

# COMMUNITY NEWS

No. 882 Ph: 4374 1039 Mo: 0412 669 649 Email: enquiries@cnews1.com.au Web: cnews1.com.au 20th August 2021

## COUNTRY FAIR TALES

It feels like ages since I went to a Mangrove Mountain & Districts Country Fair, not just because we didn't have one last year, but also because the year before my family took ourselves to see the Edinburgh Tattoo in Sydney (cheaper than going to Scotland), which happened to be on Fair Saturday. At least we got to enjoy the Friday before, so we did some catching up. I think that is what I miss most, chatting to people at the Fair, always lovely, even if we haven't crossed paths since the Fair before.

I am even fondly recalling all the many mishaps and misadventures over the years, though they were probably less than amusing at the time. We usually have good weather, but sometimes the dust was so dry it had to be settled with fire brigade sprinkles of water and Hall entries "melted" in the heat. Occasionally the dreaded afternoon storm hit and stopped anything being put away damp. Kids loved the mud, but cars had to be towed out and the fire twirler managed to perform in spite of the rain.

Inside the Hall over the years we have lost entries, entry sheets, judges, stewards, prizes, tables, hessian, calico, pens, scissors, etc, but rarely tempers. Sometimes certificates were hot off the press if we forgot to order them (thank you Keith and Bob and Tricia). It always looked great in the

## Join the Harvest Festival journey

With this year's event attracting record crowds to the Central Coast's hinterland region, Central Coast Council is looking for new event partners to join the Harvest Festival success story in 2022.

Council Director Community and Recreation Services Julie Vaughan said expressions of interest are now open for local businesses, groups and organisations to become a 2022 Harvest Festival event hub partner.

"A celebration of the Coast's spectacular hinterland communities, Harvest Festival has become a much-loved fixture on the Central Coast event calendar and continues to grow from strength to strength," Ms Vaughan said.

"With this year's festival drawing more than 48,000 locals and visitors to 29 event hubs over the June long weekend, the event provides

end though, and the table skirts hide an awful lot.

Around the grounds, attractions turned up late (better than not at all), people parked in the wrong spots, trees dropped branches, animals ran away, ice cream melted and everyone wanted coffee now. Adults shuddered at the sound of breaking crockery and kids threw water bombs wildly. What do you remember?

More reminiscences next time, from Sue Douglas

a significant boost to our region's economy as well as excellent exposure and patronage for participating event partners."

The Harvest Festival event trail features a diverse range of experiences and activities across eight of the Coast's hinterland communities - Dooralong, Jiliby, Yarramalong, Kulnura, Mangrove Mountain, Peats Ridge, Somersby and Calga.

Expressions of Interest are sought across a range of offerings, including but not limited to:

- ticketed farm tours and talks
- pick your own produce experiences
- tours and talks
- Indigenous cultural experiences and bush tucker tours
- art events and installations
- live music events
- family fun events
- cooking demonstrations
- food experiences with local produce
- obstacle course races/fun runs.

Council Administrator Rik Hart said Harvest Festival is brought to life by the unique experiences, tours and events offered by event partners.

"After a very successful event in 2021, which injected close to \$6 million into the local economy, Central Coast Council is looking forward to the return of the much-loved Harvest Festival in 2022," Mr Hart said.

"The event shines a spotlight on the Central Coast's spectacular hinterland communities, as well as on the region's fantastic local produce, venues and experiences."

Businesses, companies, organisations or community groups interested in being part of Harvest Festival in 2022 can complete an Expression of Interest by Monday 13 September 2021.

Learn more and apply at [centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/EOI](http://centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/EOI).

Central Coast Council Media Team



Breaking plates at the 2005 Country Fair

**STOP !**

Next issue Published  
3rd September 2021  
\*\* DEADLINE \*\*  
\*\* 27th August '21 \*\*

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FOR MORE HELP PREPARING YOUR HOME AND FAMILY FOR BUSH FIRE GO TO [WWW.RFS.NSW.GOV.AU](http://WWW.RFS.NSW.GOV.AU)

## 11-12 September 2021

It's time to prepare for bush fires. This year the RFS is holding a range of activities where you can learn about specific fire risks for your community.

Check out any of the events being held to find out more about key actions and get important information like:

- Preparing your property
- Talking to your brigade
- Staying and defending
- Emergency survival kit
- Know your risk
- Fire alert levels
- Myths and Facts

“Like” your local RFS Brigade on Facebook to get on-line information. Some Brigades are planning on

holding live events with COVID rules in place, on-line & social media events or a combination.

Contact your local brigade or check on-line for the latest information about social media and live events.

**Mangrove Mountain RFB:** we will be holding an event at the Hub on the get ready weekend, 11th and 12th of September 10.30- 2.30 .

We will have a table there and be providing Get Ready Weekend materials and answering any questions the community may have.

We will also hold an online social media event for anyone that cannot attend but would like more information.

**Somersby RFB:** We plan to hold a Get Ready Weekend on Saturday, September 11. We will be situated at Somersby Public School from 9.30am to 2pm. All this, of course, depends on our present lockdown. At this stage we haven't planned an online GRW

**Bucketty & District RFB:** We had planned a day of community engagement for September 11 which involved hiring skips at the Station for a big community cleanup by interested residents from Fernances Crossing, Murrays Run and Bucketty - mixed in with a smorgasbord of Fire Preparedness activities and fact-sheets and social distanced chats over coffee

- but with COVID-19 meant we had to cancel all that and our (masked) face to face plans.

Nevertheless we will continue to seek to connect our residents with their brigade around the key topics of fire safety and property preparedness as we head into Fire Season 2021-22.

Don't be fooled by the somewhat “nice” weather. It is very dry. There is a heavy fuel load underfoot from all the rain at the beginning of the year, and the horrible fires of 2019/20 have not given us any immunity from a burning bush. Indeed, there have been 4 local fires in the past week - 3 escaped pile burns and 1 house fire.

So our Brigade members - using a mix of social media, letterbox drops, articles in local newsletters, and organising one on one phone consultations for interested residents on Get Ready Day itself to ensure all are prepared.

### Preparing a Rural Property

There are 5 actions you can take to prepare a rural property or farm for bush fires:

1. Clear/slash flammable materials around structures like homes or sheds.
2. If the conditions are right and you have the permits, approvals and skill, conduct a controlled burn.
3. Plough firebreaks around paddock boundaries to prevent the spread of fire.

# WATER BORES

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4. Rotate stock across your property to ensure paddocks are well-grazed.

5. Prepare and maintain sturdy hoses and water pumps in case you need to defend your property.

**Know your Risk**

Burning embers can travel kilometres ahead of a bush fire. An ‘ember attack’ is the main cause of house loss in bush fires as they can occur before, during and after the fire front passes. Cleaning gutters and patching holes or gaps in your roof is an effective way to protect your home from ember attack. Learn about the five simple steps to prepare your home for bush fire at [myfireplan.com.au](http://myfireplan.com.au)

Remember, you need to prepare well beforehand as leaving it to the last minute is too late. Head over to [myfireplan.com.au](http://myfireplan.com.au) to learn more.

*Information from NSW RFS & local Brigades*

**GET READY WEEKEND**  
PREPARE FOR BUSH FIRE

Join your local brigade

NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE



**A message from our new Chair**

I am honoured to take on the role of Chairperson of the Community Environment Network for the next 12 months.

There are multiple challenges to our environment both locally and globally.

You only have to look at the Central Coast Council’s Operational Budget for 2021-22 to illustrate the threat to our environment and the lack of consideration for our environment.

With the Council’s current financial crisis, one has to wonder why the staff recommended to the Administrator that \$8.1 million or 4.6 per cent of the capital works budget is allocated to new ‘Footpaths’. One has to question why ‘Footpaths’ are so prominent as new projects across Council when services are being cut.

When you take a deeper look into the capital works budget the allocation to new footpaths becomes even more questionable when you examine the new green budget projects.

In the capital works budget \$7.8 million or 4.4% is allocated to green projects.

Initially this looks impressive until you realise that \$6.9 million is the construction of a waste cell at Buttonderry Waste Management Facility with only \$50,000 or 0.02% of the capital works budget allocated to a saltmarsh swale.

Within the green budget no new projects are allocated to address climate change or undertake responsible land management within the Coastal Open Space System (COSS).

Although there are multiple challenges facing our environment I admire and respect the dedication of CEN staff and the many volunteers



who all work towards protecting our local environment.

*Gary Chestnut, CEN Chair*

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# MAITLAND CATTLE SALE REPORT

## Maitland Liveweight Report - 2nd August 2021

Total yarding of 450 head this sale. The market remains firm. This week we've seen a stronger market for the light restocker cattle with that market up to 20c/kg stronger. There was great competition on all cattle.

- Best vealers 500 to 568c/kg;
- Restockers steers under 200kgs 650 to 780c/kg, avg 744c/kg;
- Restocker steers 200-280kgs 545 to 762c/kg, avg 686c/kg;
- Restocker steers +280kgs 484 to 688c/kg, avg 582;
- Restocker heifers 200-280kgs 506 to 622c/kg, avg 554c/kg;
- Restocker heifers +280kgs 440 to 586c/kg, avg 518c/kg;
- Yearling steers 495 to 590c/kg;
- Yearling heifers 470 to 575c/kg;
- Export/grown steers 330 to 365c/kg;
- Export heifers 315 to 358c/kg;
- Cows 276 to 358c/kg;
- Restocker store cows 368 to 398c/kg.

### Highlights:

- Lightweight Angus steers 780c/kg
- 148kgs \$1161; Angus steers 678c/kg, 258kgs \$1747;
- Angus steers 648c/kg, 293kgs \$1900;
- Angus Limo vealers 524c/kg,

435kgs \$2280;

- Charolais steers 520c/kg, 352kgs \$1826.

## Maitland Liveweight Report - 9th August 2021

400 head yarded at this sale. Quality and condition was mixed over the offering. Cattle market was firm on last weeks strong market. All regular buyers were in attendance.

- Weaner steers 180-280kgs 520 to 720c/kg, avg 650c/kg;
- Steers 280-330kgs 490 to 672c/kg, avg 600c/kg;
- Yearling & feeder steers 470 to 550c/kg;
- Weaner heifers 180-280kgs 510 to 668c/kg, avg 570c/kg;
- Heifers 280-330kgs 480 to 576c/kg, avg 535c/kg;
- Yearling heifers 450 to 538c/kg;
- Best vealers 510 to 550c/kg;
- Store bullocks 330 to 365c/kg;
- Prime heavy steers 340 to 380c/kg;
- Cows 250 to 330c/kg;
- Restocker cows up to 388c/kg;
- Bulls 270 to 300c/kg.

### Highlights:

Hudson Bros steers on AuctionsPlus last Friday sold 319kgs Angus & Angus x Santa steers for \$1,960 to a buyer in Wagga.

Sugarloaf Bull Sale last Saturday saw 100% clearance with a top of \$42,000 and average \$13,125.



## COMMUNITY DEFIB PROJECT

Installation of Our first 2 x AEDs

On the 2nd of May we were very excited to announce the installation of the first 2 of 6 AEDs planned for our area at the shop in Spencer ('The General') AED No. #34 & on Marlow Public Wharf AED No. #35 Thank you so much to the local residents, businesses & visitors who have funded the Meat Trays & Veggie Boxes as prizes & to our amazing residents & visitors for supporting these fundraising events. We could not have achieved this without you.

Subsequently, on May 13th the Community Defib Project was featured on the ABC News to promote this amazing essential program. The segment was filmed in Spencer

A friendly reminder that we are often in the area seeing clients and looking at their livestock and if you would like us to call in be sure to give us a call.

Keep up to date with [bowelidbury.com.au](http://bowelidbury.com.au)

*Michael Easy & Rodney McDonald  
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## WILD DOG AND FOX CONTROL PROGRAM

Dear neighbours,

Glenworth Valley Outdoor Adventures will be holding a wild dog and fox baiting program on our property. This is part of our on going work to control pest animals and their impact on primary production and native wildlife. 1080 wild dog and fox ground baits will be laid. The program will run from the 24th of August until the 5th of October 2021.

Please restrain all domestic pets and working dogs during this time. In the event of accidental poisoning seek immediate veterinarian assistance

For further information please contact, Jason Lawler on 0417022720 or Email [Jason@glenworth.com.au](mailto:Jason@glenworth.com.au)



glenworth  
valley

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES



featuring 2 of our local residents Eve Leeming & Frank Donnelly, both of whom have had personal experiences requiring life saving AEDs. If you missed the ABC News episode you can catch it on the ABC News website 'Community Defib Project installing potentially lifesaving devices in vulnerable communities' or view the episode posted on the Community Defib Project Facebook Page.

AND..... we are very excited to announce a further 4 AEDS have been funded by the 'Stronger Community' Grant & will be installed very soon at Malaluka Caravan Park in Spencer (to replace the old AED), Cohens Creek, midway along Oyster Shell Rd & the start of Mangrove Creek Rd (bottom of 'the Divi'). So, if you are travelling south along Wisemans Ferry Rd, these additional 6 AEDs will enable an AED to be available from Greengrove all the way to Wisemans Ferry & beyond. Since the installation of our first 2 AEDS & the feature on the ABC News, the Community Defib Project has expanded beyond the river district, north to Catherine Hill Bay, west to the Blue Mountains & east to Copacabana.

For more information or to donate directly to the Community Defib Project go to: <https://communitydefibproject.org.au/support-the-project>

Robyn Downham, Rivercares



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# THE WOLLOMBI VALLEY SCULPTURE FESTIVAL 2021

11 - 26 September 2021

An update from the festival director,  
Susan Leith Miller...

It is with sadness that we must inform you that we have decided to cancel the 2021 Wollombi Valley Sculpture Festival which was due to open on the 11th of September this year. We have been monitoring the COVID situation in NSW and at the moment we don't feel it is in the best interests for the safety of our rural community to encourage large numbers of people to be travelling here. Many of us have put in an incredible amount of work and we thank every volunteer, as well as all the sculptors who have worked for many months to put on this show. The good news is that most of the preparation which has been done won't be wasted. We are now working on an exciting new idea to help this year's finalists. The Wollombi Valley Sculpture Festival will be an online event for 2021. Much work needs to be done to bring this idea to fruition and we will keep you informed of the latest updates.

## ARTS NEWS

Wollombi Valley Arts Council Inc

Due to the lockdown in The Hunter Valley, the Old Fireshed Gallery is closed until further notice. Sadly, this means that Judy's exhibition has been cancelled. It may possibly be mounted at a later date this year, depending on how the Covid situation evolves.

Wollombi Valley Arts Council  
c/o General Store, Wollombi 2325

## Surviving Lockdown

I remember driving past the old Mangrove Mountain General Store last year during the first lockdown. It was closed. The door was locked. And I remember thinking, if I had the store, I would make sure that it was open during Lockdown so that it could be the go-to place for the community, a

..:KSR:..

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## DENTAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Dr MICHAEL KOTIS Dentist from Mangrove Mountain Dental Centre wishes to announce that he has relocated his dental surgery to:

**Shop 3,  
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This is opposite the Imperial Centre next to Kibble Park

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local business providing bread, milk, groceries, hot takeaway food and coffee, not to mention being a post office to save driving to Lisarow to pick up parcels.

Fast-forward a year. I DID buy the general store, totally changed the layout, ambiance and purpose of the place. I renamed it The Hub of Mangrove Mountain, and set out to make it the real "hub" of the local community.

My friends, and husband, all questioned my sanity, taking over a dead business, with huge overheads, and starting again, and trying to grow a business ... during a pandemic! Ten months later I have to say, after lots of sleepless nights along the way, I am pleased that I took it on, because right now, as we're sitting in the most restrictive lockdown so far, The Hub is open – for fresh bread,

milk, groceries, delicious traditional and cafe-style takeaway food, AND postal pick-up and lotteries. And I am pleased that I am able to be open, for the community.

There are a whole mass of locals who are being super-supportive of us during this lockdown. I love it that not only are we here for them/you, but that they/you are here for us. And we thank you!

Most people realise that I'll never have the buying power of Coles and Woolworths, so I can't offer the same low, low, prices. But I can, and do, offer convenience, a pretty good range of products, and try to keep my pricing as low as I possibly can, while covering my overheads.

I have signed with Friendly Grocer (part of the IGA family) to buy my groceries at better prices. I am now also able to offer IGA promotional

specials – offering everyday groceries at very reasonable and reduced prices.

So if you haven't been in for a while, please stop in to check out our grocery section, our Specials Items, our fresh bread, our locally sourced fresh fruit, vegetables and quality meat. Not to mention our support of local eggs, bacon, honey, olives and oils, jams, gelatos, home-made cheesecakes and much more.

During this lockdown, it would have been easier just to shut our doors and collect government support. And our turnover HAS dropped significantly, without the passing traffic. But like any local business, I am here to support my community, to provide jobs for locals, to provide delicious takeaway meals and coffees, and help people cope with lockdown.

Stay safe everyone!

Shane Eastman



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# Mountain community children's centre inc.

We have been excited to share the Tokyo Olympics with the children during July and August. We have had many fun and challenging experiences including, rowing, gymnastics, swimming, hurdles, long jump, and high jump. The children also enjoyed cheering on the Aussies in the swimming.

The Olympics has provided the children and educators with opportunities to discuss other cultures, flags from countries around the world as well as having a positive attitude when you have a go. The children, families and educators have all benefited from the entertainment of the Olympics during the current Lockdown.

Now taking enrolments Please feel free to give us a call if you would like more information for enrolment now or in the future. Hannah our very friendly administration officer would be more than happy to post out an enrolment pack or organise a tour of the centre (depending on current Public Health Orders). We look forward to welcoming you to our centre. Until next time with news from the Children's Centre.

*Louisa Foxford, Director*  
Mountain Community Children's Centre  
2829 Wisemans Ferry Road  
Mangrove Mountain, NSW 2250  
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**RESCHEDULED**  
NEW DATE ANNOUNCED

# Grand Opening

**Sunday 5th December 2021, 10am – 1pm**

Mountain Community Children's Centre wishes to warmly invite all members of the community to the Grand Opening of the newly rebuilt facilities. This is our opportunity to acknowledge everyone for their on-going support since the devastating fire that destroyed our main building in November 2017. The day will include:

- Acknowledgement of Country, by local Preschool family
- Special guests
- Facility tours
- Performances from Preschool children past and present
- Local entertainment



- Jumping castle (free)
- Petting zoo (free)
- Face painting (free)
- Balloon sculpting (free)
- Take home goodie bags with resources for children (free)
- Sausage sizzle and drinks (small cost)
- Cakes, tea and coffee (gold coin donation)

*Any enquires regarding the day please call or email the Centre.*

Mountain Community the Children's Centre is a community based, not-for-profit organisation. We have been providing Early Childhood Education on the Mountain for 35 years. Mountain Community Children's Centre prides itself on ensuring that all profits are put back into the Centre to provide a quality learning environment for our children and their families.



2829 Wisemans Ferry Road,  
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4374 1239



[mountainchildren@bigpond.com](mailto:mountainchildren@bigpond.com)

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PROPERTIES

# Livestock Poisonings Prompt Warning

LIVESTOCK producers in the Central Coast are being warned to watch for signs of plant toxicity in their animals following several fatal poisonings in the region.

Greater Sydney Local Land

Services District Veterinarian Dr Aziz Chowdhury said he had responded to calls for assistance a local producer after a young heifer suddenly died.

“Investigations revealed the cause of death to be heart failure caused by the consumption of the plant Mother-of-millions (Bryophyllum spp),” he said.

“Ingestion of the toxins can be cumulative and livestock eating small amounts, several times within a few days can suffer poisoning. Eating about 5 kg of mother of millions will kill an adult cow.

“Eating a large amount, as we saw in this case, can cause death instantly.”



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Dr Chowdhury said livestock needed to be treated within 24 hours of consuming the plant.

“Look out for signs such as diarrhoea, usually with blood in the faeces, heart arrhythmia, difficult breathing, or if they suffer a collapse. Horses can also show signs of abdominal pain (colic),” he said.

“If you notice any of these signs, you should seek veterinary assistance immediately.”

Dr Chowdhury said poisoning commonly occurred between May and October when the plants are in flower.

“Mothers of million plants are frequently seen in the Greater Sydney region growing in lighter soils along roadsides resulting from dumped garden waste. They are also commonly seen as ‘escapees’ from abandoned gardens on rural properties.

“Cases of toxicity occur in all year

around, mainly over winter and are most often seen in introduced cattle or those unfamiliar with these plants.”

A lack of adequate food supply can also be an issue.

“Pastures that have been overgrazed or overstocked can predispose livestock to eating anything they can. Producers should evaluate their pastures to determine if adequate forage exists before introduce livestock on to the paddock,” he said.

Visit NSW Weedwise for more information.

Nikki McGrath  
NSW Local Land Services



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**Central Coast Plateau Chamber of Commerce**

**Annual General Meeting**

**Tuesday, September 7**  
**7.00am via Zoom**

**Current CCPCC Members and potential members are welcome to attend**

Lorraine Wilson

# Thinking of selling?



Darren Smith  
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Adam Todd  
Licenced Real Estate Agent  
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# PEATS RIDGE SCOUT NEWS

Before the lockdown and now. Well, our Pizza Oven is finished!!! Just before the lockdown Peats Ridge scouts gathered together to enjoy a pizza fiasco. Thank you to Dave and Nai of Herfo's Woodshed who provided us with some excellent firewood especially for the use in the Pizza Oven. The wood quality was outstanding and provided a great heat to cook the creative pizzas. If you would like to contact Herfo's Woodshed for you next lockdown in-

home BBQ call Dave and Nai on 4373 1316. We are all so pleased we had our last Scouting face to face get together just before the lockdown of all Greater Sydney was announced. It was a great reward for all of the hard work the Cubs, parents and Scout Leaders put in for this project. In our Scouting community we have a wonderful family support system which is of great support during this Lockdown period. We are here to encourage and uplift each other. Remember, we are not alone and we are here for each other. For this term, our Scouting has gone back to virtual Scouting. Here



we meet up via zoom and do activities and games in the lockdown way. As we look forward with the end of the lockdown not known, we plan to further develop our zoom sessions to include outdoor household exercise activities with the focus of advancing on badge rewards. We are also making plans for action packed Covid-safe camps when the restrictions have eased. Remember Lockdown is not forever. If you would like to join our Scouting family, please contact James Lutwyche on 0438 476 562 or by email to James. lutwyche@nsw.scouts.com.au  
 Meredith Lane  
 Publicity Officer  
 Peats Ridge Scouts

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# Resilience Journal for Central Coast bushfire-impacted communities

Council has developed a valuable resource to support community members impacted by the devastating bushfires during the summer of 2019-20. This is called the Resilience Journal.

The Resilience Journal includes information, stories and activities to build personal and community resilience. It acts as a 'one-stop-shop' of knowledge, resources and self-reflection, covering topics such as: how and when to access mental health

support, self-care resources, self-assessment tools, journaling activities and emergency preparedness.

The Resilience Journal will be delivered to households within impacted areas (Mount White, Peats Ridge, Somersby, Kulnura, Wyong Creek, Mangrove Mountain, Yarramalong, Dooralong, Spencer, Charmhaven and Blue Haven).

Households seeking more than one copy will be able to pick up additional copies from shops in the Mountains area, Spencer and Yarramalong.

For more information on this and other initiatives around Council's work with bushfire-impacted communities on the Coast to build resilience and recovery, visit Council's website <https://www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/council/news/working-disaster-impacted-communities>

Central Coast Council Media Team

# KULNURA AND DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB

Please note that our September meeting has been brought forward a week and will be held on Monday 6th September. We were to visit Dave at Casuarina Grove Nursery at Spencer and hopefully will be able to join him on Zoom. If you would like to join us you are most welcome – email our Secretary Jacqui [kuluradgc@gmail.com](mailto:kuluradgc@gmail.com) for details.

Glynnis Golsby

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## REGULAR ACTIVITIES & MEETINGS

### RURAL FIRE SERVICES

Bucketty RFS	Weekend Training Station Maintenance General Meeting	3rd Sat, 9am-12 pm, breakfast 8.30am Every Thurs as required, generally 10am-1pm 3rd Sat in even months, at 1pm, All welcome buckettyrfb@gmail.com (02) 4998 8130
Calga-Mt. White RFS	General meeting	3rd Monday of the month, 7.30pm at Pacific Hwy Fire Station Mt. White
Kulnura VBFB at Greta Rd Station	General meeting Training	1st Wednesday of the month, 7.30pm 3rd Wednesday of the month 7.00pm
Mangrove Mountain RFS Bloodtree Rd	General Meeting Training / Maintenance	Last Wednesday of the month, 7 pm, All Wednesday's except last of month, 7 pm
Spencer RFS	General Meeting Training Junior Training	2nd Monday of the month Meeting 6.30pm 3rd Monday Maintenance 6:30pm 4th Monday Training 6:30pm E: captain.spencer@ccrfs.org.au Alison Wade 0415 668953. 4778 Wisemans Ferry Rd
Somersby RFS	General Meeting Training/Maintenance	First Wed of the month 7.30pm at the Station Every Wed night 7.30 at the Station (except before Wed general meeting)
Yarramalong RFS	Training: Nights: Morning: Maintenance/Training : General Meeting (GM): Contact:	First Wednesday of month 7pm start Last Saturday of month 8.30am start 3rd Sunday of month 8.30am start 2nd Wed of even months 7.30pm start Ph: 0409 915060 or 0418 280 764 Email: yarramalongrfs@bigpond.com

### COMMUNITY & SOCIAL

Coastlink Friendship Group		Wed 9.30am-2pm at the Health Centre, Nurses Rd, Central Mangrove
Country Women's Association (Somersby)		Second Wed of each month, at Somersby Hall Wiseman's Ferry Road, Somersby, contact Sue, 43721280 or 0407768000.
Country Women's Association (Peats Ridge & District)		First Monday of the month at Community Hall, Peats Ridge School. Any enquiries please contact Christine 0419 400163.
Country Women's Association (Mangrove Mountain Evening Branch)		2nd Tues of the month at Mangrove Mountain Hall 2-4 Waratah Rd Mangrove Mtn. Start 5pm, meeting 7pm. Ph Judy 43771728
Gosford North Inner Wheel club		2nd Wed each month 7pm at Phillip House in Kariong. Contact: Glenis Ph: 0400 486 760
Gosford World Vision Community Group		4th Tues 11am in Presbyterian Church, West Gosford Contact: Glenis Ph: 0400 586 760.
Permaculture Central Coast		Third Tuesday (except Jan.) at Tuggerah Community Hall, ANZAC Rd, 6.30pm - 9pm
Kulnura & District Garden Club		Second Monday, 9.30 for 10am start. Jacqui Maxwell 0455364262 kulnuradgc@gmail.com
Mangrove Mountain & Districts Community Group Meeting		First Thursday of the Month, 8pm, Mangrove Mountain Hall. No meeting in January. Hon. Sec Danny Willmott 0407275653
Mangrove Emergency Planning Committee		Third Wednesday bi-monthly, Mangrove Hall
Mangrove Mountain Country Fair Committee Meeting		2nd Thur of month except Jan, 7:30pm, Union Church Hall. Pres- Shane 0417 436 529
Mangrove Mountain RSL Women's Auxiliary		Third Tuesday of the month, 2pm Mangrove Mountain Memorial Club New Members welcome. Secretary Keitha Coty 43771773
Mountain District Football Club Meeting		Second Tuesday of the Month 6.30pm at the Mangrove Memorial Club
River Cares for the Lower Hawkesbury River District		President Robyn Downham 0414248224 Email rivercaresinc@gmail.com
Rotary Club Meeting		Friday 7.15am at Phillip House. 43404529
Spencer Community Progress Group Inc		President Brad Maisey, Community Meetings, 4377 1167, spencercpg2@gmail.com
Spencer Community Ladies Social Club		Last Fri of month. 12.00 noon Spencer Community Centre, Jennifer Dayes 4377 1364 Articles to: spencercpg2@gmail.com
The Mountain Tuesday Social Tennis Group		Tue 9.30am-12.30pm, Kulnura Tennis Courts. Ph Glenys Palmer on 4374 1441 for enquiries.
Somersby Equestrian Club Club & Committee Meeting		Every 2nd month. Check website for further details. www.somersbyequestrianclub.org.au
Wisemans Ferry Community Men's Shed		Tues & Sat. 9am-5pm. Contact: Alan Hunt 4566 4626 or Adrian Acheson 0448 833 781
<b>SPIRITUAL</b>		
Anglican Service - Mountain Districts		Every Sun 8am at Peats Ridge Scout Hall, Sunday School during school terms
- Wollombi		2nd & 4th Sun 10am; Holy Eucharist at St John the Evangelist, Wollombi. 0481269 653
Mangrove Mountain Union Church, Christian Service		9.00am second, fourth and fifth Sundays. cnr Bloodtree Rd & Wisemans Ferry Rd
St Barnabas Non-denominational Service Yarramalong		3rd Sunday each month, 11.00am. (Easter & (Christmas Carols dates to be advised)
Divine Retreat Centre (Ph 04 6848 6782) 160 Hensons Road, Somersby www.divineretreatcentre.org.au		Daily Holy Mass 8.00am to 8.30 am 1st Fri, 5:30pm-8:30pm Divine Mercy Friday 1st Sat, 5.30pm-9:00pm, Divine Youth Ministry, Young Adults (18-35yrs) Last Sun, 9am-4pm, One Day Retreat

(cont'd next page)

## MARKET IN REVIEW

by Jay Talbot Licenced Real Estate, Stock & Station Agent and Auctioneer



Hi, Jay Talbot here from TalbotPartners Real Estate – The Acreage Specialists.

Stephanie McLean @ realestate.com.au has just published this article.

A move to the country has become even more appealing during the pandemic as some Australian cities endure repeated lockdowns and workers adapt to the new work-from-home (or anywhere) lifestyle. The exodus of city dwellers to regional areas during the COVID-driven lifestyle shift has continued, with new Australian Bureau of Statistics data showing 11,800 people moved out of Australia's capital cities in the March quarter – the largest net loss on record.

Historic low interest rates and a rise in demand for regional over the past year has caused house prices to skyrocket, with 58 regional suburbs joining the million-dollar club in the 12 months to June 2021, taking the total number of multimillion-dollar regional suburbs to 110, according to new analysis from realestate.com.au.

Looking across the states, there are now 58 multimillion-dollar regional suburbs in NSW, 42 in Queensland, nine in Victoria and one in Western Australia. Suburbs had to have at least 10 sales in the 12 months to June 2021 and in the previous year to be included in the data.

Economist at realestate.com.au Anne Flaherty said the number of new million-dollar regional suburbs is extraordinary. "Traditionally we

think of regional areas as being more affordable, but this growing demand for regional lifestyle suburbs is just pushing up property prices in these areas," Ms Flaherty said.

"A lot of the demand has come from people moving away from cities, chasing that lifestyle driven in some ways by COVID. But Ms Flaherty said regional price growth could start to wane once Australia reaches the other side of the pandemic. "It'll be interesting to see if we start to see more people return to cities she said.

"It's possible these suburbs could drop back below million-dollar medians depending on the area. A lot of regional suburbs are actually more volatile than suburbs closer to cities, so they're more affected by swings in demand.

"I wouldn't expect the demand to change too much over the short term, but over the long term we might start to see a shift in preferences for where people want to live, which could impact those regional areas."

The COVID-led lifestyle shift as seen regional property prices rise exponentially over the past year, and the trend is likely to continue in the months ahead. "I think we'll definitely see more regional suburbs join the million-dollar club because property prices haven't finished rising, and the level of price growth in regional Australia has been outperforming the greater capital city areas of Australia," she said. "There's still a lot of momentum [in regional Australia] so there are a lot of suburbs that are going to tip over that million-dollar mark over the coming months."

All these factors make it a great time to sell. If you would like to have a chat about your property, with a no obligation appraisal, please feel free to call me anytime on 0414 079 220 or email jay@talbotpartners.com

I look forward to the opportunity of catching up with you soon!

See you next month,

Jay

## REGULAR ACTIVITIES & MEETINGS (cont'd)

Serbian Orthodox	2nd & 4th Sun. of the month. 10 am, followed by luncheon, tea, coffee, cakes (cost \$15). George Downes Drive, Peats Ridge
Kariong Community Baptist Church	Sun @9.30am, Church & Kid's Program, Kariong Public School Hall, Chris Clarke email revcrc@hotmail.com
Catholic Service -Spencer	Holy Trinity Church, 2nd Sat of the month 4pm, Contact 43771374 or 43771168 as times may change each month.
- Wollombi	2nd & 5th Sunday of the month, 4.30pm Mass at St Michael the Archangel, Wollombi.
- Somersby	Every Sat. evening vigil - 5.30pm St. Francis of Assisi Centre, 30 Lutana Rd, Somersby.
- Yarramalong	1st Sunday each month, 11.15am St. Barnabas Catholic Mass All welcome. Enq 4356 1321

### YOUTH

Junior Girl Guides 5-10	Kooree Guide Cabin, every Monday in school term, 5.00pm - 6.30pm
Girl Guides 10-15	Kooree Guide Cabin, every Monday in school term, 6.00pm-7.30pm
Scouts, Cubs & Venturers Peats Ridge Scout Hall	Cubs meet 6.30pm - 8.30pm Wednesdays Scouts meet 7.00pm - 9.00pm Tuesdays Venturers meet 7.00pm - 9.00pm Mondays Contact 0438 476 562
Mangrove Mountain Playgroup	Every Tues (except school holidays) 9am to 11.30am, Kooree Guide Cabin, Bec G, PH: 0421 996 029 Anne, PH: 0412 526 557 Email: becilmour@gmail.com

### HISTORICAL

Brisbane Waters Historical Society	25-27 Henry Kendall St., West Gosford, Ph: 4325 2270. www.henrykendallcottage.org.au
Dharug & Lower Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc.	Last Sat of month. All welcome, contact Jan Kofron 0405321478 jankofron@optusnet.com.au
First Fleeters Central Coast Chapter	2nd Sat of the month, 10.00am for 10.30, Point Clare Hall (except Jan & Dec). Contact Jon 43116254 and Gavin 43404435.
The Pearl Beach Aboriginal History Group	3rd Fri each month 7.30pm Pearl Beach. Peggy 0411754577 pbaboriginalhistory@gmail.com
Wyong District Museum & Historical Society	Open Sun to Thurs. 10am-2pm, other times by appt. Contact 43521886 email info@alisonhomestead.com.au. website: www.alisonhomestead.com.au

### ACTIVITY/HOBBY

Central Coast GNU/Linux Users Group	www.cclug.org.au - all most welcome
Coastal Communicators Toastmasters	1st & 3rd Thurs of month, 6:45pm to 8:45pm at Doyalson-Wyee RSL. Debbie 0421216952
Craft/scrapbooking	Yarramalong Hall 4th Sun. of the month 10am to 5.00pm cost \$12 per person ph 43561196

### HALL BOOKINGS

Kulnura Hall	Hall bookings contact Annette Stackman 43561196 Committee mtg 3rd Thurs 7:00pm at Hall- Open to all from community.
Mangrove Mountain Hall	Hall bookings Ryan Howard 0405416289
Somersby Hall and Mountain Districts Culture and Heritage Centre	Hall Bookings: 0413 359 655 or AH 4373 1488
Yarramalong school of Arts / Hall	booking contact Annette Stackman 43561196

## REMINDERS FOR YOUR DIARY

Somersby CWA	CANCELLED due to Covid 19. Sunday 15th August, 11.30am.
Long Table Lunch	
The Wollombi Valley Sculpture Festival 2021	CANCELLED 11 - 26 September 2021, Wollombi Village
Mangrove Mountain & Districts Country Fair	Saturday Oct 17th, Mangrove Hall and adjacent reserve. 9am - 3pm



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