

Support the
Slipway Facility p3

Local Identity
Helen Kemp p23

Star Pet
George p21



Forster Fortnightly

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

FREE

Wednesday 12 November 2025 PROUD TO BE A LOCAL FAMILY-OWNED BUSINESS Circulation 7,000 No.134

Still waiting and still underfunded!



Above: Eddie Wood, President of MGLCHAG speaking at their Community Meeting.

Manning Great Lakes Healthcare in Crisis

By Mary Yule – Forster Fortnightly

The Manning Great Lakes region continues to face serious healthcare challenges, despite a decade of community activism and political promises. Residents and healthcare advocates say the region remains gravely neglected.

The Manning Great Lakes Community Health Action Group (MGLCHAG) has been campaigning for better funding and infrastructure since 2016, after discovering that Manning Base Hospital (MBH) had been downgraded from a fully functioning Trauma Base Hospital—without any consultation with the local community.

In August 2024, MGLCHAG presented a petition with over 12,000 signatures to the NSW Legislative Assembly in Sydney, calling

Continued on page 22.

Lakeside Festival shines through storm



By Mary Yule – Forster Fortnightly

Despite stormy skies, the Lakeside Festival went ahead in full spirit at John Wright Park on Saturday, November 1, drawing crowds who came together to celebrate live music, community spirit, and local talent.

Organisers praised the resilience of stallholders and attendees who stuck it out through the rain. “Huge shout out to our vendors that make the Lakeside Music Festival possible,” organisers said. “This year, with some bad weather, it was tough on them and we appreciate those who showed up and stuck it out for the day!”

Performers also applauded the event’s organisation and spirit. One band shared, “We had such a blast playing the Lakeside Festival! What a great event — amazing sound, well organised, and the crowd were in it from the first note!” Another group added, “It was a great day with our trailer stage and full production. We had the best time elevating this

event to a whole new level, even with some crazy weather thrown in.”

One of the Festival highlights was the raffle draw for a new car. Jessica Gray, President of the Forster Tuncurry Business Chamber, shared the beautiful story, “The winner was Charlie McClennan who has never in her life owned a brand new car before. She is a long-time volunteer who dedicates her

Continued on p10.



Photos from Lakeside Festival by Matilda Yule.

Join us this Christmas Day for a lakeside feast!

XMAS LUNCH

3-COURSE
CHRISTMAS LUNCH
\$130 PER PERSON

Plus Special Kids Menu
for \$30 per child

SEAFOOD PLATTER
\$230 (FOR 2)

Oysters | Balmain bug | Battered flathead | Butterflied prawns
½ Lobster mornay | Salt & pepper squid | Scallops
Truffle shoestring fries



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We welcome your stories, photos & letters

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All Abilities Kids Tri. See back page.

- 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.

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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.

Support for community recovery after flood

MidCoast Council

The MidCoast region has taken a major step forward in its recovery from the devastating May 2025 floods, with the launch of a program to help support local recovery efforts assisting communities as they rebuild.

The program is funded by the NSW Reconstruction Authority and aims to strengthen the region's ability to recover through community-led action, partnerships, practical support and the funding of a Community Recovery Officer at MidCoast Council.

MidCoast Council's Director of Liveable Communities, Paul De Szell, said that while the scale of the May flood event was extraordinary and recovery will take years, the Reconstruction Authority funding will provide strong support for local solutions.

Part of the program includes supporting the MidCoast Community Resilience Network (CRN) — a growing alliance of community leaders, service providers, and volunteers working together to strengthen local resilience and recovery capacity.

A range of other initiatives include:

- Workshops and events to help communities access funding, prepare for future emergencies, and support wellbeing
- Mobilising volunteers to support farm and housing clean up and repairs, especially in more isolated areas
- Community-led activities that build social connection and long-term recovery
- Feedback and consultation processes to ensure recovery work reflects local needs

Mr De Szell explained the program will be tailored to the needs of each community and will support locally driven recovery.

"This could be supporting a neighbourhood hosting a preparedness event, running a



grant writing workshop, or simply connecting someone to the right service - recovery starts with connection and our program will provide that to communities in need," he said.

Regular updates, event announcements, and resources will be available on the MidCoast Council website, where residents can also provide feedback and learn how to get involved in recovery efforts.

This project is supported by the Australian Government and NSW Government through the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).

To learn more, connect with Kristy Petersen, or find out how to get involved, visit www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/recovery or email kristy.petersen@midcoast.nsw.gov.au

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

Pet of the Fortnight



Great Lakes & Manning Branch of Animal Welfare League NSW

Benny

Benny is a fun-loving boy who loves going for walks and being the centre of attention. He would love a home where he is allowed inside with no children. He has come from a home with another small dog, so if you already have a doggie, a meet and greet will be needed.

Benny is 7.5 years old, Desexed, Microchipped, up to date with vaccinations, flea, tick and heart wormed and his adoption fee is \$450.

Rehoming Number R251000222

Contact our Dog Welfare Officer on 0456 935 423 to enquire about Benny.



Proud to sponsor 'Pet of the Fortnight' - finding homes for animals in need.
CALL US: 02 6557 2273
4 SOUTH STREET, TUNCURRY

Submissions needed for Slipway Facility in Tuncurry



Suzie McEnalley, General Manager of Wallis Lake Fishermen's Co-Op General Manager, in front of the old slipway in 2023 when it was closed. Photo by Mary Yule.

By Mary Yule – Forster Fortnightly

Community consultation on the new Slipway Facility in Tuncurry is now open until the 24 November. The existing slipway was closed in 2023 due to aging infrastructure and safety concerns.

"People need to help themselves and our town by backing it. It's very easy to do online," said Suzie. "Then Transport NSW can see the support to go ahead with the project."

Greg Parker, Director of the Wallis Lake Fishermen's Co-Op, said that the Tuncurry slipway is the only emergency slipway between Newcastle and Coffs Harbour protecting our pristine waters in the case of a sinking vessel.

Suzie McEnallie, Wallis Lake Fishermen's Co-Op General Manager, said "The new slipway is one of the highest necessities for the town and the whole of NSW. Our Co-op has pushed for this project since 29 October 2014. That's 11 years of hard work and negotiations with Transport NSW. We are a community organisation and we are here for the community."

The slipway's importance in our region cannot be underrated. Suzie said all boats generally need to get 'slipped' or inspected for safety once a year to avoid any unnecessary problems and costs. The Wallis Lake Fishermen's Cop-op will continue to hold the licence to operate the Tuncurry slipway and it will be available for all local vessels.

"Our area of Forster-Tuncurry has the highest boat registrations per capita in the whole of NSW," Suzie said. The original Tuncurry slipway was used by "10% by fishermen and 90% by recreational fishing."

Suzie strongly encourages everyone to go online and submit a sentence to say you are happy with the project and support it. **Comments on Facebook are not included in the community consultation.**

"People need to help themselves and our town by backing it. It's very easy to do online. Then Transport NSW can see the support to go ahead with the project."

Suzie also encourages anyone to go along to either of the two talks at the Forster Civic Centre if you have any questions or concerns.

Greg stated, "The Directors of the Co-Op would like to thank and give a huge appreciation to Suzie McEnallie our Co-Op General Manager for her tireless work in getting a slipway re-established for the Forster Tuncurry community. This has been a huge community project achievement that many times could have failed if she had given up."

Have your say on Tuncurry Boat Maintenance (Slipway) Facility
By Transport for NSW

Transport for NSW has prepared a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) that will give us environmental approval to construct the proposed Tuncurry Boat Maintenance (Slipway) Facility.

Your feedback will inform the project

We have been working with the local council and other agencies during the development of the REF, and we would now like your feedback on the proposed Tuncurry Boat Maintenance Facility. Feedback closes Monday 24 November 2025.

The REF describes the key features of the Tuncurry Boat Maintenance Facility and assesses the potential environmental and social impacts during construction and operation.

Your feedback will help finalise our plans and the REF. We will then review all feedback and share a Submissions Report with the results.

The proposal

Key features of this proposal are:

- Removing the old slipway infrastructure
- Installing a 75-tonne boat travel lift. This will accommodate boat sizes up to: 6 metres beam, 20 metres Length Overall (LOA) and 2.7 metres draft.
- Allowing up to four vessels to be maintained on the site depending on vessel sizes.
- Constructing of overwater lift platforms.



Artist's impression of proposed Tuncurry Boat Maintenance Facility

- Installing service pontoons and access gangways.
- Constructing a level bunded hardstand area with new pavement surface and drainage for spill containment.
- Installing a commercial wastewater treatment system.
- Removing contaminated materials as part of remediation work.
- Installing a new 2.4 metre high solid fence or noise wall to provide screen for visual noise and water spray purposes.

Timetable

1. A Review of Environmental Factors (REF) assessment was completed October 2021– October 2025
2. Have Your Say - Seek community feedback on proposal and REF from 3 November – 24 November 2025
3. Obtain environmental approval and publish the REF Submissions Report - Early 2026
4. Seek and Award Tenders from Early 2026 – Mid 2026

5. Start Construction from Mid 2026 – 14 months' work

6. Finish Construction - Mid 2027

View the REF

The REF will be on display at the following locations from Monday 3 November 2025 until Monday 24 November 2025:

- Forster Library, 4 Lake Street, Forster.
- MidCoast Council, Yalawanyi Ganya, 2 Biripi Way, Taree.

You can also view and have your say at: <https://www.haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/tuncurry-boat-maintenance-facility>

Information Sessions

We will be available for you to drop by to chat with the project team at Forster Civic Centre, Wallamba Room, 4 Lake Street, Forster.

- Wed 12 November 3pm to 6pm (today!)
- Thurs 13 November, 11am to 2pm

Maritime

Tuncurry Boat Maintenance Facility
Have Your Say



Transport for NSW wants to hear from you on the proposed Tuncurry Boat Maintenance Facility. You can come and chat with us about the proposal and meet the team at the **Forster Civic Centre, Wallamba Room** on the follow dates:

- Wednesday 12 November, 3 pm to 6 pm
- Thursday 13 November, 11 am to 2 pm

Have your say on our proposal and Review of Environmental Factors until **24 November 2025**.

For more information contact us

- tuncurryboatfacility@transport.nsw.gov.au
- Project infoline 1800 973 533
- transport.nsw.gov.au/tuncurryBMF



Scan the QR code to Have Your Say

Aged care at home is changing

By Anam Bilgrami – The Conversation

A growing number of Australians want to stay at home rather than moving to a residential aged care facility when they need extra support.

But availability of home care packages has slipped far behind demand. As a result, more than 120,000 older Australians are already waiting to be assessed for aged care at home. Another 87,000 have approval but no package yet.

After a delayed start, a new Support at Home program started on 1st November 2025. It aims to improve care at home, with more categories of support and 83,000 new places being added over the next year.

A contested component of the new system is that older Australians will be required to pay for more of their non-clinical care. This includes support for personal care such as showering, as well as everyday living costs such as cleaning, gardening and meal delivery.

Here's what's changing, what you will pay and how to prepare.

What's changing?

Support at Home will have eight budget levels, called "classifications". This is up from four package levels under the current system.

More levels should mean support that better matches needs, including for higher care needs.

You will receive quarterly budgets that can be used across three broad service groups:

- 1. Clinical care. This includes services such as nursing, occupational therapy and physiotherapy
- 2. Independence support. This includes personal care such as showering, getting dressed and help with hygiene, transport and social support such as assistance to participate in social interactions (in-person or online)

Support at Home levels (classifications) from 1 November 2025*		
Classification	Quarterly budget	Annual amount
1	\$2,682.75	\$10,731.00
2	\$4,008.61	\$16,034.45
3	\$5,491.43	\$21,965.70
4	\$7,424.10	\$29,696.40
5	\$9,924.35	\$39,697.40
6	\$12,028.58	\$48,114.30
7	\$14,537.04	\$58,148.15
8	\$19,526.59	\$78,106.35

* These will change in July each year, in line with indexation.

Above: There will now be eight classification levels, up from four. Department of Health 2025

3. Everyday living assistance. This is for cleaning, gardening, shopping assistance and meal delivery.

You can save any unused funds between quarters to cover unplanned needs. The carryover cap is 10% of your quarterly budget or A\$1,000, whichever is higher.

In addition to the eight levels, there will also be three short-term, needs-based funding options:

- Restorative Care Pathway. This aims to help maintain or improve independence after an illness or injury, mainly through allied health support (\$6,000 for 16 weeks, or up to \$12,000 if eligible for extra support)
- End-of-Life Pathway. This helps older Australians remain at home in the last three months of life (\$25,000 over 12 weeks)
- Assistive Technology and Home Modifications scheme. This is separate funding for products, equipment and home changes. It has three tiers: low (under \$500), medium (up to \$2,000) and high (up to \$15,000). More may be available with a prescribed need.

The Department of Health has published the list of services that Support at Home will fund, and the items covered under the Assistive Technology and Home Modifications scheme.

RFS Communications Volunteers needed!



RFS - Midcoast South Comms

When emergencies strike across New South Wales, the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) Communications teams are the quiet voices keeping everything connected.

From firegrounds to control centres, Communications (or "Comms") volunteers make sure messages get through, crews stay coordinated, and communities stay safe. They operate radios, track firefighting

Right: It has been 6 years since major bushfires decimated much of the east coast. It started at Faiford Road on the October Long Weekend. By November, the centre of Forster was on fire. The photo shows the reserve on the Southern Parkway with Kularoo Aged Care facility in the foreground. Photo by Jacki Pocock from social media.

resources, and help manage vital information during incidents.

"Our Comms volunteers are the link between the frontline and command," says Ian Bartholomew, Senior Deputy Captain, Midcoast South Communications. "Without them, we simply couldn't do what we do."

Communications volunteers come from all walks of life — no prior experience is needed. The RFS provides full training, and volunteers gain valuable skills in teamwork, radio operation, and emergency response.

"If you like teamwork and helping your community, this is a great way to get involved," Ian adds.

To find out more or to join your local RFS Communications team, visit www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/volunteer or contact Richard 0407 807 007 (Captain, Midcoast South Comms).



30 years in the making!

By Mary Yule – Forster Fortnightly

After three decades of planning, community meetings, petitions, and sheer determination, the new Hallidays Point Skatepark at Wylie Breckenridge Park opened on 10 October 2025—and it's already a hit with local youth.

The journey to get here was long and often challenging, but for the Hallidays Point community, the wait was worth it.

Simon Duber, a member of the Hallidays Point Community Skatepark Committee, said the project would not have been possible without the relentless dedication of locals. "For a number of years, countless people attended Council and community-led meetings, filled out surveys, emailed Councillors, petitioned endlessly. To everyone who ever joined a meeting or contacted our local members—you made this happen. Without people showing up in droves, we couldn't have achieved what we did."

Mel Orchard, who joined the committee eight years ago as a parent hoping to create opportunities for local kids, explained the long history of community effort. "There have been three different committees working on a skatepark over the past 30 years. My interest started after a community meeting at the Black Head Surf Club, where a couple of parents suggested the area needed something for the youth—like a skatepark. That idea just stuck with me."

A landmark meeting in July 2019, organised by the Hallidays Point Community Liaison and Progress Association (CLAPA), solidified the community's resolve. Alan Tickle, inaugural CLAPA president, said, "We formed after the merger of MidCoast Council to discuss local matters. At that meeting we resolved to support a skatepark. There was a split on where to put it, so we conducted surveys to determine the preferred location from four different options."

Council representatives, including Paul De Szell, Director of Liveable Communities, and Councillor Kathryn Bell, attended the meeting.



Mel Orchard and Simon Duber. "The official opening is set for Sunday, 16 November, and promises to be a massive celebration."

"Councillor Bell took the matter to Council as urgent business," said Alan.

Ultimately, Council narrowed the site down to two options: Wylie Breckenridge Park and Diamond Beach. Simon said, "Council voted for Breckenridge Park as it was near existing facilities and not too close to residential houses. Once that decision was made, the Lions Club partnered with our Hallidays Point Community Skatepark committee in August 2020, boosting the project and helping with grants and donations."

Community consultation was key. Mel said their committee, "Surveyed local shops, markets, and residents. About 95% of people supported more facilities for kids. We also asked local children, who overwhelmingly said they were skating, scootering, and biking in unsafe areas. That really showed the need for a safe skatepark."

The committee also had to navigate significant challenges over the years, including bushfires, droughts, floods, and the pandemic. Yet support from the community and Council never wavered. "Council secured a \$435,000 Stronger Country Communities grant, which they

matched, bringing the total to \$850,000," Mel said. "When the Lions Club came on board, and donations like \$7,000 from DJ Gardner Homes arrived (Cheryl and Ian were part of the original committee 30 years ago), we were able to make the dream a reality."

Simon praised the design team, Playce, and skatepark designer Tom Debnam. "They did an outstanding job with a challenging site—underground and above-ground powerlines, a water main, and rocks. But we got there. Community input helped us make decisions every step of the way."

Mel said, "Simon also brought his experience from downhill skateboarding, which was invaluable for our committee when discussing and planning a modern skatepark."

The official opening is set for Sunday, 16 November. Mel said, "We're expecting a huge turnout from everyone who helped over the last 30 years. There'll be special guests, a live microphone, local school choir, skateboard demos, live music, and stalls. The event will also raise funds for shaded seating in the park."

(See advertisement below)

MidCoast Council Mayoral column

It is great to see the Wingham Cedar Party Creek Bridge opened to traffic from early this month.



It was a \$39 million project and a huge job. I urge MidCoast residents to take a weekend drive to Wingham, check out the new bridge and support this fantastic little town.

The Wingham and surrounding communities have been doing it tough since the May floods wiped out the other main access point in and out of Wingham, The Bight Bridge and has impacted many businesses.

Our initial investigations into The Bight Bridge show it will not be a quick fix, the project estimations show it may not be completed until early 2028 or 2029.

Our staff are working diligently through the processes in conjunction with the State Government to try and bring that timeline back as much as possible.

Our audited financial statements are now online for viewing and commenting.

If you are inclined, head to our website and the Have Your Say page. The financial statements and financial reports will be on public exhibition until Thursday 20 November.

The statements show a consolidated net operating result for the year of just over a \$39 million surplus and that MidCoast Council is responsible for about \$5 billion worth of assets.

There are three Community Conversations left this month including Hallidays Point on 20 November, 5:30 - 7pm at Black Head Surf Club. See more below.

Mayor Claire Pontin

Pacific Palms Bowling Club

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

Monday
Monday Curry Night \$20



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

Wednesday
Raffles from 6pm
Club Super Draw from 6pm
220gr Porterhouse w/Chips & Salad \$25

Thursday
Mufti Bowls & Raffle from 12:30pm
Happy Hour 3pm to 5pm
Ribs Night \$25

Friday
Raffles from 6pm
Super 100 Draw after Raffles
Tradies Lunch + Beer \$20
Fresh Fish Friday Night \$34
Live Music Every Friday 8pm

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

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



Sass & The Boss
Fri 14 November



Matt Zarb & Friend
Fri 21 November

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.



Thai-Infused Sesame Grusted Salmon



HALLIDAYS POINT SKATEPARK GRAND OPENING

FEATURING MIXED MIC

SUNDAY 16TH NOVEMBER 11AM - WYLIE BRECKENRIDGE PARK - BLACK HEAD

LIVE MUSIC - OPEN MIC - BBQ - FOOD STALLS - KIDS ACTIVITIES - JUMPING CASTLE - SKATE/SCOOT/BMX STALLS - PROFESSIONAL DEMOS & MORE!

MIDCOAST COUNCIL

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS



COMING SOON TO FORSTER & PACIFIC PALMS

Right now we're heading back out to 15 local communities across the MidCoast to provide you with an update on what we're delivering in our region.

These sessions allow us to hear directly from community members and provide a chance to meet with senior Council staff and Councillors.

We look forward to sharing this update with you.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Forster Civic Centre
Tuesday 18 November 2.30 - 4pm

Pacific Palms Surf Life Saving Club
Tuesday 18 November 5.30 - 7pm

Also coming to other locations across the region

FIND OUT MORE

Scan to learn more and for the full schedule of dates and locations.



midcoast.nsw.gov.au/conversations



Stan Johnston - Lion star of the century

By Margaret Kentwell – Forster Tuncurry Lions Club

Forster Tuncurry Lions Club proudly recognises the oldest active member of the club Stan Johnson.

I had the privilege of interviewing Stan a member of FTLC since 25th June 1963. Stan and Helen have been married since 17th December 1955 and he proudly showed me his gorgeous wedding picture. Stan celebrated his 95th birthday on 25th October 2025.

Clinically blind and deaf doesn't deter his staunch loyalty, wisdom, sharp wit and enthusiasm. He attends the club dinner meetings every month and always, in respect wears a suit to the formal Changeover Dinners.

Stan carried out the duties of District Governor for 2 years, was President several times and



he was the man to know how to be able to conduct the meetings with the loyalty and retention the club is respected for. The club was men only at the time he joined. Stan's knowledge of the club's achievements over the years is never ending addressing dates, names and places without hesitation.

Stan a retired builder demonstrated his skills by assisting with the 3 boardwalks at One Mile Beach. Construction of the obstacle training course at the Dog recreation park in Tuncurry, with his friend Lion Roger Pollard he supervised at The Trampoline & Putt Putt Park for many years. Known for his strong voice and happy nature it was Stan who entertained the kids with his putt putt skills and shared his knowledge of the district's history. He was in his 80s when he surrendered the Putt Putt Park to younger Lions members. Stan was never forgotten, many families even now ask about him, discussing how they used to come to the park as kids and are now bringing their siblings.

Stan is proud of the many awards he has received over the years. To mention just a few, he is the recipient of the "Malvin Jones Fellowship Award" for humanitarian service. He fondly displayed his "1997 Lion of the year" award acknowledging it was hand made by Lion John Hahn a fellow long term and still current member of the club. Stan has earned the respect of all club members.

Demonstrating his cognitive approach to life, his disability didn't deter him from walking me to my car and opening the door for me, a true "Gentleman and Scholar."

Stan is proud to be a Lion and it is a privilege to call him a friend.

See page 16 for Forster Tuncurry Lion's Club Xmas Raffle.

Left: Forster Tuncurry Lions Club proudly recognises Stan Johnston, the oldest active member of the club. Photo supplied.

Double win for Forster Tuncurry Business Chamber



Chamber President Jessica Gray (on left) accepted two State Awards for the Forster Tuncurry Chamber. Photo supplied.

By Mary Yule – Forster Fortnightly

The Forster Tuncurry Business Chamber has once again proven its strength and spirit, bringing home two major awards at the 2025 Business NSW State Business Awards, held at the International Convention Centre Sydney on October 29.

The Chamber received the 'Outstanding Visitor Economy Collaboration' award for its innovative Community Partnership program, and the 'Outstanding 24-hour Economy Collaboration' award for its pivotal support of the Lakeside Festival.

Both accolades recognise the Chamber's dedication to fostering collaboration, driving

local economic growth, and building a stronger, more connected community through vibrant events like the Spring Festival, Lakeside Festival, Pink Up Golf and monthly Connect Events.

Chamber President Jessica Gray said the recognition was both "exciting and humbling." "It's all about the community working together for the community," Ms Gray said. "Many people contribute their time, talents and skills, and their efforts have been recognised tonight by the business leaders of NSW. A big thank you goes out to you all. Let's keep it going and see collaboration among our local business community grow and prosper."

Manning - Great Lakes Police District Update

Dear Readers,

This fortnight I will continue my 'road safety' messaging to reduce the number of serious injury and fatal traffic crashes across the Police District.

E-Bikes and E-Scooters have been in the news recently – particularly regarding fatal crashes. Accordingly, it is timely for me to remind you all – particularly parents who have children that use E-Bikes or E-Scooters - of the very important rules for the use of these machines.

E-bike rules

- Rider must primarily propel the bike with the pedals.
- Motors are intended to assist when riding uphill or into headwind, not as the primary source of propulsion.
- An electrically power-assisted cycle can only have a maximum power output of 500 watts.
- The electric motor must cut off when the bicycle reaches 25km/h.
- The electric motor should not assist the rider when travelling more than 25km/h but does not prevent the rider travelling faster with their own pedalling or going downhill.
- The motor can be used up to 6km/h before the rider must pedal.
- Illegal e-bikes are not able to be registered in NSW and are therefore unregistered and uninsured motor vehicles.
- All riders and passengers must wear approved helmets that are securely fitted and fastened.
- Only children under 16 years of age or adults accompanying a child under 16 can ride on a footpath, unless there are signs prohibiting bicycle riding.
- Riders need to keep to the left and give way to pedestrians on shared paths or footpaths.
- Mobile phones must be hands free or secured in a commercially manufactured phone holder fixed to the bike.

- It is illegal to text, make video phone calls, use social media, or take photos/videos while riding.
- Find out more on Transport for NSW e-bike website.

E-Scooter rules

Personal e-scooters remain illegal on NSW roads and road-related areas, including footpaths, shared paths and bicycle lanes.

You can only use these on private property.

Rules for riding a 'shared e-scooter' (purple coloured Beam Mobility e-scooters used in Forster-Tuncurry are 'shared e-scooters')

- You must be at least 16 years of age to ride a shared e-scooter.
- You can ride a shared e-scooter hired from the designated shared paths, bike lanes and paths and roads in trial areas. Use of private e-scooters remains illegal (including in trial areas).
- It is illegal to ride on footpaths
- You must wear an approved bicycle helmet, that is securely fitted and fastened, at all times.

MOTORISED WHEELED DEVICES

Devices such as electric scooters, skateboards, and hoverboards are **ILLEGAL** in NSW.

Although a motorised scooter, skateboard, or hoverboard (electric or petrol powered) are considered motor vehicles, they do not satisfy the Australian Design Rules and for this reason, cannot be registered in NSW and are unable to be insured.

These devices cannot be ridden on roads, or road related areas (such as footpaths shared paths and cycleways) in NSW, except on private land.

Anyone caught riding a motorised device on a road or road related area in NSW can face fines starting from \$723

Further information is available at roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au

- You must use the e-scooter lights when riding in darkness or hazardous weather conditions.
- A BAC limit of 0.05 applies when riding an e-scooter. If you're drinking, don't ride an e-scooter.
- E-scooter riders are subject to the same drug driving offences as motor vehicle drivers. You can't have illicit drugs present in your system or ride while under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.
- If you're caught drink or drug riding, serious penalties apply and you may face consequences for your driver's licence.
- You don't need a driver's licence to ride an e-scooter.
- You must not carry another person or animal on your shared e-scooter.

Fines

- \$818 for illegal e-bike use.
- \$140 for ride on footpath.
- \$140 for ride an e-scooter whilst under minimum age of 16 years.
- \$140 for carrying a passenger.
- \$410 for using mobile phone whilst riding.
- \$410 for failing to wear a helmet.
- Riding under the influence of drugs or alcohol can lead to fines or imprisonment.
- Penalties apply for negligent or dangerous riding.

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

Chief Inspector Timothy Bayly - OIC Forster Police Station



Above: Inspector Timothy Bayly.

ALISON PENFOLD MP

FEDERAL MEMBER for Lyne

The Federal Government is responsible for national issues that affect all Australians. As your Federal MP I can assist you with:

- ✔ Centrelink
- ✔ Medicare
- ✔ Aged Care
- ✔ NDIS
- ✔ Post and Telecommunications

- ✔ Banking and Finance
- ✔ Taxation
- ✔ Immigration
- ✔ Foreign Affairs and Trade
- ✔ Defence

WAUCHOPE OFFICE

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Cnr High and Hastings Streets (PO Box 244), Wauchope NSW 2446

TAREE OFFICE

(02) 6557 8910

144 Victoria Street, Taree NSW 2430

✉ Alison.Penfold.MP@aph.gov.au

🌐 alisonpenfold.com.au

📌 AlisonPenfoldMPforLyne

📷 alison_penfold_for_lyne

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

Looking after your child's teeth is an important part of looking after their overall health

Free dental care is available for eligible children under 18 at most private dentists and all public dental clinics through the Child Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS).

Find out if your child is eligible for free dental care at: www.health.nsw.gov.au/cdbbs

A new chapter by the lake

New facilities opening soon!



Artist impression of clubhouse



Over 50s Lakefront Living

Set on the peaceful shores of Wallis Lake, Lakeside Forster Village offers a lifestyle built around comfort, connection and peace of mind.

Enjoy modern, low-maintenance homes in a welcoming over 50s community - with the freedom of no stamp duty, no council rates and no exit fees.

With exciting new facilities opening soon, including a waterfront clubhouse, now's the perfect time to discover Lakeside Forster.

Stage 2 now selling - book your display home tour today!



lakesideforster.com.au | 0403 556 076

13 Tea Tree Rd, Forster 2428

Exciting updates at Lakeside Forster Village

Advertising Feature

After a period of steady behind-the-scenes work, Lakeside Forster Village is entering an exciting new chapter.

Set along the peaceful shores of Wallis Lake, this welcoming over-50s lifestyle community has been quietly evolving, with major infrastructure upgrades recently completed. Newly sealed roads and refreshed landscaping have given the village a fresh new look, setting the scene for the next phase of growth.

That sense of excitement and optimism will continue as new community facilities begin to open this summer, including a waterfront clubhouse, alfresco BBQ area, library, wellness room and pickleball court. These thoughtfully designed spaces will offer more ways for residents to stay active, social and connected while enjoying everything lakeside living has to offer.

Melissa, the onsite Sales Manager, says the improvements have lifted the whole community.

"You can really feel the difference," she said. "The new roads and landscaping have given the village a lift. It feels fresh, inviting and ready for the next chapter."

Building on that momentum, the release of Stage 2 homes is now underway, giving new residents the chance to join this growing community. Priced from \$625,000, the homes feature modern layouts, quality finishes and

the flexibility to choose between lakefront duplexes or freestanding designs. Each has been created with low-maintenance living in mind, perfect for those seeking a simpler, more relaxed lifestyle by the water.

Lakeside Forster operates under a land lease model, allowing homeowners to own their home while leasing the land beneath it. This means no stamp duty, no council rates and no exit fees, making it a straightforward and affordable way to downsize. Eligible homeowners may also be able to access Commonwealth Rent Assistance to help with weekly site fees.

As Melissa explains, "For many people, this move isn't about downsizing - it's about right-sizing. It's about freeing up time, reducing maintenance, and enjoying the best years of life in a secure and welcoming setting."

With its refreshed surroundings, new facilities and brand-new homes, Lakeside Forster is ready for its next chapter - and ready to welcome new residents to life by the lake.

To learn more or book a tour of the display home visit lakesideforster.com.au.



Local champions honoured for outstanding service

By Steve Nicholas - Great Lakes Education Fund

Two remarkable contributors to the Great Lakes Education Fund (GLEF) have been recognised nationally by the Country Education Foundation of Australia (CEF) at a formal awards ceremony at NSW Parliament House, highlighting the power of community-driven support for rural and regional youth.

Helen Bryan, a founding member of GLEF, received the prestigious Katie Walker Outstanding Service Award for her unwavering commitment over 14 years. As Public Officer and the pioneer of the Student Liaison Officer role, Helen has provided emotional, logistical, and financial support to countless students—organising emergency accommodation, mentoring, and hosting informal catch-ups that foster connection and care. Her tireless efforts extend beyond student support, with Helen actively engaging the wider community, securing funding, and contributing to every aspect of GLEF's operations. As one student shared, "Helen makes us feel part of a community that cares."

Also celebrated was Saul Brady, named 2025 Alumnus of the Year at the Audi

Foundation—CEF Alumni Awards. A former GLEF recipient, Saul graduated with distinction from UNSW and has since built a global career in strategy consulting. His leadership and advocacy continue through roles with CEF and UNSW, where he champions equity and opportunity for students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Together, Helen and Saul exemplify the spirit of GLEF—dedicated, visionary, and deeply rooted in community.

Country Education Foundation (CEF) is a community-driven national charity helping rural and regional youth aged between 16-25 access post-school education, training and jobs through grants, scholarships, resources and social support.



Above: (L-R) GLEF volunteers Mary Browne, Saul Brady (Alumnus winner), Helen Bryan and Steve Nicholas. Photo supplied.

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The Lakeside Festival

Photos by Matilda Yule.



Photo supplied:
Manning Valley
Automotive car winner
Charlie McClelland
(with Lakeside Festival
President Ed Cachia in
the background).



Continued from page 1.

time to serving the community, running the Postie Bike Grand Prix in Cessnock each year, and it was great to see that repaid in her big win."

The Lakeside Festival is a not-for-profit event, run entirely by volunteers and supported by local businesses. Each year, a dedicated committee and group of volunteers rally together to bring the celebration to life.

"It's such a beautiful community event, and I'm so happy to be a part of it," one volunteer said.

With its strong sense of local pride and community support,

organisers hope the Lakeside Festival will continue to grow for years to come. "It's a great event that we should all get behind to ensure it continues in the future," they said.



Community Regen at Forster



By Joel Dunn - Karuah & Great Lakes Landcare
Join Aboriginal Rangers from Barray Alliance and friendly volunteers on Friday 14th November for some convivial community bush regen at Forster Community Garden on Little Street from 8am-11am.

The creek around the primary garden site is going great - we'll follow up, then push upstream past the footbridge.

No need to RSVP, give me a shout by email or phone if you like, but you're welcome to just show up in your boots, hat and protective outdoor work clothes. We'll have spare tools and gloves and some nice cold drinks and snacks.

Joel Dunn, Local Landcare Coordinator
0401 932 533
greatlakes@midcoast2tops.org.au

Speechie talks at MidCoast Council Libraries

MidCoast Council

The region's local speech pathologists will hold informative talks at MidCoast Council Libraries throughout November. They will be visiting Forster Library on Monday 17 November 10.00am. Bookings are essential

The presentations are part of a national campaign by Speech Pathology Australia.

The Speechie Library Talks will be open to parents and caregivers of children aged between 0-5 years of age to help develop their language and literacy skills at home.

For the full list of Library talks and to book, please visit:

<https://www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/Get-involved/Whats-on>



Our Local wildlife



By Kym Kilpatrick – FAWNA Hallidays Point

The DollarBird

One of the many birds that migrate from New Guinea to breed in our area during spring and summer is the Dollarbird (*Eurystomus orientalis*). It is also known as the Oriental Roller, a member of the roller bird family. Roller birds are so named because of their impressive aerial acrobatics which include rolling from side to side during courtship and territorial displays.

Dollarbirds are colourful birds with upperparts that are brown heavily washed with iridescent blues and greens. Their flight feathers and tails are dark blue while throats and under tails are glossy bright blue. Their bellies are lighter shades of greenish-blue. They are 260 to 300 millimetres long with large heads, short necks and broad orange-red bills tipped with black. Their short legs and relatively weak feet are also orange-red. The most identifiable of their features, however, is the pale blue coin-shaped patches under their wings visible in flight, which give the birds their name. Both females and males are similar, although the male has slightly more intense colouration. Adolescents have duller colouration with brown bills and feet.

Although strong flyers, their weak feet means that they rarely come to ground and do not hop or even move much along their perches. Instead, they sit and wait usually from a high branch, then launch themselves to take flying insects in the air in a hunting style known as hawking. They are also crepuscular, meaning they hunt mostly during twilight and dawn rather than during the middle of the day. At times they will eat the insect whilst still in flight, at other times they will return to their perch to devour it.

Dollarbirds start arriving in our area in October. Although monogamous, they do not necessarily travel together, instead one will arrive first, then wait at their usual breeding nest-hollow, defending it from potential other rival birds and animals. Once its mate arrives, both engage



Photo of Dollarbird by Trevor Bullock.

in courtship display flights with loud cackling calls, a distinctive, harsh 'kak-kak-kak', repeated several times.

Eggs are laid from November to January in high tree-hollows or sometimes arboreal termite mounds (on average 14.6 metres above the ground) in open forests. They are not great nest-builders, rather depending on pre-existent wood dust to cushion and insulate their eggs. In multi-hollowed trees they will share with other species such as galahs and kookaburras. As such one older hollow-bearing tree may be home to many different species.

Three to four glossy white eggs are laid and both parents take turns incubating and caring for their young. Incubation takes 20 to 22 days, and the young remain in the nest for approximately another 30 days. During this time the nestlings can be observed coming to the entrance for food. After weaning young Dollarbirds find each other and congregate in groups before leaving together, around March, to migrate and overwinter in New Guinea.

At this time Dollarbirds are not considered endangered, however there is concern that their numbers are decreasing because of habitat destruction, most specifically woodlands with old hollow-bearing trees.



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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**.



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Tanya's Community Update

As Parliament sits again in Sydney over the next fortnight, I'll be taking the voices of our community with me — making sure the needs of people right across the Myall Lakes are heard loud and clear.

One of the biggest issues I continue to raise is **healthcare**. Too many people in our region struggle to see a doctor or wait too long for treatment. That's not good enough. I'll keep pushing for better support for our local hospitals, including a definite timeline on the Urgent Care Centre for Forster. We need better incentives to attract and keep doctors and nurses, and greater investment in mental health care. Everyone deserves quality healthcare close to home, no matter where they live.

I also want to remind everyone that **community consultation on the Tuncurry Slipway is now open**. This is your chance to have your say on the future of this important local facility. Whether you will use the Slipway, work on the water, or just care about our community's future — your input matters. Please take a few minutes to get involved and share your thoughts.

And remember, if there is anything I can help you with, please reach out to my office on 02 6555 4099 or email myalllakes@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Tanya Thompson MP - Member for Myall Lakes



Pacific Palm's collaborative artwork exhibited



Pacific Palms Public School
Students in Deadly Groups (Yrs 1-6) have worked very hard to produce an amazing collaborative artwork as part of the DoE Arts Unit Home Program in partnership with



the Art Gallery of NSW and the Manning Regional Art Gallery.
The artwork represents the concept of keeping Aboriginal culture 'afloat' on a raft. Inspiration was taken from a book and techniques from Aboriginal artists the students have studied this year.
'Afloat' will be exhibited at Yalawanyi Ganya (Midcoast Council) until November 30th, along with artworks from other regional schools. (The raft was intended to be installed on a ground plinth with the 'water' running underneath, however space constraints determined it to be hung on the wall!)

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](https://www.facebook.com/TanyaThompsonForMyallLakes)

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

FORSTER FORTNIGHTLY

12 November 2025

Puzzles Page

Page 13

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.

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

Quick Workout

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

Crossword

ACROSS

- 3 Boil gently
- 7 Upper level
- 9 Lift with effort
- 10 Passport endorsement
- 12 Fishing pole
- 13 Teach
- 15 Cost
- 17 Lair
- 18 Overcrowded
- 21 Number
- 23 View
- 25 Man's name
- 27 Restrict
- 28 Widespread reputation
- 29 Openings
- 30 Heckles
- 33 Disconcert
- 35 Begin
- 38 Consumed

DOWN

- 1 Fashions
- 2 Evil intent
- 3 Calm
- 4 Insect
- 5 Turn outwards
- 6 Disencumber
- 7 Shoestring
- 8 Motifs
- 11 Unexpected
- 14 Soon

39 Assigned to a position

42 Quick to learn

44 Snake

45 Small towers

47 Lubricate

48 Mine entrance

49 Is wanting in

50 Fleet

51 Brings about

16 Quietly happy

19 Heavenly body

20 Revises and corrects

22 Crab's claw

24 Neckwear

26 Nullified

27 Small bird's call

31 Made proud

32 Zodiac sign

33 Climbing palm

34 Rend

35 Plays for time

36 Slave to a habit

37 Bird

40 Spaghetti etc

41 Worshipped images

43 Supplinate

46 Facial twitch

Spot the 5 Differences

Join the Dots

Solutions

Forster Fortnightly

www.forsterfortnightly.com.au

YOUR FORTNIGHTLY TV GUIDE

November 12 - 18

	ABCTV	SBS	SEVEN	NBN	TEN
WEDNESDAY	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.35 Media Watch. 2.00 Restoration Aust. 3.00 QI. 3.30 Home Delivery. 3.55 Grand Designs. 4.45 Long Lost Family. 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. 6.30 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30 7.30. 8.00 Hard Quiz. 8.00 Crime Night. 9.00 Spicks And Specks. 9.30 Guy Montgomery's Guy Mont Spelling Bee (NZ) 10.15 If You're Listening. 10.40 News. 10.55 The Business. 11.10 Planet America. 11.45 You Can't Ask That. 12.15 Grand Designs. 1.00 Long Lost Family. 1.50 Range. 3.05 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 The Black Death With Dan Snow. 3.00 Going Places. 3.30 Plat Du Tour. 3.35 The Cook Up. 4.05 Megabridges: Spanning The Void. 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.35 Michael Palin In Venezuela. 8.30 Reckless. 9.35 Scotland's Poshest Train: Alan Cumming. 10.30 SBS News. 11.00 I Am Scrooge. 11.55 Headhunters. 1.40 Headhunters. 2.30 Looking For Rembrandt. 3.35 Curious Traveller. 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 7News @ 6.30. 7.00 Home And Away. (PG) 7.30 RFDs. (M) 9.30 House Of Wellness. (PG) 10.30 Chicago Fire. (M) 11.30 The Amazing Race. (PG) 1.00 Life. (M) 2.00 Shopping. 4.00 NBC Today. 5.00 Sunrise Early News. 5.30 Sunrise.	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.00 Great Australian Detour. 1.30 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 Budget Battlers. 8.40 Australian Crime Stories: The Investigators. 9.40 9News Late. 10.10 Parole. 11.30 Resident Alien. 12.20 Tipping Point. 11.5 Innovation Nation. 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. 7.30 Farm To Fork. 8.00 Bold. 8.30 Deal Or No Deal. 9.00 Linggo. 10.00 Ent. Tonight. 10.30 Jamie Oliver: Fast & Simple. 11.30 Judge Judy. 12.00 Farm To Fork. 12.30 Family Feud. 1.00 News. 2.00 Wheel Of Fortune. 2.30 Linggo. 3.30 News. 4.00 Neighbours. 4.30 Bold. 5.00 News. 6.00 10 News+. 7.00 Deal Or No Deal. 7.30 Big Brother Australia. 8.45 The Celebrity Traitors UK. 10.10 News. 10.35 10 News+. 11.30 Stephen Colbert. 12.30 Shopping. 4.30 CBS Morning.
THURSDAY	6.00 Morning Programs. 10.30 The Piano UK. 11.25 Crime Night! 12.00 News. 1.00 Silent Witness. 2.00 Restoration Aust. 2.55 QI. 3.25 Home Delivery. 3.55 Grand Designs. 4.45 Long Lost Family. 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. 6.30 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30 7.30. 8.00 Grand Designs Aust. 8.55 Long Lost Family. 9.45 Portrait Artist Of The Year. 10.35 News. 10.50 The Business. 11.05 The Art Of. 11.40 Grand Designs. 12.25 Long Lost Family. 1.15 Range. 3.40 Parkinson In Australia. 4.30 Gardening Aust. 5.30 7.30.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 The Black Death With Dan Snow. 3.00 Going Places. 3.30 Plat Du Tour. 3.40 The Cook Up. 4.10 Europe's Greatest Train Journeys. Grand Designs. 4.45 Long Lost Family. 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. 6.30 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30 7.30. 8.00 Grand Designs Aust. 8.55 Long Lost Family. 9.45 Portrait Artist Of The Year. 10.35 News. 10.50 The Business. 11.05 The Art Of. 11.40 Grand Designs. 12.25 Long Lost Family. 1.15 Range. 3.40 Parkinson In Australia. 4.30 Gardening Aust. 5.30 7.30.	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 7News @ 6.30. 7.00 Home And Away. (PG) 7.30 Home And Away. 8.30 Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo. (PG) 10.30 Australia's Most Dangerous Prisoners. (MA15+) 11.30 Gatecrashers. 12.30 Life. 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 Budget Battlers. 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 RBT. (M) 8.30 RPA: Ballerina Valma. (PG) 9.30 A+E After Dark. (M) 10.30 9News Late. 11.00 Chicago Med. (MA15+) 11.50 Tipping Point. (PG) 12.40 Pointless. (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. 8.00 Bold. 8.30 Deal Or No Deal. 9.00 Linggo. 10.00 Ent. Tonight. 10.30 Jamie Oliver: Fast & Simple. 11.30 Judge Judy. 12.00 Farm To Fork. 12.30 Family Feud. 1.00 News. 2.00 Wheel Of Fortune. 2.30 Linggo. 3.30 News. 4.00 Neighbours. 4.30 Bold. 5.00 News. 6.00 10 News+. 7.00 Deal Or No Deal. 7.30 Big Brother Australia. 8.40 The Celebrity Traitors UK. 10.10 News. 10.35 Law & Order: SVU. 11.25 Cheap Seats. 12.25 10 News+. 1.25 Stephen Colbert. 2.30 Shopping. 4.30 CBS Morning.
FRIDAY	6.00 News Breakfast. 9.00 News. 10.00 Portrait Artist Of The Year. 11.00 The Following Events Are Based On A Pack Of Lies. 12.00 News. 1.00 The Newsreader. 1.55 Grand Designs Aust. 2.55 QI. 3.25 Home Delivery. 3.55 Grand Designs. 4.45 Long Lost Family. 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. 6.30 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30 Gardening Aust. 8.30 Maigret. (M) 9.25 Hard Quiz. (PG) 9.55 Crime Night! (PG) 10.25 Spicks And Specks. 10.55 News. 11.00 Silent Witness. 12.15 Range New Music. 5.00 Range.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 The Cancer Killers. 3.00 Nula. 3.30 The Cook Up. 4.00 Grand Tours Of Scotland's Rivers. 4.35 Jeopardy! 4.55 Letters And Numbers. 5.25 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.30 Storms From Above. 8.30 Nick Knowles Into Death Valley. 9.25 The Scottish Island That Won The Lottery. 10.30 SBS News. 10.50 Sisi. 11.45 Tokyo Vice. 12.55 Tokyo Vice. 1.55 (PG) 10.25 Spicks And Specks. 10.55 News. 11.00 Silent Witness. 12.15 Range New Music. 5.00 Range.	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: Jason Bourne. (2016) (M) 11.00 Motorway Patrol. (PG) 11.30 GetOn Extra. 12.00 Healthy. Wealthy & Wise. (PG) 1.00 In Plain Sight. (M) 2.00 Shopping. 4.00 Million Dollar Minute. 5.00 NBC Today.	6.00 Today. 9.00 Today Extra. 11.30 9News Morning. 12.00 MOVIE: A Love To Remember. (2021) 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: Force Of Nature: The Dry 2. (2024) (M) 11.00 Law & Order: Organized Crime. (MA15+) 11.50 Tipping Point. 12.40 Pointless. 1.30 TV Shop. 2.30 Skippy. 3.00 Postcards.	6.00 Morning Programs. 7.30 Farm To Fork. 8.00 Bold. 8.30 Deal Or No Deal. 9.00 Linggo. 10.00 Ent. Tonight. 10.20 Taskmaster Australia. 11.30 Judge Judy. 12.00 Farm To Fork. 12.30 Family Feud. 1.00 News. 2.00 Wheel Of Fortune. 2.30 Linggo. 3.30 News. 4.00 News Hunters Aust. 4.30 Bold. 5.00 News. 6.00 10 News+. 7.00 Deal Or No Deal. 7.30 Big Brother Australia. 8.40 The Kick That United The Nation. 10.10 News. 10.35 10 News+. 11.35 Stephen Colbert. 12.30 Shopping.
SATURDAY	6.00 Range Charts. 6.55 Range Closer. 7.00 Wknd Brekky. 9.00 Range. 11.55 Range Closer. 12.00 News. 12.30 Beyond Paradise. 1.30 Maigret. 2.20 All Creatures Great And Small. 3.10 Signature Choir & SSO. 4.10 Spicks And Specks. (PG) 5.25 Landline. 5.50 Aust Story. 6.25 I Was Actually There. (PG) 7.00 ABC News. 7.30 Return To Paradise. (PG) 8.30 Vera. (M) 10.00 The Forsytes. (PG) 10.55 Bergerac. (M) 11.40 Range. (MA15+) 5.00 Range. (PG)	6.00 Morning Programs. 3.00 Soccer. Australian Championship. Round 6. Wollongong Wolves v Marconi Stallions FC. 5.30 The Irish Civil War. 6.30 News. 7.30 A Royal Guide To. 8.25 A Year At Kilmere Abbey. 9.25 1967: Summer Of Love. 10.20 Reckless. 11.25 Homicide. 2.00 Willie Nelson: Life & Songs Of An American Outlaw. 4.00 Craft It Yourself. 4.55 Destination Flavour Bitesize. 5.00 NHK World English News Morning. 5.15 France 24 Feature. 5.30 ANC Philippines The World Tonight.	6.00 Morning Programs. 10.00 Morning Show. 12.00 Horse Racing: The Newcastle Herald Hunter Race Day and Caulfield C.F. Orr Stakes. 5.00 News. 5.30 Border Security. 6.00 News. 7.00 Healthy. Wealthy & Wise. 8.00 MOVIE: Independence Day: Resurgence. (2016) 10.25 MOVIE: M3GAN. (2022) 12.35 Motor Racing. Supercars Championship. Round 12. Sandown 500. Day 1. Highlights. 1.35 Harry's Practice. 2.00 Shopping. 2.30 Shopping. 3.00 Shopping. 4.00 It's Academic. 5.00 House Of Wellness.	6.00 Morning Programs. 12.00 Our State On A Plate. 12.30 Great Australian Detour. 1.00 Cybershack. 1.30 My Way. 2.30 The Golden Bachelor. 3.20 David Attenborough's Asia. 4.30 Garden Gurus. 5.00 News. 5.30 Getaway. 6.00 NBN News. 7.00 ACA. 7.30 Movie: Blue Beetle. (2023) 12.20 Australia's Top Ten Of Everything. 1.10 Cybershack. 1.35 Garden Gurus. 2.00 The Incredible Journey. 2.30 TV Shop. 4.30 Global Shop. 5.00 TV Shop. 5.30 Helping Hands.	6.00 Morning Programs. 9.30 What's Up Down Under. 10.00 My Market Kitchen. 10.30 CBC. 11.00 Airport 24/7. 12.00 Everyday Gourmet. 12.30 Soccer. Men's international friendly: Venezuela v Australia. 3.30 Well Traveller. 4.00 Cook With Luke. 4.30 Farm To Fork. 5.00 News. 6.30 Dog House Aust. 7.30 Selling Houses Aust. 8.40 Ambulance UK. 9.55 Harry And Meghan: The Rise And Fall. 10.55 FBI. 11.55 The Kick That United The Nation. 1.30 Shopping. 5.00 Hour Of Power.
SUNDAY	6.00 Morning Programs. 10.30 World This Week. 11.00 Compass. 11.30 Praise. 12.00 News. 12.30 Landline. 1.30 Gardening Aust. 2.30 Miriam & Alan: Lost In Scotland And Beyond+. 3.15 Long Lost Family. 4.10 The Role Of A Lifetime. 5.00 Antiques Roadshow. 6.00 Grand Designs Aust. 7.00 News. 7.30 Spicks And Specks. 8.00 Portrait Artist Of The Year. 8.50 The Forsytes. 9.45 Return To Paradise. 10.40 Brush With Fame. 11.40 Range. 3.00 Ask The Doctor. 3.25 The Art Of Money. 4.00 Gardening Aust. 5.00 Insiders.	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.00 Speedweek. 3.00 Gold Stars: The Story Of FIFA World Cups. 4.10 Motor Racing. World Rally-Raid Championship. Rallye Du Maroc. Highlights. 4.40 Going Places. 5.00 The Weedy One. 5.20 Bonsai. 5.30 Hitler-Stalin: A Secret Relationship. 6.30 News. 7.30 JFK: One Day In America. 8.25 Secret Letters Of Mary, Queen Of Scots. 9.35 Karmak: The Largest Temple In The World. 10.35 Odyssey Returns. 11.35 Women Who Rock. 1.40 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.30 Cricket. Women's Big Bash League. Match 13. Melbourne Stars v Melbourne Renegades. 5.00 News. 5.30 Weekend. 6.00 News. 7.00 My Kitchen Rules. 8.55 Lip Reading The Royals. 10.25 The Day Diana Died. 12.00 Motor Racing. Supercars Championship. Round 12. Sandown 500. Day 2. Highlights. 1.00 Travel Oz. 2.00 Shopping. 2.30 Shopping. 3.30 Million Dollar Minute. 4.00 NBC Today. 5.00 Sunrise Early News. 5.30 Sunrise.	6.00 Morning Programs. 11.00 Fishing Aust. 11.30 Drive TV. Launch Pad. 12.00 Explore TV. 12.30 Find My Country House Australia. 1.00 Budget Battlers. 2.00 MOVIE: Paper Planes. (2014) 4.00 Take Me Home. 5.00 News. 5.30 RBT. 6.00 NBN News. 7.00 The Golden Bachelor. 8.40 60 Minutes. 9.40 9News Late. 10.10 Social Media Murders. 11.10 Mobsters. 12.05 World's Most Dangerous Prisoners. 1.00 Fishing Aust. 1.30 TV Shop. 4.00 Believer's Voice. 4.30 Garden Gurus. 5.00 Today Early News. 5.30 Today.	6.00 Morning Programs. 8.30 What's Up Down Under. 9.00 Australia By Design: Architecture. 9.30 The Chef's Garden. 10.00 Frugal Foodie. 10.30 10 Minute Kitchen. 11.00 4x4 Adventures. 12.00 The Dog Academy. 1.00 Wheel Of Fortune. 1.30 2.30 Basketball. NBL. Round 9. Illawarra Hawks v Sydney Kings. 4.30 Deal Or No Deal. 5.00 News. 6.00 10 News+. 7.00 Big Brother Australia. 8.10 Ghosts Australia. 8.40 FBI. 10.40 10 News+. 11.30 Sam Pang Tonight. 12.30 Shopping. 4.30 CBS Morning.
MONDAY	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.00 Landline. 2.00 Restoration Aust. 3.00 QI. 3.30 Home Delivery. 4.00 Grand Designs. 4.45 Long Lost Family. 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. 6.30 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30 7.30. 8.00 Aust Story. 8.30 Annabel Crabb's Civic Duty. 9.20 Media Watch. 9.40 Planet America. 10.10 I Was Actually There. 10.40 News. 10.55 The Business. 11.15 Creative Types. 11.40 Grand Designs. 12.30 Long Lost Family. 1.15 Range. 3.40 Parkinson In Australia. 4.30 Gardening Aust. 5.30 7.30.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 The Point: Road To Referendum History Bites. 2.05 The Airport: Back In The Skies. 3.00 Going Places. 3.30 Plat Du Tour. 3.40 The Cook Up. 4.10 Europe's Greatest Train Journeys. 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.35 Bill Bailey's Vietnam Adventure. 8.30 American Prince: JFK Jr. 9.20 Jimmy Carr's I Literally Just Told You. 10.15 SBS News. 10.45 The Man Who Died. 11.35 A Criminal Affair. 12.25 A Criminal Affair. 1.15 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 Working Class Man. (M) 9.55 The Rookie. (M) 11.00 S.W.A.T. (M) 12.00 Autopsy USA. (M) 1.00 Girlfriends' Guide To Divorce. (MA15+) 2.00 Shopping. 2.30 Shopping. 3.30 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. 1.45 9Honey: He Said She Said. 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 Travel Guides. (PG) 8.40 MOVIE: Crocodile Dundee. (1986) (M) 10.40 9News Late. 11.10 The Equalizer. (M) 12.00 Transplant. 1.00 Hello SA. 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. 7.30 Farm To Fork. 8.00 Bold. 8.30 Deal Or No Deal. 9.00 Linggo. 10.00 Ent. Tonight. 10.20 Jamie's One-Pan Wonders. 11.30 Judge Judy. 12.00 Farm To Fork. 12.30 Family Feud. 1.00 News. 2.00 Wheel Of Fortune. 2.30 Linggo. 3.30 News. 4.00 Neighbours. 4.30 Bold. 5.00 News. 6.00 10 News+. 7.00 Deal Or No Deal. 7.30 Big Brother Australia. 8.40 Cheap Seats. 9.40 FBI. Most Wanted. 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 Forsytes. 2.00 Restoration Aust. 3.00 QI. 3.30 Home Delivery. 3.55 Grand Designs Revisited. 4.45 Long Lost Family. 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. 6.30 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30 7.30. 8.00 When The War Is Over. 8.30 The Piano UK. 9.20 The Art Of. 9.45 The Assembly. 10.30 Media Watch. 10.50 News. 11.05 The Business. 11.20 Annabel Crabb's Civic Duty. 12.10 Keating: The Interviews. 1.10 Grand Designs Revisited. 2.00 Long Lost Family. 2.45 Range. 3.40 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.55 The Australian Wars. 3.00 Going Places. 3.30 Plat Du Tour. 3.40 The Cook Up. 4.10 Europe's Greatest Train Journeys. 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.30 Railway Journeys UK. 8.30 Who Do You Think You Are? 9.35 Australia: An Unofficial History. 10.40 SBS News. 11.10 Families Like Ours. 12.10 Carmen Curlers. 2.15 Being Beethoven. 3.20 Craft It Yourself. 4.15 Bamay. 4.55 Destination Flavour Bitesize. 5.00 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 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. 7.30 Home And Away. 8.00 Wicked: One Wonderful Night. 10.00 Murder In A Small Town. 11.00 Grosse Pointe Garden Society. 12.00 MOVIE: Paralyzed By Danger. (2021) 2.00 Shopping. 2.30 Shopping. 3.00 Shopping. 3.30 Shopping. 4.00 NBC Today. 5.00 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 12.00 MOVIE: Two Chefs And A Wedding Cake. (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 Taronga: Who's Who In The Zoo. 8.30 Jamie Durnie's Future House. 9.40 Beyond The Build. 10.40 9News Late. 11.10 Wild Cards. 12.00 Around The World With 30 Kilos. 1.00 Cross Court. 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. 7.30 Farm To Fork. 8.00 Bold. 8.30 Deal Or No Deal. 9.00 Linggo. 10.00 Ent. Tonight. 10.20 Jamie's One-Pan Wonders. 11.30 Judge Judy. 12.00 Farm To Fork. 12.30 Family Feud. 1.00 News. 2.00 Wheel Of Fortune. 2.30 Linggo. 3.30 News. 4.00 Neighbours. 4.30 Bold. 5.00 News. 6.00 10 News+. 7.00 Deal Or No Deal. 7.30 Big Brother Australia. 8.40 FBI. Most Wanted. 10.40 News. 11.05 10 News+. 12.05 Stephen Colbert. 1.00 Shopping. 4.30 CBS Morning.

November 19 - 25

	ABC TV	SBS	SEVEN	NBN	TEN	
	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.35 Media Watch. 2.00 Restoration Aust. 3.00 QI. 3.30 Home Delivery. 3.55 Grand Designs Revisited. 4.45 Long Lost Family. 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. 6.30 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30 7.30. 8.00 Hard Quiz. 8.30 Crime Night! 9.00 Spicks And Specks. 9.30 Guy Montgomery's Guy Mont Spelling Bee (NZ) 10.15 If You're Listening. 10.40 News. 10.55 The Business. 11.10 Planet America. 11.45 You Can't Ask That. 12.15 Grand Designs Revisited. 1.05 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 The Point: Road To Referendum History Bites. 2.05 Wildlife ER. 3.00 Going Places. 3.30 Plat Du Tour. 3.35 The Cook Up. 4.05 Europe's Greatest Train Journeys. 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.30 Michael Palin In Venezuela. 8.30 Reckless. 9.30 Scotland's Poshest Train: Alan Cumming. 10.30 SBS News. 11.00 I Am Scrooge. 11.55 Hunters. 2.30 Beethoven. 3.35 Craft It Yourself. 4.30 Bamay. 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. 8.30 The Front Bar. (M) 9.30 Ashes Preview Show. 10.00 House Of Wellness. (PG) 11.00 Chicago Fire. (M) 12.00 The Amazing Race. 1.30 Harry's Practice. 2.00 Shopping. 2.30 Shopping. 3.30 Shopping. 4.00 NBC Tour. 5.00 Sunrise Early News. 5.30 Sunrise.	6.00 Morning Programs. 12.00 Taronga: Who's Who In The Zoo. 1.00 Getaway. 1.30 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 Budget Battlers. 8.40 Australian Crime Stories: The Investigators. 9.40 9News Late. 10.10 Parole. 11.30 Resident Alien. 12.15 Tipping Point. 1.05 Cyberback. 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. 7.30 Farm To Fork. 8.00 Bold. 8.30 Deal Or No Deal. 9.00 Lingo. 10.00 Ent. Tonight. 10.20 Jamie's One-Pan Wonders. 11.30 Judge Judy. 12.00 Farm To Fork. 12.30 Family Feud. 1.00 News. 2.00 Wheel Of Fortune. 2.30 Lingo. 3.30 News. 4.00 Neighbours. 4.30 Bold. 5.00 News. 6.00 10 News+. 7.00 ARIA Awards Red Carpet. 7.30 Big Brother Australia. 8.40 ARIA Awards 2025 . 11.10 News. 11.35 10 News+. 12.35 Stephen Colbert. 1.30 Shopping. 4.30 CBS Morning.	WEDNESDAY
	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.00 Silent Witness. 2.00 Restoration Aust. 3.00 QI. 3.30 Home Delivery. 3.55 Grand Designs Revisited. 4.45 Long Lost Family. 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. 6.30 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30 7.30. 8.00 Grand Designs Aust. 9.00 Long Lost Family. 9.45 Portrait Artist Of The Year. 10.35 2.50 PM. 11.00 Grand Designs Aust. 11.45 The Art Of. 11.40 Grand Designs Revisited. 12.30 Long Lost Family. 1.15 Range. 3.40 Parkinson In Australia. 4.30 Gardening Aust. 5.30 7.30.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 The Point: Road To Referendum History Bites. 2.05 Wildlife ER. 3.00 Going Places. 3.30 Plat Du Tour. 3.35 The Cook Up. 4.05 Europe's Greatest Train Journeys. 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.35 Searching For Spain. 8.25 From That. (M) 9.00 SBS News. 9.35 Vigil. 10.30 SBS News. 1.00 Ridley Road. 1.10 Exterior Night. 2.15 Exterior Night. 4.20 Bamay. 4.55 Destination Flavour Bitesize. 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 Border Patrol. (PG) 7.30 Highway Patrol. (PG) 8.30 Ego: The Michael Gudinski Story. (M) 9.00 The Michael Gudinski Story. The Front Bar. 1.00 Life. 2.00 Shopping. 2.30 Shopping. 3.00 Shopping. 4.00 NBC Tour. 5.00 Sunrise Early News. 5.30 Sunrise.	6.00 Today. 9.00 Today Extra. 11.30 9News Morning. 12.00 Budget Battlers. 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 RBT. (M) 8.30 RPA: Backpacker Ruby. (PG) 9.30 A Matter Of Dark. (M) 10.30 9News Late. 11.00 Crime. (M) 11.50 Tipping Point. (PG) 12.40 Pointless. (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. 10.00 Ent. Tonight. 10.30 Jamie's One-Pan Wonders. 11.00 Wicked For Good: A Sneak Peek. 11.30 Judge Judy. 12.00 Farm To Fork. 12.30 Family Feud. 1.00 News. 2.00 Wheel Of Fortune. 2.30 Lingo. 3.30 News. 4.00 Neighbours. 4.30 Bold. 5.00 News. 6.00 10 News+. 7.00 Deal Or No Deal. 7.30 Big Brother Australia. 8.40 The Celebrity Traitors UK. 10.10 News. 12.35 Law Of: SVU. 11.35 Cheap Seats. 12.50 10 News+. 1.35 Stephen Colbert. 2.30 Shopping. 4.30 CBS Morning.	THURSDAY
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Local Calendar

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

November

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

Sat 22 Nov - Tuncurry Market 8am to 1pm at John Wright Park, Tuncurry.
Enquiries: Anne 0417 400 994

Sun 30 Nov - Pacific Palms Market
9am to 1pm Pacific Palms Community Centre. Community Library Stall open in hall.
Enquiries: Jennifer Doyle 0401 968 516

December

Sat 6 Dec - Real Food Market (see right)
8am -11am Pacific Palms Community Centre. Come meet your local farmers.
Enquiries: Sue Williams 0438 433 063.

Sun 7 Dec - Black Head Bazaar Market
8am to 1pm Wylie Breckenridge Park, Black Head Rd. Check website for ground closures.
www.facebook.com/blackheadbazaar

TUNCURRY MARKETS
John Wright Park
Saturday 22nd Nov
8am - 1pm
Bookings Essential
Enquiries 0417 400 994

FAMILY | HEALTH | MUSIC | BIBLE
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POSITIVELY DIFFERENT
88.0
FORSTER-TUNCURRY

Devonshire
Tea & Crafts
15th November
Forster Civic Centre
Lake Street Forster
9:30 - 12pm

What's on around town & beyond!

Come and meet your local producers!

The Real Food Market is held on the first Saturday of the month at the Pacific Palms Community Centre, showcasing food produced by your local farmers themselves. Your next Real Food Market is on Saturday 6 December from 8am till 11am. Photos from the Real Food Market on Saturday 1st November by Matilda Yule.



FORSTER TUNCURRY LIONS CLUB
Annual Christmas Trailer Raffle
19 November - 18 December

Stockland Forster
Tickets on sale from 9am until 5pm
\$2 each or 3 for \$5
Draw 1pm 18th Dec

XMAS CAKES ON SALE
Small (1kg) \$16 Large (1.5kg) \$20
Gluten Free (400g) \$10
Free delivery in local area for orders of 3 or more

Contact
Lion Margaret Kentwell 0405 628 871
President Peter Sloan 0401 930 907

Australia Day
Citizen of the year Awards

Hallidays Point Community
Who makes a difference for us ?

- 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 of January 2026
A local youth demonstrating community leadership, sporting or educational achievement.

Nominations are now open & Close on 31st Dec
Please send your detailed nomination by email to:
secretary@hallidayspointlions.org.au
Awards are presented at the Lions Australia Day Breakfast on Black Head Beach

What's on around town & beyond!

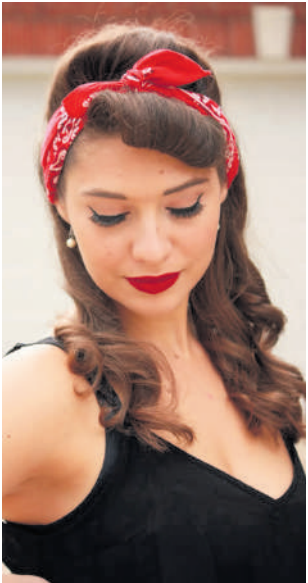
Brand Spankin' Rockin' by the Beach Festival rolls into Forster for one wild weekend!

Get ready to rev your engines and turn back the clock, because Club Forster is set to host the inaugural Brand Spankin' Rockin' by the Beach Festival, a three-day celebration of rock 'n' roll, retro style and classic chrome on the stunning Mid North Coast.

This exciting new festival promises a weekend packed with live music, vintage markets, shiny show cars, and all the swingin' rock 'n' roll and rockabilly energy you can handle.

Friday 21 November
Kick-Off Party

The action starts with a Vintage Hair Styling Workshop, perfect for those keen to nail that pin-up or pompadour look before hitting the dance floor. As the sun sets, the Jumpin' Jukebox Trio takes over the Auditorium, firing up an electric opening night guaranteed to get every cool cat jivin' till late.



Saturday 22 November
Show 'n' Shine & Rock the Night Away

Saturday morning roars to life with the Show 'n' Shine in the Club Forster carpark - a dazzling display of hot rods, custom bikes and classic caravans gleaming under the coastal sun. Inside, the Retro Market Stalls will tempt visitors with vintage fashion, collectibles and rockabilly must-haves, while the Club



restaurants and local fires food truck dishes up hearty fare to keep the energy high. In the afternoon, festival goers can take part in a free rockabilly dance class before donning their finest threads for the Saturday Night Rockin' Ball, featuring the legendary Coop De Ville live on stage. With prizes for Best Dressed and plenty of high-octane rhythm, it's set to be one unforgettable night.

Sunday 23 November
Chrome, Cool & The Final Fling

Sunday kicks off with a relaxed late breakfast and the Show 'n' Shine and Best Dressed presentations, celebrating the best of the weekend's style and shine. Then, rockabilly favourites The Flattrakkers take to the Auditorium for a smokin' live set, followed by The Rockabillys in The Tanks Lounge to close the festival with one last round of tunes, dancing and good vibes.

For the full program and tickets, visit clubforster.com.au.

What's On club forster
19 STRAND ST FORSTER NSW
WWW.CLUBFORSTER.COM.AU/SHOWS

Brand spankin' Rockin' by the beach Festival
HOT ROD, VINTAGE & CUSTOM SHOW 'N' SHINE
ROCK'N'ROLL & ROCKABILLY BANDS
VINTAGE & RETRO MARKETS
LIVE MUSIC, DANCING, FOOD
TROPHIES, PRIZES & MORE!
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21-23 NOVEMBER
VISIT **club forster** .COM.AU

club forster Christmas Luncheon
THURSDAY DECEMBER 25
11AM ARRIVAL 12PM LUNCH

Join us in 242ate to enjoy a festive family atmosphere over 3 delicious courses:

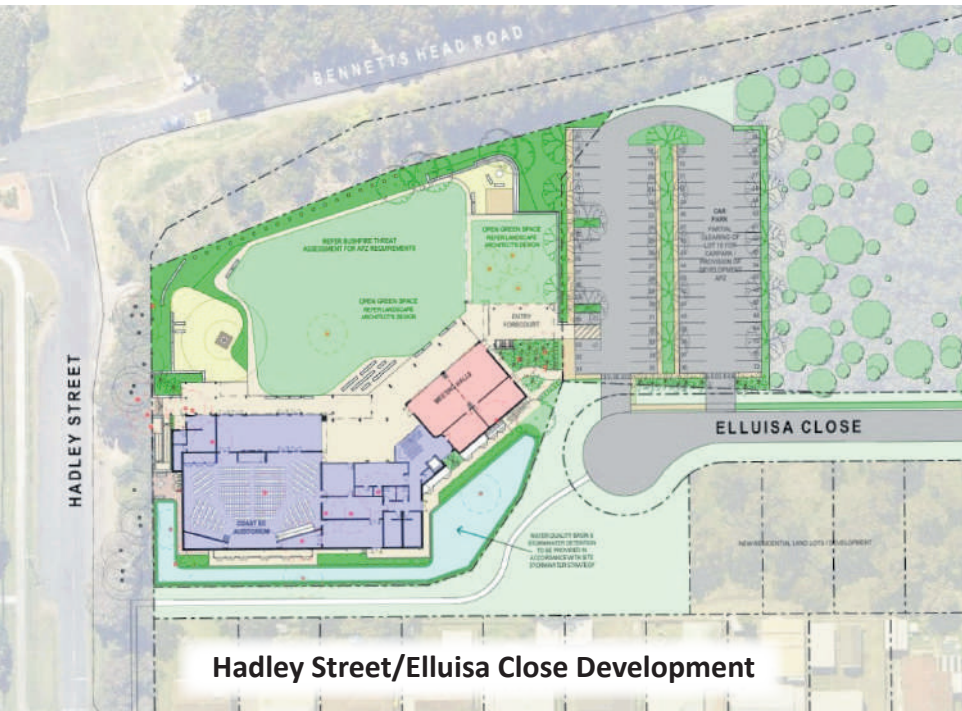
ENTRÉE	MAIN	DESSERT
Smoked Chicken Salad Seafood Plate alternate drop	Traditional Hot Christmas Lunch	Mixed Dessert Table self serve
ADULT \$135 PER TICKET	CHILD U12 \$50 PER TICKET	

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TERMS & CONDITIONS APPLY. SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS.

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



Hadley St/Elluisa Cl Development

There has been a development application submitted to MidCoast Council to develop a block of land at 1 Hadley Street Forster.

There is a ground swell of opposition to this development in the local area, as this development is of a scale that is totally inappropriate for the site and neighbourhood.

To put it in context, one part of the development is a 442 seat auditorium. That is only 12% smaller than the Manning Entertainment Centre in Taree, and that is only one part of this significant development - there are offices, meeting rooms, café, creche and a commercial kitchen. The proposed hours of operation are 8am-10pm, 7 days a week.

The DA also proposes a car park on an adjoining block, that is to be accessed via Elluisa Close. Elluisa Close is a small, quiet cul de sac, that is in no way appropriate for access to a commercial car park. The proposed car park on C2 zoned land is for only 72 spaces, which is grossly inadequate. The surrounding streets will in effect become the overflow parking. Elluisa close is used daily, not only by residents but by dog walkers, runners, cyclists, children playing etc and there is no footpath. This quiet roadway is the safe pathway for all of this activity.

The destruction of a section of C2 zones land is also a shocking proposal as the effect on local biodiversity will be very significant.

The impact on the access to Forster Public School at drop off and pick up times, not to mention when there are school events, will also be significant. There is insufficient capacity now for parents to park. This development will only further restrict parent's options.

As a group we have submitted formal objections and as part of that submission to council, we have provided reports that show significant shortcomings in the DA. Specifically noting that the provided traffic assessment is outdated, along with several other non-conforming elements to the application.

We encourage residents to take the time to review the application on the council web site to fully understand the scale and impact this development is likely to have on a quiet residential part of Forster.

The "1 Hadley Street Forster - Place of Worship and Community Facilities" plans can be viewed using DA number DA2025/0624 through the NSW government site at <https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/daexhibitions>

This development application may be on the agenda at the 19 November Council Meeting. *The Elluisa Close & District Residential Group*

Reply from CoastEC

CoastEC (Coast Evangelical Church) has about 250 people attending our Sunday Services each week. We currently rent multiple venues (office space in Wharf St; Forster Public School for church services on Sundays and Youth Group on Friday nights; The Girl Guides Hall for Kids Club on Friday afternoons; and Club Forster for seminars). We need to build our own facility to house our ministries.

We recently lodged a DA with Council. We understand that there is some opposition to the development, but there is also plenty of support.

The location of our proposed facilities is on the block of land we own in Hadley St, directly across the road from Forster Public School. The land is zoned R3 (medium density) and Community Facilities, Places of Worship, and Café's are all permitted with consent. This location also places our development amongst several other community facilities like Forster Public School, the Great Lakes Aquatic and Leisure Centre, the Great Lakes Bridge Club, the Great Lakes Art Society, and the Girl Guides Hall. We think it's important to be part of the local community and to have a presence, just like other community groups. It's not at all uncommon for churches to be located in or beside residential areas, just like the vast majority of churches in Forster-Tuncurry area. A few people have asked us about the size of the building. We've had several meetings

with Council over the last few years and have modified the concept based on their feedback. The auditorium has a seating capacity of 380 as per the submitted architectural plans. The seating capacity of 442 as quoted, related to an earlier plan that was not submitted as part of the DA and this has since been clarified with Council. We believe this development will sit within the character of the locality and not dominate the streetscape. The footprint of the building is well below the floor space ratio of the planning controls and the building (less than 8 metres high) is way below the height limits for the R3 zone (which allows for 12 metres). The overall design also ensures that coastal amenity is retained, by the provision of large green space between Bennets Head Rd and the church building.

The proposed carpark located on the adjacent lot 15 is a permissible use under GLEP and the submitted 152 page biodiversity environmental report supports the development. We've also had several meetings with one of MidCoast Council's senior ecologists to talk about how to best minimise the environmental impact and have implemented his suggestions into the design.

The proposed hours of operation for the building are quite broad to ensure flexibility for occasional events, and to meet a variety of scheduling needs for both the church and the local community. *Chris Ekins, Lead Pastor, CoastEC*



www.moir.com.au

Screen Reviews

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

Billy Joel. And So It Goes: (Fox/Max)

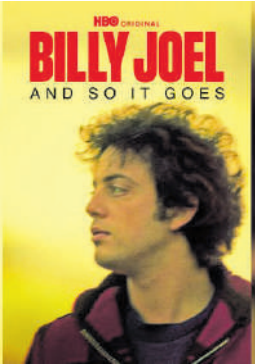
A fantastic 2-part documentary by HBO, Billy Joel's 'hits that you've grown up with all suddenly make sense.

Delivered across the chronicles of his many albums, this 'doco' really allows the audience into the mind of this musical genius and the life events which drove him to write his many top hits.

Perhaps most fascinating is the exploration into exactly how he goes about writing his many musical masterpieces - sitting alone at his piano scrawling and scribbling the lyrics we all know so well (and there they are for us to see in first and second draft).

There are so many 'take aways' from this excellent production, I really had no idea how 'reliable' he really is and how much he remained committed to representing the working-class man.

In many ways this is actually says it all about this 'doco' - how a seemingly very ordinary individual can also be one of the most musical geniuses of our time.



Book Review

Book Review by John King - Pacific Palms Librarian

Unsettled

Kate Grenville's latest book Unsettled has a subtitle of A Journey Through Time and Place. Yet that subtitle does not do the book justice. Unsettled does: it reflects her state of mind in looking back at her family's involvement in the "unsettlement" of the aborigines from Solomon Wiseman's Ferry through the Hunter Valley up to Guyra. It is more than a family biography through time and place, though it is that. It is looking at the unsaid, or barely hinted at, reality through that displacement, a form of expiation, an imagination of what perhaps was, and her feelings about that, a personal truth-telling that mere words cover up.

As Grenville says, Wiseman took up the grant of land, those words disguising that he took the land from its prior owners and users where they grew yams, fished, and hunted. Go north through Settlers Road, St Albans (and the Settlers Arms pub is a beautiful old building), St Albans Common, to Mogo Creek, an ephemeral creek that enters the valley at its northern extreme. "Mogo" means stone axe but the Hawkesbury sandstone is not suitable for axes, so the granite type stone came there. It didn't walk of its own accord; people brought it, probably through trade. That is, there was a network of peoples in operation.

There is history here, too. The British Government enacted that new settlers should allow aborigines access to their traditional land and water, evidently on the basis that they were essentially following a nomadic lifestyle. Ignorance rather than actuality and of course it didn't happen.

Governor Darling declared a line north of Murrurundi as where the "settled districts" ended, that is effectively as unregulated, thereby allowing squatters, later the 'squattocracy', to do almost anything they



The book is really Grenville's own journey - she says pilgrimage - but it comes over as her own attempt to settle her mind, to try to ask those questions that we all wish we had asked of our parents, to see the context of her family stories and if not to offer a mea culpa at least a reality not an erasure. Much is supposition, of course, and some is doubtful. She looked for the family owned hotel, magnificent it seems, in Tamworth only to find it demolished for K-Mart and a parking area. Grenville sees it as an erasure; or is it simply a commercial grab for valuable land?

Let Grenville have the last word. "There are no answers (here to justice for the future - my words) - just one person's attempt to look with new eyes." As a book covering generations back to Solomon Wiseman's grant in 1817, it is a valuable perspective.

By John King - Librarian

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

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- Renovations
- Maintenance

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Call Peter 0468 946 196

GRIFFIN, Terence John

Known as Terry.
Late of Halliday's Point.
Passed away peacefully on Saturday 1st November 2025.
Aged 82 years.
Beloved husband of Jan.
Loving father and father-in-law to Kim & Ian and Grant & Emma.
Proud and loving grandfather of Elliot.
Terry was farewelled at a private graveside service at the Tuncurry Lawn Cemetery on Thursday 6th November 2025.
Ph: 6552 1057



TUNCURRY FORSTER JOCKEY CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

To be held at the Track
Sunday, 30th November 2025 - 10:00 AM
The Club is seeking new committee members.
For enquiries, please contact
Julie Manning on 0421 965 563

Lost Cockatiel

Sparky is a grey cockatiel. He flew out of the house on 13 October. He has been known to fly onto a person's shoulder after getting out twice before. He says, "say hello Sparky" and whistles. Please contact Peter Fedorow 0407487193.



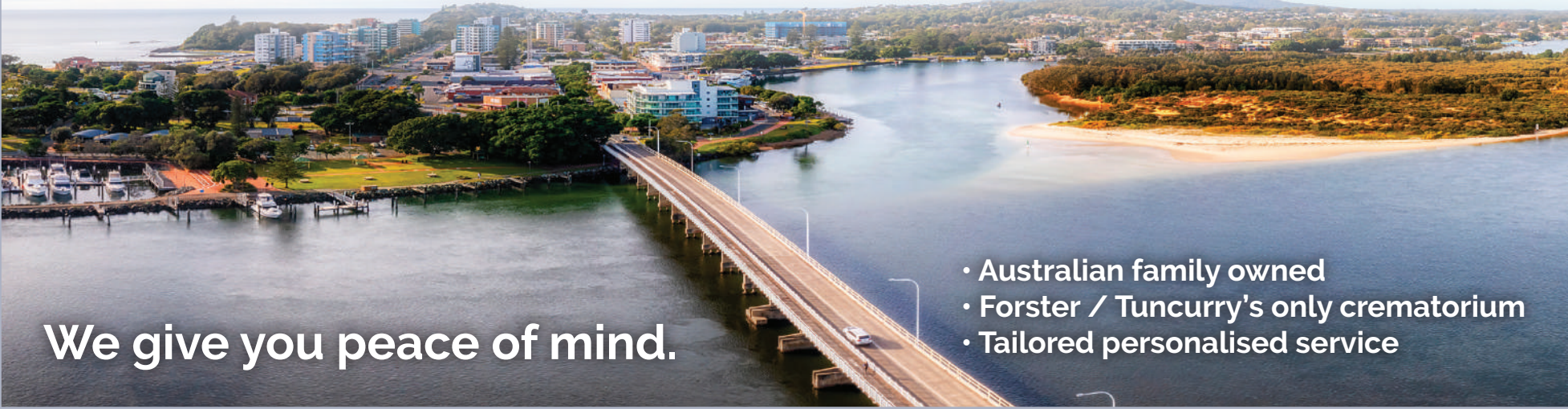
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Community News

www.forsterfortnightly.com.au

Page 20

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 Rhys 0402 636 895

Mid North Coast Bootscoters

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

Thank you to everyone who has supported the
Group this year. Our next meeting will be 4th
Feb. 2026. 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 Clvic 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/Navy 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 Rhys 0402 636 895

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

Breese 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

Breese 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

Community News

www.forsterfortnightly.com.au

Page 21

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

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.

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 25 November

This support group

Still waiting and still underfunded!



Above: (L-R) Scott Grant (Nurses & Midwives Representative), Eddie Wood (President of Action Group), Trish Wood, Dr Murray Hyde-Page, Tanya Thompson MP, Dr Joe McGirr MP, Carmel Bartlett, Tom McDonald (Ambulance Representative) and Alan Tickle at the Community Meeting.

Continued from page 1.

for proper funding of MBH. The Assembly unanimously supported the hospital's redevelopment of Stage 2 and 3 in its entirety, announcing a commitment of \$180 million to complete Stage 2 of the project and provide an Urgent Care Centre in Forster.

However, at the Action Group's Annual General Meeting in Taree on 30 October 2025, President Eddie Wood expressed frustration over the slow progress. "Ryan Park, Health Minister of NSW, said he heard our message loud and clear and that the door was open for more funding while he worked closely with local member Tanya Thompson," Mr Wood told the audience.

people. In comparison, Maitland now has 339 beds for a population just under that of the Manning Great Lakes. Manning Base Hospital continues to face bed block, ambulance ramping, and chaos in the emergency department, with up to eight ambulances sometimes waiting outside with no available beds.

Mr Wood also highlighted the lack of a Cardiac Cath Lab and Hybrid Theatre, citing two recent cardiac patient deaths as tragic examples of the consequences. Forster, he noted, still lacks an Urgent Care Centre despite repeated mentions in clinical planning documents. Bulahdelah, meanwhile, has no facility appropriate to meet community needs since its hospital closure in 2013.



Above: Action Group members with HNE Health District executive and CEO Tracey McKosker (in the middle/blue dress) in March 2025, Newcastle, who said they would prioritise Manning Base Hospital. Photo supplied.

"Yet here we are, 15 months later, with demolition of the old building complete but severely pared-down plans for Stage 2 still not started and no planning whatsoever for Stage 3."

Mr Wood said CEO Tracey McCosker of HNE Health District told the Action Group there was not enough money to complete Stage 2, offering no further explanation. This contradicted assurances given at a Medical Staff Council Meeting in August 2024 at MBH and then at a meeting in Newcastle in March 2025 (picture above), when the HNE CEO and executives promised MBH would be the number one priority once Maitland Hospital was completed.

"In March 2022 Maitland received their brand new hospital to the tune of \$745 million," Mr Wood said. "This new hospital is only 30 minutes down the road from the John Hunter Hospital in Newcastle. Maitland also recently received an Urgent Care Centre."

"At Manning Base, the Stage 2 plan has been drastically reduced," Mr Wood said. "Instead of four floors with 28 beds per floor—112 in total—plus a new mortuary, pathology, pharmacy, loading dock, and a fully fitted external spine connecting the new and old buildings, we are now looking at just three floors of 28 beds, an unfitted pharmacy and pathology, no loading dock, and a shortened internal corridor."

The shortage of beds is a pressing issue at Manning Base. It only has 127 adult beds currently available for patients coming in 24 hours a day from a population of 100,000

floods over the last five years, we feel isolated and let down. We will not stop fighting for the health needs of our area and we are as committed now as we were ten years ago."

Guest speaker MP Dr Joe McGirr praised the community's resilience and stressed that improving rural healthcare starts with people power. "It's going to take that sort of community pressure to convince the minister that rural people deserve a better system," he said.

Local MP voices frustration over Manning Hospital Redevelopment delays

The redevelopment of Manning Base Hospital (MBH) and health services in the Great Lakes region remains a source of frustration for residents, with funding delays and lack of clarity on progress drawing criticism from local Member Tanya Thompson.

Soon after the Action Group's community meeting, Ms Thompson outlined the funding history for the project. "Two years ago, \$180 million was announced for the 'Lower North Coast Health Project', which incorporates Stage 2 of MBH and an Urgent Care Centre in Forster — \$100 million from the previous State Government and \$80 million from the current Government," she said. A further \$355,000 was granted this year for demolition and additional costs at MBH.

Ms Thompson said the \$180 million is now insufficient to cover the project. "For each



Local frustration and anger is growing over Manning Base Hospital Redevelopment delays and lack of funding for critical services.

quarter that drifts past, more money is wasted on planning or administration, which means you receive fewer services for the money," she said.

She placed primary responsibility on the Hunter New England Health District. "For over a decade, we've been at a stalemate with the back-and-forth between departments and the ministry. The health district needs to stick by their word. CEO Tracey McKosker said they would make the Manning a priority after commitments such as Maitland Hospital — and they haven't."

Ms Thompson described difficulties in obtaining updates on the project. "Receiving information and updates on the redevelopment of the Manning has been incredibly difficult and that information comes predominantly through the health district. Projects are managed through the health district and ministry, but predominantly through the health district. They are the ones that drive it and run it."

Highlighting ongoing efforts to obtain transparency, she added, "In the last sitting week, with my colleague Sarah Mitchell in the Upper House, we did a Section 52 and called for papers relating to everything to do with health at the Manning and Forster from 1 January 2023 until today. The time has come for the community and for myself as the local member to be given the information that we are asking for."

Ms Thompson also criticized Health Minister Ryan Park for a lack of presence in the region. "I've been writing to the Minister almost fortnightly. When he was in the shadow ministry, he visited the region in 2022 and said how wrong it was while in campaign mode. He told Eddie Wood he would be back. He is yet to show his face here, and that's not right."

She highlighted gaps in regional health services, including the absence of cardiac care at MBH. "We don't have cardiac services here, and it is the number one cause of death in our region. There is only one cardiologist available, which puts extra stress on our paramedics who then have to travel to Port Macquarie or Newcastle, taking them off the roster and putting more pressure on already depleted services. Cardiac services at the Manning should be a

non-negotiable for our region — it has to be in this redevelopment."

Ms Thompson said she expects additional funding for Stage 3 of the redevelopment. "The minister is on the record stating the \$180 million is not the end of funding. As we are about to 'turn sod' on Stage 2, I would hope there is some funding already in the pipeline for Stage 3. If they're not planning for it, then they're playing with people's lives, again."

She also called for an Urgent Care Centre in Forster to reduce pressure on MBH. "This will help alleviate a minimum of 7,000 presentations a year from the Great Lakes to Manning Hospital. It is unsafe along roads like The Lakes Way and too far for many people in the Great Lakes to receive emergency care in Taree."

Local ambulance shifts reinstated

On a brighter note, Ambulance Driver Tom McDonald was able to report after the meeting that the Taree Ambulance Station has had its three-day shift crews (with 6 paramedics on dayshift) reinstated 7 days a week after a two and a half year campaign from HSU (Health Services Union). Before reinstatement, Taree Ambulance was left with only 4 paramedics on some days when one of their crews was repositioned by NSW ambulance management to anywhere between Forster and Kempsey as relief for other stations who were short.

"We've had a campaign going for two and a half years now, trying to convince the government that Taree needs this full service. I've written letters away to Ryan Park and had many conversations with New South Wales ambulance management.

Tom said the reinstatement came with interaction from HSU and great support from local member Tanya Thompson.

"It's a huge win for the Mid Coast area, particularly because we're lacking a cardiac cath lab at Manning Base or a trauma centre in our town. This means if one ambulance is called away, there's still two that'll be functioning. That was one of the big problems we had when one gets sent off to Port or down to Newcastle hospital."



Action Group's Annual General Meeting in Taree on 30 October 2025. Photos by Mary Yule.

Local Identity – Helen Kemp

Interview by Vanda Gooley - Forster

Helen Kemp, 45, loves supporting her local community and the natural environment. She is a conservationist and has been the Manning Coastcare Coordinator for the past six years. She and her partner opened an independent book shop in Wingham six months ago, where they host book clubs and games nights. "So, life is currently very full, and very fulfilling!"

Helen grew up on a farm on the Central Coast with her mum, dad and older brother Tony. Her dad was a farmer and her mum, a farmer's wife (which of course means farm hand, bookkeeper, housewife, mother, social events coordinator, gardener, cook etc etc.)

Helen feels fortunate when she reflects on her childhood. "We didn't do much in the way of extra-curricular activities after school or on the weekends, but in many ways, it was an idyllic childhood of roaming the farm, riding our pushbikes, reading books and comics, raising baby chickens and lambs, swimming in the dam and just 'mucking about.'" Their farm had a lot of native bush retained on it, and exploring that really fostered a love of the natural world in Helen. Plus, she adored watching David Attenborough documentaries.



Above: Helen Kemp and Lee Murray.

Helen now lives with her partner of 10 years, Lee Murray, in Wingham. She feels lucky to be blessed with two beautiful stepsons, who are in their early twenties, and Helen is thankful that they all get on well with their mum and they've formed an unconventional but happy extended family.

Helen attended schools on the Central Coast before leaving after year 10 to go to Tocal Agricultural College in Patterson. She did a Certificate 3 in Agriculture, followed by a Certificate 4 in Landcare at Tocal and then went on to do a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science at Newcastle University. While working in her first job after uni, she did Certificate 3 in Conservation and Land Management (Bush Regeneration).

Helen got a job doing bush regeneration straight out of university and has mostly worked in the environmental management field - predominantly in the community-support side of things - ever since. Helen believes very strongly that the only hope we have of reversing the devastating trend toward eco-cide (climate change, biodiversity loss and ecosystem collapse) is through the involvement of everybody. "We clearly can't rely on governments or corporations; it really is up to us. Thankfully, working with Landcare and the Manning Coastcare volunteers really does give me hope." Manning Coastcare has well over 100 members, and many of them are out working every week to help support our local native ecosystems, just for the love of it. "Most of our Coastcare volunteers are Boomers, with time to spare after retirement, and they are

some of the best, most caring and dedicated people I've ever met."

Manning Coastcare Group Inc. is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year. They have an extraordinary legacy of achievements in terms of protecting and restoring coastal vegetation, and are also looking to the future of climate change and predicted sea-level rise and planning to deal with that proactively. "It's a really challenging but exciting time to be involved". Littoral (or Coastal) Rainforest is listed as an Endangered Ecological Community, and we are lucky enough to have small patches all along our coast which our Coastcare groups work to protect. Historically, the major threats to coastal vegetation have been clearing for development and sand mining, and the invasion of weed species like bitou bush. As a result, Coastcare groups have focussed on bush regeneration - predominantly weed control with some careful planting of locally native species. Our coastal ecosystems, including Littoral Rainforest, are under a new existential threat. Manning Coastcare is working with MidCoast Council to identify areas that Littoral Rainforest can "retreat" to - areas further inland, on higher sites, or with rock substrate that won't erode. The natural process of rainforest transition in these areas will be protected and supported to ensure Littoral Rainforest continues to have a future in our area.

In terms of the book shop, Helen's partner Lee, just after Christmas said, "Maybe we should open a bookstore", and they opened the doors of Brush Turkey Books a few months later. "Praise be to ADHD brains, our left-field ideas and crazy hyper-focus powers!"

Neither Lee or Helen had any real retail experience, so the whole process of setting up and running a shop has been a huge learning curve. As well as new and second-hand books, they also sell vinyl records and board games, and they are running events in their space as well! "So, we have a lot of plates spinning. We're often pretty exhausted these days, but we really love what we're doing." There's also been an amazing community response to the shop, with people traveling from Forster, Port Macquarie and Gloucester to come see what they're doing. Even six months in, they're still getting people most days thanking them for opening a book shop. "I think people really miss them, and we're all getting very sick of everything being digital and subscription-based. So, it's been a really incredible experience."

Lee and Helen used to run weekly board game nights in Taree under the name Taree Table Top. They're getting back into that space again now, with monthly board game nights and semi-regular Dungeons and Dragons events at the shop. "It makes us really happy that these events often attract members of the community (such as neuro-diverse and LGBTQI+ people) who might otherwise struggle to find social things to do in our area. And they're also lots of fun for us too!"



Helen and Lee also host book clubs in the shop after hours, and are branching out to other types of events, such as the recent sold-out "Books and Birds" evening which showcased four presenters, all authors and artists. They recently had a "Brush Turkey Tea Party" on Saturday 1st November - a free event in which people came and saw potter Steve Williams and children's author and illustrator Stephen Michael King, both created their artworks live in store.

Helen has been on two big adventures so far. The first involved leaving Sydney, buying a Landcruiser and going on a six-month solo journey up the coast as far as Cape Tribulation in the Daintree Rainforest. She took her time and did some WWOOFing (Willing Workers On Organic Farms) on the way, and ended up on her way back south stopping and staying at Chenrezig Buddhist Institute for a few months on the Sunshine Coast hinterland. "In that time, I 'took refuge', which basically means converting and becoming a lay Buddhist."

Helen's second big adventure was related, as she went to Nepal and spent a couple of months at Kopan Buddhist Monastery in Kathmandu, and undertook their month-long November Course. She then went on a couple of weeks' pilgrimage tour of northern India starting in Varanasi and visiting all the primary sites of the Buddha's life.

The biggest challenges Helen has faced have been losing both her parents to cancer. She lost her dad in 2009 and her mum passed away just a couple of years ago in October 2023. "Even though I was closer to my mum, losing my dad was foundation-shaking for me and led to me leaving my then-fiancé, leaving my job, leaving Sydney and going on my solo 4WD journey. It was life changing in every sense of the word as I realised very deeply that life isn't a dress rehearsal and we really just get this one chance to live it how we want."

Another big challenge Helen has faced has been living with ADHD. Helen was formally diagnosed only 4 years ago, after suffering pretty severe burnout, but of course it's something that has impacted her whole life. "There's a lot to celebrate about being neuro-divergent (or neuro-spicy, as I like to call it), but it definitely comes with its challenges, especially when



Above: "Setting up and running a book shop has been a huge learning curve."

you're undiagnosed and constantly wondering 'what's wrong with me?' There can be a lot of shame and self-recrimination when you struggle with things other people seem to breeze through, and that can lead to anxiety and depression."

Helen is also happy to be a board member of Manning Valley Neighbourhood Services, an organisation doing amazing work for the most vulnerable in our community.

Helen has been inspired by various people throughout her life such as Jane Goodall, (primatologist and anthropologist), Joanna Macy, (environmental activist and author), Pema Chödrön (Buddhist teacher) and David Attenborough, as well as many people Helen has been fortunate enough to work with. Right now, she is greatly inspired by young people like Greta Thunberg who are standing up for a liveable environment as well as a more equitable world free of oppression and persecution.

Asked what Helen loves about the Mid North Coast, she says, "The natural beauty of the mid north coast is extraordinary, from the beaches and littoral rainforests of the coast, the creeks and rivers, farmland, forests and Gondwana rainforests in the mountains, we have incredible diversity and beauty in a relatively small part of the world.

We're also blessed to have a relatively large Indigenous population with strong ties to Country, and it's wonderful to see them becoming more visible and embraced by the wider community.

I also love how generally friendly and welcoming the majority of people are in our area. I lived in Sydney for nine years, so I'm still very aware and conscious of that difference. We had a beautiful dog for seven years (he sadly passed in May at the age of 14), and walking him around Wingham twice a day, I felt like I really got to know the town. So many people are happy to smile, say hello, or stop and have a chat. It gives you a sense of having a place in the world, which I think is so important to the human experience."

Left: Helen (on far left) is a conservationist and has been the Manning Coastcare Coordinator for the past six years. "Working with Landcare and the Manning Coastcare volunteers really does give me hope."

Manning Coastcare: midcoast2tops.org.au/manning-coastcare/ facebook.com/manningcoastcare

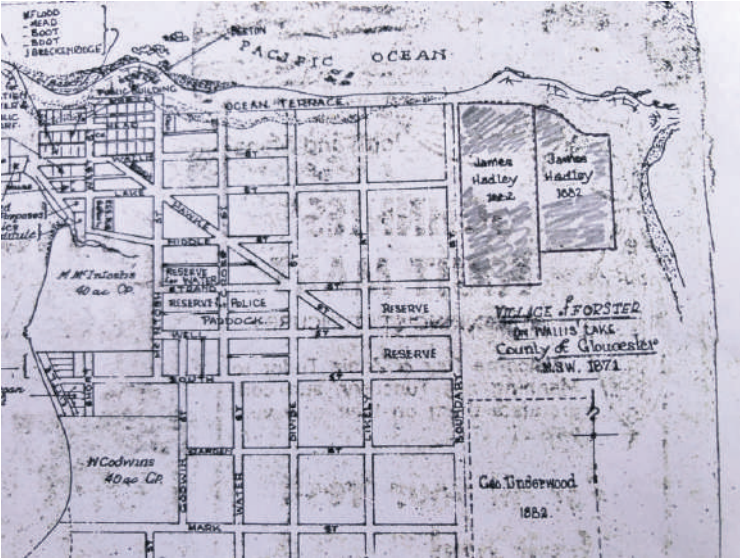
What's in a name?

Great Lakes Museum

The developers, and civic fathers of our district have used quite a few names of pioneers on streets, parks etc, commemorating their sterling work in opening up and developing our area. One such street in Forster, Hadley Street (also Hadley Island in Wallis Lake) was named after the Hadley Family.

James Hadley: James was born in Port Macquarie in 1841, the son of Joseph Hadley and Mary Ann Callaghan. James and his wife Christina were married at Maitland in 1861 and had 19 children. Christina was born in Essex, England 1844 the daughter of Samuel John Claydon and Dinah Buckle. James, a mill worker for J.W Breckenridge, had taken up 100 acres of land at Bennett's Head and thereon ran 6 horses, 40 head of cattle and 1 pig. As well as working at the sawmill, James and Christina tilled the land and grew maize and vegetables for their own use. James would work in the forest, felling mill logs and cutting them for sale to the local mill for 1 shilling per 100 feet. Men like James Hadley set themselves a tremendous task in carving homes out of the dense forest areas and rearing large families, in districts far removed from the amenities of city life. James died in Forster on the 28/6/1934 and Christina died on 1/1/1936. Both are buried together at the Forster Cemetery.

Christina Hadley: Always a woman of sound common sense and a splendid mother, she



Above: Top right dark squares indicate James Hadley's blocks of land on this "Village of Forster" map from 1871.

found time with all her multifarious duties in raising a large family to going to the help of others whenever called upon. For very many years she was regarded as the maternity nurse of the district. James Hadley eventually sold his parcel of land to Lincoln and Ida Palmer who were originally from Bungwahl, hence Lincoln Street and Palmer Street. Locals and visitors to the area would still remember Palmer's goat herd roaming around Bennett's Head for many years, being a tourist attraction until 1962 when they were transferred to Regatta Island.

Great Lakes Museum - 1 Capel Street, Tuncurry. Opening hours Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 10am-1pm and Sunday 1pm-3pm. Volunteers welcome.

Research for Museum articles are from the extensive history written by Dawn McMasters, June Wright, 'Winds of Change' by Mick Constable and the valued support of Research Officer Ruth Stocker.

FDPC Presentation & Competition

By Keith Pascoe – Forster Digital Photographic Club

FDPC gave a presentation on "Better Phone Photography" at the library as part of the councils Nourish and Flourish program in October.

Our President Dale Rabbitt and myself jointly did the presentations and we had about thirty enthusiastic attendees. We believe it was a great success, as I don't think this type of "in depth" on how to get the most out of your phone camera has been offered before.

The latest phones have great lenses and certainly rival some of the best cameras on the market. One thing we stressed at the presentation was that the best camera to have is the one you have with you and that is always your phone. You don't always have a camera with you.

We were also lucky because the ladies from CWA were on hand with morning tea and



Above: Ah, That Feels Better by Keith Pascoe.

beautiful scones jam and cream. Yum! A great morning was had by all.

September Results

For the month of September we had two set subjects "Shadows " and "Nature".

Set subject - Shadows

Merits: Long Legs by Cozette Leonard (also Judges Choice) and Shadow Steps, Through the Looking Glass by Yvonne Moule, Verandah Sydney Hospital, Giants by Keith Pascoe,

Credits: In the Bin by Yvonne Moule, Deadvlie at Sunrise by Wanda Amos, Shadows from the Past by Marguerite Lamb, Beach Sunset Shadow by Malcolm Walker

Set subject - Nature

Merits: The Grass Crown by Grahame Wilson (Also Judges Choice), Father and Son and Lily and Bee by Danny Dunne, Ah That Feels Better by Keith Pascoe

Credits: Flamingo Frolic by Yvonne Moule,

Left: Long Legs by Cozette Leonard received a Merit and was Judge's Choice for September.



Tuncurry Writer wins Encouragement Award

Country Press NSW

Ellen Auriac from Tuncurry has received a President's Encouragement Award in the Country Press NSW Inc. 125th Anniversary Writing Competition for her story "A Musical Path". She has been given a \$40 Collins Bookshop gift voucher to support her future creative writing endeavours.

Entries were received from Aberdeen, Alstonville, Bakers Swamp, Barham, Bathurst, Blakney Creek, Blayney, Bombala, Broken Hill, Bumberry, Cessnock, Cooma, Coonabarabran, Coonamble, Corowa, Cowra, Darlington Point, Deniliquin, Dubbo, Eden, Fern Bay, Finley, Forbes, Forster-Tuncurry, Gilgandra, Gloucester, Gollan, Grenfell, Gunnedah, Guyra, Jerilderie, Jerrara, Kiama, Lismore, Little Bay, Manildra, Merewether, Moama, Moruya, Mudgee, Mumbil, Muswellbrook, Narrabri, Narromine, Newcastle, Nowra,

Nyngan, Orange, Parkes, Portland, Sandy Creek, Shoalhaven, Walcha, Wanganella, Warilla, Wellington, Woongarah, Wyoming, and Young.

As a special condition, competitors were required to include a mention of the "local newspaper" as part of their stories.

The competition was sponsored by agribusiness company, Manildra Group, which enabled entry to be free for primary and secondary students, and the general country public, with a total of 178 stories being entered overall.

Country Press NSW Inc. President Lucie Peart thanks the Honan family, owners of Manildra Group, for their generous support in making this event a success, particularly for the country children and teenagers who have taken part.

Country Press NSW Inc. also expresses its gratitude to the Fellowship of Australian



Left: Ellen Auriac won a President's Encouragement Award for her story "A Musical Path." Her story is published in full below.

Writers (NSW), which provided the judging panel.

The Forster Fortnightly is on the Council for Country Press NSW.

Competition Results

Primary Student Category - 1st Lettie Schofield, Forbes ('Why Can't We Go To Town?')

Secondary Student Category - 1st Marley Ava Ferres, Finley ('Mummy's Hero')

Open Category - 1st Vickie Walker, Orange ('Secrets and Lies')

Full results of the writing competition can be found at

<https://www.cpnsw.org.au/events>

"A Musical Path"

By Ellen Auriac - Tuncurry

I haven't always wanted to play the violin.

Until I was twenty-two, I hadn't given it any thought.

It was a chance encounter. A friend of a friend, who owned a second-hand store had one for sale.

I have always enjoyed the expressive nature of the violin and its wide vocal range. From the delicate plucking and smooth flowing vibrations through to quick passionate scrubbing sounds. I wanted to learn. It was only fifty bucks, so I bought it.

I know what you're thinking, fifty dollars is very cheap, it's probably a dreadful instrument.

Well, you'd be right, it was of a very low standard, but I was a single mum and poor, plus, I had no idea how to play and would likely be dreadful too. So really it was a perfect match. I was excited and keen to break into a new and wonderful musical world and that was all that mattered.

I never had music lessons as a child. We had a piano in the lounge room, my eldest sister had learnt for a while. However, as the fifth child, there wasn't any excess funds available for lessons. But I was drawn to tinker away on it, mastering the time-honoured beginner tunes of Chopsticks and Will you Wash my Dirty Shirt, then advancing to the Night and Day duet.

One year my eldest sister showed me how to play Good King Wenceslas, using both hands. I was so proud of myself. Unfortunately, without knowing how to read music, I would forget the finger patterns after a time and constantly had to relearn.

I recall the day my violin arrived. It came in a black wooden case, which I have since learned is called a coffin. Lucky, I didn't know that at the time, or I may have taken it as a sign, and believed the whole idea was dead before it began.

When I opened the case and saw the violin with its curved body and swirling scroll it was love at first sight. I lifted it out and ran my hands over the smooth, wooden body, caressing peaks and valleys with my fingertips. I plucked at the strings and grimaced as the untuned sound scratched at my ears. It was going to need some attention, new strings for a start. I studied the bow, was it meant to be so floppy? I attempted to tighten the hair by turning the screw at the end, but it was very tight from years of neglect and hardly moved.

I cradled the violin against my shoulder and ran the bow across the strings. The caustic sound nearly made my eyes water, but the floating movement of my arm and the vibration quivering against my cheek felt wonderful. She had whispered to me, and I was hooked. I would get her fixed and start learning. In no time at all, I would master this instrument together we would be brilliant!

It is a known fact that imagination traverses a quicker path than reality.

Anyone having dealt with learning a musical instrument knows that there is nothing inexpensive or speedy about any of it. By the

time I had paid to get it assessed, bought a new set of strings, a shoulder rest, rosin, a tuner and an inexpensive, functioning bow, I was skint again. At least the sound was less eye watering. There would be no lessons for a while. So, I focused my attention on fixing the 'coffin', sanding the black paint off and clear coating the timber, then quilting a lining for the insides to hold her gently in her new home.

Now we were ready.



Yet, it was seven years, which included the arrival of my second child, before I finally attended any lessons. I was thirty. Slowly the notes on the treble clef started to make sense. It was as if a door, previously gummed shut with years of thick paint had been prised open. I could make sense of what the scrawl on the manuscript was trying to tell me. I had begun to crack the code!

My third child arrived. Raising three children and working doesn't leave much space for a mother's personal interests, so once more, violin playing was pushed to the back burner.

When I turned forty, I tried again. I was going to finally master this instrument. My teacher, a brilliant violinist, set me on the right path. For the next few years, she steadily guided me through the first three grades.

In my opinion, music exams are terrifying.

During each attempt, my heart would pound, and my hands would shake. These two factors made playing more difficult. When you add my tendency to mentally go blank under duress, well let's just say, it wasn't all clear sailing. However, I managed to forge my way through those three grades, after which, I was considered proficient enough to join the local string group.

What a joy!

I was positioned in the back of the second violin section. Second violin is the equivalent to the alto section in a choir. It isn't always melodic. Second violins and violas are the connecting sound between the high melody

of the first violins and the deep base vibrating from the cellos and bases. The best part about playing with the second violins is the position; right in the centre of the group of musicians. It's like sitting within a speaker, buffeted by waves of intersecting melodies that toss you from one emotion to the next.

I began to appreciate the play between the instruments. I listened as the melody swirled around the group, flitting from one player to the next. My violin vibrated in my hands as we added our sound to the swirling sound.

I gained a healthy respect for the skill possessed by composers. How did they create

swirling around me included brass, which blasted majestically from behind while the woodwind and flutes darted and spiralled about and the percussion thrummed a steady heartbeat that brought unity and life to this living sound. Then there was the large string section, a huge sound that hummed like an angelic chorus. It was absolute heaven.

I was improving, but although I practiced a lot, I always felt like I was playing catch up. Sometimes, at home, I'd struggle with a particularly hard section of the music, I'd get disheartened and tell myself I'd never be any good at this, that shouldn't be in the orchestra. I was just dead weight, and the orchestra would be better without me.

The next rehearsal I would retake my seat; the music would swirl around me and build in my chest, stretching me until I felt I was about to explode with joy. My mouth stretched in an uncontrollable smile. I'd shook my head in acceptance. I wouldn't give it up; this was my happy place.

I was given my second violin when a friend's uncle, who has been a fiddle player in his younger years passed away. He had a couple of violins, and my friend knew I played and asked if I'd like one. It was a much better instrument, a fact which supported my growing skills.

I played with the seconds for about ten years until a few years ago when I moved into the firsts. I had reached sixty years of age and decided it was time I challenged myself more, my new teacher was the section leader, and she was able to support my learning and success. As if the universe supported my decision I was given my third violin.

This time it was my second eldest sister that assisted my progress. She had purchased her violin over twenty years before but had found her body unable to accommodate the unusual positions a violin demands, so she had given it up and put it in storage. My partner plays ukulele and my sister, having retired, decided she would like to learn that instead. We agreed to sell her violin on Market Place for her, so I tuned it up in preparation. The sound was beautiful. I played a piece I'd been practicing all week, and the violin just sang. It was crisp and clean. I decided I would buy it from her, but she insisted that I could just have it. So, we bought her ukulele for her, and my partner is providing a lifetime of lessons. She's going brilliantly and they're having a ball. A win/win situation all 'round'.

I'm still playing with the firsts, still having the best time, still practising, still making mistakes, but always getting better.

I think back to those pieces we played in the string group so long ago, and how hard I had found them, how impressed I was by the composers' skills. I play more difficult pieces now, although I'm no longer sitting in the 'speakers centre' position, I do get the tune which is delightful.

We have concerts bi-annually and our local newspaper often writes an article about an aspect of the orchestra, its players, our conductor or the chosen performance pieces. I like to keep the articles, it's nice to look back and remember where I've been.

It was the best fifty dollars I ever spent.

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Last Inter Resort Golf Event of the year



Above: (L-R) Warren Arnold from Forster Lakes with winner Greg Matthews from Forster Lakes.

By Warren Arnold - Forster Lakes

On Monday 3rd November, 23 golfers from Forster Lakes were joined by 15 golfers from

Palm Lake Tea Gardens at the Tuncurry Golf Course for our last inter resort event of the year. The weather was great, the course was in excellent condition and there were some good scores from both sides.

The winner on the day was Greg Matthews - Forster Lakes, 2nd was Martin Robinson - Tea Gardens and 3rd Tony Gow also from Forster Lakes.

Whilst we were the overall resort winner on the day, Tea Gardens were the winners for the year and retained the trophy from last year. Hopefully next year will be our year.

The golf was followed by lunch in the clubhouse and then presentation for all the winners. A good day was had by all.

We thank the Forster Lakes Sales Department for their continued sponsorship for this event.

We're swimming 350kms for sick kids!



AKC Satellite training

This November, 14 of our local kids Surf lifesaving surf-sports training group, the Port Pirates, is taking up the challenge and swimming 350kms for sick kids and their families staying at Ronald McDonald House in Randwick. That's more kilometres than driving from here to Sydney!

Please donate now and support us as we Swim for Sick Kids! LINK BELOW:

<https://fundraise.rmhcysdney.org.au/fundraisers/PortPirates>

Left: Training at Black Head Beach.

Great Lakes Pearl Dragons host Forster Regatta 15-16 Nov



By Wendy Burdekin - Great Lakes Pearl Dragons

The Great Lakes Pearl Dragons are gearing up for an action-packed weekend as they host their annual Dragon Boat Regatta on 15-16 November 2025 on the sparkling waters of Wallis Lake, Forster (NSW).

This much-loved event brings together clubs from across the north coast for a weekend of competition, camaraderie, and community spirit. Each year, the regatta features a special theme that raises awareness for an important cause. In previous years, the Pearl Dragons have honoured breast cancer survivors, recognised first responders, and celebrated disability inclusion.

For 2025, the spotlight turns to mental health — an issue that touches so many lives. The club hopes to encourage open conversation and highlight how physical activity and team sports like dragon boating can boost both physical and mental wellbeing.

"We know many people are impacted by mental health challenges, whether personally or through someone close to them," the club says. "Dragon boating provides a sense of connection, belonging, and shared purpose that can make a real difference."

On the water, spectators can look forward to two thrilling days of racing. Saturday will feature the endurance-testing 500-metre races along with the dramatic 2-kilometre turns race, where teamwork and strategy shine. Sunday will bring the excitement up a notch with fast-paced 200-metre sprints, showcasing the power and precision of each crew.

Friendly rivalry and plenty of colour and spirit make this regatta a highlight on the north coast racing calendar. Whether you're a paddler, supporter, or visitor, everyone is welcome to enjoy the atmosphere, cheer on the teams, and celebrate the positive power of sport and community.

Forster racer takes out State Championship



Above: Three generations of car racing. (L-R) Ash Birks, Matt Birks and David Birks. Photos supplied. Right: Matt on his way to breaking the outright lap record at One Raceway near Goulburn.

By Mary Yule – Forster Fortnightly

Twenty-six-year-old Forster local Matthew Birks has claimed victory in the under-2L Improved Production State Championship, marking a proud family milestone two decades in the making.

"It's been running for a long, long time now," Matthew said. "My dad, Ash Birks, won the series back in 2003 as well. He was pretty much my age when he did it."

Matthew said the win didn't come easily. "We first had a crack at it in 2021," he said. "We've been trying every year since then, and finally got it done this year."

The championship series is held across several major tracks — Sydney Motorsport Park, Wakefield Park in Goulburn, and Winton

Raceway, just across the border in Victoria. "There were five rounds all up," Matthew explained. "Two at each NSW track and one round in Victoria. It's all about finishing results and consistency."

That consistency was tested when Matthew suffered a Did Not Finish (DNF) earlier in the season. "That one nearly cost us the championship," he said. "It came down to the very last round. We had to either win two races or, if we were beaten by the driver who hadn't had any DNFs, finish all three. It was pretty stressful but we did it."

Matthew also made his mark on the track by breaking an outright lap record. "We actually broke the outright lap record for one raceway down there, which is pretty good," he said. "There are under-2L cars like ours, and then

the outright cars — the bigger ones like Falcons and Commodores. The track only reopened last year in this format, so the record might be beaten eventually, but for now, we're the ones holding it."

With the state title secured, the team is now gearing up for the Nationals at Phillip Island, held on 22-23 November. "Every state has its own series, and the Nationals is where everyone from Perth, Queensland, South Australia comes together to race," Matthew said. "The whole family and our little team are coming down."

It's a tradition that runs deep. "Dad competed in the Nationals many years back, including at Phillip Island," Matthew said. "The highest he ever finished was second place at Morgan Park in Queensland. But the Nationals are tough — you need money and resources to compete effectively."

Fortunately, Matthew has strong support both at home and in the pit. "Dad's a mechanic and puts a lot of effort into the car, and Mum helps with all the admin," he said. "I've also got a sponsor Crisis Transport Logistics and that makes a huge difference."

He said the sponsorship was originally a bit of a happy accident. "We were only going to race for a year because it's expensive," Matthew explained. "But the owner liked the look of our little Corolla — he thought it was a hoot and looked a bit funny — so he gave us sponsorship for a year. Then we started doing well, and he's stuck with us for four years now."

"Without that support from my family and from our sponsor it just wouldn't happen."



Mixed Golf Event



Above: (L-R) Richard Braithwaite, Peter West, Helen Golden, Judi Bull and Chris Garraway after the Mixed Golf Event. Photo supplied.

By David Blanchard – Forster Men's Vets

On the 3rd of November the Men's Vets entertained the Forster Ladies Vets for a very enjoyable Ambrose format followed by a great lunch, raffles and prizes at the Forster Course.

With 101 players the mixed event was played in a very competitive spirit with the winners receiving great prizes from our

sponsor for the day, Chris Garraway from Evermore Solaris Retirement Living, whom we thank very much for their support.

A special thanks to the Men's Vets committee who worked tirelessly to make the day the success it was.

Graham Barclay Tackle World Report

We can see that spring is springing along quite alright, Wallis lake has been turning it on for us and the offshore fishing is starting to fire up also Bream, Whiting and Flathead fishing has started to kick right into gear with reports everyday of big flathead and top water lure crunching bream and whiting.

Fishing the flats this time of year can be super rewarding. Big high tides will push bait fish and prawns up into the shallows to seek shelter and food, little do they know the predatory fish know this and take great opportunity on this. Surface lures are the biggest stand out lure this time of year but diving hardbodies and lightly weighted soft plastics will also work great, if you just like to soak a bait the lightest weighted sinker you can go, and fresh bait will aid in chasing a nice feed of fish of the flats. Kingfish and other offshore fish have found themselves cruising with the flow of the warm spring water all the way up the lake, lots of rat size fish around but getting past the little fellas there are definitely some monsters in the mix.



Simon Maher with a cracking 1m Flathead from the lake, released to fight another day

Getting down the front of the system the breakwall has been consistently producing jewfish every day, some good fish around that 1m mark have been getting around with the plague of school size fish so persistence and using your fish finder is key in this situation, finding where the bait is holding and fishing the turn of the tide will heighten your chances of a bigger fish

Offshore is starting to pick right up, snapper are flooding the reefs north and south, the kingfish are thick around the front also, the fad has been slow starting with only small fish hanging so far, it shouldn't be long, and we should start to see some good dolphin fish getting around and the game fish won't be far behind!



Zak Hunter with a catch of a lifetime! A Monster Kingfish caught off the breakwall on a soft plastic

Whether it be chasing bream and flathead on the local jetties and around the lake to chasing Snapper, Marlin and other offshore predators. We have something for you at Barclay Marine / Tackle World Forster. Your one stop fishing and boating shop.



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It's a fantastic morning!

By Mary Yule – Forster Fortnightly

Since 2015 Bruce Hopper from the Forster Tri Club has organised an All Abilities Kids Triathlon at the Great Lakes Aquatic Centre.

Bruce (pictured below in blue top) said the club enjoys organising this annual event to encourage young kids to have a go.

“It’s also an “all abilities” kids tri,” Bruce said. “That’s the important part for us because there are kids who may have additional needs and often can’t join in with what their family likes to do. We can modify anything on this course. Today we’ve got a person here who’s got a modified bike and a modified running bike. We’ve had other years where we’ve cleared the pool hall for a young person because the sensory processing was way too much for them and they were able to participate.”

This morning, Sunday 9 November, the kids start in different age groups with varying distances. Each age group has the same amount of laps for the swim, bike and run, making it easy for them to remember. The youngest group does one lap of the pool, one bike lap and a run lap on the oval. The oldest kids do 8 laps of each leg.

Bruce said, “It’s a fantastic morning and weather is not too hot. It’s great to have lots of parents here to support their kids. It’s also great that we get so many people from the Foster Tri Club to come out and help because you need a fair few hands to do this.”



The 2025 All Abilities Kids Tri was held in Forster on Sunday 9 November. Photos by Mary Yule.

“The kids are getting their medals and there is lots of food and drink. They’re looking pretty chuffed with themselves!” he added.

Fourteen year old Olivia Delardes (pictured right with her mum) from Bulahdelah is back for her fourth All Abilities Kids Tri and said this is the closest triathlon event to get to from home.

“It’s really fun. There are heaps of little kids, and it’s something different than what I do back home, instead of athletics and cross country. You do everything at once, so it tests your ability.”

Olivia said she will be bringing her little sister Rosie next year.



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