

COMMUNITY NEWS

No. 889 Ph: 4374 1039 Mo: 0412 669 649 Email: enquiries@cnews1.com.au Web: cnews1.com.au 3rd December 2021

Union Church Update

26th November 2021

Earlier this evening we held a Public Information Meeting at the Mangrove Mountain Community Hall. The weather was not the best for people to venture out, but we still mustered 22 locals. Thank you all who were there, it is a great encouragement to our efforts.

We recapped on events to date, explained our strategies, and discussed fund raising ideas to support our actions to save the Union Church. Top of the list is still “hands in pockets”, but there was good interest in holding a “Ball in the Hall for the Church on the Hill” early in 2022. A “Go Fund Me” campaign was suggested, but we lack the expertise for this (is there a volunteer out there willing to help?).

Having engaged a Senior Counsel, we anticipate receiving his advice in the next week. We expect this advice to provide firm guidance for our strategies to Save the Union Church.

The Liquidator is still yet to set a date for a second meeting. He informs us that he is delayed while seeking his own legal advice as to the relevance of the Trust Deed and its terms. We are hopeful that the advice he receives

will accord with ours and that common sense will prevail.

Last Monday we started an Adult Christian Discussion Group with six bods attending. Breezy conditions, yet the sun did shine upon us towards the end. Next meeting is Monday 6th December from 5pm to 6.30pm. BYO chair and, if you want, a non-alcoholic refreshment.

Our committee is also seeking to submit to the Liquidator, requests for outdoor uses of the Union Church property that can be done within the current restrictions of Covid-19 (and the changed hall locks). Maybe Chair Pilates under the gazebo!

We welcome your ideas and/or offers of support. Otherwise, you can help in the following ways: -

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. Join the Mangrove Mountain Christian Group. Joining fee is \$1 and annual fees are \$2. Please contact our Secretary by email to mmcgsec1@gmail.com for an application form.

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 Please be civil and courteous to the Liquidator. Please highlight

any personal links 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. 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 mmcgsec1@gmail.com or post to MMCG c/-6 Waratah Road, Mangrove Mountain NSW 2250.

Our aim:- “Working together to keep the Union Church safe in our community, for those who follow, and as intended by those who have gone before”

*Robert Meggs, President MMCG Inc
(tel – 4376 1451)*

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

NOTICE

Mangrove Mountain & Districts Country Fair AGM

To be held at 7:30pm on Thursday December 9th at The Hub of Mangrove Mountain.

We would love to see as many of you as possible, as it will be our first face-to-face meeting in many months. We will also be reflecting on the year, announcing which community group grants will be fulfilled and voting in our committee.

*Crystal Russom, Secretary
Mangrove Mountain
& Districts Country Fair
www.mangrovemountaincountryfair.org.au*

WATERWATCH INFORMATION AND TRAINING SESSION- MANGROVE MOUNTAIN



When: Tuesday 14th December
10am-1pm

Where: Address will be supplied
after registering for this event.



- Come along to a free Waterwatch training workshop and learn about water quality monitoring in your local creek.
- Participants will be trained how to use a Waterwatch kit to test for temperature, pH, electrical conductivity, turbidity, dissolved oxygen and available phosphate whilst learning about why they are important to test for and what to do with your data, so it contributes to the bigger picture.
- It will be a great opportunity to chat with like-minded members of the community.

Bookings are essential for catering purposes. Please let me know of any dietary requirements email: waterwatch@cen.org.au or phone 43 494757

STOP !

Next issue Published
17th December 2021

**** DEADLINE ****

**** 10th December '21 ****

Send adverts & copy by
email, website or post.
Email, website, FB or
phone for enquiries

Have your say on services and rates

Council is inviting ratepayers and residents to have their say about maintaining current service levels and rates in an online survey.

Council Administrator Rik Hart said Council had done everything it can behind the scenes to help Council's financial situation and now it was up to the community.

"Our financial recovery is on track, but we cannot become complacent about maintaining our long term stable financial position" Mr Hart said.

"I am proposing to make an application to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) to maintain the current level of rates for a further seven years, consistent with what we asked for earlier this year.

This will allow us to maintain current service levels, continue to find more service efficiencies and pay back loans from surpluses that we must generate according to our agreement with banks.

"Council delivers a huge variety of services for our community including patrolling beaches; maintaining public wharves, jetties, boat ramps and ocean baths; fixing suburban traffic issues, filling potholes, repairing road shoulders and removing debris from shared pathways; maintaining town centre amenity with cleaning

and security; cleaning public toilet blocks; care and maintenance of parks, reserves and roadside vegetation; environmental programs like wrack collection in Tuggerah Lakes, water quality monitoring, weed spraying, declared pest management and bush regeneration; operating the Central Coast Stadium, holiday parks and cemeteries; supporting sporting and community associations with grants; and delivering libraries, childcare centres, recreation centres, theatres, galleries, public pools; to name a few services."

"I encourage the community to read the information materials, keep an open mind and tell us what services you value that make the Central Coast a great place to live." Mr Hart said.

Online survey: Go to yourvoiceourcoast.com/servicesandrates

NOTES:

In May 2021 the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) approved a temporary rate increase of 13% (plus the 2% rate peg) which is retained in the rate base for three years and removed from the rate base at the end of the 2023-24 rating year for the Central Coast Local Government Area.

This temporary one-off increase

MANGROVE HALL FUNDRAISER

A big thank you to Colourwise and Andreasens Green Nurseries for their kind plant donations and to those members of the community who donated saleable goods.

A big thank you also to those members of the Mangrove Mountain & Districts Community Group who volunteered their time and efforts to the day.

Over \$3,000 was raised for the Hall.

Ryan Howard

will provide \$22.9M in additional income for the 2021-22 financial year and is one of a number of measures being implemented to ensure Council remains financially sustainable.

In September 2021 Council notified the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) of its intention to apply to maintain the temporary Special Variation (SV) implemented in the 2021/22 financial year beyond its expiry in June 2024 for a further seven years.

Council is seeking community feedback about the proposal before Council determines in early 2022 whether or not to formally apply to IPART for a Special Variation.

Central Coast Council
Media Release

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STARLINK (BETA) HAS ARRIVED

Last week I received my STARLINK DISH and stuck it out in the paddock to test.

It takes a few minutes to set up but its really easy. Just download the APP and follow the simple instructions. Give it some time to set itself up, like 10 minutes or so.

Permanent installation is not so easy though with the cable fixed at one end and a big clunky connector to get through walls etc. There is also no pole adapter but luckily I have machines and made a few adapters to suit with more on the way.

So mine is now on the roof with speeds in the recent storm of over 160mbps and on a nice day exceeding 290mbps direct and around 100 through my mesh network.

I have more pole mounts on order as well as mesh networks to distribute the WiFi signals throughout your home or business.

If you would like help please call or text me on 0407 366 444 and leave a message. I'm really busy but I'll get back to you.

*Warren Simmons
Cloud Security*



FUNDRAISING RAFFLE WINNERS

We did it! Thanks to your overwhelming support and generosity for another year of online fundraising - we've raised a MASSIVE \$3,198 for our local community groups! The raffle has been automatically randomly drawn via RallyUp.com, and our winners have been emailed!

Congrats to our lucky winners:

- Foodie Prize Pack #1 - Fiona McDonald
- Foodie Prize Pack #2 - Beverley Pring
- Spring Clean Prize Pack #1 - Stuart Weatherall
- Spring Clean Prize Pack #2 - Alyce Chin
- Local Favs Prize Pack #1 - Lorraine Hawdon
- Local Favs Prize Pack #2 - Laura Podlich
- Local Favs Prize Pack #3 - Anita Tesoriero

SHAME!

Yet again, a well respected long time Mountain family has been recently unable to use the Union Church for the purpose of holding a funeral for their much loved elder family member.

Where is the compassion and respect for these of the Mountain Community who had a long history and supported the Little White Church?

Shame to those who brought this on, God knows what you have done.

Ross Howard

The committee would like to sincerely thank every business who generously donated a prize & every single person that kindly bought entries into our raffle.

It's been a tough couple of years for our community not being able to hold our Country Fair, and we're so grateful for your support again this year - here's to finally being able to hold a bigger, better Country Fair in Oct 2022!

*Crystal Russom, Secretary
Mangrove Mountain
& Districts Country Fair*

www.mangrovemountaincountryfair.org.au



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Ricky Li

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Wisemans Ferry Mens Shed

The concept of our own walking/ exercise track was first suggested in 2017 at a Christmas Party held at the Shed. It was pointed out that there was nowhere to physically work-out or to perform increased heart-rate exercise in a safe and controlled area, especially for the elderly. Yes, we perform our household chores and garden maintenance, but nothing replaces organised exercise rituals to maintain good health.

The dream of a walking track is nearing reality and our Board is in discussion with Hornsby Shire and Hills Shire Councillors and engineers to discuss designing and funding this much-needed asset.

Our Shed now looks more clean and organised after many weeks of clean-up after the devastating flood in March this year. Many tools have been purchased or donated and the space better utilised with re-designed work-stations.

As such we have a surplus of tools and machinery which we are going to sell at a market stall in Feb/ March 2022. All tools will be discounted for a quick sale to give us more space. All funds raised will allow us to continue our Community work and pay our bills, as we are self-funded. You can call Adrian Acheson on 0448833781 to get an early preview of tools available.

Things are slowly going back to normal, but we require more members. Come on down and meet the gang, have a cuppa tea/coffee. We are located behind the Bowling Club and we operate on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

Warren Lumley



MY COMMUNITY PROJECT
Made possible by the NSW Generations Fund

WISEMANS FERRY COMMUNITY WALKING TRACK



Distance - L.L. as measured by Adrian Acheson

- Mens Shed
- Workout Station
- Bench
- Frisbee Golf

Wisemans Ferry Men's Shed have designed a project to decrease resident social isolation and promote interaction with other members of the community by encouraging fitness and enjoyment of the local scenic environment for all ages.

Community residents can have a simple free area to meet, communicate, exercise and enjoy companionship contributing to better mental health.

What are we asking?

Please help by **VOTING NOW!** We have applied for a grant to fund our initiative with the NSW Government through 'My project grants'. We have made it through to the initial round of selection and now we need help to gain funding.

To vote for our project all you need is:

1. Medicare card
2. To live in the 'Hawkesbury' Electorate, NSW

To vote please visit a NSW service Centre or mycommunityproject.service.nsw.gov.au

If you need assistance with voting:
Drop into the **Men's Shed** (Wisemans Ferry) on **Tuesday** or **Saturday** for computer access. Located behind bowling club.

- 1.5km Cement Walking Track
- 6 Workout Stations
- Frisbee Golf
- Dog Walking Area





Voting Closes 15th August

We need YOUR vote to get grant approval. The project with the most votes get approved.

Another community project by the Men's Shed for Wisemans Ferry



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UPCOMING CATTLE AUCTIONS

Maitland Regional Saleyards

- Weekly Monday Liveweight Cattle Sales 9am, followed by Calves, Pigs & Sheep from 12 noon
- Store Cattle Sale December 18th from 12 noon

Gloucester Saleyards

- Fortnightly Thursday Store Cattle Sales 11am December 9th

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

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Performances Resume at the Laycock Street Theatre

Joey Fimmano Presents 'The Magic of Christmas' with Special Guests - Morning Melodies - Dec 8th.



Join popular entertainer and multi award winner Joey Fimmano and very special guests for a fun filled, Magical Christmas Spectacular. Singing some of your Christmas favourites and singalongs including a touch of Musical Theatre and Opera. Including Joey's wonderful piano playing, and exciting instrumentals, this is a show not to be missed, joining Joey on stage is his great band, and very own special guests.

Show times: Wed 8 Dec - 11:00 am
All Tickets \$20.00

Book now (<https://CCCLAYCOCK.sales.ticketsearch.com/sales/salesevent/7157>)

My Life - The Story & Songs of Billy Joel - Feb 5th, 2022

'My Life' chronologically shares the journey of a remarkable career - the highs, the lows, private and public life, family and relationships, but most importantly, the music - through live performance, audio-visual footage and narration.

More than just a Piano Man, Billy Joel is a living legend of the music industry with a catalogue of hit songs spanning more than 50 years.

Adult Christian Discussion Group

Next meeting is Monday 6th December from 5pm to 6.30pm.

Initially, we will meet on 2nd & 4th Mondays. The purpose of the group is to promote the presence of a Christian Faith in our local area and through a variety of activities.

BYO chair and, if you want, a non-alcoholic refreshment.

Enquiries - Robert Meggs 0429 443 310 for the Mangrove Mountain Christian Group.

The singer songwriter not only has fascinating stories behind his music, but also compelling stories behind the man himself.

The live band consists of the finest musicians around, plus state of the art sound and lighting, in a powerful show that will mesmerise audiences with all the Billy Joel hits such as Piano Man, New York State Of Mind, Honesty, Uptown Girl, It's Still Rock'n'roll To



Me, We Didn't Start The Fire", River Of Dreams, plus many more. Allow us to take you right into the world of Billy Joel in a show not to be missed!!!

Performances - Saturday 5 February 2022 - 4pm & 7.30pm

Duration - 2 hour performance including Interval

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Tocal Australian Stock Horse Sale continues a proud tradition

This year's Annual Tocal Australian Stock Horse Sale was held on the 6th of November 2021, and all the effort of staff and students was on show. The online sale, facilitated through Hunter Valley agents Bowe & Lidbury, saw 12 handpicked lots up for sale. The overall result exceeded the 2020 result with returns grossing over \$215,000.

The online only sale commencing at 4pm Saturday 6th November, and closing 24hrs later, the top priced horse for the day went to lot 4, "Tocal Sunset", a 3yo Gelding which hit \$38,900. The 3-year-old gelding had bids from twelve different users with a total of 340 bids. Over the 12 lots offered, the average Gelding price hit \$18,425/head, while the Mare offerings averaged \$17,300/head.

AuctionPlus reported that across the sale, the online catalogue views and active bidders were up on last year. Catalogue views for the auction increased 8% on last year's sale, falling just shy of 7,000 views, while the numbers of online bids jumped from 284 in 2020, to 1,538 in 2021. With the sharp rise in bids placed, the number of active bidders increased from 54, to 66, with a total of 1,225

logins throughout the sale. The results were a strong endorsement of Tocal's breeding and training program.

Tocal College Acting Principal Ms Julie White said "the sale keeps going from strength to strength. She paid

tribute to staff members Luke Collard, Chantelle Vella and Simone Harvey who lead the horse course program and were the reason for the successful sale outcome. Many others provided specialist help during the year, most notably Lyn Walsh, Suhas Ranadive and Fiona Lawrence.

Tocal Centre Manager Robert Rein said: "this outstanding result is the culmination of over twelve months



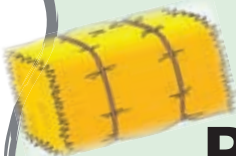
Top Priced Gelding Tocal Sunset

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WARNING: MOTORISTS URGED TO DRIVE WITH EXTRA CARE

With the continuing rain and wet road conditions there have recently been a spate of vehicle accidents on the roads in the district.

In particular, certain sections of George Downes drive as well as Wisemans Ferry Road have seen some potentially disastrous incidents

of hard work and commitment by students, horse course staff plus all who devote hours, effort and passion to our Australian Stock Horse section".

The Tocal Australian Stock Horse sale is an Annual event at Tocal and will remain one of the most important parts of the Horse Course calendar. The sale is an opportunity for students to experience preparing horse for sale in a big event and is an invaluable experience setting them up for a career in agriculture.

Tocal College are now preparing for and looking forward to next sale in November 2021 and thank industry for their support.

Mr Robert Rein

*Centre Manager, Tocal College
NSW Department of Primary Industries*

but drivers and passengers have been lucky to have avoided critical injury.

Local RFS crews, ambulance and police have been in attendance and in some cases persons had to be freed from badly damaged vehicles.

In one incident there was a happy ending of sorts. A male accompanied by two friends was on his way to the Hunter to participate in some bushwalking and hiking before going overseas in a couple of weeks to get married.



Not the best way to score a hole-in-one

After a head-on collision at Kulnura, the vehicle was a near write-off and whilst emergency crews attended the scene, the groom-to-be phoned his fiancé who was able to drive up from Sydney to take the trio home.



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COUNTRY FAIR CONTESTS

Good natured competitiveness has livened up many a Fair day, especially among those of us who live here. The Best Decorated Stall (and sellers) was hotly contended. Locals tried to match baby photos to well known adults in the area, and to outdo the other teams at tug-o-war. One unusual competition was The Ugly Man Contest. To win this you did not need luck or skill, just generous good friends who bought votes for you. I believe Reg was the last one who scored the most votes this way.

Fair patrons tried to guess the weight of bulls and pigs – sometimes they were even allowed to hold them first! We asked visitors to guess how many fruit in a bin or lollies in a jar, with winners getting the lollies (but not the fruit).

Youngsters tried to win at hoopla, hula hooping, laughing clowns and bat the rat. Those who wanted a bit more excitement tried to see who could stay

longest on the mechanical bucking bull. Many families were attracted to the various challenging activities of Mick's Country Decathlon. Top axemen vied for prizes in the woodchop, even sawing and tree lopping too at amazing speed. The Mountain Mayhem Billy Cart Derby was a great hit, with racers and spectators, thanks to Steve and his family for kicking it off.

All these events have been triumphs of skill, creativity, daring, design and resourcefulness from us locals. The Fair will enjoy more triumphs in the future.

Sue Douglas



BIRTHRIGHTS by David Williamson

Wyong Drama Group's February 2022 Production

David Williamson (Don's Party, The Removalists, The Club and Travelling North), authored in 2003, Birthrights, "a bittersweet play about motherhood" but other thought-provoking issues also arise, including: IVF; politics;

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family relationships; intellectual property; and moral dilemmas.

When Helen (Francesca Radice) discovers she is unable to have children, her career-driven sister Claudia (Rebecca Sharples) offers to be the surrogate mother in an act of supreme generosity.

Spanning from 1983 to 2001, the female characters are central as it explores uniquely female experience. However, the sisters' very different partners Mark (James Chambers) and Martin (James Hunter) feature significantly, often being the objects of irony and humour. Kelly (Jacinta-Rose Burley), 'their' daughter, proves to be a challenging child whilst Margaret (Sally Bartley) the feisty mother of the sisters, attempts to smooth the waters.

Directed by Julie Bailey, Birthrights, an engaging play with strong characters promises a thoroughly absorbing and entertaining theatre experience.

Note: Adult themes and occasional coarse language

Show times:

- February 18, 19, 24, 25, 26 at 7.30 pm
- February 19, 20, 23, 26 at 2 pm

Venue: The Red Tree Theatre, 160-162 Pacific Highway, Tuggerah Straight (Look for the sign after BCF heading north)



Bookings: premier.ticketek.com.au
or call 1300665915
Group Bookings call 1300364001
Tickets from \$25

Wyong Drama Group website:
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EVENT NOTIFICATION

**RED HOT SUMMER CONCERT
MT PENANG PARKLANDS, KARIONG
SUNDAY 23RD JANUARY 2022**

The Red Hot Summer Concert featuring Jimmy Barnes and special guests will be held at Mt Penang Parklands, Kariong on Sunday 23rd January 2022.

This licensed event will run from 12.30 pm to 9.30 p.m. and will involve amplified music. Gates will open at 12.30 pm, sound checks will occur prior to these times during the day and a noise abatement plan will be implemented during the event.

The event will be enclosed, and will be full patrolled by security and the NSW Police. Traffic restrictions will apply at all entry points to the event space.

If you have any queries with relation to the event, please contact Deb Alexander on 0414857738 or visit www.redhotsummertour.com.au



RESCHEDULED
NEW DATE ANNOUNCED

Grand Opening

Sunday 27th February 2022, 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.



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mountainchildren@bigpond.com

Expressions of Interest

Bushfire Recovery Landcare Green teams- tackling weeds and restoring habitat together.

Do you live on the Central Coast on a semi-rural property and have 0.5ha or more of native bushland? Do you want to assist in conserving and restoring habitat connectivity after the

last devastating bushfires?

Are you interested in forming a 'Green team' Landcare group in your area with other like-minded locals to tackle weeds together on each other's properties and plant local species of flora?

Expressions of interest needed: Get in touch with us to find out what support we can offer or to find a Green team near you.

Once your Green team is established, we can provide ongoing support including: bush regenerator to guide the group at each working bee session;

Green team Landcare diary; help with planning and managing the weeds in your bushland.

This is a great opportunity to connect with your neighbours and build land management knowledge and skills.

For more information contact: Ben Davis-MacAndrew, Project Officer, P: 0422709620 or E: ben.macandrew@cen.org.au

This Project, Post Bushfire Landcare Green teams, is supported by Landcare NSW.

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Price: Fees apply. Free park entry.

When: For tour dates and times contact Wollombi Aboriginal Cultural Experiences and Consultancy.

Where: Yengo National Park in Sydney and surrounds

Operated by: Wollombi Aboriginal Cultural Experiences and Consultancy.

Bouddi coastal walk

Located near Gosford, Bouddi coastal walk is known for its beaches, boardwalk and birdlife. Go whale watching, picnic or swim at Maitland Bay, or simply absorb the ocean views.

Price: Park entry fees apply.

Distance: 8.5km one-way

Time: 3hrs 30min - 4hrs 30min

Grade: Grade 3

Where: Bouddi National Park in Sydney and surrounds



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Palm Grove Nature Reserve features a section of Great North walk, a well-known hiking track that runs from Newcastle to Sydney.

Distance: 2.8km one-way

Time: 1hr 30min - 2hrs 30min

Grade: Grade 3

Where: Palm Grove Nature Reserve in Sydney and surrounds

mountain bike ride, head to Dubbo Gully loop in Dharug National Park, where you'll find steep ascents and some amazing history.

Distance: 18km loop

Time: 3-7 hr

Where: Dharug National Park in Sydney and surrounds. Entry at the end of Waratah Rd, Mangrove Mountain

For more information go to:

<https://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/things-to-do>

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ARTS NEWS

The Wollombi Valley Arts Council encourages and fosters all kinds of artistic and cultural expression within the Wollombi Valley in order to support and promote artists and our community.

Please visit our website www.wollombi.org

'FEMME FANTASTIC'

An exhibition by Katrina Rose and Jackie Mare. 4 - 19 December.

Open DAILY 10am - 4pm

JACKIE MARE



Jacky Mare is a local and Sydney artist who has been painting and exhibiting in Sydney and overseas for many years. Her paintings are a celebration of women in the Hunter

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Valley. Jackie is a figurative artist and a colourist, painting in bold colours with imaginative depictions of their

lives. Living life and indulging in the amazing produce of the region, these ladies are members of 'The Polkolbin Ladies Wining, Dining, and Sporting Club.'

The Old Fireshed Gallery and the Little Yengo Gallery are both Covidsafeenvironments, with proof of double vaccination required before entry, as per NSW Health regulations.

Wollombi Valley Arts Council Inc
Email: artscouncil@wollombi.org



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- ◆ The land is zoned RU1 primary production, water is supplied a spring fed water bore with 20,000L + concrete water tank.
- ◆ The property has commutable access to Upper North Shore Sydney private schools and is situated close to the M1 motorway, and just under 55 mins to Wahroonga and the NorthConnex motorway tunnel to M2/M7.

Please contact Michael Kidd on 0439 761 440 for more information on this sale or **NO COST** Market Appraisal, and details on our **NO SALE - NO CHARGE** marketing campaign.

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This information is obtained from various sources and cannot be guaranteed. You must make your own enquiries as to its accuracy.

Mountain community children's centre Inc.

Mountain Community Children's Centre News

Grand Opening Postponed until
Sunday 27th February 2022

Our Grand Opening is Scheduled for
Sunday 27th February 2022. This is an
invitation to the whole community to
come and view our new facilities.

Enrolments for 2022

We now have limited vacancies for
2022. Please feel free to give us a call
if you would like more information
for enrolment in January 2022 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.

Joey's Room Adventures

Our youngest children at the centre



Our Joey's Room friends exploring the sensory mats

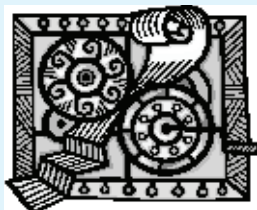
(The Joeys – children aged 0-2½ years)
have been terribly busy exploring their
environment. They have been on walks
around the environment to investigate
their surroundings including finding
snails and slugs. We have been getting

out in the yard in between the rain to
find puddles or crawl through the wet
grass. They love digging in the dirt
and sand and sharing the trucks.

Christmas Performance

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Applications open for innovative youth program

Central Coast Council is inviting aspiring youth leaders to become members of the 'Youth for Youth' (or Y4Y) action team and make a difference to the lives of young people across the Coast.

Applications are now open for membership in the 2022 team – a group of 12 young people, aged 14-24, who will make youth-led initiatives and ideas happen in our community.

Council's Director Community and Recreation Services, Julie Vaughan said the program engages young people, empowering them to take

action, be advocates for their peers and provide advice on Council initiatives from a young person's perspective.

"Council is committed to working with young people across the Central Coast to ensure they feel respected, included and valued as part of our community," Ms Vaughan said.

"Y4Y represents a fantastic opportunity for young people to have their voice heard and make a difference. We are looking for members who are keen to be actively involved in enhancing the Coast as a great place for young people to live

We will be hosting a Christmas performance including stories, music and dance presented by Em's Entertainment at 11.30am on Wednesday 8th December. If you have a child under the age of 5 you are invited to join us. Just give the centre a call to let us know you will be attending. All welcome!

Centre Closure for Holidays

The centre will be closed from Monday 20th December to Tuesday 11th January while our Educators

have a well-deserved rest after a challenging year.

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

work and play."

Council Administrator Rik Hart said the program is a great opportunity for applicants to develop their leadership and decision-making skills and effectively contribute to the community.

"Young people will be supported to develop their leadership skills, and drive initiatives and ideas that will benefit their peers across the region," Mr Hart said.

As part of the Y4Y team, members will meet regularly and work on a range of initiatives and development opportunities – from planning an annual youth forum to organising local youth-focussed events, attending a leadership camp, participating in leadership and skills-development programs and more.

Successful applicants will be invited to attend a welcome lunch in January, take part in a leadership camp in February 2022 and will play a part in Youth Week in April 2022.

Applications for the Y4Y program are open now and close 5pm 7 January 2022, with successful applicants announced mid-January.

For further information and to apply, visit centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/y4y

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MAITLAND CATTLE SALE REPORT

Maitland Liveweight Sale Report – 22nd November 2021

265 cattle yarded. Number easier this week due to the recent rain throughout the Hunter. Both export & trade/vealer market remained firm.

- Restocker steers up to 280kgs 570 to 835c/kg, avg 736c/kg;
- Restocker steers 280-330kgs 545 to 740c/kg for all breeds;
- Restocker steers +330kgs 490 to 680c/kg;
- Restocker heifers up to 280kgs 530 to 788c/kg, avg 668c/kg;
- Restocker heifers +280kgs 480 to 618c/kg;
- Butcher vealers 540 to 595c/kg;
- No export heifers or steers to quote;
- Cows 300 to 380c/kg;
- Bulls 324 to 332c/kg.

Maitland Store Cattle Sale Report – 20th November 2021

Total yarding of 900 head of cattle. Quality and condition was very good with some really good lines of Angus weaners. There was no young cows & calves or PTIC to quote. Great buying attendance from the local area, Upper Hunter, Bathurst and Central Coast regions.

Steers:

- Weaners: 300 head; 5mths – 11mths; \$1,200 to \$2,200; Avg \$1,900; Trend +\$120; Top \$2,200
- Yearlings: 80 head; 12mths – 22mths; \$2,000 to \$2,550; Avg \$2,225; Trend +\$70; Top \$2,550
- Grown: 80 head; 2yrs – 3yrs; \$2,000 to \$2,550; Avg \$2,400; Trend +\$100; Top \$2,550

Heifers:

- Weaners: 250 head; 5mths – 18mths; \$1,100 to \$3,500; Avg \$1,686; Trend +\$80; Top \$3,500 – Record price at Maitland Saleyards!

Cows:

- Cows & Calves: 100 head; 2yrs – 12yrs; \$2,600 to \$3,900; Avg \$3,000; Trend +\$100; Top \$3,900 – Very strong for yarding of cows & calves
- PTIC: 60 head; 4yrs – 12yrs; \$2,400 to \$2,800; Avg \$2,650; Trend +\$100; Top \$2,800
- Unjoined: 40 head; 5yrs – 10yrs; \$1,750 to \$2,700; Avg \$1,750; Trend +\$50; Top \$2,700

Highlights: A/c Portree Park sold Angus PTIC cows at \$2,800 to John Unicomb, Westbrook; A/c Matt Hobday, Somerset Angus Peats Ridge, sold 9 magnificent Angus heifers, 16mths, unjoined for \$3,500 which was a NEW MAITLAND SALEYARDS RECORD to Sam Vumbaca, Peats Ridge; A/c R & G Harris, Mulbrae Chads Creek, sold a tremendous run of 80 Angus mixed sex weaners with the steers topped at \$2,200 and the heifers topped at \$2,250.

Liveweight Sale Report – 15th November 2021

280 cattle yarded today with some good quality butcher vealers, Angus weaners and Euro yearlings on offer. Overall the market was firm to 5 or 10c/kg better in places.

- Butcher vealers 510 to 565c/kg;
- Steers under 200kgs 500 to 885c/kg;
- Steers 200-280kgs 600 to 848c/kg, avg 750c/kg;
- Steers 280-330kgs 450 to 780c/kg;
- Yearling steers 420 to 706c/kg;
- Weaner heifers up to 280kgs 515 to 760c/kg, avg 680c/kg;
- Heifers 280-330kgs 500 to 640c/kg, avg 610c/kg;
- Yearling heifers 400 to 560c/kg, avg 520c/kg;
- Grown heifers 340c/kg;
- Cows 285 to 386c/kg, avg 360c/kg;
- Bulls 300 to 330c/kg.

Highlights: A/c Fetterplace, good quality Angus yearling steers 684c/

COVID-19 No Barrier To Women Starting a Business

A new TAFE NSW study has revealed COVID-19 hasn't dimmed the entrepreneurial spirit of the state's businesswomen, with 46 per cent# of small businesswomen using the pandemic as a stepping stone to start a new business.

TAFE Digital General Manager Lyn Rickard said the research coincided with more than 13,000 female business leaders turning to the TAFE NSW Women in Business program since the start of the pandemic to learn how to get their business off the ground.

“With a third of Australian small businesses now headed up by women, the Women in Business program is designed to provide women in every corner of NSW with access to fee-free online training on how to start or build a business,” Ms Rickard said.

“The TAFE NSW research tells us that women starting a new business face a number of common challenges, such as not knowing how to get started, finding funding sources, and managing their work-life balance.

kg, 351kgs selling for \$2,400 with the heifer portion making 636c/kg, 310kgs \$1,990; A/c Abbey Hand, 2 very good Limousin steers 536c/kg, 512kgs selling for \$2,750.

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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“Depending on what point women are at with their business, they can cherry pick topics from the Women in Business program to suit their needs – whether it be starting with business planning and sourcing grants, or growing sales with social media and putting wellbeing strategies in place.

“The perception businesswomen are somehow disadvantaged by operating in regional areas also no longer applies, with the TAFE NSW research confirming that 57% of female business owners don’t believe a remote location is an issue.”

Carmen Pracy of Mangrove Mountain, who runs story times for children in a local library, completed the ‘Marketing your Business: Essentials’ and ‘Doing Business in Australia’ topics to gain the skills needed to launch her own business and follow her passion for early childhood learning and development.

“COVID-19 opened the door for me to slow down, think more, and reassess what was important to me. I completed the Women in Business topics as I wanted to do something different and start my own business. I’m now getting ready to launch ‘Little People Learning’ next year, which will specialise in felt products with a learning focus that educators and families can use to connect with children,” Ms Pracy said.

“The fee-free program has helped me develop a business mind, along

MOUNTAIN ANGLICAN NEWS

The Christmas Eve Carols service starts as usual at 6-30pm. This allows for the hottest part of the day to be over, but still plenty of daylight left to drive home after supper. If the weather is bad, we will move inside and then the government’s “strongly encouraged” wearing of face masks comes into effect. Everything needed for the service and supper is provided free, and a great chance for all the family to meet other locals.

Our Christmas Day service starts at 8am the next day, Saturday the 25th of December, also at the Scout Hall -153 George Downes Drive. This then allows plenty of time to leave for other celebrations.

Sunday the 26th, Boxing Day, we will be having our normal 8am service.

For any enquiries, please contact Rev Jim on 0407210861. We would love to meet you and share the great festive season with you and hopefully put Christ in Christmas

Wishing you every blessing this Christmas,

Mountain Anglicans

with practical skills in marketing, branding, and pricing – which have been crucial throughout the planning process. I’ve since registered my business and domain name, and I’m on my way to launching a website next year.

“The fact the training was online really appealed to me, as it gave me the flexibility to set my own timetable and juggle other priorities. It’s also driven me to develop my skills further with a Statement of Attainment in Small Business.”

Some of the state’s most successful regional businesswomen, such as Pinnacle People Solutions CEO Bronwyn Pearson who operates from Armidale, share their advice to

participants as part of the program.

“Regional areas are home to some of the most innovative small businesses in Australia and the TAFE NSW Women in Business program is ensuring more female business owners have the skills to kick-start their business or adapt to the changing economy,” Ms Pearson said.

The Women in Business program is part of the NSW Government’s Women’s Strategy 2018-2022 and offers flexible online learning from anywhere, at any time. Learn more at www.tafensw.edu/womeninbusiness.au

*Emma Woodward, TAFE NSW
TAFE NSW Women in Business survey, 2021*



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REGULAR ACTIVITIES & MEETINGS

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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)
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		1st Thurs of the Month, 8pm, Mangrove Mtn Hall. Danny Willmott 0407275653
Mangrove Emergency Planning Committee		Third Wednesday bi-monthly, Mangrove Hall. Contact: mepccinc@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. Enquiries: Alison Palmer 0427731548.
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 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)

NO COUNCIL ELECTIONS FOR CENTRAL COAST RESIDENTS

On 4 December 2021, whilst the rest of NSW will be electing their Council Representatives, the Central Coast along with three other LGA's will be left out:

- Balranald Shire Council – postponed until further notice
- Central Coast Council – postponed until late 2022
- Central Darling Shire Council – postponed until further notice
- Wingecarribee Shire Council – postponed until September 2022

The Minister for Local Government issued an order on 8 June 2021 that ordinary elections for Central Coast Council will be postponed for 12 months.

Council's Administrator Rik Hart has communicated to the Minister for Local Government a recommendation

Call to Expand Coastal Open Space

The Coastal Open Space System (COSS) is a network of reserves supporting native vegetation that are managed by the Council for environmental and community values.

Spanning 2,573 hectares, the primary purpose of the COSS is to maintain areas of native vegetation, habitat for native animals and a visual landscape that defines the character of the south-eastern corner of our Local Government Area.

The hills from Macmasters Ridge, Kincumber Mountain, Rumbalara Reserve, Mount Elliot and the wetland areas around Brisbane Water and Erina Creek are all owned by Council and preserve the most environmentally sensitive areas from development.

The reservation of the land in the COSS also has the effects of protecting Aboriginal cultural sites and non-Aboriginal heritage items as well as local water catchments and geological formations. The retention of native vegetation provides a green backdrop to many of the urban areas in the city and ensures that most of the residents of the former Gosford LGA live in the

that the next general election for the Central Coast be conducted in September/October 2022

At the same time, a Constitutional Referendum will be conducted asking Central Coast voters to determine the following question:

'Do you favour a reduction in the number of Central Coast Councillors from fifteen to nine? This will result in three Wards with each Ward electing three Councillors.'

[The proposed reduction on Councillors has the potential to have a serious impact on the ability of ratepayers to be heard and also creates the opportunity for "cliques" to push their wider political or self-interest agendas that might not necessarily benefit the Central Coast.] *Ed.*

The results of the referendum would apply in the 2024 local government election.

The outcome of the public inquiry into Central Coast Council by the State Government is pending following the recent conclusion of public hearings.

Information from Central Coast Council and Service NSW

vicinity of natural environments.

We are calling for support from the community to expand the Coastal Open Space System into the former Wyoming LGA. This would prevent future selling of "natural assets" by the Council and ensure the environmental longevity of the area.

Without the Coastal Open Space System, the local community could very well see the destruction of its natural history as key areas of environmental significance will remain unprotected.

Gary Chestnut
Chair CEN



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

Blues In the Hall Darren Jack & his band	Mangrove Mountain Hall - Saturday the 4th December, doors open 6pm.
Mountain Children's Community Centre	Grand Opening, Sunday 27th February 2022 10am - 1pm, 2829 Wisemans Ferry Road, Mangrove Mountain,

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FUNDING BOOST TO SUPPORT VETERANS

Veteran groups on the Central Coast will receive almost \$40,000 from the Morrison Government to further support local veterans and their families.

They are among 127 ex-service organisations (ESOs) sharing in \$4.35 million through the 2021 Round of the Building Excellence in Support and Training (BEST) Program.

Federal Liberal Member for Robertson, Lucy Wicks MP said the BEST Program assists ESOs to deliver the highest quality services.

“This additional funding will help local organisations provide veterans even greater transition support, assistance with claims and entitlements, and access to services such as rehabilitation and wellbeing programs,” Ms Wicks said.

The Vietnam Veterans’ Peacekeepers & Peacemakers Association Central Coast Sub-Branch have been successful in a grant of \$28,954 and Brisbane Water Legacy are receiving a grant of \$10,362 from the Federal Government.

“These additional funds will help with the costs of support staff, equipment and services that directly support veterans and their families,” Ms Wicks said.

“It will make a real difference to

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those on the ground, providing critical support and resources for veterans in our region.

“I would like to thank all ESOs that provide advocacy services across the Central Coast who continue to offer vital services to our local veteran community.”

To apply for future rounds of the BEST Program or for further information, including a full list of successful recipients, visit the Community Grants Hub website <https://www.communitygrants.gov.au>

Media Release
Ms Lucy Wicks MP

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