

COMMUNITY NEWS

No. 967 Ph: 4374 1039 Mo: 0412 669 649 Email: enquiries@cnews1.com.au

Web: cnews1.com.au 20th June 2025

Community Transport & Health Connections Update

We had a good ALICE community meeting last Thursday with Community Transport which was attended by the current General Manager of Central Coast Community Transport, Helen Crouch, and the upcoming General Manager Tara Russell.

Helen and Tara explained how Hornsby Kuringai Community Transport have taken over the management of Central Coast Community Transport and shared with us their services and the planned activities they have for the Mangrove Mountain region.

We had an interested and vocal representation of community issues with residents from Spencer, Kulnura, Bucketty, Peats Ridge and Yarramalong attending. Issues raised included the scarcity of public transport, the cost and availability of community transport options, and that these require people to be receiving Commonwealth Home Support Services (CHSP), the need for a regular shopping bus, and one for social outings.

Helen explained that there is currently a shopping bus that takes Spencer residents to Erina Fair twice

each month, discussion was had to see if this bus could also stop off at central points along the way e.g. Mangrove Mountain Store, Central Mangrove and Somersby school to pick up other eligible residents.

Community Transport has also begun their social outings program that will be able to pick up eligible residents in the region and take them to social activities across the Central Coast on a monthly basis. We also asked if this could occur on the plateau for special events such as the County Fair, and Tara will be working with Fiona and the community to make this happen.

For more information on Community Transport for the Central Coast regional and to see if you are eligible, use this link <https://communitytransport.org.au/home-central-coast/> check them out on Facebook: Hornsby Ku-ring-gai & Central Coast Community Transport | Sydney NSW | Facebook or call 02 4355 4588.

We are also beginning our ALICE 'Health Connections Kiosk' program soon, see info below.

ALICE Health Connections kiosk

to address options and issues for older people living in rural areas – bimonthly program starting in July.

The Central Coast Local Health District's ALICE (all-inclusive care for older people) project will begin its 'Health Connections Kiosk' that will be held twice a month on the 1st and 3rd Monday's between 9am and 12.30pm in the CCLHD's Community Health Clinic building at 13 Nurses Road, Central Mangrove. The Health Connections Kiosk will be a community hub for older people, providing information, social support and assistance to access health, transport, and other services. The first kiosk bookings will be for Monday 21 July and can be made by emailing Fiona.morrison1@health.nsw.gov.au or calling 0477 752 365.

Please join us at 1pm on Monday, 7 July at the Community Health Clinic, 13 Nurses Road, Central Mangrove, to find out more about the ALICE Health Connections Kiosk and how this program can assist you and you, your family, friends, and neighbours to remain independent, safe, and well. Tea, coffee, and biscuits will be provided. For more information or to register your interest please email Fiona.morrison1@health.nsw.gov.au or call 0477 752 365.

Kind regards,

Fiona Morrison

*ALICE Community Engagement Officer
Health Quality, Strategy and
Improvement Unit*

*Central Coast Local Health District
T (02) 4320 2522 M 0477 752 365
E fiona.morrison1@health.nsw.gov.au*

"If you want to know who rules over you, look at who you are not allowed to criticize."

George Orwell

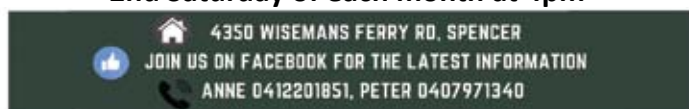
HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Spencer

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**For this month, Mass will be held on 21st June, 4pm
and then revert to the usual
2nd Saturday of each month at 4pm**



**We would love the opportunity to meet you and welcome you
to our community.**

Arrive earlier and enjoy a picnic under a shady tree in our

STOP!

Next issue Published
4th July 2025

**** DEADLINE ****

**** 27th June '25 ****

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Safety on School Buses

After some incidents on local school buses that led to children being injured, in 2024 I and other parents contacted our local MP's to ask that buses on school runs be fitted with seat belts.

Both Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford and Gordon Reid, Member for Robertson, referred the issue to Jenny Aitchison, the NSW Minister for Roads and Regional Transport.

To paraphrase the response:

- Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002 require all regular route services to be timetabled as accessible services.

- Vehicle standards introduced after the 2023 Hunter Valley bus crash will require seatbelts in all models by 2027, but key exemptions remain.

Now Queensland parents are pushing for compulsory school bus seatbelts and one Queensland mum pointed out: "You can get into so much trouble with a kid not having a seatbelt in your car," Ms Crocker said.

"Even a dog on the back of a ute has to be restrained, but we're putting kids on buses that are travelling on the same road as big road trains."

Check the full ABC story at:

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-06-12/parents-urge-government-to-make-school-bus-seatbelts-compulsory/105393710>

A NSW program that ended in 2024 saw 82 additional dedicated school

"You can get into so much trouble with a kid not having a seatbelt in your car," Ms Crocker said.

"Even a dog on the back of a ute has to be restrained, but we're putting kids on buses that are travelling on the same road as big road trains."

- Seat belts are not compatible with the needs of passengers who require the amenity of flip-down seats to accommodate trolleys, mobility aids, prams, and back rests for wheelchair users.
- Local bus services did not pass the Transport for NSW risk-based assessments.
- Even if the risk threshold was exceeded only dedicated school buses would be fitted with seat belts. An investigation by Brandon Long and Liam McNally of the ABC found:
- WA mandated seatbelts on all school buses 20 years ago, but the rest of the country still allows children to travel unrestrained.
- Various governments have cited high costs and logistical challenges as a barrier.

buses in outer metropolitan areas being retrofitted with seat belts.

Let's face it, the real reasons for not having seat belts fitted to all school run buses are cost and increased difficulty in co-ordinating bus operations.

All users need seatbelts and large items should be restrained when buses travel on rural roads..

In taxis, wheelchairs are extremely well secured.

Kids are used to wearing seat belts, they have been using them all their lives. If I'm slow in buckling up, my kids are quick to remind me.

A risk-based approach just means that the Government is willing to accept a "small" number of kids being maimed or killed in exchange for savings in the budget.

Why wait for a disaster?

Keith Aranjo

REGISTER YOUR COMMUNITY GROUP OR ORGANISATION

What matters to you?

Tell us about your community group or organisation so we can better engage and communicate with you.

Council is inviting expressions of interest from established community groups and organisations to actively participate in Council's engagement program.

Council's Engagement Team want to hear from community groups and organisations to help us understand who they are, their key areas of interest and how we can better engage with them.

This project is part of our commitment to better understand our diverse community. It will help us plan for more inclusive and meaningful engagement and build trust through transparent communication.

By developing a consolidated list of community groups, we can ensure that the right people are informed about the decisions that affect them - helping us deliver more responsive, inclusive and community-led outcomes.

What if our community group already communicates with a Council department?

That's great - and we want to build on that!

Many community groups already have relationships with specific Council teams, such as Community Development, Open Space and Recreation, Libraries or Environmental Services.

This project is not about replacing those connections. Instead, it's about the Engagement Team creating a whole-of-Council view of who our community groups are, what they care about and how they prefer to be

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engaged with.

This will help us identify gaps where groups may not be engaged in broader planning or consultation and ensure your group is informed about relevant projects and opportunities across all areas of Council - not just the ones you already work with.

Included in this project

- Community groups
- Community organisations
- Community agencies
- Not-for-profit community organisations
- Social enterprises

Not included in this project

- Individuals acting in a personal capacity
- Businesses or commercial entities
- Matters relating to direct service delivery and operational projects

What information are we seeking from Community Groups?

We are seeking to understand:

- Who our community groups are
- The services you provide
- The people you provide it to
- The areas you service
- Your group's interests in relation to Council's engagement opportunities
- How you'd like to be engaged
- Any challenges or opportunities you see in engaging with Council

How will the information be used?

The information you provide will be used by Council to:

- Build an up-to-date list of community groups across the Central Coast LGA
- Inform future engagement planning and ensure relevant groups are notified about engagement projects related to their interests
- Help Council understand the interests, needs and strengths of our community
- Identify challenges and opportunities to support more transparent, inclusive and meaningful engagement

What about individuals and businesses?

For this project, we are wanting to hear from community groups specifically. However, there are still ways you can get involved.

What is Community Engagement and how does it differ from other Council departments?

Community Engagement is the intentional process of working with the community and stakeholders to shape decisions, actions and outcomes that affect them. It's about creating opportunities for people to participate in Council's decision-making in a way that is inclusive, transparent and meaningful.

While other Council departments may focus on delivering specific services (like waste, roads, or planning), the Community Engagement team works across the entire organisation to ensure that community voices are heard and considered in shaping those services and their guiding policies, strategies and plans.

To learn more about Community Engagement and our commitment to enhancing engagement and collaboration with the community, view our Community Engagement Strategy at <https://www.yourvoiceourcoast.com/draft-community-engagement-strategy>.

To find out more and register go to: <https://www.yourvoiceourcoast.com/connecting-community-groups-and-organisations>

Who's listening

Have questions or want to learn more about this project? Contact us below.

Contact Information

Name: Engagement Team

Email: Engage@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au

nsw.gov.au

Contact Information

Name: Courtney Carswell -

Community Engagement Officer

Email Courtney.Carswell@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au

centralcoast.nsw.gov.au

Central Coast Council

Media Release

Dr. S. ANANDASIVAM

(ANAND)

MBBS, FRACGP, AMCC

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HARVEST FESTIVAL ATTRACTS TENS OF THOUSANDS TO THE COAST

Central Coast Council's annual Harvest Festival, held over the June long weekend, has once again welcomed thousands of visitors from across the region and beyond. With 36 unique rural experiences on offer, this year's festival had something for everyone.

The popular winter event returned with a range of fun activities including farm tours, fruit picking, animal encounters. Visitors also enjoyed high tea in the orchards, art workshops, whisky tastings accompanied by bagpipes, live country music, and even whip-cracking demonstrations.

Central Coast Council Director of Community and Recreation Services, Melanie Smith, said the festival continues to grow in popularity and community spirit.

"We're absolutely thrilled with the turnout - over 68,000 people came out to enjoy the Coast's beautiful hinterland. That's more than a third up on last year, which is just amazing," Ms Smith said.

"Harvest Festival started back in 2017 with around 10,000 visitors,



so to see it evolve into such a loved event is something we're proud of. It's a real team effort from local farmers, creators and businesses who make it such a success."

Central Coast Council Mayor, Lawrie McKinna, said the festival is a major boost for our local businesses and importantly injected millions directly into our economy.

"I am thrilled that despite the current cost-of-living pressures on many in the community, this year's Harvest Festival drew the largest crowd yet, with over \$8 million flowing into the local economy, Mayor McKinna said.

"Festival participants received an abundance of positive feedback from the community and visitors, many of which travelled from Sydney and

beyond to experience the unique events on offer within our Central Coast rural farming communities."

"Harvest Festival is a great day out, and plays a key role to support local jobs, showcases our region's growers and producers and highlights sustainable farming practices in our beautiful hinterland."

"Events like the Harvest Festival are critical for small businesses and tourism across our valleys and mountain communities. They support and shine a light on areas like Mangrove Mountain, Peats Ridge and Somersby."

Learn more about the event, search Harvest Festival at lovecentralcoast.com

Central Coast Council Media Release



Mountain Medicine

Providing the local community with a collaborative approach to multidisciplinary healthcare.

Dr Christine Wade

B.Med (Hons) FRACGP

Dr Sepali de Silva

MBBS

Dr Rohan Dissanayake

MBBS

Dr Anisa Rouhipour

MBBS

Torin O' Grady

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Understanding Tinnitus and How Hearing Aids Can Help

Tinnitus is often described as a ringing, buzzing, or humming sound in the ears that isn't caused by an external source. It affects millions of people worldwide, and while it can be a minor annoyance for some, it can significantly impact quality of life for others, leading to sleep disturbances, difficulty concentrating, and even anxiety or depression.

Tinnitus is not a condition itself, but rather a symptom of an underlying issue - most commonly, hearing loss. When the brain receives fewer sound signals from the ears, it can attempt to "fill in" the missing information, creating the perception of noise that isn't really there.

How Hearing Aids Can Help

For many people, hearing aids are an effective tool for managing tinnitus. Here's how they help:

- **Amplifying Environmental Sounds:** By restoring access to background sounds, hearing aids can make the tinnitus less noticeable. The brain becomes more engaged with real sounds, which can help mask the internal noise.
- **Reducing the Strain on Hearing:** When hearing loss is corrected, the brain doesn't have to work as hard to understand sounds, which can reduce the perception of tinnitus.
- **Sound Therapy Features:** Many modern hearing aids include built-in sound therapy programs, playing gentle sounds like white noise, ocean waves, or soft music, which can further help distract from tinnitus and promote relaxation.
- **Improving Communication and Mood:** Better hearing often leads to easier conversations, less frustration, and improved social interaction - all of which can help reduce the stress and anxiety that often make tinnitus worse.

Taking the First Step

If you experience persistent ringing or buzzing in your ears, it's important to consult an Audiologist. They can assess your hearing, determine if hearing aids are a suitable option, and create a personalized plan to help you manage your tinnitus effectively.

Living with tinnitus can be challenging, but with the right support—such as hearing aids—many people find significant relief and regain control of their daily lives

*Jithin Jacob, BSc Sp&Hg, MSc Audiology,
MACAud, Qualified Tinnitus Retraining
Therapist.*

*Director and Audiologist
Welfast Hearing Pty Ltd*

Ph:0243115511

<http://welfasthearing.com.au/>

SATURDAY CRAFT GROUP

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Repurposing Gosford Library

The overarching Government Architect of NSW (GANSW) directive to repurpose Gosford Library within the Gosford Urban Design Framework (UDF) supports the ongoing CBD revitalisation, population growth, future needs of greenspace, open space and quality standalone community infrastructure for Kibble Park. During public consultation, the Central Coast Council promoted the UDF design principles for Kibble Park as guiding the park's revitalisation, highlighting 'especially' to repurpose Gosford Library. The Council's UDF deviation to demolish the modernist, National Trust registered, Gosford Library to create a pavement and steps removes the GANSW's optimal greenspace for Kibble Park. Council's switch to repurpose the Parkhouse entails major investment for significant structural upgrades, improvements and ongoing maintenance. Historian, Merril Jackson states this deviation is 'unacceptable, as it undermines the GANSW's authority, and the Council's responsibility to protect and preserve local heritage'. Previously commissioned heritage assessment reports affirming Gosford Library's significance and heritage value have been publicly withheld by the

Council. Gosford Library's history and heritage reveals the prominent Sydney architect, Alan Williams designed a bespoke non-institutionalised literary space, the building's quality and built-to-last longevity is accredited to internationally renowned structural engineers of Sydney Opera House, Ove Arup.

The Gosford Library, as Jackson emphasises, is identified within the UDF as a built heritage asset, and registered significant 20th mid-century architecture by the Australian Institute of Architects.

The library's construction involved Sydney and Canberra based mid-century architectural trailblazers, and groundbreaking usage of technically advanced architectural and construction firsts in NSW, including and not limited to, the CSIRO scientifically developed structural timber laminates.

Other mid-century collaborators included mechanical/electrical engineers, D. S. Thomas & Partners, notable building company, A. W. Edwards, timber carpentry craftsmanship Hardys Joinery and Hancock Bros (Canberra), and pioneering mid-century concrete artisan, Rinaldo Umberto Fabbro.

Special associations to Gosford Library include iconic Australian structures, such as, The National Carillon, Australia Square, Sydney Law Courts Building Queen's Square, Sydney MLC Building Podium & The

Commercial Travellers' Association

Club (Mushroom), Academy of Science, National Library of Australia, and the Australian War Memorial.

Reinstating the GANSW endorsed design principle, 'Re-purpose library' ensures the qualified urban planned UDF delivers the prime city 'green room' for Kibble Park and is inclusive of the quality greenspace urban landscape infrastructure as authorised by the GANSW. Championed under the Liberal Government and supported by Central Coast Regional Development, the UDF provides a strategic urban planned vision to increase greenspace, provide community infrastructure to support population growth into the future. Jackson urges people to breakthrough the myth-making claims, as they bear no substance to the truth, stating, 'The GANSW carefully selected the architecturally significant building to repurpose in Kibble Park, not the Parkhouse. Building inspections from 2022 and 2024 confirm the good condition of the Gosford Library building. The GANSW duly considered the current and longtime future needs of greenspace, open space, and the population growth of Gosford City, and emphasised it important to retain GOSFORD LIBRARY'. Council's online 'Future of the current Gosford Library building' survey is open until June 11, 2025 <https://www.yourvoiceourcost.com/GLB>

Press Release, Merril Jackson OAM

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It Takes a Village to Build a Village: 30-day Campaign for Gosford's Cultural Future

An abandoned ex-bank shell is being reborn into a permanent, community Arts & Culture Centre in the beating heart of the upcoming Gosford Entertainment Precinct on Mann Street through the passionate & strategic volunteer work of residents, neighbours, artists, businesses and allies determined to ensure Gosford's lift out of the 40 year slump and status as the number 1 city in Australia for business failure.

The trailblazing arts organisation, Funhaus Factory behind more than 500 vibrant activations across the Central Coast which have attracted 50,000+ participants, created over \$600,000+ in paid Artist opportunities, across 1,100+ artist engagements as well as an additional half a million dollars in paid jobs across Arts Administration, Marketing, Operations, Food & Beverage jobs has today launched a 30-day crowdfunding drive to raise the final \$77,240 needed to open the doors and pass compliance.

For six years, Funhaus has enriched the region with new possibilities, delivering unprecedented vibrancy, cohesion and positive recognition for the region with multiple awards including the NSW STATE WINNER Origami "Folding light and Sound" as the first time the region has ever received a state award for Arts, Culture and collaboration & National winners of the ABC Heywire awards for the YAAS youth program as one of the most innovative in the country, saving lives and building resilience.

"We have been working towards this ambitious project for six years; it's the hardest thing we have ever attempted" says Acting GM Juan Iocco and "every cent is a key that unlocks community potential."



Unsuccessful in their state infrastructure funding bids, the self-funded community project has been achieved through the determination of the 300 strong volunteers and committee, working up to 18-hour days sacrificing the organisations 6yr savings pool, previously earmarked for 25/26 Arts Programming.

Creative Director Glitta Supernova stated "Independent Cultural spaces are so important for community & CBD building—it's where we share stories, exchange ideas, and build connections. Alongside all the cranes in the air we are the cranes on the ground, accelerating our society and changing culture.

"With no income and mounting bills, we're asking the community we are serving to support finishing the build to gain our occupancy certificate. Costs from floor grinding for accessibility to mandatory fire safety upgrades are urgent, practical needs. None are luxuries and each unlocks a vital possibility."

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Mountain Anglican News

We were excited recently to welcome three new members of the Christian family.

Robyn, Charlotte and Amelia were baptised and then Christened by Rev Jim in a ceremony at the front of our

congregation at our usual 8am service at the Peats Ridge Scout Hall. The candidates were each presented with a Bible suitable for their age, a small cross made from wood from the Holy Land, their certificates of baptism as entered into the church register and a knitted teddy bear.

The ceremony was followed by a morning tea party with goodies for the adults and children.

On the 8th of June the Christian



MILL CREEK WONDERS: A WALKING ADVENTURE

Sunday 3rd August.
9am - 4pm

Adventure into the heart of Hawkesbury sandstone country with like-minded others. Starting with morning tea at a Hawkesbury River cafe we set out to the valley and gradually

church celebrated the feast of Pentecost which occurs 7 weeks after Easter Sunday. It is the day that the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples in a rushing wind and tongues of flame. In keeping with our church tradition, the congregation wore something red to symbolise the flame and feasted on red food after the service. As part of our own tradition for this day we lit the first wood fire of the year.

Just a reminder that we meet at 8am on every Sunday morning at the Scout Hall 153 George Downes Drive Central Mangrove, to worship God. For enquiries about this, our Bible discussion or prayer groups, etc., the Rev Jim can be contacted on 0407 210 861.

God bless,

Mountain Anglicans



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- Monthly Store Cattle Sales - June 21 & July 19, 11am

Gloucester Saleyards

- Fortnightly Thursday Store Cattle Sales - July 3 & July 17, 11am

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ascend through gullies amongst honeycomb caves to Flat Rocks Ridge engravings. On the way identifying the spectacular wild flowers, majestic water gums and angophoras. Hear about the histories of Gunderman and Mill Creeks and McCarthy's explorations of these open air galleries with Paddy Pallin in the 1940s.

Ticket Price: \$85 + Booking Fee

With local outdoor guide Mike Breheny who has lived in the Mangrove Creek area for over 30 years gaining extensive geographical and botanical knowledge that he loves sharing with others.

Join Heritage Ventures 3rd August
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Don't get scammed this tax season

As tax time approaches, scams targeting individuals and businesses ramp up – and government impersonation scams are among the most convincing. ID Support NSW is helping local councils and communities stay ahead of this threat. To find out more, order free resources or get in touch, visit ID Support NSW.

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What's on at the Wollombi Cultural Centre Old Fireshed Gallery

Our next exhibition...

WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS NOW! A CREATIVE WAKE-UP CALL TO PROTECT OUR PLANET AND EMPOWER CHANGE

Featuring artists...

Stephanie Vella, Kerryn Raco, Rode Vella Campbell Murray, Simon Mariner

This exhibition is a growing conversation. Visitors are encouraged to scrawl their own ideas, hopes, and solutions - becoming part of a collective vision for a better future.

20 June - 6 July 2025

OPEN 10am - 4pm DAILY



What the World Needs NOW! is not just an art exhibition - it's a vibrant, provocative space for reflection, action, and inspiration. Taking over the Old Fireshed Gallery in the Hunter Valley



YOU ARE INVITED TO..

Ladies of the Valley and friends

"Sip and Chat"

1st July 2025, Tuesday
1pm - 2.30pm

FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH
You are all warmly invited to our next *Sip & Chat* gathering...

Join us for an easy relaxed and friendly afternoon of conversation over coffee, tea or something cheekier. Whether you're catching up with old friends or looking to make new ones, you're more than welcome.

Where: Angels Sussurri Cafe - Yarramalong
(A range of beverages & delicious treats available to purchase)

For more information contact Margaret Dale 0411 104 770

It's a lovely way to connect, unwind and enjoy the company of fellow women from the Valley and beyond!

this June, the show brings together a bold group of artists challenging us to see the everyday choices that shape our world.

Through recycled materials, playful disruption, and a defiant spirit of non-conformity, this mixed-media exhibition urges us to rethink what we value and how we live. It asks: What if the solution isn't out there, but right here—in our homes, our communities, our own hands?

A collaboration with a clear message: we can all make a difference.

>From fashion made with purpose to sculptures that re-use discarded objects, from sonic art that stirs the senses to interactive spaces where visitors can contribute their own visions, this show celebrates creativity as a force for change.

Wollombi Valley Arts Council Inc

Web: www.wollombi.org

Email: artscouncil@wollombi.org



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Mountain community children's centre inc.

Mountain Community Children's Centre News

Biggest Morning Tea

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Biggest Morning Tea in May. Thank you to the CWA Mangrove evening group. We had a very successful event with so many donations of baked goods to share. We raised over \$2600 for the Cancer Council and Cancer Research.

Mother's Day Afternoon Tea

We had a wonderful afternoon celebrating all our mums and important women in the children's lives. Thank you to everyone who joined us to share an afternoon of fun activities with your children.

Living Safely with Dogs

We had a fantastic learning experience with a visit from a dog from the Living Safely with Dogs program for early childhood. The program reinforces the importance of approaching dogs safely and checking with their owner before touching them.

Swag Full of Instruments

We also enjoyed an entertaining morning of music and learning about a variety of instruments from all over the world with Greg Dimmock.

Enrolments for 2026

If you would like to join our waiting list or have a look around the centre, please feel free to give us a call on

43741239. Noni, our very friendly administration officer, would be more than happy to post out an enrolment pack or organise a tour of the centre. We look forward to welcoming you to our centre.

Until next time with news from the Children's Centre.

Louisa Foxford, Director
Mountain Community Children's Centre
2829 Wisemans Ferry Road
Mangrove Mountain
NSW 2250
Ph: 43741239
Email: mountainchildren@bigpond.com
www.mountainchildren.com.au



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Do you know your General Biosecurity Duty?

Biosecurity is the protection of the economy, environment and community from the negative impacts of pests and diseases, weeds and contaminants.

We can only successfully manage biosecurity when every person plays a part. The idea that biosecurity is a shared responsibility means we all need to do our bit to protect the economy, environment and community from biosecurity threats.

Being biosecure will help:

- Keep your animals safe from disease
- You to grow more produce and reduce impacts of weeds and pests
- Help our primary producers gain better yields at lower costs, whilst maintaining access to interstate and international markets
- Reduce stock losses and infrastructure damage by pest animals.

Everyone has a role to play in protecting against biosecurity risks. Do you know yours? This responsibility is known as your General Biosecurity Duty (GBD) and your role under the Biosecurity Act 2015 is to prevent, eliminate or minimise pest animals, weeds and their impacts.



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Pest animals and weeds cause significant damage to our environment, agriculture and communities. If you own, occupy or manage land in NSW, you have a responsibility to be aware of pest animals and weeds on your land and take action to effectively manage them.

How to meet your General Biosecurity Duty for managing pests and weeds:

- take action to prevent, eliminate or minimise pests and weeds
- participate in control programs with

your neighbours

- report pest and weed sightings

There is no 'one-size-fits-all' approach and you are not expected to know everything. The good news is support is available to suit your situation.

For advice on meeting your GBD call your local biosecurity officer on 1300 795 299 or visit the GBD website: <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity/your-role-in-biosecurity>.

NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development



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This 3-bedroom home has been tastefully updated with smart kitchen including Bosch convection hot plate and oven and large centre island. There is wonderful flow through the adjacent large informal living area out to the wide covered entertaining spaces on both sides of the house, and on to the sparkling concrete, heated salt-water pool. Elevated views are enjoyed from most rooms in the house

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Two Award-Winning Kids Shows Take Over Gosford This July School Holidays

This July, FunHaus Factory invites families across the Central Coast to trade the screens for slime, science, and side-splitting laughs with two nationally touring, high-energy kids shows.

The Magical World of Crazy Science – July 12

Get ready for an unforgettable experience as The Magical World of Crazy Science brings its wildly popular mix of science, magic, comedy, mime, and music to the stage! With over 5,000 shows performed across Australia and overseas, including eight tours of New Zealand, this high-energy spectacle is one of the top-rated science shows for schools, festivals, and theatres. Expect mind-blowing experiments, giant bubbles, and explosive fun for the whole family!

Bubbles, foam, fire, and fizz! This explosive mix of spectacular science and theatrical magic takes audiences on a wild journey through chemistry, physics, and chaos. Packed with eye-popping experiments and larger-than-life reactions, Crazy Science is an interactive all-ages spectacle guaranteed to dazzle kids and grown-ups alike.

Mr Snotbottom's Stinky Silly Show – July 19

Beloved by children and secretly adored by their parents, Mr Snotbottom is a one-of-a-kind performer known for his outrageous blend of gross-out comedy, silly songs, and laugh-out-loud physical theatre. Often described as a cross between Shrek and Mr Bean, Mr Snotbottom takes audiences on a

whirlwind ride of slimy silliness and toilet humour that's perfect for children aged 5 and up – and their even weirder grown-ups.

With rave reviews across Australia and a reputation for turning squeals into belly laughs, this is a family show that guarantees howls of delight, plenty of groans, and loads of unforgettable fun.

Brace yourselves for burps, bottoms, and belly laughs. Described as "Mr Bean for kids," Mr Snotbottom's riotous comedy show delivers big on gross-out giggles and toilet humour, with loads of interactive fun and

physical comedy. It's the kind of show kids love – and adults secretly enjoy too.

A Perfect Holiday Treat – Without Leaving Town

We're thrilled to bring these two smash-hit shows to the Central Coast. It's a chance for families to enjoy top-quality entertainment without needing to travel to the big city.

Tickets available via the funHaus factory website <https://funhausfactory.org.au/whats-on/>

FunHaus Factory Team



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SUPPORTING EMPLOYMENT GROWTH THROUGH LAND STRATEGY

Central Coast Council is calling for community and industry feedback to ensure the right land use and planning is in place to support future jobs and economic growth on the Central Coast. The draft Central Coast Employment Land Strategy is on public exhibition until Wednesday 23 July 2025.

Council Acting Director Environment and Planning, Shannon Turkington said the strategy recommends unlocking at least 60 hectares of additional employment land to meet projected demand through to 2041.

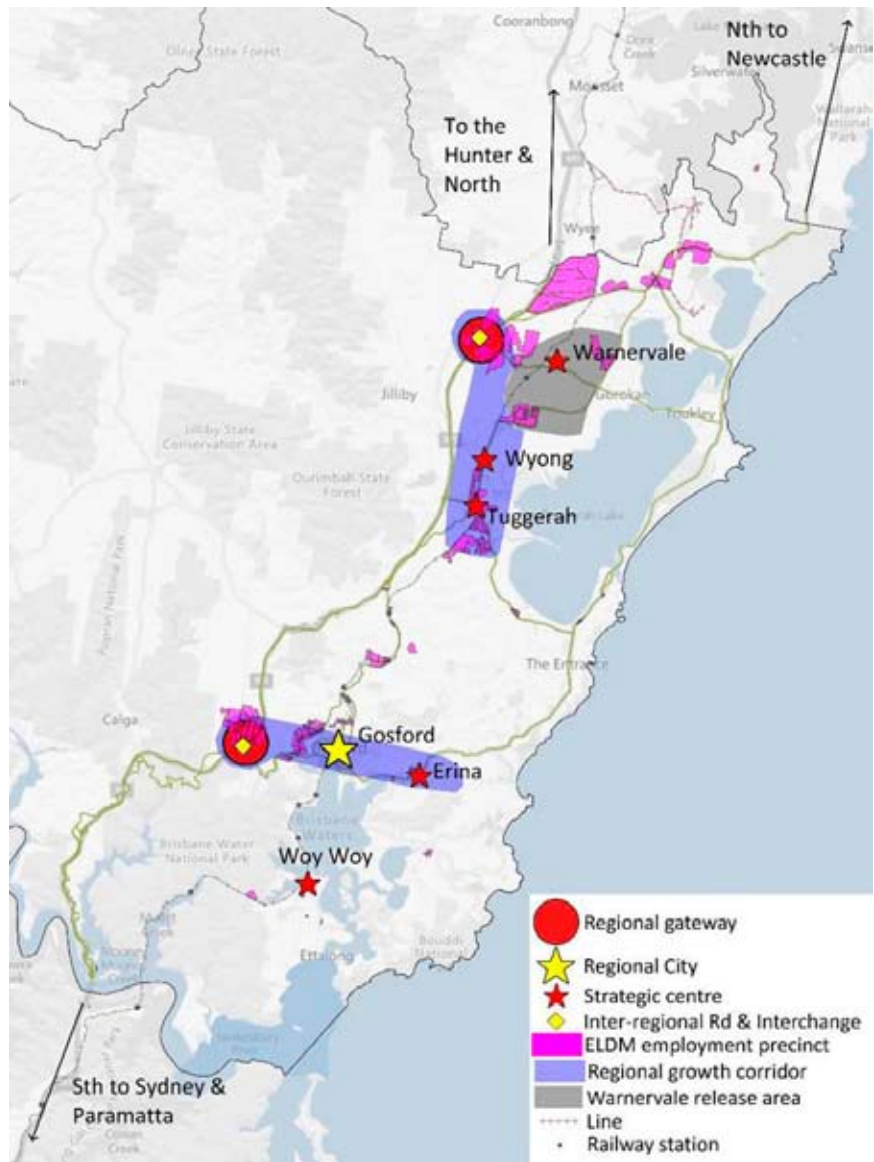
“With our region expected to welcome over 57,000 new residents by 2041, the Employment Land Strategy aims to grow employment on the Coast through protecting, enhancing and expanding the current employment lands,” Ms Turkington said.

“By planning ahead, Council is ensuring that residents have access to diverse, local job opportunities close to home and positions the Central Coast as a destination of choice for businesses, innovators and job creators.”

Mayor Lawrie McKinna said the Central Coast Employment Land Strategy helps us to protect key industrial areas, improve services and guide smart development so we can attract investment and create more employment opportunities close to home.

“Community input is vital to shaping how and where employment land is developed to support increasing demands and future employment opportunities,” Mayor McKinna said.

View the draft strategy and provide feedback on the future of jobs and industry on the Central Coast via



Council’s online engagement platform, Your Voice Our Coast, by Wednesday 23 July.

Alternatively, 30-minute in-person drop-in sessions can be booked online for the community to chat with a strategic planner from 11am-5pm at The Erina Centre on Tuesday 24 June and at Toukley Community Hall on Wednesday 25 June.

Feedback received during the public exhibition period will directly inform the final strategy to be considered for

adoption by Council.

For more information search ‘Employment land strategy’ at yourvoiceourcoast.com

What are employment lands?

As defined by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure’s (DPHI) Employment Lands Development Monitor (ELDM), employment lands are defined as:

“land zoned for industrial or similar purposes in planning instruments. They are generally lower density



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employment areas containing concentrations of businesses involved in: manufacturing; transport and warehousing; service and repair trades and industries; integrated enterprises with a mix of administration, production, warehousing, research and development; and urban services and utilities.”

Employment land is vital to the functioning of urban areas, providing space for:

- Essential services such as waste and water management, repair trades and construction services.
- Warehousing, logistics and distribution centres.
- Areas for businesses that design, manufacture and produce goods and services.
- Employment lands primarily encompass land zoned as E3 Productivity Support; E4 General Industrial; W4 Working Waterfront; and SP4 Enterprise.

While this strategy focuses on employment precincts, it is acknowledged that employment is also generated within other zones including special purpose zones, residential zones, centre zones and rural land zones.

Documents on Exhibition

See the Draft Employment Land Strategy on the [yourvoiceourcoast.com](https://www.yourvoiceourcoast.com) website:

<https://www.yourvoiceourcoast.com/ELS>

The following documents are available for review:

Central Coast Council Employment Land Strategy (Draft)
(File: Draft_CCC_Employment_Land_Strategy_v4.pdf)

Employment land study Background report (File: Draft_Central_Coast_Employment_Land_Background_Report.PDF) (by HillPDA, commissioned by Central Coast Council)

Central Coast Council
Media Release

Have your say on the future of the Coast's leisure and aquatic facilities

Central Coast Council is inviting the community to provide feedback on the draft Leisure and Aquatic Strategy 2025-2035, on public exhibition from Thursday 5 June to Thursday 3 July 2025.

The draft strategy sets a clear, 10-year framework to guide the future of the Coast's key leisure and aquatic services and facilities. It focuses on infrastructure upgrades, asset management and program expansion, designed to support active lifestyles, improve community wellbeing and maximise participation across all ages and abilities.

Central Coast Council Director Community and Recreation Services, Melanie Smith said the strategy has been informed by existing data, community feedback and population growth projections.

“This draft strategy is about making sure we have the right services and facilities in the right places to support the Central Coast's growing and changing population,” Ms Smith said.

“By 2036, more than 414,000 people are expected to call the Coast home. Our leisure and aquatic centres need to reflect the broad and evolving needs of our residents, across all ages, backgrounds, abilities and interests.

“We've developed the draft strategy using feedback from our regular surveys and now we're asking the community – have we got it right? Your input during this public exhibition will help shape the final strategy.”

The strategy applies to some of the region's most well-used facilities,

including the Peninsula Leisure Centre, Gosford Olympic Pool, Lake Haven Recreation Centre, Toukley Aquatic Centre, Wyong Pool and Niagara Park Stadium.

Mayor Lawrie McKinna said the Leisure and Aquatic Strategy 2025-2035 is an important step in planning for a healthy, connected and active community.

“Our leisure and aquatic facilities are part of everyday life for so many people in the region, whether it's learning to swim, shooting hoops, joining a local club or catching up with friends,” Mayor McKinna said.

“We want to make sure our facilities continue to meet community needs and aspirations. This is your chance to help shape what these spaces look like now and into the future.”

Have your say

View the draft strategy and provide your feedback from Thursday 5 June to Thursday 3 July at yourvoiceourcoast.com/leisure-and-aquatic-strategy

Alternatively, drop by one of our pop-up events to chat with the project team and share your feedback:

- Peninsula Leisure Centre: Monday 16 June, 4.30-6.30pm
- Lake Haven Recreation Centre: Wednesday 18 June, 9-11am

The Leisure and Aquatic Strategy 2025-2035 aligns with the Community Strategic Plan and supports Council's goal of creating well-maintained, activated spaces that enhance quality of life, encourage healthy lifestyles and strengthen social connections.

Feedback received during the public exhibition period will directly inform the final strategy to be considered for adoption by Council.

For more information, search 'leisure and aquatic strategy' at yourvoiceourcoast.com

Central Coast Council
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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)
Yarramalong RFS		Information: www.facebook.com/ YarramalongRuralFireBrigade/ Phone contact: 0494 344 030 Email: volunteer@yarramalongrfs.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 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 Yarramalong. 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 Union Church Hall. Pres - Steve 0455 155 075
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, 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
Newsletter	
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 Yarramalong	Every Sunday, 9.30am. (Easter & (Christmas Carols dates to be advised)

(cont'd next page)

Celebrating the 2025 Gosford Seniors Award Winner: Carmen Wells

Member for Gosford, Liesl Tesch MP congratulated Carmen Wells, the 2025 Gosford Seniors Award Winner, following a rigorous nomination process.

Carmen received a record-breaking number of nominations for her work, with multiple nominators describing her as a beloved and integral part of the community.

For the past 5 years, Carmen and her husband Steve have run Finders Keepers 17, a beloved Op Shop in Ettalong Beach. Finders Keepers provides low-cost necessities and everyday items, while also acting as a safe and judgement-free space for all who enter.

Nominators have described Carmen's dedication to all members of the community, especially those experiencing poverty, homelessness, physical and mental health issues, and more.

One nominator commented, "Carmen treats all people she comes in contact with courtesy, dignity, and respect. Many leave her shop uplifted and happy that someone cares about them ... she is a very special lady."

Ms Tesch recently visited Carmen at Finders Keepers 17 to congratulate her and present her with the 2025 Gosford Seniors Award.

"I would like to extend a massive congratulations to Carmen for this well-deserved achievement.

"I have heard from so many members of our community about the positive impact that Carmen has had on their lives and the lives of those around them.

"Her community-minded spirit, kindness, and generosity is a true symbol of the best of our Coastie community, and her dedication to not only individual community members but also local groups and charities is an inspiration.

"I send my most heartfelt thanks, not only to Carmen, but to all of our Coastie seniors and Local Seniors Award runners-up. Our community is incredibly lucky to have such wonderful role models."

The Gosford Local Seniors Award recognises individuals who go above and beyond to make a positive contribution to the Central Coast community through their work, volunteering efforts, involvement in



sports or community activities.

The Awards seek to highlight the diverse ways seniors support their families, communities and society more broadly across the Central Coast and beyond.

Upon receiving her award, Carmen thanked her husband Steven, as well as the community for their role in the success of Finders Keepers 17.

"I'd like to say thank you to my husband Steven, for doing absolutely everything. I'd also like to say, our shop has succeeded due to the hard work of our wonderful volunteers.

"The shop has grown from a seed to a beanstalk and beyond, only because of the community. The phone never stops ringing in our house, it's just so busy, and the community is just beyond amazing.

"Thank you, from the bottom of my heart. I'm blessed."

Media Release

*From the office of Liesl Tesch MP
Parliamentary Secretary for Families and
Communities
Parliamentary Secretary for Disability
Inclusion
Member for Gosford*

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

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

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

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

or AH 4373 1488

enquiries@yarramalonghall.org.au

<https://yarramalonghall.org.au>



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LIVESTOCK MARKET REPORT



Maitland Liveweight Cattle Sale 2nd June 2025

1020 cattle yarded this week at Maitland. 950 Trade/Yearling cattle and 50 export.

Trade job was firm to 30c dearer. Export Job Firm.

- Restocker steers up to 250kg made 390c/kg to 480c/kg
- 250kg-300kg made 390c/kg to 465c/kg
- 300kg to 380kg made 370c/kg to 450c/kg
- Restocker Heifers up to 250kg made 280c/kg to 395c/kg
- 250kg-300kg made 320c/kg to 390c/kg

- 300kg-380kg made 300c/kg to 390c/kg
- Butcher Vealers made 350c/kg to 390c/kg
- Yearling Steers to Feed made 350c/kg to 420c/kg
- Yearling Heifers to Feed made 320c/kg to 370c/kg
- Cows made 220c/kg to 280c/kg
- Bulls made 230c/kg to 270c/kg

Quality local stud bulls for sale on farm - Angus - Poll Hereford etc.

Stud Limousin - Black & apricot, quiet, well-muscled, well bred, good growth for age, make excellent vealer type bulls. - \$2500 to \$5,000

Charolais - Stud, 18 months to 3 years, leading Australian bloodlines. - \$4000 to \$6000

Angus - Stud & Commercial, 18 months - 2 years, excellent temperament & quality, of renowned Angus breeders. - \$3,000 to \$8,000

Poll Hereford - 12 to 26 months, good quality and very quiet all the leading breed genetics. - \$2,500 to \$7000

Simmental - Black, 20 months to 3 years, leading world genetics. - \$3000 to \$4000

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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OLD BATTERIES, will pickup, phone 0413 975 107

WANTED: Tractor frame (no engine necessary) and large plastic drums. 0499773747

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FIREWOOD FOR SALE & SLASHING. Ph David Starkey 0497808759

FIREWOOD \$150/bin phone 0419412993

HAY FOR SALE Lucerne, Oaten, Wheaten, Rye, Rhodes. Big & Small bales, for Horses & Cattle. Call Mitch 0411562782

HUSQVARNA RIDE ON MOWER. No. YTH2648. Engine blown. Spare parts only, \$250.00. Ph 0410682533, Mangrove Mtn.

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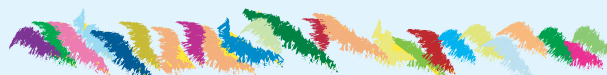
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These columns will be set aside each issue for residents to advertise inexpensively and effectively in their own local paper. If you have anything you wish to sell, buy, swap, etc., ring 4374 1039 or 0412 669 649 during office hours. Rates start at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

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CHICKEN FARM EQUIPMENT including Atlas Copco 125KVA generator, biobin, plastic scratch trays, feeders, silos, brooders, fans, foggers, gas tanks, pumps etc. Phone Jim 0414 777 748

PLASTIC CRATES - Perfect for Growing crops or used as Benches. Lots of other uses, large quantity available. Stackable, 60cm x 40cm. From \$1.00. Ph 0408 432 999

WATER LICENCE Kulnura Mangrove Mountain Ground water source 30 Megs, open to offers, call 0407761375

GENERATOR - Gentech 8kVA with Honda GX390 4 stroke. Pull start. Barrow kit. 2 GPOs. Less than 1 hour of use since purchase in 2020. Ideal for Tradie or home power outage. \$1950. Pick up Kulnura. Call 0467728739

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HANDYMAN (with own tools) looking for work in the greater Lower Mangrove, Mangrove Mountain, Central Coast area. Also have Forklift licence. Phone 0414 912 423

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