

MANGROVE MOUNTAIN AND DISTRICTS COMMUNITY NEWS

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4th September 2026



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 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:

Poppe 0400105653



DISCUSS



PREPARE



KNOW



KEEP

GET READY FOR A BUSH FIRE FOUR SIMPLE STEPS TO MAKING YOUR BUSH FIRE SURVIVAL PLAN

Getting ready for a bush fire is easier than you think. By taking 20 minutes with your family to discuss what you'll do during a fire, you could save their lives, as well as your home.

Get ready for bush fires, prepare a Bush Fire Survival Plan.

Getting ready for a bush fire is easier than you think. By taking 20 minutes with your family to discuss what you'll do during a fire, you could save their lives, as well as your property and livestock.

**Don't wait until summer,
start preparing now**

[https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/
data/assets/pdf_file/0020/106814/
Farm-Fire-Plan.pdf](https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0020/106814/Farm-Fire-Plan.pdf)

BUSH FIRE SURVIVAL PLAN - FOUR SIMPLE STEPS

There are four simple steps to get ready for a bush fire:

Step 1 Discuss

DISCUSS WHAT TO DO IF A BUSH FIRE THREATENS YOUR HOME



Many households find that having a discussion over dinner works best as everybody is together and focussed.

Step 2 Prepare

PREPARE YOUR HOME AND GET IT READY FOR BUSH FIRE SEASON



There are simple things you can do around your home to prepare it for a bush fire, like keeping the grass low and having a cleared area around your home.

Step 3 Know

KNOW THE BUSH FIRE ALERT LEVELS



If there is a fire in your area you will find its alert level on the NSW RFS website and in the 'Fires Near Me' app. You need to keep track of the alert level so you know what you should do.

Step 4 Keep

KEEP UP TO DATE WITH ALL BUSH FIRE INFORMATION NUMBERS, WEBSITES AND APPS



In a bush fire, it's important that you stay up to date on conditions in your area.

It's a fact. If you and your home are well prepared, you stand a better chance of surviving a bush fire. Download the four simple steps today at: <https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/plan-and-prepare/bush-fire-survival-plan>

The devastation we have seen at the 2025 Koolewong bushfire is a grim reminder to prepare because there is no second chance.

Information from the NSW RFS

*See the Country Fair
Competition Schedule
tear-out inside,
pages 15/16*

STOP !

Next issue Published
18th September 2026

**** DEADLINE ****

**** 11th September '26 ****

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Community supporting community

Today we held our inaugural lower Hawkesbury and Mangrove Community Network Forum—and at the heart of it was one simple idea:

Community supporting community.

Representatives from Spencer and Wisemans Ferry Rural Fire Brigades,

RiverCares, Sheilas of the Lower Hawkesbury, the Mangrove Emergency Planning and Communications Committee, the Country Women's Association Peats Ridge Branch and local businesses came together to begin an important conversation.

We talked about what we are already doing, what we would love to do, and how we can better support one another.

This isn't about competing for dates, people or attention. It is about coordinating our events and programs, sharing resources and ideas, supporting each other's initiatives and creating



FREE EMERGENCY EXPO HELPING RESIDENTS PLAN AND PREPARE

Central Coast Council in partnership with local emergency services and NSW Government agencies, is hosting the Central Coast Emergency Management Expo from 10am-2pm on Saturday 12 September at Wyong Racecourse.

opportunities for every group to shine.

Because when one part of our community succeeds, we all benefit.

Today was the beginning of a more connected approach—one where we communicate, collaborate and help each other create events and opportunities that allow our whole community to thrive.

We may each bring something different to the table, but we all share the same community.

Thank you to everyone who came along, shared ideas and became part of this inaugural group.

This is what community supporting community looks like.

Tracey Cook,
Spencer RFS
Community Liaison

Dr. S. ANANDASIVAM

(ANAND)

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The free community event offers a fun and interactive day for the whole family with an opportunity to meet local emergency services, including the NSW State Emergency Service, NSW Rural Fire Service, Fire and Rescue NSW, NSW Police and other supporting agencies

The event aims to build community confidence and preparedness with practical information for residents to protect their family, home and businesses during bushfires, floods, storms and other emergencies, while also providing the chance to explore equipment used during emergencies.

Council Mayor, Lawrie McKinna said the Central Coast Emergency Management Expo is a great opportunity for residents to learn simple ways to prepare for emergencies.

"Being prepared can make a real difference when emergencies occur," Mayor McKinna said.

"The Central Coast Emergency Management Expo brings local emergency services and experts together in one place, making it easy for residents to access information, ask questions and learn practical ways to prepare and protect their family, home or business.

"It's also a fantastic community day out, with interactive displays, activities and experiences for all ages. I encourage everyone to come along and learn how to be better prepared."

Event activities include:

- Meeting local emergency service personnel
- Exploring equipment used during emergencies
- Participating in family-friendly activities
- Discovering practical emergency preparedness information
- Learning practical advice on creating emergency plans

For more information, search 'Plan and Prepare' at centralcoast.nsw.gov.au

Central Coast Council
Media Release

Calling all Bakers - Get your ovens ready

Central Mangrove P&C will once again be running the cake stall at the 2026 Country Fair.

We're calling on all bakers, sweet tooths, and culinary wizards to whip up cakes, cookies, slices, and pastries for our stall. Gluten-free treats are welcome, too! If you can, pop an ingredients list on your goodies, wrap them up in clingwrap, and either drop them off with your entries or bring them straight to the Cake Stall on Fair day.

Every delicious donation helps raise money for local community grants, supporting awesome projects across the mountain districts. Your baking could make a real difference - so let's fill that table (and those bellies) together!



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And here come the 'crows!

With Spring upon us, it's time once again for Yarramalong Valley's famous Scarecrow Competition. Hosted by Yarramalong School Community Centre with the support of our fabulous sponsors Elders Real Estate and Yarramalong Farm Supplies, the competition is now open and will run until Sunday 20th September 2026.

To enter the competition, pay your \$25 entry fee and pick up your entry placard from either Angel Sussurri, 1-4 Linga Longa Rd, Yarramalong or from Yarramalong Farm Supplies, 148 Yarramalong Rd, Wyong Creek. Entries will be accepted throughout the duration of the competition

For those Valleyers and nearby neighbours who have never joined in the fun of making and presenting a scarecrow, this is a great way to connect to others in your community and now's the time to have a go. For Coasties and those from further afield



NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR NSW'S TOP MULTICULTURAL HONOURS

The NSW Government is calling for nominations for the 2027 Multicultural Community Medals and Honour Roll. The prestigious awards celebrate people and organisations from across NSW who are making outstanding contributions to NSW's multicultural society.

who enjoy a valley drive, what better time to take a trip and view these fabulous creations!

Keep in touch via our website at <https://yarramalongcommunitycentre.org.au> where you'll find everything you need to know and where you can also view all the crows and vote online for your favourite. Updates will also be available via social media and other community publications as well as a local letterbox drop.

Winners will be announced at Yarramalong Community Centre's Multi Arts Expo on Sunday 27th September at 12 midday.

Libby Keating
Yarramalong School Community Centre

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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 **12th September 2026 to 20th September 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.

The Multicultural Community Medals recognise individuals and organisations creating positive change through community leadership, volunteering, advocacy, service delivery and initiatives that foster belonging, inclusion and understanding between cultures.

Winners of the 13 medal categories and Honour Roll inductees will be announced at the 2027 Premier's Harmony Dinner, an annual event dedicated to celebrating multiculturalism and the people across NSW that make it a success.

Nomination categories include:

- Lifetime Community Service Medal – recognising 30 or more years of community service within a migrant community
- Interpreters and Translators Medal – recognising the achievements of an interpreter or translator
- Multicultural Youth Support Medal – for programs supporting school-aged children from diverse backgrounds
- Regional Unity Medal – for contributions to the economic, social and cultural wellbeing and unity of a regional community
- Sports Medal – for an individual or sporting code who has promoted intercultural understanding through sport
- Best Report in Multicultural Media – recognising excellence in journalism for multicultural media
- Multicultural Publication of the Year – for an outstanding multicultural media publication

Nominations close on Sunday 20 September. For further information, or to nominate an individual or organisation who has made an outstanding contribution to harmony in NSW, visit: multicultural.nsw.gov.au/multicultural-community-medals/

NSW Minister for Multiculturalism Steve Kamper said "The Multicultural Community Medals recognise the quiet achievers, community leaders and organisations whose dedication helps



SOMERSBY CWA BRANCH

INVITES THE COMMUNITY TO ENJOY A LONG TABLE LUNCH





RSVP 0407 768 000

by 9th September



build a more inclusive, connected, and harmonious NSW.

Winner of the 2026 Regional Unity Medal Gargi Ganguly (sponsored by My Guardian Group) said "Receiving a Multicultural Community Medal affirmed that the work happening in regional Australia matters.

"If someone has been quietly building connections, supporting families,

mentoring young people, creating opportunities or helping communities feel more connected, then their contribution deserves to be recognised. Their story may also inspire someone else to make a difference."

Lucy Mowat
Media Adviser
Multicultural NSW
multicultural.nsw.gov.au



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Deja Vu?

An extract from Community News
Issue 234, 17 June 1993

Council Committees in Tatters

Gosford City Council has been losing representatives on advisory committees for some time now. Many community representatives have abandoned their positions on Council committees claiming that their role has been tokenistic and not taken seriously, while others have said that the committees themselves are irrelevant to Council decision-making processes.

Gosford Council has a structure of advisory committees that are supposed to be representative of a wide community interest. These committees, at least in theory, 'advise' Council on specific specialist areas and policy issues.

Disenchanted community members of these committees have been leaving in increasing numbers, from such committees as the Waste Recycling Committee and the Tree Protection Committee. Waste Recycling Committee ex-member, Richard Corkish of the Australian Conservation Foundation, left because critical recycling issues were not being referred to the Committee. Tree Protection Committee ex-member, Tim Raymond-Jones, says that the Council has no real



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commitment to preservation of trees in the city.

The latest in the long line of casualties is Alderman James Adams, who has resigned as Chairman of the Coastal Open Space System Advisory Committee. His resignation came in the wake of the last Council meeting where parcels of land crucial to Gosford's award winning Open Space System were allowed to be developed. Alderman Adams says the Council is hopeless. 'It has failed to recognise how important recreational open space is to the well-being of residents', he says. 'This is the first Council to sellout our public open space system at a time it is most needed'.

Alderman Adams has chaired the Coastal Open Space System (COSS) committee since his election to Council two years ago and has lead the push for the completion of the much-celebrated open space plan for the city. He claims that the current Council has clearly indicated its reluctance to continue with the programme to bring more land into public ownership for recreational and conservation purposes. 'The new Council came into office with one-third of the Open Space lands to be acquired. Now it appears that the COSS will be lost forever due to the pro-development nature of the Aldermen', he says.

Alderman Adams says that the COSS programme is the most visionary piece of town planning ever devised. 'It is unique in Australia and has taken over a decade to establish. Now it is being sacrificed by ignorant Aldermen to greedy developers in for a quick buck'.

More from past issues of the Community News in the next issue.

Countdown: 6 more issues to # 1000.

::KSR::

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Arrive earlier and enjoy a picnic under a shady tree in our beautiful grounds.



Wild dog and fox control program

Greater Sydney Local Land Services will be leading a wild dog and fox control program in the Central Coast region. As a result of strong support from local landholders, Greater Sydney Local Land Services has been able to develop and lead a broad, integrated control program in the area.

This program is aimed at reducing pest numbers and impacts on the primary production and native wildlife in these areas. The below properties are participating in the program and will be laying 1080 wild dog and fox ground baits and Canid Pest Ejectors on their properties between **7th September 2026 and 7th October 2026**.

51 Brush Creek Road, Cedar Brush Creek	720 The Ridgeway, Matcham
50 Eungella Lane, Cedar Brush Creek	846 Dog Trap Road, Ourimbah
60 Hitchcocks Lane, Dooralong	850 Dog Trap Road, Ourimbah
3653 Wisemans Ferry Road, Greengrove	Broken Bay Sport & Recreation Centre, Patonga
33 Dunks Lane, Jilliby	86 Hoipos Road, Somersby
252 Forest Road, Kulnura	78 Wirrinda Road, Somersby
326 Forest Road, Kulnura	1260 Wisemans Ferry Road, Somersby
611 Kyola Road, Kulnura	1398 Wisemans Ferry Road, Somersby
15 Murraba Road, Kulnura	60 Ingoola Road, Spencer
16 Murraba Road, Kulnura	1 South Tacoma Road, Tacoma South
13 Springs Road, Kulnura	1186 Yarramalong Road, Wyong Creek
The Scenic Road Bushland Reserve, Macmasters Beach	1208 Yarramalong Road, Wyong Creek
52 Meriki Road, Mangrove Mountain	1252 Yarramalong Road, Wyong Creek
2762 Wisemans Ferry Road, Mangrove Mountain	McPherson State Forest
422 Oak Road, Matcham	591 Kyola Road, Kulnura
197 Oak Road, Matcham	1663 Yarramalong Road
	304 Ravensdale Road, Ravensdale
	625 Ravensdale Road, Ravensdale

Warning: Pets and working dogs may be affected (1080 is lethal to cats and dogs). Please restrain all domestic pets 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.

For more information or to sign up for future campaigns, please contact Greater Sydney Local Land Services on 1300 795 299.

AG0515

Ploddy the Dinosaur 30 Years since the big move

Ploddy the Dinosaur is one of Australia's most iconic landmarks and the country's very first giant roadside icon. Built in 1963 by Australian Reptile Park founder Eric Worrell, the 26-metre, 100-tonne concrete Diplodocus has been a beloved fixture for generations of Australian families. In 1996, Ploddy made the



Ploddy outside the original Australian Reptile Park location at Wyoming



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ten-kilometre journey from the Park's original Wyoming home to its current Somersby location, with over 10,000 people lining the streets of Gosford to watch her go. She now sits atop a hill beside the Sydney-Newcastle Freeway, seen by more than 40 million passing vehicles every year.

Eric Worrell commissioned the design and construction of a 26-metre concrete replica of a Diplodocus dinosaur, hence the name Ploddy. Weighing in at almost 100 tonnes, she was built over two months and more than 1,100 man-hours. From the moment she was completed, Ploddy became Australia's very first giant roadside icon, predating the Big Banana, the Big Pineapple and every other oversized landmark that followed.

Moving a 26-metre, 100-tonne concretedinosaurisnotstraightforward.

It took a team of specialised people to execute her move. To celebrate, she was given a full street parade through the main streets of Gosford. Local school children painted giant Ploddy footprints along the route. Over 10,000 people lined the streets to watch her journey.

Ploddy was far from the only one making the journey. Around 1,000 animals were relocated from Wyoming to Somersby, including the Park's entire alligator population, Miss Piggy the pig-nosed turtle, Galapagos tortoises Hugo and Dippy, and Terminator the alligator snapping turtle. The Park's life-saving antivenom program also made the move, along with the keepers and staff who had devoted themselves to its work. Among them was Ranger Mick, who had joined the Australian Reptile Park four years earlier and would go on to dedicate more than 30

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Photos: Ploddy and other exhibits in the moving parade through Gosford

years to the Park.

“For so many Coasties, seeing Ploddy on the hill means they are nearly home. She has watched the Park grow and change over the past 30 years, but she has remained that familiar, much-loved symbol. This anniversary is about celebrating where we have come from, the animals and people who made the move possible, and the exciting future still ahead,” said Managing Director Tim Faulkner.

Throughout the month, every visit to the Park comes loaded with free activities included with entry. Each day, a unique wildlife show telling the story of how we moved a zoo from Wyoming to Somersby in 1996, including some of the very animals that made that journey. Families can also follow Ploddy’s free Scavenger Hunt around the Park, tracking down the animals, people and programs that came with Ploddy to Somersby 30 years ago.

On weekends, the celebrations step up a gear. Free face painting and a Dinosaur Walk bring one of Ploddy’s friends out to meet visitors in person, giving families an extra taste of the excitement before the main event.

*Australian Reptile Park
www.reptilepark.com.au
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Created by Yaron Lifschitz with the
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Tue 6 Oct, 11am & 2pm

Mozart Amadeus Wolfgang, part time genius, full-time rat-bag, can't finish his lullaby. The final notes of Twinkle Twinkle Little Star have slipped away, so he builds a rocket and blasts into space to find them, with his best friend – a faithful circus bear – in tow.

On their adventure they tumble through galaxies where asteroids lurk and space dinosaurs roar. But there's a catch! A galactic glitch threatens to strand them light-years from home. To chart a course back to Earth, Wolfgang learns that sometimes, to find your melody, you need a little stardust... and your best friend by your side.



Wolfgang in the Stars is a dazzling delight for all ages – bursting with truly gravity-defying acrobatics, live video projections, puppetry, music and a heartwarming message of connection.

Because imagination travels faster than light and no good story ever obeyed the laws of physics. Strap in – adventure awaits!

Tickets: <https://ccclaycock.sales.ticketsearch.com/sales/salesevent/155177>

RIP James (Jimmy) Greentree

After a long battle with cancer, Jimmy passed away in Gosford Hospital

Jimmy was a dedicated member of the RFS and a life member of the Mangrove Mountain brigade.

He lived and breathed RFS, was a knowledgeable and experienced firefighter. Jimmy was easy to talk to and willingly shared his knowledge, he was determined but also humble.

Jimmy fought to the end and is now at peace.

Sincere condolences are extended to Jimmy's family.



MANGROVE MOUNTAIN

MEMORIAL CLUB LTD.

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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Pathways for Every Future

Kariong Mountains High School offers diverse learning opportunities that cater to a wide range of interests, talents and aspirations.

The school's Academic Stream provides additional challenge and enrichment for students seeking a more rigorous academic pathway, while High Potential and Gifted Education opportunities support students to extend their talents and pursue excellence.

For students interested in practical and career-focused learning, the Educational Pathways Program provides authentic opportunities to

develop workplace skills, explore career options and build connections with industry and further training pathways.

Exclusive to public schools, this innovative and government-funded program helps students gain valuable real-world experience and confidence as they prepare for life beyond school.

Whether students aspire to university, vocational training, apprenticeships or employment, Kariong Mountains High School provides opportunities to help them achieve their goals. Academic programs, vocational education pathways, leadership opportunities, sport, creative arts and extracurricular activities allow students to explore their individual strengths, develop new skills and prepare for life beyond school.

Students also benefit from specialist

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learning environments, including modern science laboratories, technology and hospitality facilities, music studio and dedicated movement and dance studio. These spaces provide opportunities to develop skills, creativity and confidence across a broad range of disciplines.

Learning is supported by contemporary facilities, technology-rich classrooms and innovative teaching practices that equip students with the skills needed in a rapidly changing world.

Beyond the classroom, students are encouraged to discover their passions and pursue new interests. From student leadership and representative sport to creative and performing arts programs, Kariong Mountains High School provides a well-rounded education that supports confident, capable and engaged young people.

This commitment reflects the school's belief that



success looks different for every student and every pathway is valued.

For families seeking a school where opportunities are available to every learner, Kariong Mountains High School provides a supportive environment where students are inspired to explore their strengths, pursue their goals and prepare for their future.

Discover more at kariongmtn-h.schools.nsw.gov.au

*Heidi Holt
Public Schools Engagement Officer
Mooney Mooney Principals Network*



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Mountain Districts Football Club



Above: The U11C team
Left: The U12D team
Right: U12's with warpaint on

The Central Coast soccer finals series started last weekend and there were 18 semi-finals games played at the Mountain Districts Sports Park (Bloodtree Oval).

Our U12D's who finished the season as minor premiers won their major semi final 2-0 and will play their grand final next Saturday at Pluim Park.

The U11C's won their U11 grandfinal 1-0 at Pluim Park.

Two of the U11 team are also playing in the U12 and make a great contribution.

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CELEBRATING THOSE WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Genevieve Muir is the final Community Champion I will recognise during my time as Mayor.

Genevieve is the driving force behind The Kindness Pantry, a free weatherproof, freestanding community pantry providing food and everyday essentials to those in need.

Operated in partnership with Vinnies Vans and supported by residents, businesses and corporate partners, the pantry is stocked through community generosity and features artwork by Eleanor Duncan Aboriginal Services.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to nominate a Community Champion, and to those who received an award.

Let us continue to celebrate and acknowledge the quiet achievers, dedicated volunteers and everyday heroes whose generosity, compassion and unwavering commitment make a lasting difference in the lives of others.

*Mayor Lawrie McKinna
Central Coast Council*



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**Green Living Energy workshop,
12 September 2026, 10am - 2pm
in Kariong's solar-powered
Hall,
2 Dandaloo St, Kariong.**

As we transition away from fossil fuels and move to renewables there is a lot of information to take in. Kariong Eco Garden has invited some great locals to come together and share their experiences of electrifying homes and their vision for generating, storing and using renewable energy. No one will try to sell you anything at this event.

Local experts, renewable energy and community resilience champions like Ian Garradd, John Shiel Sco, Tanya Mottl, Scott and Robyn McClung will share their knowledge and passion.

Ian Garradd will share about his household's journey to full

electrification - for hot water, cooking, vehicles and mowing the lawn.

John Shiel, from Narara Eco Village, says "it can be overwhelming deciding what battery would suit your home. I am happy to help navigate the technical decisions, weighing up cost, features and support available".

Scott and Robyn McClung from Community PowerShare 2251, will explain how community batteries can benefit everyone - whether or not you have rooftop solar.

The workshop is for people who are just starting the journey and those already on the way to a low emissions home. There are things we can all do, whether you are a homeowner or renter and we can learn from each other - our successes and failures. Lunch will be cooked powered by an Electric Vehicle (EV) and solar power.

We will discuss questions and share

ideas like:

Are we satisfied with the performance of our solar panels, batteries, and electric vehicles? What issues have people had? How do the apps help you make good decisions? How can we make our communities more resilient?

The full program and more info about the presenters is on the booking page.

Bookings essential - flexible pricing - including morning tea, lunch and the presentations.

<https://events.humanitix.com/green-living-energy-info-day>

This is a Kariong Eco Garden event: <https://www.facebook.com/share/1DnsYK6vV5/>

Lisa Wriley

Kariong Eco Garden

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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 September 19th 11am

Gloucester Saleyards

- Fortnightly Thursday Store Cattle Sales - September 2nd, 16th, 30th 11am

Feedlots - Abattoirs - Paddock to Paddock Sales
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2026 Mangrove Mountain Country Fair – Competition Schedule

Sections A to F Adults - (16 years and over)

SECTION A – ART

Entries close at 1pm Friday!!

Category (2 entries per category allowed):

- 1 Painting
- 2 Drawing
- 3 Collage
- 4 Photography (Enlarged)
- 5 Digital Imagery - manipulation
- 6 Sculpture / ceramics

SECTION B – CRAFT

Category (2 entries per category allowed):

- 1 Patchwork, appliqué
- 2 Lace
- 3 Quilting
- 4 Sewing Machine article **(prize donated by CWA)
- 5 Knitting
- 6 Crochet **(prize donated by CWA)
- 7 Embroidery, tapestry, cross-stitch
- 8 Toys, incl dolls, teddies
- 9 Macramé
- 10 Woodwork
- 11 Metalwork
- 12 Pottery / Glass
- 13 Article made from mostly recycled materials **(prize donated by CWA)
- 14 Halloween Themed article ** (prize donated by CWA)
- 15 Other

SECTION C – COOKING, JAMS & PRESERVES

Category (2 entries per category allowed):

- 1 Man Cake (must be cooked by a male 16 & over)
- 2 Slices (4) ** (prize donated by CWA)
- 3 Muffins or Cupcakes (4)
- 4 Biscuits (4)
- 5 Scones (4)
- 6 Other Cake, not iced
- 7 Cooking for a Special Diet
- 8 Orange Cake Iced **(prize donated by CWA)
- 9 Bread
- 10 Halloween Themed baked item ** (prize donated by CWA)
- 11 Marmalade
- 12 Jams, jellies
- 13 Lemon, Passionfruit Butter
- 14 Pickles, Relish, Chutney
- 15 Sauces **(prize donated by CWA)
- 16 Preserved fruit or vegetables.

SECTION D – FLOWERS

Category (only 1 entry per category):

- 1 Arrangement based on a book, TV or movie theme
- 2 Three colour arrangement
- 3 Small arrangement (under 15cm tall)
- 4 Unusual arrangement
- 5 Native flower arrangement
- 6 Arrangement Full of Fragrance
- 7 Collection of Wildflowers (4-8 varieties)
- 8 Rose (1)

- 9 Roses (3)
- 10 Orchid (s)
- 11 Any other bloom
- 12 Cut of shrub

SECTION E – PHOTOGRAPHY

Entries close at 1pm Friday!!

NO bigger than Postcard size!!

Category (2 entries per category allowed):

- 1 People / Portraits
- 2 Life on the mountain
- 3 Landscape / Weather
- 4 Animals
- 5 Flowers
- 6 Fun
- 7 Action / Sport
- 8 Travel / Urban
- 9 Other

SECTION F – PRODUCE

Alan Unitt Memorial Trophy awarded for Best Produce point score. More than 1 entry per category allowed.

Category:

- 1a. Lemon (6) 1b. Lime (6) 1c. Orange - Navel (6) 1d. Orange - Valencia (6) 1e. Mandarin (6) 1f. Mixed citrus (6) 1g. Citrus – Other (6) 1h. Grapefruit (6)
2. Stonefruit (6)
3. Nuts, Berry fruits (punnet)
4. Other fruit (6)
5. Basket of Salad Greens
6. Herbs (bunch)
7. Homemade Beverages
8. Honey
9. Fresh Eggs (6)
10. Basket of combination of produce

Sections G to M Children - (15 years and younger)

SECTION G – ART

Entries close at 1pm Friday!!

Category:

- 1 Painting
- 2 Drawing
- 3 Collage
- 4 Photography (Enlarged)
- 5 Digital Imagery - manipulation
- 6 Sculpture or ceramics

SECTION H – CRAFT

Category:

- 1 Sewing (by hand)
- 2 Sewing Machine article
- 3 Knitting
- 4 Crochet
- 5 Embroidery
- 6 Soft Toy
- 7 Fabric painting / dyeing
- 8 Woodwork
- 9 Metalwork
- 10 Pottery / Glass
- 11 Painted eggs (4 eggs)
- 12 Other

SECTION I – COOKING

No Packet Mixes!!

Category (2 entries per category allowed):

- 1 Decorated cupcakes (4)
- 2 Biscuits (4)
- 3 Slices (4)
- 4 Muffins or Cupcakes (4)
- 5 Cake (not iced)
- 6 Cake (iced)
- 7 Decorated Cake
- 8 Halloween decorated baked item
- 9 Other Baking

SECTION J – INVENTION / CREATION

Category:

- 1 Working Invention or model, incl drawings & plans
- 2 Article made from recycled objects
- 3 Article made from nature
- 4 Vegetable / Fruit Creature
- 5 Creation with egg/s
- 6 Cardboard fort or castle
- 7 Lego Animal or Bird (own creation only)
- 8 Lego landscape or building (own creation only)

SECTION K – FLOWERS

Category:

- 1 Arrangement based on a book, TV or movie theme
- 2 Three colour arrangement
- 3 Small arrangement (under 15cm tall)

- 4 Pretty posy
- 5 Native flora display
- 6 Miniature arrangement (under 5cm tall)
- 7 Decorated saucer (arrangement in wet sand)
- 8 Arrangement in a boot/shoe
- 9 Single Flower

SECTION L – PHOTOGRAPHY

Entries close at 1pm Friday!!

No bigger than postcard size!!

Category (2 entries per category allowed):

- 1 Family / Friends
- 2 Life on the Mountain
- 3 Places
- 4 Weather /sky
- 5 Animals
- 6 Things
- 7 Fun
- 8 Other

SECTION M – PRODUCE

Trophy awarded for Best Produce point score

(Combined Age Group)

Category

- 1 Basket of vegetables
- 2 Basket of fruit
- 3 Basket of fresh eggs (6)
- 4 Collection of herbs
- 5 Basket of combination of produce
- 6 Most interesting vegetable from your garden

BAKERS – We would love you to bake some extra items that we could sell at the cake stall on the day (with proceeds for the fair). If you can, please attach the ingredients list and wrap it in clingwrap and drop it off with your entries. We would appreciate anything you can bake.

17th Annual Mangrove Mountain Contemporary Art Award

The theme for 2026 is “Shades of Yesterday”. Work may be in any medium. It must be delivered to Mangrove Mountain Hall from 3pm to 6pm on Thursday, 15th October or from 8am to 1pm on Friday, 16th October. Entry is free. The winner will receive a cash prize of \$200 and the honour of the award.

Helen FitzSimons Memorial Family Aggregate Award

When entering, a family may nominate 8 items for the Family Aggregate Competition.

Family definition: must include at least 2 family members, one of whom must be multi-generational.

Points: 1st place – 10 pts, 2nd place – 5 pts, 3rd place – 2 pts. A tied score is decided by number of 1st places.

Adult Sections (16 years and over): ONE entry per person in each category unless stated otherwise.

All work should be labelled with name, section and category please.

Art & Photography Entries close 1pm Friday 16th October. All other Entries close 3pm Friday 16th October.

Children Sections (15 years and younger): ONE entry per person in each category unless stated otherwise.

All work to have name, class/year, school, section and category clearly marked on entry.

Art & Photography Entries close 1pm Friday 16th October. All other Entries close 3pm Friday 16th October.

Childrens Sections Age Groups:

- a. Preschool
- b. Kindergarten – Year 2

c. Years 3 – 4

d. Years 5 – 6

e. High School up to & incl 15 years

Example:

Jane Citizen
Year 3
School
Section J
Category 2c

GENERAL RULES OF SHOW

- 1 Entries accepted from 3pm till 6pm Thursday 15th October. Entries accepted from 8am Friday 16th October.
- 2 Art & Photography Entries close 1pm Friday 16th October.
- 3 All other Entries close 3pm Friday 16th October.
- 4 All entries are Free and must remain on display until 3pm Saturday.
- 5 Entries must be collected by 5pm Saturday. Entries not collected will be disposed off.
- 6 Articles exhibited in previous Mangrove Mountain Country Fairs cannot be shown.
- 7 Judges' decisions are final. While all care is taken, no responsibility will be accepted for damage or theft.
- 8 Children's Prize Money must be collected at the Fair. 1st, 2nd and 3rd will be awarded \$3, \$2 and \$1 respectively.

2026 Mangrove Mountain Country Fair



Mangrove Mountain Evening Branch

Which Pastry to Use for What?

Pastry Treat Making Class

Learn how to turn simple pastry into yummy treats

Tuesday 22 September 2026

Mangrove Mountain Union Church Hall

5pm till 7,30pm Supper of pastry treats included

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Calga-Mt. White RFS	General meeting Training Information & updates Contact	3rd Mon of the month, 7.30pm all welcome Every Monday 6.30 except public holidays Facebook.com/calga/mtwhiteruralfirebrigade/ Captain.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 0418211819. 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 Coastlink Friendship Group	First Tuesday each month 7.00PM MMMC 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 Kariiong. Contact: Glenis Ph: 0400 486 760
Kulnura & District Garden Club	Second Monday, 9.30 for 10am start. Jacqui Maxwell 0455364262 kulnuradgc@gmail.com
Kulnura Tuesday Tennis	Tue 9.30am-12.30pm, Kulnura Tennis Courts. Enquiries: Alison Palmer 0427731548.
Ladies of the Valley Afternoon Tea	1st Tues, 1pm to 2.30 at Angels Sussurri Cafe Yarramalong. Margaret Dale 0411104770
Mangrove Mountain & Districts Community Group	1st Thurs of the Month, excl Jan. 7.00pm, 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 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
Rural Seniors Voices	3rd Thurs, 12pm, 13 Nurses Rd Central Mangrove, next to Dr Anand's practice.
Spencer Community Progress Group Inc	President Brad Maisey, Community Meetings, 0436482201, spencercpg2@gmail.com
Newsletter	Articles to: spencercpg2@gmail.com
Spencer Sheilas Community Social Club	Last Friday of the month. Eve Leeming - 4377 1116 and/or cedriceve@bigpond.com
Wisemans Ferry Community Men's Shed	Tues & Sat, 9am-5pm. Contact: Alan Hunt 4566 4626 or Adrian Acheson 0448 833 781
SPIRITUAL	
Anglican Service - Mountain Districts	Every Sun 8am at Peats Ridge Scout Hall, Sunday School during school terms
Mangrove Mountain Union Church Trust	Committee Meeting 3rd Monday, 7.30pm at the Mangrove Mountain Union Church Hall
Mountain Districts Christian Church	Services 9.30am 2nd & 4th Sundays. Bible Study 4.30pm 1st & 3rd Mondays. Mangrove Mountain Union Church
Worship and Prayer	1st Sat 4.30 to 5.30pm at MM Union Church
St Barnabas Christian Service	9.15am. on every 1st, 2nd & 3rd Sunday of the month. Yarramalong

(cont'd next page)

LIVESTOCK MARKET REPORT



Maitland Liveweight Cattle Sale

24th August 2026

516 cattle yarded this week at Maitland. 436 Trade/ 80 export.

- Restocker Heifers up to 250kg made 486 c/kg to 540 c/kg
- 250kg-300kg made 461 c/kg to 525 c/kg
- 300kg to 380kg made 843 c/kg to 535 c/kg
- Restocker steers up to 250kg made 567 c/kg to 620 c/kg
- 250kg-300kg made 558 c/kg to 610 c/kg
- 300kg-380kg made 482 c/kg to 555 c/kg
- Yearling Steers to Feed made 438 c/kg to 500 c/kg
- Yearling Heifers to Feed made 450 c/kg to 455 c/kg
- Cows made 369 c/kg to 396 c/kg
- Bulls 301 c/kg to 352 c/kg

Maitland Liveweight Cattle Sale

17th August 2026

400 cattle yarded this week at Maitland. 326 Trade/ 74 export.

- Restocker Heifers up to 250kg made 437 c/kg to 520 c/kg
- 250kg-300kg made 477 c/kg to 515 c/kg
- 300kg to 380kg made 489 c/kg to 530 c/kg
- Restocker steers up to 250kg made 552 c/kg to 602 c/kg
- 250kg-300kg made 545 c/kg to 590



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Monsoon Mela is a free outdoor celebration of South Asian culture, creativity and community taking over William Street Plaza on Sunday 6 September, 12pm – 5pm, bringing together live music, dance, food, cultural experiences and family-friendly activities in the heart of the city.

As a first-time event, Monsoon Mela showcases the diversity and growing presence of South Asian communities across the Central Coast while creating an opportunity for people from all backgrounds to come together, connect and celebrate.

As part of Monsoon Mela, we invite our community to support the Nepal Flood Disaster Appeal, raising funds for the Emergency Action Alliance (EAA) and its member charities working with local partners on the ground in Nepal.

*Glitta Supernova
FunHaus Factory*

c/kg

- 300kg-380kg made 491 c/kg to 555 c/kg
- Yearling Steers to Feed made 404 c/kg to 520 c/kg
- Yearling Heifers to Feed made 419 c/kg to 485 c/kg
- Cows made 362 c/kg to 398 c/kg
- Bulls 346 c/kg to 354 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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REGULAR ACTIVITIES & MEETINGS (cont'd)

Catholic Service - Central Mangrove

- Spencer
- Wollombi
- Yarramalong

Divine Retreat Centre

Serbian Orthodox

Kariong Community Baptist Church

Restitution Ministries
Independent SDA Church

YOUTH

Girl Guides - Kooree Guide Cabin
Mondays in school term

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

Wyong Creek Hall

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.
160 Hensons Road, Somersby Ph 0243721598

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

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.

Junior Girl Guides 5-10, 5.00pm - 6.30pm,
Girl Guides 10-15, 6.00pm - 7.30pm
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

mmucsecretary@outlook.com

Hall bookings: 0413 359 655
or AH 4373 1488

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Tips for reaching Triple Zero if you're having trouble connecting

In an emergency, every second matters. That's why all Australian mobile network operators work behind the scenes to help your Triple Zero (000) call connect. Even when you are outside Optus coverage, a 000 call can still be made if another mobile network is available.

Here's how it works, the backups in place, and what to do if you're having trouble connecting.

What happens when you call 000?

When you call 000 from a mobile phone, it will first try to connect using your mobile network. If your network isn't available, your phone will try to connect to another mobile network, if available. This is known as 'emergency camp-on'.

What does 'emergency camp-on' mean?

If your network is unavailable, your phone looks for another available mobile network and temporarily connects to call 000. You don't need to change any settings or do anything yourself. It works automatically at no

cost to you, even without an active SIM in your phone.

What to do if your 000 call doesn't seem to be connecting?

The 'emergency camp-on' process can take time to connect to another network. Generally, there will be silence on the line while this happens.

1. If your initial call doesn't connect within around five seconds, hang up and try again immediately.
2. On subsequent attempts, stay on the line for up to 60 seconds to give your phone the best chance to connect via another network.

All phones are different; if 'emergency camp-on' is available, iPhone will show 'SOS' or 'SOS only' depending on iOS version. Android will show 'Emergency calls only', 'No service – emergency calls only', or a small SOS icon. If your phone shows 'No service', there is no mobile network coverage available where you are and you will not be able to call 000 using a mobile network.

Look for other ways to get help while you're holding the line.

'Emergency camp-on' won't work if you are outside the coverage range of all mobile networks.

In this situation:

- Use a landline phone or public phone, if available
- Connect to Wi-Fi and use Wi-

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Fi calling on your device. For instructions visit: optus.com.au/wificalling

More information

Your safety is incredibly important to us. Access to 000 is a vital service, and we remain committed to providing reliable ways for customers to connect during an emergency.

If you cannot connect to Triple Zero, keep yourself safe, move away from danger if possible, help others where safe to do so, seek help from people nearby, or use any available means to contact emergency services.

For more information on connecting to 000, please visit: triplezero.gov.au

This information has been developed by Telstra, Optus and TPG Telecom in consultation with the Triple Zero Custodian.

Your Optus Team

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