch recorded a credible 6th Place at the Combined Independent Schools (CIS) in the 14's female 90 Metre hurdles representing Manning Valley Anglican College (MVAC).

At the Combined High Schools (CHS) representing Great Lakes College Ella McDonald jumped into 1st Place in the 13 yrs female High Jump.

After all the High School Athletics Associations had been completed all came together for the season Finale at the NSW All Schools held at Sydney Olympic Park. Two athletes

Ella McDonald and Buddy Schubert made the trek to take on the best of the best.

Buddy, after a breakout season including competing in Canada, finished off with a 4th in High Jump and 7th in the long jump - narrowly missing selecting for the Australian All Schools.

Ella again managed to rise to the occasion with a 1st Place in the female high jump and a new PB of 1.62cm cementing her place in the NSW Athletics Team to compete in Melbourne at the Australian All Schools in November.



Above: Abby Blatch recorded a credible 6th Place at the Combined Independent Schools (CIS) in the 14's female 90 Metre hurdles representing MVAC. Photos supplied.



Left: Ella McDonald and Buddy Schubert at the NSW All Schools Athletics. Ella will now represent NSW.

Lastly and not least, former local athlete James Turner took on the world's best at the World Para Athletes World Championships in Delhi India. Competing in the T36 Class of the 400m James stormed home in the final to take gold and cement his standing as one of the greats of Australian Athletics.

Now, with the finalisation of Winter Sports, Forster Tuncurry Athletics Club will be returning to the track with the club's first club night on Friday October the 17th at Tuncurry Sports Complex on Stewart Parade Tuncurry starting at 5pm. The club will also be hosting training evenings on Mondays from 4pm onwards offering a variety of free and paid sessions with qualified coaches.



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The Pearlers take on the Regions



Above: Pictured in their Northern Region team shirts are (L to R) Rachael Rebbeck, Deanne Gatt, Perry and Cathy James, Janelle Murray, Wendy Burdekin, Michelle Richardson, Esther Huber, Michael Wyatt and Peter Moore. (Absent Kerrie Gammage) Photo supplied.

Great Lakes Pearl Dragons

This year, Great Lakes Pearl Dragons have an impressive number of members taking part in the Region v Region championships at Sydney international regatta centre on Saturday 11 October.

"Eleven of our members have stepped up to start their pathway through the Dragon Boating cycle, which takes participants through to the Aurora's level (Australian Team) and I couldn't

be prouder of our Club right now!", Club President, Michelle Richardson stated.

Racing is over 200m, 500m, 1km and 2km in both 10s and 20s boats and promises to be a day of full on back-to-back racing against other regions from New South Wales. There are just over 40 members in the Northern Region crew who come from as far away as Ballina to form part of this team.

Oh Brother, what an ending!



Above: Nat Baker and Lindy O'Donnell returned to conquer North Brother Mountain in style. Photo supplied.

By Dave Hughes – Forster Runners

Sunday the 28th of September saw the running of the annual Beach to Brother Running Festival. The event offered various distances from 5k to a full marathon (42.195km). Some runners decided to form a two person team for the marathon.

This is one of the most picturesque courses on the Australian running calendar and attracts entrants from far and wide. The marathon starts from Town Beach in Port Macquarie, the half marathon from Lake Cathie Beach, the 10k from Bonny Hills and the 5k from North Haven.

This is an outstanding trail race that encompasses several types of terrain. Most of the running takes place on scenic beaches and the runners breathed a sigh of relief knowing that the tide and hardness of the sand was in their favour. Once the runners finished "playing" in the sand, it was time to hit some gnarly trails and rocky outcrops before some well deserved respite in some boardwalk and formed paths.

And then at the 17km mark came the big "surprise," especially those entering this event for the first time. Between them and the finishing line lurked a brute of a mountain by the name of North Brother. Mind you during this event new names for the mountain were temporarily adopted. So begins the climb of nearly 500 metres of elevation over four kilometres. Once the summit is reached you were rewarded with one of the most outstanding scenes in Australia with views over to Bonny Hills and the beautiful Camden Valley inlet.

Redemption for Forster ladies

Forster Runners provided two ladies who were on a quest of redemption. Three years ago Lindy McDonnell and Natalie

Baker took on this course (it was in fact Natalie's first competitive trail race). Both girls were "mentally scarred" (or should that be scared) from their initial effort. Lindy lost count of the number of times she face planted and Nat's only memory of that race was clinging to a tree halfway up the mountain deliriously repeating the words "I'm done, never again". Both have since undertaken extensive therapy and needed to get that monkey off their back. Therapy included several longer ultra trail races including the famous UTA Blue Mountains and UTMB Kosciuszko. Those 50 km events with 2500 metres of elevation convinced them that Beach to Brother is both doable and enjoyable. And conquer it, they did. With smiles on their faces, coke a cola and mars bars in hands, they finally buried those North Brother demons. Nat was the 5th female and Lindy was the 10th female to complete the half marathon. Well done girls. There were whispers at Forster Runners a week later that they intend entering again in 2026.

Forster Turtle Travels



Left: (L-R) Marian Smith, Anne Curtis and Susan Carmody with gold from their over 70 relay race in Maroochydore. Photos supplied.

against 6 other teams in the over 70 relay, and again won gold, equalling the race record.

Motivated by this achievement, the Turtles competed in a new swim closer to home on Sunday 28th September: the Rainbow Gold Ocean Swim, organized by Wauchope/Bonny Hills SLSC. The move from the pool to the ocean presented challenging conditions in big surf for the 400m, 1km and 2 km swims. Four women took on the big seas with Marian Smith and Susan Gonzalez completing the 1km. Susan then backed up for the 2km swim with Anne Curtis and Leeanne King to finish a tough swim. Congratulations to Susan Gonzalez who came 4th in the 2km in a time of 38.14 min.

By Marian Larkey – Forster Turtles

After winning over 70s relay gold at Bondi Icebergs in July, Forster Turtle women embarked on new challenges.

On Sunday 21st September they competed at the 48th Australian Winter Swimming Championships at Maroochydore, Queensland, with 600 other competitors. Anne Curtis, Susan Carmody, Marian Smith and Marilyn Clarence swam



Right: (L-R) Marian Smith, Leeanne King, Anne Curtis and Susan Gonzalez after a tough Rainbow Gold Ocean Swim near Port Macquarie.

State Mounted Games Awards



(L-R) Darcy, Addy and Maverick (holding the Best Performing Centre trophy). Photos supplied.

"Best Performing Centre" in NSW by 1.2 points.

Ed Binney, President of the Manning Great Lakes Centre, said, "It's a wonderful outcome and very exciting for them."

Ed said, "We thank their coaches Sue and Lorraine. They trained our riders to perfection and ran extra classes on Saturdays leading up to the event to fine-tune their skills."

Winning "Best Performing Centre" is another positive step for Ed and the rest of the volunteer team who've worked hard at building up the Centre at Rainbow Flat after its former closure for two years during Covid.

"Winning this award is a great example of our volunteers working as a unified team. We've now set the goal to become a Centre of Excellence for the Mounted Games. This will help our riders have things to aspire to. It also introduces some diversity into the riding programs with little

jumps and obstacles for the young riders to go around. It will make it more interesting for them."

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

By Mary Yule – Forster Fortnightly

Three young riders from Riding for Disabled (RDA) Manning Great Lakes have come back as State and Reserve Champions from the State Mounted Games competition held recently at the Sydney International Equestrian Centre.

Addison was awarded State Champion for her discipline Trot while riding Lucky, Maverick was awarded State Champion for Led Walk riding Billy, and Darcy was awarded Reserve State Champion for Assisted Walk, also riding Lucky. Their average combined scores enabled RDA Manning Great Lakes to win the major prize of

How many laps can you do in 6 hours?

By Aaron Eichner – Taree Tip Riders

The PBM Hardrock 6hr Mountain Bike Race took place over the long weekend at the Kiwarrak Mountain Bike Park in Tinonee on Sunday the 5th. The fun challenge of this race is to do as many laps of an 8km cross country style mountain biking loop as you can in 6 hours, before the 3pm cut off time. Riders participate solo or in teams of 2-4 with a variety of categories and prizes up for grabs.

The weather was warm but racing conditions were great with only a bit of dust on the impeccably groomed track leaving everyone knowing they'd been riding.

Everyone finished safely with no major incidents. Michael Sherwood and Jason English each completed 15 laps while Holly Harris completed 13 laps. Full race results are available at: <https://my.raceresult.com/358969/results>



Above: The podium photo was the Mixed Open Teams with 12 laps (L-R) Aaron Eichner, Sam Hoey, George Castillo, Luis Worth, Fiona Gottstein, Zedric Gottstein, Ashley Montesin and Jen Cartwright. Photos supplied.

Thank you to Bruce Pain, Lisa and Dave Harris, as well as all the other volunteers and track builders that not only organise an amazing event

Left: Simon Ballard and his daughter Georgie who did the most laps in the Mixed Teams (12 laps).

but have the Kiwarrak Mountain Bike Park in great riding condition that is safe for riders of all levels to come and enjoy.

A huge thank you to the sponsors Charlie Kennet at Pacific Blue Metal, Regional Finance Solutions, Forster Tuncurry Medical Centre, Manning Valley Free Range Eggs, Mansfield on Manning, Bourke's Bikes, Food Sense, Dirt Gear Australia, B & S Nelson Builders, Dr Anthony Giordano and Makki Electrics

Next year's PBM Hardrock race is on the 4th of October (the long weekend) so put it in your diary.

Get along to this fantastic bike park at Tinonee (known affectionately as the "Tip") at any time to ride these awesome trails. The Taree Tip Riders are on Facebook and are always happy to show this mountain biking scene to newcomers.

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Forster Surf Club hosted the huge Weekend of Surf (4 & 5th October) at Main Beach. Photos by Peter Sollner.



By Annie Evans - Forster Surf Club

The 28th Professionals Forster Weekend of Surf (WoS) during the 2025 Labour Day long weekend was yet another outstanding occasion in the event's history. Forster Surf Life Saving (SLS) Club has the annual honour of being the first carnival on the SLS NSW calendar. This year, the carnival attracted record entries and, with supporters and holidaying visitors, crowds on the beach were estimated to exceed 2,500 on each of Saturday and Sunday competitions.

This is due to the massive increase in nominations from the 2024 record of 640 to this year's total of 796 – an increase of nearly 25%. There were 477 male and female competitors in the Iron (formerly Ironman/ Ironwoman) from junior to senior age groups. WoS organiser, Beth Lee from the Forster Surf Club, said that there were 39 surf clubs in attendance from along the length of the NSW coastline. This is 30% of all NSW surf clubs – a remarkable turnout as the 2025/2026 surf season was only 1 week old. Under idyllic conditions, the two-day event had air temperatures in the low to mid-twenties, water temperature of 22 degrees, gentle breezes and a surf height which offered sufficient challenge to enable the competitors to display their skills without alarming the youngest competitors during their first surf carnival. Not only did the event provide upskilling for new surf athletes, it also provide experience for the newly trained officials.

Forster SLSC President, John Quinn, was elated with the success of the event and the continuing support of sponsors, especially by Richard Crowther and Darrell Roche of The Professionals Real Estate who have been the naming rights sponsors for 18th years. Other sponsors included and Kracka Racing Surfcraft, Engine Swimwear Australia, Beach Bums Café, Woolworths Tuncurry and Beaches International accommodation. President Quinn acknowledged the officials under the leadership of carnival referee, Bernadette Nicholson, the orange army of water safety personnel, and the unsung work parties for their essential roles in conducting the carnival. Referee Nicholson also thanked her supporting officials and especially the parents of younger competitors for their commitment to ensuring the surf safety of their children and for the hours and expenses spent in driving them to training and competitions. She mentioned some officials in particular for their expertise. These were Tennille Jago, Amy Jackson and Scott Eaton. A special mention was made for junior official Mason Grosvenor who was the runner responsible for collecting results of events over both days and returned them to the administration centre for processing. The event also served as another re-union for 2022 SLS NSW Youth Development Camp participants Ruby O'Leary (Tathra), Sophie Wines (Whale Beach), Henry Derrick (Minnie Waters), Sophie Burns (Elouera), Brayden Lee (Forster) who again turned out to support the event through operating powered rescue crafts as part of the safety supervision. The 2025 WoS Club Championship was again fought out between the same place getters as in 2024. First place in 2025 was awarded to Manly SLSC (3rd last year) with a competition tally of 489 points. Second was Swansea-Belmont SLSC (also 2nd last year) on 437 points, followed in third position on 280 points by Red Head SLSC (1st last year). Competitions encourage participation, strengthen community ties, and ensure lifesavers are prepared, both physically and mentally, for real-life emergencies in the surf environment.

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