

# COMMUNITY NEWS

No. 961 Ph: 4374 1039 Mo: 0412 669 649 Email: enquiries@cnews1.com.au Web: cnews1.com.au 21st March 2025

★ CENTRAL MANGROVE PUBLIC SCHOOL P&C PRESENTS

Mountain District Kids'

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SERVICE

Sunday 13th April 2024  
2pm

Afternoon Tea served  
afterwards

All welcome

Held at the  
Mangrove Mountain  
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### RDA Central Coast

Annual General Meeting on  
Tuesday 25th March. It will start  
promptly at 7pm at our Centre in  
Kangoo Rd Somersby (Cnr Frank  
Rd).

Linda Bower  
Secretary 🐾

## Meeting to discuss issues around Ageing in Rural Areas

Everyone is welcome to a meeting to consider the issues around older people remaining in rural areas. Do you have any ideas as to what can happen to achieve a realistic solution to the obstacles. What are the advantages and disadvantages?

A meeting will be held in the hall next door to Doctor Anand's surgery in Nurses Rd, Central Mangrove at 5pm on the 27th March.

The community health engagement officer will be attending. I have also invited the local State and Federal members when I could make contact.

Please, if you have anything you particularly want discussed contact

me so it can be put on the agenda. My phone number is 02 49988198. If you leave a message I will return the call.

It is anticipated we will become the third and final "advisory hub" to Central Coast Government and health.

Clara Jones

[Ed: The Australian Government's Australian Institute of Health and Welfare found:

▶ 1 in 3 Australians aged 65 and over live in rural and remote areas.

▶ 1 in 3 older Australians with a disability live in rural and remote areas.]

When you think there's no hope left, remember the lobsters in the tank in the Titanic's restaurant.

- Sarcasm League -

**STOP!**  
Next issue Published  
4th April 2025  
**\*\* DEADLINE \*\***  
**\*\* 28th Feb '25 \*\***  
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# SUPPORT FOR CENTRAL COAST MUMS AND BABIES

The Albanese Government is working with the New South Wales Government to ensure expectant mothers and their babies on the Central Coast continue to have access to essential maternity services.

The Albanese Government will provide \$10 million to the NSW Government so public hospitals can manage the expected increase in demand for maternity services following Health Care's decision to stop providing the only private maternity services in the region at Gosford Private Hospital.

The funding will support upgrades to improve maternity services at

Central Coast Hospitals (Gosford and Wyong), along with workforce support and training.

It will ensure Central Coast mothers get the local care they need at this important time in their lives.

The demand for maternity services on the Central Coast is significant and sustained.

This funding will improve both capacity and capability of the local hospitals to provide such services.

It is incumbent on private health insurers and private hospitals to come together to find solutions to these issues in the interests of patients.

In the meantime, Gosford public hospital offers world class maternity facilities and the same high-quality care based on clinical need.

Assistant Minister McBride, Member for Dobell said "I worked at Wyong Hospital for a decade and

know how important access to quality healthcare services are for our growing community.

"This funding demonstrates the Federal Labor Government's commitment to making sure women and families on the Central Coast have maternity services close to home."

Dr Gordon Reid, Member for Robertson said "It is absolutely critical that women have access to maternity services here on the Central Coast.


"Women in our region deserve and should expect world class maternity care, close to where they live".

Minister Butler said "Our funding will restore certainty and support for women and their babies at this crucial time, making it easier for them to get the local care they need without having to leave their community.

Ryan Park, Regional Health Minister said "The Minns Labor Government welcomes this contribution to maternity services up and down the central coast.



*Joint media release from the offices of  
Mark Butler MP  
Minister For Health And Aged Care  
Ryan Park MP  
NSW Minister For Regional Health  
Emma McBride MP  
Assistant Minister For Mental Health And  
Suicide Prevention  
Assistant Minister Rural & Regional Health  
Dr. Gordon Reid MP  
Federal Member For Robertson*



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**Email: mangrovetmparmacy@gmail.com**

# Mangrove Mountain and Districts Community Group

**March meeting and AGM – 6th  
March 2025**

Sixteen members and two visitors attended this month's community group meeting and AGM.

We started with the general meeting, then paused at 8.04pm to run our Annual General Meeting. Ryan read the president's report where he noted the many positive things that have happened including a new deck and toilets for the hall. He also spoke of the success of the monthly markets. Pam read the treasurer's report, and it was good to hear that the balance is the healthiest it has been for many years.

Peter Comensoli attended as the returning officer and after declaring all positions vacant, announced the new committee :-

President: Ryan Howard  
 Vice President: Claire Podlich  
 Secretary: Kaye Pointer  
 Treasurer: Neil Harvey  
 Ordinary members: Pam Howard,  
 Justin Wood, Poppe Zouroudis  
 Public Officer: Claire Podlich  
 Hall booking officer: Ryan Howard

Thank you, Peter, for your support. We look forward to a positive year making good things happen for our Mangrove Mountain and Districts community.

We then continued with the general meeting and discussed many things:-

- The cost of insurance for the Mangrove Mountain Hall has



## Application for Appointment of Board Members

### Dooralong Community (R1001059) Reserve Land Manager

Ever wondered who is responsible for keeping Crown reserves operating?

Countless facilities like showgrounds, local halls and parks are run by Statutory Land Manager Boards, made up of people just like you. People who understand the need and have a desire to manage public land and assets for the benefit of the entire community.

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We are looking for a good mix of people with a variety of skills, however, sound business and financial management skills and objective decision-making expertise would be a distinct advantage.

Don't let this opportunity to do something for yourself and your community pass you by – contact us today.

The Dooralong Community (R1001059) Reserve Land Manager manages the Reserve No. 1001059 at Dooralong notified on 27-Mar-1998 for Public Recreation, Community Purposes. The term of appointment will be for a period not exceeding 5 years.

Application for membership can be made via [portal.crownland.nsw.gov.au](http://portal.crownland.nsw.gov.au)

All applications are required to be lodged by **18 April 2025**.

**For further information contact Joanne Muddle on (02) 4937 9364 or go to [reservemanager.crownland.nsw.gov.au](http://reservemanager.crownland.nsw.gov.au)**

increased greatly. We voted to pay it.

- The toilets near the hall are being well used, especially on market days. They have been very smelly, and we called Council who cleaned them. Council's plans for flushing toilets are in progress, so we should have good, clean toilets soon.
- Council's Music and Arts Department are supporting us financially to run the 2025 Blues on The Mountain program. Look out for a fabulous International Blues Music Day in August! Ryan has beaten Sydney to book the BEST bands.
- The hall's timber floors were given a much-needed coat during our last working bee. The next working bee

will be on Saturday, 15th March at 9am. We will be mainly working on the gardens.

- We are still liaising with Council regarding the general condition of our roads and specifically asking for a reduction in the speed at Peats Ridge from 80km/hr to 60km/hr.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, 3rd April at 7.30pm at the hall. We will be making a wish list for the year. Do come and tell us what your wishes for this area are!

Please come and join this community group. We need more members so we can work together to ensure we look after and improve this beautiful part of the world.

*Poppe Zouroudis*

IS02F59

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## Ripples Short Story Competition for Children

Our short story competition for the budding writers and dreamers of the Central Coast, NSW is now in its second year!

Students are encouraged to submit a short story, make some waves and go in the running to win prizes for both themselves and their submitting adult.

The Ripples Schools Program Story Competition is returning for another year of creative writing, imagination and literary challenge with some great prizes for entrants, their adult and their schools!

Celebrating the fifth anniversary of our Ripples Schools Program, our writing competition theme is centred around wood, the traditional five year anniversary gift.

The theme of Into the Woods

represents stepping into the unknown, perhaps the dangerous or the exciting.

What experience will send your student or child's imagination soaring?

### The Theme

For hundreds of years, woods have featured in literature, art and music. They are magical, forbidding, mysterious and places of peace and harmony with nature.

- Your challenge is to create a compelling story with your own interpretation of Into The Woods making sure to incorporate the five given words.
- Perhaps your character is lost. Maybe they live in a tree, or find something unusual hidden amongst the leaves? Have they never seen a forest or the bush before? Or – is the wood a metaphor for something else altogether?

### Guidelines

This year is our fifth festival so we are celebrating FIVE!

Your entry:

- is a short story with no chapters.
- Is original fiction, written by one young person (not a group, not using AI)
- is a narrative (not a rap, recount or poem).
- is written for this competition only.
- has a beginning, middle and end.

Avoid ending 'to be continued' or 'it was all a dream'.

- Has included these five words: Five, olive, minute, thump, wood.

### What the judges look for

All stories will be judged on the following criteria:

- Characterisation
- Structure (beginning, middle and end.)
- Plot
- Originality
- Language (Literary devices; adjectives, verbs, similes, alliteration, onomatopoeia, assonance, metaphors etc...),
- Enjoyment
- Includes the given five words

### Prizes

#### Main Prize package (The Ripples Ripper Award)

Prize Total: Two. One each for grades 4-6 and 7-9

Total Prize Value: \$700

#### Runner-Up (A Whale of a Tale Award)

Prize Total: Two. One each for grades 4-6 and 7-9

Runner-Up Prize Value (incl. GST) \$150

#### Highly Commended Prize (Simply Swell Award)

Prize Total: Two. One each for

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(ANAND)

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# Climate Update, Farmers and the Climate (The Impacts & the Policies We Need)

The changes in our weather associated with climate change are impacting on everyone's cost of living. Not just through insurance costs, which in some areas are skyrocketing, but because extreme events are damaging crops and disrupting businesses. Cyclone Alfred is a typical example.

Richard Weller and the local

grades 4-6 and 7-9

Highly Commended Prize Value (incl. GST) \$50

Timeline

- Competition opens: 9:00am [AEST] on Friday 28th March 2025
- Competition closes: 8:00 pm Friday 9th May 2025.
- Prize Winners notified by Friday 23rd May 2025.
- Competition Announcement Ceremony: Sunday 1st June 2025 at the Ripples Family Fun Day in the Peninsula Recreation Precinct (Umina Beach).

community group Climate Future are holding an information night at Mangrove Mountain Hall on Friday the 4th April 6:30pm to present information and encourage discussion.

Besides a presentation by Richard, who is an expert on extreme events, there will be a Guest Speaker, Tony Lonergan, who is a retired farmer.

Tony will talk about the impacts of warming on farming and how we need to adapt to new weather patterns. After this Richard will follow up with a short talk including the latest news on the state of our climate, the reports of increasing extreme heatwaves, fires and floods and what the science calls for in the way of policies to tackle the problem.

Finally, there will be a panel discussion/question session to engage with the audience and investigate the expected impacts and what can be done.

Richard has been presenting on the climate issue around the Coast for more than 15 years. Climate Future aim to raise awareness of climate change in the community. People need to understand the facts of the climate


For more information and to enter go to: <https://wordsonthewaves.com.au/ripples-short-story-competition/>

Words on the Waves Writers Festival

so that they are able to make up their own minds as to what to do. "We try to give people a better understanding of the problem" said Richard.

Please book your tickets through <https://www.facebook.com/climatefuturecentralcoast> where you will find all the details on the evening.

Climate Future  
a committee of CEN  
<https://climatefuture.org.au>  
<http://climatefuture.org.au>



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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](http://www.wollombi.org)

## What's on at the Wollombi Cultural Centre

Our next exhibition...  
 'WOLLOMBI CERAMIC GROUP'  
 22 March - 6th April,  
 Open 10am - 4pm

You are warmly invited to join the artists for refreshments to celebrate the exhibition opening at 4pm Saturday 22 March

"This show features local artists - Dorothee Heibel, Amanda Broberg, Sandy Hudson, Stephanie Vella and Michelle Loadman who created the

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Old Fireshed Gallery, Wollombi Cultural Center  
 Sat 12th, Sun 13th and Thu 17th - 20th Easter Monday  
 10am - 4pm

A joint exhibition with Michael O'Sullivan - see over  
 You are invited to join the artists for refreshments and music from Rob and Kate Johnstone at the gallery Saturday 12th at 4:00pm

NSW Create NSW Arts, Screen & Culture

**MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN**  
**NEW WORKS**

Old Fireshed Gallery, Wollombi Cultural Center  
 Sat 12th, Sun 13th and Thu 17th - 20th Easter Monday  
 10am - 4pm

A joint exhibition with Fiona Bateman - see over  
 You are invited to join the artists for refreshments and music from Rob and Kate Johnstone at the gallery Saturday 12th at 4:00pm

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ceramics at the Wollombi School Arts Studio, under the guidance of Amanda Davies. This is a diverse, decorative, functional show featuring sculptural work, animal studies, both abstract and realistic, interior and exterior pieces.

Something for everyone and well worth the visit."



Ceramic work by Michelle Loadsman

### The Little Yengo Gallery

The Little Yengo Gallery was built and is maintained and run by volunteers to celebrate the rich Aboriginal history and culture of Wollombi and surrounding areas. The non-profit gallery displays an extensive range of Aboriginal paintings, artworks and artefacts. The proceeds from the sale of the works, minus a small administrative fee, go directly to the artists.



Green car panel with copper work - Gavin Barlow

Wollombi means 'meeting place', our totem is the waterhen. Please come and learn the waterhen story and meet the artists. New volunteers and artists are welcome.

Visit <https://www.wollombi.org/little-yengo-gallery> for our online gallery.

Wollombi Valley Arts Council Inc  
c/o General Store, Wollombi 2325  
Email: [artscouncil@wollombi.org](mailto:artscouncil@wollombi.org)  
Web: [www.wollombi.org](http://www.wollombi.org)



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# Fairview Heritage Tours

Fairview is a heritage-listed traditional homestead at Dubbo Gully. It is well known for its magnificent setting and the central role it played in the life of the Mangrove Creek community and the Central Coast for over 100 years.

The mission of the Fairview Homestead Association is to protect and restore Fairview Homestead, to celebrate the historical and cultural significance of the Mangrove Creek community and to preserve that heritage for future generations.

To coincide with the Mangrove Mountain Markets, we plan to offer 4WD car excursions to Fairview Homestead on:

- Sunday June 1st
- Sunday July 6th
- Sunday August 3rd

On the way to Fairview Homestead, we will stop at St Thomas' Cemetery and various other locations of interest. You will discover the fascinating history of the region and the central importance of Mangrove Creek for the survival of the early colony. There will be tales of settlement, survival, secrets and skulduggery. The car excursion will suit anyone with an interest in the heritage of the area.



Above: St. Thomas Cemetery  
Below: Aerial view



## Mangrove Mountain MEMORIAL CLUB & GOLF COURSE

### WHAT'S 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



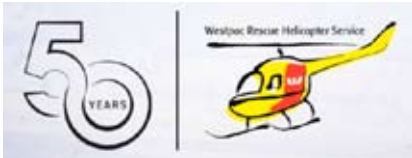
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Numbers on each trip are strictly limited and open to new and existing members of the Association. Early registration is advised.

For details, to book a place, or to become a member, please email Donna at [secretary@fairviewhomestead.com.au](mailto:secretary@fairviewhomestead.com.au) — come and join us.

Dr. Matt Lohmeyer, President  
 Fairview Homestead Association Inc.  
[president@fairviewhomestead.com.au](mailto:president@fairviewhomestead.com.au)  
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There are so many different ways to volunteer and we appreciate every person who gives their time to help us save lives.

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# Kulnura and Districts Garden Club:

March 2025

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to US! No, not Mr Trump the USA President of weird capitalisations on social media, but to US - the Kulnura And Districts Garden Club. This month our meeting was at the Somersby Hall (after a quick relocation due to impending rain-it was to be at our member Sue's garden but our committee feared we would be washed away), and we celebrated our 45th year of existence. Lots of laughs, a bring-a-plate morning tea, a delicious toffee birthday cake, and sharing of a wide variety of plants, seeds and cuttings. True to our membership of The Garden Clubs of Australia ( gardenclubs.org.au ) and its motto "Friendship Through Gardens", we celebrated our friendships and love all things to do with gardens.

Helen M did a sterling job of running the birthday meeting with great humour and efficiency. Fortunately her husband Ross M was told not to come in his 'birthday suit' after he suggested he might, as World Naked Gardening Day isn't until May!

Glynis G gave a thoroughly



Lesley & Sue with the wall hanging

researched speech about the club's history which walked our members down memory lane, highlighting the things our garden club has achieved to date (we will share excerpts of this in future Community News articles).

Did you know for example that our club was a key player in protecting and preserving the Gynea Lily for future generations? Elaine S, being one of our founding members, had lots of interesting facts and memories to add

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to the conversation.

Sue W was awarded life membership for 45 years of club membership, including many years of being a committee member and always contributing a lot of knowledge, friendship and laughter.

Lesley N sold lots of raffle tickets as well as donated our lucky door prize - a fantastic 45 year Birthday wall hanging (which appropriately was won by Sue W, and we guarantee the ticket out of a hat selection process was NOT rigged and is at least as secure as the USA Presidential election system!).

Our competition entries this month included tomatoes, beans, persimmons, pumpkins, lettuce, dahlias, tibouchina, and natives. Members also displayed various birthday items including cards, birthday flowers, posies, and paintings.

Back at home in our garden during March, grapes, eggplant, broccoli, parsley and coriander are being planted; dahlias, zinnias and the crepe myrtle continue to flower beautifully and the resplendent purple tibouchina flowers are coming out, and raspberries, tomato, okra, basil and the last of the cucumbers are being harvested. With the cyclonic conditions to our north the rains and rapidly varying weather conditions are keeping us challenged, with the mowers getting a good work-out.

An interesting garden-related book



Glynnis speaking on the clubs history

is Robert Penn's "The man who made things out of trees". This south Wales based journalist and writer has chronicled his harvesting an ash tree, and then travelling far and wide to discover ancient traditions, skills and knowledge of how to use ash tree timber to make all sorts of things including furniture, arrows and baseball bats. Reading this is inspiring us to plant some more ash trees on our property.

Being enjoyed with the morning coffee is @byrongrows YouTube channel. Byron Austin is the founder of Food-Forestry.com, an agroforestry practitioner dedicated to growing thriving food forests and helping

people reconnect with the natural world, growing food and trees in ways that regenerate the planet. His videos give excellent information about syntropic growing, permaculture and food forest design and management, and give us great inspiration for how we garden and grow.

Our next meeting will be on Monday 14th April. 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

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Set in England during the late 19th century, the play follows the lives of two young men, Jack Worthing and Algernon Moncrieff, who adopt fictional identities to escape social obligations. Jack invents a brother named Ernest, while Algernon creates an invalid friend named Bunbury. The plot unfolds with mistaken identities, clever wordplay, and humorous social

commentary.

Directed by Vivienne McLaren and starring talent from across the Central Coast, Newcastle and even Hobart, this ensemble is preparing a real treat for the senses with this latest production. A mischief-filled, confounding experience - it's sure to tickle your fancies!

Join us on Opening Night, 4th April, for a special Gala Night event! Dress up in your fanciest garb and spend a special night out at the theatre; as well as mingling with the cast after the show!

The play runs from 4th April to 12th April at Red Tree Theatre. Tickets are limited, so don't miss out on your chance to see this literary classic for yourself!

Tickets On Sale Now:  
<https://redtreetheatre.sales.ticketsearch.com/sales/sales>

Wyong Drama Group  
[info@wyongdramagroup.com.au](mailto:info@wyongdramagroup.com.au)  
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**NOTICE OF AGM**

The Annual General Meeting  
to be held on Sunday 13th April  
2025  
at 11am (after the Church Service)  
in  
the Union Church Meeting Hall, at  
2154 Wisemans Ferry Road,  
Mangrove Mountain.

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# BUCKETTY'S DA

I am a local Bucketty resident in my 10th year, who last month attended my first council meeting. It was quite enlightening to see how the process works.

My reason for attending this meeting was to follow the progress of the Bucketty Brewery's DA, a hot topic for the local residents of Ward A.

As you would expect, there are usually two sides to all DAs - those who agree with the proposal and those who don't.

At the council meeting, both parties had a three-minute opportunity to make their case before the councillors made their final decision. On this occasion, the application was deferred until the next council meeting.

I am the closest resident to the proposed brewery/café - I live on Road 5.

I am looking forward to the approval of this DA because I will be able to walk up the road to socialize, have a meal, and enjoy a cold beer, as will other residents of Bucketty. At present, we must drive a minimum of 40-50 km round trip in either direction just to do the same.

If Bucketty residents wish to have a social occasion or celebration with other members of the community, they must all endure a minimum round trip of 40-50 km.

Also, what a thought—that members of the local RFS brigade, on certain occasions after finishing their training or returning from a callout, would be able to have a social drink to relax away from the fire station!

Tourists travelling to the Hunter Valley wineries along this 53 km stretch of road between Kulnura and Laguna would be able to take a break, have a pit stop, grab something to eat, and enjoy some of the bushland walking trails to stretch their legs. Bucketty is the first

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ANNE 0412201851, PETER 0407971340



**“Stations of the Cross” on Fridays at 5pm during Lent**

**Next Mass is the 12th April 4pm**

ward in the Cessnock municipality and is very worthy of a stopover.

Over the past several years, many properties in Bucketty have changed hands, with new residents moving into the area. This development would give newcomers the opportunity to invite friends and family to a place where they can experience all that Bucketty has to offer.

With respect to those who believe this proposal will take away from the natural beauty of Bucketty, I believe it

will do the opposite—it will highlight and share our beautiful bushland, our birds, our wallabies, and, if you're lucky, you might even see a koala.

This country has been built on the back of Australians having a go, and this proposal embodies that spirit.

I urge anyone reading this letter who believes in the principles that build communities to please send an email to the council or call and speak to your local councillor.

*Roger Danne*



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# Weeds of Concern

## Sticky nightshade

*Solanum sisymbriifolium*

Sticky nightshade is an introduced weed that is native to South America.

### How does this weed affect you?

Sticky nightshade is an invasive plant that:

- competes with crops and pastures
- prevents native plants from growing
- has sharp prickles which can injure people, pets, livestock and native animals
- can make harvesting difficult (for example in vineyards).

### Poisoning

Sticky nightshade contains steroidal glycoalkaloids toxins. It is suspected to have caused cattle deaths in the Greater Sydney Region.



Top left: Sticky nightshade fruit is bright red (Marita Sydes, Local Land Service);  
 Top right: Sticky nightshade may have white, pale blue or mauve petals (Eleena Markcrow, NSW DPIRD);  
 Left: Sticky nightshade in flower (Marita Sydes, Local Land Services)



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### What does it look like?

Sticky nightshade is an erect plant to 1.5 m high. Most of the plant is hairy and covered in very sharp prickles. It is an annual or short-lived perennial. Multiple, severe frosts may kill the above ground parts of the plant but it will reshoot from rhizomes in spring. It can flower within 5 weeks of germination or regrowth from rhizomes. Flowering is usually during spring and summer.

#### Leaves are:

- sticky
- green to yellowish on both sides

#### Prickles are:

- yellow to red and sometimes brown on older prickles
- 1–10 mm long
- on stems, leaves (top and bottom), leaf stalks and at the base of flowers.

#### Flowers are:

- white or pale bluish-purple
- star shaped with 5 petals that curve backwards and bright yellow anthers in the centre
- present spring to summer

#### Fruit are:

- round berries, bright red when ripe
- 15–20 mm diameter.

#### Stems are:

- erect
- green to purplish brown in colour.

#### Roots:

- are extensive
- produce horizontal underground stems known as rhizomes



Sticky nightshade can sprout from small rhizome fragments (Kevin Watling, Castlereagh Macquarie County Council)

### How does it spread?

#### By Seed

- birds and foxes eating ripe fruit and excreting viable seeds
- dead branches with fruit blowing along the ground dispersing seed
- water as the fruit floats and can be carried in runoff, rivers and streams
- slashers
- movement of contaminated soil and fodder
- movement of soil on cultivation and earthmoving equipment.

### By plant parts

Sticky nightshade can grow from root or rhizome fragments. Branches develop roots where they touch moist soil. The plant fragments are spread by:

- contaminated soil
- cultivation equipment
- earth moving equipment.

### Control

#### Early detection

Check for plants regularly because sticky nightshade can flower within 5 weeks from sprouting.

#### Manual

Chip or dig out small plants and remove all of the roots. Wear appropriate protective clothing, boots and gloves to avoid injury from the prickles.

#### Chemical

Spray plants according to the labels and permit for effective control. Thoroughly spray all leaves and stems and spray the plant from all sides if possible.

Spraying will kill the plant but not the viable seeds. Remove the fruit from each plant and dispose of appropriately to avoid adding to the seed bank in the soil.

For more information go to:

<https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/Weeds/StickyNightshade>

DPI NSW WeedWise

## UPCOMING CATTLE AUCTIONS

### Maitland Regional Saleyards

- Weekly Monday Liveweight Cattle Sales 9am, followed by Calves, Pigs & Sheep from 12 noon.
- Monthly Store Cattle Sales - April 12
- Mackas Angus Female Sale - March 20, 11am
- Annual Feature Angus Weaner Sale - April 3 11am

### Gloucester Saleyards

- Fortnightly Thursday Store Cattle Sales - Mar 27

### On-farm

- Yamba Woota Angus Bull Sale, Mar 28

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

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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.calgamtwite@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: <a href="http://www.facebook.com/YarralongRuralFireBrigade/">www.facebook.com/ YarralongRuralFireBrigade/</a> 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 Wed 9.30am-2pm at the Health Centre, Nurses Rd, Central Mangrove
Coastlink Friendship Group		
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 Kariiong. Contact: Glenis Ph: 0400 486 760
Kulnura & District Garden Club		Second Monday, 9.30 for 10am start. Jacqui Maxwell 0455364262 kulnuradgc@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 Singers		1st & 3rd Tue, 6.00 7.30pm at Mangrove Golf Club, enquiries - Kim 0401516501
Mangrove Mountain & Districts Community Group		1st Thurs of the Month, excl Jan. 7.30pm, Mangrove Mtn Hall.
Mangrove Emergency Planning & Communications Committee		Contact: mepccinc@gmail.com, 0412669649
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)		<a href="http://www.mountaindistrictsassociation.com.au">www.mountaindistrictsassociation.com.au</a> 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, 0436482201, 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
St Barnabas Christian Service Yarralong		Every Sunday, 9.30am. (Easter & (Christmas Carols dates to be advised)

(cont'd next page)

## LIVESTOCK MARKET REPORT



### Maitland Liveweight Cattle Sale 3rd March 2025

350 Cattle yarded today at Maitland.  
300 trade/yearling cattle and 50  
export.

Trade job remained firm. Export Job  
was cheaper on last week.

- Restocker steers up to 250kg made  
300c/kg to 456c/kg
- 250kg-300kg made 340c/kg to 434c/  
kg
- 300kg to 380kg made 310c/kg to  
400c/kg
- Restocker Heifers up to 250kg made  
250c/kg to 350c/kg
- 250kg-300kg made 270c/kg to 335c/  
kg
- 300kg-380kg made 280c/kg to 340c/  
kg
- Yearling Steers to Feed made 330c/  
kg to 375c/kg
- Yearling Heifers to Feed made 280c/  
kg to 340c/kg
- Butcher Vealers made 330c/kg to  
380c/kg
- Cows Made 150c/kg to 280c/kg
- Bullocks made 270c/kg to 310c/kg

### Maitland Liveweight Cattle Sale 17th February 2025

450 Cattle yarded today at Maitland.  
420 Trade/Yearling cattle and 30  
exports.

Trade job was firm to 15c stronger.  
Export job remained firm.

- Restocker steers up to 250kg made  
330c/kg to 465c/kg
- 250kg-300kg made 330c/kg to 425c/  
kg
- 300kg to 380kg made 320c/kg to  
406c/kg



- Restocker Heifers up to 250kg made 240c/kg to 335c/kg
- 250kg-300kg made 250c/kg to 355c/kg
- 300kg-380kg made 270c/kg to 344c/kg
- Yearling Steers to Feed made 330c/kg to 406c/kg
- Yearling Heifers to Feed made 280c/kg to 320c/kg
- Butcher Vealers made 320c/kg to 360c/kg
- Cows Made 150c/kg to 280c/kg
- Bulls made 240c/kg to 260c/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.

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## REGULAR ACTIVITIES & MEETINGS (cont'd)

**Catholic Service - Central Mangrove**  
- Spencer  
- Wollombi  
- Yarramalong

**Divine Retreat Centre**

**Serbian Orthodox**

**Kariong Community Baptist Church**

**Restitution Ministries  
Independent SDA Church**

**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**  
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

Saturdays 5pm St. Dionysios Greek Orthodox Church, 21 Nurses Rd, Central Mangrove, Contact Nai Hereford 0405 558 669  
Holy Trinity Church, 2nd Sat of the month 4pm, Contact 0412 201 851 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  
Daily Holy Mass 8.00am to 8.30 am  
Last Sun, 9am-4pm, One Day Retreat.  
160 Hensons Road, Somersby Ph 0243721598  
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](mailto:pastorkcbc@outlook.com)  
10am every Saturday, Mangrove Mountain Union Church.  
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](http://www.henrykendallcottage.org.au)  
Last Sat of month. All welcome, contact Jan Kofron 0405321478 [jankofron@optusnet.com.au](mailto: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](mailto:pbaboriginalhistory@gmail.com)  
Open Sun to Thurs, 10am-2pm, other times by appt. Contact 43521886 email [info@alisonhomestead.com.au](mailto:info@alisonhomestead.com.au) website: [www.alisonhomestead.com.au](http://www.alisonhomestead.com.au)  
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](mailto: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](mailto:mmucsecretary@outlook.com)  
Hall bookings: 0413 359 655 or AH 4373 1488  
[enquiries@yarramalonghall.org.au](mailto:enquiries@yarramalonghall.org.au)  
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# CENTRAL COAST COUNCIL APPOINTS NEW ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING DIRECTOR

Central Coast Council is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr Danielle Toase as its new Director Environment and Planning, following an extensive recruitment process.

Dr Toase will oversee the Environment and Planning directorate within Council, leading functions



such as Development Assessment, Environmental Management and Environmental Compliance.

Danielle is an Environment and Planning Executive with a wealth of experience across the corporate, consulting, regulatory, research and Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) sectors.

Widely recognised as a leader in her field, Danielle's expertise has led her to publish over 10 academic papers and share her insights as an expert panellist and presenter at conferences across Australia, Europe and the USA. Danielle is motivated by the opportunity to apply her multi-disciplinary skills and experience to drive positive environmental and developmental outcomes in the community that she calls home.

Council's CEO David Farmer, announced the appointment this week saying Council is very fortunate to have Dr Toase join the executive team.

"With her industry expertise, I am sure that our Environment and Planning team will continue to deliver high quality services to the Central Coast community."

Central Coast Council is the third largest Council in NSW and it has one of the most diverse environmental and built communities. With a growing

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population, the Environment and Planning directorate are planning for continued growth and maintaining the lifestyle that is enjoyed by our community.

Central Coast Council  
Media Release

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