

COMMUNITY NEWS

No. 982 Ph: 4374 1039 Mo: 0412 669 649 Email: enquiries@cnews1.com.au Web: cnews1.com.au 6th March 2026

Connected Communities

Tell us what makes the Central Coast a welcoming place to live, work or study.

We want the Central Coast to be a place where everyone feels welcome and included, no matter who they are or where they come from.

Survey open Wednesday 18 February 2026 to Sunday 19 April 2026

Connected Communities is a Council program funded by the NSW Social Cohesion Grant. It aims to help people feel a stronger sense of belonging, build relationships across different cultures and communities, and make sure everyone feels valued and is able to take part in community life.

You are invited to share your thoughts by completing the short survey or adding a pin on the map. Your feedback will help Council understand where people feel connected and where more support is needed.

Why is Council running this survey?

Council is running this survey to hear directly from the community about what makes the Central Coast a welcoming and supportive place. Your feedback will help us understand current challenges and opportunities, and guide future actions to ensure everyone feels they belong and can participate fully in community life.

What is the Connected Communities initiative?

Connected Communities is a Council-led program funded through the NSW Social Cohesion Grant that aims to strengthen community belonging, build relationships between diverse groups, and community members to feel included, valued, and able to participate fully in community life.

Complete the survey at the link below and go into the draw to win a family day pass to The Australian Reptile Park!

<https://www.yourvoiceourcoast.com/connected-communities> click on "Complete the survey"

Information from Central Coast Council website



Rural Aid

BE PREPARED REGISTER NOW

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REMINDERS FOR YOUR DIARY

- Seniors Festival 2-15 March 2026
- Seniors Expo: Thurs 5 March 2026, 10am-1pm, Wyong Race Club
- MMDCG AGM 5th March, Mangrove Hall, 8pm
- Mobile Library, Central Coast Council Library Service
 - Angel Sussuri 2-2.45pm 10, 24 Mar, 21 Apr
 - Mangrove Hub - 10.30-11.45am 18 Mar
- RDA AGM 17th March Kangaroo Road riding centre
- Defib Demo/Training/Community Picnic Sun July 19 10am-1pm Mangrove Mountain Hall

We swallow greedily any lie that flatters us, but we sip only little by little at a truth we find bitter.
Denis Diderot

STOP!
Next issue Published
20th March 2026
**** DEADLINE ****
**** 13th March '26 ****
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Australian Plants Society Central Coast presents Dr. Tanya Hoolihan at our March meeting:

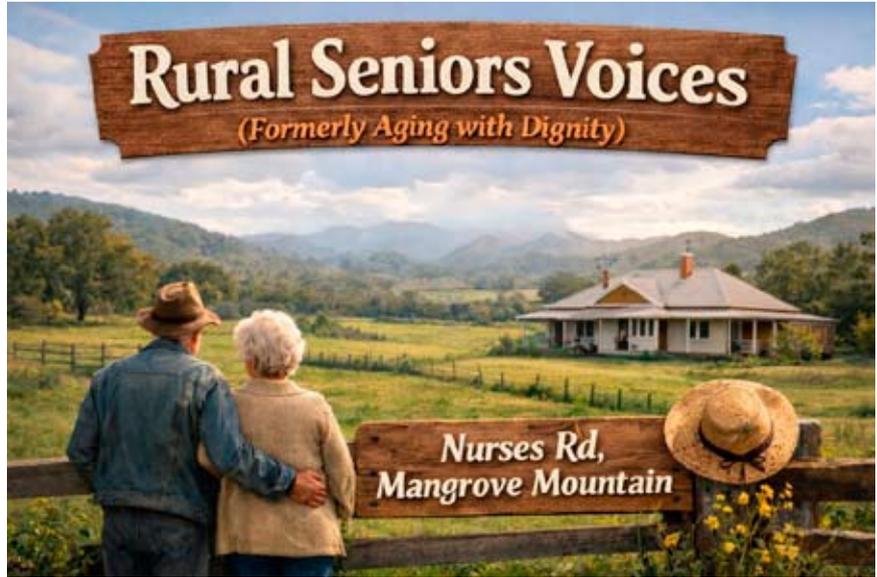
A Botanical Journey with Ludwig Leichhardt

This presentation will look at the return journey Ludwig Leichhardt walked from Newcastle, through Lake Macquarie to East Gosford and the botanical specimens he collected along the way.

In addition Tanya will discuss briefly her PhD study and the botanical illustrations completed as part of her research.

Tanya completed her PhD in Natural History Illustration from the Newcastle University where she lectured for several years in Botanical Illustration. Her PhD documented the botanical collection of German born explorer Ludwig Leichhardt.

- Ground Floor - Araluen Community Centre Henry Kendall Gardens Retirement Village
- 150 Maidens Brush Road, Wyoming
- 1.30pm for 2.00pm start, Saturday 14 March, 2026
- \$3.00 entry for Members & Visitors (Afternoon Tea & Lucky Door Prizes included)



Rural Senior Voices Social Morning

- 19th March, 10.30am
- Nurses Rd, Central Mangrove NSW 2250, Australia
- Duration: 3 hr

Honouring the Foundation of 'Aging with Dignity'.
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Enquiries: austplants.com.au/Central-Coast-Events

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Australian Plants Society Central Coast

For many years, the tireless advocacy of Clara Jones ensured that the needs of our local seniors remained at the heart of community life. Through her dedication to Aging with Dignity, she built a foundation of care, respect, and awareness—a legacy that we now want to grow together as a community.

We have now evolved into Rural Senior Voices. As we grow, we are carrying that torch further by creating a stronger, unified platform to amplify the issues we all face. Our mission is to ensure that the unique challenges of the Mangrove Plateau and the beautiful Hinterland region west of the freeway

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are met with the clarity and action our community deserves.

Join us for a relaxed social morning to reconnect with neighbours and help set our agenda for the year ahead.

When: 10:30 AM on Thursday, 19th of March 2026

Where: The Community Hall, 1639 Nurses Road, Central Mangrove (Located at the medical hub with Dr. Anand and Laverty Pathology)

Parking: Easy parking is available right at the door.

An Opportunity to Voice Your Thoughts: We will have a dedicated "Community Voice Box" available. We invite you to use this opportunity to voice your thoughts, share your concerns, or suggest improvements for our region. Your input will directly shape the issues we champion as a collective.

What to expect: A welcoming atmosphere, light refreshments, and a genuine opportunity to ensure your experience is part of our community's message. Please feel free to bring a plate to share.

"Our history is our foundation; our collective voice is our future."

For more information or to RSVP, please contact:

Alan on 0419 919 969 or Dianne on 0478 160 922

**You are invited to a combined
'Mangrove Mountain CWA Evening Branch'
and 'The Union Church Trust' Event**

POETS' BREAKFAST

Come and enjoy a hearty cooked breakfast with an array of yummy CWA home baked desserts & scones, juice and a bottomless cup of tea or coffee



With plenty of poetry



**When: Sunday 15th March 2026
9am for a 9.30am start**

**At Mangrove Mountain Union Church Hall
2154 Wisemans Ferry Rd, Mangrove
Mountain NSW 2250**



Please buy your ticket for this event soon as there is limited seating.

Enquiries to Judy B 0458655850 email judybetteridge@gmail.com
(You must contact Judy before paying/Dietary requirements on request)

Bendigo Bank BSB 633 000 Acct No. 191925106
CWA NSW - Mangrove Mountain Evening Branch
and put your name in as reference

Dr. S. ANANDASIVAM

(ANAND)

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Weaving and Cordage workshop

Kariong Eco Garden (2 Dandaloo Street, Kariong)

Saturday 14 March 2026

10.30 - 12.30pm

Rebecca Ashcroft has been interested in and practicing weaving from natural materials for many years and has learned different cultural styles.

She will share a style of cordage making and dilly bag/basket weaving that is used in many cultures around the world.

Materials we will use include:

- banana plant fibres
- bullrush fibres

Cost: Adult \$15; Adult and young person or child/ren \$20

Bookings essential:

<https://events.humanitix.com/wonderful-weaving-with-rebecca-ashcroft>

While younger children are welcome and could definitely learn the cordage making, the attention and capacity for basket weaving is more for 12 + years.

Lisa Wriley

kariongegogarden@gmail.com



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ADDRESS 94 Keighley Avenue Somersby



Our first General Meeting for 2026 was held on 12th February and was attended by ten members.

We were thrilled to have Neil Genge as a visitor. He represented the Mangrove Mountain Country Fair committee and came with great news! The Country Fair Committee has decided to install a defibrillator that will be accessible to the public. They have chosen to install it through the Community Defibrillator Project, and the aim is to install a series of defibrillators across our area over a period of time. The first one will be installed on the Waratah Road side of the Mangrove Mountain Hall. Stay tuned for further information.

Another good surprise was that Council has installed a new children's rocker to replace the damaged play equipment at the playground next to the hall.

We also discussed amending the current constitution of this group and will hold a special meeting to do this after our upcoming Annual General

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☎ ANNE 0412201851, PETER 0407971340

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 beautiful grounds.

Meeting.

Our Hall is being well used with monthly markets and regular music events as well as bookings for private functions.

There is still much to do to improve our area, and we are in constant contact with council regarding things like much needed new toilet facilities; truck movements; road speed limits

and the new State development laws.

How do you think we can improve our unique area?

Please bring your ideas and join us at our next general meeting:-

- Thursday, 5th March at 7.30pm at the Mangrove Mountain Hall Followed by our AGM at 8.00pm

*Poppe Zouroudis
Committee member*

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2025-2026 VOLUNTEER GRANTS

Expressions of Interest (EOI) for the 2025-26 Volunteer Grants Program are now open.

The 2025-26 Volunteer Grants Program provides funding of between \$1000 to \$5000 for organisations to support the work of volunteers.

Eligible volunteer organisations can request an EOI form from the Office of the Federal Member for Robertson or on his website.

Federal Member for Robertson, Dr Gordon Reid MP, said “Each year, the Volunteer Grants Program provides funding to local volunteer organisations to support the work of its volunteers.

“Funding can be used to purchase eligible small equipment items, cover insurance costs, or promote awareness of volunteering opportunities in the community.

“This year, the Federal Labor Government is providing up to \$66,665 in each electorate.

The EOI period will end on Friday April 3 from 5 pm. For more information, contact 4322 2400 or Gordon.Reid.MP@aph.gov.au or <https://drgordonreidmp.com.au/community-support/2025-2026-volunteer-grants-program/>

Media Release from the Office of
Dr Gordon Reid MP
Federal Member For Robertson

Origami explodes into a new era

Big news! Origami Folding Art & Sound is growing. After three completely sold out years, the festival is now taking over two huge nights at the Gosford Regional Gallery & Edogawa Gardens.

On Friday 10 April, we launch Origami KIDS — the same vibrant arts and culture experience, specially created for little ones. Then on Saturday 11 April, we're back with our iconic art party.

✿ We're shaking it up. A bigger playground. New stage locations. A space that literally shifts as you explore it.

Garden party meets immersive art experience — where the organic blends with the mechanical, nature dances with technology, and the spirit of an eternal 3am rave lingers in softer, more ethereal form.

🏆 Origami is the NSW 2025 Winner – Best 24hr Economy Collaboration, the first arts & culture award ever received by the Central Coast.

Night One: Origami Kids — A Wild Garden Adventure for Curious Minds

Friday 10 April — All Ages (2–12 yrs + families)

When the sun sets, the garden awakens...

Introducing Origami Kids, a magical new family edition of the festival — a glowing world of light art, roaming performers, insect inspired costumes, kids rave energy, and dedicated children's music.

Arrive early for an interactive fish feeding experience.

A gentle, playful, imagination first journey designed for little night owls and their grown ups.

Night Two: Origami — Art, Music & Light



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UPCOMING CATTLE AUCTIONS

Maitland Regional Saleyards

- Weekly Monday Liveweight Cattle Sales 9am, followed by Calves, Pigs & Sheep from 12 noon.
- Maitland Annual Female Sale - Saturday March 7th
- Monthly Store Cattle Sales - Mar 21st

Gloucester Saleyards

- Thursday Store Cattle Sales - Mar 12th
- Mackas Pastoral Commercial Female Sale (Gloucester) – 11am, Thursday Mar 19th

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

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Saturday 11 April — The Iconic Party Night

A living, breathing sensory playground — not passive, not scenic, but deeply moving.

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- Fully accessible.
- Strictly no BYO.

Two Nights. Two Worlds. One Festival That Moves You.

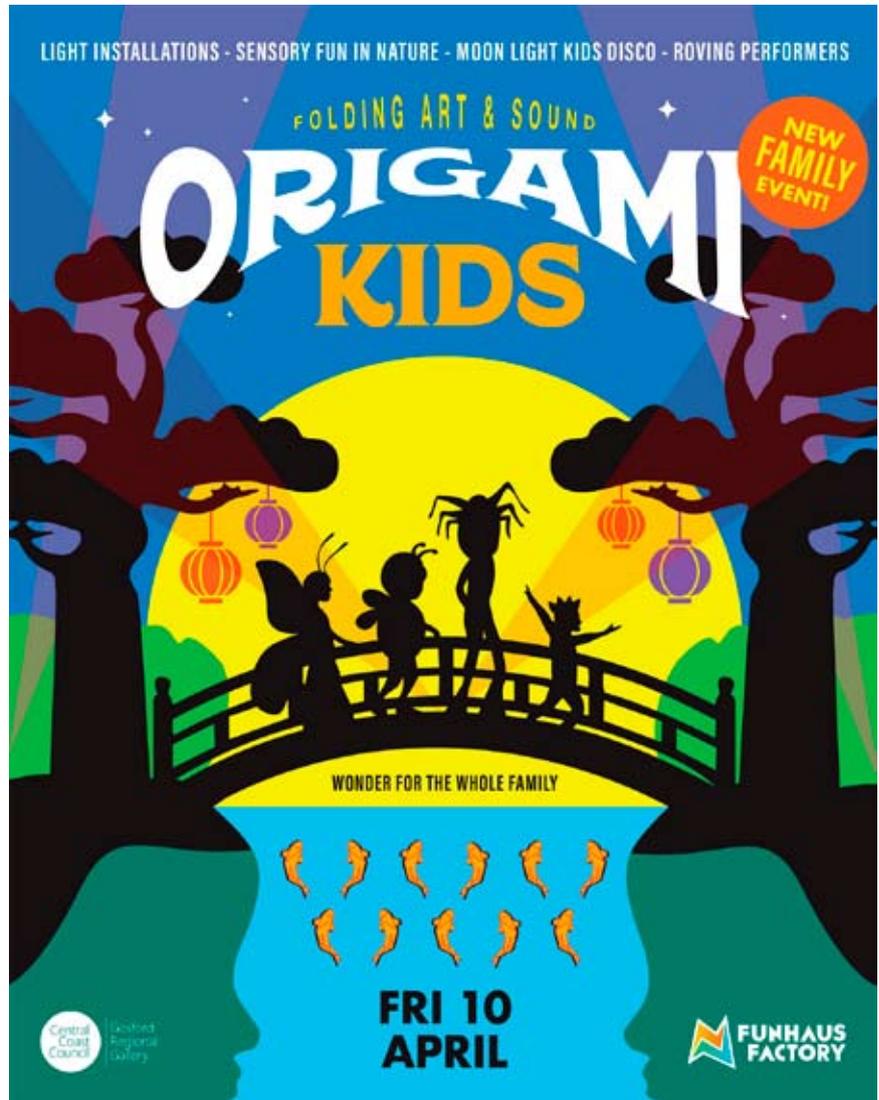
Secure your place now for a night — or two — of authentic connection, music, light and artistic wonder. A sensory journey you'll be talking about long after the garden dims.

See you under the lights

Information & tickets at:

- <https://funhausfactory.org.au/whats-on/origami-kids/>
- <https://funhausfactory.org.au/whats-on/origami/>

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Their Courage Changed History

In just four weeks, the story that refused to be silenced comes to life on stage.

Based on real events, Radium Girls tells the extraordinary tale of the young women in the 1920s who worked painting luminous watch dials, only to discover that the radium they were told was harmless was slowly poisoning them.

As their health fails and their voices are dismissed, these women band together to challenge a powerful corporation in a fight that would change workers' rights forever.

Poisoned For Profit

Set mostly in 1920s New Jersey, Radium Girls follows Grace, Irene, and Kathryn, who paint dials at the U.S. Radium Plant. The factory's new

owner, Arthur Roeder, is excited by radium's promising future and believes in the company's potential for growth.

However, many of the girls soon begin to notice disturbing health issues, and when one of their co-workers dies, her death is brushed aside. The company tries to prevent the girls, who are getting sicker, from talking to the press, push back lawsuit court dates and try to deflect any negativity toward the company.

This is the story of their brave fight for justice, workers' rights, and their survival.

Presented by Wyong Drama Group Experience Radium Girls from March 20 - 28 at the Red Tree Theatre!

160 - 162 Pacific Highway, Tuggerah, 2259

Wyong Drama Group

Carp to Croc fishing comp

Central Coast Council is encouraging the community to join the fight against one of Australia's most damaging invasive species by taking part in this year's Carp to Croc. This fun, purpose-driven fishing competition educates participants on waterway health while putting catches to good use by turning them into nutrient rich fertiliser or donating them to the Australian Reptile Park (via BCF Tuggerah) for crocodile and alligator feed.

This month-long event begins with a free community launch at the Wyong Milk Factory on Saturday 28 March 2026, followed by a fishing muster running from 28 March to 26 April.

Council Mayor, Lawrie McKinna, will officially open the event at 10.15am, followed by rod-rigging, flyfishing and electrofishing demonstrations, carp fertiliser how-to sessions and roving reptile demonstrations from the Australian Reptile Park. After the launch, community members will be encouraged to head to nearby Woodbury Inn Park and start fishing.

Mayor McKinna said the event is a fantastic way to bring environmental action and community spirit together.

"Carp are a significant problem in our waterways, impacting native fish



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species, biodiversity, aquatic plants and overall water quality,” Mayor McKinna said.

“The Carp to Croc event is a fun and interactive way for the community to come together and be part of the solution by helping to manage carp and build resilience of native fish populations.

“From experienced anglers to those casting a line for the first time, we encourage everyone to get involved, have fun and make a difference.”

Council Director Water and Sewer, Jamie Loader said “European carp are one of Australia’s most damaging aquatic pests, degrading water quality and making up as much as 90% of biomass in NSW rivers.”

“Last year’s fishing competition showed how powerful community action can be in protecting our waterways, with almost 300 carp removed thanks to more than 100 local fishers. This year, we believe even more can be taken out of our environment. And thanks to our continuing relationship with the Australian Reptile Park, we can ensure those caught aren’t wasted but are used as a sustainable food source for reptile exhibits.”

Event details:

This year’s competition kicks off at the Wyong Milk Factory (141 Alison Road, Wyong) on 28 March (10am–1pm) with a free, family-friendly launch.



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Event highlights:

- Fishing, electrofishing and rod-rigging demonstrations
- How-to sessions on making carp fertiliser
- Expert talks from OzFish, BCF, Central Coast Council, DPI, WaterNSW and more
- Prizes, giveaways and activities for all ages

Following community feedback, this year attendees will be encouraged to head to Woongarah Waters or

Woodbury Inn Park after the launch, where there’s ample space for everyone to cast a line and get fishing!

The muster competition will be run through the Fish Donkey app, with more details to be announced at the launch event and on Council’s Facebook event.

For more information, search ‘Carp to Croc’ at centralcoast.nsw.gov.au or visit the **Carp to Croc Facebook** event.

Central Coast Council
Media Release

ANZAC DAY

The Palmdale Group will host ANZAC Day Ceremonies at both Palmdale and Greenway on 25th April, paying respect to the memory of our service men and women.

Services and Wreath laying ceremonies will be held at both Palmdale and Greenway.

Proudly presented by



Palmdale Lawn Cemetery & Memorial Park

57 Palmdale Road, Palmdale, NSW.

Commencing at 9am, the service will be held adjacent to the Defence Force Memorial.

Palmdale phone: 4362 1203

Greenway Chapel & Memorial Gardens

460 Avoca Drive, Green Point, NSW.

Commencing at 11am, the service will be held adjacent to the Defence Force Memorial.

Greenway phone: 4369 2013



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Community Picnic

& Defibrillator Demo/Training Day

Sunday, July 19
 10:00 am - 1:00 PM
 Defib Demo at 10:30am
 Mangrove Mountain Hall
 2 Waratah Road, Mangrove Mountain

Meet your neighbours, catch up with new and long time locals, and watch a defibrillator demonstration and training by a paramedic. Bring a small plate to share, enjoy Devonshire tea, and join our raffle. Any money donated on the day will go toward a second community defibrillator!






Peats Ridge & Districts Country Women's Association (CWA)

The branch turned 80 years old in February 2026. That's 80 years of helping in the community, women making new friendships, learning new skills and finding their voices for things




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that count. At the Kulnura Memorial Hall 55 people come to celebrate with us and sing "Happy Birthday". It was a beautiful moment for our branch. Our amazing cake was made and decorated by branch members, they really took cake making to the next level. The catering was all done by branch members, it not only looked good but tasted great. We had been talking about having an 80th birthday for 12 months, it was wonderful that everyone in the branch came together to create a beautiful day. Even our ladies who

couldn't make it to the day because of work commitments still helped make the day a huge success with a great team work ethos. Mr Neil Berecry-Brown gave us a delightful insight into the area's history and then Mrs Christine Sanfilippo on CWA history. There is so much history, it's important to hear the stories so it's not lost over time. The first branch meeting was held on 6 March 1946. Like all CWA beginnings it was to create and support baby health centres and access to medical facilities.

Our branch isn't standing still; we are still strong and growing with new members coming on board sharing friendships and new skills. You're not too old and you're not too young, just come along the jug is on.

Dates for your diary:

- 1st March, Mangrove Mountain Markets
- 16th March, Regular meeting at Kulnura Hall 11.30am All welcome.

Christine Sanfilippo
Publicity Officer





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BINGO from 11am - \$18 Pizza night
HAPPY HOUR 4-6pm

WEDNESDAY

\$20 schnitzels

THURSDAY

POKER 630pm \$24 steak night
MEMBERS BADGE DRAW 730pm

FRIDAY

HAPPY HOUR 4-6pm, COCKTAIL HOUR 6-7pm
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MEAT RAFFLE drawn at 730pm
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SUNDAY

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Kariong Progress Association 80th Anniversary



Celebrate our past - Connect in the present - Look to the future together

Join the Kariong Progress Association as we celebrate 80 years of community spirit in Kariong and honor the stories that shaped our suburb.

When: Sunday 24 May 2026 **Time:** 2:00pm

Where: Kariong Community Hall

This special community event will feature:

- Launch of our 80-Year Commemorative Booklet
- Students presenting their projects *Kariong Then & Kariong Now*
- Stories and reflections from long-time residents
- Historical photos and shared memories - including the origins of local street names and the families who helped shape Kariong
- Afternoon tea provided

Enjoy an afternoon of connection, storytelling and community pride. Have a story or photo to share? We'd love to hear from you.

Please email: kariongpa@gmail.com

Address: 2 Dandaloo St, Kariong NSW 2250 (on the roundabout, near the tennis courts).



To celebrate 80 years of community spirit, the Kariong Progress Association invites residents to contribute to our special 80-Year Commemorative Booklet.

This is your opportunity to share your memories, creativity and connection to Kariong - past and present.

Suggested Themes:

- Kariong Then
- Kariong Now
- What makes Kariong special to you
- What my Kariong community means to me
- Stories passed down through generations
- Photos and personal memories

How to Contribute:

- Provide up to 2 pages (Word document preferred)
 - You may include photos, drawings and written stories
 - Contribute as an individual or family
- Prizes:

Over \$1,000 in prizes to be won!

Please Include:

- Your full name
- Contact phone number and email address
- Age (if under 18)

Email contributions to: kariongpa@gmail.com

Entries close Friday 1 May 2026

Help us capture the heart of Kariong - honouring our past, celebrating our present, and creating a legacy for future generations.

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“Everything You Need - Plus the Space You Want” 15 Buttonderry Way, Jilliby

Set on approximately 2.5 acres in the heart of Jilliby, this expansive single-level family home delivers space, comfort and everyday convenience in one beautifully balanced package. With easy access to the M1, local schools and shops, it offers the rare opportunity to enjoy a semi-rural lifestyle without sacrificing connectivity to essential amenities.

Behind electric gates, the solid brick residence unfolds across a generous floorplan designed for growing families and effortless entertaining.

Five well-proportioned bedrooms are complemented by two bathrooms, including a private master suite complete with walk-in robe and ensuite.

High ceilings throughout enhance the sense of openness, while multiple living zones provide flexibility for both relaxed family living and quieter retreats.



SOLD
Street Record - \$2,200,000

5 2 8 1 2.5 ac

“Where the Valley Ends, the Quiet Begins” 6 Buangi Road, Durren Durren

Set on approximately 5.4 acres, nestled quietly between Dooralong and Mandalong, this beautiful country retreat offers privacy, creativity and calm in equal measure. Surrounded by some of the most breathtaking rural scenery in the region, the property feels a world away while remaining effortlessly connected.

At its heart is a stunning four-bedroom country home, thoughtfully designed to embrace both comfort and character. The main bedroom is a true sanctuary, complete with a walk-in robe, ensuite and doors that open directly onto a balcony overlooking the gardens and surrounding landscape- a peaceful spot to start or end the day. Throughout the home, every window and door captures leafy garden outlooks and visiting birdlife, creating a constant connection to nature.



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Meet Mountain Medicine's new Doctor

Mountain Medicine would like to introduce Dr Rohan Dissanayake and welcome him to our area.

Rohan has come from Raymond Terrace and is a Central Coast local.

He wants all his patients to feel that they are heard at their appointments, and he creates a safe space for them to discuss health needs.

As an advocate for good health and lifestyle medicine, Rohan stresses the importance of looking after the mind and body, he wants his patients to feel confident and happy in themselves. His specialities are Men's Health, Sexual Health, Chronic Disease Management and Mental Health.

Rohan believes in shifting from gendered and binary assumptions and respecting an individual's personal terminology.

Dr Rohan is accepting new patients, so give Mountain Medicine a call on 43741252 to book an appointment.

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COUNCIL WELCOMES 2026 Y4Y LEADERSHIP TEAM

Council is proud to welcome the incoming 2026 Youth for Youth (Y4Y) Leadership Team, while also celebrating the outstanding achievements of the graduating 2025 team who have made a lasting impact on young people across the Central Coast.

The Y4Y Leadership Team is a youth leadership program that brings together young people aged 15 to 24 who care about local community challenges and want to work collaboratively to create positive change, while gaining valuable leadership experience and skills. Through the program, young people are encouraged to step up, advocate for their peers and contribute valuable insights to Council initiatives from a young person's perspective.

Council Mayor Lawrie McKinna said the Youth for Youth Program puts our young people at the centre of shaping local initiatives and championing ideas that matter to them.

"I have met the 2026 Youth for Youth Leadership Team and their enthusiasm is contagious. They're a passionate

and diverse group of 24 young leaders who are ready to build on the great work that's already been done, while bringing fresh ideas and energy of their own," Mayor McKinna said.

"I also congratulate the 2025 Youth for Youth Leadership Team on an outstanding year of achievements and thank them for the commitment and drive they've shown in making a real difference for young people across our community, while helping to deliver on the actions from our Youth Strategy."

Council Director Community and Recreation Services, Melanie Smith said the Y4Y team continue to inspire each year, bringing fresh energy, ideas and valuable insights.

"Through creativity, leadership and a strong passion for driving change, the 2025 team transformed ideas into meaningful action, demonstrating that young leaders don't just talk about making a difference, they make it happen," Ms Smith said.

"Over the past year, the 2025 team hosted the 2025 Youth Week Awards, planned and delivered the Thinking Out Loud Youth Forum, launched the Youth for You podcast series, helped deliver Youth Day Out community days and other youth-focused events across the Central Coast.

"The new 2026 team has jumped into their journey with enthusiasm, and I look forward to seeing the ideas they bring to life and the positive impact

they'll have for young people on the Coast."

The 2026 Youth for Youth Leadership Team members are:

Amber Sharpe, Andrew Hodgins, Aysha Berrada, Basil Bradshaw, Cameron Bullocant, Carmela Nocedo, Ella Stewart, Ellie Davis, Emeliana Kimber, Ha Mi Nguyen, Hannah Clack, Isabella Ridgeway, Jacob Gombe, Jade Brown, Jade Subritzky, Layla Magin, Lewis Pankhurst, Matilda Tomkins, Miel Mejorada, Mumar, Nhat Nguyen, Richard Choi, Ruby Davis, Sairsha Jagger.

Upcoming Council youth activities to become involved in:

- **Nominate an incredible young person for the Youth Week Awards** – closes 20 March. Search 'youth week awards' at centralcoast.nsw.gov.au
- **Volunteer** to help run or simply come along to the 28 March Coast Swap, clothes swap event at Gosford Regional Library from 11am to 1pm. Search 'coast swap' at centralcoast.nsw.gov.au
- **Youth Week program of events runs 16-25 April** – sign up to Council's eNews at centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/enews to be notified of the program calendar launch and many more youth events to come. View events closer to the time at centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/whats-on

Central Coast Council
Media Release



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REGULAR ACTIVITIES & MEETINGS

RURAL FIRE SERVICES

Bucketty RFS	Weekend Training General Meeting Contact	3rd Sat, 9am-12 pm 4 meetings per year bucketty@lowerhunterffcs.com.au 4998 8130
Calga-Mt. White RFS	General meeting Training Information & updates Contact	3rd Mon of the month, 7.30pm all welcome Every Monday 6.30 except public holidays Facebook.com/calga/mtwhiteruralfirebrigade/ Captain.calgamwhite@ccrfs.org.au - Zack Winslade.
Kulnura VBFB at Greta Rd Station	General meeting Training	1st Wednesday of the month, 7.30pm 3rd Wednesday of the month 7.00pm
Mangrove Mountain RFS Bloodtree Rd	General Meeting Training / Maintenance	Last Wednesday of the month, 7 pm, All Wednesday's except last of month, 7 pm
Spencer RFS	General Meeting Training Maintenance	2nd Monday of the month Meeting 6.30pm 3rd Monday 6:30pm 4th Monday 6:30pm E: captain-Spencer-vol@rfs.nsw.gov.au 0415 668953. 4778 Wisemans Ferry Rd
Somersby RFS	General Meeting Training/Maintenance	First Wed of the month 7.30pm at the Station Every Wed night 7.30 at the Station (except before Wed general meeting)
Yarralong RFS		Information: www.facebook.com/ YarralongRuralFireBrigade/ Phone contact: 0494 344 030 Email: volunteer@yarralongrfs.org.au

COMMUNITY & SOCIAL

Central Coast Plateau Chamber of Commerce	First Tuesday each month 7.00PM MMMC
Coastlink Friendship Group	Wed 9.30am-2pm at the Health Centre, Nurses Rd, Central Mangrove
Country Women's Association (Somersby)	Second Wed of each month, at Somersby Hall Wiseman's Ferry Road, Somersby, contact Sue, 43721280 or 0407768000.
Country Women's Association (Peats Ridge & District)	Third Monday of the month at 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 0458 655850
Gosford North Inner Wheel club	2nd Wed each month 11am at Phillip House in Kariong. Contact: Glenis Ph: 0400 486 760
Kulnura & District Garden Club	Second Monday, 9.30 for 10am start. Jacqui Maxwell 0455364262 kulnuradge@gmail.com
Kulnura Tuesday Tennis	Tue 9.30am-12.30pm, Kulnura Tennis Courts. Enquiries: Alison Palmer 0427731548.
Ladies of the Valley Afternoon Tea	1st Tues, 1pm to 2.30 at Angels Sussurri Cafe Yarralong. Margaret Dale 0411104770
Mangrove Mountain & Districts Community Group	1st Thurs of the Month, excl Jan. 7.30pm, Mangrove Mtn Hall. Contact: mepccinc@gmail.com, 0412669649
Mangrove Emergency Planning & Communications Committee	
Mangrove Mountain Country Fair Committee Meeting	3rd Thu of mth except Jan, 7pm, at Union Church Hall. Pres - Steve 0455 155 075 www.mountaindistrictsassociation.com.au secretary@mountaindistrictsassociation.com.au
Mountain Districts Association (MDA)	Second Tuesday of the Month 6.30pm at the Mangrove Memorial Club
Mountain District Football Club Meeting	2nd Thu. Ph Elaine Burrows 0412988353
Probus - West Gosford	President Marlee Maxwell Email rivercaresinc@gmail.com
River Cares for the Lower Hawkesbury River District	Friday 7.15am at Phillip House. 43404529
Rotary Club Meeting	
Spencer Community Progress Group Inc	President Brad Maisey, Community Meetings, 0436482201, spencercpg2@gmail.com Articles to: spencercpg2@gmail.com
Newsletter	
Spencer Sheilas Community Social Club	Last Friday of the month. Eve Leeming - 4377 1116 and/or cedriceve@bigpond.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 Yarralong	Every Sunday, 9.30am. (Easter & (Christmas Carols dates to be advised)

(cont'd next page)

LIVESTOCK MARKET REPORT



Maitland Liveweight Cattle Sale 23rd February 2026

650 cattle yarded this week at Maitland. 450 Trade/209 export.

- Restocker Heifers up to 250kg made 350 c/kg to 445 c/kg
- 250kg-300kg made 371 c/kg to 430 c/kg
- 300kg to 380kg made 375 c/kg to 412c/kg
- Restocker steers up to 250kg made 191c/kg to 510 c/kg
- 250kg-300kg made 451 c/kg to 500c/kg
- 300kg-380kg made 434 c/kg to 472 c/kg
- Yearling Steers to Feed made 374c/kg to 445c/kg
- Yearling Heifers to Feed made 358 c/kg to 390 c/kg
- Cows made 353 c/kg to 396 c/kg
- Bulls 316 c/kg to 350 c/kg

Maitland Liveweight Cattle Sale 16th February 2026

360 cattle yarded this week at Maitland. 300 Trade/60 export.

- Restocker Heifers up to 250kg made 350 c/kg to 420 c/kg

.:KSR.:.

NEW
GRAVEL

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- 250kg-300kg made 370c/kg to 410 c/kg
- 300kg to 380kg made 360 c/kg to 460c/kg
- Restocker steers up to 250kg made 442c/kg to 530 c/kg
- 250kg-300kg made 459 c/kg to 535c/kg
- 300kg-380kg made 433 c/kg to 500 c/kg
- Yearling Steers to Feed made 400c/kg to 470c/kg
- Yearling Heifers to Feed made 390 c/kg to 450 c/kg
- Cows made 300 c/kg to 380 c/kg
- Bulls 250c/kg to 320c/kg

A friendly reminder that we are often in the area seeing clients and looking at their livestock and if you would like us to call in be sure to give us a call.

Like and share our Facebook page!
Keep up to date with [bowelidbury.com.au](http://www.bowelidbury.com.au)

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REGULAR ACTIVITIES & MEETINGS (cont'd)

Catholic Service - Central Mangrove
- Spencer
- Wollombi
- Yarramalong

Divine Retreat Centre
Daily Holy Mass 8.00am to 8.30 am
Last Sun, 9am-4pm, One Day Retreat.
160 Hensons Road, Somersby Ph 0243721598

Serbian Orthodox
2nd & 4th Sun. of the month. 10 am, followed by luncheon, tea, coffee, cakes (cost \$20).
1184 Peats Ridge Rd, Peats Ridge

Kariong Community Baptist Church
Sun @9.30am, Church & Kid's Program,
Philip House, Mt Penang Gardens, Chris Clarke email pastorkcbbc@outlook.com
10am every Saturday, Mangrove Mountain Union Church.

Restitution Ministries
Independent SDA Church
YOUTH
Junior Girl Guides 5-10
Girl Guides 10-15

Scouts, Cubs & Venturers
Peats Ridge Scout Hall
Cubs meet 6.30pm – 8.30pm Wednesdays
Scouts meet 7.00pm – 9.00pm Tuesdays
Venturers meet 7.00pm – 9.00pm Mondays
Contact 0460 696 941

HISTORICAL
Brisbane Waters Historical Society
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 0406645842.
3rd Fri of month 7.30pm Pearl Beach. Peggy 0411754577 pbaboriginalhistory@gmail.com
Sun to Thurs, 10am-2pm, other times by appt. 43521886 or info@alisonhomestead.com.au.
website: www.alisonhomestead.com.au

The Pearl Beach Aboriginal History Group
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 0406645842.
3rd Fri of month 7.30pm Pearl Beach. Peggy 0411754577 pbaboriginalhistory@gmail.com
Sun to Thurs, 10am-2pm, other times by appt. 43521886 or info@alisonhomestead.com.au.
website: www.alisonhomestead.com.au

Wyong District Museum & Historical Society
ACTIVITY/HOBBY
Carnival Glass Club
Meetings held every three months. Central Coast, Newcastle, Sydney. Ring 0447723956 or 0448390077 for details.

Central Coast Junior Motorcycle Club Inc.
Meeting dates: ccjuniormotorcycleclub.org.au,
FB: "Central Coast Junior Motorcycle Club Official". David Smith 0412 506 503

Coastal Communicators Toastmasters
1st & 3rd Thurs of month, 6:45pm to 8:45pm at Doyalson-Wyee RSL. Debbie 0421216952
2nd Sat of the month Somersby Hall (10am to 2pm) cost \$5 per person Carmen 0434071305
Third Sun 2pm, Angels Sussurri Yarramalong. Contact Kerry Watson 0404059167

Saturday Craft Group/Spining and bobbin lace
Yarn group (knit, crochet etc)

HALL BOOKINGS
Kulnura Hall
Mangrove Mountain Hall
Mangrove Mountain Union Church & Hall
Contact Central Coast Council.
Hall bookings Ryan Howard 0405416289
Church & Hall bookings 0412669649 mmucsecretary@outlook.com

Somersby Hall and Mountain Districts Culture and Heritage Centre
Hall bookings: 0413 359 655 or AH 4373 1488
enquiries@yarramalonghall.org.au
<https://yarramalonghall.org.au>

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Mandating cash acceptance

We're delivering on our commitment to mandate cash acceptance for essential purchases by finalising regulations that require fuel and grocery retailers to accept cash from 1 January 2026.

We're making it mandatory for businesses to accept cash when they sell these essential items.

This will help to ensure Australians can continue to pay with cash for essentials if they want to.

It will ensure Australians who depend on cash for fuel and groceries aren't left behind.

Community feedback confirmed grocery and fuel purchases are essential and today's changes mean that from 1 January 2026, most retailers must accept cash for in-person transactions of \$500 or less between 7am and 9pm.

Small businesses with aggregate annual turnover under \$10 million will be exempted from the mandate, however, the mandate will apply to small businesses that choose to share a trademark with a larger retailer.

In addition to the cash mandate for fuel and groceries, consumers also

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- Single (no Partner, no Kids, no Pets).
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already have the option to pay their bills, including utilities, phone bills and council rates, in cash at their local Australia Post outlet through Post Billpay on the current terms of this service.

Billpay is available at post offices across Australia and is relied on by businesses and government agencies, including utility providers and government entities across local, state and Commonwealth levels.

The Government will review the mandate after three years, to ensure it is functioning as intended.

You should be able to pay with cash if you need to, and that's what these regulations are all about.

*Media Release from the office of
The Hon Dr Jim Chalmers MP
Treasurer*

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

LABOURER 1 or 2 persons required to hand weed a landscape yard in Kulnura. 1-2 days, weekday or weekend. Rate negotiable Call 0411868437

CAR WASHER / DETAILER wanted to clean limousines and buses as needed in Somersby. Suit retiree or someone in between work. Contact Greg P: 0414 682 306 or E: lionlimos1@gmail.com

GARDENER/NURSERY HAND Large garden in Kulnura seeking a fit & healthy person for garden & nursery work. Duties are many & varied including hand weeding, weed spraying, plant potting & general plant maintenance. Previous nursery experience preferable, but enthusiasm with the ability to work quickly & efficiently are the main requirements. The position is casual to start, with flexible hours to the right person. Would suit someone local. Resumes &/or expression of interest, please email help@paradisepplants.com.au

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