

COMMUNITY NEWS

No. 986 Ph: 4374 1039 Mo: 0412 669 649 Email: enquiries@cnews1.com.au Web: cnews1.com.au 1st May 2026

We Need Feedback!

I was always told by Mum "Silence means yes".

A couple of years back I was informed "now you are over 70 you no longer belong in this community, you need to find a place in an old peoples home elsewhere".

Do you agree?

The royal commission into aged care determined that removing older people from their environment would likely be detrimental to their mental and physical well being.

This has been assessed to mean helping them stay in their own home. However that is not always possible or advisable. Should that mean they must leave their community as well?

With the possibility of getting an "elders establishment" west of the freeway, what features would the community wish it to have?

My first suggestion is that "permanent residential positions" should be reserved for long term residents. We don't want to become just another "geriatric zoo where old people are kept, fed, clothed, watered, entertained but of no real use", in but not of the community, do we?

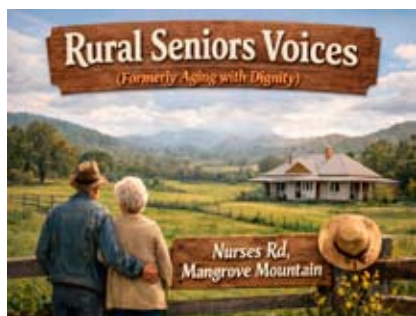
Please, don't matter if you are old, young, or in between, have a parent or grandparent or are one, we need feedback NOW during the planning stage.

Hoping for heaps of feedback, give your support to Rural Seniors Voices. Our next meeting is 21st May 12pm in the hall on 13 Nurses Rd, next door to Dr Anand's practice, or send a written submission to c/o 120 Ironbark Rd, Mangrove Mountain, NSW 2250.

Clara Jones 49988198

Dianne Starkey

Alan Smedley



NSW FARMERS AND DPIRD BBQ

Have you been wondering what the local Department of Primary Industries Research and Development have been up to lately?

Me too!

Why not come along for a BBQ and catch up.

We will find out all about the brand-new Centre for Australian Horticultural Market Access (CAHMA) and what they are doing.

There are 3 researchers who handle postharvest/market access, food safety and plant nutrition. There are also a lot of good extension resources available and the facilities are nice.

Tour the NSW DPIRD and new Centre for Australian Horticultural Market Access and have a discussion with Ourimbah researchers

NSW Farmers will be holding their Central Coast Branch AGM.

If you want to come along for a free feed and catch up, we would love to see you there!

Details: Date and time, 4-6pm (ish) on Thursday 7 May

Where: Ourimbah campus of the University of Newcastle
North Loop Road, Ourimbah.

PLEASE RSVP by Monday May 4

Chair: Tim Kemp 0400 224588

Tanya Hayes NSW Farmers RSM: 0407 533 218



**Department
of Primary
Industries
and Regional
Development**



**MANGROVE MOUNTAIN
RURAL FIRE BRIGADE**

**Annual General
Meeting**

to be held at the Fireshed,
156 Bloodtree Rd, MMtn

Wed 27 May, 7pm

All welcome.

Come along and
support your local Brigade

Generally speaking, you aren't
learning much if your lips are
moving

Maharishi's Guide to Zen

STOP!

Next issue Published
15th May 2026

**** DEADLINE ****

**** 8th May '26 ****

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Somersby / Mangrove Mountain Green Team History

The Green Teams program started after the 2019-2020 fires, using Resilience and Recovery Support funding to supply tools and other equipment. The purpose of the program was to assist with native habitat management on Land for Wildlife properties. An information session in March of 2021 at Mangrove Mountain Hall gathered interested community members.

April 2021 – The 1st Green team weed morning was at Mangrove Mountain with 4 in attendance, weeding in fire affected area. Whiskey grass, lantana, ink weed, flea bane, and blackberry were the primary invaders. 3 chook feed bags of weeds was removed.

The 2nd Green Team session was in Somersby with 5 in attendance, weeding primarily whiskey grass. This continued between two participating properties for 2 years with occasional assistance from other volunteers. In 2023 we met at Mangrove Mountain Flora Reserve with community invited to assist with weed management and learn about the unique flora, habitat and organisms. Two properties from Spencer area joined the team. For a short time over the last 5 years, we had 6 participating properties.

Dr. S. ANANDASIVAM

(ANAND)

MBBS, FRACGP, AMCC

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Over the 5 years the team has spent 140 hours weeding and maintaining approx. 0.5Ha of natural bushland on members properties. As part of this, the team learnt about weeding methods, wildlife, flora, insects, fungi, planted 107 plants for regeneration on steep slope, collected seed, rescued plants and more. A highlight for most is the monthly, social interaction

and morning tea provided by the host property. If you are interested in joining or learning more, please contact CEN Green team coordinator Paul Madden, on 4349 4491, or by email paul.madden@cen.org.au.

After our 5-year anniversary in April, the Green Team is extending an open invitation to interested community members to join the team at Mangrove

Mountain Recreation Reserve, near Mangrove Mountain Hall for their May session on the 8th May at 9:30am. Training, equipment, and Morning tea will be provided. More information can be found on the CEN events page (cen.org.au/events).

Paul Madden
Local Landcare Coordinator
Community Environment Network



Notification of wild dog and fox control program

Greater Sydney Local Land Services will be leading an integrated wild dog and fox control program in the Central Coast with support from NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service, Central Coast Council and the Forestry Corporation. This coordinated program is part of ongoing work to reduce pest animal numbers and their impact on primary production and native wildlife in these areas.

1080 wild dog and fox ground baits as well as Canid Pest Ejectors will be used on the listed properties below from **Monday 27 April 2026 until 29 May 2026**.

Pets and working dogs may be affected (1080 is lethal to cats and dogs). **Please restrain all domestic pets and working dogs and ensure they do not enter the baiting locations during this time.** In the event of accidental poisoning of domestic pets seek immediate veterinary assistance.

60 Hitchcocks Lane Dooralong	33 Dunks Lane Jilliby
51 Brush Creek Road Cedar Brush Creek	13 Springs Road Kulnura
1897 South Tacome Road Tuggerah	78 Wirrinda Road Somersby
20 Wirrinda Road Somersby	3653 Wisemans Ferry Road Greengrove
1398 Wisemans Ferry Road Somersby	611 Kyola Road Kulnura
15 Murraba Road Kulnura	16 Murraba Road Kulnura
52 Meriki Road Mangrove Mountain	625 Ravensdale Road Ravensdale
602 Ravensdale Road Ravensdale	304 Ravensdale Road Ravensdale
277 Ravensdale Road Ravensdale	1 Peats Ridge Road Somersby
McPherson State Forest	Olney State Forest
2762 Wisemans Ferry Road	Mangrove Mountain
Broken Bay Sport and Recreation Centre Patonga	Blue Gum Close Reserve Central coast Council
Triple springs Reserve Central Coast Council	The Ridgeway Reserve Central Coast Council
James Norton Reserve Central Coast Council	The Scenic Road Bushland Reserve Central Coast Council
557 George Downes Drive Kulnura	59 Yorky Watera Road Kulnura

If you would like to participate in a future program or have any questions, please contact Greater Sydney Local Land Services on (02) 4724 2100.

MANGROVE MOUNTAIN & DISTRICTS COMMUNITY GROUP



AGM 2026

We held our Annual General Meeting on 5th April with twenty community members attending. We would like to thank Mr Peter Comensoli for taking the role of returning officer again this year. His calm and positive manner is much appreciated.

Our president, Ryan, read out his annual report, which you can read in the next Community News issue.

The following position holders were

elected:-

- President and Hall Booking Officer - Ryan Howard
- Vice President and Public Officer - Claire Podlich
- Treasurer - Neil Harvey
- Secretary - Poppe Zouroudis
- Committee members - Kaye Pointer, Elaine Raines, Justin Wood

March General Meeting

After the AGM we held our March General Meeting. Much was discussed including contacting Council re the management of trees overhanging roads, as well as provision for eligible landholders to take rubbish to the tip rather than kerbside collections. Next year we celebrate the Hall's centenary, so we are compiling hall history. There is ongoing communication with Council re the Mangrove Mountain toilets. Thank you to all who signed petitions and wrote letters to support us. The Country Fair has funded a community defibrillator that is now outside the hall.

April General Meeting.

Nine members and one visitor attended this meeting. This meeting was a long one as we had much to discuss. After hearing the reports from the treasurer, hall bookings and markets, we discussed many issues including the meeting of the Mangrove Mountain Advisory Sub-committee at

Climate-Smart Farming Toolkit

Farmers for Climate Action has released its upgraded Climate-Smart Farming Toolkit - to help producers navigate increasing climate volatility while protecting profitability.

The updated toolkit brings together real on-farm case studies, practical guides and expert insights across methane intensity reduction, herd productivity, large-scale renewables, tools and calculators, and First Nations land stewardship. Built for Australian farms and ready to use, it's designed to support confident, informed decision-making on the ground.

<https://farmersforclimateaction.org.au/climate-smart-farming-toolkit>

Council that was attended by Claire and Poppe; the Waratah Road toilets; a proposal for a community garden; Council grants; Rural Aid volunteers visiting; and planning for the upcoming Harvest Festival. It was good to hear that Council had sent contractors to cut down dead and dangerous trees in Baines Road, Mangrove Mountain.

As you can see, we are a busy group. We'd love you to join us, make community connections and help make this an even better place to live.

Our next meeting will be held at the Mangrove Mountain Hall at 7.30pm on 7th May.

Hope to see you there.

Poppe Zouroudis, Secretary

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Z-STAR RETURN TO MANGROVE MOUNTAIN HALL

Saturday the 9th of May

Ever since international Blues, Rock and disco funk soul sensation, Z-Star, first toured Australia, they've had a soft spot for our historic Mangrove Mountain Hall, returning to perform on each tour, at times travelling for many hours from their last festival or show to light up the Blues on the Mountain stage with their incredible high energy show! And we can't wait to have them back, with the amazing Lecia Louise on Saturday the 9th of May!

Z-STAR

After receiving rave reviews around the world, including from Led Zeppelin's Jimmy Page, and performing at the world-famous Glastonbury Music festival twice, Z-STAR are bringing their electrifying live show back to the historic Mangrove Mountain Hall on Saturday the 9th of May.

Z-STAR's high octane live shows have lit up stages worldwide with performances at legendary festivals and venues including Glastonbury, Secret Garden Party, The Great Escape, Standon Calling, Brighton Fringe Festival, Dingwalls, Caloundra Music Festival, MTV Live, Port Fairy Folk Festival and Blue Mountains Music Festival.

Rising to international acclaim with comparisons to Nina Simone, Prince, Jimi Hendrix and Led Zeppelin, frontwoman Zee Gashette and her band put on a phenomenal show.

Lecia Louise

Lecia Louise demands attention with her soaring, bluesin' rockin' guitar riffs and licks. A guitar virtuoso and diverse songwriter, Lecia effortlessly moves through the styles of rock, pop, groove and blues. From a lyric driven tune to a rockin' song to groove to, Lecia has been 'wowing' audiences while touring internationally and nationally.

For this special show, Z-Star's powerhouse rhythm section, featuring Beck Flatt on drums, will join Lecia Louise on stage for a Blues/rock experience not to be missed!

"Aussie female rock will not be the same. Seriously cool guitarist

as well as fantastic singer." – Malcolm Foster, bassist for The Pretender and Simple Minds.

Blues on the Mountain is an all ages family friendly event. Great food will be available to purchase, BYO snacks and drinks. Doors open at 6pm.

To book visit <https://events.humanitix.com/z-star-uk-plus-lecia-louise-mangrove-mountain-hall>

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Email: mangrovemtpharmacy@gmail.com

Kulnura Garden club

Well what a fantastic day we had this month at Gales Citrus. The weather was perfect, warm and Sunny and our Speaker Dan was fantastic, so informative on all the questions asked about Citrus, Olives, figs, bugs and insects to remedies, cures and sprays.

We had a great turnout of members and everyone went away talking about what a terrific day and place it was.

If anyone is looking for fruit trees call in and see Dan he's only too happy to help you.

Debbie Fyson



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NSW NATIONAL PARKS & WILDLIFE SERVICE

Notice of 1080 Baiting

NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) is conducting an aerial baiting program in Watagans, Popran and Brisbane Water National Parks.

Aerial baiting is scheduled for 2nd May 2026 to 16th May 2026.

The operation will use 1080 (sodium fluoroacetate) poison for the control of wild dogs and foxes.

The program is designed to minimise predator impacts on wildlife, especially threatened species, and to minimise the impact of wild dogs on neighbouring stock.

Signs will be placed at all authorised entry points to the baiting location.

Domestic pets are not permitted in National Parks and Wildlife managed lands. Pets and working dogs may be affected (1080 is lethal to cats and dogs). Pets and working dogs must be restrained or muzzled in the vicinity and must not enter the baiting location. In the event of accidental poisoning seek immediate veterinary assistance.

Land managers and landlords, please notify tenants or visitors to properties adjoining the proposed baiting location.

Please contact the NPWS Central Coast Area Office on (02) 4320 4200 for more information or check the NPWS web page alerts.

FAREWELL ANDY SCHNEIDER

1st December 1962 - 4th April 2026

Andreas Friedemann Schneider - Andy to his Australian friends, was born in Germany to his loving parents Ursula and Heinz. Andy's father passed away when he was 10 and so Andy grew up with his loving Mum in Mettmann where it was just the two of them and this forged a super bond between them that lasted forever.

Andy learnt his early trade as an electronics engineer then moved into the IT industry as a support engineer. Later he took on a technical sales role that took him to Finland.

Andy met Jodie on a company trip to Australia where he was training up the Australian engineers. Andy and Jodie hit it off immediately and Jodie then moved to Helsinki with Andy where they lived and worked together for three years. In 1997 Andy organised a relocation to Australia to continue his technical sales role. Andy and Jodie setup home in Mangrove Mountain where Andy owner built the house and set up the property. They worked, lived and did everything together and were very very close, having a wonderful life together.

Once settled in Mangrove Mountain, Andy joined the local Rural fire brigade (RFS) where he loved participating in all aspects of the service and met many people he would stay friends with for his life. He grew in skill and experience over the years, captaining

the Mangrove brigade for a time.

After 40 years, Andy retired from the computer world and starting working for a small beekeeping operation as a factory manager where he embraced learning a raft of new skills related to bees and honey and used his organisational and planning skills to assist in the growth of the company.

Andy travelled back to Germany twice a year to catch up with his Mum and all his friends. Andy's mum passed

away in 2023 and this was a huge upset to him that he never really got over.

In 2024 Andy adopted a rescue dog called Jack and they were both the highlights of each other life. Andy was diagnosed with cancer in 2025 but his treatment was seemingly going well, so his sudden passing from a severe infection was unexpected and a huge shock to all.

Andy is very loved by all. He looked after people and always took care of everyone. He will be greatly missed and always remembered.



Andy at the honey stall at Mangrove Markets with the Royal Easter Show winners ribbon - champion commercial honey exhibit in classes 60 to 62.



MANGROVE MOUNTAIN

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WHAT'S ON WEEKLY

MONDAY

HAPPY HOUR 4-6pm

TUESDAY

BINGO from 11am - Pizza night

HAPPY HOUR 4-6pm

WEDNESDAY

Schnitzel Night

THURSDAY

POKER 630pm Steak night
MEMBERS BADGE DRAW
730pm

FRIDAY

HAPPY HOUR 4-6pm,
COCKTAIL HOUR 6-7pm
MEAT RAFFLE drawn at
730pm
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Central Mangrove Public Hosts Cross Country Carnival

Central Mangrove Public School was proud to host the recent Central Coast Small Schools Cross Country Carnival, a fantastic day that brought



Clockwise from above: Getting the supplies from Coles Erina - Thanks to Coles for the \$50 gift card; the Confectionery table; Enjoying lunch; Kariong-Somersby Rotary cooking up a storm as usual; Central Mangrove P&C ladies at work

together students and families from Central Mangrove, Kulnura, Peats Ridge, Somersby, Jiliby and Wyong Creek Public Schools. The event showcased the incredible running skills and sportsmanship of all the students involved. Congratulations to all the students for their outstanding efforts and enthusiasm throughout the day.



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We were delighted to welcome students, families, and staff from across the region to our school, creating a vibrant and supportive community atmosphere that made the event truly special.

A big thank you goes to the Central Mangrove PS P&C for running the BBQ and canteen and to the volunteers from Karing Somersby Rotary who generously gave their time to cook the BBQ. We are also grateful to John, Brett, and Rob from Central Mangrove for their hard work in preparing the track, ensuring the event ran smoothly and safely.

We loved hosting everyone and look forward to welcoming you all back again next year for another memorable carnival!

Amy Ball, Principal
Central Mangrove Public School
1708 Wisemans Ferry Road Central Mangrove
<https://centmangro-p.schools.nsw.gov.au> | 02 4373 1156

★ SAVE THE DATE

RIVER CARES TRASH TO TREASURE FUNDRAISER

Saturday, 6 June
9.00am – 3.00pm
Spencer Thai – 4670 Wisemans Ferry Road, Spencer

Join us for a fun-filled community day as we turn “Trash to Treasure” in the beautiful gardens of Spencer Thai! Browse a wide variety of items for sale – from unique treasures to hidden gems you didn’t even know you needed.

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PLEASE REMEMBER: CASH ONLY ON THE DAY

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- Find out about enrolment and upcoming school tours.
- Ask questions during a dedicated Q&A.

Session details:

4pm
Tuesday 5 May 2026

Mountain Community
Childrens Centre
2829 Wisemans Ferry Rd
Mangrove Mountain

4374 1239



Inspiring excellence

Have your say on the Hawkesbury-Nepean Management Program

A long-term plan for the management of the Hawkesbury-Nepean river system has been prepared, and the community is encouraged to have their say.

In partnership with the NSW Government, six councils, including the Central Coast, Northern Beaches, Ku-ring-gai, Hornsby Shire, The Hills Shire and Hawkesbury City, have worked together to develop The Hawkesbury-Nepean River System Coastal Management Program (CMP).

This coordinated, whole-of-system plan, covers 145km of tidal waterways from Broken Bay to Yarramundi, including Pittwater and Brisbane Water, representing a new, integrated approach to river management.

Council Mayor, Lawrie McKinna said the CMP proposes a 10-year program that outlines actions for strengthening how the river system is managed.

"For the Central Coast, this is about special places we know and love including Brisbane Water, Broken Bay, Umina, Pearl Beach, Patonga and Mangrove Creek."

The Hawkesbury-Nepean River System Coastal Management Program is on public exhibition from Monday 20 April to Sunday 31 May 2026.

To view the draft program and make a submission, visit Your Voice Our Coast, and select Our Coast Our Waterways.

Central Coast Council
Media Release



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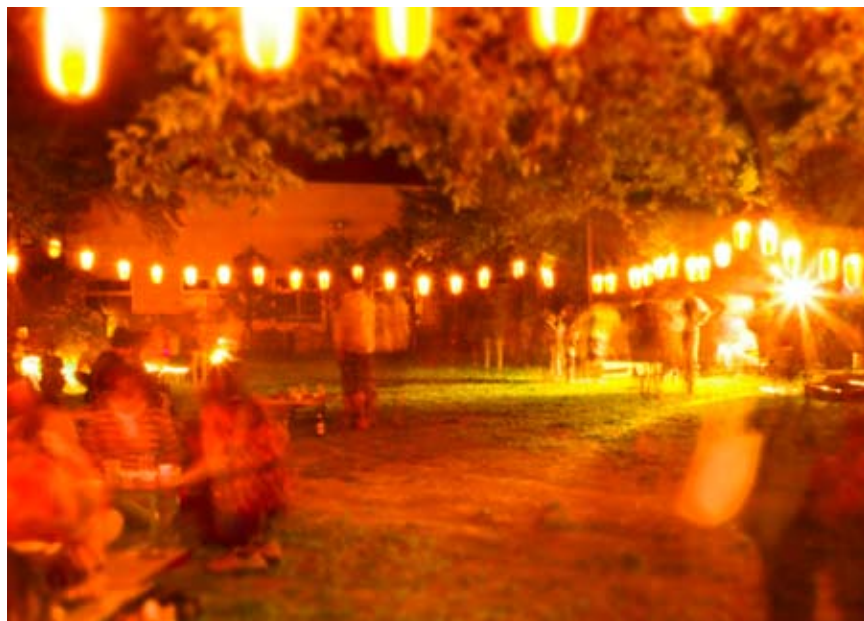
Westy's Place Camp Out Central Coast Harvest Festival

Along with our awesome Family day out we are going to continue the fun into the evening. Get ready for a fun-filled weekend at our first Westy's Place Camp Out, part of the awesome Central Coast Harvest Festival! Enjoy great vibes, good company, and plenty

of outdoor fun.

Join us for a unique ticketed overnight camping experience that blends a relaxed, family-friendly field day with the magic of a country stay under the stars. Spend the day enjoying Harvest Festival before settling in for an evening of live music, fire drums, creating the perfect winter ambience.

Guests with Music and dinner tickets will be treated to warm winter meals made with local produce (menu to be confirmed and will be updated when confirmed) BYO alcohol. As night falls, gather around fire pits, share stories, and soak up the warmth. For those staying overnight, camping is



CWA JAMS AND PRESERVES

Understanding Preserves: Pickles, Chutneys, Relishes, Jams, Jellies, and Conserves

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available for BYO tents, caravans, and campervans or book a rental through www.campify.com.au, making it easy to relax and enjoy the full experience. Wake on Sunday to a traditional country breakfast, the perfect way to round out a memorable Harvest Festival weekend. It's the perfect way to soak up the beautiful Central Coast scenery while making new friends. Don't miss out on this in-person event where camping meets community spirit! A portion of any tickets sold including a meal will go towards the Rural Fire Service.

Tickets are for sale at Eventbrite.com search 'Westy's Place Camp Out' for ticketing options. Locals will receive a 10% discount with promo code LOCAL10

Ticketing options include - Music only Tickets- Music and Meal Tickets - Music, Meal and Overnight stay.

Can't wait to see you all there.

Westy's Place



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through these distinctions, helping you to master the art of making preserves. Whether your interest lies in sweet jams or tangy relishes, this session will clarify what sets each type apart and provide practical insights for creating them at home.

Preserve Making Skills

This session is designed to teach you valuable skills for transforming surplus fruit and vegetables into delicious preserves. You'll learn a range of techniques, including how to properly prepare your ingredients and cook them to perfection. On Saturday, 09/05/2026, we will focus on making plum jam, a homemade relish, and possibly lemon butter. By learning these methods, you'll be able to make the most of your produce and enjoy the satisfaction of homemade goods.

Preparation and Best Practices

Throughout the class, we'll discuss thorough washing and preparation of bottles, as well as essential do's and don'ts for successful preserve making. These steps are crucial for ensuring your preserves are both safe and delicious. By understanding best practices, you'll gain confidence in your ability to create quality preserves every time.

Class Details

The session will run from 10:30 AM to 1:30 PM. Preserve making, particularly jam, requires patience and attention to detail. We'll guide you through each stage of the process, ensuring you understand the procedure from start to finish.

Join Us at Kariong Community Hall

We invite you to join us at Kariong Community Hall for a day that's both fun and informative. Whether you're new to preserving or want to build on your existing skills, this event offers a welcoming environment. You'll learn how to make the most of your garden harvest and experience the joy of homemade preserves.

Bookings are available through Humanitix at \$10 per person.

Judy Betteridge

Rural Aid Farmer Event

Mangrove Mountain Ladies of the Land Morning Tea

**Wednesday
29 April '26**
 9.30am to 11.00am
 NSW DP
 Somersby Field
 Research Station

Join us for connection, conversation & a cuppa!

Rural Aid invites all Mangrove Mountain Ladies of the Land for a morning of connection, conversation & recognition. Talk with Rural Aid Mental Health & Wellbeing Counsellor, Ian.

RSVP by 27 April to **0473 128 256** or david.thiele@ruralaid.org.au

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Mountain Community Children's
Centre News

Back to Preschool Afternoon Tea

We welcomed all the children who left to go to big school this year with an afternoon tea. We shared a cake and stories of big school. It was so lovely to see everyone dressed in their uniforms and looking so grown up. We wish them all the best for their year in kindergarten.

Welcome to our New Trainees

Mountain Community Children's Centre welcomes Emma and Mae our new trainees to our team. Emma and Mae are both studying their Certificate III in Early Childhood Education. We wish them all the best in their studies and look forward to sharing the hospitality and events of Mountain Community with them.

Biggest Morning Tea

We will be hosting the Biggest Morning again this year on Wednesday 20th May 2026 from 8am – 11am here at the centre. Everyone in the community



is welcome to attend and any donations of baked goods for morning tea would be greatly appreciated.

If you would like to make a donation to The Cancer Council here is the link below;

<https://www.biggestmorningtea.com.au/fundraisers/MountainChildren/>

biggest-morning-tea-nsw

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

Louisa Foxford, Director

Mountain Community Children's Centre
Ph: 43741239

office@mountainchildren.com.au
www.mountainchildren.com.au

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UPCOMING CATTLE AUCTIONS

Maitland Regional Saleyards

- Weekly Monday Liveweight Cattle Sales 9am, followed by Calves, Pigs & Sheep from 12 noon.
- Monthly Store Cattle Sales - Saturday May 16th 11am

Gloucester Saleyards

- Fortnightly Thursday Store Cattle Sales - May 7th & 21st 11am

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

Somersby CWA attended the Anzac Service at the Mangrove Mountain Memorial Club on Sunday 19th April where we laid a wreath in remembrance



of the soldiers that fought for our country.

It was a lovely service attended by quite a few people this year.

Somersby CWA also has a coffee, Craft and Giggle morning every Wednesday morning at Somersby Hall from 10.am till 12.30 if anyone wishes to come along and join us please drop in.

Debbie Fyson
President
Somersby CWA

Forum to help landholders cash in on natural capital opportunities

Greater Sydney Local Land Services is inviting landholders to attend an upcoming one-day forum focused on sustainable agriculture, natural capital and the future of farming on Sydney's urban fringe.

The "Farming on the fringe: healthy landscapes, food and communities" forum will be held on Friday 15 May at Hawkesbury Race Club, bringing together farmers, land managers, industry experts and community organisations.

Sustainable Agricultural Facilitator with Local Land Services, Richard Stephens said the event will provide practical insights for landholders looking to improve productivity while enhancing the natural assets on their properties.

"This forum is a great opportunity for landholders to explore proven techniques to enhance profitability by investing in natural capital," Richard said.

"Participants will learn about carbon farming, biodiversity markets and other emerging environmental opportunities relevant to the Greater Sydney region."

The event will feature keynote

speakers including Rachel Ward, regenerative farmer and co-founder of Farm Thru, and Robert Pekin, co-founder and CEO of Food Connect Shed.

The forum will be hosted by journalist and broadcaster Chris Bath, who is also a sustainable small farmer and beekeeper.

Attendees will also hear from local landholders adopting innovative and sustainable practices, along with panel sessions covering topics such as soil and pasture management, riparian rehabilitation and water management.

The forum will include knowledge-sharing presentations, a Landcare session, and a mini trade show showcasing services and products related to sustainable agriculture, carbon farming and natural resource management.

The event is designed to support landholders across a range of enterprises, from small farms and lifestyle blocks to larger operations.

"There will be valuable networking opportunities on the day, along with access to industry experts and organisations working in natural capital and sustainable agriculture," he said.

Registrations for the event are now open, with tickets priced at \$50 per person or \$75 per couple. Places are limited and expected to fill quickly.

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Department of Primary Industries and
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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@lowerhunterffs.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 Mon 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 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 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 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 Maissey, Community Meetings, 0436482201, spencercpg2@gmail.com Articles to: spencercpg2@gmail.com
Newsletter	Last Friday of the month. Eve Leeming - 4377 1116 and/or cedriceve@bigpond.com
Spencer Sheilas Community Social Club	Tues & Sat, 9am-5pm. Contact: Alan Hunt 4566 4626 or Adrian Acheson 0448 833 781
Wisemans Ferry Community Men's Shed	

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
Worship and Prayer (Inaugural)	1st Sat. 5 to 6pm at MM Union Church (first one 2nd May)
St Barnabas Christian Service Yarramalong	Every Sunday, 9.30am. (Easter & Christmas Carols dates to be advised)

(cont'd next page)

LIVESTOCK MARKET REPORT



Maitland Liveweight Cattle Sale 20th April 2026

1305 cattle yarded this week at Maitland. 1089 Trade/ 216 export.

- Restocker Heifers up to 250kg made 220 c/kg to 390 c/kg
- 250kg-300kg made 311 c/kg to 420 c/kg
- 300kg to 380kg made 364 c/kg to 465 c/kg
- Restocker steers up to 250kg made 311 c/kg to 470 c/kg
- 250kg-300kg made 424 c/kg to 525 c/kg
- 300kg-380kg made 445 c/kg to 510 c/kg
- Yearling Steers to Feed made 394 c/kg to 455 c/kg
- Yearling Heifers to Feed made 364 c/kg to 415 c/kg
- Cows made 257 c/kg to 340 c/kg
- Bulls 272 c/kg to 340 c/kg

Maitland Liveweight Cattle Sale 13th April 2026

800 cattle yarded this week at Maitland. 619 Trade/ 181 export.

- Restocker Heifers up to 250kg made 206 c/kg to 390 c/kg



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- 250kg-300kg made 326 c/kg to 420 c/kg
- 300kg to 380kg made 369 c/kg to 465 c/kg
- Restocker steers up to 250kg made 343 c/kg to 440 c/kg
- 250kg-300kg made 404 c/kg to 480 c/kg
- 300kg-380kg made 420 c/kg to 520 c/kg
- Yearling Steers to Feed made 416 c/kg to 475 c/kg
- Yearling Heifers to Feed made 338 c/kg to 395 c/kg
- Cows made 257 c/kg to 340 c/kg
- Bulls 272 c/kg to 340 c/kg

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

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Catholic Service - Central Mangrove

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- 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

Carnival Glass Club

Central Coast Junior Motorcycle Club Inc.

Coastal Communicators Toastmasters

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, 1st Sat 4pm, Phone 0412
201 851 as times may change.
2nd & 5th Sunday of the month, 4.30pm Mass
at St Michael the Archangel, Wollombi.
1st Sunday each month, 11.00am St. Barnabas
All welcome. Enq 0428 438577

Daily Holy Mass 8.00am to 8.30 am
Last Sun, 9am-4pm, One Day Retreat.
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2nd & 4th Sun. of the month. 10 am, followed
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Sundays @ 9.30am Church & Kid's
Program, Kariong Neighbourhood Centre,
10 Langford Drive, Kariong. Email: pastor@
kariongchurch.org; Web: kariongchurch.org
10am every Saturday, Mangrove Mountain
Union Church.

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

Meetings held every three months. Central
Coast, Newcastle, Sydney. Ring 0447723956
or 0448390077 for details.

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

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

Contact Central Coast Council.

Hall bookings Ryan Howard 0405416289

Church & Hall bookings 0412669649

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Council takes the lead on Gosford's future

Tonight, during the Ordinary Council Meeting, Council confirmed it will take the lead in planning Gosford's future, adopting a coordinated approach to fast track the renewal of the city centre and waterfront.

Council agreed on a set of actions and initiatives to strengthen governance, partnerships and delivery as Gosford continues to grow as the Central Coast's capital city.

The resolution will see Council leading the formation of a Gosford Renewal Partnership with the NSW and Australian Governments, establish a Council-led Implementation Taskforce, and prepare a comprehensive Gosford CBD and Waterfront Implementation and Business Plan to guide future investment and project delivery.

Council Mayor Lawrie McKinna said Council has a clear role in driving Gosford's long term transformation.

"Gosford is the capital city of the Central Coast and its success will shape the economic future of our entire region," Mayor McKinna said.

"For too long we have talked about Gosford's potential. What Council is doing now is taking the leadership

needed to turn that potential into reality."

"This is about delivering a vibrant waterfront city centre that attracts investment, supports local businesses and creates opportunities for future generations on the Central Coast. Council is stepping forward to lead that transformation and bring together the partnerships needed to make it happen."

Deputy Mayor John Mouland said Council's decision marks an important shift from continuous discussion to delivery.

"Gosford has extraordinary potential as a waterfront regional city and Council has taken a decisive step to unlock that opportunity," Cr Mouland said.

"This is about building a capital city the Central Coast can be proud of, a place that attracts investment, creates jobs and becomes the civic heart of our region."

Cr Mouland said Council's leadership will be critical to bringing together government, institutions and private sector partners.

"Council is uniquely positioned to lead this work and ensure Gosford becomes the vibrant capital city the Central Coast deserves," he said.

Council will engage with State and Australian Government partners and major regional organisations to develop of the Gosford Renewal Implementation Plan. Progress

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reports will be provided to Council over the coming months as work begins on the next stage of Gosford's transformation.

*Central Coast Council
Mayoral Media Release*



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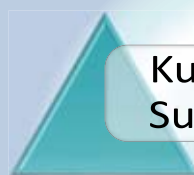
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