

COMMUNITY NEWS

No. 958 Ph: 4374 1039 Mo: 0412 669 649 Email: enquiries@cnews1.com.au Web: cnews1.com.au 7th February 2025

LOCAL MEN'S SHED NEWS

A BBQ and information and discussion session was held on Jan 21 at the grounds and hall of the MMUC, following three previous meetings.

Two organisers of the Australian Mens Shed Association were in attendance (The President of the NSW Branch and the Zone14 Representative, Central Coast, both volunteer positions).

The AMSA representatives gave a great summary of the main issues that Men's Sheds address.

Many men, especially after retirement, find themselves alone, often living in isolation and needing to connect with their community and find new purpose but aren't sure how.

Living in a rural area can add to the feeling of isolation. Others just want to learn a new skill or revisit old ones. Meeting with others provides an environment to address mental health

and disconnectedness.

It's important to note that men's sheds aren't only for a bunch of old men, the doors are also open to younger members of the community.

Helping out with farm maintenance and disseminating knowledge and experience on farming, trades and other vocations are other aspects of men's sheds.

There was a discussion on what actions were to be taken, the timing of actions and priorities. As advised at the BBQ session, establishing a committee, forming an association, adopting a constitution, deciding on a name and registering with the Australian Men's Shed Association are some of the things that need to be done.

An interim committee was set up to take the next steps and organise regular meetings and get-togethers.



Above: Gathering at the BBQ and AMSA information session
Below: Group discussion and settling on an interim committee



Maternity services update

Central Coast Local Health District reassures the community that safe, high quality maternity care, including birthing services, continues to be provided at Gosford Hospital.

To address community concerns we will also be writing to women who are receiving maternity care from the hospital, including those planning to give birth there, to ensure they know they will continue to receive the care they need from our skilled and dedicated staff at Gosford Hospital.

Women can also contact our birthing unit directly on 4320 3440 if they have any concerns following recent media coverage. The hospital has not been and will not be on bypass.

Central Coast Local Health District acknowledges the concerns raised by the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and remain committed to working collaboratively with the College to ensure a safe and supportive learning environment for all trainee registrars.

Jude Constable
Acting Chief Executive
Central Coast Local Health District

A fact is information minus emotion.

An opinion is information plus experience.

Ignorance is an opinion lacking information.

And stupidity is an opinion that ignores fact.

Unknown

STOP!

Next issue Published
21st February 2025

**** DEADLINE ****

**** 14th Feb '25 ****

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PUT YOURSELF IN THIS PICTURE!



Discover how to become a volunteer at our Riding for the Disabled Central Coast Centre Volunteer Information Morning **on SATURDAY 22nd FEBRUARY 2025 from 10am-12 Noon**

Our Centre volunteers have been providing horse-riding classes for riders with disabilities on the Central Coast for over 40 years. Volunteers fully operate our Centre. If you are interested in finding out how you can support our Centre, you are most welcome to attend our Information Morning.

As a volunteer, the main role is to support our riders and horses. No previous experience in working with horses or people with disabilities is required as you will be trained and supported to confidently undertake your assigned role. Other important volunteer roles include building, paddock and garden maintenance, administration and fundraising.

We operate our classes in school terms (Monday to Wednesdays) from 9am to 3pm and on Fridays (10 am to 12 Noon). Volunteering hours can be arranged to meet your requirements.

Directions - turn off Central Coast Highway into Kangoo Rd, Somersby (at Worthington BMW) and follow Kangoo Rd for 1.3km until you see the RDA sign on the right.

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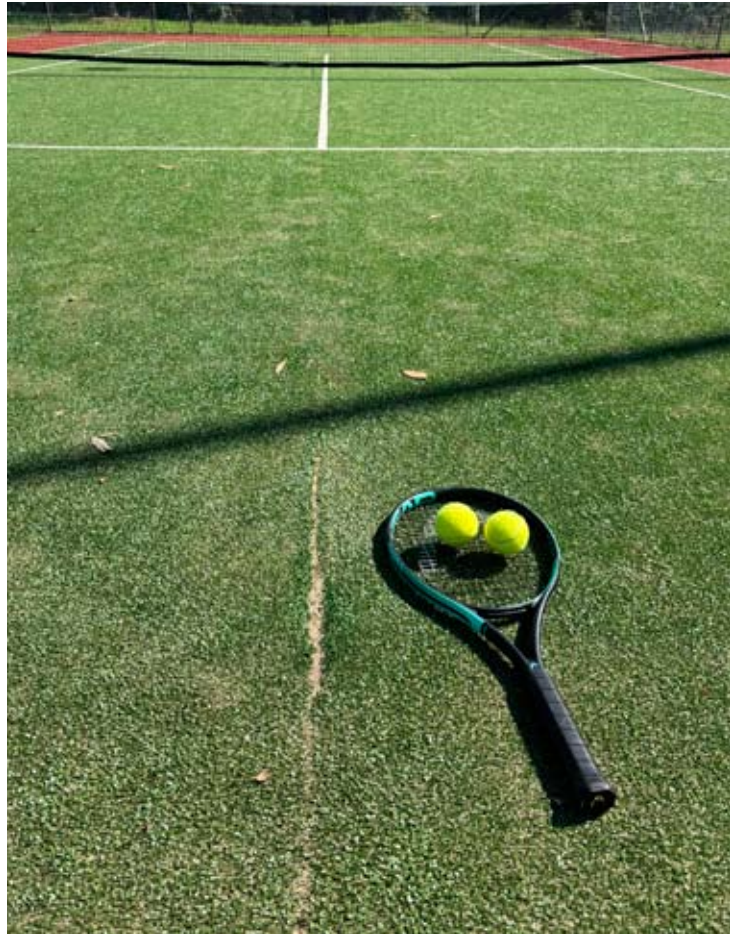
Nothing says summer more than cricket and tennis – and cicadas! Cricket fans enjoy test matches, ODIs and T20s, and for tennis fans the Australian Open brings the world's best players down under for the 'Happy Slam'.

All this activity has many of us keen to get out and try our hand. In Kulnura we are especially lucky to have facilities for both these sports to scratch that itch: two synthetic grass tennis courts, and just a few metres away on the other side of the hall the oval has an all weather surface cricket pitch.


Unfortunately, over the Christmas period some keen cricketers have used one of the tennis courts for batting practice rather than the nearby cricket pitch. The net was taken down, with some damage in the process, and the court surface has been torn at what seems to have been the batsman's crease.

The net damage has been repaired, thanks to a Central Coast Council maintenance crew who had pulled over nearby, however the tear in court surface is irreparable. As the Council has indicated there are no funds to address some other outstanding maintenance issues on the courts, it is unlikely they will consider replacing the damaged surface in the foreseeable future.

With the net fixed the second court is functioning again, although with the damaged surface. It is disheartening to see these well-used and relatively good facilities damaged. It was not done through malice, but without thinking of the consequences.



It is wonderful to see locals out playing sports and enjoying some time with family and friends. As in all we do, please consider the impact of your actions, respect our shared facilities and only use them for their intended purpose.


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Pilates on The Mountain - 1 Year Anniversary

It's hard to believe we have already had one whole year of Pilates on the Mountain. It's been a great first year and I am looking forward to building on what we have learnt in 2024 - getting stronger together in 2025.

Where and when:

**Mangrove Mountain Union Church Hall, Wisemans Ferry road,
@ 6.00pm Wednesday and 11.00am Thursday.
Melanie 0405 453 374**

All new members are welcome - all levels - no equipment needed just your wonderful body!

I understand that starting something totally new can be a bit daunting; but can I really encourage you to just have a go - many of the students in the class had never done Pilates before, and after just one year I can see so much improvement in their overall strength and flexibility - and your body will thank you!

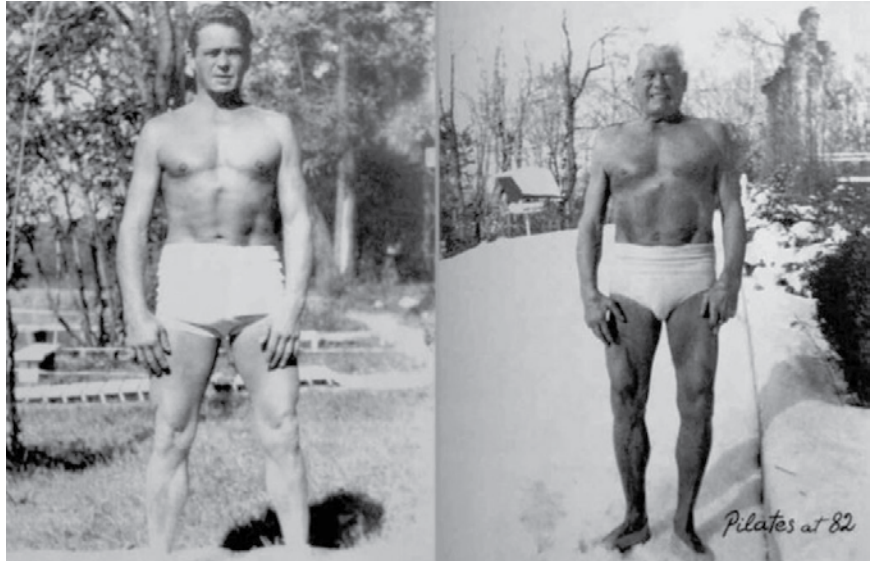
This year I am offering one on one private sessions on my new commercial (Allegro) Pilates reformer machine. Please call to make an appointment and discuss your needs. Reformer is especially good for rehabilitation or post injury.

I have a background in dance, dance teaching and in the health industry. I have been doing Pilates for over 25 years and have been teaching for over 10 years in Sydney's inner west. I moved up to the Mountain in 2022 and I am loving the opportunity to offer what I have learned to the local

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community up here on the Mountain.

Pilates develops the deep muscles of the back and abdomen to support your spine, and focuses on breathing to promote better posture.



Joseph Pilates at aged 57 and 82

Dr. S. ANANDASIVAM
(ANAND)
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Quote from Joseph Pilates: "A man is as young as his spinal column."

The spine, for Joseph Pilates, was the key to physical and emotional well being. He taught that neutral spine alignment is everything. He once said "If your spine is stiff at 30, you are old. If it is flexible at 60, you are young."

And I would like to add in here that it is never too late to start!

Melanie Alderton

INFO DAY

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Sessions are held on 4th Thursday of the month.

NEXT SESSION THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2025

9.30am - 11.30am

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Enquiries - Suzanne 0412 298 126



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Troublesome Nails

Do you have troublesome nails? Thickened or odd-shaped nails can be difficult to cut and manage at home. They can also lead to pain, fungal or bacterial infections, or can be embarrassing.

There are many reasons nails can become troublesome. Sometimes it can be from a single trauma or multiple smaller traumas from poor footwear. Sometimes poor cutting technique or picking or tearing nails can lead to jagged edges that can dig into your skin. Sometimes it can be genetic (have a peek at your grandparent's nails to see your future!) and sometimes you can just be unlucky.

Paying regular attention to your nails is important to maintain good nail health. Early identification of fungal or bacterial infections, recognising hard skin building up or corns developing are all important to treat sooner rather than later, before they become serious.

Troublesome nails can change how you walk. Or, how you walk can also cause nail issues.

Ron has been treating patients on the Central Coast for over 25 years as a

DOG ATTACK REPORTED

A resident of Hallards Road Central Mangrove has reported a livestock animal lost to a dog attack in January.

The community is advised to be alert.

Police and Council have been notified

Chiropractor and now as a Podiatrist. Ron is focused on helping you to better understand what the issues with your feet may be and what can be done to help both in the clinic and at home. He can provide general podiatry care for toenails and skin, as well as minor toe nail surgeries for ingrown toenails. Ron can also help to correct gait issues with advice on footwear, exercises and orthotics.

Ron practices at Better Health Practices at Kariong. He accepts both private health cover and medicare care plans (EPC).

For further information you can go to the Better Health Practices website, or call the clinic for more information.

Better Health Practices
www.betterhealthpractices.com.au
 4340 5154

MANGROVE MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE

The local Community Health Centre is in operation at 13 Nurses Rd, Central Mangrove, phone 43731249.

There are eight community health centres on the Central Coast.

You can access a range of health services through our community health centres such as community nursing, youth services, child and family health, family counselling, mental health services and drug and alcohol services.

At Central Mangrove:

- Baby clinic 9 - 12 Thursday, just drop in
- Community nursing support such as dressing changes etc. Mon, Thurs, Fri. Need a doctor's referral.

Pregnancy vaccination is available at all Central Coast Local Health District clinics and venues.

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Central Coast Local Health District

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BLUES ON THE MOUNTAIN

Blues on the Mountain returns to the historic Mangrove Mountain Hall with it's first event of 2025 on Saturday the 15th of February.

The all ages family friendly event features one of Australia's premier Blues/Rock acts, Owen Campbell band, plus special guest, Bek Jensen.

Doors open at 6pm with live music from 6.30pm. Woodfired pizzas and hot food available for purchase on the night, BYO snacks and drinks. Tickets are limited and available via <https://events.humanitix.com/host/blues-on-the-mountain>

Owen Campbell band

Owen Campbell has cemented himself as one of Australia's premier alternative blues/rock exports with 3 best-selling studio albums, 2 Eps, and over 12 years of national and international touring wowing audiences in all corners of the world from the USA, Ireland, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France, Spain, Netherlands, Japan, Hong Kong, India, and even performing at the highest blues festival in the world, The Himalayan Blues Festival in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Owen's debut album, "Sunshine Road," was released in late 2013, reaching Number 1 on the overall charts (Australia), knocking Adele off the top spot in 2014.

Bek Jensen

Hailing from Sydney, Bek Jensen emerges as one of the city's most dynamic artists, bringing forth a fusion of retro-soul, funk, and RnB that transcends genres and invites audiences on a euphoric voyage. With an innate ability to delve into the intricacies of love and vitalising her story, Bek captivates with her raw authenticity and glittering songcraft.

Ryan Howard

Blues on the Mountain
Est 2013

Owen Campbell
W/ full band Plus special guest Bek Jensen

at the historic Mangrove Mountain Hall
Saturday 15th of February
Doors 6pm. Great food, BYO welcome. Camping Sites

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~Upcoming Events~
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Bucketty Noticeboard

The Bucketty Noticeboard has been set up at Letter A, which facilitates the sharing of information at this end of the Valley about staying safe through fire and flood and local activities which may be of interest. The Noticeboard is between the Bus Shelter and the Telstra Phone Booth. Stop and have a look, especially Bucketty residents heading to Murrays Run or to the Private Roads in Bucketty.

Super thanks to the Cessnock Men's Shed for designing and building it, to Simon Perry and Keith Goodwill for installing it and of course to the Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal for providing the funding to make this happen.

If you believe that having a Noticeboard in your area would strengthen information flow, especially where visitors might have a read and become better informed about how to stay safe, speak to your local Greater Wollombi Valley Community Resilience Network (GWVCRN) coordinator and / or please send us an email: info@greaterwollombiresilience.org.au

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KULNURA AND DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB

January/February 2025

Thank you to Elaine and Ian for hosting our end of year celebration on Monday 9th December. The camaraderie and joy were palpable as we enjoyed each other's company along with a sumptuous buffet - our club provided ham (beautifully BBQed by Ian), chicken, bread rolls, punch and tea/coffee, whilst each member supplied wonderful plates of salads and heavenly desserts. Thankfully we had a couple of weeks to fast before the next round of festivities!

One of the attractions of the garden club is that we visit gardens that are not typically open to the public, and Elaine and Ian's garden was an absolute delight! Lovely terraces of shrubs, trees and underplanting; often exotic and rare plants; landscaping

perfected over several decades; and to our delight several commercial greenhouses to peruse and purchase from our hospitable hosts.

Every month our members bring samples from their own gardens to submit into 3 categories: native plants, exotic plants and fruit & vegetables. All members then vote for their favourites. Points are awarded to the top 3 in each category and tallied throughout the year. Our competition winners were announced and some impressive prizes awarded.

This was our President Louise's final meeting in the role, as she is stepping down after many years - thank you to Louise for doing such a fine job at the helm of this wonderful club. We would love somebody to step up and take on the role of President, supported by an enthusiastic and

capable committee-please get in contact if you are interested. Thank you also to our hard-working secretary Jacqui for continuing in the role and keeping us orderly, Gail for writing these articles in 2024, and all the other active and enthusiastic members of our club, who contribute, ensuring our meetings are informative, enjoyable and run smoothly. Many hands make light work!

Back at home in our garden during January, highlights include beans and cucumbers being sown, dahlias, sunflowers and frangipani are flowering beautifully, and basil and plums are being harvested. Some experimentation with growing mandarin and kangaroo paw from seed is yielding success. The hot weather messed up a lot of seedlings but now seems to have moved on, and the recent rains are much appreciated - the brown lawn has returned to its rightful



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CEN Questions Strategic Conservation Plan

CEN has put the NSW Government on notice that it must adopt a 'nature first' approach to developing a Strategic Conservation Plan for any areas of the Central Coast.

In its response to the exhibition of Terms of Reference for a Central Coast Strategic Conservation Plan, CEN said the NSW Government must consider the region's vulnerability to climate change, our unique biodiversity attributes and the clear threat of regional extinctions of flora and fauna by 2070.

green state! Time to get back on the mower...

A recently discovered gardening-related book is Mark Boyle's "The Way Home – Tales from a life without technology". This Irish fellow is not using ANY electricity, gas, internet or other technology for a whole year, and his chronicle of the experience is rich in reflection about how good it is to care for the soil and enjoy the fruits (and vegetables!) of one's labour.

Being enjoyed with the morning coffee is @HuwRichards YouTube channel. Although Wales-based, he has some wonderful insight as to achieving success in the garden, including using permaculture and walled gardens.

There is no meeting in January, so our next meeting will be on 10th February. We welcome new members and visitors to Kulnura and Districts Garden Club.

Please email kulnuradgc@gmail.com for information about meetings, membership, or any other questions.

Getoutintothegardenandenjoy!

Dooralong Dave

"Protecting and enhancing bushland and biodiversity and protecting and enhancing scenic and cultural landscapes must be the two key objectives of any strategic conservation plan proposed for the Central Coast," said CEN Chair, Gary Chestnut.

"NSW Environment Minister, Penny Sharpe, stood in the CEN office during the 2023 election campaign and told us the recommendations of the Henry Review of the 2016 NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act would be fully adopted by a NSW Labor Government if elected," Mr Chestnut said.

"Well Labor was elected but the Henry Review has not been fully implemented and we are left with a Biodiversity Conservation Act that is not fit for purpose and an offset scheme that continues to result in the net loss of biodiversity across NSW," he said.

"That's not good enough and using the excuse of the housing crisis to destroy more and more habitat is not good enough either, which is why we are sending a clear and loud message to the NSW Government at the outset of the consultation process for the Strategic Conservation Plan."

"Is the underlying philosophy of the Central Coast Strategic Conservation Plan to be overdevelopment at the expense of liveability and biodiversity?" The CEN submission asks.

"Whilst we understand that we are commenting on the draft terms of reference and not the actual plan, we were hopeful that the stated objectives would be more in favour of the region's biodiversity than: ... 'a plan for the Central Coast that creates more land



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for jobs and homes while protecting important plants and animals.'

"Where is the vision or are the current residents and ratepayers of the Central Coast to simply accept we are about to become nothing more than an under-resourced, over-developed giant sleeper suburb for Newcastle and Sydney?"

"Our submission recommends the inclusion of detailed commitments on matters unique to this region, such as the Coastal Open Space System (COSS), the potential for regional extinctions of native plants and animals within the next 50 years and this community's substantial vulnerability to the impacts of climate change, that may be impacted directly, indirectly and/or cumulatively by actions proposed to be taken under the Strategic Conservation Plan," Mr Chestnut said.

The Community Environment Network

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ANGLICAN NEWS

Welcome back. We hope you all had a very happy Christmas and pray that you will receive abundant blessings from God for 2025.

At the end of last year, we had our usual successful Christmas Eve Carol service and Christmas Day service that were well attended, with the multiple lucky door prizes at the Carols mostly going to the younger people, this time.

Early this year a service was blessed with live music and singing from our special Queensland guests whom we would like to thank. Another time our Gosford rector came up to take a morning service.

We are sorry to hear that one of our younger members has been very sick and has been in and out of hospital several times. We pray for her speedy recovery back to full health and those looking after her make the right decisions for her and others.

We also pray for all those returning to any type of study, that they will be attentive and retain the knowledge that will help them now or in the future.

Just a reminder that we meet at 8am on Sunday mornings at the Scout Hall 153 George Downes Drive, Central Mangrove to worship God. For enquiries about this, Bible discussion or prayer groups, etc., the Rev Jim can be contacted on 0704210861.

God bless,

Mountain Anglicans

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The home features a gorgeous new kitchen, bathroom, and laundry. With three bedrooms with potential to create a fourth bedroom, a spacious central open-plan living area, the home flows seamlessly through wide sliders to a 4 x 10 metre covered, north-facing entertaining space.

The property's landscaping is like a Botanic Garden, with a driveway lined with a stunning array of deciduous trees.

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Old Fireshed Gallery

Wollombi Cultural Centre

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

PEP-11 Refused

The Hon Ed Husic MP, Minister for Industry and Science said in a statement “On 16 January 2025, the Commonwealth-New South Wales Offshore Petroleum Joint Authority (Joint Authority) made the decision to refuse both the PEP-11 applications.

The Joint Authority refused the applications for reasons of public interest, concerns about the applicants’ estimate of the cost of works and their ability to raise the necessary capital to fund the proposed works.

In making this decision, I have carefully considered all relevant materials, including those submitted by Asset Energy Pty Ltd, and the requirements set out under the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006.

As part of the decision-making process, Asset Energy Pty Ltd was given an opportunity to respond to the concerns that I raised in forming my preliminary view that the Joint Authority should refuse the applications. Asset Energy’s response was considered before reaching this decision.

The Australian Government is committed to following due process for all offshore petroleum applications to ensure the fair and safe regulation of

the petroleum industry in Australia.

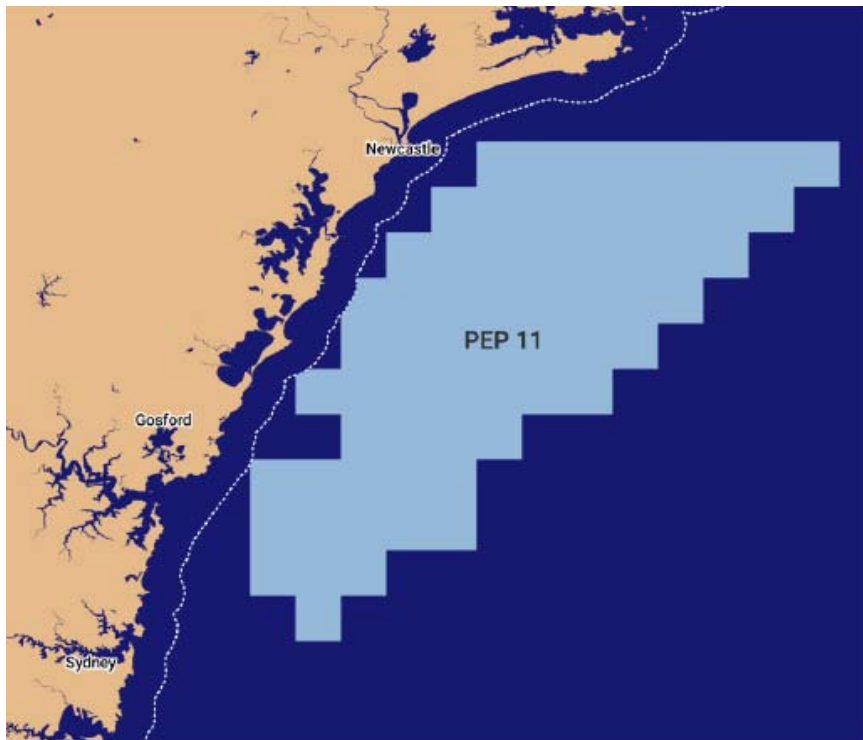
Dr Gordon Reid MP, Federal Member For Robertson added “I welcome the announcement by Minister for Industry and Science, The Hon. Ed Husic MP, that the Commonwealth-New South Wales Offshore Petroleum Joint Authority has made the decision to refuse both the PEP-11 applications.

The Central Coast community has fought long and hard for this outcome, which I have helped support since

before I was elected to the Australian Parliament in 2022.

I commend our community on their advocacy and unwavering support throughout this campaign”

*Media Releases from the Offices of
The Hon Ed Husic MP
Minister for Industry and Science
and
Dr Gordon Reid MP
Federal Member For Robertson*



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RUSSELL ENOCH METCALFE

16/10/1952 - 24/12/2024

It is with great sadness that the family of Russell Metcalfe, of Bowraville, (previously from the Mountain), announce his sudden passing on Tuesday the 24th of December, 2024.

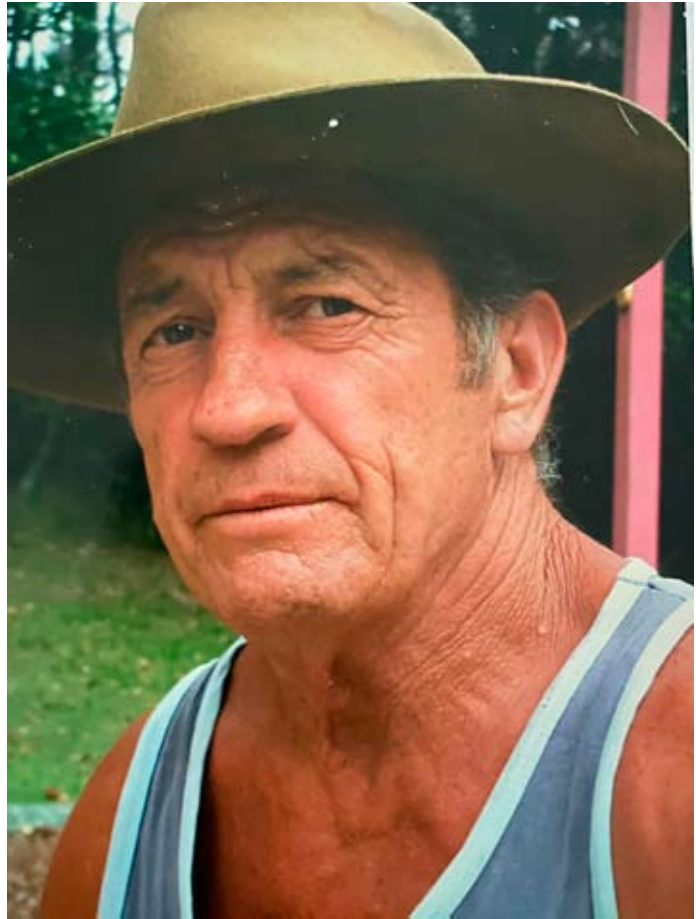
Russell was born in Richmond Hospital, to parents Joyce and John Metcalfe. He was the sixth child born from the ten children they had. Robin, Pamela, Delma, Valma, Richard, Anita, Ross, Ronald and Tanya.

Russell attended Toukley Public School from Kindergarten to year 3, then transferred to Budgewoi Public School until year 6. He then went on to attend Wyong High School for his senior years.

Russell lived on the mountain for many years and had variety of jobs. He worked as an orange picker, for a brief period of time before moving onto his next job at the piggery on Ironbark Road. He then went on to work on a poultry farm before his final job, working on the main crusher at Hymix Quarry at Kulnura, where he worked for the next 20 years until his retirement.

Russell was a very kind and caring man and he would do anything for anyone just to help them out or make them happy. Anybody that knew him, knew what a great man he was and always will be.

Russell will be lovingly remembered and very dearly missed by his three daughters, Allison, Kristee and Lauren, his son-in-laws Ben and Brear, his Grandchildren Tiara, Jacinta, Jake, Bianca, Haylee, Courtney, Noah, Jessica and Imogen and his Great Grandchildren Isla, River and Ivy as well as all the rest



of his family and friends.

He was the BEST Dad, Pop, Brother and Friend anyone could ever ask for and we were blessed to have you in our lives.

May you Rest In Peace xxx

Kind Regards

Allison Metcalfe



Mangrove Mountain

MEMORIAL CLUB & GOLF COURSE

WHATS ON WEEKLY

TUESDAY
BINGO from 11am
\$15 Pizza night

WEDNESDAY
MEAT RAFFLE drawn at 730pm
\$18 schnitzels

THURSDAY
MEMBERS BADGE DRAW - 730pm
\$22 steak night

FRIDAY
HAPPY HOUR 4-6pm
COCKTAIL HOUR 6-7pm
MEAT RAFFLE drawn at 730pm
New restaurant specials every week from 530pm

SATURDAY
POOL COMP from 630pm
entry fee \$5

SUNDAY
Sunday Roast - available all day



Find Us On Facebook & Instagram - 18 Hallards Road, Central Mangrove, 2250 - 02 4373 1129 - www.mmmclub.com.au

PFAS detected in Ourimbah Creek Catchment

As part of Central Coast Council's overall water security and environmental management, Council proactively tests its water catchments and estuaries to ensure water quality is safe for community use.

As reported last year, Council has an ongoing water monitoring program which from August 2024, has included regular analysis of water catchments and drinking water for Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS). Monitoring results confirm

Central Coast drinking water is safe and meets current and proposed Australian Drinking Water Guidelines for PFAS.

However, a recent sample of raw (untreated) water from the upper reaches of the Ourimbah Creek catchment returned a detection of PFAS. This water is currently not being supplied through Council's town water system.

Council has informed the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) and NSW Health of the results. Council is working with the NSW EPA and NSW Health on possible sources.

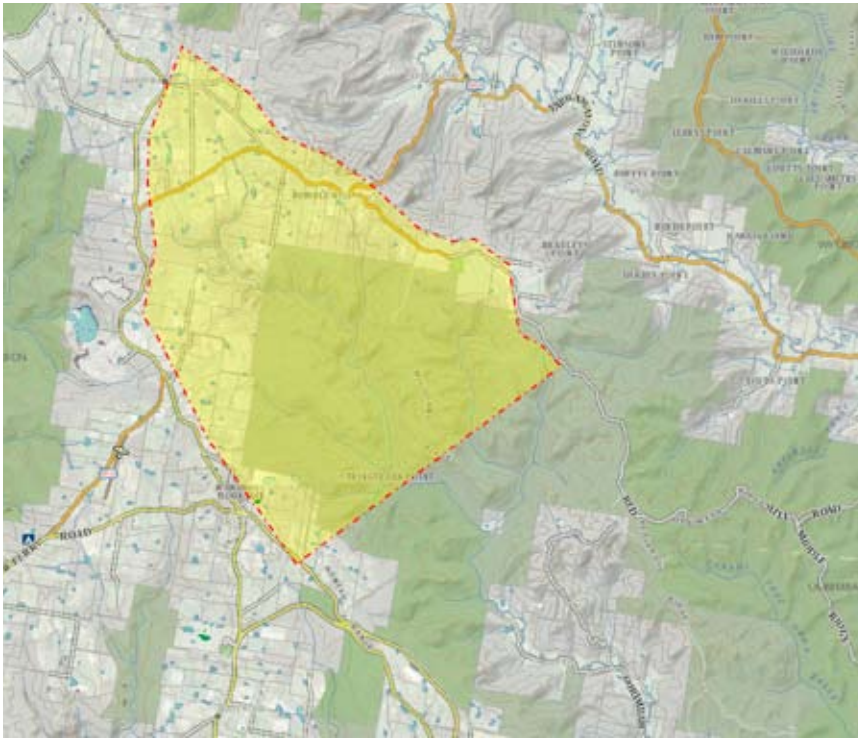
Further investigation and sampling is underway, and updates will be provided to the community as they become available.

NSW EPA advises that it is important

.:KSR.:

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The shaded area roughly indicates the Upper Ourimbah Creek catchment

to note that the presence of PFAS in the environment does not necessarily mean there is a risk to human health or the environment.

Australian water utilities have been active in understanding and managing the risks that PFAS contamination represents to its drinking water customers. This includes working with Australian and NSW government agencies to ensure that water catchment management practices and water quality standards adopted eliminate the risk of PFAS exposure in drinking water supplied to customers.

Central Coast Council is committed to providing high quality drinking water for all residents. To learn more about their drinking water, customers can visit:

<https://www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/residents/water-and-sewer/drinking-water-quality>

Central Coast Council Statement

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Change to Number of DA Objections for LPP reference Contravenes Ministerial Direction

The Community Environment Network (CEN) has called for an urgent intervention from Minister for the Central Coast, Hon David Harris MP, to correct an embarrassing bungle made by eight of the newly elected Central Coast councillors at their November meeting.

“Deputy Mayor Doug Eaton put forward a motion to double the number of submissions objecting to a development application needed for the DA to be referred to the Central Coast Local Planning Panel (CCLPP),” said CEN Chair, Mr Gary Chestnut.

“Eight councillors supported the motion, so it became a resolution of the council – but it was a sloppy mistake that needs to be fixed,” Mr Chestnut said. “The council business papers show that councillors were briefed by the director before voting, but they went ahead and did it anyway.

“That’s why we have written directly to the Minister for the Central Coast – we don’t see the point in asking for council’s CEO or Mayor to clean this up when they made the decision.”

According to CEN, the operation of the CCLPP is determined by NSW Government Regulation. In May 2024, Minister for Planning, the Hon Paul Scully MP, signed off on a Local Planning Panels Direction (attached) – Development Applications and

Applications to Modify Development Consents.

“The Ministerial Direction said council must either follow its existing Submissions Policy to decide what to refer to the CCLPP, or refer applications being “the subject of 10 or more unique submissions by way of objection”.

CEN has reviewed council’s policies and there doesn’t appear to be an existing Submissions Policy.

“We did find an Assessment of Development Applications Policy (Policy No. CCC108), which said it was prepared according to the NSW Government’s Development Assessment Best Practice Guide 2017 (DABPG 2017) which says a DA with more than 10 objections “by way of individual submissions from different households...” must go to the Local Planning Panel.

“Central Coast Council is not empowered to amend or override a Ministerial Direction to suit its own preferences. If Council wants to change how it deals with contentious development applications, it must:

- Formulate and publicly exhibit an amendment to Policy No. CCC108 to explicitly address how such applications will be managed; or
- Formulate and publicly exhibit a specific Submissions Policy; or
- Adhere to the Ministerial Direction and the definition of contentious applications as set out in the DABPG 2017 which requires applications that receive 10 or more unique objections to be referred to the Local Planning Panel (LPP).

“Central Coast Council cannot resolve to increase the threshold of submissions required for referral to the CCLPP without following proper procedural requirements.

“The November resolution said the proposed change would be sent to Minister Scully for approval. CEN wonders what happened to the legal requirement to put new or amended policies on public exhibition.

WYONG’S LOVE LANES FESTIVAL IS BACK

Love will fill the air in Wyong when Love Lanes Festival returns on Saturday 15 February, from 4-9pm. Coinciding with Valentine’s Day weekend, this annual celebration of love, community and local talent is now in its eighth year and promises to be more enchanting than ever.

Central Coast Council Director Community and Recreation Services, Melanie Smith said the street festival will transform Wyong’s town centre into a vibrant hub of activity.

“With four vibrant lanes and five dynamic stages, Love Lanes Festival will showcase the incredible talent of local musicians, dancers and performers,” Ms Smith said.

“In addition to live performances, there will be food and market stalls, free activities for all ages and captivating laneway art.

“As an alcohol-free event, it will be a safe and enjoyable experience for the whole family so mark your calendars and join us for a night of love, fun and entertainment.”

Central Coast Council Media Release

“Perhaps we can put this bungle down to a sudden rush of blood by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor at having taken hold of the reins of power for the first time since their former councils ceased to exist in May 2016, but we do expect our elected leaders, even if they may be a little rusty, to be cognisant of the rules.

“We have referred this matter to the Minister for the Central Coast and his parliamentary colleagues, and we look forward to their swift response. Big promises were made during the September election campaign. It’s not even Christmas – what happened to working to restore confidence in our local government?”

Community Environment Network



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Nominations for the Gosford Seniors Local Achievement Awards now open

People in the Gosford electorate are encouraged to recognise an outstanding older person in our community with nominations for the 2025 NSW Seniors Festival Local Achievement Awards now open.

Member for Gosford, Liesl Tesch MP said the 2025 Seniors Festival and the Local Achievement Awards celebrate the tremendous contribution seniors offer to our community.

“If you know a senior who strives to make our community a better place through volunteering, community service or innovation, or simply supporting family and friends, now is the time to nominate them for the Seniors Local Achievement Awards,” Ms Tesch said.

“We are so fortunate to have so many seniors in our local community who are generous with their time, energy and commitment. So many of our community organisations and families function and operate on the basis of the hard work of our local seniors.

“By highlighting seniors’ continued efforts in helping the Central Coast and beyond thrive, we are continuing to challenge ageism and empower seniors to overcome social stigma.”

To nominate a fantastic senior in our community, an online nomination form can be found here, or nominations can be made in person at the electorate office at 71 Blackwall Road, Woy Woy.

Nominations close 5pm, Sunday 2 March 2025.

Nominations are now open for the awards program, one of the many initiatives the NSW Government



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promotes to support the state’s seniors living happy, healthy and active lives.

Winners of the Local Achievement Awards will be announced during the 2025 NSW Seniors Festival, which runs from 3-16 March.

The awards program is part of an exciting schedule of events across the

state.

For more information about NSW Seniors Festival and the Local Achievement Awards, visit seniorsfestival.nsw.gov.au.

*Media Release from the
Office Liesel Tesch MP
Member for Gosford*

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REGULAR ACTIVITIES & MEETINGS

RURAL FIRE SERVICES

Bucketty RFS	Weekend Training Station Maintenance General Meeting	3rd Sat, 9am-12 pm, breakfast 8.30am Every Thurs as required, generally 10am-1pm 3rd Sat in even months, at 1pm, All welcome bucketty@lowerhunterffrs.com.au 4998 8130
Calga-Mt. White RFS	General meeting Training Information & updates Contact	3rd Mon of the month, 7.30pm all welcome Every Monday 6.30 except public holidays Facebook.com/calga/mtwhiteruralfirebrigade/ Captain.calgamtwhite@ccrfs.org.au - Zack Winslade.
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 Maintenance	2nd Monday of the month Meeting 6.30pm 3rd Monday 6:30pm 4th Monday 6:30pm E: captain-Spencer-vol@rfs.nsw.gov.au 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		Information: www.facebook.com/ YarralongRuralFireBrigade/ Phone contacts: 0406 360588 or 0418 280764 Email: volunteer@yarralongrfs.org.au

COMMUNITY & SOCIAL

Central Coast Plateau Chamber of Commerce	First Tuesday each month 7.00PM MMMC
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)	Third 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 & 4th Tues of the month, 4-8pm at Mangrove Mtn Union Church, 2154 Wisemans Ferry Rd, MMtn. General meeting 6pm 2nd Tues. Ph Judy 43771728
Gosford North Inner Wheel club	2nd Wed each month 11am at Phillip House in Kariong. Contact: Glenis Ph: 0400 486 760
Kulnura & District Garden Club	Second Monday, 9.30 for 10am start. Jacqui Maxwell 0455364262 kulnuradge@gmail.com
Kulnura Tuesday Tennis	Tue 9.30am-12.30pm, Kulnura Tennis Courts. Enquiries: Alison Palmer 0427731548.
Ladies of the Valley Afternoon Tea	1st Tues, 1pm to 2.30 at Angels Sussurri Cafe Yarralong. Margaret Dale 0411104770
Mangrove Mountain Singers	1st & 3rd Tue, excl Dec. Mangrove Mtn Hall, 7-9pm Contact Kim & Leila 0401516501
Mangrove Mountain & Districts	1st Thurs of the Month, excl Jan. 7.30pm, Mangrove Community Group Meeting Mtn Hall. Contact: meppcinc@gmail.com, 0412669649
Mangrove Emergency Planning & Communications Committee	
Mangrove Mountain Country Fair Committee Meeting	3rd Thu of mth except Jan, 7pm, at The Hub of Mangrove Mtn. Pres- Shane 0417 436 529
Mountain Districts Association (MDA)	www.mountaindistrictsassociation.com.au secretary@mountaindistrictsassociation.com.au
Mountain District Football Club Meeting	Second Tuesday of the Month 6.30pm at the Mangrove Memorial Club
Probus - West Gosford	2nd Thu. Ph Elaine Burrows 0412988353
River Cares for the Lower Hawkesbury River District	President Marlee Maxwell 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
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
Mangrove Mountain Union Church Trust	Committee Meeting 3rd Monday, 7.30pm at the Mangrove Mountain Union Church Hall
Mangrove Mountain Christian Service	9.30am second and fourth Sundays. Mangrove Mountain Union Church, cnr Bloodtree Rd & Wisemans Ferry Rd

(cont'd next page)

LIVESTOCK MARKET REPORT



Maitland Liveweight Cattle Sale 20th January 2025

250 Cattle yarded today at Maitland.
200 Trade/Yearling cattle and 50
Export Cattle.

Trade job was firm to easier. Export
job was easier.

- Restocker steers up to 250kg made 360c/kg to 440c/kg
- 250kg-300kg made 350c/kg to 440c/kg
- 300kg to 380kg made 320c/kg to 400c/kg
- Restocker Heifers up to 250kg made 260c/kg to 332c/kg
- 250kg-300kg made 280c/kg to 335c/kg
- 300kg-380kg made 260c/kg to 335c/kg
- Yearling Steers to Feed made 320c/kg to 390c/kg
- Yearling Heifers to Feed made 285c/kg to 330c/kg
- Butcher Vealers made 320c/kg to 370c/kg
- Cows Made 220c/kg to 280c/kg
- Grown heifers made 260c/kg to 300c/kg
- Bulls made 240c/kg to 265c/kg

Maitland Liveweight Cattle Sale 13th January 2025

550 Cattle yarded today at Maitland.
500 Trade/Yearling cattle and 50
export cattle.

Trade Job was 30c stronger. Export
job also 30c stronger.

- Restocker steers up to 250kg made 360c/kg to 454c/kg
- 250kg-300kg made 350c/kg to 432c/kg
- 300kg to 380kg made 320c/kg to 400c/kg
- Restocker Heifers up to 250kg made 290c/kg to 350c/kg
- 250kg-300kg made 300c/kg to 345c/kg
- 300kg-380kg made 270c/kg to 360c/kg
- Yearling Steers to Feed made 320c/kg to 380c/kg

- Yearling Heifers to Feed made 310c/kg to 360c/kg
- Butcher Vealers made 340c/kg to 390c/kg
- Cows Made 260c/kg to 308c/kg
- Grown heifers made 320c/kg to 345c/kg
- Bullocks made 340c/kg to 370c/kg

Maitland Liveweight Cattle Sale 6th January 2025

300 Cattle yarded today at Maitland. 280 trade/yearling cattle and 20 export.

Trade job was firm. Export job remained firm.

- Restocker steers up to 250kg made 320c/kg to 400c/kg
- 250kg-300kg made 330c/kg to 400c/kg
- 300kg to 380kg made 310c/kg to 380c/kg
- Restocker Heifers up to 250kg made 230c/kg to 320c/kg
- 250kg-300kg made 250c/kg to 330c/kg
- 300kg-380kg made 2350c/kg to 325c/kg
- Yearling Steers to Feed made 300c/kg to 370c/kg
- Yearling Heifers to Feed made 280c/kg to 325c/kg
- Butcher Vealers made 320c/kg to 350c/kg
- Cows Made 220c/kg to 280c/kg
- Bulls made 200c/kg to 244c/kg
- Grown heifers made 302c/kg

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.

Like and share our Facebook page!
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*Michael Easy & Rodney McDonald
Bowe & Lidbury
52 Kyle Street, Rutherford NSW 2320
P: 02 4932 7066*

REGULAR ACTIVITIES & MEETINGS (cont'd)

St Barnabas Christian Service
Yarramalong
Serbian Orthodox

Kariong Community Baptist Church

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Independent SDA Church
Divine Retreat Centre (Ph 04 6848 6782)
160 Hensons Road, Somersby
www.divineretreatcentre.org.au

Catholic Service -Spencer

- Wollombi

- Yarramalong

YOUTH

Junior Girl Guides 5-10

Girl Guides 10-15

Scouts, Cubs & Venturers
Peats Ridge Scout Hall

HISTORICAL

Brisbane Waters Historical Society

Dharug & Lower Hawkesbury
Historical Society Inc.

First Fleeters Central Coast Chapter

The Pearl Beach Aboriginal History Group

Wyong District Museum &
Historical Society

ACTIVITY/HOBBY

Central Coast GNU/Linux Users Group
Coastal Communicators Toastmasters

Craft/scrapbooking

Saturday Craft Group/Spining
and bobbin lace

Yarn group (knit, crochet etc)

HALL BOOKINGS

Kulnura Hall
Mangrove Mountain Hall
Mangrove Mountain Union Church & Hall

Somersby Hall and Mountain Districts
Culture and Heritage Centre
Yarramalong school of Arts / Hall

Every Sunday, 9.30am. (Easter &
(Christmas Carols dates to be advised)
2nd & 4th Sun. of the month. 10 am, followed
by luncheon, tea, coffee, cakes (cost \$20).
1184 Peats Ridge Rd, Peats Ridge

Sun @9.30am, Church & Kid's Program,
Philip House, Mt Penang Gardens, Chris
Clarke email pastorkcbc@outlook.com

10am every Saturday, Mangrove Mountain
Union Church.

Daily Holy Mass 8.00am to 8.30 am
1st Fri, 5:30pm-8:30pm Divine Mercy Friday
1st Sat, 5.30pm-9pm. Youth Ministry 18-35yr
Last Sun, 9am-4pm, One Day Retreat

Holy Trinity Church, 2nd Sat of the month
4pm, Contact 43771374 or 43771168 as times
may change each month.

2nd & 5th Sunday of the month, 4.30pm Mass
at St Michael the Archangel, Wollombi.
1st Sunday each month, 11.15am St. Barnabas
All welcome. Enq 0428 438577

Kooree Guide Cabin, 5.00pm – 6.30pm
Mondays in school term,

Kooree Guide Cabin, 6.00pm-7.30pm
Mondays in school term, Contact 0417451764
for further information

Cubs meet 6.30pm – 8.30pm Wednesdays
Scouts meet 7.00pm – 9.00pm Tuesdays
Venturers meet 7.00pm – 9.00pm Mondays
Contact 0460 696 941

25-27 Henry Kendall St., West Gosford, Ph:
4325 2270. www.henrykendallcottage.org.au

Last Sat of month. All welcome, contact Jan
Kofron 0405321478 jankofron@optusnet.com.au

2nd Sat of the month, 10.00am for 10.30,
Point Clare Hall (except Jan & Dec). Contact
Margaret 0409467710 or Gavin 43404435.

3rd Fri of month 7.30pm Pearl Beach. Peggy
0411754577 pbaboriginalhistory@gmail.com

Open Sun to Thurs, 10am-2pm, other times
by appt. Contact 43521886 email info@alisonhomestead.com.au
website: www.alisonhomestead.com.au

www.cclug.org.au - all most welcome

1st & 3rd Thurs of month, 6:45pm to 8:45pm
at Doyalson-Wyee RSL. Debbie 0421216952

Yarramalong Hall 10am to 5pm, \$12/person.
Bring along your projects. Dates & details:
stackm@skymesh.com.au or ph 43561196

2nd Sat of the month Somersby Hall (10am to
2pm) cost \$5 per person Carmen 0434071305

Last Sunday of month 2pm at Angels Sussurri
Cafe Yarramalong. Contact Margaret Dale
0411104770

Contact Central Coast Council.

Hall bookings Ryan Howard 0405416289

Church & Hall bookings 0412669649
mmucsecretary@outlook.com

Hall bookings: 0413 359 655
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enquiries@yarramalonghall.org.au
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43761146 (Mick)

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NOTICE

Could the person who took the
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please return them or if you heard
or saw the incident please phone
Margaret on 43741255.

Wheelchair bound widow
Margaret Pontifex OAM

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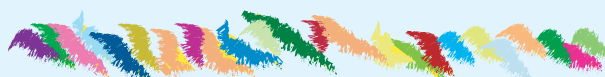
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These columns will be set aside each issue for residents to advertise inexpensively and effectively in their own local paper. If you have anything you wish to sell, buy, swap, etc., ring 4374 1039 or 0412 669 649 during office hours. Rates start at \$4.00.

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