

Christmas Church
Services &
Messages p24-25

Local Identity
Dael Allison p27



Star Pet
Kirby p23



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 10 December 2025 PROUD TO BE A LOCAL FAMILY-OWNED BUSINESS

Circulation 7,000 No.136

Christmas Spirit Festival

The Christmas Spirit Festival was held at John Wright Park in Tuncurry on Saturday 6 December. Photo by Georgie Yule. More photos on page 26.



Rally in Taree over proposed mining in Manning Valley

By Kym Kilpatrick – Hallidays Point

On Saturday, the 29th of November at Fotheringham Park, Taree, a largely civil but at times heated rally was held with the stated aim to inform the community of the proposed MCI Carbon serpentinite exploration licences. These licences, sited upstream from Bootawa Dam, cover an area of 93 kilometres squared or 9,300 hectares including Mt George, Wherrol Flat and Moorall Creek.*

*MidCoast Council supply water to over 35,000 homes and businesses from Crowdy Head to Smiths Lake, including the major population hubs of Wingham, Taree, Old Bar, Hallidays Point and Forster-Tuncurry. More than 80% of customers receive water from this system. Water is drawn from the Manning River and stored in Bootawa Dam, upstream of Wingham. www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au

Organised by members of the grass roots community group MAMA (Manning Against Mining Alliance Inc - <https://www.manningagainstmining.org>), also present were the Federal Member for Lyne, Ms Alison Penfold, representatives of MCI Carbon Sophia Hamblin Wang (CEO & Co-founder), Todd McHenry (Head of Communications) and Katherine Teh, (independent conflict community engagement specialist), plus a number of concerned citizens, including landholders whose properties fall within the existing mining exploration licences.

MCI Carbon purports to be an Australian clean technology company transforming carbon dioxide into building products and other materials for the circular carbon economy. As well as the mining explosives company Orica, it has overseas corporate investors including ITOCHU Corporation, Mizuho Bank and Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank.

The rally was opened by Uncle Russ Saunders who performed a Welcome to Country and spoke movingly of the cultural significance of the Manning Valley. He emphasised the

community's dependence on the river for drinking water, showers and everyday use. He also spoke of the changing nature of the river and the damage from the recent floods. Biripi man, Jeremy Saunders spoke about the lack of consultation with the first nations' community, the importance of a healthy river, and the need to look after it from the top of the flow to the ocean.

Local ecologist Kerrie Guppy spoke from her long experience working in ecological restoration and previous decades working across mining and other industries. Kerrie spoke of the ecological specialness of the Manning Valley, that it is identified as a Valley of Global Significance, home to World Heritage-listed Gondwana Rainforests, the Ramsar Convention designated Myall Lakes Wetlands and the renowned subtropical lowland rainforest that is Wingham Brush. She mentioned the recent awarding of the rigorously assessed and globally recognised Eco Destination Certification and cited the

many endangered and threatened species resident, not least the Manning River Helmeted Turtle, all of which are dependent on healthy clean waterways. She emphasized that any deterioration in the upstream catchments directly impacts the integrity and vulnerability of all downstream eco-systems. She also identified the critical role that the Manning Valley waterways perform as climate refuges, providing shelter following natural disasters that allows biodiversity and eco-systems to begin to heal and regenerate.

Dr Munique Reid, a specialist freshwater ecologist from the Aquatic Ecology and Restoration Lab at the UNE, spoke of the importance of healthy and connected freshwater systems. She stated that although freshwater systems (rivers, lakes and wetlands) cover less than 1% of the Earth and host one third of vertebrate species, they are disproportionately threatened.

Continued on page 26



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We welcome your stories, photos & letters

Please send to info@forsterfortnightly.com.au or contact Editor: Mary Yule 0413 410 492

For advertising enquiries contact:
Sales Manager Geordie Yule 0403 586 342
or email sales@forsterfortnightly.com.au



Dog photo booth at 'Holy Petals.'
More photos p20 & 24.

- 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.

Graffiti Buster's yearly message

By Ted Bickford
– Graffiti Buster Man

We have had another successful year with the community continuing to ring in reports promptly and with the council supplying a truck and essential chemicals - we were able to stay on top of any situation. The ongoing vigilance of residents has been instrumental in keeping our public spaces clean, safe and welcoming.

I take photos of all incidents, and it's clear that the graffiti from the first half of the year was not done by local residents. This reinforces what we already know: our community takes great pride in its environment, and most people here genuinely want to look after our shared spaces.

The youth in our area continue to play a positive and encouraging role. Many young people have shown real interest in the graffiti program, and Forster High School has been particularly proactive in supporting the initiative. Their involvement has made a meaningful impact and shows that our future generations value respect, responsibility, and community pride. The anti-graffiti program has been going for over 30 years.

A big thank-you also goes to our local radio station GLFM, which continues to advertise Graffiti Busters four times a day, seven days



Above: Graffiti Buster Man Ted Bickford. Photo by Mary Yule.

a week. Their commitment ensures the community stays informed and knows exactly how to report incidents. And a special thank-you to the Forster Fortnightly who continues to support us - an invaluable contribution that helps keep our message strong and consistent.

Thank you all for your ongoing support, dedication, and teamwork. Because of your involvement whether through reporting graffiti, helping with clean-ups, or spreading awareness - we have achieved another successful year. Together, we look forward to building on this progress and continuing to make our community a cleaner and more positive place for everyone.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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

Sweet Lilly

Meet fun-loving young Lilly. Lilly came into care as she grew bigger than expected. Lilly is an Australian kelpie-x who is a sweetie. She is very keen to please, loves going for car rides and is a quick learner who loves treats.

Lilly has met some doggie friends in care and enjoyed playing with them, however any new fur siblings will need 'a meet and greet' prior to adoption.

Lilly's adoption fee is \$500.

She is desexed, microchipped, vaccinated and up to date with flea/tick/heart worming treatments.

Please call our dog welfare officer on 0456 935 423 to enquire about Lilly. Rehoming number R251000222



Far left: Maxi is still looking for his new home (from the last Forster Fortnightly edition).



Proud to sponsor 'Pet of the Fortnight' - finding homes for animals in need.
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New jetty for Wallis Island

NSW Minister for Lands and Property

The NSW Government is investing \$1.37 million for the construction of a new jetty to improve public boat access to Wallis Island on the Mid North Coast.

Minister for Lands and Property Steve Kamper said, "This investment is part of the NSW Government's ongoing commitment to building better communities and making our state's important sites more accessible.

Wallis Island, near Forster, is a 584-hectare nature reserve that is popular for boating, fishing and other general recreation.

The jetty will comprise a floating pontoon about 12 metres long and 3.3 metres wide with a reinforced concrete shell and aluminium gangway about 19 metres long and 1.2 metres wide, connecting, via a footpath, to a foreshore reserve in a small sandy bay.

Accommodating up to 20-person vessels and with disability access, the jetty will service general boating and community/public recreational use as well as cultural access for Aboriginal groups.

Construction will be carried out by M & J Marine Services and is expected to start in January, with a barge used to transport machinery, equipment and materials to the island for the jetty works.

Lakkari Traditional Owner Aboriginal Corporation said, "Lakkari Traditional Owner Aboriginal Corporation welcomes construction of a new jetty at Wallis Island and extends its thanks to the NSW Government for this important infrastructure investment."

Donna Hall, Director of Lakkari Traditional Owner Group, said, "Wallis Island has cultural significance, along with other small islands on Wallis Lake, for the Worimi and Biripi people of Forster."

"Lakkari Traditional Owner Group has blocks of land on Wallis Island and have looked at Eco-tourism including a Cultural Centre. One of the important parts of this project is to build a floating jetty to cater for people to visit the



island and the Cultural Centre that Lakkari members would like to see built."

"The Cultural Centre would have artwork completed by Lakkari artists as well as artifacts found around the local areas, along with local Aboriginal history."

Natalie Rotumah, Chief Executive Officer of the Native Title Service Provider for Aboriginal Traditional Owners in NSW and the ACT (NTSCORP Limited) said, "Lakkari Traditional Owner Aboriginal Corporation, on behalf of the Worimi and Biripi People of Forster Tuncurry, have worked with the NSW Government since 2010 to achieve outcomes that enable access and care for this important place, and we're pleased to have worked alongside them during this process."

Glaica House
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Are you considering a cozy and convenient living option that provides comfort and care? We invite you to explore the newly completed private wing at Glaica House, located at Flora Parade in Tuncurry.

Our exclusive private wing features 15 exquisitely appointed, air-conditioned rooms, each spanning approximately 28 square meters and equipped with a stylish ensuite bathroom. Designed with your comfort in mind, every room is furnished with modern decor and a flat-screen TV for your entertainment.



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Glaica House — where comfort meets community care, making your living experience a joyful one.

Merry Christmas from us



The Forster Fortnightly office will be closed from Friday 12 to Monday 29 December 2025 for our annual Christmas break.

Thank you to everyone who has submitted an article this year. Keep those Star Pets coming. Our readers love these!

The Yule family would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas time. Regards, Mary, Geordie, Matilda and Ian Yule.

We encourage you to support the local businesses and organisations listed below who have advertised with us more than once during 2025. They're keeping our local news service FREE FOR EVERYBODY. We exist because of them!

Club Forster
Sporties - Tuncurry
MP Tanya Thompson - Member for Myall Lakes
Tuncurry Beach Bowling Club
Pacific Palms Bowling Club
Travelwise - Pacific Palms
Bannister in Home Care
MP Alison Penfold - Member for Lyne
MidCoast Council
Forster Tuncurry Business Chamber
Lakeside Forster Village
Jeremy Miller - Independent
Taree Autos - Tuncurry
Great Lakes Learning Community (10 local public primary & high schools)
Tuncurry Forster Jockey Club
Evermore & Solaris Retirement Living - Forster
Tuncurry Coach Tours
Kokomo Resort Living - Pacific Palms
Lakes & Oceans Hotel - Forster
Great Lakes Funerals
Graham Barclay Marine - Forster
Allan Pearse Funerals - Tuncurry
GLACIA Home & Pacific Cape Lodge

Forster Tuncurry Sports Podiatry
Manning Street Medical
The Physio Clinic Tuncurry & Forster
Hope Skin Cancer & GP Clinic - Tuncurry
Biomedical Sports Podiatry - Forster
Burling Beds - Mid North Coast
QPF Finances
Quest Tours - Forster
Specialist Physiotherapy - Forster
Forster Neighbourhood Centre
Rotary of Lower Mid Coast
Forster Gallery
Forster Tuncurry Lions Club
Great Lakes Palliative Support Group
Coomba Aquatic Club
Sunrise Home Care - Tuncurry
Margaret Jurd College - Tuncurry
Forster Tri Club
Digby Wilson - Labor
Sinfonia Mid North Coast
Forster Tuncurry United Church
Forster Arts & Craft Centre
Forster Aboriginal Land Council
Dianne Brookes Podiatry - Forster
Bush Turkey Books - Wingham
Midcoast Animal Hospital
Marine Rescue Forster Tuncurry
Forster Tuncurry U3A
CWA Forster Tuncurry
Great Lakes Prostrate Cancer Support Group
Forster Tuncurry & Nabis Anglican Church
Hallidays Point Lions Club
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Faith FM
Tradies: Handyman, Alternative Tree Care, Precise Paint & Repair, MidCoast Home Renovations, On Time Painting, Ridgey Didge Landscaping, JPG Home Maintenance, Sliding Door Repair & Maintenance, Gutter Snipes, BD Appliance Repairs, Quadrio, Carpenter.

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25th December – Closed
26th December – Closed
29th December – normal hours 8.30-5.30pm
30th December - normal hours 8.30-5.30pm
31st December – 8.30-12.30 pm
1st January – Closed
2nd January – 8.30-12.30 pm

From all the team we would like to take this opportunity to wish our patients and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Safe & Happy New Year.



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MidCoast Council update & flood recovery



Above: Section of new fencing at Main Beach. Photo by Mary Yule.

Main Beach fence delayed
The Forster Main Beach fence replacement has hit an unexpected delay, shifting the completion date to March 2026. We'd hoped to finish in time for the school holidays, but engineering issues with the existing fence posts have pushed the timeline out.

Finances get tick of approval
Our Annual Financial Reports have once again met all statutory requirements during an independent financial audit, earning an unqualified result from the NSW Audit Office.
MidCoast Council's Mayor Claire Pontin said it was a great outcome and showed MidCoast Council was again hitting its timelines successfully.
"The Statements show that we finished the year with a \$39m surplus. We aim for a balanced budget close to zero, but it is better to finish with a slight surplus rather than a deficit. This is a great outcome given we manage \$5bn in community assets."
The Annual Financial Reports are available for viewing on Council's website: <https://haveyoursay.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/midcoast-council-2024-2025-financial-statements>

Home Repair Grant extension
The NSW Government has extended the application deadline for the Home Repair Grant to 2 February 2026 and increased the eligible income threshold to \$120,000. More information can be found under the support page on our Flood Recovery Hub.
[https:// haveyoursay.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/ after-an-emergency](https://haveyoursay.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/after-an-emergency)



Above: Manning River Underbore.

Manning River Underbore reaches major milestone
A permanent water supply will soon be restored to Wingham, with contractors currently installing a new pipeline that will supply the township directly from Bootawa Water Treatment Plant.
This follows the successful drilling of a 750m bore hole under the Manning River to make way for the new pipeline.
Once the new pipeline has been installed, contractors will work quickly to connect it to the water network. This is expected to be completed by mid-December, restoring a permanent water supply to Wingham and securing the capacity of the system to supply Taree and the north-eastern section of the network, seven months after the previous pipeline was damaged during the May flood.



Above: Cedar Party Creek Bridge.

Cedar Party Creek Bridge officially opens
Wingham's Cedar Party Creek Bridge officially opened on Monday, 8 December 2025 (although already operational) after considerable damage from the May floods.
The new bridge has increased in height as far as possible without impacting the railway crossing, making the height of the new bridge around the 100-year or one per cent Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP) flood event. It also provides level transition to the intersection with Wynter and Combined Streets, which was replaced with a roundabout to allow for better traffic flow.
Councillors put their support behind Kiwarrak Off-River Water Storage
MidCoast Council will move forward with plans to build an off-river water storage in the Peg Leg Creek area, near Tinonee, following the 26 November 2025 Council meeting.
A report was presented to Council reviewing three possible sites for the new water storage, along with potential sizes and construction methods.
Councillors unanimously endorsed the recommendation to build a 15 gigalitre rock

fill concrete lined storage at Site 3, called the Kiwarrak Off-River Water Storage (formerly known as Peg Leg Storage Dam).
Mayor Claire Pontin welcomed the outcome and said it was a sensible financial decision as the chosen option offered the most cost-effective way of providing more water for the community into the future.
"This is one of the largest and most important projects Council will undertake over the next few decades," said Mayor Pontin. "The Kiwarrak Off-River Water Storage is going to provide a sustainable supply of water to the region for generations to come."
Early cost estimates for the project suggest it will cost somewhere between \$160-260 million.
Mayor Pontin said attracting government funding would be crucial, with projects like this usually shared equally among all three levels of government.
"We'll be advocating strongly to the State and Federal governments, and we have already started briefing Ministers," she said. "At the same time, staff will work to get all the necessary planning and design done so that when we do get the funding we need, construction can begin quickly."
"From here, we'll work through the design phases, acquire the remaining land, and map out a process to ensure the project delivers the best possible outcomes for our community, both now and into the future."
Concept design of the Kiwarrak Off-River Water Storage is expected to be completed by late 2026.

Upcoming council meeting
The next Ordinary Council meeting will be held in the Council Chambers on Wednesday 10 December at 2pm. You can view the agenda online now and watch live webcast from 2pm Wednesday.
<https://www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/Your-Council/Council-meetings/Agendas-and-minutes>

Celebrating 50 Years of Graham Barclay Marine

By Mary Yule – Forster Fortnightly
This year marks a remarkable milestone for one of the region's most recognised and enduring family businesses, Graham Barclay Marine, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary in Forster Tuncurry. What began as a modest idea in 1965 has grown into a cornerstone of the local boating, fishing and water sports community.

The business was born when former Australian and world-rated water skiing champion Graham Barclay was persuaded by Sam Bush (then sales manager of Outboard Marine Australia) to try his hand at selling outboard motors. Graham had already been promoting the brand in photographic advertisements, and Bush saw potential. Despite having no shopfront and no money to invest, Graham and his wife Kay — also a talented skier — accepted three motors to begin with. They sold out in two days.

Word spread quickly. Locals began knocking on the door of the Barclays' flat in Macintosh Street asking for more, and soon Graham expanded into selling boats. "I didn't even have to deliver them," he recalls. "They'd call and pick them up."



Front: (L-R) Matt Williams, Matt Haggarty, Paul Axisa, Graham Barclay, Kay Barclay and Mary New. Back Row: Tristan Flint, Tom Keating, Michael Davis, Graeme Stout, Nikolia Nash, Chris Welton and Phil Taylor. Photo by Georgie Yule.



Graham Barclay Marine "Boatland" opened in Tuncurry in 1971.

By late 1965, Graham and Kay had secured Johnson outboard and Quintrex boat franchises for the Forster area. — the site now home to 33 Degrees restaurant.
In the mid-1970s, the Barclays sold the business to focus on their growing oyster operation on Little Street. Today, Graham Barclay Oysters remains one of the most successful and recognisable producers in the Wallis Lake estuary. But after a decade away,

Graham realised he missed the marine trade. In 1985 he returned, opening a new outlet in the industrial area of Forster on Kularoo Drive.
Rapid growth again forced a move, and on 15 December 1995 the purpose-built Graham Barclay Marine complex at 129 The Lakes Way opened its doors. Graham still calls the distinctive boat atop the sign "one of the best advertising decisions I ever made."
Today, Graham Barclay Marine employs 12 local staff and stocks a comprehensive range of Quintrex Boats, Yamaha Motors, fishing gear and water sports equipment. Along with qualified Technicians in a fully equipped workshop they can provide all spare part sales and after sales service.
Many team members have been with the company for years, a testament to the supportive and family-focused culture Graham and Kay built.
Beyond business, Graham Barclay is fondly remembered for his contribution to local community life — especially the Forster Ski Club, started by his friend Fred Williams. For many years, local club members staged world-class New Year's Eve ski shows on the Forster-Tuncurry channel in the 1980s, drawing thousands before culminating in a spectacular fireworks display. When the ski shows ended, Graham kept the fireworks tradition alive for more than two decades, launching them from two oyster barges stationed in the middle of the channel.
(See back page for a photo from the New Year's Eve Ski Show.)



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ALISON PENFOLD MP
FEDERAL MEMBER for *Lyne*

Wishing you and your family a safe and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

My offices in Taree and Wauchope will close Wednesday 24 December 2025 and reopen Monday 5 January 2026.

WAUCHOPE OFFICE
(02) 6586 4462
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, National Party of Australia, 144 Victoria St, Taree NSW 2430.

Disaster Relief Grant applications refused

MidCoast Council - 5 December 2025

Following the May floods which were the worst in recorded history for the region, impacted residents were instructed by the Reconstruction Authority to apply for Disaster Relief Grants.

The Reconstruction Authority is now refusing some of those claims because they are classified as being in a flood zone. This is despite them working closely for months with the residents to assist with their applications.

"I am astounded and dismayed that financially vulnerable people who are without safe and appropriate housing following the floods, and who have spent the last six months dealing with these dire issues, are now being told they are not eligible for the grants they were told to apply for because they are in a flood zone. That is why they were flooded in the first instance,"

MidCoast Council Mayor, Claire Pontin said.

"Others are being denied access to these grants because they do not have a Certificate of Occupancy. This is ridiculous. The houses built in Wingham and Taree flood zones were built last century prior to modern planning laws, before the advent of Certificates of Occupancy, and prior to flood zone restrictions."

Council is in contact with the Reconstruction Authority and have been advised that these residents need to now apply for a Home Repairs Grant that provides a maximum of just \$25,000. These grants also have strict limitations.

In lieu of Certificates of Occupancy, Council can issue alternate documentation.

"Within days of the flood I was asking the State Government to provide funds for house buy-backs to get these people out of the flood zone, as occurred in Lismore following their

2022 floods, but I was told that money was not available for that," Mayor Pontin said.

"This is not good enough for our residents, who, nearly seven months on are still waiting to be able to provide their families with a safe, liveable house.

"Many of these homes have interiors that were completely destroyed, and \$25,000, even if approved, will not go far. These people are in despair."

To be successful for the new funding, residents must meet certain requirements including income tests as well as the stipulation that applicants were uninsured at the time. This is similar to the previous grants applied for.

"I am seeking further clarification on this situation and will be arguing strongly for a fairer outcome for these vulnerable residents. I am calling for an urgent discussion with the Reconstruction Authority so that they better



Above: MidCoast Council Mayor, Claire Pontin.

understand State planning laws, and to find a way through this mess," Mayor Pontin said.

See page 10 for Farmer's Recovery Drop-In.

Retirement is not the end of the road

Advertising Feature

Believed to be the 36th longest standing Certified Financial Planner in Australia it's safe that Mid-Coast Councillor Alan Tickle has guided his fair share of people onto the open highway. Having advised for the past 35 years, Alan said the financial aspect of retirement, while important, is only the tip of the iceberg.

"While age is only a number, you need to be ready to pull the pin emotionally as it's a significant life event, but I was approaching age 70 and I knew it was time" he said.

Ensuring that his clients and staff were going to a business with aligned values added a layer of complexity to the retirement plan and lead to several discussions with potential businesses.

After considerable due diligence, it was decided that Your Heritage Financial Planning would

become part of the TJL Group from the 1st July 2025. Alan noted that the local aspect of TJL gave him more comfort that his clients and staff would be better served than the metropolitan alternatives. The office in 12 Albert Street, Taree also gives TJL a wonderful office space in which to return physically to the Manning Region.

"I'm working with the new team over the next 12 months, after which I expect that all clients will be happily transitioned amongst the team of 5 advisers."

"The accounting and general insurance divisions within TJL's group offers another dimension to how our clients' needs can be met, it's a truly exciting time."

Over the last 35 years Alan has witnessed a monumental shift in the financial advice landscape.



Above: Alan Tickle is retiring after 35 years as a Certified Financial Planner. Photo supplied.

"There have been many changes in that time, those operating now are certainly part of a

profession, the bar has been lifted in standards and qualifications, Financial Planning is recognised as a specialist role."

Geoff Isaacs, one of the TJL Directors said that Your Heritage's reputation, advice quality and service fitted perfectly with TJL's culture.

"The staff have fitted in seamlessly, with their knowledge and skills adding further depth to our great team. We're delighted to have Jonathon Tickle join the leadership group; he'll bring a wealth of experience and a fresh new angle to the direction of the business."

"We look forward to serving our local area for many years to come."

For further information contact our office on 02 6554 9511 or visit the website www.tjlbiz.com.au

(See advert below)

Vale Don McPherson

Don McPherson was born on 30th June 1929 in Sydney. In 1971 he moved from Coffs Harbour to Forster with his wife Margaret. They had four children - Andrew, Paula, Malcom and Naomi. He was the Postmaster in Forster from 1971 to1984 before transferring to Taree until 1988 when he retired.

Don always had a great interest in his community and held a number of positions in various organisations.

Don joined the Forster Bowling Club in 1973 where he played in their pennant sides for forty plus years and worked as a volunteer in all administration aspects of the game. He was rewarded with Life Membership and made Club Patron in 2013.

Don was Vice President of Forster Surf Club where both his sons Andrew and Malcom were lifesavers, and his daughter Naomi was in the first group of ladies to be awarded their Surf Bronze. He was Deputy Chair of Forster Chamber of Commerce, Secretary of the Forster Tuncurry Rotary Club and an elected member of the Forster Town Committee which assisted in running affairs in Forster when the Shire Headquarters was based in Stroud.

For many years he acted as returning officer at annual elections for the Forster Bowling Club, Club Forster and Forster Golf Club.

Don was President of the Booti Booti Trust and greatly assisted in having it converted to a National Park. For 13 years he was Chairman for Community Resources bringing in many innovations to the community.

Don served for 15 years as Treasurer of the Filtered Pool Committee, helping raise money which resulted in the wonderful Great Lakes Aquatic Centre we now have.

When Prime Minister Whitlam was removed by the Governor General in 1975, Don became a committed Republican. The following year he and District Shire Engineer Sandy Roxborough decided to form a branch of the Australian Labor Party in Forster. This branch is still going strong today. In this organisation Don



Above: Don McPherson. Photo supplied.

held positions of Branch Secretary, President of State Electoral Council, President Federal Electoral Council and Conference Delegate.

"I extend my deepest condolences to Don's family and loved ones during this difficult time. His presence will be sorely missed, but his contributions will not be forgotten." - Graham Robinson, President Forster Tuncurry Branch NSW Labor

Marine Rescue Forster Tuncurry Year of Service



By Diane Hallam - Marine Rescue Forster Tuncurry

2025 has been one of our busiest years yet. Our crews have responded to countless calls for assistance, ensuring boaters and fishers return safely to their families. Behind every launch, however, lies the unseen work of our fundraising volunteers, the people who flip sausages at the BBQ van, run raffles at the markets, and apply for grants to keep our inshore and offshore rescue vessels fuelled, serviced, and ready 24/7 - 365 days a year.

This year has seen:

- Expanded fundraising efforts across markets, events, and community involvement.
- New volunteers joining our ranks, bringing fresh energy and ideas.
- Continued training and readiness for our crews, ensuring safety on the water.

Christmas is a season of generosity, and our unit has been blessed with the support of locals who give their time, donations, and encouragement.

From all of us at Marine Rescue Forster Tuncurry: thank you for standing beside us. We wish every family a safe, happy Christmas and a joyful New Year.

Vote for us!

We are it to win it with Greater Banks Community Initiative! Vote for Marine Rescue Forster Tuncurry (can do once a day until 17 December)

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Marine Rescue Forster Tuncurry
Mega Raffle 2025 - 2026

Marine Rescue Forster Tuncurry recently launched its 2025/2026 Mega Raffle, with tickets now available online. Locals and visitors alike are encouraged to take part in this exciting fundraiser, which supports vital rescue services across our waterways.

The raffle boasts an impressive First Prize: a Suzuki 5 HP outboard motor, proudly sponsored by Suzuki. Runners-up won't miss out either, with a range of holiday coupons and getaway vouchers up for grabs.

Tickets are selling fast and can be purchased securely through RaffleTix: www.raffletix.com.au/mrescueforstertuncurry25

This raffle is not only a chance to win great prizes, but also a way for the community to directly support the volunteers who keep our waters safe.

Aspiring young musicians at Music Workshop

Kerri Knight - Music Teacher, Tuncurry Public School

On Tuesday, 25 November and Wednesday, 26 November, the auditorium of Club Forster resonated with a delightful cacophony of sound as the Great Lakes and Greater Taree Music Workshop kicked off. The vibrant sounds of excited students playing various instruments filled the corridors of the Club.

Students and staff from Forster Public School, Old Bar Public School and Tuncurry Public School gathered to hone their playing and vocal skills. Members from The Great Lakes College Band, The Great Lakes Band and The Manning Concert Band provided



The 66-piece ensemble and choir in action.



support and encouragement to these aspiring young musicians.

Under the direction of Neil Buckley, students played as part of a 66-piece ensemble and, while Jessica Craythorn, led a 30-voice choir. The workshop began with all participants joining together in song.

The final session of the workshop involved all participants engaging in either singing or playing Christmas Carols. The two-day workshop wrapped up with the choir performing for the band, followed by the band showcasing their talents for the choir.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to Peter Clarke, the Board of Directors and the Staff of Club Forster for generously donating the venue, which made the Music Workshop possible. Club staff expressed their pride in giving back to the community and shared their appreciation for the students' good manners. They also remarked on the joy of hearing the beautiful sound of their voices and music.

Players were extended an invitation to join either The Great Lakes Band or The Manning Concert Band and expressed their enthusiasm to participate in the next Music Workshop in 2026.

MidCoast Council Mayoral column

As we approach the end of the year and families head off on holidays, I would just like to remind everyone to be safe, make sure you stop, revive, survive if you're taking on a road trip and if you're cooling off at one of our wonderful beaches please swim between the flags.



On reflection, 2025 has been a year of resilience. Our region endured the worst flood in recorded history, and we have been hard at work ever since in the recovery space. Some residents lost their homes, businesses were inundated and some even lost their lives. But it's during these difficult times that the Australian spirit shines through. There are countless stories of communities and neighbours coming together to help each other out. Whether it was during the flood itself, the clean up or dealing with the long-term impacts of such a devastating event.

Council staff will continue to help and support where they can too, and I will continue to advocate to the other levels of government for a fair go.

Lastly, we are continuing work to make money available to improve our roads, as we know they aren't what our community expects. This is not something we have shied away from. We understand and hear your frustrations, and we are working hard with the limited budget we have. We have made the improvement of our roads our number one priority, and they will continue to remain our focus going into 2026, but it won't be an overnight fix. We have created a Roads Hub on our website which breaks down what kind of works are taking place and where, every fortnight at: <https://haveyoursay.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/midcoast-roads-hub>

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, Mayor Claire Pontin.

High fire activity highlights need for bushfire preparedness



Above: Image credit - Diamond Beach RFS.

By Mary Yule – Forster Fortnightly

Hot, dry and windy conditions from Saturday 6 December has led to heightened fire activity across New South Wales, with the NSW Rural Fire Service reporting 56 fires burning on Monday 8 December statewide.

One of the most significant incidents occurred south of Bulahdelah where a large bushfire forced the intermittent closure of the Pacific Highway over several days and threatened the township of Nerong. Traffic was diverted onto The Bucketts Way between Medowie and Nabiac.

On Monday night firefighters and incident management teams conducted backburning operations to strengthen containment lines on the northern side of the Nerong township.

As of Tuesday morning, 9 December, the fire continued to burn on the eastern side of the

Pacific Highway and to the west of the Myall River. The area is being closely monitored with weather conditions expected to deteriorate.

Local Rural Fire Service volunteer crews, including Diamond Beach RFS (from Hallidays Point), Tuncurry RFS and Green Point RFS, alongside Fire & Rescue NSW crews from Forster and Wauchope, have been supporting the firefighting efforts in the Bulahdelah region for several days.

Other recent incidents included a bushfire near Bushland Drive, Taree on Thursday 4 December, where Diamond Beach crews assisted Taree, Tinonee, Wallaby Joe, Lansdowne, Kundie Moto RFS brigades and Fire & Rescue Taree to successfully bring the fire under control and protect nearby properties.

Pacific Palms RFS also responded to a bushfire at Topi Road, Bungwahl on Sunday 7 December.

Local fire authorities are urging residents to take bushfire preparedness seriously. After years of heavy rainfall followed by recent high winds and dry conditions, vegetation across the region is now dry and highly flammable.

Residents are encouraged to prepare their properties:

1. Trim overhanging trees and shrubs around homes to help prevent fire spread
2. Mow grass and remove clippings, maintaining a clear area around buildings
3. Remove combustible items such as mulch, doormats and outdoor furniture
4. Clean leaves and debris from gutters to reduce ember attack risk
5. Ensure a sturdy hose and a reliable water supply are available and can reach around the home Fire services also stress the importance of having a Bush Fire Survival Plan in place and discussing it with all household members well before a fire threatens.

www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

Club grant recipients from the Palms



Above: The big cheque being presented to the Shepherd Centre by Palms Bowlo representatives.

Pacific Palms Bowling Club

The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of The Palms Bowlo are extremely pleased to announce two recipients of our Club Grants Program for 2025.

Bungwahl Public School received \$5,000 for their "School Kitchen Garden Program" which is a hands-on initiative integrating gardening, cooking, and sustainability into the curriculum. Featuring a permaculture garden, bush tucker garden, and a commercial kitchen, it is led by a chef and horticulturalist who teach students about nutrition, food production, and environmental stewardship.

The Shepherd Centre has also received \$4,215 via our Club Grants Program for 2025. For over 50 years, this charitable not-for-profit child safe NDIS service organisation has been providing early intervention programs and services to children who are deaf and hearing impaired. Their programs are designed to ensure children with hearing loss have all the skills they need to enter school as confident, capable students.

The Shepherd Centre has helped more than 2,000 Australian children with hearing loss to develop speech, language and listening skills and the children confidence to enjoy a normal happy life.

Journey through the Wild Heart Onboard the *Ghan*

20th September 2026
\$9,850 pp twin share

Experience Australia in style—from Darwin's tropical charm to The Ghan's luxury rail journey and exclusive wildlife encounters at Monarto Safari Park. Enjoy premium accommodation, fine dining, immersive adventures, and expert guidance for an effortless, unforgettable outback-to-south escape.

Wilderness & Wonder On the Tasmania Trail

29th October
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Tasmania offers pristine wilderness, fascinating history, unique wildlife, and outstanding food and wine. Our 14-day guided tour includes must-see highlights such as Hobart, Cradle Mountain, Freycinet, Wineglass Bay, Port Arthur, Salamanca Market, Cataract Gorge, Gordon River cruising, and unforgettable wildlife encounters.

Canadian Rockies land, rail & Alaskan cruise 18 August 2026

\$19,950 pp twin share

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Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a safe, joyful New Year from all of us at the Staff and Management team!

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 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
Sunday "Chill Around the Green" is back				
 John O'Rielly Sunday 14th Dec	 Sandy Louise Sunday 21st Dec	 Allan Freihaut Sunday 28th Dec	Saturday Fishing Club Raffle starts at 3pm & 4pm Happy Hour 3pm to 5pm Kids Meals \$5 (16y) with Meal Purchase	
December Music Lineup			Sunday Chook Run Bowls 10:30am Kids Meals \$5 (16y) with Meal Purchase	
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Another shark encounter; another tragedy

By Paul Ellercamp – Forster Turtles (first published in Sydney Morning Herald)
‘Cull ‘em all’, is a common response, as some commenters put it overnight. A softer response was, ‘Just cull bull sharks’.

Every time there’s an incident, this debate erupts, as a result of which state governments have been engaged over the last few years in closer study of how to manage the shark risk. The shark detection buoys and drumlines off the coast is a result of this.

The backdown on the removal of shark nets indicates how cautious these studies are.

I swim usually with my group at Main Beach Forster — not that far from Kyllies Beach — dipping toes at 7:30am; or to a shark, 6:30 am. Sharks don’t know about daylight saving.

At Forster, there’s a detection buoy 350 metres off the beach. It goes off all the time. Government contractors regularly catch predatory sharks — whites, bulls — on drumlines spaced for several kilometres along our coast. It’s not uncommon for our swim group, the Turtles, to watch the contractor release and tag a ‘predator’ from the drumline even closer in than the detection buoy.

We see quite a few sharks, mainly grey nurses (‘the puppy dogs of the sea’), but also occasionally whites and, less often, bulls.

But — and I know this is tempting fate — over the years we’ve had no nasty encounters, although certainly a few interesting ones, such as the morning when a three-metre bull cruised beneath us in three metres of water, fifty metres off the beach. It was monumentally disinterested in us.

Despite the activity just off Forster, Tuncurry beach, a kilometre away, has seen two fatalities in the last couple of years, both boardriders.

A key difference is that Forster is a swimming beach while Tuncurry is a board beach. Our morning swims go through the break, then up and back along the beach, about 100 metres out. At Tuncurry, all water activity is in the break: surfboard riders, boogie boarders, etc.



Above: The experienced Forster Turtle swim group at Main Beach, Forster. Photo by Steve White.

Of the incidents along the NSW coast over the last 20 years or so, all but a very few involve surfers in the break, although we swimmers are much farther out to sea. You’d think we’d be more at risk.

Over the years, we develop a sense of where and when to swim and where and when not to swim.

Early mornings and evenings require caution — ‘shark feeding times’. It doesn’t mean you shouldn’t go out, but you have to know how to manage the risk. And times of reduced light make it harder to spot dangers, and harder for sharks to tell the difference between us and actual prey.

Sharks are chancers. ‘Predatory’ sharks also feed opportunistically. That’s why they hang around break areas. Schools of bait fish hang around the breaks, perhaps because the waves stir up the bottom and make it easier for they themselves to hunt.

Sharks prey on schooling fish. My sense is that board riders, in the break, get in the way, unwittingly, when a shark is chasing a bait ball. Escalating the risk, most boardriders wear wetsuits year-round. To a shark in a hurry, they look like seals, for example. Fair game for them.

As swimmers, we will not swim where

we see diving sea birds. We will not swim where we see the water surface disrupted. We will not swim where fisher folk are throwing burley into the water. The birds diving and the water surface broken, often in a frenzy of activity, suggests the presence of bait balls, of schooling fish, thus there’s a greater chance of lurking predators.

There may be a sad irony in the fate of the Swiss tourists at Kyllies Beach. Just prior to being attacked, according to reports, they were videoing dolphins in the break. Carefree as they appear, dolphins are not a sign of safety. Dolphins won’t attack humans, but they are attracted by fish, and if fish are shoaling there, there’s a higher likelihood of sharks.

Turbid water makes it harder to spot anything, but also harder for sharks to differentiate between us and actual prey. Be careful around estuaries, such as lake entrances — Forster-Tuncurry — which are home to bulls, in

particular. They’re tidal with in-out current running all day. Sharks hang around waiting for prey to be spilled out.

Turbidity in estuaries is a factor in ‘attacks’ in harbours and rivers.

I am not aware of the circumstances of the incident at Kyllies Beach when those unfortunate tourists swam at 6:30am (5:30am to sharks, around first light). It would have been a setting from paradise to them. It’s unlikely they had all this awareness in their minds.

But it’s fair to say that tourists, latter day arrivals, people from, say, inland regional areas, do not have the same sense about these things as people who spend their time hanging around our beaches.

The issue comes down to education. One thing that could be done is to set up a system of signage at beaches, especially at beaches in remote areas — such as the campground where the tourists were said to be staying — advising of the risks and how to manage them.

In one way, country beaches should be safer. The water is clearer. Hunting sharks can see us more clearly, and — this is supposition — they have a better idea of whether swimmers are actually what they’re looking for. Often, a shark will take a bite to find out. A little bite for it; a big one for us.

We also don’t like swimming in turbid water. At Forster, right by the entrance to Wallis Lake, the water becomes very murky at times of heavy rain. It can take weeks to clear. Turbid waters makes it harder for sharks to tell what you are — what they’re looking for, or not what they’re looking for. That’s why, in many of these cases, they’ll take that bite to find out.

There’s been quite a bit of rain on the North Coast in recent weeks. Kyllies Beach is some distance from the nearest estuaries, but we don’t know what water conditions were like. Maybe that was an issue; maybe not.

People without awareness of the risk have little idea of all this.

HOW TO BE: SHARK SMART

BE AWARE!
IF YOU SEE DIVING BIRDS & BAITFISH, SHARKS MAY BE PRESENT. LEAVE THE WATER

SURFERS check conditions and assess the risks

CONSIDER USING A PERSONAL DETERRENT DEVICE
TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF AND YOUR MATES

RESPECT THE OCEAN
Sharks are important for healthy seas

SWIM BETWEEN THE FLAGS
Don't surf or swim at dawn and dusk as many sharks feed at this time

AVOID SANDBARS, RIVER MOUTHS AND STEEP DROP-OFFS
SHARKS COULD BE PRESENT

DON'T SURF OR SWIM ALONE ALWAYS BUDDY UP

DON'T SURF OR SWIM IN MURKY WATERS

NSW GOVERNMENT

Farmer’s Recovery Drop-In

MidCoast Council
A friendly space for farmers to connect, share stories, and pick up helpful flood recovery tips. Join us for a relaxed community catch-up with a sausage sizzle!

Local experts from Manning Valley Neighbourhood Services, Wesley Mission, the Farmgate Support Program and Local Land Services will be on hand to offer practical advice to support mental health, business recovery, and land management.

Whether you want to swap experiences, ask questions, or simply relax for a while, these drop-in sessions are all about fostering conversations, reducing isolation, and linking people to practical and emotional support.

Dates and Locations

- CRT Taree & Wingham Produce, 59 Whitbread St, Taree - 17 December, 8:30am to 12:30pm
- Elders Taree, 27 Crescent St, Taree - 17 December, 1pm to 4pm
- Dillons Taree, 1 Main St, Cundletown - 18 December, 1pm to 4pm
- CRT Gloucester Rural Supplies, 18 Tate St, Gloucester - 19 December, 8:30am to 12:30pm
- Norco Gloucester, 5 Phillip St, Gloucester - 19 December 1pm to 4pm

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With TikTok & Youtuber Jayden Rodrigues

KIDS' HOLIDAY DANCE SHOW!

90 minutes of high-energy fun, music, games & prizes!

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★ Dance hits, holiday tunes & epic crowd fun

★ Special performances by Rockstar Tash, with electrifying tributes to pop icons like Katy Perry, Barbie & Taylor Swift

★ Surprise visits from Hopper the Hip Hop Kangaroo & Khloe the Dancing Koala

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coming to club forster

JANUARY 16, 2026

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Tanya's Community Update

As we head into Christmas and the final weeks of the year, I've been reminded again just how strong and generous our Myall Lakes community is. Over the past fortnight I've been out across the electorate meeting with locals, small businesses and community groups, and it's always a privilege to hear directly from the people I represent.

The recent fires near Bulahdelah and Nerong were a clear reminder of how quickly conditions can turn, and I want to extend my heartfelt and deepest thanks to every RFS volunteer from right across the electorate. Thank you for your commitment and courage. Our communities are safer because of you.

With Christmas just around the corner, I also want to encourage everyone to shop local where they can. Our small businesses are the heart of our towns and every purchase, big or small, makes a real difference to a local family.

I also want to say a sincere thank you for the overwhelming generosity shown through the Christmas gift drive. The donations made to my office and to Ray White Manning Valley and Forster will bring comfort and joy to families doing it tough this season.

Wherever you spend the holidays, please stay safe, and have a happy Christmas.

Tanya Thompson MP
Member for Myall Lakes



What ever happened to the Taree Sleepbus?

By Terry Stanton – Manning Homeless Action Group

The Manning Homeless Action Group (MHAG) started in 2021 and its five members raised \$45,000 in two years to purchase a Sleepbus to help address homelessness in Taree. In 2023 the local National MP, Stephen Bromhead, prompted by the present Member, Tanya Thompson, raised a government grant of \$65,000, which the Labor Government paid after the election. We paid \$100,000 to Sleepbus and ordered a Bus. The Sleepbus website represented that every dollar we paid would be spent on our Bus. That promise was made to all the groups who paid for one. Sleepbus also represented that they would organise volunteers, train them to run the buses, and find corporate sponsors to fund all the running costs. MHAG would not have to run the Bus, just pay for it to be built.

Simon Rowe of Sleepbus told us to expect the Bus early in 2024. He faced one delay after another, because, unknown to us, he was running out of money, using some groups' funds to build buses and run them for other groups. During 2024 he stopped answering our emails and his phone. We were told nothing, except the Bus would be coming later. In the meantime, the MHAG committee was still raising money to help Simon with the future running of the Bus. We still hold that money in a North Taree/Wingham Rotary account earning interest.

On 18th January 2025 an email from Simon said he was winding Sleepbus up; it would end on 30th June 2025. If we wanted the Bus he wanted another \$50,000, or we should not get it. MHAG was approached by Ray Stack, a solicitor in Taree, who donated the money. We understood Simon Rowe was building our Bus; Bob Nelson (MHAG member) went to Melbourne and saw it. What happened to our Bus? We didn't get it. There was talk of our getting a Bus built for Coffs Harbour; that group could not run it, but that one went elsewhere. The Seaton Foundation paid \$200,000 for two buses for the Northern Rivers but they got only one, could not run it, and it stood idle in a bus park for nine months or more. We were given that Bus.

When delivered to us, it was in need of external care, with signwriting about the area it came from; bad spraying to start with. MHAG cleaned it up with volunteers helping. Local firms Collision Panel and Paint offered to respray the Bus and Barrier Signs to provide decals (durable designs on the side of the bus) for free! The Bus is now in the workshop for final preparation and painting. Very soon it will go to the sign writers. Our name on the Bus will be BEDINNBUS. We are nearly there!

We have volunteer drivers, cleaners and others lined up, and MHAG has to train them. We have been given other groups' procedural manuals; they are running their own buses. We have adapted them to suit ourselves.

We need more volunteers, so please let us know if you can help. The great thing about



Above: Bob Nelson from the Manning Homeless Action Group are launching a sleep-bus soon.



Tanya THOMPSON MP

Member for Myall Lakes

Merry Christmas MYALL LAKES

It has been such an honour to represent our community in Parliament this year.

This Christmas I hope you find time to relax, celebrate and connect with friends and family. May your New Year be filled with happiness, health and all good things.

Tanya Thompson MP

CONGRATULATIONS Christmas Card Design Competition Winners

1st Ivy W - Cundletown Public School
2nd Beau J - St Joseph's Primary School Bulahdelah
3rd Scarlett D - Manning Valley Anglican College

1-9 Manning Street, Tuncurry
02 6555 4099
tanyathompson.com.au

myalllakes@parliament.nsw.gov.au
TanyaThompsonForMyallLakes

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

A family-owned coach tour company from Pacific Palms

Advertising Feature
By Rhonda Annesley - Tuncurry

'Travelwise' specialises in safe travel whether it be for a single day trip to Newcastle or Port Macquarie for a show, or an overnight stay to see a great show in Sydney, a four day weekend to the beautiful Blue Mountains, or checking out the view in Surfers Paradise. Even a ten day scenic run across the Great Ocean Rd to Kangaroo Island or the extensive and all-encompassing sixteen days touring all parts of Tasmania.

I personally have been travelling with this company for three years and I have met lots of wonderful people. I was wary at first as a single female travelling alone. It hasn't taken long to make friends, and I have managed to fit 16 trips in that time and have plans to do more. Some other locals have been travelling with Steve for years.

The coach is comfortable, air conditioned and has bathroom facilities. The seats recline just enough to let you nod off for a while. There is a filtered water station so you can refill your own bottle and not have the expense of purchasing water along the way. There is entertainment whether it be a movie, an extensive range of music or simply highlights and details of places we have been to or plan to visit. On the longer trips, usually on our way home, we take artist requests for music and try to keep everyone happy. These trips are all inclusive and happen at a relaxed pace to suit people of all abilities. A buffet breakfast and usually two course dinner

is included so once we are on the road the expenses are minimal.

As the people mingle and get to know one another, there may be some really good or bad jokes and the same applies to the karaoke. After some of the winery visits the karaoke is sometimes louder. The best part of a local coach is being able to leave the car safely at home and meet the coach at one of the many pick up points

Activities for each trip are planned and included in the tour pricing per person. We have enjoyed river cruises, steam train trips, historical tours and checking out the view from the 77th floor of Q1 Skypoint in Queensland. Some of the bigger adventures like the helicopter can be arranged but they are at your expense.

There are sometimes two choices of an activity on offer for the same day, your choice. Alternately if you are not interested in either just prefer to have a quiet day doing your own thing that is always an option.



FDPC November results

By Keith Pascoe – Forster Digital Photography Club

For the month of November, we had two set subjects "Mono" and "Staged."

Club members saw some wonderful and creative images especially in the Staged competition.

Here are the winning images.

Set subject - Mono

Merits: Grass on the Dune by Malcolm Walker (also Judges Choice") Five Basins by Yvonne Moule, Mushroom by Janice Amato, Young Orangutan by Cozette Leonard

Credits: Anoushka Shankar and Sita and Baroque Prima Donna by Lyn Wilson, The Rose by Janice Amato, Loading Salt to Road Trains by Malcolm Walker,

Set subject - Staged

Merits: Bringing in the Corn by Janice Amato (Also Judges Choice) Just a Material Girl by Grahame Wilson, Mug Zipper by Dale Rabbett, Black Bauble by Yvonne Moule

Credits: Eggscent by Dale Rabbett, Lollies by Cozette Leonard, Mr Bananahead Sunbathing by Janice Amato.

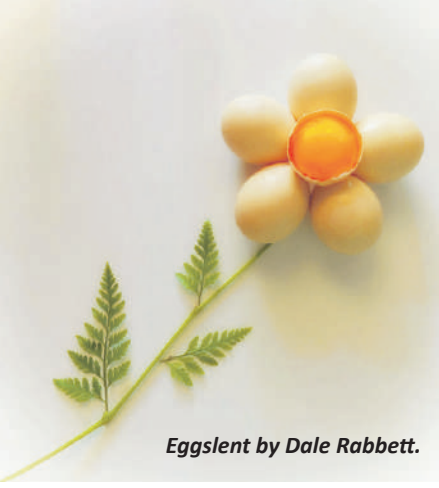
Annual Awards night

On Wednesday 3rd the club conducted the Annual Awards night and here are the winners.

Image of the Year

First place: Sunrise Surprise by Marguerite Lamb
Second place: (equal) Into the Maelstrom by Wanda Amos

Right: Into the Maelstrom by Wanda Amos.



Eggscent by Dale Rabbett.

Second place: (equal) Jungle Book by Dale Rabbett

Yearly Club Competition

1st Place: Club Champion 2025 Yvonne Moule
2nd Place: Jan Amato



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DEPARTS: Pacific Palms, Forster, Tuncurry, Hallidays Point

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Fun at MidCoast Libraries!



Christmas Storytime

Join us for a special Storytime and enjoy stories, songs, morning tea and a special visit from Santa Claus. No bookings required. All sessions will start at 10:30am.

Taree | Thurs 11 Dec
Stroud | Fri 12 Dec
Hallidays Point | Fri 12 Dec
Gloucester | Mon 15 Dec
Wingham | Tues 16 Dec

Celebrate Christmas

Join us and enjoy a range of Christmas craft activities and movie screening for free. Suitable for children aged 2-years and their families.

Hallidays Point | Mon 22 Dec | 10:30am | Christmas Craft
Forster | Tues 23 Dec | 10:00am | Christmas Craft

Gloucester | Tues 23 Dec | 10:30am | Movie Screening

Book your spot at : <https://library.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/Whats-on>



Summer Reading Club - Galaxy of Stories

Join us for the Summer Reading Club, suitable for children aged 0-17yrs. This year's theme is a Galaxy of Stories.

To take part in the Summer Reading Club, simply register now (closes 25 January) and then head into your local library to collect your Summer Reading Club pack. Complete the reading log, challenges and challenge card in the pack and return to your library by Saturday 31 January 2026.

Take part to enjoy fun challenges and a finale party at the Manning Entertainment Centre on Saturday 28 February 2026, featuring Starr's Planetarium (member of NASA Museum Alliance). Take a trip through our solar system and onwards to the very edge of our galaxy. Be immersed in a stunning

360° movie, and then come back down to Earth to find out what's in the sky tonight. Plus enjoy pizzas and prizes at the party.

For more information and to register, please visit: <https://library.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/Homelibrary.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/Home>

Summer School Holidays Activities

MidCoast Libraries will be hosting free activities for children over the summer school holidays. Bookings are essential.

Their Summer Holiday Program will go live on 15 December at <https://library.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/Home>



Learn-to-Sail lessons fun for the whole family!

It's the sailing season and Coomba Aquatic Club has free learn-to-sail sessions for the whole family.

Junior Learn-to-Sail lessons for kids under 16 are held every Tuesday morning during the NSW school holidays from September to May. Adults can also experience the thrill of sailing at no cost at our family Aquatic Days. Sailing is followed by a free sausage sizzle.

Junior Learn-to-Sail

9:30am to 12pm

-Tue 6 Jan
-Tue 13 Jan
-Tue 20 Jan
-Tue 27 Jan

Aquatic Days

9:30am to 12pm

- Sun 14 Dec
- Sun 11 Jan
- Sun 8 Feb
- Sun 8 Mar
- Sun 12 Apr

Please note, you must wear:

- A floatation vest (yours or a club vest).
- Water shoes.
- A hat.
- Water-resistant sunscreen.

To book or to learn more, please contact Craig on 0414 596 247.

Donations gratefully received to help with our running costs.

Book Fair in January

Rotary Club of Lower Midcoast

Our 2026 year starts on Fri the 9th of January with our twice-yearly Book Fair. Our Book fairs are our major fundraiser, with all funds raised helping us to support people through Local, Regional, and Globally through programs like the above mentioned.

We look forward to everyone coming down to the Tuncurry Memorial Hall to pick up some bargain books for the story lovers, factual followers and all the kids!

Ring Mick Larter on 0414 652 401 or see Facebook for more details. (see advert below)



Twice Yearly

BOOK FAIR

Rotary Club of Lower Midcoast
Forster Tuncurry

Fri 9th - Mon 12th Jan 2026

Tuncurry Memorial Hall

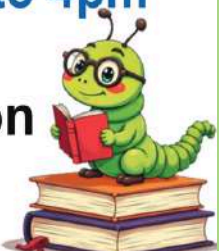
Free Entry - Doors open 9am to 4pm*

Fiction Room
& Extensive Children's Section
Non-Fiction Room

Cash & EFTPOS Welcome

7 Point Rd Tuncurry

(Closing hours may vary*)

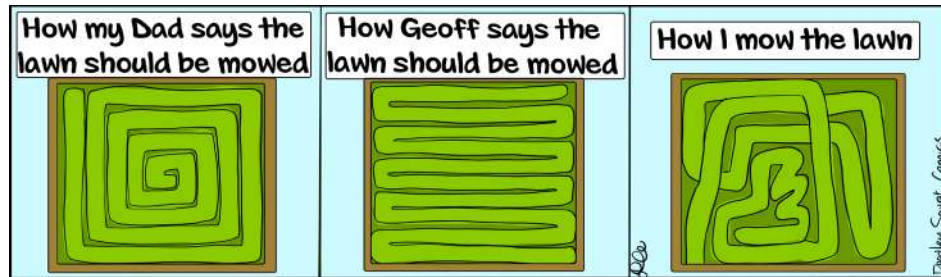


Puzzles Page

The Grin Bin

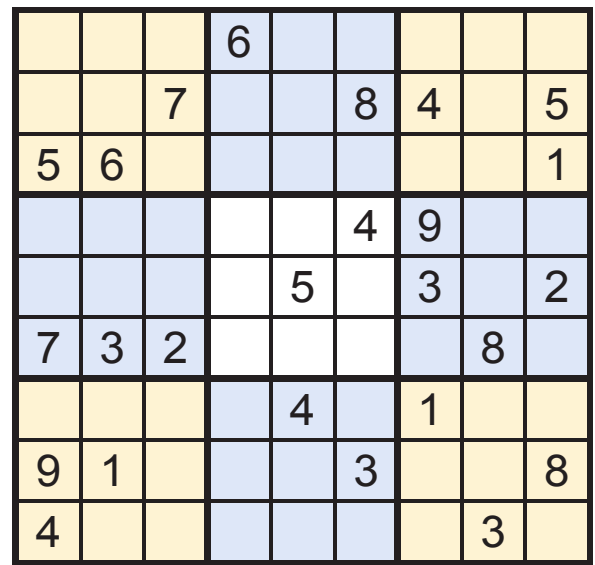


Doodley Squat



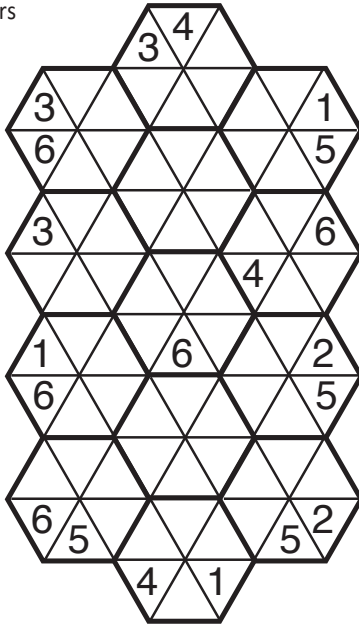
Sudoku

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

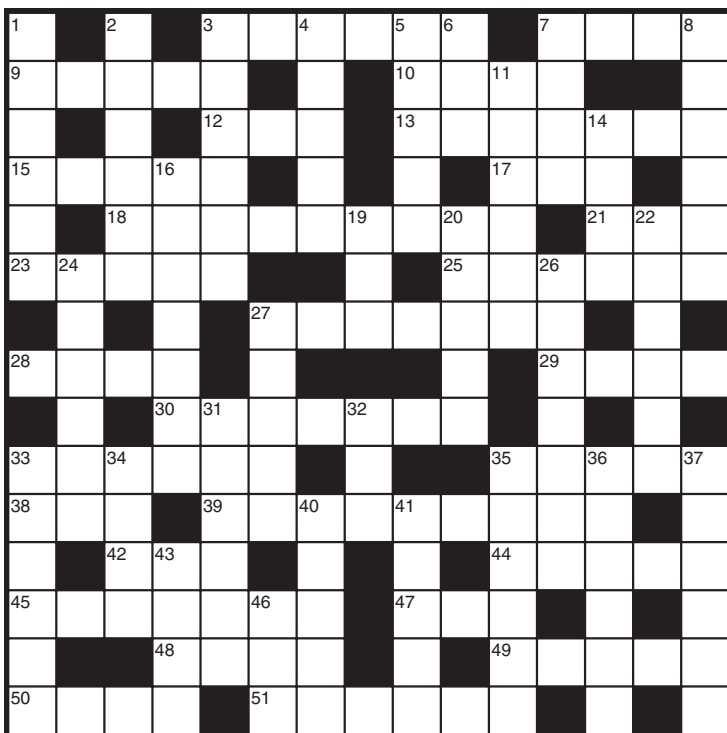


Quick Workout

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



Crossword



ACROSS

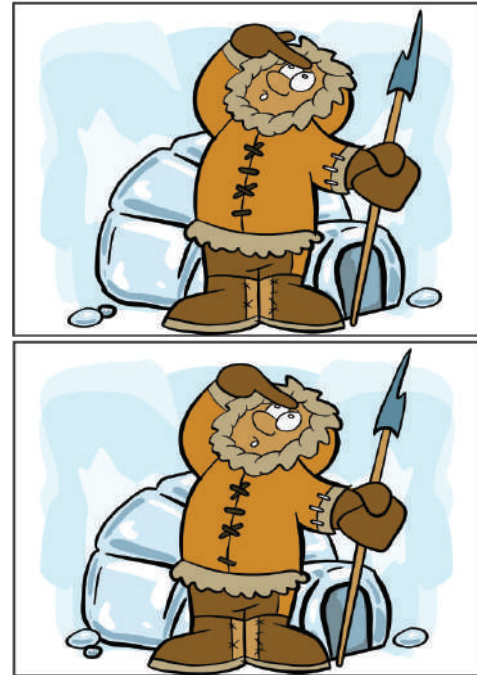
- Merchant
- Tribe
- Sheep-like
- Not any
- Drinking vessel
- Requiring
- Burning gas
- Marry
- Fruit
- Consume
- Turn outwards
- Landed property
- Person of distinction
- Golf club
- Bearing
- Regards highly
- Extreme fear
- Make proud
- Mineral-bearing rock
- Made lawful

DOWN

- Beverage
- Sea robber
- Seemly
- Fruit
- Boredom
- Fish eggs
- Yield
- Nullify
- Freshest
- Notion
- Seaman

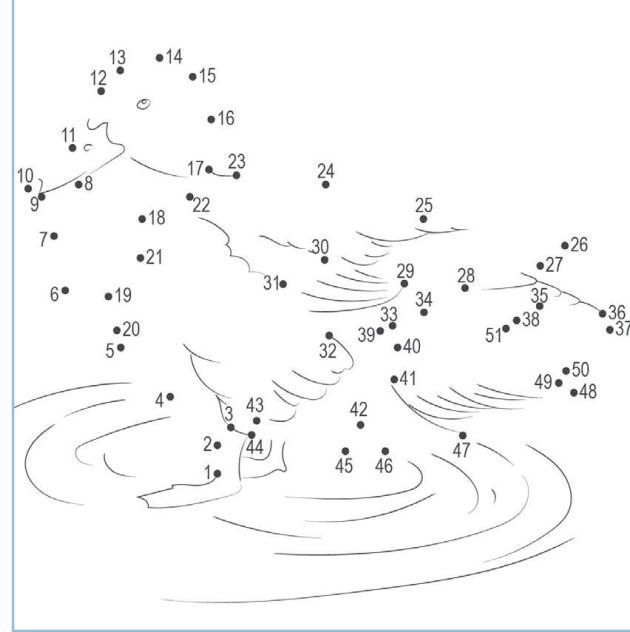
- Floor covering
- Approaches
- Bear witness to
- Church official
- Places of worship
- Bishop's headdress
- Fusible alloy
- Greek letter
- Oppressively hot
- Actual
- Catches sight of
- Slowly (mus)
- Hostility
- Farm birds
- Sooths
- Prescribed meals
- Large tank

Spot the 5 Differences



Join the Dots

What is this? Find out by joining the dots.



Solutions

Puzzles and pagination supplied by Auspac Media



YOUR FORTNIGHTLY TV GUIDE

December 10 - 16

	ABCTV	SBS	SEVEN	NBN	TEN
WEDNESDAY	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.35 You Can't Ask That. 1.55 Death In Paradise. 3.00 QI. 3.30 Nigella Bites . 3.55 Grand Designs NZ. 4.45 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 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 Utopia. 10.25 If You're Listening. 10.50 News. 11.05 The Business. 11.20 You Can't Ask That. 12.30 Grand Designs NZ. 1.15 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 2.05 Rage. 3.20 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.55 South America With Simon Reeve. 3.00 Going Places. 3.30 Plat Du Tour. 3.40 The Cook Up. 4.10 Britain By Beach. 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.35 Michael Palin In North Korea. 8.25 Terror On The Space Station. 9.25 Crime. 10.25 SBS News. 10.55 Elvira. 11.45 Elvira. 12.00 Elvira. 2.05 Charles I: Downfall Of A King. 3.10 Home Of The Year: Scotland. 4.15 Growing A Greener World. 4.45 Late Programs.	6.00 Sunrise. 9.00 The Morning Show. 12.00 MOVIE: A Christmas Spark. (2022) 2.00 Bridge Of Lies. 3.00 Beat The Chasers UK. 4.00 News. 5.00 The Chase Aust. 6.00 7News Local. 6.30 News. 7.00 Border Patrol. (PG) 7.30 The 1% Club UK. (PG) 8.30 MOVIE: Pitch Perfect. (2012) (M) 10.50 Chicago Fire. (M) 11.50 Motorway Patrol. (PG) 12.00 MOVIE: Secrets Exposed. (2022) (M) 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 Summer. 11.30 9News Morning. 12.00 Taronga: Who's Who In The Zoo. 1.00 Getaway Holidays In The Sun. 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 Paramedics. (M) 9.30 American Crime Story. (M) 11.35 Resident Alien. 12.20 Tipping Point. 1.10 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. 8.00 Bold. 8.30 Deal Or No Deal. 9.00 Lingo. 10.00 Ent. Tonight. 10.30 Jamie's 5 Ingredient Mediterranean. 11.30 My Market Kitchen. 12.00 Farm To Fork. 12.30 Family Feud. 1.00 News. 2.00 Deal Or No Deal. 2.30 Lingo. 3.30 News. 4.00 House Hunters Aust. 4.30 Bold. 5.00 News. 6.00 10 News+. 7.00 Deal Or No Deal. 7.30 Gordon Ramsay's Secret Service. 8.30 FBI: Most Wanted. 10.30 News. 10.55 10 News+. 11.55 Stephen Colbert. 1.00 Shopping. 4.30 CBS Morning.
THURSDAY	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.00 Silent Witness. 2.00 Death In Paradise. 3.00 QI. 3.30 Nigella Bites . 3.55 Grand Designs NZ. 4.40 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 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 News. 10.50 The Business. 11.10 The Art Of. 11.40 Grand Designs NZ. 12.25 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 1.15 Rage. 3.20 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 12.30 France 24. 1.00 PBS News. 2.00 South America With Simon Reeve. 3.10 Going Places. 3.40 The Cook Up. 4.10 Britain By Beach. 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.35 Searching For Spain. 8.25 Niagara Falls. 9.25 Vigil. 10.30 SBS News. 11.00 Vienna Blood. 11.55 Vienna Blood. 12.50 House Of Promises. 3.30 Charles I: Downfall Of A King. 4.40 Bamay. 5.00 NHK World English News Morning. 5.30 ANC Philippines The World Tonight.	6.00 Sunrise. 9.00 The Morning Show. 12.00 MOVIE: A Christmas Spark. (2022) 2.00 Bridge Of Lies. 3.00 Beat The Chasers UK. 4.00 News. 5.00 The Chase Aust. 6.00 7News Local. 6.30 News. 7.00 7NEWS Special: Roger Climpson. 7.30 7NEWS: 2025 Year In Review. 8.30 MOVIE: Robin Hood. (2010) (M) 11.30 The Amazing Race. (PG) 1.00 Life. (M) 2.00 Shopping. 2.30 Shopping. 3.30 Shopping. 4.00 NBC Today. 5.00 Sunrise Early News. 5.30 Sunrise.	6.00 Morning Programs. 11.30 9News Morning. 12.00 MOVIE: Sincerely Truly Christmas. (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 Great Getaways. 8.30 Topknotz: Wild On Water. 9.30 Limitless With Chris Hemsworth. 10.30 Chicago Med. 11.20 Next Stop. 11.50 Tipping Point. 12.40 Pointless. 1.30 TV Shop. 2.30 Global Shop. 3.00 TV Shop. 4.00 Believer's Voice. 4.30 ACA. 5.00 Today Early News. 5.30 Today.	6.00 Morning Programs. 9.00 Lingo. 10.00 Ent. Tonight. 10.30 Jamie's 5 Ingredient Mediterranean. 11.30 My Market Kitchen. 12.00 Farm To Fork. 12.30 Family Feud. 1.00 News. 2.00 Deal Or No Deal. 2.30 Lingo. 3.30 News. 4.00 House Hunters Aust. 4.30 Bold. 5.00 News. 6.00 10 News+. 7.00 Deal Or No Deal. 7.30 The Graham Norton Show. 8.40 Neighbours. 9.40 Law & Order: SVU. 10.40 News. 11.05 Law & Order: SVU. 12.05 10 News+. 1.05 Stephen Colbert. 2.00 Shopping. 4.30 CBS Morning.
FRIDAY	6.00 Morning Programs. 9.00 News. 10.00 Portrait Artist Of The Year. 11.05 The Forsytes. 12.00 News. 1.00 The Newsreader. 2.00 Grand Designs Aust. 3.00 QI. 3.30 Nigella Bites . 3.55 Grand Designs NZ. 4.40 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. 6.30 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30 Australian Chamber Orchestra's 50th Gala. 8.30 Maigret. 9.25 Hard Quiz. 9.55 Crime Night. 10.25 Spicks And Specks. 10.55 News. 11.15 Silent Witness. 12.15 Rage New Music. 5.00 Rage.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 South America With Simon Reeve. 3.05 Going Places. 3.35 The Cook Up. 4.05 Nazca Desert Mystery. 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.30 Jaws: Making A Splash In Hollywood. 8.30 William Shatner: You Can Call Me Bill. 10.15 SBS News. 10.45 Sil. 11.40 Culprits. 1.50 Soldiers. 3.35 Growing A Greener World. 4.05 Growing A Greener World. 4.35 Bamay. 5.00 NHK World English News Morning. 5.30 Late Programs.	6.00 Sunrise. 9.00 The Morning Show. 12.00 MOVIE: Cooking Up Christmas. (2020) 2.00 Bridge Of Lies: Celebrity Specials. 3.00 Beat The Chasers UK. 4.00 News. 5.00 The Chase Aust. 6.00 7News Local. 6.30 News. 7.30 Jaws: Making A Splash In Hollywood. 8.30 William Shatner: You Can Call Me Bill. 10.15 SBS News. 10.45 Sil. 11.40 Culprits. 1.50 Soldiers. 3.35 Growing A Greener World. 4.05 Growing A Greener World. 4.35 Bamay. 5.00 NHK World English News Morning. 5.30 Late Programs.	6.00 Today. 9.00 Today Extra Summer. 11.30 9News Morning. 12.00 MOVIE: Christmas At Carbell Family Farm. (2024) 2.00 Pointless. 3.00 Tipping Point. 4.00 9News Afternoon. 5.00 Tipping Point Australia. 6.00 NBN News. 7.00 A Current Affair. 7.30 Swimming. Australia v The World. 10.30 Law & Order: Organized Crime. (MA15+) 11.30 Next Stop. 12.00 Tipping Point. (PG) 1.00 Drive TV Launch Pad. 1.30 TV Shop. 4.00 Skippy. 4.30 Global Shop. 5.00 TV Shop. 5.30 Postcards Summer. (PG)	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. 10.30 Jamie's Cook Ahead Christmas. 11.30 My Market Kitchen. 12.00 Farm To Fork. 12.30 Family Feud. 1.00 News. 2.00 Deal Or No Deal. 2.30 Lingo. 3.30 News. 4.00 House Hunters Aust. 4.30 Bold. 5.00 News. 6.00 10 News+. 7.00 Deal Or No Deal. 7.30 Love It Or List It Australia. 9.50 The Graham Norton Show. 11.00 News. 11.25 10 News+. 12.20 Stephen Colbert. 1.30 Shopping.
SATURDAY	6.00 Rage Charts. 7.00 Wknd Brekky. 9.00 Rage. 12.00 News. 1.30 Return To Paradise. 1.25 Maigret. 2.20 All Creatures Great And Small. (PG) 3.10 Le Concert De Paris. 2025. 5.00 Spicks And Specks. (PG) 5.30 Muster Dogs: Where Are They Now. 6.00 Back Roads. 6.30 When The War Is Over. (PG) 7.00 ABC News. 7.30 Return To Paradise. (PG) 8.30 Vera. (M) 10.00 The Forsytes. 10.55 Bergerac. (M) 11.40 Rage. (MA15+) 5.00 Rage. (PG)	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 When The World Watched. 3.25 Cycling. Cape To Cape MTB. Highlights. 4.30 Plat Du Tour. 4.35 Such Was Life. 4.45 Who Do You Think You Are? 5.35 Britain Under The Nazis. 6.30 News. 7.30 Wham! Last Christmas Unwrapped. 8.40 Alpine Hotel At Christmas. 9.35 Osborne House: A Royal Retreat. 10.50 The Real Spies Among Friends. 11.45 Homicide. 3.05 Being Beethoven. 4.10 Growing A Greener World. 4.40 Bamay. 5.00 Late Programs.	6.00 NBC Today. 7.00 Weekend Sunrise. 10.00 Morning Show. 12.00 Horse Racing. Pakenham Cup Day. Ingham Charity Raceday And Gateway Raceday. 5.00 News. 5.30 Border Security. 6.00 Seven News. 7.00 Cricket. Women's Big Bash League. Final. 10.30 Women's Big Bash League Final Post-Game. Coverage of the WBBL Final post-game. 11.00 MOVIE: The Rock. (1996) (MA15+) 2.00 Shopping. 2.30 Shopping. 3.30 Shopping. 4.00 It's Academic. 5.00 Million Dollar Minute.	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.00 Drive Safer. 1.30 My Way. 2.00 Ready Vet Go: The Vet Paramedics. 2.30 Eatwell Christmas. 3.30 Getaway Presents France. 4.30 Garden Gurus. 5.00 News. 5.30 Find My Country House Aust. 6.00 NBN News. 7.00 ACA. 7.30 MOVIE: Avatar. (2009) 10.45 MOVIE: The Domestics. (2018) 12.30 Getaway Presents France. 1.30 Our State On A Plate. 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. 8.00 I Fish. 8.30 On The Fly. 9.00 4x4 Adventures. 10.00 My Market Kitchen. 10.30 GCBC. 11.00 Airport 24/7. 12.00 Everyday Gourmet. 12.30 Farm To Fork. 1.00 Silvia's Italian Masterclass. 1.30 The Yes Experiment. 2.00 4x4 Adventures. 3.00 Dogs Behaving (Very) Badly Australia. 4.00 All 4 Adventure. 5.00 News. 6.30 The Dog House UK. 7.30 Selling Houses Aust. 8.40 Location, Location, Location Australia. 9.40 FBI: Most Wanted. 11.30 FBI. 12.30 Shopping. 5.00 Hour Of Power.
SUNDAY	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.25 Gardening Aust. 2.25 Nigella's Christmas Table. 3.25 Long Lost Family. 4.10 Extraordinary Escapes. 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 When The War Is Over. 11.10 Brush With Fame. 11.40 Nigella's Christmas Table. 12.40 Rage. 3.05 Dream Gardens. 3.40 The Art Of. 4.10 Gardening Aust. 5.10 Annabel Crabb's Civic Duty.	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.00 Speedweek. 3.00 Going Places. 3.35 Ethnic Business Awards. 5.35 Britain Under The Nazis. 6.30 News. 7.30 Cleopatra: Cracking The Enigma. 8.30 Ken Burns' The American Revolution. 10.40 Mayhem: Secret Lives Of Georgian Kings. 11.35 Australian Fashion Past. Present. Future. 1.05 Empires Of New York. 3.35 Dishing It Up Christmas. 2.30 Shopping. 3.00 Shopping. 3.30 Million Dollar Minute. 4.00 NBC Today. 5.00 Sunrise Early News. 5.30 Sunrise. 5.15 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.00 MOVIE: A Christmas Number One. (2021) 3.30 Christmas With The Salvos. 4.00 Better Homes. 5.00 News. 5.30 Weekend. 6.00 News. 7.00 Cricket. Big Bash League. Match 1. Perth Scorchers v Sydney Sixers. 10.30 Big Bash League Post-Match. 11.00 7NEWS Spotlight. 12.00 The Queen Unseen. 1.00 Travel Oz. 1.30 Harry's Practice. 2.00 Shopping. 2.30 Shopping. 3.00 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 Explore TV. 12.00 MOVIE: Destination Christmas. (2022) 2.00 The 59th Annual Country Music Association Awards. 4.00 Great Getaways. 5.00 News. 5.30 RBT. 6.00 NBN News. 7.00 Tipping Point: Celebrity Special. 8.00 Events That Changed Australia. 9.20 Red Eye. 11.20 World's Most Dangerous Prisoners. 12.10 Wild Cards. 1.00 Explore TV. 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 Key Ingredient. 10.00 Farm To Fork. 10.30 The Dog Academy. 11.30 Jamie's Cook Ahead Christmas. 12.30 Surf Life Saving. Shaw And Partners Iron Series. Day 2. Eliminator round. 2.30 Basketball. NBL. Round 12. Melbourne United v Sydney Kings. 4.30 Deal Or No Deal. 5.00 News. 6.00 10 News+. 7.00 William And Harry: The Rise And Fall. 8.30 NCIS. 10.30 News. 10.55 10 News+. 11.55 Stephen Colbert. 1.00 Shopping. 4.30 CBS Morning.
MONDAY	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.00 Ngaloo Nyinggulu. 2.00 Death In Paradise. 3.00 QI. 3.30 Nigella Bites . 3.55 Grand Designs NZ. 4.40 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. 6.30 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30-7.30. 8.00 MOVIE: Whatever It Takes: Inside The eBay Scandal. (2024) 9.30 MOVIE: Embrace. (2016) 10.55 Creative Types. 11.25 Grand Designs NZ. 12.15 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 1.00 Rage. 3.25 Parkinson In Australia. 4.30 Gardening Aust. 5.30 7.30.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 Planet Reef. 3.00 Going Places. 3.30 The Cook Up. 4.00 Who Do You Think You Are? 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.35 Bill Bailey's Vietnam Adventure. 8.30 Never Mind The Buzzcocks Christmas. 9.20 Jimmy Carr's I Literally Just Told You. 10.55 SBS News. 10.45 The Man Who Died. 11.35 Culprits. 1.45 Pagan Peak. 3.45 Growing A Greener World. 4.15 Rediscover Victoria. 4.45 Destination Flavour. 4.55 Late Programs.	6.00 Sunrise. 9.00 The Morning Show. 12.00 MOVIE: Candy Cated Christmas. (2021) 2.00 Bridge Of Lies. 3.00 The Chase. 4.00 News. 5.00 The Chase Aust. 6.00 7News Local. 6.30 News. 7.30 Cricket. Big Bash League. Match 2. Melbourne Renegades v Brisbane Heat. 10.30 Big Bash League Post-Match. 11.00 Chicago Fire. (M) 12.00 Girlfriends' Guide To Divorce. (MA15+) 2.00 Shopping. 2.30 Shopping. 3.00 NBC Today. 5.00 Sunrise Early News. 5.30 Sunrise.	6.00 Today. 9.00 Today Extra Summer. 11.30 9News Morning. 12.00 MOVIE: A Vintage Christmas. (2024) 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: Muriel's Wedding. (1994) (M) 10.50 The Equalizer. (M) 11.40 Sight Unseen. 12.30 Tipping Point. 1.30 TV Shop. 2.30 Global Shop. 3.00 TV Shop. 4.00 Believer's Voice. 4.30 ACA. 5.00 Today Early News. 5.30 Today.	6.00 Morning Programs. 7.30 Farm To Fork. 8.00 Bold. 8.30 Deal Or No Deal. 9.00 Lingo. 10.00 Ent. Tonight. 10.30 Jamie Oliver: Christmas Dinner. 11.30 My Market Kitchen. 12.00 Farm To Fork. 12.30 Family Feud. 1.00 News. 2.00 Deal Or No Deal. 2.30 Lingo. 3.30 News. 4.00 Bondi Rescue. 4.30 Bold. 5.00 News. 6.00 10 News+. 7.00 Deal Or No Deal. 7.30 William And Harry: The Rise And Fall. 8.30 NCIS. 10.30 News. 10.55 10 News+. 11.55 Stephen Colbert. 1.00 Shopping. 4.30 CBS Morning.
TUESDAY	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.00 The Forsytes. 2.00 Death In Paradise. 3.00 QI. 3.30 Nigella Bites . 3.55 Grand Designs NZ. 4.40 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. 6.25 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. 9.50 The Assembly. 11.20 Escaping Utopia. 12.20 A Country Road: The Nationals. 1.20 Grand Designs NZ. 2.05 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 2.55 Rage. 3.10 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 The Point: Road To Referendum History Bites. 2.05 Planet Reef. 3.05 Going Places. 3.35 Plat Du Tour. 3.45 The Cook Up. 4.15 Westminster Abbey: Behind Closed Doors. 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.30 Big Bash League. Match 3. Sydney Thunder v Brisbane Heat. 10.30 Big Bash League Post-Match. 11.00 Lopez Vs. Lopez. (PG) 12.00 Miniseries: London Spy. (MA15+) 1.15 Travel Oz. 2.00 Shopping. 2.30 Shopping. 4.00 NBC Today. 5.00 Sunrise Early News. 5.30 Sunrise.	6.00 Sunrise. 9.00 The Morning Show. 12.00 MOVIE: My Norwegian Holiday. (2023) 2.00 Bridge Of Lies. 3.00 The Chase. 4.00 News. 5.00 The Chase Aust. 6.00 7News Local. 6.30 News. 7.30 Cricket. Big Bash League. Match 3. Hobart Hurricanes v Sydney Thunder. 10.30 Big Bash League Post-Match. 11.00 Lopez Vs. Lopez. (PG) 12.00 Miniseries: London Spy. (MA15+) 1.15 Travel Oz. 2.00 Shopping. 2.30 Shopping. 4.00 NBC Today. 5.00 Sunrise Early News. 5.30 Sunrise.	6.00 Morning Programs. 11.30 9News Morning. 12.00 MOVIE: The Hellfire Of Christmas. (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 Durie's Future House. 9.35 Beyond The Build. 10.35 Wild Cards. 11.30 La Brea. 12.15 Tipping Point. 1.05 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. 8.00 Bold. 8.30 Deal Or No Deal. 9.00 Lingo. 10.00 Ent. Tonight. 10.30 Jamie Oliver: Christmas. 11.30 My Market Kitchen. 12.00 Farm To Fork. 12.30 Family Feud. 1.00 News. 2.00 Deal Or No Deal. 2.30 Lingo. 3.30 News. 4.00 Bondi Rescue. 4.30 Bold. 5.00 News. 6.00 10 News+. 7.00 Deal Or No Deal. 7.30 The Assembly. 10.10 The Assembly. 10.55 Escaping Utopia. 11.55 A Country Road: The Nationals. 12.55 Grand Designs NZ. 1.40 Long Lost Family. 2.30 Rage. 3.30 Late Programs.

December 17 - 23

	ABC TV	SBS	SEVEN	NBN	TEN	
	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.00 Australian Chamber Orchestra's 50th Gala. 2.00 Death In Paradise. 3.00 QI. 3.30 Nigella Bites. 3.55 Grand Designs NZ. 4.40 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. 6.30 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30-7.30 . 8.00 Hard Quiz Battle Of The Networks. 8.30 The Yearly With Charlie Pickering. 9.45 Spicks And Specks. 10.30 If You're Listening. 10.40 You Can't Ask That. 11.45 Grand Designs NZ. 12.30 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 1.15 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 The Point: Road To Referendum History Bites. 2.05 Planet Reef. 3.05 Going Places. 3.35 Plat Du Tour. 3.45 The Cook Up. 4.15 Westminster Abbey: Behind Closed Doors. 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.35 Costco At Christmas. 8.30 Terror On The Space Station. 9.30 Crime. 10.30 SBS News. 11.00 Elvira. 11.45 Elvira. 2.15 Big Fat Quiz Of The Year 2024. 3.50 Growing A Greener World. 4.20 Rediscover Victoria. 4.50 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.10 Cricket. The Ashes. Third Test. Australia v England. Day 1. Afternoon session. 3.10 The Ashes: Tea Break. 3.30 Cricket. The Ashes. Third Test. Australia v England. Day 1. Evening session. 6.00 7News Local. 6.30 News. 7.00 Cricket. Big Bash League. Match 4. Sydney Sixers v Adelaide Strikers. 10.30 Big Bash League Post-Match. 11.00 Chicago Fire. 12.00 MOVIE: Top Of The Class. (2020) 2.00 Shopping. 2.30 Shopping. 3.30 Shopping. 4.00 NBC Today. 5.00 Late Programs.	6.00 Today. 9.00 Today Extra Summer. 11.30 9News Morning. 12.00 MOVIE: Christmas On The Alpaca Farm. (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 RBT. (PG) 8.30 Paramedics. (M) 9.30 RPA. (PG) 10.30 American Crime Story. (M) 12.30 Resident Alien. 1.20 Honey: He Said She Said. 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. 10.30 Jamie Oliver: Christmas. 11.30 My Market Kitchen. 12.00 Farm To Fork. 12.30 Family Feud. 1.00 News. 2.00 Deal Or No Deal. 2.30 Lingo. 3.30 News. 4.00 Bondi Rescue. 4.30 Bold. 5.00 News. 6.00 10 News+. 7.00 Deal Or No Deal. 7.30 Gordon Ramsay's Secret Service. 8.30 FBI: Most Wanted. 10.30 News. 10.55 10 News+. 11.55 Stephen Colbert. 1.00 Shopping. 4.30 CBS Morning.	WEDNESDAY
	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.00 Silent Witness. 2.00 Death In Paradise. 3.00 QI. 3.30 Nigella Bites. 3.55 Grand Designs NZ. 4.40 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 5.25 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 The Art Of. 11.05 Grand Designs NZ. 11.50 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 12.40 Rage. 3.40 Parkinson In Australia. 4.30 Gardening Australia. 5.30-7.30 .	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 Amazon: The Lost World. 2.55 Nick Knowles Into The Grand Canyon. 3.45 The Cook Up. 4.15 Westminster Abbey: Behind Closed Doors. 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.30 ABBA And Elvis In The Outback. 8.35 The Untold Story Of The Vatican. 9.35 Vigil. 10.40 SBS News. 11.00 Vienna Blood. 12.10 Outlander. 1.35 House Of Promises. 4.15 Growing A Greener World. 4.45 Destination Flavour. 4.55 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 12.30 The Ashes: The Lunch Break. 1.10 Cricket. The Ashes. Third Test. Australia v England. Day 2. Afternoon session. 3.10 The Ashes: Tea Break. 3.30 Cricket. The Ashes. Third Test. Australia v England. Day 2. Evening session. 6.00 7News Local. 6.30 News. 7.00 Cricket. Big Bash League. Match 5. Melbourne Stars v Hobart Hurricanes. 10.30 Seven's Cricket: The Spin. 11.15 The Amazing Race. 12.45 Life. 2.00 Shopping. 3.00 Shopping. 4.00 NBC Today. 5.00 Sunrise Early News. 5.30 Sunrise.	6.00 Today. 9.00 Today Extra Summer. 11.30 9News Morning. 12.00 MOVIE: Merry And Bright. (2019) 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 Great Getaways. 8.30 Topknock: Wild On Water. 9.30 Limitless With Chris Hemsworth. 10.30 The Good Doctor. 11.00 Next Stop. 11.50 Tipping Point. 12.40 Pointless. 1.30 TV Shop. 2.30 Global Shop. 3.00 TV Shop. 4.00 Believer's Voice. 4.30 ACA. 5.00 Today Early News. 5.30 Today.	6.00 Ent. Tonight. 6.30 GCBC. 7.00 Everyday Gourmet. 7.30 Farm To Fork. 8.00 Bold. 8.30 Deal Or No Deal. 9.00 Lingo. 10.00 Ent. Tonight. 10.30 Jamie's One-Pan Christmas. 11.30 My Market Kitchen. 12.00 Farm To Fork. 12.30 Family Feud. 1.00 News. 2.00 Deal Or No Deal. 2.30 Lingo. 3.30 News. 4.00 Bondi Rescue. 4.30 Bold. 5.00 News. 6.00 10 News+. 7.00 Deal Or No Deal. 7.30 MOVIE: Jack Reacher: Never Go Back. (2016) (M) 9.55 News. 10.20 10 News+. 11.20 Stephen Colbert. 12.30 Shopping.	THURSDAY
	6.00 News Breakfast. 9.00 News. 10.00 Portrait Artist Of The Year. 11.00 The Forsytes. 12.00 News. 1.00 Royal Carols. 2.05 Grand Designs Aust. 3.00 QI. 3.30 Nigella Bites. 4.00 Grand Designs NZ. 4.45 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. 6.30 Hard Quiz. (PG) 7.00 News. 7.30 A (Very) Musical Christmas. 9.05 The Yearly With Charlie Pickering. (PG) 10.20 Spicks And Specks. (PG) 10.50 Silent Witness. (M) 12.35 Rage Best New Music Videos Of 2025. (MA15+) 5.00 Rage.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 Amazon: The Lost World. 2.55 Nick Knowles Into The Grand Canyon. 3.45 The Cook Up. 4.15 Westminster Abbey: Behind Closed Doors. 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.30 Indiana Jones: In Pursuit Of An Icon. 8.30 Starring Dick Van Dyke. 10.30 SBS News. 11.00 Sisi. 11.55 Culprits. 1.00 Culprits. 2.05 Soldiers. 3.50 Growing A Greener World. 4.20 Rediscover Victoria. 4.45 Destination Flavour. 4.55 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 12.30 The Ashes: The Lunch Break. 1.10 Cricket. The Ashes. Third Test. Australia v England. Day 3. Afternoon session. 3.10 The Ashes: Tea Break. 3.30 Cricket. The Ashes. Third Test. Australia v England. Day 3. Evening session. 6.00 7News Local. 6.30 News. 7.00 NSW Schools Spectacular. 9.30 Victorian State Schools Spectacular. 12.30 Harry's Practice. 1.00 Miniseries: Any Human Heart. 2.00 Shopping. 2.30 Shopping. 4.00 Million Dollar Minute. 5.00 NBC Today.	6.00 Today. 9.00 Today Extra Summer. 11.30 9News Morning. 12.00 MOVIE: Unforgettable Christmas. (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 Space Invaders. (PG) 8.40 MOVIE: Elf. (2003) (G) 10.40 MOVIE: Four Holidays. (2008) (M) 12.20 Tipping Point. (PG) 1.10 Hello SA. (PG) 1.30 TV Shop. 4.00 Skippy. 4.30 Global Shop. 5.00 TV Shop. 5.30 Postcards Summer.	6.00 Ent. Tonight. 6.30 GCBC. 7.00 Everyday Gourmet. 7.30 Farm To Fork. 8.00 Bold. 8.30 Deal Or No Deal. 9.00 Lingo. 10.00 Ent. Tonight. 10.30 Jamie's Cook Ahead Christmas. 11.30 My Market Kitchen. 12.00 Farm To Fork. 12.30 Family Feud. 1.00 News. 2.00 Deal Or No Deal. 2.30 Lingo. 3.30 News. 4.00 Bondi Rescue. 4.30 Bold. 5.00 News. 6.00 10 News+. 7.00 Deal Or No Deal. 7.30 MOVIE: Jack Reacher: Never Go Back. (2016) (M) 9.55 News. 10.20 10 News+. 11.20 Stephen Colbert. 12.30 Shopping.	FRIDAY
	6.00 Morning Programs. 9.00 Rage. 10.30 Rage Best Of The Guests 2025. 12.00 News. 1.30 Return To Paradise. 1.25 Royal Carols. Together At Christmas. 2.30 All Creatures Great And Small Christmas Special. 3.25 A (Very) Musical Christmas. 5.00 Spicks And Specks. 5.30 Myster Dogs: Where Are They Now. 5.55 Hard Quiz Battle Of The Networks. 6.30 Portrait Artist Of The Year. 7.30 Return To Paradise. 8.30 Rage. 10.00 The Forsytes. 10.55 Bergerac. 11.45 Rage Best Of The Guests 2025. 4.55 Rage.	6.00 Morning Programs. 12.30 France 24. 1.00 PBS News. 2.00 When The World Watched. 3.25 Ethnic Business Awards. 5.30 Bettyann Hughes: History Of Mother Earth. 6.30 News. 7.30 Building The Vatican. 8.30 A Warwick Castle Christmas: Christmas At The Castle. 9.30 Harrods: The Rise And Fall Of A British Institution. 10.25 MOVIE: Robin's Wish. (2020) 11.45 Homicide. 3.30 Growing A Greener World. 4.10 Rediscover Victoria. 4.40 Bamay. 5.15 France 24 Feature. 5.30 ANC Philippines The World Tonight.	6.00 Morning Programs. 12.30 The Ashes: The Lunch Break. 1.10 Cricket. The Ashes. Third Test. Australia v England. Day 4. Afternoon session. 3.10 The Ashes: Tea Break. 3.30 Cricket. The Ashes. Third Test. Australia v England. Day 4. Evening session. 6.00 News. 7.00 Animals Aboard With Dr Harry. 8.00 Carols In The Domain. 10.30 NSW Schools Spectacular. 1.00 Miniseries: Any Human Heart. 2.30 Shopping. 4.00 It's Academic. 5.00 Million Dollar Minute.	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.00 Drive Safer. 1.30 My Way. 2.00 Ready Vet Go: The Vet Paramedics. 2.30 MOVIE: Christmas In Scotland. (2023) 4.00 Garden Gurus. 5.00 News. 5.30 Find My Country House Aust. 6.00 NBN News. 7.00 ACA. 7.30 MOVIE: Nugget Is Dead: A Christmas Story. (2024) 9.30 MOVIE: Bad Moms 2. (2017) 11.35 MOVIE: Christmas. (2022) 1.00 Great Getaways. 2.00 Pointless. 3.00 Tipping Point. 4.00 Incredible Journey. 2.30 TV Shop. 4.30 Global Shop. 5.00 TV Shop. 5.30 Helping Hands.	6.00 Morning Programs. 9.00 4x4 Adventures. 10.00 My Market Kitchen. 10.30 GCBC. 11.00 Airport 24/7. 12.00 Everyday Gourmet. 12.30 Farm To Fork. 1.00 Silvia's Italian Masterclass. 1.30 The Yes Experiment. 2.00 4x4 Adventures. 3.00 Dogs Behaving (Very) Badly Australia. 4.00 All 4 Adventure. 5.00 News. 6.00 MOVIE: Dear Santa. (2024) 8.20 Love It Or List It Australia. 9.30 Dog House. 10.30 Jamie Oliver: Christmas. 11.30 Jamie's One-Pan Christmas. 12.30 Shopping. 5.00 Hour Of Power.	SATURDAY
	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.25 Gardening Australia. Christmas Special. 2.25 Nigella's Cook, Eat, Repeat: Christmas Special. 3.25 Long Lost Family. 4.10 Extraordinary Escapes. Christmas Special. 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 Return To Paradise. 9.50 When The War Is Over. 10.20 War Stories. 10.30 Brush With Fame. 11.00 Nigella's Cook, Eat, Repeat: Christmas Special. 12.00 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.00 Speedweek. 3.00 Going Places. 3.35 Plat Du Tour. 3.45 The Cook Up. 4.15 Westminster Abbey: Behind Closed Doors. 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.30 The American Revolution. 10.35 Mayhem: Secret Lives Of Georgian Kings. 11.30 Australian Fashion Past, Present, Future. 12.35 Empires Of New York. 2.15 Empires Of New York. 3.05 Growing A Greener World. 4.05 Rediscover Victoria. 4.30 Bamay. 5.00 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 12.30 The Ashes. Third Test. Australia v England. Day 5. Afternoon session. 3.10 The Ashes: Tea Break. 3.30 Cricket. The Ashes. Third Test. Australia v England. Day 5. Evening session. 6.00 News. 7.00 Cricket. Big Bash League. Match 8. Melbourne Renegades v Hobart Hurricanes. 10.30 Unfiltered: Cricket. 11.00 7NEWS Spotlight. 12.00 MacGruber. 1.15 Travel Oz. 2.00 Shopping. 3.30 Million Dollar Minute. 4.00 NBC Today. 5.00 Sunrise Early News. 5.30 Sunrise.	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.130 Explore TV. 12.30 Find My Beach House Australia. 12.30 MOVIE: The Most Colorful Time Of The Year. (2022) 2.10 MOVIE: Destination Christmas. (2022) 4.00 Great Getaways. 5.00 News. 5.30 RBT. 6.00 NBN News. 7.00 Christmas With Delta. 8.30 MOVIE: Vacation. (2015) 10.30 Red Eye. 11.30 World's Most Dangerous Prisoners. 12.20 Wild Cards. 1.10 Explore TV. 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. 9.00 4x4 Adventures. 10.00 My Market Kitchen. 10.30 GCBC. 11.00 Airport 24/7. 12.00 Everyday Gourmet. 12.30 Farm To Fork. 1.00 Silvia's Italian Masterclass. 1.30 The Yes Experiment. 2.00 4x4 Adventures. 3.00 Dogs Behaving (Very) Badly Australia. 4.00 All 4 Adventure. 5.00 News. 6.00 MOVIE: Dear Santa. (2024) 8.20 Love It Or List It Australia. 9.30 Dog House. 10.30 Jamie Oliver: Christmas. 11.30 Jamie's One-Pan Christmas. 12.30 Shopping. 5.00 Hour Of Power.	SUNDAY
	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.00 Nigaloo News. 2.00 Death In Paradise. 3.00 QI. 3.30 Nigella Bites. 3.55 Grand Designs NZ. 4.40 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. 6.30 Hard Quiz Kids. 7.00 News. 7.30 I Was Actually There. 8.00 Writers: Breaking The Bird. 9.15 MOVIE: Girls Can't Surf. (2020) 11.00 Creative Types. 11.30 Grand Designs NZ. 12.15 Long Lost Family. 1.05 Rage. 3.30 Parkinson In Australia. 4.35 Gardening Aust. 5.35 Nigella Bites.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 Amazon: The Lost World. 2.55 Such Was Life. 3.05 Going Places. 3.35 Plat Du Tour. 3.45 The Cook Up. 4.15 Westminster Abbey: Behind Closed Doors. 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.30 The Tasmanian Tiger. 8.30 Never Mind The Buzzcocks Christmas. 9.25 Jimmy Carr's Literally Just Told You. 10.20 The 2010s. 11.50 The Man Who Died. 12.40 Culprits. 1.45 Late Programs.	6.00 Sunrise. 9.00 The Morning Show Summer Series. 12.00 MOVIE: Christmas In Pine Valley. (2022) 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 Cricket. Big Bash League. Match 9. Sydney Thunder v Brisbane Heat. 10.30 Big Bash League Post-Match. 11.00 Chicago Fire. (M) 12.00 Griffindors' 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 Summer. 11.30 9News Morning. 12.00 MOVIE: Just Like A Christmas Movie. (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 Travel Guides. (PG) 9.00 MOVIE: Raiders Of The Lost Ark. (1981) (M) 11.20 Silent Universe. (M) 12.10 Tipping Point. (PG) 1.05 Hello SA. (PG) 1.30 TV Shop. 2.30 Global Shop. 3.00 TV Shop. 4.00 Believer's Voice. 4.30 ACA. 5.00 Today Early News. 5.30 Today.	6.00 Morning Programs. 7.30 Farm To Fork. 8.00 Bold. 8.30 Deal Or No Deal. 9.00 Lingo. 10.00 Ent. Tonight. 10.30 Jamie's One-Pan Christmas. 11.30 My Market Kitchen. 12.00 Farm To Fork. 12.30 Family Feud. 1.00 Deal Or No Deal. 1.30 MOVIE: The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie. (2004) 3.30 Lingo. 4.30 Bold. 5.00 News. 6.00 Bondi Rescue. 6.30 Deal Or No Deal. 7.30 Love It Or List It Australia. 8.40 The Imposter. 10.40 NCIS. 12.30 Stephen Colbert. 1.30 Shopping. 4.30 CBS Morning.	MONDAY
	6.00 Morning Programs. 1.00 Killer Whale: Australia's Megapod. 2.00 Death In Paradise. 3.00 QI. 3.35 Nigella Bites. 3.55 Grand Designs NZ. 4.45 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. 6.30 Hard Quiz. 7.00 News. 7.30 The Piano UK. 8.25 The Piano UK. The Incredibly Talented Lucy. 9.25 The Assembly. 10.10 The Assembly. 10.55 Escaping Utopia. 11.55 A Country Road: The Nationals. 12.55 Grand Designs NZ. 1.40 Long Lost Family. 2.30 Rage. 3.30 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 2.00 Darcy Buswell's Royal Road Trip. 2.55 Such Was Life. 3.05 Going Places. 3.35 Plat Du Tour. 3.40 The Cook Up. 4.15 Westminster Abbey: Behind Closed Doors. 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.30 The Royal New Yorks UK. 8.30 Who Do You Think You Are? 9.40 Australia In Colour. 10.40 The 2010s. 11.30 Families Like Us. 12.30 De Gaulle. 1.30 De Gaulle. 2.30 Nordland 99. 3.00 Nordland 99. 3.25 Nordland 99. 4.30 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 12.00 MOVIE: Candy Cane Candidate. (2021) 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 Cricket. Big Bash League. Match 10. Adelaide Strikers v Melbourne Stars. 10.30 Seven's Cricket: The Spin. 11.15 Lopez Vs. Lopez. 12.15 Miniseries: London Spy. 1.30 Travel Oz. 2.00 Shopping. 2.30 Shopping. 3.00 Shopping. 3.30 Shopping. 4.00 NBC Today. 5.00 Sunrise Early News. 5.30 Sunrise.	6.00 Morning Programs. 11.30 9News Morning. 12.00 MOVIE: 12 Dates Of Christmas. (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 The Zoo. 8.30 Jamie Durie's Future House. 9.35 Beyond The Build. 10.35 Wild Cards. 11.30 La Brea. 12.15 Tipping Point. 1.05 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. 8.30 Deal Or No Deal. 9.00 Lingo. 10.00 Ent. Tonight. 10.30 Jamie's Christmas Shortcuts. 11.30 My Market Kitchen. 12.00 Farm To Fork. 12.30 Family Feud. 1.00 Dogs Behaving (Very) Badly Australia. 2.00 Taskmaster Australia. 3.00 Deal Or No Deal. 3.30 Lingo. 4.30 Bold. 5.00 News. 6.00 Bondi Rescue. 6.30 Deal Or No Deal. 7.30 Dog House Aust. 8.30 MOVIE: Adeems Family Values. (1993) 10.25 Mariah Carey: Merry Christmas To All. 12.20 Stephen Colbert. 1.30 Shopping. 4.30 CBS Morning.	TUESDAY

Summer holidays

Local Calendar

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

December

Sat 13 Dec - Tuncurry Market 8am to 1pm at John Wright Park, Tuncurry. Enquiries: Anne 0417 400 994

Sun 14 Dec - Carols in the Park 5:30 - 8pm Wylie Breckenridge Park, Black Head. Enjoy entertainment and community singing lead by local talent. Bring a chair or rug.

Sun 14 Dec - Forster Town Market 8am to 1pm, Town Park, Oyster Pde Forster. Search Forster Town Park Market on Facebook.



Mon 15 Dec - Rotary Carols by Candlelight 6 - 8:45pm at Harry Elliott Oval, Tuncurry. Great Lakes Band & school choir. Bring a chair or picnic rug. (see advert below)

Sat 20 Dec - Forster Farmers Market 8am to 12pm Forster Info Centre, 4 Little St. Enquiries: Linda 0421 347 273

Sun 21 Dec - Carols on the Keys Starts 1pm at Forster Keys boat ramp. Join the flotilla or along your waterfront

Sun 28 Dec - Pacific Palms Market 9am to 1pm Pacific Palms Community Centre. Community Library Stall open in hall. Enquiries: Jennifer Doyle 0401 968 516

Wed 31 Dec - Fireworks Forster Tuncurry Line the Forster Tuncurry foreshore and watch the fantastic fireworks display at 9pm launching from the south of the bridge.

January

Thurs 1st Jan - Forster parkrun (extra event) 7:45am for 8am start of 5km run/walk at Pebbly Beach Playground off Head St, Forster facebook.com/Forsterparkrun (See p29)

Sat 3 Jan - Tuncurry Market 8am to 1pm at John Wright Park, Tuncurry. Enquiries: Anne 0417 400 994



Sat 3 Jan - Real Food Market (above) 8am -11am Pacific Palms Community Centre. Come meet your local farmers. Enquiries: Sue Williams 0438 433 063.

Sun 4 Jan - Black Head Bazaar Market 8am to 1pm Wylie Breckenridge Park, Black Head Rd. Check website for ground closures. www.facebook.com/blackheadbazaar

Sun 4 Jan - Hallidays Point Car Boot Sale 7am to 12pm Hallidays Point Shopping Village Enquiries: 0403 042 088

Bring in the New Year with a bang!

MidCoast Council

Line the Forster Tuncurry foreshore and watch the fantastic fireworks display at 9pm on Wednesday 31 December.

Bring a chair or rug and enjoy the evening with family and friends. Plenty of vantage points from both Tuncurry and Forster

Fireworks will launch to the south of the bridge.

Brought to you by Club Forster Sporties Tuncurry.

Vantage Points

The best places to view the NYE fireworks are from John Wright Park, John Holland Park, Gregory Reserve, Lone Pine Park and the Forster waterside.

Road closures will be in effect from 7:30pm to 9:30pm.

- Memorial Drive in Forster, from Si Senorita to the turnaround bay

- Coral Avenue and the foreshore section of Palm Street in Tuncurry

- the internal access road, and parking bays in John Wright Park, Tuncurry

For more information please visit: www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/NYE-Road-Closures

Water exclusion zones

Please be aware of exclusion zones if choosing to spend the evening on the water. All boats must remain 300m from launch site. The site location will be confirmed on the evening



(weather depending) and will be in the vicinity of Miles Island or Haydens Island with the possibility of a mid-lake barge.

It's that time again!

By Brian Adair – Dad's Navy

The Annual Convey of Boats at Forster Keys will take to the waters to celebrate Christmas in a unique way!

Residents and holiday makers decorate their craft and gather at the Keys Boat Ramp at Elizabeth Parade to commence a parade of all waterways in Forster Keys starting at 1pm.

Lead by Santa - aboard a SES craft and accompanied by a second SES craft - they provide Carols and Christmas music to backyards and parks along the journey. Lollies are thrown to children who gather to welcome Santa.

Dad's Navy volunteers collect donations along the way which goes towards their costs of maintaining the parks and waterways all year long.

The atmosphere is always one of welcome and love at this special time of the year. Up to 20



vessels are the average, and all are welcome to BYO boat. There's no charge!

So, if you want something different this year, see you on the water.

CWA Christmas Hamper Raffle

CWA Forster Tuncurry

The winners of the CWA Christmas Hamper raffle were drawn at Bunnings on the 4th of December.

1st Prize: ticket number 590578

2nd Prize: ticket number 590460

3rd Prize: ticket number 590457

The winner of the painting by Sharon Hooper was won by ticket number 590540.

All prizes have been claimed.

Thank you to all those who supported Forster CWA.

Our funds raised go back into the community to organisations that benefit from financial assistance.



TUNCURRY MARKETS
John Wright Park
Saturday
13th Dec & 3rd Jan
8am - 1pm
Bookings Essential
Enquiries ☎
0417 400 994



Carols On The Keys

SUNDAY 21st DECEMBER

COMMENCING AT FORSTER KEYS

BOAT RAMP AT 1pm

STARTING IN KENROSE CANAL

JOIN THE FLOTILLA

MEET SANTA FROM YOUR WATERFRONT

OR SURROUNDING RESERVES AS HE

TRAVELS AROUND THE KEYS

LOLLY BAGS FOR ALL THE KIDS

DONATIONS TO FORSTER KEYS PROGRESS ASSOCIATION RECEIVED GRATEFULLY

Summer holidays

Summer Art Sale on now!

By Elizabeth Ho – Forster Gallery

Roll up, roll up it's the time of year at Forster Gallery where we have our super sale event, the Behind the Door and Under the Bed sale.

The gallery is brimming with works from our talented local artists who need to make room for next year's creative endeavours, so are prepared to offer unique pieces at discounted prices.

"This year we have over 240 works in the exhibition and it's always a lot of fun for both the artists and the public. The works tend to gather red (sold) dots quickly!" said exhibition manager, Toni de Bruin. "You are bound to find something you love with works on canvas in acrylic, oil and mixed media, and framed pieces in pastel, pencil and watercolour. There are

several 3D works, plus some unframed pieces that you can frame yourself."

Our Behind the Door sale is very popular at this time of year when you may be expected to turn up gift in hand. And we all know the stress of getting that right! What could be better than an original artwork for a loved one, your bestie, your favourite teacher and, of course, something special for yourself?

Located just minutes from the heart of town, Forster Gallery is a must-visit destination for anyone seeking inspiration, connection, or simply a quiet moment among beautiful works of art. Access is easy with parking available and is disability-friendly.

The Gallery is open seven days a week from 10am to 4pm and entry is FREE! We start

the sale on Wednesday 10 December and close on Monday 26 January, 2026.

Find us on Facebook and Instagram where we invite you to leave a review. For further information on closing days over Christmas please visit our website. www.forstergallery.org

Right: Forster Gallery on Lake Street, Forster.



50th Carols by Candlelight

Brad Fletcher - Rotary Club of Lower Midcoast

This year the Rotary Club of Lower Midcoast will celebrate our 50th Carols by Candlelight. For the last few years at Harry Elliott Oval, Tuncurry. From humble beginnings on Pilot Hill in Forster in 1974, the Free Entry event is now a highlight of the year for many in the Community and our Club. As with every year, we will be supported by Lyn Lelean, the Great Lakes Band and Local School Choirs. Food, drinks and candles will be available for purchase throughout the night.

The Carols cap off a busy year for our club. Supporting locals through donations to the flood appeals, Local Schools and the Great Lakes Suicide Prevention Network and Great Lakes Palliative Care Network. Helping families



staying in our area through our ongoing support of several programs at Ronald McDonald Family Retreat Forster. Globally we continue our fight against polio, as well as supporting women in Nepal by donating to a new Women's Hospital in Dolakha.

(see advert below)



50th
Carols by Candlelight
FEAT. GREAT LAKES BANDS & SCHOOL CHOIRS
MONDAY 15TH DECEMBER 2025
HARRY ELLIOTT OVAL TUNCURRY
(NEAR SPORTIES TUNCURRY)
6PM-845PM
FREE ENTRY
(CASH & EFTPOS DONATIONS APPRECIATED)
BRING A CHAIR & RUG TO SIT ON
FOOD & DRINKS
ICE CREAM
COFFEE
SONG SHEETS
CANDLES & GLOWSTICKS
ALL AVAILABLE
MEET SANTA
*No Dogs or Glass Bottles (Council Regulations)





BEHIND THE DOOR & UNDER THE BED
ART SALE
is on again!
10 Dec 2025 – 27 Jan 2026
FORSTER GALLERY – 34 Lake St, Forster
Open: 10am – 4pm, 7 days from 10 Dec 2025 – 27 Jan 2026
Closed Public Holidays: 24 – 26 Dec, 31 Dec and 1 Jan 2026
www.forstergallery.org

CAROLS

in the Park Black Head

6PM SUNDAY DECEMBER 14TH • 2025

WYLIE BRECKENRIDGE PARK BLACK HEAD
★ WET WEATHER VENUE IS HALLIDAYS POINT SCHOOL
★ BRING A CHAIR OR RUG AND SIT BACK AND ENJOY A GREAT TIME OF FAMILY AND COMMUNITY FUN.
★ LED BY MANNING VALLEY CONCERT BAND ★
Featuring performances from our local children and artists
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Mixed bag and Feedback

Letters to the Editor

'Letter to the Editor' is the place for our community to share their thoughts and feedback. Maximum 250 words unless prior arrangement. Material that is offensive, defamatory or overtly political will not be published. This newspaper intends to provide an opportunity of reply for any person/organisation involved before publication. The author's name and town are required, unless specifically requested otherwise. Send your letters to info@forsterfortnightly.com.au



Opportunity to shine

The youth in Forster were given a great opportunity to shine when Beach 5s Australia and New Zealand brought their rugby union and league beach event to town.

As a retired school teacher, I found it great to see the fun and professional set-up which brought families together on the main stage of Forster town beach. The team spirit was obvious across all the teams, and this included the coaches and the families supporting our youth. With the backdrop of local cafes, our

fabulous new surf club and the Pacific Ocean itself, the scene couldn't have been more of a celebration. And what a statement coming on to Christmas, that we honour our young people and give them the opportunity to grow to their potential. I hope to see more opportunities for our youth to be in the spotlight like this, supported by the funding needed to do so.

Cate Dunn - Forster

Photo by Patricia Macvean.



The 'Holy Petals' Community event was held on Saturday 29 November at Forster Anglican Church. Photos by Mary Yule. More photos on page 24.



Rotary Club of Lower Midcoast serving snags.



www.moir.com.au

Book Review

Book Review by John King - Pacific Palms Librarian

The Listeners

"It was a no with some real heft, a no that you could put ham and cheese on. The room went silent to appreciate its substantiality." Maggie Stiefvater's book The Listeners is about a seriously up-market hotel and spa in the US Appalachians that is taken over by the Government in 1942 to house interned enemy diplomatic personnel. Its Hotel Manager June Hudson has the full and total loyalty of the staff; she stands up for them. Many are social dropouts that she has taken on. Hoss she is called.

The difference between wealth and luxury? Wealth is just security. Luxury is when someone anticipates your wishes even before you perhaps know them yourself which is what this hotel and spa is all about. This is just one of the insights in the book.

The characters are extraordinary. The Germans, Italians, and Japanese might be allies at a national level. A personal level is entirely different. How does this exclusive hotel keep them occupied, and not at each other's throats. Moreover, how does one keep staff loyal when husbands, sons, and daughters are dying and have died at Pearl Harbor, at sea, and on land, yet they are required to serve

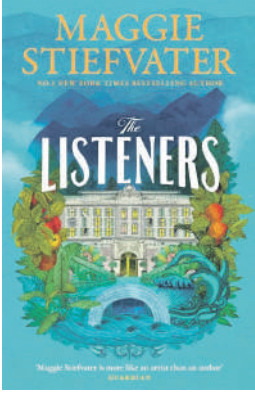
these people? The State Department representative and the FBI think they run the hotel; they don't and have to come to terms with that.

There are four spa houses from the exotic to the rustic. One is dangerous. June is the only one left who can manage the water that flows around and through the hotel. It absorbs feelings for good and bad. Finally the diplomats and their staff are repatriated, but not all, and 'the listeners' emerge.

Though this is a book of fiction, much of what June and her hotel encountered is real.

A good read.

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



Screen Reviews

TV Show Review by Leon Batman - Tuncurry

Berlin Station - SBS - 3 Seasons 2016 - 2018

An intriguing show about the CIA station in Berlin where a special operative has been bought in to find the source of security leaks resulting in some undercover agents being found out. There are also other storylines interwoven into the show regarding the station staff involving dangers, moral compromises and station affairs.

Well put together resulting in a show well worth watching.



Blue Lights - SBS - 3 Seasons 2023 - 2025

This Irish police drama based in Belfast has arrived on SBS for Season 3. The quality of this great series has exceeded the quality of seasons 1 & 2 with storylines, acting and directing as the Belfast police deals with a multitude of problems especially the "troubles". If you haven't watched this please check it out as it is great viewing.

All Creatures Great and Small - Britbox - 6 Seasons 2020 - 2025

Another show to return to Britbox for a new season, All Creatures Great and Small Season 6, is a remake of the original show of the same name from 1978.

In the new season of All Creatures Great and Small, things are changing at the Yorkshire Veterinary practise. Mrs Hall has left to live with her long lost son whilst the vet James Herriot has moved his family to live with Helen's family on the farm. This leaves Siegfried to fend for himself as Tristan is still away at war. The veterinary practise is in chaos as Siegfried becomes forgetful and moody. James visits Mrs Hall asking her to come back... I'll leave it there. This feel good family show is one of the best shows currently around.



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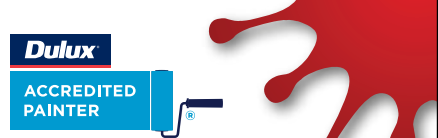
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Australia Day Citizen of the year Awards

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



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Community News

www.forsterfortnightly.com.au

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Weekly Diary

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

Mondays

Alcoholics Anonymous

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

Al-Anon Family Groups

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

Boomerang Bags Forster Tuncurry

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

Club Forster Travel Club

Meetings held the 3rd Monday of each month
2pm Wallis Lake room, Club Forster
Contact Mal Prewett 0455 153 785

Forster Family History Research Service

Available Mon, Wed & Fri 2 - 4pm and Tues &
Thurs 10am - 12pm at Forster Library. Closed 29
Nov-2 Feb. Email: library@midcoast.nsw.gov.au

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 Bootscooters

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

Quota Club of Forster Tuncurry

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

Tennis Forster

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

The Man Walk

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

Tuesdays

Alcoholics Anonymous

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

Club Forster Social Dance Club

Currently in Recess.
Dancing to resume Tuesday 3rd February 2026
Enquiries: Jenny 0412 609 181

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: jjpacthwood@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 Civic Centre, Wallamba room. Enquiries
Kayleen 0416 184 684.

Great Lakes Suicide Prevention Network

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

Green Bikes Community Workshop

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

Hallidays Point Men's Shed

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

One Mile Beach Dunecare

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

Seaside Heritage Quilters meet on the first
and third Wednesday of each month at 10am –
2pm at the Masonic Hall, Lake St, Forster.
(Now in recess until Wed 3 February 2026)

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 11:30am in Wallambi Room
at Forster Library. Closed during school
holidays. 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

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

Get Active Coomba Park

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

Ladies Social Tennis

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

Pickleball Tuncurry

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

“Quilts of Love” Forster Arts & Crafts

Food Guides Hall - Opp Council Playing Fields
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

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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



Graffiti Buster Hotline



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

Community Meals
& Pantry

Above: Volunteers at the Tuncurry Community
Brunch.

Tuncurry Community Brunch

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

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

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

“Bring what you can – take what you need.”

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

Forster Community Lunches

The Forster Community Kitchen is serving
lunches to the community **Monday to
Thursday 12 - 1pm.**

All are welcome. Lunches are served in the
CATHOLIC CHURCH HALL located behind the
Catholic Parish at 33 Lake Street, Forster.

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

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

Tuncurry Community
Morning Tea & Lunch

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

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

Christmas 25th December 2025

Jesus - the heart of Christmas



Photos from the 'Holy Petals' community event held at Forster Anglican Church on Saturday 29 November by Mary Yule.

Forster Anglican Church

The heart is one of the most important organs in our body! As it pumps blood around our bodies, it powers us, and gives us the ability to do heaps of things with our lives - from work to sport and exercise. If we have heart problems, then our whole life can be out of sorts.

Jesus is the heart of Christmas, and He is 'the reason for the season'! If we don't have Jesus as the heart of Christmas, it's like we have 'heart trouble'. We can replace Jesus with holiday fun, or gift giving, or family get-togethers, but as wonderful as these things are, our lives and our whole society is 'out of sorts' when we don't have Jesus as the heart of Christmas, and of our lives.

Jesus is the Eternal Word of God who created everything that exists, and at Christmas we remember that He became a human for the

purpose of restoring our broken relationship with God. Through faith in Jesus, we can have peace with God, peace with each other, and the sure hope of living forever!

If Jesus isn't the heart of your Christmas, let me encourage you to investigate the evidence for Jesus as King of everything! Go to Church this Christmas, hear again the message of salvation peace and forgiveness that Jesus offers, and put Jesus as the heart of your Christmas!

May that great Carol by Isaac Watts be true for you!

Joy to the world, the Lord has come, let earth receive her King!

From Rev. Mark Harris and all of us here at the Forster Anglican 'community; we wish you and your families a heartfelt, blessed & peaceful Christmas!



Members from Forster United Church at 'Holy Petals'.

Hope-filled Christmas

Forster United Church

We may not want to admit it, but our world is plagued by fear, and we are invariably shaped by this force, whether it is thrust upon us, or it rises up from within. It doesn't take much to list aspects of our society which provide ground for such an emotion; home invasions, youth crime, domestic violence, the rise of nationalistic groups, cost of living, housing affordability, and so on. Fear can divide and paralyse us, even being used as a tool for oppression.

If we read the Christmas story, that of Christ's birth, we would hear the phrase "Do not be afraid" repeated several times, and although this message comes from one of God's angelic messengers, it is in the actual birth of Christ that we find reason for us to take hold of this promise. For here is God breaking through into our world, bringing through this birth a source of peace, hope, joy and love.

Christ does not remove the circumstances that give rise to our fears, but his coming and all that he offers, provides a means through which fear is not the dominant force within our lives.

Every Advent, we light candles, sing carols, and pray for Christ's coming because we believe God entered a frightened world to bring good news. We hold onto hope because we believe that Christ did come—that's the promise of the season. Such hope is not flimsy or fleeting. It's gritty, resilient, and can endure—no matter what we fear or face. This season, let us embrace the hope and trust that the good news brought through this Christmas story with the coming of God's son, is greater than fear.

Have a happy, holy and hope-filled Christmas.
Pastor Geoff Battle

In a world of fear and uncertainty, God in the shape of his son Jesus, breaks through. The hope he brings is greater than any fear which burdens us.

You are welcome to join us over this Christmas period

Sunday 21st Dec- Forster Church 9 am
Wednesday 24th Dec- The Green Cathedral 5 pm
Christmas Day 25th Dec- Forster Church 9 am
Sunday 28th Dec- Forster Church 9 am

Forster Uniting Church Cnr of Lake & MacIntosh St Forster
Enquiries to Pastor Geoff on
6555 8573 or 0421 151 898



Christmas 25th December 2025

Christmas Day Lunch celebrates 40 years!



As Christmas approached in 1986, the local Catholic Priest, Fr. Tony Brady, became aware of some people in our community who would be spending Christmas Day alone. In an effort to reach out to these people Fr. Tony instigated a Christmas Day Lunch in the Catholic Church Hall at Forster.



This event has continued each Christmas since that time and once again this year single people and families will gather in the Forster Church Hall on Christmas Day to celebrate the joy of Christ's birth and to share Christmas Day Lunch together.

Over its 40 years of celebration we have discovered that Christmas can be a sad time for those who may be separated from their families by distance and may feel detached from the love and joy that the season is meant to bring. Sharing the day with others can assist in this regard.

Each year community members and visitors to our town come together to share the meal and the happiness of the Christmas Season. The free lunch is available to all and everyone is guaranteed to be made to feel most welcome. You're more than welcome to bring some contribution to the meal but each year there is no shortage of food as we are always generously supported.

The hall will be open from 11.30am and we will sit down to lunch around 12.30pm.



Above: Fr. Tony and Michael Byrne preparing decorations in 1986.

Further enquiries may be made with Greg Byrne on 0427 918 568.

Christmas Joy and Hope

Forster-Tuncurry Catholic Church

Christmas is a truly wonderful time of the year! As we gather with loved ones, decorate our homes, and enjoy festive season, let us not forget the true meaning of this special season. It is a time to celebrate the birthday of Jesus, our Savior, with joy and gratitude in our hearts.

Jesus, the Son of God, came to us in human form, showing us that we are loved abundantly and eternally. Amidst the hustle and bustle, let us take time to thank God for the ultimate gift - Jesus, our Savior.

Jesus is the meaning of life and history. Jesus is the heart of Christmas, bringing hope, joy, peace, and holiness to humanity. Pope Francis said: "Jesus has entered our history; he has shared our journey. He came to free us from darkness and to grant us light. In him was revealed the peace, the mercy and the tender

love of the Father: Jesus is Love incarnate. He is not simply a teacher of wisdom, he is not an ideal for which we strive while knowing that we are hopelessly distant from it. He is the meaning of life and history, who has pitched his tent in our midst".

Let's experience the joy, love, and peace of Christmas and share it with those around us. Let us be beacons of hope, spreading Jesus' love to our brothers and sisters. As Mother Teresa said, 'It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you... yes, it is Christmas every time you smile at your brother and offer him your hand.'

Wishing all of you and your loved ones a very Happy Christmas.

John Vo - Parish Priest of Forster-Tuncurry Catholic Church

Catholic Parish of Forster-Tuncurry

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES 2025

24 December Wednesday 5pm
24 December Wednesday 9pm
25 December Thursday 8am
25 December Thursday 10am

31 Lake Street, Forster NSW 2428 - Phone: 0475 242 695
Email: forster-tuncurry.parish@mn.catholic.org.au

YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR

Carols Service

20 DECEMBER, 5- 8PM

FORSTER TUNCURRY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - 16 BRUCE ST, FORSTER

YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR

Christmas Day SERVICE

25 DECEMBER, 9.30AM

FORSTER TUNCURRY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - 16 BRUCE ST, FORSTER

Our addresses are:
4 St Albans Place, Forster.
38 Clarkson St, Nabiac.
Parish Office Phone: 6555-5565
www.forsteranglican.com

Sunday 21 December Forster

4:30pm Food Served
5pm Family Carols and Bible Readings

Christmas Eve Nabiac

7pm Carol service
11pm Holy Communion

Christmas Day Forster

9am Holy Communion



The 'lighting up' of the Giant Xmas tree at 8pm (sponsored by Ken Richards and family) finished a wonderful evening for the Christmas Spirit Festival on Saturday 6 November, hosted by the Forster Tuncurry Business Chamber and many volunteers. It featured performances by the Bayara Walkulda Choir (above left), Mid North Coast Bootscooters (above right), Great Lakes Band (below with Santa), Patrick Hayes and Matt Zarb. Photos by Matilda and Georgie Yule.



Rally in Taree over mining

Continued from page 1.

Sophia Hamblin Wang began her presentation for MCI Carbon with an apology for not engaging the community earlier, stating that she now wanted to begin an open dialogue to co-create a potential path forward. She stated that MCI Carbon had brought Katherine Teh to the meeting as a community engagement conflict specialist to encourage positive dialogue to do so.

Ms Hamlin Wang stated that MCI Carbon had made the decision to pause the mineral exploration, after becoming overwhelmed when the community came back with so many questions but planned to re-engage again after a year or two passed. She explained that serpentinite is a needed feedstock and important element in MCI Carbon's plans to absorb the maximum amount of CO2 possible for re-purposing industry waste into building products for local customers. However, Todd McHenry later acknowledged that MCI Carbon has yet to secure local customers.

In explaining the short-comings of their community consultation, Ms Hamlin Wang stated that there had been a land-grab from other competitor start-ups who had bought up serpentinite access licences with the result that MCI Carbon became worried that they would not have the minerals needed to scale up their technology. When asked what it meant for MCI Carbon that competitors had secured other licenses, she replied that it meant that those competitors would be planning to sell their serpentinite to MCI Carbon at a higher cost. These comments imply that the Mt George area was not their first preference but perhaps a rushed response to being outmanoeuvred by competitors. She acknowledged the community's distress and anger had been a surprise, stating again that she hoped that through consultation a pathway forward could be found.

Ms Hamlin Wang did not deny that serpentinite often includes asbestos but stated that MCI Carbon's intention is to only get serpentinite free of asbestos or of the lowest possible level. When challenged what MCI Carbon would consider an acceptable lowest

level, however, she was unable to respond. When asked how MCI Carbon would determine asbestos levels she stated that they would be drilling for test samples that would be independently assessed. MAMA's President, Bruce Robertson, intercepted that sample testing is an insufficient method to assess for asbestos as contamination levels can vary massively in near samples. He added that MCI Carbon cannot ensure that there is no asbestos present as it is known to be found throughout the Mt George serpentinite seam, that there is no safe level of asbestos adding the current exploration sites are all in close proximity to Public Schools and the water catchment.

Ms Hamblin Wang denied that MCI Carbon is a mining company, stating that because the serpentinite is close to the surface, its extraction is more like a quarrying mission. She stated that unlike a mining company there would be no tailing dams or purification with water on-site but rather it would be a simple process of extracting up to 10,000 tonnes to transport directly to Newcastle.

Members of the audience asked several questions for which little or no information was forthcoming.

Several landholders in the audience asked what rights they had to refuse MCI Carbon access to their lands for exploration. Ms Hamlin Wang said that she would have to take that question on notice adding "I can't give you an answer right now". However, Bruce Robertson stated that the law was clear that landholders owned only the top surface of their land and therefore any mining company could legally access it. Two property owners in the affected license areas stated that they want the person in charge of MCI Carbon to respect them and not go onto their land, no matter how profitable. This was loudly cheered by the rest of the audience.

Other questions asked whether, given its ecological significance and the fact that it is the water supply for over 100,000 people, MCI Carbon could 100% guarantee that there would be no adverse impact on either the environment or the community's water supply. This was not answered either. Another unanswered question was whether the impact

of the river's massive flooding potential has been considered by MCI Carbon.

A different audience member asked if MCI Carbon had been mistaken in not recognising that the valley in its entirety is a water catchment area and, if so, how would they rectify it now. Ms Hamlin Wang responded that she would take the question on notice. Another audience member commented that the soil disturbance of even 10,000 tonnes could destroy the shallow aquifers.

Other questions were raised about the increased heavy truck traffic on Nowendoc Rd given its narrow windy nature - this too elicited no response.



Above: Sophia Hablin Wang (microphone), CEO & Co-founder of MCI Carbon, and Katherine Teh (white top), conflict community engagement specialist, at the rally. Photo supplied.

One property owner invited Ms Hamlin Wang, after MCI made exploratory drill holes on her property or neighbouring properties, to come

and have a cup of tea with her, using the tank water collected from her roof. This invitation also went unanswered.

Several members of the audience stated that MCI Carbon was not wanted in the valley and asked why, instead of 'pausing' they could not cease. Ms Hamlin Wang responded that MCI Carbon had "been granted the exploration license and have an obligation to explore on those tenements to get the best possible rock to validate the climate technology".

Although planned to be an opportunity for MCMI Carbon to answer some of the community's technical questions, it was apparent that these questions would continue to go unanswered, or, at best, be "taken on notice". It is noteworthy that the MAMA committee have been attempting to open a dialogue with MCI Carbon for several months with 9 separate invitations to do so and their acceptance to attend the rally occurred only the day before following an additional phone call initiated by MAMA. It was also apparent that MCI Carbon's strategy of apologizing for their flawed community consultation had failed to achieve their hoped-for 'pathway of positive negotiation going forward'.

It seems that MCI Carbon, in their haste to secure exploration rights to prevent the economic stress of having to purchase serpentinite stock from more agile competitors, failed to not only engage in effective community consultation, but also failed to complete due diligence as to the Manning Valley's significance both as a water catchment and its unique ecologies.

Federal member for Lyne, Ms Alison Penfold, stated "I spoke to MCI Carbon in March and urged them to fully engage, listen and respond to the community. Its failure to do so, along with the significant risks of the project to the Manning catchment, was completely disrespectful and a strong reason why I do not support the project."

MCI Carbon is an aspirational company, reliant on a positive social license. In the face of such powerful community opposition, unanswered questions of impact on water catchment security and globally significant eco-systems, it is unclear how their desired positive pathway can eventuate. Perhaps their best pathway forward is acceptance that the Manning Valley is simply not the right place for their serpentinite extraction.

Local Identity – Dael Allison

Interview by Vanda Gooley - Forster

Dr Dael Allison, 73, is a multi-talented and dynamic humanitarian, poet, essayist, fiction writer, editor, visual artist and adventurer.

Dael grew up with her older brother in Benalla, north-east Victoria. Her mother was a nursing sister and her father was ex-army, with undiagnosed PTSD from WW2. Dael said she was a self-conscious child and teenager, with her nose buried in books. "Reading took me into other worlds and introduced me to complex language. I loved words and learning." At the age of four Dael met, and fell for Rick Haughton, then seven and the son of farming friends, who was to become her life-long partner. After public schooling until Year 9 in Benalla, she had three years boarding at Fribank Grammar School in Melbourne, followed by four years at La Trobe University, where she gained her Bachelor of Arts and Diploma of Education. After graduating she moved to East Gippsland to be with Rick, on a remote cattle country at Tabberabbera, north of Bairnsdale. She taught at Bairnsdale High School while Rick qualified as a builder. When the farm sold, they loaded the farm tractor and a couple of tonnes of hundred-year-old oregon beams and trusses onto a train, and packed up everything else they owned on their old truck. With \$300 in the bank, they moved to MacMasters Beach on the Central Coast. There, on a vacant house block owned by Dael's mum, they began their dream of building their own mudbrick house using recycled materials.

The building method attracted the attention of journalist Carolyn Jones and builder Bob Ryan, who had a weekly alternative building segment on the ABC. "They organised council building inspectors statewide to come to our place to learn about earth construction. People asked us to design for them and teach them to build their own mudbrick houses and our company, Mudlark Builders, took off."

Dael was hands-on in the partnership. Rick mixed the mud and she made the bricks, five at a time in a mould. Together they turned, stacked and laid them. Dael did general labouring and carpentry as well as being creative part of the design process. They also supervised and helped owner builders on their builds, ran mudbrick building seminars and wrote for the Owner Builder magazine.

They sold their Macmaster's Beach home, repaid Dael's mum, and bought their beautiful 60-hectare bush property at Warrawillah, northwest of Wingham, where they moved in 1983. "I was pregnant, so there was a bit of a rush to build a shed to live in, and then a cottage from recycled materials. We moved in before Ned was born."

Dael continued working on building jobs with Rick with baby Ned in tow, but after their daughter Pippa was born, that was no longer possible. For several years she had been on the committee of Friends of the Gallery, joining a decades-old campaign to establish a regional gallery in the Manning Valley. When the Greater Taree City Council established the Manning Regional Art Gallery, Dael was appointed its first director. Following that she returned to teaching at Taree and Forster Tuncurry TAFE. "I worked in General Education, teaching Year 10 and Year 11/12, Tertiary Preparation, and courses for women and First Nations students looking to further their education. Our amazing team was recognised with state awards for the work we did on student-centred curriculum development."

During 1998, Year 8 for Ned at Wingham High School, Year 5 for Pippa at Bobin Primary, Dael and Rick took their children out of school. "Rick was working on an AusAid earth building and training project with Zulu groups in Durban, South Africa and we wanted to be part of that." After five months, when Rick's contract ended, they bought an old Mercedes and drove down through the Karoo desert to Capetown, from there they travelled up the Wild-coast to Kruger National Park and into Zimbabwe, visiting Bulawayo and Victoria Falls and down to Lake Kariba. Overnighting in tiny dome tents at Mana Pools National Park, they woke in the morning to discover the huge paw prints of a lion in the dirt nearby. They visited Imire game park near Harare, where Ned and Pippa rode a wild elephant, cuddled lion cubs and hand-fed a baby white rhino.

The adventure continued in Europe, with five months backpacking (or with hire cars) before heading home via Thailand. Looking back, Dael says, "That year was a defining experience for all of us. It opened the world to our kids."

Dael and Rick trained in disaster relief with RedR Australia and this led to more humanitarian aid projects. At the end of 2005 Rick was appointed to a United Nations High Commission for Refugees reconstruction and rehabilitation team on the small island of Nias, west of Sumatra, Indonesia, which was affected by the tsunami. After a month Dael joined him and they spent 2006 in Nias, Dael doing remote field work with the non-government organisation, HELP, from Germany, before taking on the job of Communications officer with UNHCR.

Back in Australia Dael and Rick moved to Darwin, where Rick continued Mudlark Builders, including designing the 'Turtle House' featured on Grand Designs Australia, and Dael was office manager for a year with the Northern Territory Writers Centre. She had been publishing poetry and winning prizes, "One of the first, was the 2005 Taree City Festival Poetry Prize for my poem 'Mango.'" While in Darwin she started a new project. "I'd been fascinated since high school by Australia's first modernist artist Ian Fairweather, and Darwin was where, in 1952, he began his perilous monsoon-ridden journey to Timor on a tiny ramshackle raft he'd built from scrap. I began a poem series about that journey, and enrolled in a research degree at the University of Technology, Sydney, to take it a bit further." In 2012 she was awarded a Master of Arts in Creative Writing and her first poetry collection, Fairweather's Raft, was published. Eleven poems from her book later featured in half-hour soundscape on the ABC program Poetica.

At the end of 2011, Rick accepted another job with AusAid, rebuilding schools in the remote central Pacific nation of Kiribati. Over the following four years he and Dael became part of the community on the main atoll of Tarawa, experiencing first-hand the threat that rising sea-levels and storm surges represent to Pacific nations. The Kiribati job was followed by some months in Samoa, where Rick supervised the building of a radiation therapy clinic on Savaii, and Dael started her PhD in creative writing, researching how Newcastle and the Hunter region, defined by the lands of the Awabakal, Worimi and Wonnarua peoples, have been represented in creative narrative. For her creative product she wrote Fig, a book of linked short stories based on real locations, events and activism in the region. Her doctorate was awarded in 2024.



Above: Dael Allison with her artwork in South Africa, 1998.

Over the years Dael's awards for writing have included the Henry Kendall poetry award, the Queensland Poetry Festival Philip Bacon Ekphrasis Award, and the Varuna Picaro Press award for a poetry chapbook (a small collection of poetry). She was awarded a Varuna LitLink Prize for an unpublished novel, a Northern Territory Literary Award for essay and the international Wildcare Prize for Environmental Writing for "Polyp", an essay about her experiences in Nias. She has enjoyed three Varuna writing residencies in the Blue Mountains, and a two-week Wildcare Tasmania writing residency. Over the 20 years she has been involved with Poetry at The Pub Newcastle, she has edited and published six of their annual anthologies as well as the survey-volume Brew, celebrating the group's thirty-year anniversary. Dael is a Board member of Poetry at the Pub, and the Hunter Writers Centre.



Above: Dael Allison, with Rick Haughton, is a multi-talented and dynamic humanitarian, poet, essayist, fiction writer, editor, visual artist and adventurer. Photos supplied.

Dael's second volume of poetry, Blimmin' Wimmin, a Flying Islands pocketbook, is due out later this year, and Fig, her book of Newcastle stories, will be launched at the 2026 Newcastle Writers Festival in March.

There have been a few dramas, on Dael's journey. She was caught with her family in a catastrophic bushfire when she was nine, and another bushfire destroyed their Warrawillah stone cottage, sheds and machinery in 2019. "But the beautiful mudbrick home we'd built for our family down by the creek pool was saved, thanks to the local fire brigades, a helicopter water dump, and the mowed green zone we always keep around the house."

The most confronting event came when, nearly though her PhD, she was diagnosed with an aggressive cancer. "After that was removed there was radiotherapy and chemotherapy, and now I live with lymphoedema in my left leg. I'm

not yet considered to be in remission but I'm doing pretty well, and I'm chuffed that I graduated despite it all."

Dael has always been involved with community and activism – marching in anti-Vietnam War marches in Melbourne, and her later involvement with Rick in Friends of the Earth and nuclear disarmament campaigns, and ongoing support for Rising Tide protests and coal blockades in Newcastle, and First Nations causes including the 2000 Bridge Walk, The Voice and The Uluru Statement from the Heart. "We also had ten great years with 2BOB radio in Taree, hosting the Saturday morning Building and Environment program with Andy Colvin, and I co-ran women's programs."

Dael says her biggest role models are "activists and campaigners for environmental, climate change and humanitarian issues, feminists, both female and male, and people who support and contribute to community. People like those in our Bobin community, who rallied and offered immense support to everyone after so much property and so many homes were lost in 2019."

Dael is also grateful that her mother, Mary Allison Burnham, moved from Manly to Forster a year before Ned was born. She took Ned and Pippa rock climbing and fishing and they adored going down to Forster to stay with her. Dael's mum was an adventurous, intrepid, fabulous grandmother and such a strong and positive influence for their childhood.

Dael's motto is, "If you can dream it, you can live it: always say yes."

Asked what she loves about the Mid North Coast, Dael said, "I love the landscape, the wildness, the sheer amount of water in this region. The lakes and rivers, the sea and coastline, it is beautiful, vivid, dynamic. And there are wonderful people here. People who care about the environment, who want to raise their kids within strong communities and in touch with nature. People who make music, art and books, who help us see and experience differently. I love that we have a strong First Nations community and all the history and wisdom they have to offer. I love that we have places to celebrate the arts and culture, like the Entertainment Centre, the Manning Regional Art Gallery with its fabulous leadership and host of volunteers, and the extraordinary range of exhibitions and activities it has offered over the years, and First Steps Count, a superb example of design-winning alternative building, which focuses on childhood development within the community. There is so much in this region to inspire us."

Norman Shapro and Alana Parkins (long term friends) said...

We met Dael and Rick in the mid-1990s. They lived in Warrawillah and our first memories are of their snug home, gatherings of friends and families to share meals, and skinny dipping in freezing Mooral Creek. But we also discovered Dael's creative side, like the mosaic floor tiles with the platypus, her sensual wood carving of a female torso, and her oil painting Blue Kimono. We later learned that Dael was a creative writer.

While Dael brims with creative energy—we think she's a polymath—she's also a caring and grounded partner, mother, grandmother and friend.

Margaret Gardener, long term friend and ex colleague said

Dael is a person who's loved and admired by many because of her warm, creative and generous spirit. Dael is a multi-talented woman who has unique skills as a teacher, artist, writer and business owner.

Dael and I met at Taree TAFE when she took on the roles of teacher and coordinator of English programs. She is an exceptional educator who used her creativity and innovation to create relevant curriculum resources which became widely used in NSW TAFE.

The students loved that she was an interested, authentic teacher. Her enormous capacity to relate to youth, her commitment to women's programs and Aboriginal learning ensured success for many students.

Dael uses art and writing as her creative outlets. She was one of the first Directors of the Manning Regional Art Gallery and continued to support the Gallery with exhibitions.

I'm inspired by Dael, she is an endlessly interesting woman who is curious about people and continuously surprises with her ideas and adventures.

Our Local wildlife



By Kym Kilpatrick - FAWNA
Hallidays Point

Rainbow Bee-eater

Pretty enough to decorate a Christmas Tree, with colours of iridescent green, coppery gold and blue with long black to deep violet tails, the Rainbow Bee-eater (*Merops ornatus*), is truly one of our most stunning birds.

They grow to be between 23 and 28 centimetres long and weigh between 20 to 33 grams. Males are slightly larger and have longer tail streamers than females.

Rainbow bee-eaters migrate south to our area in early Spring and return north to as far as New Guinea and the southern islands of Indonesia in Winter.

As the name suggests, they prey on bees, but most of their diet consists of dragonflies, damselflies, wasps, hornets and locusts. They will sit on a favourite exposed perch spotting for potential prey insects up to 45 metres away. Once spotted they swoop on the insect catching it in their beaks, before returning to their perch to eat it. If it is a stinging insect, such as a wasp, hornet or bee, they will rub the insect against their perch first to remove the sting, closing their eyes to avoid being squirted from the ruptured poison sac. Upwards of 300 insects will be taken a day.

Because healthy waterways are rich in insects, Rainbow bee-eaters are often found nearby. The high moisture content of their insect diet means they rarely drink. However, they do 'plunge bath', flying high above the water then diving down to splash before returning to their perch to preen.

Although monogamous they are highly sociable and sometimes several pairs will roost and nest in the same area. It is also thought that they will act communally to feed their young with up to 8 birds, usually unmated males, observed supporting one lot of nestlings.



Above: Photo of Rainbow Bee-eater by Barry Townsend.

Rainbow bee-eaters are underground nesters, that is, they dig tunnels usually in sandy banks or cliffs but sometimes in bare patches of flat ground. Tunnels are narrow, nearly a metre long, with an enlarged egg chamber lined with grass at the end.

The female digs the tunnel, using her bill to pry loose the soil, kicking it backwards, whilst balancing on her wings and feet. She manages about 76 millimetres a day whilst her mate will hunt and bring insects to her. Squeezing in and out of the narrow tunnels creates a piston effect so that fresh air is pumped in and stale air out.

Between three and seven white translucent eggs are laid, with incubation by both parents, taking between 21 and 24 days. The young fledge after 28 to 31 days and have duller, more green colouring and lack long tail streamers.

As underground nesters, Rainbow bee-eaters are especially vulnerable to night predators, both foxes digging up their tunnels, but also, in areas where they exist, cane toads. The presence of cane toads typically halves the success rate of chicks surviving. Of course, human earth-moving activities can also impact them.

Early Settlement 1875-1900

Great Lakes Museum

In the year 1875 John Wright, accompanied by his foreman Alex Mills, sawyer Andy DeLore and builder Harry Colvin, arrived and laid the foundation for the settlement known as North Shore and later North Forster. This was the beginning of shops, supplies and services.

1878-1881: The first school began with Miss Susan Smith being employed as the teacher to conduct classes on land owned by John Wright.

1881: The Reorganised Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints opened the first church. The building in Peel Street, originally the old schoolhouse, was converted and John Wright conducted the services.

1885: Wrights opened the first general store. The opening was of vital importance for provision of goods and services for the community which at the time was mainly made up of mill and shipyard workers and their families.

1888: The Roman Catholic Church was established, and the building was erected at the corner of Kent and Peel Street.

1889: The people of North Forster gained their own Post Office and Mrs Susan O'Beirne was appointed Post Mistress. A tri-weekly service brought mail by the contractor J.J. Gallagher from Krambach. In 1890 a service to Taree began. With the increase in mail activity, considerable confusion was caused by the names "Forster and North Forster" and on June 1, 1891 North Forster was changed to

John Wright's General Store on Manning Street, Tuncurry opened in 1885.



the aboriginal name Tuncurry meaning "plenty fish."

1890: H Underwood contracted Henry Miles Jr. to erect the first hotel "The Bellevue." A double storeyed building with bar, kitchen and dining facilities downstairs and sleeping quarters for 20 persons upstairs. A hitching rail was erected at the front door.

1893: Tuncurry was officially proclaimed a village.

1893: H Underwood sold the Bellevue to John Stephens, who remained the proprietor at the hotel for some 20 years and erected the Bellevue Hall next door for the use of community entertainment.

1895: Ice was first manufactured by Mr Ben Coombes in a factory situated near the present position of the Tuncurry Baths.

The first guest house in Tuncurry was conducted by Mrs J Hardy in Manning Street during the last decade of the 1900's.

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

Forster parkrun hits the 9 year mark!



By Mary Yule - Forster Fortnightly

Runners, walkers and volunteers came together on Saturday 29 December to celebrate the ninth anniversary of Forster parkrun with a 5km run/walk around Bicentennial Park in Forster.

"We really love the family atmosphere here at parkrun," said Event Director Chris Newell. "People come to meet their friends and walk together. It's just a great community event to have, especially on our anniversary. We gave people the option to dress in the theme 'Did you really wear that to parkrun?'"

"We had a big birthday cake donated as a thank you to all the volunteers from regular parkrunners Kirby and Aaron Eichner. We also had super dupers donated and handed out by Steve Perrin and his grandson Liam after people came through the chute." (pictured left)

Chris said they have a great core group of regular volunteers but it's good to see some fresh faces volunteering as well.

School holidays & New Year's Day

Over the school holidays, Forster parkrun will continue every Saturday. Chris said they will hold an extra parkrun run on New Year's Day (Thursday 1st January 2026) so there will be two parkruns that week. No extra parkrun

will be held Christmas Day.

Forster parkrun starts at the Pebbly Beach playground, off Head Street, Forster at 8am every Saturday. A race briefing for newcomers is at 7:50am.

Everyone is invited to participate by walking, jogging, running, volunteering or as a simple spectator.

Register for free at www.parkrun.com.au





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Just a little bit longer...

By Dave Hughes – Forster Runners

Forster Runners keenly watched two of their athletes master their trade. Craig Simpson and Timmy Richmond competed in the gruelling 107km race up and around Australia's highest mountain (Mt Kosciuszko). This ultra trail takes place in the stunning Snowy Mountains with breathtaking scenery of granite outcrops, crystal clear mountain streams and snow gum forests. Each runner is required to carry mandatory gear such as space blankets, head torches, thermals, nutrition, bandages and waterproofs. Most runners opted to carry hiking poles. Thousands of runners from all over the world were attracted to this event. It forms part of the UTMB (Ultra Trail Mont Blanc) World Series. A strong showing in this event can result in an invitation to the ultimate trail race in Mont Blanc, France.

Runners endured snow, rain, coldness and sunshine to complete the UTMB Kosciuszko annual event. And it's not just the race on the day that is beyond most people's imagination..... it's the pre-race training for several months preparing for such an event. In Timmy's own words "The big week is upon me. I've run

1500km in training with over 15000 metres of elevation over the past 4 months, plus foam rolling, strength work, stretching, practicing fuel intake, early morning starts (some at 2:30 am) just to get to the start line for my longest ever race". Tim managed to break the magical 20 hours by finishing in 19hours 51minutes. He spent considerable amount of time assisting another runner who was in considerable pain. It's what trail runners do.

Craig Simpson said, "We battled cyclonic winds for the first 40 km. It was brutal but then the last 14 kms which started from the Village Green in Thredbo, was the most technical and challenging part of the course. A 10 km ascent to Eagles nest with many stairs, snow drifts and rain in total darkness was followed by a 4 km descent with nearly as many stairs and switch backs to the finish line was extremely hard work on very sore quads at the tail end of this epic race."



Above: Timmy Richmond. Photos supplied.



Above: Craig Simpson.

Swimming North Coast Championships



Front row: left to right: Dane C, Lucas L and Ky W
Middle row: Levi D, Liam L, Emily P, Sebastian H and Shay U
Back row: Pete (coach), Emily P, Toby W, Stewart S, Max U, Tanna D, Darcy E and Adel (coach)

By Mel Westaway - Forster Aquatic Swim Club

15 swimmers from Forster Aquatic Swim Club (FASC) competed on Day one of the Swimming North Coast (SNC) Division 1 Championships on Saturday 22 November at Grafton, delivering excellent performances with 19 Personal Best swims, 36 top-10 results, as well as achieving NSW Country and NSW Youth State qualifying times.

Day two was another strong day for our 13 Forster Aquatic swimmers who raced with more

PBs, top-10 finishes, fantastic relay results and big improvements across the board. Our team showed awesome spirit from start to finish!

A big shout-out to our dedicated FASC coaches, Pete and Adel, who spent the weekend in Grafton supporting our swimmers at the SNC Division 1 Championships. From early-morning warm-ups, pre-race focus chats, and post-race debriefs, to the jokes, encouragement, and smiles that keep the kids relaxed and enjoying the experience — you create an environment where our swimmers can perform at their best and love what they do.

Forster's New National Champion

By Dave Hughes – Forster Runners

On Thursday November the 27th School Sport Australia National Athletics Championships took place in Canberra. This is an annual event that showcases the talents of school children across our nation.

Forster was represented by Zane Fletcher who earned his position after finishing 1st in the 800m at State. He was also selected in the medley relay event.

The 800 event was always going to be a fiercely contested race as the eight runners finished within two seconds of each other in the semi finals.

The final straight saw Zane doing his trademark "thing" by flying down the outside only to be beaten by less than one second. He managed a credible podium finish in third place. His time (2min 16sec) was just outside his personal best of 2min 14sec.

To be crowned the third fastest schoolboy in the nation is just reward for his arduous training regime.

Zane teamed up with 3 others to win gold in the medley relay event. Mum, dad and his brothers (Liam and Jack) were there to support and proudly watch Zane accomplish his goals.



Above: Zane Fletcher (on far right) at the National Athletics.

Men's Vet Golf & Xmas Party

By David Blanchard - Forster Mens Vets Golf

On the 1st of December, after 9 holes of golf, over 110 members enjoyed a magnificent Xmas Party celebration at the Forster Club house which included a roast dinner and monster ham raffle. Everybody wore their Xmas attire which caused a lot of comments on the course and was great fun. A nice bottle of red was presented to John Lowe who was voted Best Dressed for the day.

This year we had something new by way of entertainment during the presentations. We were treated to a fantastic sing song by the Ken Pares Trio with everyone in the room joyfully joining in for each chorus - words cannot describe how great it was!

There were two major trophies presented to players for this year. Our Club Champion Golfer for 2025 is Kevin Scalmer, and the Player of The Year for 2025 is Rod Lance. Congratulations to you both.

Once again, our Xmas function demonstrated the popularity of the Men's Vets Golf. We do



Above: (L-R) Rod Lance and Kevin Scalmer. Photo supplied.

enjoy having new members joining throughout the year and anyone wishing to join can please contact the Forster Clubhouse accordingly (conditions apply).

Social Golf results



Above: Event winners (L-R) R. Kim Clark and Darryl Fahey. Photo supplied.

By Warren Warner - Club Forster Social Golf Club

The Club Forster Social Golf Club played a 4-ball aggregate Stableford, 2 player event at Forster Golf Club on Sunday 23rd November in windy conditions.

Results

- 1st: Kim Clark & Darryl Fahey 61 points.
- 2nd: Wayne Richards & Warren Warner 60 points.
- 3rd: Tom Welch & Len King 59 points.
- Nearest to the pin 2nd shot
- 4th hole: Ken Woods, Tom Welch, Kim Clark.
- 6th hole: Jeff Coleman, Len King, Robyn Rogers.
- 11th hole: Darryl Fahey, Tom Welch.
- 14th hole: Wayne Richards, Tom Welch, Robyn Rogers.

Next event

Our next event will be our Christmas and presentation day on 14th December, 12 noon at Club Forster.

The next golf game is at the Tuncurry Course on 21st December 6.35am for 7.05am hit off.

For enquiries contact Ken Woods 0401 767 257.



Cape Hawke Pearls. Photo by Mary Yule.



Surfboat Carnival

Forster Surf Club
Forster Surf Lifesaving Club recently hosted a combined surfboat carnival with the North Coast Surfboat Series and Stevens Group Central Coast & Hunter Surf Boat Series.

The competition was held on 29 and 30 November, with approximately 70 crews from as far north as Noosa and down south to Sydney. This equated to over 700 competitors and others coming to Forster.

A standard surfboat race around a buoy and back is 400m. To ensure all events from Under

19s to Masters could be held within the weekend, a decision was made shorten it to 350m.

Regional Manager Kimbal Dunham from AW Edwards, the North Coast Series major sponsor, fired the starters gun to begin the competition. AW Edwards constructed the new Forster Surf Lifesaving Club.

The weekend was a huge success for competitors and Forster Surf Club with excellent weather and surf conditions. The feedback has been extremely positive all round.

A great social event was held on the Saturday night at the Forster Surf Club, and the fabulous local band "The Big Fins" had them calling for more.

A huge thanks to all our club members who gave their time over the 3 days to ensure the carnival ran smoothly, also to the Cape Hawke boaties for all their assistance.

Stunning photo of Main Beach by Shane Chalker Photography.

Alcohol-related crashes on regional roads are almost twice as likely to end in death or serious injury.

Say “Yeah...NAH” to drink driving.



Water Ski Hall of Fame: Graham Barclay

By John Chadban - Forster

“A tremendous surprise and a great honour” was how well-known Forster identity, Graham Barclay greeted the news that he is to be inducted into the Australian Water Ski Federation Hall of Fame at a Gala Event at Melbourne’s Crown Casino early next year.

Graham commenced serious water skiing when he and close friend and mentor, Fred Williams, built a ski course and water jump in waterways near what is now Forster Keys. Ever since, this area has become known as “the ski grounds”. Through constant practise and experiments, Graham became very successful and won many local, state, interstate and National Titles.

The pinnacle of his success came in 1959 when he was selected in the Australian Team to compete in the World titles in Milan, Italy. To this day he still laments that a bad draw when the water surface was very choppy cost him

success in the final.

“Fred greatly supported and helped me be successful,” says Graham, “by designing special skis, modifying boat engines and boat designs and encouraging me to try different styles and



Above: Graham Barclay today. Photo by Mary Yule.

acts on the skis. It was a very exciting time. We would both practise for hours every morning before going to work.”

After the world titles Graham gradually retired from competitive skiing to concentrate on his wide range of business interests, including his iconic “Barclay Oysters”. He did though continue to maintain his close involvement in water skiing by coaching, supporting and introducing new people to the sport. Even well into his seventies he was still skiing and giving demonstrations.

While still going strong at 94, Graham admits that he thought his involvement with water skiing was long behind him which was why he was so surprised and so very proud to learn of his induction into the Hall of Fame.

Kay, Graham’s wife of over 60 years, herself once a competent skier, will accompany her husband to Melbourne for the big event.



Graham staged world-class New Year’s Eve Ski Shows on the Forster Tuncurry channel with members of the Forster Ski Club in the 1980s. Photos supplied.



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