

# COMMUNITY NEWS

No. 885 Ph: 4374 1039 Mo: 0412 669 649 Email: enquiries@cnews1.com.au Web: cnews1.com.au 1st October 2021

## Teenagers show the way in COVID times

Three teenagers have become an on-line success with their website <https://covidbaseau.com> where they have done what the authorities struggle to do - provide a comprehensive but easy to read summary of some basic COVID facts and figures.

And to top it off, they are proud to be vaccine ambassadors having received their first round of vaccines.

So if you're hesitant or doubtful, don't be, follow the example these three boys have set, check with a doctor and get the jab.



Today [23/9/21] the three of us who run @covidbaseau, Jack, Wesley and Darcy, had our first dose of the Moderna vaccine.  
Thought this would be a good time to share who we really are. 😊  
Thrilled that we will finally be included in our data! 🇺🇸

Some extracts from the <https://covidbaseau.com> website:

<b>74.83%</b> 16+ pop. At Least 1 Dose	<b>50.15%</b> 16+ pop. Fully Vaccinated
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### Australia COVID-19 Summary

Last Updated: 12:03PM, 25 Sep 2021

Location	Locally Acquired	Total Cases	Deaths	Vaccinations	Doses Per 100 People	Tests	Cases Past 14D
Australia	87,415 📈 1,855	95,798 📈 1,855	1,220 📈 12	-	-	36,868,244 - 📈 177,174	23,973 📈 -76
World	N/A	230,601,553 📈 513,811	4,728,852 📈 9,674	6,068,222,885 📈 31,191,091	77.06 📈 0.4	3,192,762,664	7,292,442 📈 -122,751

\*World data is sourced from Our World In Data and Worldometers  
\*\*\*Past 14d cases for Australia only includes local cases.

## OPEN LETTER TO THE PAST PRESIDENT OF THE MANGROVE MOUNTAIN UNION CHURCH

I have a few FAQs of my own that I would like answers for:

1. Why didn't the past committee consult with or ask the congregation and past members of the committee or community members for help BEFORE making such a major decision to sell the church?

Most people did not realise the dire position of the church when the public meeting was called with only one weeks notice and for a meeting to be held on a Friday afternoon at 4pm. Yet 39 people made the effort to turn up for the meeting.

2. The committee keep blaming the constitution of the church for not allowing others to take over. If the past committee wanted to quit, why didn't you check with the Department of Fair Trading by an email or letter to see how easy it is to change the constitution in relation to membership? All you need to do is call a Special General Meeting with the required amount of days notice and the notify the Department of any changes.

3. How can you claim that the church was at risk of insolvency?

In the 2 years I was on the committee there was always between \$15k and \$22k in the bank and the church only held 2-3 fundraisers per year. In January this year the committee allegedly DECLINED a donation to pay the building insurance (\$6k) so you did not seem too worried about the finances then.

The Mangrove Mountain Christian Group would like to take over the responsibility for the church. They've already held one fundraising event organised with only 3 days notice. This raised several thousand dollars.

If all the churches used the same criteria such as a lack of patronage, a drop in fundraising revenue and lack of potential usage of facilities during the COVID period as the past Mangrove Mountain Union Church committee have done most of the churches in NSW would be for sale now.

Is the sale of the local community union church the Christian thing to do? I don't think so.

Fred Longley

## PILE BURNS - DON'T LET YOURS GET AWAY

Outside the declared bushfire danger period, pile burns are allowed without permits but are still governed by Council rules and regulations; and common sense!

Burning must minimise smoke impacts by avoiding green, damp and compacted piles.

Adequate water supplies and/or fire fighting equipment must be immediately on hand.

Adjacent property occupiers/owners as well as NSW Rural Fire Service be given 24 hours notice.

Burning should only take place when weather conditions are suitable with winds under 15km/h.

Burning should not cause nuisance to neighbours or a smoke hazard to traffic. For more information go to:

<https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/plan-and-prepare/farm-fire-safety/safeburning>

<https://cdn.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/Council/Policies/openpileburningpolicy-2019.pdf>

**STOP!**

Next issue Published  
15th October 2021

**\*\* DEADLINE \*\***

**\*\* 8th October '21 \*\***

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# THREE FACTS DEFINE THE RECENT HISTORY OF THE MANGROVE MOUNTAIN UNION CHURCH

Firstly, despite a period when few attended Services, there is now a groundswell of interest from past and future worshippers. The threat of sale has renewed the purpose for which the Church stands.

Secondly, any concern about finance is proven wrong by the thousands of dollars being donated for what should be needless legal action to stop the sale.

And thirdly, three people on the past committee were pleaded with to not sell but they put the church into liquidation nevertheless.

It's now urgent that each practices the understanding that they expect of others. The past Committee needs to end the sale process and pass this icon that they have maintained with distinction to the next generation of

## PROFILING CENTRAL COAST AGRIBUSINESS FOR DISASTER RESILIENCE

Regional Development Australia Central Coast (RDACC) is working with the Central Coast Food Alliance to better understand the profile of our agribusiness sector and help minimise risk during natural disasters.

The initiative aims to give the agribusiness community greater capacity and capability to respond to future disasters such as bushfires, floods and plagues.

RDACC CEO and Director Regional

believers who should welcome them back charitably.

It's ridiculous to expect us to be content that all sale proceeds would go to a similar use outside this community while there is an obvious and durable need for a place of Christian worship inside this community that remains unbroken since 1915.

*Peter Comensoli  
Mangrove Mountain*

Development, John Mouland, says the initiative will help build resilience within the region and take a proactive approach to managing adversity.

“By providing our agribusiness sector with training and support for disaster mitigation and management, we aim to future proof the industry and build economic growth,” says Mr Mouland.

“To deliver this, RDACC is undertaking a robust mapping exercise to gather accurate data of agribusiness on the Central Coast.”

RDACC Director of Regional Projects, Funding & Research, Christine Jarvis, is leading the initiative and says the agribusiness mapping plays an important role in understanding how best to support the industry.

“Through the mapping process we will have a greater understanding of the challenges facing our agribusiness sector and how best to support their economic growth and build employment opportunities, which are all part of building a resilient sector,” says Ms Jarvis.

“RDACC is inviting Central Coast’s agribusiness to participate in the mapping by providing details such as

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Email: [mangrovetmparmacy@gmail.com](mailto:mangrovetmparmacy@gmail.com)

the type of business, location, number of employees, infrastructure, their constraints and challenges.

“This will all help us in helping these businesses face and overcome any future adversity.”

To add a business profile to the Central Coast agribusiness data map, please contact Christine at Christine.Jarvis@rdacc.org.au

RDACC is delivering this initiative funded by a \$100,000 grant to Central Coast Council from the NSW Government's Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund (BLERF), Stage 1.

Regional Development Australia (RDA) is a national network of Committees made up of local leaders who work with all levels of government, business and community groups to support the economic development of their regions.

RDA Committees have an active and facilitative role in their communities with a clear focus on growing strong and confident regional economies that harness their competitive advantages, seize on economic opportunity and attract investment.

Regional Development Australia  
Central Coast NSW  
<https://rdacc.org.au/>  
[mail@rdacc.org.au](mailto:mail@rdacc.org.au)

## Fundraiser to help family

Hi my name is Adele Pate. I am fund-raising on behalf of my dearest friend Samantha partner Dean Holmes and family.

Tragically Sam passed away last night and the same with her 2 children, 3 survived. I'm asking for any help that can be giving to support this wonderful woman's partner. Due to this tragedy Dean can no longer work

due to looking after the children.

Sam was a loving kind amazing caring mother daughter partner and friend. She would go out of her way to help anyone.

Any donation would be greatly help. For funeral costs and to help Dean with the children.

As at Sept 26: \$14,680 raised of \$30,000 goal.

To make a donation and share words of support go to:

<https://gofund.me/efdbde36>





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# RURAL BOUNDARY CLEARING MEASURES

The NSW Government has introduced a Rural Boundary Clearing Code, to help landholders in identified areas remove vegetation from their property boundary to help prevent fire spreading.

The Code allows for clearing only in identified areas, such as areas which are zoned as Rural, and which are considered bush fire prone.

It allows landholders to clear, without

approval, vegetation within 25 metres of the boundary of their landholding to prevent fire spreading. It applies only to the landholder's property and not neighbouring land.

There are environmental protections in place, and heavy penalties apply if a landholder doesn't follow these requirements.

The NSW RFS has developed the Rural Boundary Clearing Tool to help landholders assess if and how the Code applies to their landholding.

You should check the Rural Boundary Clearing Code if you're unsure of how it may apply to your property. It is your responsibility to ensure you follow the requirements of the Code.

More information:

- Fact Sheet [https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0017/231425/BoundaryClearingCodeFactsheet..pdf.pdf](https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0017/231425/BoundaryClearingCodeFactsheet..pdf.pdf)

- Rural Boundary Clearing Tool <https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/plan-and-prepare/boundary-clearing-tool>

- Rural Boundary Clearing Code [https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0014/231422/Rural-Boundary-Clearing-Code-for-New-South-Wales.pdf](https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0014/231422/Rural-Boundary-Clearing-Code-for-New-South-Wales.pdf)

## What does the Code allow?

The Code allows landholders in identified areas to clear vegetation within 25 metres of the boundary of their land holding, without approval, to help prevent fire spreading.

## Where does the Code apply?

The Code only applies in areas that are zoned as rural, and only where local Greater Sydney councils have opted into the scheme.

For the Code to apply to a property, it also needs to be in an identified bush fire prone area. There are reduced restrictions for properties which were affected by the 2019-20 bush fires.

The Code doesn't apply to every property, so you need to check on the NSW RFS website to see if it applies to your land holding.

## How can I check if it applies to my land?

You can search for your property using the Rural Boundary Clearing Tool on the NSW RFS website.

It will show which parts of your property the provision may apply to.

## Does it apply to my entire property?

If the provision applies to your property, it allows for clearing of vegetation with 25 metres of your holding's boundary.

This means if you hold a number of lots as part of your land holding, it will only apply to the perimeter of your holding.

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## UPCOMING CATTLE AUCTIONS

### Maitland Regional Saleyards

- Weekly Monday Liveweight Cattle Sales 9am, followed by Calves, Pigs & Sheep from 12 noon
- Maitland Store Sale – Saturday 16th October Commencing 11am
- Saturday 30th - Maitland Annual Female Cattle Sale 12 noon

### Gloucester Saleyards

- Fortnightly Thursday Store Cattle Sales 11am 7th, 21st October

Feedlots - Abattoirs - Paddock to Paddock Sales  
Clearing Sales - Rural Property Sales

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The Code may not apply to parts of your boundary, such as where there are environmental protections, or where the land isn't identified as bush fire prone. Clearing isn't allowed in these areas.

**Can I clear on neighbouring land?**

No. You can only clear vegetation on your landholding if the Code allows it.

**What environmental protections are in place?**

The Code provides for a number of environmental protections to ensure vegetation is only cleared for the purposes of reducing bush fire threat, and to protect the environment.

The Rural Boundary Clearing Tool shows many of the common reasons why the Code may not apply to an area due to environmental protections.

The Code provides for the protection of waterways, biodiversity, wildlife, koala populations and Aboriginal heritage sites. If you clear vegetation in these areas, heavy penalties apply.

There are also restrictions on the disposal of waste if you clear vegetation.

**How can I make sure I'm allowed to clear?**

It is your responsibility to understand your obligations, outlined in the Code. You can also check our Frequently Asked Questions which provide more detail about the Code and where it applies.

# MMUC FAQs

Last Community News 17th September published an article placed by the Old Mangrove Mountain Union Church Committee wishing to "Set the record straight" from their perspective.

From OUR perspective:

*Why take the drastic step of selling the Church?*

A "Call to Arms" to the Community to make us aware of the Old Committee's fatigue would have instigated an earlier response. There was a strong response.

Others are more than willing to step up and carry the load.

**If the Code doesn't apply, what are my options?**

The Rural Boundary Clearing Code is one of the many tools which are available to help reduce the risk of fires, and fires spreading.

Getting your property ready for bush fires may involve hazard reduction such as burning or mechanical clearing, creating firebreaks, ensuring you have appropriate firefighting equipment, and having a plan for what to do if a fire is on your property. Check the NSW RFS website for more information.

*Why can't the Constitution simply be changed to enable new members to join and take over management of the Church?*

The Old Committee could have called a Special General Meeting at any time with 21 days notice to amend the constitution to accept more members. Indeed the Constitution was altered in 2016 by the same members of the Old Committee.

On Good Friday 2nd April 2021 the Old Committee's plans to sell the Church were dropped on a shocked Community which brought about hastily convened meetings and commitments from people to help the old Committee. Their response - An Auction date was already scheduled.

*Why was a Liquidator appointed?*

It was indeed the Committee's job to keep the Church from becoming insolvent.

The Community as usual was generous with donations from the Country Fair, CWA, plant sales and Volunteer Labour but grooming the buildings and site for any potential sale wouldn't have helped the balance sheet. The Church is still solvent.

Appointing a Liquidator was the end game for the Old Committee. We don't believe in the validity of the appointment so here we stand.

Kaye Collins



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# Union Church Update

24th September 2021

Strong support continues for our campaign to "Save the Mangrove Mountain Union Church".

Our efforts to engage with the local community, to let people know what we are doing, and just plain ask for help, have resulted in much assistance. We have received many financial contributions. There have been offers of help to maintain the buildings and grounds. Other groups from the community who have formerly used the Church buildings are inquiring about returning as it better suits their needs. From all of this, it is very clear that the local community wish the Union Church to be retained for all and future generations.

Maybe it was the threat of the loss of the Union Church to our community. Perhaps repeated Covid-19 lockdowns have helped. Certainly, the public announcement stating there was no choice, and that the Union Church had to be sold, got the locals moving. But there is no doubting the existence of substantial community interest in its preservation and retention.

Regardless, what is done is done and we need to move forward. We

continue to work towards: -

- Preventing the sale of the Mangrove Mountain Union Church (MMUC).
- Stopping the winding-up of the MMUC Association by the Liquidator.
- Returning the MMUC Association to management by, and for the benefit of, our local community.
- Widening MMUC Association membership, thereby enabling more community involvement.

Our Solicitor has advised that the original Trust Deed for the Union Church still "lives" and that its terms do not support the sale of the property. However, an action in the NSW Supreme Court maybe required to assert this position. We have begun the process to brief a Barrister.

What can you do to help us?

1. If you would like to contribute financially to the campaign, donations can be made to the Mangrove Mountain Christian Group Inc at Bendigo Bank, BSB 633-000, A/c 185477965.
2. For anyone who would like to join the Mangrove Mountain Christian Group, we have membership application forms available. Joining fee is \$1 and annual fees are \$2. Please contact our Secretary by email to [mmcgsecl@gmail.com](mailto:mmcgsecl@gmail.com).
3. You can also write/email a personal letter to the Liquidator Mr

Barry Taylor, Restructuring & Risk Advisory, HLB Mann Judd, Level 19/207 Kent Street, SYDNEY NSW 2000 or by email to: [btaylor@hlbnsw.com.au](mailto:btaylor@hlbnsw.com.au)

Please do not be offensive in any letter to the Liquidator. This will not help our cause and may only serve to harden his heart. The letters should be civil and courteous. They should highlight any personal links that you have with the Union Church and how important it is to yourself and the local community that the Union Church continue to operate as it has done for the past 110 years. You could also say that there is strong community support and financial backing for the Church to continue operating and therefore you do not understand why the former committee chose to wind the Church up.

A copy of your correspondence would be appreciated by either email to [mmcgsecl@gmail.com](mailto:mmcgsecl@gmail.com) or post to MMCG c/-6 Waratah Road, Mangrove Mountain NSW 2250 (the copies are not for publishing, only to keep the MMCG informed).

Working towards keeping the Union Church safe in our community for our heirs and newcomers as was intended by the first Union Church Trustees 110 years ago.

Robert Meggs (4376 1217)

On behalf of both the MMCG Inc and the MMUC Inc.

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# CHANGES TO WATERFRONT ADDRESSING ADOPTED

Council has resolved to adopt waterfront addressing for 550 properties along the Hawkesbury River and associated tributaries to comply with the Australian and NSW Government standards and policies.

Currently these properties are addressed as Lot # Hawkesbury River, which has been problematic for owners and residents, and made it difficult for service providers and emergency services to find.

Consultation was open to all affected property owners and

several Government Departments. Discussions were also had with the NSW Department of Customer Service, Spatial Services section to determine outcomes consistent with the NSW addressing direction and advice.

Council Administrator, Rik Hart said the change will ensure a system suitable for timely identification of properties and emergency response.

“Council was able to make some minor changes to proposed numbering based on community feedback, however our numbering is governed by the Australian/New Zealand Standard – Rural and Urban Addressing, the NSW Address Policy and the NSW Retrospective Address Policy and we must provide clear, consistent and compliant numbering for waterfront properties in our Local Government Area,” Mr Hart said

“The new addressing will ensure compatibility with other governmental and organisational databases, allow properties to be included in Australia’s authoritative Geocoded National Address File which will give them geographic coordinates and assist with emergency response, and give properties a “complete address” which is now a pre-requisite for many business transactions.”

Letters will be sent to all affected property owners advising of their new address. Council will also advise Australia Post, the Australian Electoral Commission, NSW Department of Customer Services, NSW Roads and Maritime Services, Valuer Generals, Telstra, Ausgrid, Jemena, National Park and Wildlife Services as well as local emergency services of the new addresses.

Central Coast Council



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**FARMERS BEWARE:  
ANOTHER STORMWATER  
DRAINAGE CHARGES  
REVIEW**

Those of us whose properties are rated as "farmland" will vividly remember the 2018 IPART stormwater drainage charges review process. At that time the Central Coast Council proposed to increase stormwater drainage charges on non-residential properties over 2.25 acres in size - including farmland

- from an annual charge of \$124.68 per annum per rateable holding to \$5,427.81 per annum. Many farms on the Central Coast are comprised of more than one rateable holding which means that many farmers were facing stormwater drainage charges in excess of \$10,000.00 upwards. It was only the activism of farmers and their representative groups protesting this incredible money grab that saw this action reversed by IPART.

On 10 September the Central Coast Council submitted their proposal to IPART for a review into stormwater charges that will apply from 1 July 2022. Council has refused to release any details of their proposal to the public. It is important that our Mangrove Mountain and Districts community watch this process very carefully and are ready to make submissions to IPART if the Central Coast Council once again think they can price-gouge farmers to make up for their budget shortfalls elsewhere. As pointed out to IPART during the last review, most properties west of the M1 on the Central Coast aren't even connected to the stormwater system of pipes and drains. Instead, water from public roads runs off onto our properties and into creeks and rivers without any infrastructure provided by council.

IPART state that they will publish



**Mountain Community Children's  
Centre News**

Now taking enrolments for 2022

We are now taking enrolments for 2022. 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

the Central Coast Council's proposal, as well IPART's review of council's proposal, on the IPART website by 28 September 2021. IPART will accept submissions from the public from 28 September until early November 2021. The first public hearing into the submission will be held on 26 October 2021. A second public meeting will be held in March or April 2022. I sincerely hope - but have no faith - that council will have a better attitude towards farmers this time around.

*Marilyn Wood*

**.:KSR.:.**

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**DENTAL  
ANNOUNCEMENT**

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Tel 4325 1710**

This is opposite the Imperial Centre next to Kibble Park

The surgery is operating under the name  
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look forward to welcoming you to our centre.

### Exploring our Outdoor Environment

We have been enjoying exploring our bush around the perimeter of the centre and our neighbours. We have discovered Gynea Lilies, termite mounds, Scribbly Gums, Flannel flowers and many other native plants. We need to be incredibly careful as we saw a red belly black snake last week. The children have been practicing stopping when they hear the whistle and listening to the instructions. This is great practice for future snake sightings.

We have also been enjoying the donations of citrus for the children to share. We love oranges, lemonades and grapefruit.

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  
Ph: 43741239  
[www.mountainchildren.com.au](http://www.mountainchildren.com.au)

Photo: The children enjoying bush walks and the citrus that is in season



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# Country Fair Baby Animal Tales

Hundreds of old Country Fair photos are of a child holding a baby animal. As I look at familiar features, I play Guess Who that was up to 15 years ago. Sometimes I fluke recognition, more often the identities remain elusive. Whoever they are, these children appear excited, nervous,

amazed and enthralled by the animals they are meeting.

For many years the favourite animals at the Fair were in our farmyard nursery, often praised by parents as the best around. Various people have put these together over the years, such as Daphne Martin, and especially Dennis Fisher and his willing student assistants, but I know there were others too, and many thanks to you all.

Baby animals look so delightful, but it is not easy to arrange for them to be just the right age for cuddles and pats on a particular weekend in October. It takes a lot of organizing to have chickens and ducklings hatched and

big enough to hold by Fair day. We also had calves, lambs, goat kids, piglets, rabbits and guinea pigs. Many of these needed minding between visits from curious children.

So thank you again to all those volunteers who helped so many youngsters have an amazing encounter with a baby animal.

*From Sue Douglas*

*Below Left: 2007 Lucy and friend assisting*

*Below: 2006 Marissa, Dakota and baby rabbit*



## Better Connectivity for Mangrove Mountain **SIGN THE PETITION**

Mangrove Mountain is one of the Central Coast's most resilient, most beautiful, but most underserved communities.

For too long the residents of Mangrove Mountain have been failed by an invisible Local Member – Lucy Wicks.

They've been failed by the NBN rollout and telecommunications providers that have left many residents without regular or reliable connectivity for their computers or mobile phones.

### **Mangrove Mountain needs action - NOW!**

Labor wants to bring the communications infrastructure of the Mountains and River communities into the 21st Century.

**Please sign my petition to tell Scott Morrison and Lucy Wicks that the Mangrove Mountain community wants world-class internet and mobile phone coverage.**

**Deborah O'Neill**  
Senator for NSW

*Authorised by Senator Deborah O'Neill, Suite 312, 4 Illya Ave, Erina, NSW 2250*

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# MEPCC

The community CB radio emergency network proposal is progressing, with increasing interest from residents in the river communities, mountain districts and the valleys.

Some communities have begun forming small teams to assist in the development of protocols and to manage the rollout if we are successful in obtaining funding under the Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grants.

If you would like to be involved or want to find out more please send an email to [mepccinc@gmail.com](mailto:mepccinc@gmail.com) with your enquiry and contact details.

Once COVID restrictions are lifted the MEPCC will be able to hold an AGM for the election of the committee.

*Mangrove Emergency Planning & Communications Committee Inc*



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### Charming Small Acreage

Nestled centrally in the highly sought after rural paradise of Somersby, lies this very practical and charming 3 acre property. With location at the forefront, this property is just 7 minutes to the M1 on-ramp and 9 minutes to the amenities of the Central Coast, whilst maintaining enough distance from the busy M1 and Wisemans Ferry Road.

The roomy 3 bedroom home boasts high ceilings, polished timber floors, three separate living areas, a modern and beautifully presented kitchen, large bathroom, on-trend white plantation shutters throughout, a combustion fire place and air conditioning. With the ultimate balance of indoor/outdoor living, this home features wide covered outdoor living spaces and a sparkling in-ground pool.

But there's more! Stepping inside the 2 bedroom granny flat, you will find a modern kitchen, near new flooring and gorgeous pool views.

If a 3 bedroom house and 2 bedroom granny flat weren't enough, on top of this is a stand-alone large studio with a fireplace and undercover deck. Currently a music studio, this space would be an ideal home office or party space.

The improvements on this property continue the further you look, with a 4-bay shed nestled at the back, inclusive of three roller doors and a workshop. This provides the perfect setup for the car lover, home business, hobbyist or simply for extra storage.

Water is plentiful with rainwater tank supply plus a bore.

For the animal lovers, the property is fully fenced and features brand new timber post and rail fencing out the front, plus internal plain wire fencing.

This is a rural-set home the wider family can all enjoy in a very convenient, central Somersby location with room for everyone and space for horses.

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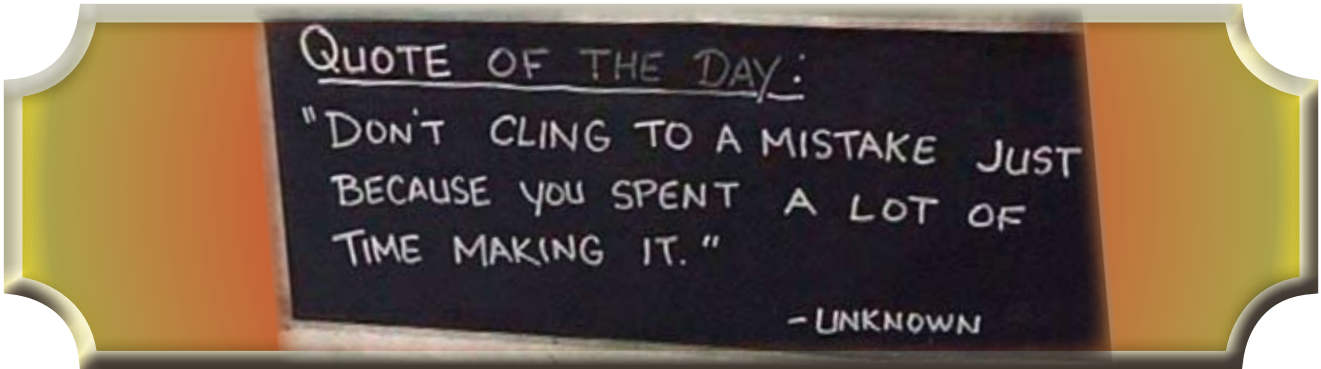



## 'Native Flora and Fauna on the Coast'

A slide presentation by local award-winning photographer Patricia Smith


Kulnura & District Garden Club invite you to attend our next meeting to be held via Zoom on October 11. Join us for a coffee and chat from 9.30 with the meeting starting at 10am. Our member Patricia Smith will present her absolutely stunning slides and we will also have a look at some highlights of the garden of our member Beryl Collins who is our scheduled 'in garden' host.






Click on the link to enter Zoom meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83368111827?pwd=dzBCUkxUR1NQbGpvcG42bDQ1aEIZdz09>  
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- ◆ 4 fenced paddocks all with electric fencing, the remainder is native bush.
- ◆ Accommodation is a 4-bedroom transportable home, large open plan living/dining area with slow combustion heater, and large outdoor undercover entertaining.
- ◆ Modern steel shed is council approved, has power to double bay, concrete floor lock up workshop, and the double bay open area has earthen floor
- ◆ Water is supplied a spring fed water bore with 20,000L + concrete water tank.
- ◆ Grid power connected with access to broad band internet.
- ◆ The land is zoned RU1 primary production

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**Michael Kidd**

Information has been provided by the sellers with other information such as area sizes, descriptions, services available etc. are obtained from various sources and cannot be guaranteed for accuracy. You must make your own enquiries to determine accuracy. Distances quoted from Google maps. Copyright Kidd Property Sales.

# Wild Dog and Foxes Targeted In Spring Campaign

Biosecurity experts have again joined forces with landholders in the Central Coast to launch a pest animal control campaign throughout spring.

Led by Greater Sydney Local Land Services, the program is set to target wild dogs and foxes threatening livestock, wildlife, and domestic pets in the area.

Project lead, Biosecurity Officer Gareth Cleal, said the program was going ahead in line with strict COVID safety protocols.

“While the risk of COVID in our region is very real, feral pests don’t listen to stay-at-home orders and we know wild dogs and foxes are more active during spring,” he said.

“That’s why Local Land Services has set up contactless bait collection to allow us to continue carrying out this critical work while still protecting ourselves and our customers.”

The program will target impacted properties in Dooralong, Jiliby, Lower Mangrove, Somersby, Wyong Creek, Tuggerah, Ravensdale, Mangrove Mountain, Kulnura, Ourimbah, Greengrove and Brush Creek.

Mr Cleal said while this year’s program was smaller due to COVID

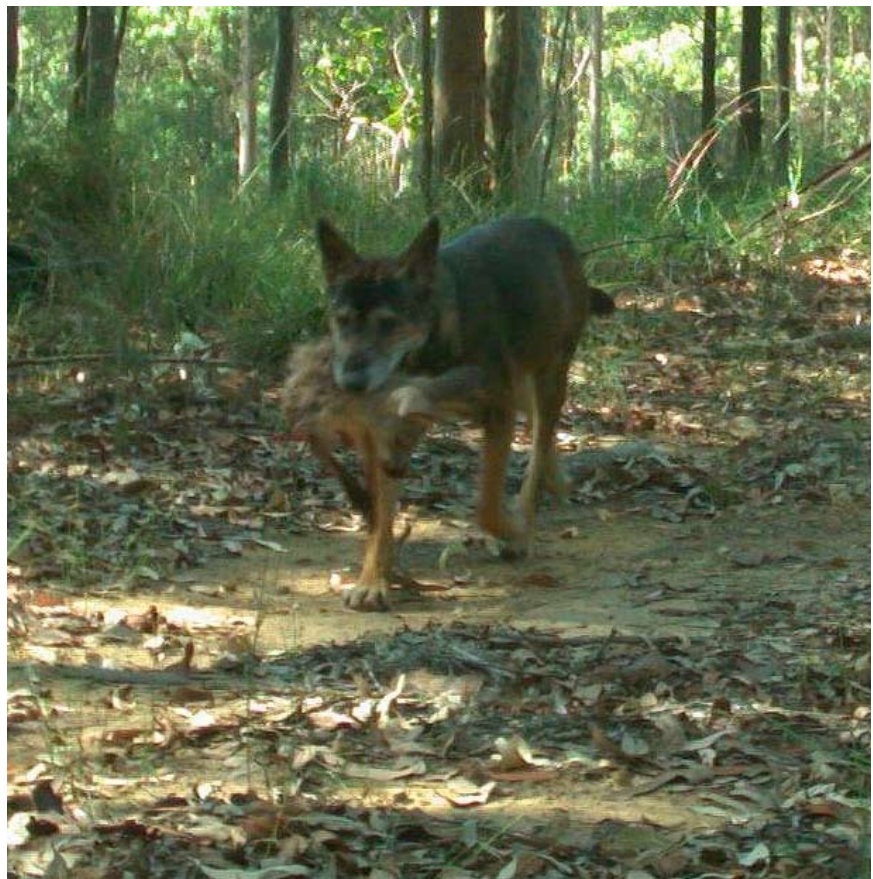
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Right: Dog with a 'roo  
Below: Fox with a joey



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Gareth Cleal and local farmer Ron Ward

safety protocols, landholder cooperation and involvement remained strong.

“The support of our landholders is critical to achieving the best outcomes and is crucial to the success of our program,” he said.

He said the program would see the use of 1080 baits and candid pest ejectors placed strategically on properties in line with strict government legislation.

“Only authorised, fully trained operators with current chemical qualifications are permitted to use 1080 or prepare baits which includes our officers and all involved landholders,” he said.

“Rules around use include a comprehensive risk assessment of target areas, extensive public notification processes, placing baits minimum distances from habitation, use of remote cameras to minimise presence of non-target animals, clear signposts as well as bait tethering and/or burying to further protect native wildlife and domestic pets.”

Mr Cleal said many people didn’t realise 1080 was a naturally occurring toxin found in more than 30 species of native Australian plants, it doesn’t damage the natural environment, as it’s water soluble and readily broken down by naturally occurring bacteria and fungi.



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“Australia’s native wildlife have evolved tolerance to 1080, unlike the introduced dog and fox. That is why it is considered the best environmental option control pest animals,” he said.

The program will begin on 22 September and run until 22 October 2021.

For more information on the use of 1080 visit [bit.ly/3BiuP92](http://bit.ly/3BiuP92).

Contact Greater Sydney Local Land Services on 1300 795 299 for more information.

Nikki McGrath

Greater Sydney Local Land Services

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# MAITLAND CATTLE SALE REPORT

## Maitland Liveweight Report - 13th September 2021

Today's sale saw a total yarding of 310 head comprising 250 trade cattle and 60 export cattle. There were some good heavy butcher vealers on offer. The market was strong considering the quality of the yarding.

- Best butcher Vealers, 5.00 to 565 c/kg;
- Restockers steers under 280 kgs 590 to 732c/kg;
- Restocker steers 280 plus kgs 480 to 695c/kg;
- Yearling steers 485 to 658c/kg;
- Restockers heifers under 280 kgs 515 to 664c/kg;
- Heifers 280 plus kgs 450 to 615c/kg; 2 and 4 tooth
- Grown steers 550plus kgs 370 to 450c/k;
- 6 & 8 tooth steers 340 to 365c/kg;
- Export heifers 370 to 415c/kg;
- Best cows 350 to 380c/kg;
- Score 2/3 cows 300 to 355c/kg;
- Bulls 270 to 300c/kg;

### Highlights

- Best butcher vealers returning \$2480 @490kgs,
- Light weight Angus steers 239kgs

- coming back at \$1750,
- 18 Brangus steers 4 and 6 Tooth to avg 400c/kg to return 2275c/kg.

## Maitland Store Cattle Sale Report - Saturday 18th September 2021

Total yarding for this sale of 710 head with 100% clearance. The market was firm to slightly stronger on the quality yarded.

### Highlights

- A/c R & S Carroll, Carabolla sold their run of Angus weaner steers topping out at \$1,875 to Glenliam Farm and the second pen at \$1,675; A/c J Douglas
- Sweet Pac Australia, Dungog sold a yard of Angus yearling steers for \$2,150 going to Mossvale.
- A/c B & M Duncan, Seaham sold a pen of Angus heifers and calves for \$3,800 to Alex Badior of Maitland;
- A/c Rodney Sansom, Woodberry sold his Angus weaners with the steers making \$1,650 to TTI Pastoral, Muswellbrook and the heifers for \$1,575 to A & J Turner, Mount Rivers.

### Steers

- Weaners: 300 head; 4mths - 12mths; \$1,000 to \$1,900; Average \$1,475; Trend firm to +20; Top \$1,900

- Yearlings: 50 head; 12mths - 18mths; \$1,680 to \$2,150; Average \$1,825; Trend firm; Top \$2,150

### Heifers

- Weaners: 170 head; 4mths - 12mths; \$1,000 to \$1,750; Average \$1,420; Trend firm to +15; Top \$1,750
- Unjoined: 30 head; 12mths - 18mths; \$1,700 to \$2,000; Average \$1,800; Top \$2,000
- PTIC: 20 head; 2yrs - 3yrs; \$2,400 to \$2,500; Average \$2,440; Trend firm; Top \$2,500

### Cows

- Cows & Calves: 120 head; 3yrs - 10yrs; \$2,300 to \$3,800; Average \$2,775; Trend firm; Top \$3,800
- PTIC: 40 head; 5yrs - 9yrs; \$1,800 to \$2,550; Average \$2,075; Trend firm; Top \$2,550
- Unjoined: 20 head; 5yrs - 8yrs; \$1,420 to \$2,250; Average \$1,650; Trend firm; Top \$2,250

## Maitland Liveweight Report - 20th September 2021

300 cattle yarded at today's sale. The majority of the yarding was light European weaners along with a small amount of Angus weaners. The overall market was firm to 5c/kg dearer across the board.



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- Yearling steers 540 to 650c/kg, avg 620c/kg;
- Best butcher vealers 520 to 560c/kg;
- Weaner heifers up to 200kgs 500 to 660c/kg;
- Weaners heifers 200-280kgs 510 to 620c/kg, avg 600c/kg;
- Yearling heifers 440 to 550c/kg, avg 505c/kg;
- Grown steers & bullocks up to 380c/kg;
- Cows 260 to 380c/kg, most 320 to 370c/kg;
- Bulls 270 to 310c/kg.

#### Highlights

- A very handy pen of Angus feeder steers on offer making 575c/kg, 364kgs sold for \$2,090;
- A/c Joey Pace, sold a pen of Charolais x steers for 650c/kg, 300kgs for \$1,990;
- A/c S & J Pickering, sold a good pen of Angus weaners 726c/kg, 250kgs for \$1,820;
- The best cows today weighed 595kgs, 370c/kg returning \$2,200.

Next Maitland Liveweight sale  
- Monday 27th September 2021 -  
Commencing at 9am

## Council simplifies the DA process to reduce turnaround times and attract investors

Central Coast Council processes more than 3,000 development applications each year with a value of more than \$1 billion.

Council Administrator, Rik Hart said that at the Council Meeting on 26 October 2020 Council resolved to investigate measures to assist in the fast tracking of DA assessments, and

Next Gloucester Store Sale -  
Thursday 30th September 2021 -  
Commencing 11am

Next Maitland Store Sale - Saturday  
16th October 2021 - Commencing 12  
noon

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.

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*Michael Easy & Rodney McDonald  
Bowe & Lidbury  
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at the Meeting on 3 February 2021 resolved to draft a process to make it happen.

“It is pleasing that the ‘Policy on the Assessment of Development Applications’ is now adopted following community feedback. It shows Council’s approach to development assessment functions,” Mr Hart said.

“The development and construction sectors are significant for our local economy. Construction and housebuilding is the third largest employment sector on the Central Coast (after health and retail) so it is vital that applications are submitted with the required information and we ensure assessments are undertaken in a consistent, equitable and timely manner.

“The high level of development is to accommodate the region’s growing population, and with well-defined and consistent practices for the assessment of applications Council will assist in more streamlined and responsive development assessment processes and show that the Central Coast is an area worth investing in.”

*Central Coast Council*



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### 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 buckettyrfs@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)
Yarralong 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: yarralongrfs@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		1st Thurs of the Month, 8pm, Mangrove Mtn Hall. Danny Willmott 0407275653
Mangrove Emergency Planning Committee		Third Wednesday bi-monthly, Mangrove Hall. Contact: mepcinc@gmail.com
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

### SPIRITUAL

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 Yarralong		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)

## Emergency Ready Week 20-27 September

Red Cross Emergency Services - Hunter has prepared "a support guide for our volunteers, partners and community"

This guide has been adapted from the Companion Guide that has been developed and produced by Nicola Fisher, Red Cross, Project Recovery Officer, Northern NSW. We thank Nicola for not only sharing this wonderful resource but also for the time, dedication and thoughtfulness that has gone into its creation.

### Preparing your mind

Face it, emergencies are scary and stressful. Most people under a lot of stress don't think as clearly as usual, affecting decisions and reactions. So the first step to help you cope with your responses and those of others is to be able to anticipate, identify and manage beforehand how you and your family are likely to feel, think and respond in an emergency.

### Top Tips to help prepare for the bushfire season

Just as the fire authorities warn us in the lead up to bushfire season to prepare our homes and our bushfire plans in order to reduce the physical risks from fires, now is the time to prepare ourselves psychologically so that we can help minimise adverse effects on our wellbeing.

1. Nurture your relationships with family and friends.

We know that social support helps us cope with stressful or traumatic life events. Strong and dependable relationships help us get through the ups and downs of life, so spend time with the people you care about.

2. Strengthen community relationships.

Community activities are important in bringing people together and cementing relationships. Get involved in, or help organise, an event in your community, like a sports game, barbecue, trivia night or market.

3. Look after yourself.

Get plenty of rest, eat a healthy, balanced diet, and exercise regularly. Learn a simple relaxation strategy such as meditation or controlled breathing and make it part of your daily routine. Limit how much media you take in about bushfires.

4. Minimise other stressful life events.

It's important to reduce the stress

in your life wherever possible to shore up your mental wellbeing. Now is probably not the best time to be making major life changes, or taking on new challenges.

To download their digital Bushfire Toolkit with advice, information and tools for people and communities recovering from bushfire trauma and preparing for the new bushfire season visit <https://go.phoenixaustralia.org/bushfire-toolkit>

#### 4 Simple Steps

Emergencies can strike at anytime, anywhere and without warning. The good news is, it's easy to protect yourself, the people you love and the things you value most.

Four simple steps can make you better prepared for any emergency:

**GET IN THE KNOW:** about your risks, where to get information, and how to manage stress

**GET CONNECTED:** by identifying emergency contacts, meeting places, and people who can help  
**GET ORGANISED:** with important documents, medical information, insurance and pet plans

**GET PACKING:** with a list to help you survive and personal items that are important to you

Red Cross has a range of resources to help you prepare, including a Get Prepared app, survival kit, emergency contacts list, keepsake list, resources to help manage stress and more.

Download the Get Prepared app to locate your local emergency services contacts and where to find information, identify a safe meeting place for you and loved ones and create checklists of what to do and what to pack. It's available on iOS, Android and [redcross.org.au/prepare](http://redcross.org.au/prepare).

For more information and resources and to see the full guide go to [redcross.org.au/prepare](http://redcross.org.au/prepare).



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## 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 <a href="mailto:revcrc@hotmail.com">revcrc@hotmail.com</a>
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
<b>YOUTH</b>	
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: <a href="mailto:becgilmour@gmail.com">becgilmour@gmail.com</a>
<b>HISTORICAL</b>	
Brisbane Waters Historical Society	25-27 Henry Kendall St., West Gosford, Ph: 4325 2270. <a href="http://www.henrykendallcottage.org.au">www.henrykendallcottage.org.au</a>
Dharug & Lower Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc.	Last Sat of month. All welcome, contact Jan Kofron 0405321478 <a href="mailto:jankofron@optusnet.com.au">jankofron@optusnet.com.au</a>
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 <a href="mailto:pbaboriginalhistory@gmail.com">pbaboriginalhistory@gmail.com</a>
Wyong District Museum & Historical Society	Open Sun to Thurs. 10am-2pm, other times by appt. Contact 43521886 email <a href="mailto:info@alisonhomestead.com.au">info@alisonhomestead.com.au</a> . website: <a href="http://www.alisonhomestead.com.au">www.alisonhomestead.com.au</a>
<b>ACTIVITY/HOBBY</b>	
Central Coast GNU/Linux Users Group	<a href="http://www.cclug.org.au">www.cclug.org.au</a> - 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
<b>HALL BOOKINGS</b>	
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

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

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## Are you a Friend of COSS?

Traditionally in the southern areas of the Central Coast – the former Gosford City Council Local Government Area – September was the time when our Council celebrated our unique Coastal Open Space System (COSS).

We believe COSS remains a precious natural asset for the whole of the Central Coast and we continue to encourage Central Coast Council and the State Government to celebrate the wonder of COSS by protecting the current COSS lands and expanding the scheme.

We were, of course, hoping to celebrate COSS this September with events at some of the magnificent locations that make up the COSS but COVID restrictions prevent us from

doing so.

We are, however, busy planning COVID-safe ways to celebrate COSS this September so please keep a close eye on our website and facebook page to make sure you don't miss your invitation.

It is also free to join Friends of COSS. Becoming a Friend of COSS means you will be the first to know about COSS events and news

The Friends of COSS group aims to inform and engage our community to enjoy, protect and conserve these important natural areas, now and into the future.

We will be promoting events and activities such as:

- Bushwalks and other organised activities in COSS reserves
- Gosford Council's COSS Family Nature Club
- Bush regeneration activities in COSS lands
- Promoting research activities such as those currently undertaken by Gosford Council
- Working with neighbours of COSS lands to create wildlife friendly landscapes
- Increased community involvement in implementing the COSS strategy

*The Community Environment Network is an alliance of community and environment groups from Gosford, Wyong and Lake Macquarie.*  
[www.cen.org.au](http://www.cen.org.au)

### POSITIONS AVAILABLE

**CLEANER WANTED** - Located at Peats Ridge we require a professional cleaner to clean our office and lunchroom weekly. The clean takes about 3 hrs.

Please contact Craig Bryson of Sprint Horticulture on 0407 777 468.

**JUNIORS WANTED** – The Hub of Mangrove Mtn is looking for a few 15 yrs old Juniors for after school &/or wk'end work to wash dishes, clean, mop & stock shelves. Must be reliable, enthusiastic, fast, hard-working. You don't need experience, just enthusiasm, a desire to learn & work hard to gain valuable experience. Pls contact Shane for details - 0417 436 528.

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