

COMMUNITY NEWS

No. 968 Ph: 4374 1039 Mo: 0412 669 649 Email: enquiries@cnews1.com.au Web: cnews1.com.au 4th July 2025

PILE BURNING OUTSIDE OF THE BUSH FIRE DANGER PERIOD

April 1st marked the end of the Bush Fire Danger Period for the Central Coast Region. While this means you are no longer required to acquire a Fire Permit to burn, you are required to notify us of any planned burn, at least 24 hours BEFORE you light up.

Additionally, you will still need to follow the council 'Open Pile Burn Policy', which can be found online. Notifying us of your planned burn can help reduce unnecessary emergency calls and allow help to go where it is needed.

Notifying us is as easy as jumping online to: <https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/fire-information/BFDP/burn-notifications> or google RFS pile burn notification.

As mentioned, you are required to notify us of any planned burn, at least 24 hours BEFORE you light up. Then, all you need to do is:

- Notify your neighbours at least 24 hours BEFORE you light up, so they

know that you will be burning,

- Check the weather on the day, avoiding hot and windy weather
- Take all reasonable precautions to ensure you are conducting a safe pile burn.

We also appreciate a quick email or call from residents who will be lighting up just in case we get a fire call.

Alternatively, your local RFS brigade may be able to assist you with your pile burns.

A member of your local brigade will come out and inspect your piles and organise a time to come and light up and manage the piles until they are at a level that is deemed safe. This is a great training opportunity for brigades and allows us to meet more of our community.

If this option is of interest to you, please contact our Brigade Secretary on secretary.mangrovemountain@ccrfs.org.au. Keep safe.

Tarryn Nester

Bucketty Brewery approval heads to court

Legal action has commenced challenging Cessnock City Council's approval of the Development Application for a "food and drink premises" comprising a Pub, Restaurant and Ancillary Brewery, in the bush community of Bucketty.

Sydney law firm Bartier Perry Lawyers, acting on behalf of Friends of Bucketty Incorporated, has filed judicial review proceedings in the NSW Land and Environment Court which will challenge the validity of Cessnock City Council's decision to green-light the Development Application (8/2023/298/1), which was approved at the Council meeting of 19 March 2025, despite significant push-back against the development by a majority of Bucketty residents.

The first directions hearing in the proceedings is listed in the Land and Environment court for July 18th.

Brookvale based Bucketty's Brewing Co, which is the holder of the development consent, already operates across two locations in the Northern Beaches area of Sydney, and is seeking to establish a significant food and alcohol on-premises and take-away development in Bucketty itself. The planned development would be the first of its kind in the otherwise undeveloped bush community.

Simon Perry, on behalf of Friends of Bucketty Inc

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More details soon – check Yarramalong Valleyers Facebook



"The ability to know one's limitations, to recognize the bounds of one's own comprehension - this is a kind of knowing that approaches wisdom."
Leah Hager Cohen

STOP!

Next issue Published
18th July 2025

**** DEADLINE ****

**** 11th June '25 ****

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Up to 3 Million Litres of Leachate Escaping Landfill Every Year

The recent detection of ammonia and PFAS near the illegal Mangrove Mountain Landfill indicates that the NSW Government needs to take more action to protect our sensitive drinking water catchment.

CEN believes we need a full independent judicial Commission of Inquiry into the EPA's historic and ongoing failure to discharge its statutory responsibilities and we have asked Member for Gosford, Liesl Tesch MP, to support our call.

Following its most recent detection of elevated levels of ammonia 80 metres downstream from the landfill and PFAS in groundwater monitoring bores, the NSW EPA issued a prevention notice to site operator VerdeTerra Pty Ltd.

This is not an isolated or a new problem. Surface water monitoring results on the EPA's public register show ammonia levels reached 355 times the default water quality guideline in January.

CEN acknowledges the EPA's

regulatory action, but it begs the question: why are elevated levels of ammonia and PFAS present in the first place?

The ammonia and PFAS detections are the inevitable outcome of nearly two decades of operational failure and regulatory neglect.

The EPA failed to enforce licence conditions; it accepted the unlawful expansion of waste operations; and ignored its regulatory obligations on 11 occasions.

The former Gosford City Council failed to enforce the original development consent for 80,000m³ of inert fill in Area B which, by September 2012, had received 800,000m³ of general waste – more than 10 times the approved amount, plus 100,000 m3 of fill outside any approved area.

Over 85% of this waste mound lacks any effective leachate barrier and that is why our conservative estimate places the annual volume of escaping leachate at up to 3 million litres, leaching into the aquifer and our drinking water catchment.

Leachate management infrastructure remains grossly inadequate. The original 100,000-litre leachate pond cannot handle leachate from the existing 500,000 tonnes of waste.

The legal proceedings that precluded intervention have now concluded.

1080 IN AUSTRALIA: WHY AND HOW IT IS USED

Coordinated broad-scale baiting with 1080 helps keep pest animal populations low. Large numbers of pest animals in the landscape can impact profitability – and even viability – of farming, damage the environment and lead to extinction of native animals and plants. Keeping pest animal numbers low means we need to control less of them in the future.

The facts:

- Only a small amount of 1080 is needed to kill wild rabbits, feral pigs, foxes, feral cats and wild dogs. It works by stopping the function of vital organs leading to death.

- 1080 is a naturally occurring chemical found in over 40 Australia plants. It is naturally broken down in the soil and water by microbes, fungi, bacteria and plants so there is very

The NSW Government must conduct an independent investigation or commission of inquiry into this matter.

The investigation should examine how and why the former Gosford City Council entered a Court Order in 2014 that permitted the excavation of an 850,000 cubic metre pit, authorised to be back filled and overtopped with up to 2.4 million cubic metres of waste.

That Court Order enabled the establishment of a regional waste facility within the Council's drinking water catchment, without environmental assessment or community consultation.

It is essential that we ensure this scale of mismanagement never happens again, not here, nor anywhere else in NSW.

Gary Chestnut, Chair, CEN



Photo from ABC Jan 2014

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little or no impact on the environment.

- Native marsupials are less sensitive to 1080 than dogs, foxes, cats, pigs and rabbits. That's one reason why it is such a good poison to use in Australia. People and birds are the most tolerant to 1080 followed by reptiles, amphibians and fish.

- The use of 1080 is highly regulated in NSW. Only Authorised Control Officers can prepare and supply poison baits. People that use the baits must also complete training and provide proof of training before baits will be supplied.

- 1080 has been thoroughly tested in many different environments over many years to ensure it will kill pest animals in a safe and effective way. This includes studies on the best bait material to use for the target pest animals and to reduce the risk to non-target animals. The placement of baits is recorded and baits are generally spaced out over long distances to reduce the risk of animals taking multiple baits.

- 1080 has been assessed as causing mild to moderate suffering of affected animals, but when this happens the animal may have already become unconscious and unable to feel pain. Time to death can range from 5-48 hours after eating a lethal amount of 1080.

- Domestic animals such as dogs, like their wild cousins, will be killed by 1080 so you need to ensure you keep



Livestock killed by wild dogs and foxes

them away during a baiting program which will be identified by appropriate signage.

- Seasonal conditions affect how long baits will remain toxic after being put out. Things like the time of year, the amount of rain and the type of bait will all have an influence.

Damage Caused by Foxes and Wild Dogs

Foxes and wild dogs kill livestock including lambs, sheep, goats and kids, cattle and calves, piglets and

chickens.

The 300 million native animals that foxes kill every year consists of:

- reptiles: foxes kill 88 million reptiles each year, and all are native. They've been recorded killing 108 different species – or 11% of all Australian reptile species – including the tjakura (great desert skink) and loggerhead turtle
- birds: foxes kill 111 million birds each year, and 93% of these are native. They've been recorded killing 128 species – or 18% of all Australian bird species – including the mallee-fowl and little penguin
- mammals: foxes kill 368 million mammals each year, and 29% of these are native. They've been recorded killing 114 species, or 40% of all land mammal species and half of all threatened mammal species. This includes the mankarr (greater bilby), quenda (southern brown bandicoot) and warru (black-footed rock-wallaby).

1080 Authorisation

The use of 1080 is regulated by the Pesticide Control (1080 Bait Products) Order 2019 issued under section 38 of the NSW Pesticides Act 1999

*NSW Department of Primary Industries
April 2018, Primefact 1636, First edition
and ANU College of Science and
Medicine
NSW Government Gazette No. 106*

Dr. S. ANANDASIVAM

(ANAND)

MBBS, FRACGP, AMCC

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Help us find Platypus in Ourimbah Creek

Central Coast Platypus Watch is a community focused, citizen science program aimed at increasing the awareness of platypus on the Central Coast and providing protection for this iconic species and it's habitat, through a range of educational workshops and ongoing water monitoring programs.

Are you a landholder or community member living within Ourimbah Creek Catchment?

Central Coast Platypus Watch is excited to announce the location of our next study site will be Ourimbah Creek Catchment!

Following the success of the pilot

study in the Wyong River, CEN has been successful in securing funding to undertake eDNA testing for platypus and a range of workshops with community members within the Ourimbah Creek catchment.

As part of the program, CEN will carry out free land management assessments at selected landholders' properties.

Land management plans will include targeted remediation works, and the opportunity for landholders to work with our bush regen team at their property, to enhance platypus habitat along the waterway.

This is a fantastic opportunity for the community to get involved with platypus conservation.

By testing the waterways around your properties, we can identify platypus hotspots and implement simple steps to protect this iconic species and its habitat.

Central Coast Platypus Watch will be holding an information session about the project in August. To register your interest in attending and being a part of this fantastic project visit:

cen.org.au/events

To find out more about Central Coast Platypus Watch, visit:

<https://cen.org.au/projects/platypus-watch/>

or contact Meg Rice at meg.rice@cen.org.au

Community Environment Network



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MBBS

Dr Rohan Dissanayake

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AGING WITH DIGNITY

The vision is to enable older people to stay in their community for all of life.

Often in a rural community it becomes unsafe for frail elderly people to remain in their own home. There are obvious reasons why this may be so, isolation, lack of transport, disability, elder abuse to mention a few. However should that mean they must leave the community?

What we need is somewhere reserved for local people where they can safely spend their senior lives.

This would need to be in a central position, accessible to community .

The vision is for a permanent care, respite, convalescent care unit with attached hostel/ boarding rooms for those more independent people. [this could actually be a purpose built "share house"]

A Central Mangrove situation appears to be the ideal, it is considered that a not for profit, community facility is most preferable. Permanent positions would have to be reserved for locals, otherwise it would soon become a "geriatric zoo" This poses problems in that it is unwise/ uneconomical to have vacant assets.

Suggested solutions:

1. Short term rentals to university students from the caring professions, visiting doctors.
2. Emergency accommodation for victims of domestic violence.
3. Overseas nurses coming to work in the area are finding it hard to get accommodation
4. Holiday lets to family members from other places

To compliment this we also need "composite homes" widely scattered around the community to allow seniors to retire in the community but still stay involved As I already hold money donated for this purpose we need to form a committee.

On Thursday 26th June, following a hearty country lunch, a meeting was held at 1 pm in the hall adjacent to Dr



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Anands surgery.

After some discussion an election was held to appoint a committee. The results are:


President - Clara
Treasurer and Secretary - Diane
Committee member - Alan

The group will now go forward with the objective of obtaining more funding and government support to establish infrastructure and services that would allow older people to live with dignity in our community.

It is anticipated that councillor Belinda Neal will be attending the next meeting in July.

Thank you.

Clara Jones
49988198



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Mountain Districts Christian Church - Presidents Report - 2025

In April 2021 we learned about the auction of the Church. The many locals were surprised to hear that a church which belonged to the Community was to be sold!

After many Community meetings we formed a group and had the two first services on the Church grounds.

In the year 2022 we started having church services in the Public Hall. February the 11th was the first Service with Rev Satish Manmothe.

In 2023 we started services in the Church on the 10th of September. On the 20th of November we became incorporated. Since then we have been holding services in our lovely little Church. The pride of the community.. Of course the cost was big to get the Church back... 150 thousand dollars, raised by the Community and donations. With God's help we formed a group whose aim is to worship God in truth and love.

God is our leader and counsellor. Our aim is to introduce Christ to our people, to get to know Him personally in their life.

We ask for God's blessings, guidance and wisdom. We worked as a team since we first got together to organise and establish a true Christian Church.

Robert, Sandra, Fred and myself kept it going for three years with God's

help.

Dr Gavin Williams helped up form out own constitution, based on the word and laws of God. It's legal side is based on the model constitution for Incorporated Associations.

Of course we have Ron and Kaye Collins, both committed themselves into Ron taking care of the projector, hymns etc and Kaye with her delicious sweets and preparation of morning tea.

Thank you to Robert for offering his time to serve in different ways. To Fred who has been a great Treasurer, Sandra who did great work as the secretary.

Big thank you to our speakers who some of them travelled more than an hour to support our efforts. Thank you to Melanie with her guitar and Julie who recently helps us on the piano.

Finally thank you all who have been supporting us by your attendance on Sundays.

All we have achieved happened with God's guidance and blessings.

We know that as long as we walk in God's ways, God will be blessing us. In 2 Chronicles 7:14 God said "...and if they seek me they will find me"

Thank you all

Georgia Sidiropoulos
President MDCC
Serving God

Ash Grunwald at Mangrove Mountain Hall

Australia's foremost bluesman, Ash Grunwald is bringing his national tour to the historic Mangrove Mountain Hall with two massive shows on Saturday the 26th and Sunday the 27th of July!!!

A journeyman, storyteller, and



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troubadour at heart, Ash Grunwald has inspired a generation of roots artists to hit the road in an old beat-up van and 'surf by day, jam by night'.

Enshrined by Australian folklore, live on stage, Grunwald rocks the house yet touches the soul, serving a tsunami of dance, beats, roots, bass 'n' blues. He has supported legends James Brown, The Black Keys, Jack Johnson, Xavier Rudd, and Keith Urban, among numerous others, and played sold out festivals across Europe, Japan, and North America as well as the biggest Blues and Roots festivals in Australia including performing at the iconic Byron Bay Bluesfest a record 11 times!

With six Australian Top-50 albums to his credit, alongside five ARIA and four AIR Award Nominations, two APRA Awards, and gong for Best International Act at the LA Music Critic Awards in 2014, Grunwald is cast in bronze among Australia's most successful blues musicians

In a special show featuring all of the fan favourites curated from a career and catalogue spanning 20 years, don't miss your chance to witness Australia's most exciting blues act in action!

Opening the show on Saturday for Ash Grunwald will be talented Central Coast Blues and Roots artist, Jye Sharp.

Saturdays show will also feature a fantastic after party event straight after Ash Grunwald's show featuring Sydney Blues/Rock sensation, Necko, from 7pm till 10pm, so why not stay for dinner and kick up your heels with one of Blues on the Mountain's favourite young acts!

Be quick, limited tickets are available for Ash's Saturday's show. Tickets are available here: <https://events.humanitix.com/ash-grunwald-at-mangrove-mountain-hall-second-show>

Want to join us for the evening Afterparty show featuring Necko for just \$10pp? enter the discount code "Ash" at the checkout when booking via <https://events.humanitix.com/>



blues-on-the-mountain-necko

Sunday's Show is already booked out SET TIMES (Saturday 26th of July) – limited tix available

3:00 pm Doors Open 3:30 pm – 4:15 pm Jye Sharp 4:15 pm - 4:30 pm Intermission/Set Change 4:30 pm - 6pm Ash Grunwald 6pm – 6.30pm Meet and Greet/Dinner 7pm till late Afterparty

featuring Necko SET TIMES (Sunday 27th of July) – Sold Out 3:00pm Doors open 3.30pm – 4:15pm Brandon Dodd 4:15pm – 4:30pm Intermission/set change 4.30pm – 6pm Ash Grunwald 6pm – 7pm Meet and Greet/Dinner all ages event, great food available for purchase, BYO drinks.

Ryan Howard



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Central Coast residents urged to complete quick and easy bowel screening test

This Bowel Cancer Awareness Month, the NSW Government is urging eligible people to take the bowel screening test, with only 40 per cent of people from the Central Coast Local Health District who receive the kit taking the test.

State Member for Gosford, Liesl Tesch is encouraging eligible community members to take a few minutes to take the test that could save their life.

"I would encourage everyone who is eligible to do the bowel screening test. It is incredibly quick and easy, and you can complete it in the privacy of your own home.

"Bowel cancer is the second biggest cancer killer in NSW, but if caught early it is very treatable.

"This free screening test is incredibly effective in detecting the early stages of bowel cancer, but we need the community to take part in order to get results. When your test arrives in the mail, just do it!

"It was quite confronting to receive my first bowel-screening kit. Once that was out of the way, it is a matter-of-fact preventative action provided by the government that I consider an important part of my health regime."

The National Bowel Cancer Screening Program's test is quick and easy with those who have done it before almost three times more likely than first-time invitees to do it again.

The test is available to those aged between 45 and 74 years and is the easiest way to detect the early signs of bowel cancer, Australia's second deadliest cancer. If caught early bowel cancer can be successfully treated in more than 90 per cent of cases.

The risk of bowel cancer increases significantly with age, but people of all ages can get the disease. Anyone experiencing changes in bowel habits, bleeding, fatigue, anaemia or unexplained weight loss should see their GP.

People can reduce their risk of bowel cancer by eating a diet rich in vegetables, fruit, cereals and

wholegrains, maintaining a healthy weight and being physically active; and by doing the at-home screening test every two years from age 45.

People aged 50 to 74 receive free bowel screening tests to the address they have registered with Medicare. People aged 45 to 49 years need to request their first test kit, and will automatically receive subsequent kits.

The Cancer Institute NSW recently went live with the Bowel Cancer Screening "Do the test" Advertising Campaign to motivate eligible people in NSW to participate in the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program.

The campaign will run until 30 June 2025 and is being delivered across a range of advertising channels, including radio, press, digital and social media.

The campaign is among several Cancer Institute NSW led initiatives to increase bowel cancer screening rates and to support people on their clinical pathway following a positive test result.

Find out more about bowel cancer screening in NSW here: Free Bowel Cancer Screening Test Kit - Cancer Institute NSW

Media Release from the Office of Liesl Tesch Member for Gosford



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LESLYE ANNE WARNER

Formally of 22 Kelynnack Road Mangrove Mountain NSW
Leslye passed away peacefully 1st June 2025 at Bethshan Gardens Wyee.

Leslye was a long term member of the CWA and really loved her time living at the Mountain and getting to know everyone.

Hugely missed by husband Phil, Sons Scott, Mark, Paul & many friends

Phil Warner



Celebrating the life of
LESLYE ANNE WARNER

30th October 1944 - 1st June 2025

THE FAMILY TREE

A limb has fallen from the family tree
I keep hearing a voice that says

"Grieve not for me"

Remember the best times, the laughter, the song
The good life I lived while I was strong
Continue my heritage, I'm counting on you
Keep smiling and surely the sun will shine through
My mind is at ease, my soul is at rest
Remembering all, how I truly was blessed
Continue traditions, no matter how small
Go on with your life, don't worry about a fall
I will miss you all most dearly, family and friend
Until the day comes when we're together again



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Peats Ridge & District CWA

The Harvest Festival held on the 8th June was such a success whereby CWA was well presented by members from our branch and other branches who donated their time and goods to sell.

There were many items of handicraft


on display and some items for sale and therefore showing a part of what we do.

The ladies in the kitchen were kept busy serving delicious Devonshire teas, sausage rolls and hot soups and there were sales of packed scones, honey, pickles, gluten free scones, honey loaf and sultana cakes and of course an assortment of yummy jams.

I am sure by the end of the day the



Photo shows the happy group at Kulnura Hall



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ladies needed a strong cuppa (or maybe something stronger).

Our next meeting on the 3rd Monday on 21st July will be at the Kulnura Hall.

Our branch will be having Thermomix demonstration on the 16th August and we invite you to come along. Time will be at 11.30 am.

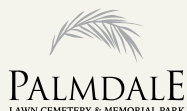
Till next time, take care,

Christine Sanfilippo
Publicity Officer



Dying to Know Day

8 August



One size does not fit all.
Have you discussed your final arrangements?



Dying to Know Day is a national campaign that supports Australians to improve death literacy and plan for end-of-life.

Help create a world where we all know what to do when someone is dying, caring or grieving.

Talking about death can be daunting, but it's better to do when we're well rather than wait until it's too late!

We invite you to attend an information session. Guest speaker topics include:

- Financial Planner
- Wills and Estate Planning
- Probate
- Palliative Care
- Funeral Plans

8 August 2025 – Commencing 2pm to 4pm

Hillside Chapel, Palmdale Lawn Cemetery & Memorial Park, 57 Palmdale Rd, Palmdale NSW

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COUNTRY FAIR NEWS

Passing of local community member Rodger Wilson

On behalf of Mangrove Mountain & Districts Country Fair we would like to extend our deepest condolences to Lorraine and the whole Wilson family after the recent passing of Rodger. Rodger was a very dedicated community member and volunteered for the Mangrove Mountain & Districts Country Fair for many years. We sincerely thank him for his service and commitment to The Country Fair meetings and running of the day. He will be greatly missed both at our meetings and on the day.

Country Fair 2025

With the Annual Fair only 4 months away the Management Committee, Community Groups and Volunteers are busy preparing for the big day.

Food Co-ordinator/s

We are currently seeking volunteers to liaise with the management committee to assist with the food for the day and distribution of food items to all stalls. All food items are ordered prior to the



Scouts learn about swords from the Huscars Medieval Re-enactment group

Fair and simply need to be distributed to stall holders and volunteers the day before and on the day.

Coffee Helpers

We are also looking for a few volunteers to assist with the coffee stall on the day. This is a very popular stall on the day and we would love your help (even for a hour).

If you feel you may be able to assist with either of these roles please contact either our President Steve Raines

0455 155 075 or email Secretary-MMCF@hotmail.com

Grant Requests Due

Grant requests are due to be submitted by email prior to 5pm on 21st August. You will also need to attend in person at either our upcoming July meeting on Thursday 17th July or our August meeting Thursday 21st August both at 7pm at The Union Church Hall. We look forward to receiving grants this year to distribute funds to our local community.

Louisa Foxford
Secretary

Mangrove Mountain & Districts
Country Fair

www.mangrovemountaincountryfair.org.au

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"Welcome to "Elm Park"



Set on an impressive 50 acres in the peaceful Dooralong Valley, "Elm Park" offers the ultimate blend of space, comfort, and country charm. Designed for those who value privacy and practicality, this exceptional acreage retreat is a rare opportunity to enjoy a rural lifestyle without compromise.

The residence features four well-appointed bedrooms and two modern bathrooms, including a luxurious master suite complete with a walk-in robe and ensuite with underfloor heating. The second bedroom also boasts a walk-in robe and opens directly onto the deck through glass doors, perfect for soaking up the morning sun.

Whether you're looking for an equine haven, a lifestyle change, or simply a place to stretch out and breathe, Elm Park is the kind of property that doesn't come around often.

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Car Club Life Member

A recent meeting of the Mangrove Mountain Muscle Car Club voted unanimously to confer Life Membership on founding president Stephen Peruch of Somersby.

Stephen is a lifelong car enthusiast and drag racer who restored his first muscle car, an iconic 1967 Pontiac GTO, as a teenager in his parents' shed. It was soon followed by the 1971 Camaro Z28 pictured here and many other projects, the most recent being a David Brown tractor powered by a souped-up Chevy V8.

In 2006, Stephen became the nucleus around which the MMMCC was established. He then guided the club through its first dozen years as inaugural president, hosting monthly meetings on his Somersby farm and forever encouraging and assisting members with their own car builds. He also oversaw with Glen Crowther the construction of the club's 'Aluminator' drag racer in which many members



Stephen Peruch, centre, flanked by Glen Crowther (left) and Geoff Seddon

have made their racing debut at strips in Sydney and Gunnedah.

Stephen elected to step down from a formal role in 2018, passing the reins to Glen, but remains an active member and important influence on everything the club does.

Mangrove Mountain Muscle Car Club Inc was formally incorporated in 2013 and is affiliated with the Australian National Street Machine Association. It is also registered with the NSW government as an approved club for the purposes of historic and

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NEW MOVING IMAGE GALLERY BRINGS CUTTING-EDGE ART TO THE COAST

Central Coast Council has invested \$300,000 to launch the regions first permanent Moving Image Gallery



classic vehicle registration. The club has around 40 members ranging in age from mid-20s to 70-plus, and meets on the second Friday of every month, often at the Mangrove Mountain Memorial Club. See our Facebook page or call Geoff Seddon on 0431 509 503 for more information.

Geoff Seddon
President

Mangrove Mountain Muscle Car Club

(MIG) – a dynamic space for cutting edge, immersive art experiences on the Central Coast.

Gosford Regional Gallery installed the new gallery as part of celebrating 25 years in 2025.

Central Coast Council Director of Community and Recreation Services, Melanie Smith said the new Moving Image Gallery is a major step in the regional gallery's history especially poignant in its 25th year.

"Permanent space for digital based work will draw more established

and emerging artists to the Coast. It will attract a broader culture-loving audience from near and far," Ms Smith said.

The new Moving Image Gallery (MIG) opens the doors for screen-based artists to enter Gosford Regional Gallery's annual awards - the Gosford Art Prize.

In honour of its 25 year celebrations, this year's major prize is \$25,000, plus an additional \$10,000 being offered for Moving Image Art award.

Central Coast Council, Media Release



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THURSDAY

POKER 630pm \$22 steak night
MEMBERS BADGE DRAW 730pm

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Weeds of Significance: Mother-of-millions

Bryophyllum species



Mother-of-millions flower head
(Photo: Josh Biddle)

This plant is not to be sold in all or parts of NSW

How does this weed affect you?

As the name suggests, mother of millions reproduces rapidly, producing hundreds of tiny plantlets which quickly form new colonies. It is adapted to dry conditions and can survive long periods of drought. This increases the plant's potential to persist and spread.

Mother of millions is toxic when ingested by livestock; it is also poisonous to humans and household pets.

Mother of millions, hybrid mother of millions and resurrection plant are



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all poisonous when ingested. The toxic effects of these plants are due mainly to bufadienolides which cause heart failure.

The toxins are present in all parts of the plant however, flowers are five times more poisonous than the leaves and stems.

Ingestion of the toxins can be cumulative and livestock eating small amounts, several times within a few days may suffer poisoning. Eating about 5 kg of mother of millions would kill an adult cow. Where the plants are thick, this amount would grow in a square metre.

Poisoning generally occurs when the plants are flowering – between May and October. Livestock are at a greater risk of poisoning if they have been moved to a new paddock, there is a feed shortage or during droving because they are more likely to eat the plant.

If livestock have eaten a large amount of plant, they may die suddenly of heart failure.

If they have eaten smaller amounts over several days, they may develop diarrhoea (sometimes bloody), drool saliva, dribble urine and then die of heart failure. Some affected livestock will recover slowly if small amounts of plant material have been eaten and their hearts are not badly damaged.

Poisoned stock must be treated within 24 hours of consuming the plant. After this period heart function is severely disturbed and stock may be too badly affected to survive. If you suspect livestock could have mother of millions poisoning, consult a vet immediately.

Mother of millions is also toxic to humans and household pets with dogs being particularly susceptible. It is unlikely that humans or pets would eat enough plant material to become poisoned. However, because mother of millions can be found in many gardens, the likelihood of human or pet poisoning is increased.

How does it spread?

The common name ‘mother of



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millions’ is based on the plant’s ability to reproduce vegetatively in large numbers. Each plant produces small plantlets along the edges of its leaves which detach and form new plants.

This makes mother of millions hard to eradicate and follow up controls are necessary. Mother of millions also produces numerous seeds which can survive in the soil for a number of years before germinating.

Control

Preventing the spread of mother of millions is the best control measure. Learn to identify mother of millions and regularly check for it in winter when the plants are in flower and are easier to see. If found remove

immediately using a combination of control methods including hand removal, fire, herbicide application and rehabilitation. Regularly check creek lines after floods for new infestations.

General Biosecurity Duty

All pest plants are regulated with a general biosecurity duty to prevent, eliminate or minimise any biosecurity risk they may pose. Any person who deals with any plant, who knows (or ought to know) of any biosecurity risk, has a duty to ensure the risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised, so far as is reasonably practicable.

More information at:

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

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Love, Laughter... and One Very Complicated Dog!

We're just one month away from opening night, and we couldn't be more excited to bring A.R. Gurney's hit comedy *Sylvia* to the stage at Red Tree Theatre, Tuggerah.

Fri 25th July - Sat 2nd August - Book Now!!

What's It About?

Sylvia is a sharp, fast-paced, and unexpectedly touching comedy about Greg—a middle-aged man stuck in a rut—who brings home a stray dog named *Sylvia*. She's loyal, loud, and completely lovable... but not everyone's thrilled about her arrival.

As Greg becomes increasingly devoted to *Sylvia*, his wife Kate finds herself competing for attention—not with another woman, but with a dog. What follows is a hilarious and heartfelt exploration of marriage, midlife, and the messy, joyful connections that make us human.

Why This Production?

We're proud to present a top-tier cast and creative team:

- Kelly Monisse, a professional actor with screen credits including *Malibu Crush* and *The Charitable Sisterhood*, steps into the hilarious, demanding title role.
- Central Coast's finest Marc Calwell stars as Greg, joined by the brilliant Helen Herridge as Kate.
- The remaining roles rounded out by

CONNECTING GOOD SAMARITANS TO DEFIBRILLATORS WILL HELP SAVE LIVES

Good Samaritans can now be guided to automated external defibrillators (AEDs) to help them respond to people experiencing cardiac arrest while they wait for paramedics to arrive, thanks to a free, life-saving app called GoodSAM.

The incorporation of the NSW public access defibrillator registry into the GoodSAM app means responders will now be able to see if an AED is located near a person experiencing

Tayah Blackman, Cathy De Vries, and Scott Larimore, each bringing humour, heart, and charm to the stage.

- Directed by WDG Life Member Debbi Clarke, and supported by a passionate production team (many of who are award-winning and have worked in the disciplines professionally around the world), this is community theatre at its absolute finest.

Whether you're a dog lover, a theatre fan, or just need a great night out—*Sylvia* is for you. Expect belly laughs, relatable moments, and maybe a few happy tears.

Tickets are selling—don't wait!

<https://redtreetheatre.sales.ticketsearch.com/sales/salesevent/148494>

Wyong Drama Group Inc.
160 Pacific Highway
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Tuggerah NSW 2259

info@wyongdramagroup.com.au

cardiac arrest, and use it to improve that person's chance of survival.

The GoodSAM app works by alerting 'registered responders' when someone nearby goes into cardiac arrest and a Triple Zero (000) call has been received. The app then guides the volunteer to administer cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) while an ambulance is dispatched, buying the person in cardiac arrest precious time.

Coasties encouraged to register to become a GoodSAM volunteer

Member for Gosford, Liesl Tesch MP says members of the community who are willing and able to perform CPR and sign up to become registered responders can potentially make a real difference to peoples' survival rates by signing up to become registered responders with GoodSAM.

"Nobody ever expects to go into cardiac arrest. For every minute that a patient doesn't get chest compressions (CPR), their chances of survival fall by between seven and ten percent.

"People who are willing and able to perform CPR, and are aged 18 or older, can sign up to GoodSAM to receive alerts when someone needs help.

"GoodSAM will show publicly accessible defibrillators registered with GoodSAM, and GoodSAM volunteers can use those if they feel able.

"By registering as a GoodSAM volunteer you can help keep members of our community alive, while paramedics arrive."

GoodSAM volunteers are already making a difference

Lives are already being saved, thanks to the assistance of GoodSAM volunteers, with more than 7,300 people already signed up as responders. Thirty lives have been saved, and of those 30 patients, 12 benefited from a lifesaving AED prior to the arrival of NSW Ambulance paramedics. On the AED registry there are now more than 4,300 AEDs.



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GoodSAM volunteers can choose to accept or decline an alert for any reason. When a GoodSAM accepts an alert, the app shows where to find the patient and the location of any nearby AEDs. If an AED is available on the way, GoodSAMs can collect it, travel to the patient, and start CPR. Once an ambulance arrives, on duty paramedics take over.

Helping patients to buy time: local GoodSAM volunteer Luke Stevenson

Luke Stevenson is a local GoodSAM volunteer who has been called out via the GoodSAM app on several occasions and has been able to attend two so far.

“CPR is all about buying time, trying to keep patients’ body and brain going. The ambos are brilliant at what they do, but if we as responders can get to a patient to help out in the immediate instance to buy a patient more time, this can help improve their survivability.”

Luke says being given the opportunity to apply first aid training in a real-world setting was another valuable part of being a GoodSAM volunteer.

“It’s rewarding to take what you have learned and apply it in the real world. I am definitely more confident having actually performed CPR. It helps you to build endurance and confidence, too. As a responder you are helping somebody on the worst day of their life, and being able to give that help and support is important to them and rewarding to you.”

Information about GoodSAM and becoming a registered responder can be found at <https://www.ambulance.nsw.gov.au/get-involved/goodsam/volunteering-with-goodsam>

Anyone with an AED is encouraged to register it online with NSW Ambulance, so GoodSAM responders can see it in the app.

*Media release from the Office of
Liesl Tesch
Member for Gosford*



A Celebration of Local Talent & Community Spirit

Held at the Bays Community Hall
19 Woy Woy Bay Rd, Woy Woy Bay

Opening Night: Friday, July 4th, from 7:00 PM

Be the first to view a stunning collection of artworks by talented local artists! Enjoy a vibrant evening of art, conversation, and connection.

Opening Night Tickets: \$20

Includes a delicious selection of light food to savour while you browse. Bar available – wines, beers, and soft drinks for purchase (All bar proceeds go directly toward maintaining our much-loved Community Hall.)



Tickets: via QR code or
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(Opening Night is for 18+ years.)

Exhibition Days: Saturday & Sunday, July 5th & 6th

Open from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Entry by gold coin donation – all ages welcome!

Bring your friends and family to experience the diversity and creativity of our local art scene. You might just discover the perfect piece to take home – and every purchase supports our artists directly. We can’t wait to see you there.

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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 the Kulnura Hall. Any enquiries please contact Christine 0419 400 163.
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 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
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
Mountain Districts Christian Church	Services 9.30am 2nd & 4th Sundays. Bible Study 4.30pm 1st & 3rd Mondays. Mangrove Mountain Union Church
St Barnabas Christian Service Yarramalong	Every Sunday, 9.30am. (Easter & (Christmas Carols dates to be advised)

(cont'd next page)



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.

WVAC EMERGING ARTIST AWARDS 2025 - CALL FOR ENTRIES

Entries close 5pm on Sunday 28th September 2025

WVAC proudly invite entries in the 15th Emerging Artist Awards 4th - 19th October 2025.

Please visit www.wollombi.org for details and to download entry forms

Total award money is now \$8,000
Exhibition Opening & Awards Presentation: Friday 3rd Oct. at 6.30pm

Judges:
• JOSEPH TURRIN (Curator, Performing Arts Centre, Cessnock)
• MANDY DAVIES,
• GREG MAJOR (2325 Australian Flora Award only)

OPEN SECTION: (Painting, Sculpture, Photography, etc)
Emerging Artist Award \$1,500
Highly Commended \$1,000
Commended \$750

WVAC 2325 Wollombi Award \$500 (Local artist or Wollombi subject matter)

2325 Australian Flora Award \$500 (Australian flora subject matter, local artist, sponsored by Greg Major, Future Harvest)

Photography Award \$500
Portrait Award \$500 new
Sculpture/3D Award \$500 new
Indigenous Artist Award \$500 new

WVAC Performance Art/Video Art Award \$500 (Entry via a maximum 3 - minute video)

Youth
Under 18's: Highly Commended \$250 Commended \$100
Under 12's: Highly Commended \$100 Commended \$50

The Les Elvin People's Choice Award (announced at the close of EAA)

Most popular \$500
Runner Up \$250

An Emerging Artist is defined for these awards as one who has not held a solo exhibition in a commercial gallery. Artworks must have been completed in the last two years and be for sale.

One entry per artist. Entry forms sent by mail must be postmarked no later than 5pm Monday 22nd September 2025 or delivered to WVAC c/- Wollombi General Store NSW 2325 by that date. Entry fee is \$10 per entry, payable by cash, cheque or direct deposit (banking details are on the bottom of Conditions of Entry form)

Artworks must be delivered to the Old Fireshed Gallery, Wollombi Cultural Centre between 2pm and 5pm on Sunday 28th September 2025

Collection of unsold works – Sunday 19th October between Noon and 4pm.

SPONSORS

- The 2325 Australian Flora Award, Greg Major (Future Harvest)
- Wollombi Valley Arts Council Inc

The Old Fireshed Gallery

The old fireshed was converted to a much-needed gallery space for our local artists to display their works in 2003. The dimensions of the exhibition space are 9m x 6m.

The Old Fireshed Gallery is situated behind the Wollombi Cultural Centre in the main street of Wollombi, and holds regular exhibitions throughout the year. To book the gallery for an exhibition or other cultural or arts related function, please contact artscouncil@wollombi.org

Wollombi Valley Arts Council Inc
c/o General Store, Wollombi 2325
Email: artscouncil@wollombi.org
Web: www.wollombi.org

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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Clever canines join the fight to save critically endangered local orchids

The critically endangered Wyong Sun Orchid (*Thelymitra adorata*) may be elusive, but a collaboration between Council and the NSW Government's Saving Our Species Program is aiming to change that.

An Australian first trial for this species has successfully trained scent detection dogs to locate these rare orchids by detecting underground tubers in a minimally invasive way.

Using their remarkable sense of smell, three talented Spaniels, Paddy, Sully and Vera, are leading this innovative conservation effort.

In collaboration with On The Scent and The Good Dog, these clever canines were specially trained to detect orchid tubers without relying on the short flowering period when the plants

are usually visible. This helps us to monitor the population of orchids and detect new locations not previously known to be important habitats.

This project plays a crucial role in threat monitoring and biodiversity conservation.

The Central Coast is internationally recognised as a biodiversity hotspot, particularly for this unique orchid species which has been recorded in the region. By harnessing the unique abilities of these trained dogs, we're ensuring the critically endangered Wyong Sun Orchid has a fighting chance.

Senior Regional Biodiversity Conservation Officer for the Saving our Species program, Paul Hillier, highlighted the transformative potential of this project.

"Detection dogs could revolutionise how we monitor threatened species. This method will allow year-round surveys and help us better plan conservation efforts, such as targeted burns to encourage orchid growth."

The project not only enhances our ability to manage and protect threatened orchid habitats but also demonstrates the potential to replicate this method for other cryptic species in the future.

*Central Coast Council and NSW
Environment and Heritage Media
Release*

WANTED

OLD BATTERIES, will pickup, phone 0413 975 107

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