

COMMUNITY NEWS

No. 988

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5th June 2026

Dangerous Trees Over Roads

The following is a response to the article **"Dangerous trees a threat to life"** in Community News issue 983, 20/3/26.

Hi, we live at 257 Peats Ridge Rd, Somersby. I first bought the property in 1985, it was a small 2 acre property which was created when the then Pacific highway was cut through the Sylvesters citrus property which was on a hill. To build the road (in the 70's) they had to firstly cut down the existing old growth trees, cut through the hill and form a batter to level the road. In time, many saplings grew (on that batter) all seeking light and facing north - right across the road. Back in the day the DMR (Dept of Main Roads) took care of the side of the roads but when the Calga to Ourimbah stage of the freeway opened Peats Ridge Rd was deprioritized and came under the care of the Gosford council.

Back in 1985 the trees on the side of the road (behind the armco fence) were not so large or foreboding but 41 years later they have become a huge risk as you have stated in your article - "Dangerous trees a threat to life", 20.3.26. I have complained to the council numerous times over the years about these trees to - frustratingly - no avail.

Today, to my great surprise, I was contacted by phone by the council's Arborist, Craig, who wouldn't give his surname. He was standing by our letter box and fortunately I was home. He identified two trees that were a threat and that needed attention, one (right near our drive) which had been ring barked by a car ploughing into it and a dead tree about half way along the armco fence. I questioned him about the branches that overhang the road and that we have been watching get lower to the road over the years. To cut a long story short, he said they were fine and that cutting off those branches would simply be pruning them for no good reason and create new unwanted growth. I was disgusted and went to get your article (to show

Mountain Jam

This is YOUR space — so help us build it. If you're 13–18 and based in the District, come along to Mountain Jam and have a real say in what your local creative hub looks like.

Craig) and my husband, Peter, who walked Craig up along the armco fence pointing out all the trees that are a concern to us and anyone else who uses this road regularly. In doing so, Peter discovered a tree that is full of white ants and is leaning across the road - the conversation became quite heated. Craig's response was, "plenty of trees have white ants but it doesn't mean they are going to fall down". Me, "Yes Craig but what about the structural integrity of the tree which is leaning across the road?". Craig, "It all depends on how much damage they have done. Sometimes they eat out the entire centre of the tree". He did take plenty of photos to form part of his investigation and I managed to get him to take one of the first page of your article but he refused to take the second page. And that's where we left it, we are expecting a letter about his "investigation" soon.

Years ago my brother and I were following a car on which a tree, like the ones we are complaining about, fell. The mother was left with brain damage, the father was ok but the two children in the back were killed, try as we might we couldn't get them out - fortunately a truck load of army guys came along.

Best regards

Sari Ullrich

Phone number: 0409780097

There are a group of locals that have been chasing Council to get action on this issue and it is also sometimes discussed at the Mangrove Mountain & Districts Community Group meetings.

We need a maintenance regime that includes a validated risk assessment plan, regular inspections and the allocation of adequate resources to rectify the identified problems. All this plus the opportunity for the community to be involved.

Keith Aranjio

We're not talking a suggestion box. We're talking actual input into how the space is designed, what it offers, and what makes it somewhere you'd actually want to hang out.

Bring your ideas, your mates, and your vision. Central Coast Council staff will be there to listen — and to make it happen.

June 19, 3.30-6pm, food provided.
[see pg 7 for more information]

Madalyn Trypas

Cultural Development Worker
Central Coast Council

Supported by the
Mangrove Mountain Men's Shed



Somersby RFS AGM

Wednesday 24th June 2026
7:30 pm at the Station.
Cnr Debenham Rd & Wisemans
Ferry Rd, Somersby.
All Welcome
Rob Willcox

I love a timid country
A land of scare campaigns
Where mindless bogan slogans
Just overtake our brains
The stunted, short horizons
Of those who will not see
Who, presented with alternatives
Think only: me, me, me.
[apologies to Dorothea Mackellar]
Mike Funnell (source unconfirmed)

STOP!

Next issue Published
19th June 2026

**** DEADLINE ****

**** 12th June '26 ****

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CWA Peats Ridge and Districts



Protecting Australian Agriculture: A Call to Action from the CWA of NSW

Australia's farms, forests and fisheries are the backbone of our communities, contributing more than \$88 billion to our economy each year. But this vital industry is constantly at risk from pests and diseases that can enter the country through undeclared food, contaminated equipment, or even soil on travellers' shoes.

Despite having one of the strongest biosecurity systems in the world, penalties for breaching border rules are rarely applied at their maximum level — even for serious or repeat offences. The CWA of NSW believes stronger enforcement is essential to protect our farmers, our environment, and the communities that rely on them.

We are calling on the Australian Government to review and strengthen penalties for biosecurity breaches to better reflect the enormous risks posed by threats such as Foot-and-Mouth Disease, varroa mite, African swine fever, and other invasive pests.

Dr. S. ANANDASIVAM

(ANAND)

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Why This Matters

A strong biosecurity system protects:

- Our farms: Preventing devastating outbreaks that could wipe out livestock, crops, and livelihoods.
- Our environment: Stopping invasive species before they take hold.
- Our communities: Ensuring food security and safeguarding regional economies.
- Our future: Clear rules and meaningful penalties remind everyone—travellers, businesses, and locals—that biosecurity is a shared responsibility.

The CWA of NSW Policy Position

The CWA of NSW is urging the Australian Government to review and strengthen penalties for biosecurity border breaches, ensuring they reflect the serious risks posed to Australian agriculture.

How You Can Help

- Start conversations: Talk with family, friends, and neighbours about why biosecurity is essential for your region.
- Write to your Federal MP: Advocate for stronger fines and proper enforcement under the Biosecurity Act 2015.
- Support local producers: Promote biosecurity awareness at markets, community events, and within your networks.

Quick Facts

- Australia's agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries were worth \$88.3 billion in 2023–24.
- Fines for minor breaches can be as low as \$626, yet a Foot-and-Mouth Disease outbreak could cost Australia more than \$80 billion.
- Maximum penalties under the Biosecurity Act can reach \$1.1 million for individuals and \$5.5 million for corporations, but these are rarely applied.

Information from CWA of NSW

Donna Hobday
Peats Ridge & Districts CWA



FARM TO PLATE MARKET DAY UNDERCOVER EVENT

Don't forget to join us for an authentic "Farm to Plate" experience Sunday June Long Weekend— all undercover, so come rain or shine, the market goes on!

Explore a vibrant range of locally grown fresh produce. Our market stalls will feature eggs, fresh fruit and vegetables, honey, seedlings, flowers, Olive oil, flavoured salts and olives, mushrooms and soup. Bring the whole family to wander through our produce and Bric-a-Brac stall and explore the unique artworks of our local community artists.

Treat yourself to a barista-brewed coffee and a tasty delight from our P&C cake stall, while the kids enjoy face painting, popcorn, fairy floss, slushies and the playground.

Delicious egg and bacon rolls and sausage sandwiches available all day from 9am – perfect for a cool winter's day!

- Free Entry – Pay for what you purchase
- EFTPOS is limited – Please bring cash
- This is an undercover event – rain won't stop us!

We look forward to seeing you there!

Please visit Harvest Festival | Love Central Coast for more information on Harvest Festival

9 Williams Road, Kulnura NSW, Australia

Opening Times: 9am-3pm Sunday 7th of June 2026

Assisted School Travel Program (ASTP) seeking support staff

The ASTP are reaching out to request assistance if possible.

ASTP have a few runs that service schools in the area, some of which require an Assisted Travel Support Officer (ATSO). The area has been identified as having limited ATSOs hence we are seeking interest from potential candidates.

This link:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/parents-and-carers/going-to-school/astp/atsos/applying-to-be-an-atsop>

will take you to the webpage

"Applying to be an ATSO."

Assisted Travel Support Officers (ATSOs) are department employees who provide additional supervision and support for students on transport.

Students with complex health and/or behaviour needs require the services of an ATSO to ensure their safe travel to and from school.

Please do not hesitate to contact the ATSO Team, on 1300 338 278 (Opt 4 then Opt 1), should you have any enquiries in respect to the above.

Louise Murray

ATSO Support Officer, ATSO Team |
Assisted School Travel Program
Student Support and Specialist Programs
1300 338 278 | atso.astp@det.nsw.edu.au | education.nsw.gov.au/astp



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IPART responds to submissions on Central Coast Council's maximum water prices

The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) has considered submissions on its draft report as part of the current review of maximum prices for Central Coast Council water, wastewater and related services.

Tribunal Chair Carmel Donnelly said IPART released a draft report on maximum prices for consultation in March and had received more than 50 submissions and 300 survey responses.

After considering the submissions and deliberating, the Tribunal has decided it will issue a 1-year determination for prices to apply from 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027. IPART will then commence a new review of maximum prices to be set for a multi-year period from 1 July 2027.

"One of the submissions we received raised concerns about the independence of the advice IPART received from an expert service provider we engaged to advise us about the costs the council should incur to efficiently deliver its services," Ms Donnelly said. "As a

precaution to maintain confidence in the integrity of IPART's decisions, the Tribunal has decided not to rely further on this advice due to a commercial relationship between the provider and the Council."

IPART takes actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest very seriously. While IPART makes no suggestion that the advice we received was biased or about the conduct of the service provider or the Council, it will commission an independent assessment of the concerns about the independence of consultants involved in the pricing review.

IPART's original timeframe for the pricing review anticipated a final report and multi-year determination would be issued in June 2026. However, IPART has now decided to issue a 1-year determination for prices to apply from 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027, based on the cost allowances in the current determination updated for certain market parameters such as inflation and the cost of capital.

This determination would also remove the current stormwater drainage charge, consistent with legislative changes. IPART will then commence a further review of Central Coast Council's water and wastewater prices to inform a multi-year determination that will apply from 1 July 2027.

"IPART intends to seek further, separate expert advice on efficient expenditure. This revised process

COUNCIL RESPONSE TO IPART WATER AND SEWER PRICING DETERMINATION UPDATE

Central Coast Council is disappointed in the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal's (IPART) decision to revise its water pricing determination process.

Following more than 18 months of detailed work, IPART has advised it will not proceed with a multi-year determination in June 2026. Instead, it will issue a one-year pricing determination for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027, with a further review to determine prices from 2027

and timeframe will also enable the Tribunal to consider the other information provided and issues raised in submissions we received in response to IPART's Draft Report as part of determining maximum water and wastewater prices from 1 July 2027," Ms Donnelly said.

"Key matters raised in submissions that we anticipate considering in detail include affordability for customers, IPART's methodology regarding any taxation allowance and updated information in Council's submission. "We thank everyone who provided

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onwards.

Council has worked constructively with IPART throughout a comprehensive review process. This has included significant community engagement, a detailed submission, public consultation, hearings and a draft determination that set a clear expectation of final pricing from 1 July 2026.

IPART has advised that the revised approach reflects concerns raised during the draft report process regarding the independence of advice provided by one of its consultants, and that it will now commission a further independent assessment as part of a revised process.

Council acknowledges the importance of maintaining integrity in the regulatory process. However, it remains concerned that this change in approach has occurred at a very late

feedback on our draft report. We will consider all submissions and survey responses already received in the new review. This means that, while we will again seek and welcome feedback during that new review, anyone who has already made a submission will not need to provide it to us again."

IPART will issue its 1-year determination with final prices for 2026-27, together with a Final Report, in coming weeks.

Media Release
IPART NSW

stage, following an extensive process undertaken in good faith.

Council is also concerned about the implications for the Central Coast community.

A clear and timely determination provides customers with certainty and a more stable transition in pricing over time. Delays at this stage reduce that certainty for our customers and may result in less consistent pricing outcomes in future years.

Central Coast Council Chief Executive Officer, David Farmer, said the outcome was disappointing for the community.

"This is a disappointing outcome, particularly given the significant work that has gone into this process," Mr Farmer said.

"Council's water business operates on a non-profit basis, and the additional costs associated with revising the submission will divert resources from our core priorities of delivering strong customer service and protecting the environment.

"Our community has also engaged in good faith throughout this process. This unexpected delay at such a late stage introduces uncertainty and further volatility into pricing."

Council remains confident that its proposal is robust, evidence-based and reflects a balanced approach to affordability and long-term investment in essential water and sewer services.

Council staff have engaged fully

and professionally throughout the review, contributing to a process that was recognised as comprehensive and high quality. This work places Council in a strong position as the review progresses to its next stage.

Council will now consider the implications of IPART's updated approach and will continue to engage constructively to support a fair, transparent and timely determination that meets the needs of the Central Coast community.

Central Coast Council
Media Release

.:KSR.:.

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The Mangrove Mountains and Districts Community Group Inc. aims to represent our local rural community at all levels of government and supports initiatives that benefit our local area, its residents and the environment. The group is the custodian of the historic Mangrove Mountain Hall, which is a vital hub for the community, hosting a wide range of activities and connecting our region.

Report on our May General Meeting

We had eleven community members come along to our May meeting where much was discussed: -

- We agreed that the paragraph above would be our mission statement. This will be used as an introduction when corresponding.
- "Blues on the Mountain" and the "Farmers and Artisans Markets" have been great success stories, attracting

many visitors from far and wide. We talked about how they are run and their relationship to this Community Group. The markets particularly need helpers to set up and dismantle.

- A cleaner has been employed to help keep the hall spick and span.

- We had Rural Aid visit the Mountains Districts. The volunteers worked on five farms in the area as well as doing some much needed work on the Mangrove Mountain Hall. Their work was very much appreciated. Two of our committee members provided dinner for the workers on two nights and were able to raise some funds for our community group.

- The upgrade of the Mangrove Mountain toilets is still being planned. We look forward to hearing from Council in June and meeting with them onsite to look at plans. The work will be completed by the end of this year. We hope as soon as possible!

- Our community group is holding "Twilight in the Hinterland" as part of the Harvest Festival this year. It will be held on Saturday 6th June from 4 – 7pm. There will be live music, firepits, storytelling, night markets and yummy food...and more. It's free entry so do join us.

- We are applying for a State Govt. grant to renovate the toilets in the hall and include an accessible toilet.

- The Hall's Centenary is next year. We will be putting out a "save the date" soon and ask people to tell us of

their hall memories over the decades. It'll be a huge celebration!

- For Hire – Our historic Mangrove Mountain Hall is a fabulous venue for celebrations. Weddings? Birthdays? You will find our booking officer Ryan Howard's contact details in every copy of the Community News (also online). It is always in the back couple of pages under "Regular Activities and Meetings".

- Working Bee – The next one is from 9am on Saturday, 30th May – at the Hall

- Community Group meetings - We will meet at 7pm during the colder months of June, July, August and September.

Do come to our next meeting on 4th June, 7pm at the Mangrove Mountain Hall. Your input is valued and needed.

Poppe Zouroudis, Secretary

Rural Seniors Voices

Meets 3rd Thursday of the month, 12pm

13 Nurses Rd Central Mangrove, in the hall next to Dr Anand's practice.

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Mangrove Mountain Youth Program

Free open jam session
Friday June 19

Doors open from 3.30pm
Event finishes 6pm
Food will be provided

Join us at
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Public Hall**

Wisemans Ferry Rd,
Mangrove Mountain

BYO instruments ...
and ideas for a new
creative project!



Mangrove Mountain Country Fair 2026 Contemporary Art Prize

Our Country Fair will be held on
Saturday, 17th October.

The theme for this year's
Contemporary Art Prize is: -

**“Shades of
Yesterday”**

The phrase “shades of yesterday” refers to something in the present that reminds a person of a person, event, or era from the past. It is a metaphorical expression used to describe a connection, echo, or haunting memory of past times.

This category, that is linked to a set theme, sparks great interest each year, and we are always thrilled with the quality of the entries.

Entries can be any medium and we



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encourage diversity. Our sculptural entries have been very interesting. I look forward to our first digital or film responses!

We know that there are many local artists producing work of high standard and we encourage all of you to enter this prize to showcase our area!

Entry is free and the winner will receive a cash prize of \$200 in addition to the honour of the award.

Entries from artists over 16 years of

age can be delivered to the Mangrove Mountain Hall on:

- Thursday, 15th October between 3pm and 5pm or
- Friday, 16th October between 8am and no later than 11am

Please include a brief description of your work explaining its link to the theme

Please contact me for further information:

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FARM TO FORK FAIRE

Central Mangrove Public School is excited to host its Farm to Fork Faire, a vibrant showcase of student learning that integrates English, Maths, Geography, Science, PDHPE, and Creative Arts. Over the past semester, students have been deeply engaged in exploring the journey of food from local farms—including Family Fresh Farms, Barden Farms, and Kantandra Farms—right through to the kitchen table. They have also cultivated their own produce in the school's flourishing vegetable gardens. The Faire features The Mountain Feast, where students take on the roles of chefs, waiters, and hosts to deliver a restaurant experience highlighting fresh, home-grown ingredients. Families will also have the opportunity to visit The Mountain Museum, an engaging exhibition in the STEAM Lab that celebrates the students' learning and showcases projects focused on food sustainability, nutrition, and creativity. The Farm to Fork Faire is a proud moment for our school community, reflecting hands-on learning, teamwork, and a deeper appreciation of where our food comes from.

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

Central Mangrove Public School
students invite you to our...

FARM TO FORK FAIRE

Wednesday 1st July 2026

12pm - 2pm



WHATS ON?



The Mountain Feast

A student-designed, cooked, and hosted restaurant experience showcasing fresh, local ingredients from farm to fork. \$15pp
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The Mountain Museum

An engaging showcase of Farm to Fork learning, open after lunch for all to explore and enjoy. Museum opens at 1.30pm

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Arriving via a sealed driveway beyond electric gates, the home immediately impresses with its grand proportions, soaring ceilings and expansive layout designed for effortless family living.

A wide entrance foyer introduces the home's generous dimensions, flowing through to a vast open plan living and dining domain centered around a contemporary fireplace. Walls of stacking sliding doors invite the outdoors in, connecting seamlessly to an expansive timber deck that captures uninterrupted valley views.



4 4 10 1 1 Land: 13 ac

818 Dicksons Road, Jilliby

Welcome to an extraordinary lifestyle property hidden away at the end of a private country lane in the heart of Jilliby, ensuring complete privacy from the outside world.

Set across approximately 45 acres of rolling countryside, this remarkable estate features two beautifully appointed homes with breathtaking valley views and endless possibilities.

Perfect for large families, multi-generational living, or those seeking the option to rent out a second residence, this is a rare opportunity to secure a truly secluded rural retreat without sacrificing convenience.

The main home is a true country retreat, blending character with comfort. Featuring four bedrooms and two bathrooms, it is designed with family living in mind.



7 4 5 1 Land: 45ac



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ADAPTATION STORIES

Experience compelling short films showcasing real people adapting to our changing world.

Yarramalong
Tuesday, 23 June 2026
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Yarramalong Hall,
1640 Yarramalong Rd,
Yarramalong

Adaptation Stories is part of our work to reduce the risks of natural hazards for people and places.



Draft Library Strategy open for feedback

Central Coast Council has released the draft Central Coast Library Strategy 2026-2036 for public exhibition, inviting the community to help shape the future of local library services. Feedback gathered during this consultation will guide the final Library Strategy and ensure it reflects the needs and expectations of the Central Coast community over the next decade.

The draft Library Strategy sets a long-term vision for how Council will manage and operate the Central Coast Library Service, ensuring it remains responsive, sustainable and community centred.

Council currently operates ten library branches, a mobile library and a home library service. The draft Library Strategy ensures each service can continue to provide accessible and inclusive spaces for all residents.

Council will run a series of pop-up workshops and drop-in sessions.

The exhibition period and community survey will be open until Thursday 25 June 2026.

For more information or to complete the survey, search 'Libraries' at **YourVoiceOurCoast.com**

Central Coast Council Media Release

HEARING LOSS IS MORE THAN JUST "TURNING UP THE VOLUME"

AUDIOLOGIST VISITING MANGROVE MOUNTAIN

Research has shown associations between untreated hearing loss and:

- Cognitive decline & memory difficulties
- Increased risk of social isolation
- Low mood and depression
- Reduced balance and higher risk of falls
- Communication challenges with family and friends

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Central Mangrove, West Gosford, Bateau Bay, Woongarah, Morisset

July School Holiday Vacation Care

Mountain Before and After School Care

Vacation Care at Mountain Before and After School Care will be operating for the full two weeks of the July school holidays, starting on Monday 6 July. We'll be open from 7:00 am

to 6:00 pm each weekday during the school holidays.

Program Highlights

We have a fun-filled program of activities including Round Circus, soccer, Ninja Warrior Gym, and so much more.

Operating Hours

- Full Day: 7:00 am – 6:00 pm
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Michael Kidd

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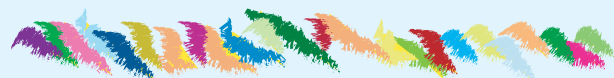
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Publishers of the "Community News"

ARTS NEWS



The Wollombi Valley Arts Council encourages and fosters all kinds of artistic and cultural expression within the Wollombi Valley in order to support and promote artists and our community.

Please visit our website www.wollombi.org

What's on at the Old Fireshed Gallery

'FIBRE ARTISTS PLUS WOOD' - An exhibition by Bruce & Lyn Abbott - Weaving, Eco Dyeing, Fibreworks & Woodturning. 5 - 21 June 2026.

Open Fri - Sun 10am - 4pm

Lyn Abbott

Lyn has been weaving, spinning, felting, eco dyeing and dyeing fibres for many years. She loves to create individual pieces. Lyn's art is based on Saori weaving, inspired by the finest quality yarns. Her other love is Eco Dyeing, experimenting with flowers, natives, leaves and plants on the finest silk, linen and natural fibres, which are designed into wearables.

Bruce Abbott

"I took my first cut through the rough dirty exterior of a piece of timber to reveal the beautiful grain underneath and was captivated. New to woodturning, I have started out with



pens, keyrings and bits and pieces. Manipulating the colour and patterns in the wood to complement the form,



along with the texturing and turning to create the piece. "Wood is Good". I am inspired by many natural things and look forward to seeing the finished piece. Using fresh cut logs in my work, the wood is a very direct and responsive medium, with properties that are unique - not about the "woodiness" but the working quality that it has."

Wollombi Valley Arts Council Inc
c/o General Store, Wollombi 2325
Email: artscouncil@wollombi.org
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SONIC SUNDAYS PRESENTS DOM DIAZ LIVE AT FUNHAUS FACTORY

This Sonic Sunday 7 June, FunHaus Factory turns up the groove as Dom Diaz takes to the stage for an afternoon of feel-good, high-energy live music designed to move both body and soul.

Armed with trumpet, mic and an undeniable stage presence, Dom Diaz blends hip-hop, funk, reggae dub and Afrobeat into a rich, rhythmic sound that's as infectious as it is uplifting delivering a performance packed with tight grooves, catchy songwriting and moments of pure musical joy.

From explosive trumpet lines to soulful vocals, shimmering keys and deep, pulsating beats, Dom Diaz creates a sonic journey that invites audiences to let go, lean in and get moving. It's the kind of show where the dance floor fills fast and the energy carries right through the room—an afternoon where rhythm lingers and connection unfolds in real time.

Presented as part of Sonic Sundays, FunHaus Factory's monthly live music series, the event continues to spotlight the incredible creative talent of the Central Coast alongside standout touring artists from across the East

Coast. Designed for slow Sundays, long lunches and easy hangs, it's a space to discover new music, connect with community and settle into the weekend.

With a pay-what-you-want ticket model, the afternoon remains accessible and welcoming to all, with bookings recommended.

Guests can settle in with Beau's Burgers, alongside cocktail specials and happy hour from midday—all wrapped in FunHaus Factory's signature warm, laidback Sunday energy.

Info & bookings on the Funhaus Factory's website <https://funhausfactory.org.au/>



Central Coast leads the way with three level partnership to embed Aboriginal voices

Central Coast Council has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Barang Regional Alliance, adopted at the 28 April Ordinary Council Meeting. This marks the final milestone for Barang to bring Aboriginal community governance together across local, state and federal levels.

Barang Regional Alliance is the recognised regional governance body for Aboriginal Controlled Organisations, that provide services to communities on the Central Coast. Barang Regional Alliance's agreements together, represent one of the first coordinated, three level government partnerships in Australia.

These agreements are designed to support stronger, more consistent Aboriginal participation in planning, policy and long term decision making at a regional level.

"This Memorandum of Understanding is the first step in making sure Aboriginal voices are included as part of Council decision making," Mayor McKinna said.

"It creates a clear pathway for the Barang Regional Alliance, through the Aboriginal Advisory Committee, to



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WHAT'S ON WEEKLY

MONDAY

HAPPY HOUR 4-6pm

TUESDAY

BINGO from 11am
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
Chef's specials from
5.30pm



SATURDAY

POOL COMP from 630pm. Entry fee \$5

SUNDAY

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provide strategic advice and guidance on matters that affect First Nations communities on the Central Coast.”

Barang Regional Alliance Chief Executive Officer Vickie Parry said strong partnerships create stronger communities.

“While we continue to work closely with State and Federal Governments, this agreement recognises the critical role of local government in delivering meaningful outcomes through community-led action and shared governance.”

Chair of Barang Regional Alliance, Tina Weldon-West agreed.

“The MoU reflects a genuine commitment to working together, leadership, and creating lasting outcomes for future generations.”

Central Coast Council CEO, David Farmer said the MoU provides a strong foundation for lasting change.

Chair of Council’s Aboriginal Advisory Committee, Dr Jake MacDonald said it is important to acknowledge Council’s responsibility to support improved outcomes for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living on the Central Coast.

“This MoU represents an important step forward in strengthening meaningful engagement, collaboration, and shared commitment between Council and Barang Regional Alliance.”

*Central Coast Council
Media Release*

HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE DRAFT LOCAL STRATEGIC PLANNING STATEMENT

**On public exhibition from Monday
18 May to Friday 24 July 2026**

The Draft Local Strategic Planning Statement 2026 explains Council’s long-term plan for land use and growth on the Central Coast over the next 20 years.

It shows:

- Where growth should happen
- What places need protection
- How our towns, centres and neighbourhoods should develop

The LSPS identifies priorities for land use planning over the next 20 years, helping to inform Council’s strategic plans and guide key activities.

Council Mayor, Lawrie McKinna said while the draft has evolved to reflect the region’s future needs, many of the principles in Council’s original LSPS remain relevant including the focus on enabling growth in Gosford City.

“Council is proactively planning for growth over the next 20 years, while preserving everything we value and love about life on the Central Coast,” Mayor McKinna said.

“Renewing our town centres, ensuring we have good housing choices, protecting our natural areas, enriching cultural spaces, and advocating for efficient public transport continue to be key considerations.

“The draft LSPS also proposes that new residential and employment areas are investigated and planned for, to ensure there’s enough zoned land to support new homes and jobs, with infrastructure coordinated and delivered in a timely manner.”

The draft LSPS introduces place statements that identify the special qualities of places, as well as specific concerns and opportunities within local communities.

Planning proposed in the Central Lakes District will ensure a coordinated response with Lake Macquarie Council to deliver housing, jobs and services in the northern areas.

“We want to make sure people have a range of opportunities to participate in this important community planning. The draft LSPS can be viewed online, or you can choose to attend a local pop-up session or more detailed information presentation,” Mayor McKinna said.

For details on community engagement options, search ‘Draft Local Strategic Planning Statement’ at yourvoiceourcoast.com

Submissions close Friday 24 July 2026.

*Community Engagement Team
Central Coast Council*



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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 June
20th 11am

Gloucester Saleyards

- Fortnightly Thursday Store Cattle Sales -
June 4th & 18th 11am

Feedlots - Abattoirs - Paddock to Paddock Sales
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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	General Meeting Bloodtree Rd 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 0419400163, Donna 0466974130, Email. cwaofnswpeatsridge@gmail.com
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 Maisey, 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	1st Saturday 4.30 to 5.30pm at MM Union Church
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 25th May 2026

800 cattle yarded this week at Maitland. 720 Trade/ 80 export.

- Restocker Heifers up to 250kg made 404 c/kg to 495 c/kg
- 250kg-300kg made 433 c/kg to 485 c/kg
- 300kg to 380kg made 428 c/kg to 495 c/kg
- Restocker steers up to 250kg made 503 c/kg to 585 c/kg
- 250kg-300kg made 524 c/kg to 575 c/kg
- 300kg-380kg made 435 c/kg to 540 c/kg
- Yearling Steers to Feed made 458 c/kg to 480 c/kg
- Yearling Heifers to Feed made 454 c/kg to 465 c/kg
- Cows made 339 c/kg to 390 c/kg
- Bulls 363 c/kg to 368 c/kg

Maitland Liveweight Cattle Sale 18th May 2026

1150 cattle yarded this week at Maitland. 990 Trade/ 160 export.

- Restocker Heifers up to 250kg made 306 c/kg to 425 c/kg



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- 250kg-300kg made 390 c/kg to 415 c/kg
- 300kg to 380kg made 363 c/kg to 445 c/kg
- Restocker steers up to 250kg made 408 c/kg to 535 c/kg
- 250kg-300kg made 390 c/kg to 525 c/kg
- 300kg-380kg made 435 c/kg to 500 c/kg
- Yearling Steers to Feed made 418 c/kg to 440 c/kg
- Yearling Heifers to Feed made 376 c/kg to 430 c/kg
- Cows made 319 c/kg to 368 c/kg
- Bulls 307 c/kg to 348 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.

Like and share our Facebook page!

Keep up to date with bowelidbury.com.au

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REGULAR ACTIVITIES & MEETINGS (cont'd)	
Catholic Service - Central Mangrove	Saturdays 5pm St. Dionysios Greek Orthodox Church, 21 Nurses Rd, Central Mangrove, Contact Nai Hereford 0405 558 669
- Spencer	Holy Trinity Church, 1st Sat 4pm, Phone 0412 201 851 as times may change.
- Wollombi	2nd & 5th Sunday of the month, 4.30pm Mass at St Michael the Archangel, Wollombi.
- Yarramalong	1st Sunday each month, 11.00am St. Barnabas All welcome. Enq 0428 438577
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	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.
Restitution Ministries Independent SDA Church	
YOUTH Girl Guides - Kooree Guide Cabin Mondays in school term	Junior Girl Guides 5-10, 5.00pm - 6.30pm, Girl Guides 10-15, 6.00pm - 7.30pm Contact 0417451764 for further information
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.henrykendallcottages.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
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	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 Hall bookings: 0413 359 655 or AH 4373 1488 791 Yarramalong Road, Wyong Creek wyongcreekhall@gmail.com Ph 0448812002. enquiries@yarramalonghall.org.au https://yarramalonghall.org.au
Somersby Hall and Mountain Districts Culture and Heritage Centre Wyong Creek Hall	
Yarramalong school of Arts / Hall	



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Anglican News

It's hard to believe that it's June already! It's been a busy few months.

The Good Friday and Easter Day services were held as planned with good attendances.

After the special Good Friday service, we all enjoyed hot-cross buns, a cuppa and a friendly chat, while on Easter Sunday we celebrated the resurrection of Jesus, and after the service, chocolate Easter eggs were given out.

In April, some of us attended the local ANZAC service at the Mangrove Mountain Memorial club where the Reverend Jim led the prayers and later took his turn to lay a wreath on behalf of the Anglican Church, to give thanks for the many men, women and families who suffered so much, so that we can enjoy a better life.

Afterwards a delicious afternoon tea was available to everyone.

Our next special day was Mothers' Day, which was celebrated with

chocolates, flowers and gifts for everyone and a special morning tea.

At our Pentecost service, we were pleased to welcome the Reverend Christian Ford from Gosford, and his wife Brenda, to celebrate with us. Following our tradition, the first log fire of the season was lit to symbolise the tongues of fire that descended on the disciples. The fire also provided warmth and a friendly atmosphere. Morning tea was again special, emphasising the colour red for Pentecost.

If you would like to join us for a friendly worship service just come along to the Peats Ridge Scout Hall, at 153 George Downes Drive Central Mangrove, at 8am and meet some friends. The service lasts about an hour, and an abundant hygienic morning tea is provided free afterwards by a volunteer.

If you have any enquiries Rev. Jim can be contacted on 0407210861.

We hope to meet you soon.

God bless,

Mountain Anglicans

FOR SALE

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

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TAFE student looking for work Thurs/Fri. 25yo male, has own transport. Lawnmowing, gardening, any other work. Ph 0413 779 203

Strengthening non-urban water metering rules to improve compliance

The NSW Government is inviting stakeholders to have their say on the next stage of reforms to the state's non-urban metering framework aimed at improving compliance and ensuring licensed water take is accurately measured and reported.

The proposed changes to the Water Management (General) Regulation 2025 would put in place the final recommendations from the review of the non-urban metering framework and improve information on water use across NSW.

Before any changes are finalised, stakeholders are encouraged to review the proposals and provide feedback.

The proposed reforms aim to

simplify recording and reporting where possible, clarify metering rules for some water trades, introduce a new category for works that only take water under licence exemptions, and make practical improvements for activities like cleaning fish screens.

Timely and responsive data supports better informed decisions about water planning and allocations, while improving understanding of industry, community and environmental water needs.

The proposed changes would allow approval holders to specify from which access licence water is taken when multiple licences are linked to a single water supply work. Holders of access licences with 3,000 or more unit shares or megalitres would also be required to annually attest to the volume of water taken under their licence.

These changes aim to close remaining gaps in the metering framework and

improve confidence that water in NSW is being taken lawfully and responsibly.

Holders of larger access licences will be invited to participate in a webinar on 26 May 2026, where the proposed changes and annual requirements will be presented.

The proposed changes will also be presented at a public webinar on 3 June 2026, with interested stakeholders able to register and participate.

You can learn more and have your say until Monday, 15 June 2026 by visiting our website.

Dan Connor, NSW DCCEE Director of Metering and Licensing said "Before any changes are made, we want to hear directly from water users and stakeholders to ensure the framework works in practice."

Media Release

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

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

AGISTMENT

HORSE AGISTMENT AVAILABLE. Full care. Group and individual paddocks with shelters. Full size sand dressage arena, grass jumping arena. Located walking distance to Peats Ridge Village and Café. Call Bronte 0428603849

WANTED

OLD BATTERIES, will pickup, phone 0413 975 107

HEALTH & FITNESS

PILATES MAT CLASS - Wed 6pm and Thur 11am, Union Church Hall, Mangrove Mountain. All levels welcome. Private reformer also offered. Call Melanie 0405 453 374

FOR RENT / LEASE

FOR RENT Private open-plan cabin, 6x9m with double carport, Cedar Brush Creek. Suit single/couple, no pets, \$250pw. Ph 0414593169 or 0414591332

SERVICES AVAILABLE

KELLY'S KLEANING SERVICE. Cleaning the mountain & the coast. Please call Kelly on 0420541196

SLIDING DOOR REPAIR

We fix glass sliding doors; Screen doors, windows, bi-folds; Remesh doors and screens
Offer carpentry services. Fully insured. Please call Heath for a free quote. 0494197908

LAURIE DOUGLASS PLUMBING
Plumber, Drainer, Gasfitter, Roofer -
Ph 4373 1257 Mob 0407 008 488

SERVICES AVAILABLE

BRICKLAYING & Render repairs. Adrian 0408347737. Lic 98665C

AIRCONDITIONING, BUILDING, CARPENTRY - Local service, 14yrs experience in aircon, 22yrs experience in building & carpentry. Call Ken 0412 842 920

HORSE RUG REPAIRS - reliable prompt service. Pick-up & drop-off available for large quantities. Ph 0405 620 394

RURAL FENCING - Post & rail, wire stock, chainwire, colourbond, paling etc. Also Landclearing. Phone Rick 4373 1117 or text 0428605419

WALL & FLOOR tiling, ceramic, travertine, limestone, granite. Free quotes. Licenced. Phone John 0411 851 417

GUTTER CLEANING & DOMESTIC HOUSE PAINTING, call Alan on 0427606303. Call for a free quote

METAL PATIOS, INSULATED ROOFS & Carport Builder. Custom made awnings, Decks, Carports & Sunrooms 0420906499

HORSE BURIALS

Specialising in the on-site burial of your precious horse. Ph Craig 0411 2888 12

EXPERIENCE TRANSFORMATIVE HEALING through energy medicine. Supportive sessions for people & animals to restore balance & explore the root cause of issues. Peta - Spirit Ignition email:spiritignition77@gmail.com

OOST Painting Contractors - Lic 71725C
Quality & cleanliness assured.
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PEST CONTROL - Servicing the local area. A.T.S. Pest Control Services Phone Tony 4373 1157 Mob: 0427 731 157

MISTY MOUNTAIN RURAL CONTRACTORS - Earthworks, Irrigation, all services available Ph 43530990 or 0418221495

TRY SOMETHING NEW!

CERAMIC CLASSES AT FOXEY STUDIO- Mangrove Mtn. Slow down, connect and be creative - bond through the clay and enjoy the present moment. BOOK NOW: foxeystudio.com.au or ask any Questions: foxeystudio@gmail.com

TOWN 'N COUNTRY FLOOR SANDING & POLISHING New & old floor boards, parquetry, verandahs, stairs, walls ceilings, re-coating, staining & painting ect..free quote ph Stuart 0400076261 in services available.

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ALL COVERS & CANVAS WORK!

Boats, Vehicles & Horse floats re-trimmed, cover & horse rug repairs, no job too small! Servicing the mountains & the valleys. Call Alan on 0414 993 669 or Louise on 0410 646 200. located at Yarramalong Road Wyong Creek.

WATER BORES

Local drilling company based at Ourimbah

Contact: Paul Slade

Ph/Txt: 0408 471247

email:

Sladedrill@bigpond.com



Mountain Medicine

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

Dr Christine Wade

B.Med (Hons) FRACGP

Dr Sepali de Silva

MBBS

Dr Rohan Dissanayake

MBBS

Dr Anisa Rouhipour

MBBS

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Podiatry (Foot Care)

Pathology - Douglass Hanly Moir

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Terry Kyriacou

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Saturday: 7:30am - 12:00pm

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KULNURA NSW 2250

Telephone (02) 4376 1451

Mobile 0429 44 33 10

Email: ktpropty@ozemail.com.au

Misty Mountain

Rural Property

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- agricultural consultants
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- fertilizer spreading
- weed spraying
- all tractor work 4/2WD
- soil conditioning
- irrigation install/design
- fencing & stables
- crop planning & planting & all excavations
- concrete slabs Lic. R94321
- property evaluation & planning & management
- fork lift hire

Ex-Dept. Agriculture Officer with 45 years
experience in the local district.

Greg Koutoulas is the man to call on 0418 221 495



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Authorised Dealer

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GRUNDFOS PUMPS**



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1650 Wisemans Ferry Road,

Central Mangrove

Phone 4373 1164 Fax 4373 1049

PUMP REPAIRS AND SERVICE

Trading Hours

Mon - Fri

7.30 am - 5 pm

Sat 7.30 am - 12 noon

Closed Public Holidays