

EVERYBODY'S FAVOURITE LOCAL PAPER

the Letterbox delivered weekly from Hornsby to The Hawkesbury

# bushtelegraph

WEEKLY

Phone: 02 9456 2880

Thursday 28 February 2019

## Taffy's Rock

Story & photos: Tim Stewart

Most locals know about the Great North Walk that passes through our district, and many would have traversed the popular scenic section between Cowan and Brooklyn. But how many would know about Taffy's Rock? Read Tim Stewart's exclusive story on page 10.

Inside your  
Bush Tele...

- Volunteer for Relay For Life **p4**
- The future of Peat Island public meeting **p5**
- Local Services & Trades **p12-13**



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**SATURDAY  
2ND MARCH**

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\$27\***

## WHAT'S ON AT HORNSBY RSL CLUB

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SHANLEY DEL & JAMES GILLARD AND BROTHER GREG STORER



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**GLENN SHORROCK**



**SATURDAY 30TH MARCH  
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## HORNSBY HEIGHTS SCOUT GROUP SUPPORTED BY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

**1st Hornsby Heights Scouts** received a cheque for \$4,000 which will enable them to renovate their kitchen, extending their ability to host great events for members.

In presenting the cheque, Federal Member for Berowra, **Julian Leeser MP** said, "Scouting groups are helping young Australian develop skills as well as values of service and a commitment to responsible citizenship."

The kitchen of the 1st Hornsby Heights Scout Hall is badly in need of refurbishment including floor repairs, utilities upgrades and new appliances. The Federal Government Grant will be combined with other fundraising efforts to deliver the Hall with that refurbished kitchen.

"We are grateful for the support the government has given," said **Richard Hughes-Narborough**, Group Leader of the Scouts.

"The refurbished kitchen will be used daily by our 150 youth members and 40 leaders and committee members."

The grant was provided by Mr Leeser as part of the Federal Government's Stronger Communities Program, which allocates \$150,000 to each electorate for projects that create vibrant and viable communities.



## "MOVIE UNDER THE STARS" AT CHERRYBROOK

Now in its eighth year, Cherrybrook's Movie Under the Stars has become an annual event not to be missed, attracting close to 3,000 visitors.

**1st Cherrybrook Scouts** annual Cherrybrook "Movie Under the Stars" will be held on **Saturday 2nd March, 2018** at John Purchase Oval, Shepherds Drive, Cherrybrook (behind Cherrybrook Community Centre).

The event is solely organised by 1st Cherrybrook Scout Group as a major fundraiser to help shape the lives of and support our leaders of tomorrow.

This year's Cherrybrook "Movie under the stars" features a screening of **'The Incredibles 2'**. This will be followed by a fantastic fireworks finale.

Food options include BBQ, Chinese, salad, vegetarian as well as soft drinks, coffee, cakes, fairy floss and popcorn.

Also this year, as well as local dance troops, groups and bands, the SES, RFS and Police, lego play stalls, games stop, face painting and the library, there will be a bouncy castle, horizontal bungee, rock climbing and, for the first time, creative activities run by the Scout youth members.

**No entry fee. Good coin donation.** 'Doors' open 4.30pm, activities and food from 5.00pm and the movie at dusk. So, have a night off cooking, bring a blanket or a low backed camp chair, the kids and enjoy the evening.

For more details see: <http://cherrybrookmovieunderthestars.com>

## MASTERPLAN TO SEE BROOKLYN REACH 'ITS FULL POTENTIAL'

The long anticipated **Brooklyn Master Plan** has completed its consultation stage and Hornsby Council will now seek opportunities to put the wishes of the community into action.

Extensive consultation with residents and other stakeholders delivered a resounding message that improvements to the public domain are eagerly sought but significant property development is not welcome.

Hornsby Shire Mayor **Philip Ruddock** said, "This is exactly why we go through these consultative processes, to ensure that Council knows what the community wants and take those wishes into account."

"We are determined to see Brooklyn achieve its full potential and we relish the challenge of proving that this can be done."

Council will now seek other avenues to carry out improvements, including government grants and tourism funding.

"We are very grateful to the community who took part in the consultation and their contribution will not be wasted," Mayor Ruddock said. "We now have a strong idea of exactly what the people of Brooklyn want, gained from a broad cross-section of its residents, and we will put that to good use."

Council will continue consulting with residents and other stakeholders as it continues moving forward with its goal of helping Brooklyn achieve its full potential.

Source: HSC

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# GALLAGHER TO STAND FOR HORNSBY

Mick Gallagher of Mt Colah has nominated for the seat of Hornsby at the upcoming NSW election to be held on Saturday 23 March 2019.

Calling himself 'Your True Faidinkum Independent' Mick says that successive Labor and Liberal governments have sold us short by continuing to sell off Australia.

*"To exercise your full democratic right then number all the boxes on the ballot paper. Never give the political parties your number 1 vote. The party you definitely don't want, then make them the last number," said Mick.*

Some of Mick's issues include:

- A summit required on Climate Change, Inadequate infrastructure
- Overpopulation in the Sydney region
- Privatisation of the people's assets
- Double tax on Fuel (fuel tax + GST) causing higher prices on not only fuel, but the flow on costs to goods and services.

If you have an issue call Mick on 0418 112 675 or email [mickgallagher4australia@gmail.com](mailto:mickgallagher4australia@gmail.com)

Authorized by M.P. Gallagher 9 Northview Place Mt Colah



Mick Gallagher, 'Your True Independent candidate for Hornsby', shapes up with a beard trim by Asquith barber Jose Velasquez. Photo Brendan Cipollone of Asquith



Matt Lennox, Founder of Stormseal, helping Chipping Norton resident, Joe, protect his storm damaged home

## FORGET LEAKING TARPS, BE SAFE UNDER STORMSEAL

After catastrophic storms, thousands of people in our region are still suffering under flapping, leaking, fly-away tarpaulins. Tarps fail repeatedly, increasing damage, costs and trauma while residents wait months for permanent repairs to their homes and businesses.

**Now, there's a better option: Stormseal.**

Sydney builder Matthew Lennox was frustrated by returning again and again to replace tarps and seeing the additional harm they caused. He teamed up with a polymer scientist to invent Stormseal, a strong, polythene film that heat-shrinks to securely wrap a damaged structure.

**Stormseal stays put, resisting all weather until permanent repairs can be made.** Developed with Federal government support, Stormseal has been used to cover thousands of damaged buildings.

"No one should have to suffer under tarps. We scale up production of Stormseal when disaster strikes, and we have a national distribution system and trained installers ready to go," explained Matthew.

**To get Stormseal, policy holders just have to talk to their insurers.** Tell them you refuse to suffer under damaging tarps and you want superior Stormseal protection. It'll save them money too!

"Installation is quick. We apply heat to shrink the film, increasing its strength and ensuring a perfect fit to the structure, without damaging any underlying materials," said Matthew. "Our reward is seeing smiles of relief on the faces of storm victims."

Learn more at [Stormseal.com](http://Stormseal.com)

## EMMA'S iVIEW

By Cllr Emma Heyde

*Want to do something practical to help local people in need?*

**Hornsby Connect would love your help.**

I visited their bustling centre just behind Westfield in Hornsby. You'd be part of a big team: 40 volunteers provide food to 120 clients each week.

Hornsby Connect is a registered charity and is independent of churches or governments so they need the community's help with

- ▶ volunteering
- ▶ sourcing food supplies
- ▶ funding for major equipment purchases like fridges

Contact them at [www.hornsbyconnect.org.au](http://www.hornsbyconnect.org.au) and [info@hornsbyconnect.org.au](mailto:info@hornsbyconnect.org.au)



Cllr Emma Heyde



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Delivered to Waitara, Hornsby, Hornsby Heights, Asquith, Mt Colah, Mt Kuring-gai, Berowra, Berowra Heights, Cowan, Brooklyn, Mooney Mooney, Cheero Point, Dangar Island, Riverboat Postman, Berowra Waters and beyond.

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## EVERYONE IS WELCOME AT ASQUITH GOLF CLUB

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**ASQUITH GOLF CLUB**



Riley, Julie and Jackson Attwood encourage you to volunteer for Relay for Life.

## VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY WITH CANCER COUNCIL

Cancer Council NSW is on the lookout for enthusiastic volunteers for the **HORNSBY RELAY FOR LIFE** organising committee

Relay For Life is a community fundraising challenge that raises funds for Cancer Council. Teams of friends, families and colleagues raise money in the lead up to an overnight event, where team members take turns walking around a track to signify that 'cancer never rests, so neither do we'.

As a Hornsby Relay for Life volunteer committee member, you will be an advocate for the event and together with other committee members will promote, organise and run the event in November.

**Julie Attwood**, local resident and chair of Hornsby Relay For Life started volunteering on the committee in 2017. Since then, her two sons **Jackson** and **Riley** have also joined the organising committee.

"I've had countless friends, family and clients who have been impacted by cancer and I volunteer in the hope that one day we can find a cure," said Ms Attwood.

**Oliver Woolrych**, from Cancer Council's Metro Sydney office said, "Volunteers like Julie are a crucial part of our workforce – we simply couldn't do what we do without them."

To support your local community and become a Hornsby Relay for Life Committee Member, visit [www.cancercouncil.com.au](http://www.cancercouncil.com.au) or contact Oliver Woolrych on 02 9334 1377 for further info about our volunteers.

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# THE FUTURE OF PEAT ISLAND - PUBLIC MEETING

**PUBLIC MEETING ... An Alternate Community Vision**

A public meeting will be held **10am Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2019** at the Peat Island Chapel to discuss alternate visions for the future use of Peat Island.

Already the State Government has a plan for Peat Island which includes:

- ▶ Establishing a public access
- ▶ Developing residential dwellings on the foreshore land
- ▶ Developing a marina adjacent to Peat Island
- ▶ Developing a neighbourhood retail centre
- ▶ Retaining and protecting important Indigenous and European heritage
- ▶ Setting aside land for a new Rural Fire Service shed and community space

However the locals and their supporters have different ideas for the Island.

The purpose of the meeting which will be attended by **Hon Linda Burney MP** and **Ms Liesl Dorothy Tesch, AM, BSc, MP**, is to hear and co-ordinate community responses to the government plans for Peat Island.

There will be a discussion of Alternate Visions proposed by people of the river communities, input which will encompass the cultural, historical and environmental significance of this unique locale.

For more information, please contact [peterdavis21karool@gmail.com](mailto:peterdavis21karool@gmail.com)



Photo by Juno Gemes

# BOOKS, FOOD & GOOD COMPANY AT FUSION HORNSBY

Story: Myf Webster

**Fusion Sydney North** has been lucky enough to win a **Street Library** through Hornsby Council.

**YOU ARE INVITED** to a Grand Launch of the Street Library as well as another initiative, **FREE LITTLE PANTRY** (photo right).

The joint Launch will be held on **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March at 10am** at **Fusion Sydney North 3 Jersey Street Hornsby**.

Both the Mayor **Philip Ruddock** and **Matt Kean MP** will be attending the Launch. Come to this open day offering free morning tea, craft activities, book readings, & face painting and more.

The **Free Little Pantry**, which was built by the **Hornsby/Berowra Mens Shed**, is about **Feeding Neighbours** and **Nourishing Neighbourhoods**. We operate a **COMMUNITY DINNER ON MONDAY NIGHT** for those that are homeless or struggling and the Pantry will provide non-perishables for those people and others.

**"Take what you need. Leave what you can"** will be how we promote it and we hope that members of our community will support both of these initiatives by adding to the stock of food items or books.

We reach out to our community who may be able to provide food for the **Community dinner** each Monday night. We have a fantastic team running it now but extra help is always needed.

For more information: phone 02 9477 1110



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## WELCOME TO ST BERNARD'S SHOWCASE NIGHT... A FAMILY OF LEARNERS

You are invited to the **St Bernard's Showcase Night** on **Tuesday the 5th of March 2019**, where classes Kindergarten to Year 6 will demonstrate the great way we learn in our dynamic classrooms.



**Commencing at 6pm** with an Opening Ceremony in the school hall, followed by **workshops in classes Kinder to Year 6 and the Hub**. The duration of each workshop will be 15 minutes.

**Concluding at approximately 7:30pm.**

**Please join us at St Bernard's to celebrate the great learning that is happening**

St Bernards Catholic School | Warrina Street | BEROWRA HEIGHTS  
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# YOUR COMMUNITY DIARY DATES

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**Thursday, 28, February**

## **Chai & Chat Beginners Hindi.**

Teach, speak, learn & make friends, Indian cafe style. 7 to 9pm. CCH Ministry Centre, 4/67 Jersey St Hornsby. Gold coin donation. Enq: namaste@chaiandchat.org or Teela 0432 920 259

## **Hornsby-Berowra Men's Shed**

9am to 12noon. We carry out projects of social benefit such as physiotherapy aids for Hornsby Hospital, a new deck for the girl guides, playground equipment for child care facilities and similar projects. New members welcome. Enq: David 0490 149 262

**Social Dance** Fourth Thursday on 28<sup>th</sup> this month only- usually third Thursday of month. At the Hornsby Uniting Church Hall 24 William St Hornsby hosted by the JH Dance Band and Friends. Old Time, New Vogue, Latin styles and more. 7:30pm to 10:15pm Cost \$7 Enq. Ric 0415 821 921

**Friday, 1, March**

**The Sydney Hills Branch of the Association of Independent Retirees** meeting at Beecroft Presbyterian Church Hall, Welham Street, Beecroft. 10.45am. The guest speaker will be Helena Laves from Hills Nursing Home Care. We Welcome Visitors and New Members. Come Along! Enq: Lauris 9634 1186

**Sing Australia Gordon** meets at Gordon East Public School Hall, (every Friday) corner of Rosedale and Cameron Roads, on Friday nights 7:15-9:30pm. Singing for fun - no auditions, everyone is welcome. Enq: Chris 0410 483 164 or [www.singaustralia.com.au](http://www.singaustralia.com.au)

**Saturday, 2, March**

**Great Social Dance** - held at Beecroft Community Centre, 7:30pm To 11:30pm, live Band with

caller for Australian Dances. Enq. Wilma 0413 673 339

## **Berowra Community Markets.**

Come and meet with friends over a Devonshire tea, listen to "Soul Impact" or browse the many stalls. From 9am. This month supporting the NSW Disaster Recovery Chaplaincy Network (DRCN) who help people affected by disasters and major emergencies.

**Monday, 4, March**

**Dance Group** - Social & Australian Dances taught, 7:30-9:30pm. Pennant Hills Community Centre, Under Pennant Hills Library. Enqs: Wilma, 0413 673 339.

**Tuesday, 5, March**

**Asquith Indoor Carpet Bowls** meet at Mt Colah Community Centre, Pierre Close, Asquith 9.30 - 12.30. Enq: Jenny 9477-1855

## **Berowra Uniting Church**

**Community Playgroup** 10am to midday during school terms. Parents, grandparents and carers of children from birth to 5 years (or till they start school). Playgroup is a great place for your children to play and make friends in a secure environment and for you to have the opportunity to meet, relax, chat and make friends. Enq: Julie on 0427561656, or Ann on 0414464135.

**The Turramurra Hand Spinners and Weavers Group** meet from 10am -12noon at the Turramurra Seniors Centre, 1 Gilroy Rd, Turramurra. We have been meeting here for 45 years furthering the art of hand spinning, weaving, dyeing and associated handicrafts. Enq Julie noonel@ozemail.com.au

**Wednesday, 6, March**

**Hornsby Connect Inc.** providing support to those that need it within the community, 11.30am - 2pm. Financial hardship, domestic violence, drug and alcohol

dependency and loneliness, isolation and dislocation, low-cost Food Distribution centre. Free tea, coffee & cakes with company. Hornsby Youth and Family Community Centre cnr Muriel and Burdett Streets Hornsby. [www.hornsbyconnect.org.au](http://www.hornsbyconnect.org.au)

## **Time Out for Seniors (TOFS).**

Enjoy speakers, music, picnics & devotions. Morning tea & lunch. \$6. 10.15am-2pm at The Heights Church, 110A Galston Rd. Details: Kay 9476 2080 or Karen 9987 1978

## **Hornsby National Seniors**

meets at the Asquith Bowling and Recreation Club, 1 Lodge St, Asquith. Morning tea at 10.30. Speaker at each meeting and outings during the month. At noon many of us have lunch in the restaurant. Visitors welcome. Enq: Helen - 9476 3078

## **Helping Hands Craft Group.**

10am to 2pm, Hornsby Heights Community Centre, 104A Galston Road Hornsby Heights, \$5 incl morning tea, bring own lunch, Carolyne 9456 5316

## **Soroptimist International of**

**Hornsby** will hold a Dinner Meeting at Pennant Hills Bowling Club, 52 Yarrara Road, Pennant Hills at 6.30pm. Enq: Lily 0404 884 978

**Thursday, 7, March**

## **Mt Colah Group of the**

**Embroiderers' Guild of NSW Inc.** meets at Hornsby Heights Community Centre, Galston Rd, Hornsby Heights from 10am to 2pm. Enq: Helen 9987 4438

**Smocking Guild of NSW** meet at Dence Park Community Centre, 26 Stanley Road Epping 10am or 7pm. Our community project is making tiny smocked gowns for stillborn and premie babies for hospitals. Enq 0417 431 387 or [www.smockingguildnsw.com](http://www.smockingguildnsw.com)

## **Chai & Chat Beginners Hindi.**

Teach, speak, learn & make friends, Indian cafe style. 7 to 9pm. CCH Ministry Centre, 4/67 Jersey St Hornsby. Gold coin donation. Enq: namaste@chaiandchat.org or Teela 0432 920 259

## **Hawkesbury River Writers**

Meeting at Club Berowra 7 pm. We aim to assist and encourage the development of local writers. New writers are always welcome. Enq: Pamela 0419 909 666 or [www.hrw.org.au](http://www.hrw.org.au)

## **Hornsby-Berowra Men's Shed**

meet 9am to 12noon. We carry out projects of social benefit such as physiotherapy aids for Hornsby Hospital, a new deck for the girl guides, playground equipment for child care facilities and similar projects. New members welcome. Enq: David 0490 149 262

## **Probus Club of Berowra.**

Meeting at Uniting Church Hall, Alan Road, Berowra Heights, at 10.30am. Followed by the AGM. Morning tea. Visitors welcome. Enq: Richard 9456 5026



SEND YOUR COMMUNITY DIARY DATES TO:  
[info@thebushtele.com.au](mailto:info@thebushtele.com.au)

## **CHRISTY AND GLEN SUMMERHILL**

proudly announce the arrival of their second child **HENRY PAUL JAMES** on the 16th January 2019.

Baby brother to Callie. Proud grandparents are Dorothy & Allan Summerhill of Berowra Heights and Jean & Paul Hobbs of McMinnville, Tennessee.

**LOTS OF LOVE  
FROM BOTH FAMILIES**



## **A GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY**

Sylvia Cerny only daughter of Otto and Maya Cerny of Berowra and Bosun Reinhard Gartner of the Columbus Line (merchant navy), and second son of Paul and Hildegard Gartner of Osnabruck Germany, were married 11 February 1969 at the Holy Name Priory Wahroonga by Czechoslovakian priest Father Mika of the migrant hostel at Villawood. The ceremony was held at the Berowra home of the bride where 130 guests celebrated and danced till dawn.

To celebrate their Golden Anniversary, friends and family again gathered at their Berowra home to enjoy an elegant luncheon and wish Sylvia and Reinhard much happiness for the future.

**CONGRATULATIONS!**







Matt Kean MP & Cllr Tilbury with the Northern District Little Athletics Club.

## ACTIVE KIDS PROGRAM EXPANDED TO TWO \$100 VOUCHERS PER YEAR

The hugely popular Active Kids program will be doubled this year with two \$100 vouchers available in one calendar year to help families with the cost of living and encourage children to play more sport all year round.

Member for Hornsby **Matt Kean** MP said the expansion of the Active Kids program would mean each child was eligible for a \$100 voucher twice a year, with the key aim of helping them participate in sport in summer and winter.

"We have some of the greatest sporting groups in the State and I am pleased to be help reduce the cost for families and getting kids involved in our local clubs," he said.

In 2019 a second \$100 Active Kids voucher will be available for the six month period from 1 July to 31 December. From 2020 two \$100 Active Kids vouchers will be available from Service NSW for the entire calendar year.

The aim of the expanded program is to pay for two separate sports such as netball in winter and swimming in summer, or two separate seasons or terms of the one sport such as winter football and summer football.

To apply for the Active Kids voucher, parents can REGISTER ONLINE with Service NSW and find a registered sport or physical activity, club or organisation to use their voucher with.

More information: [sport.nsw.gov.au/activekids](http://sport.nsw.gov.au/activekids) or 13 77 88.

Source: Office of Matt Kean MP

## HELP US CLEAN UP BEROWRA!

The Berowra and District Community Association will be participating in Clean Up Australia Day again this year on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March from 9am to 12 midday.

Sign on and off at Berowra Railway Station car park (the old side). Wear closed shoes, hat, sunscreen and gloves, bring water and a snack.

Coordinator **Rae Rosten** said, "We will be cleaning up litter in the general area, and those who feel able can do the top of the Waratah Track."

Bags will be supplied.

For more information please contact 9456 2111.



### Chronic Pain Management

One in five Australians is living with chronic pain which is a significant public health concern. Due to its invisible nature, persons living with chronic pain often suffer in silence.

There are a lot of misconceptions about chronic pain and its treatment. The focus of its management should be to enable the person to undertake normal activities and to minimise the associated disability. This can be a complex task which often involves the person and their healthcare team working together.

Hornsby Heights Pharmacy is participating in a Chronic Pain Medscheck Trial. Our pharmacists can discuss any of your pain concerns and ensure that your medicines are working for you. We can work with you to gain an understanding of your pain journey and create an action plan for improvement.

If you've been experiencing chronic pain for more than three months, ask if you can receive a free Chronic Pain MedsCheck Trial service.



Alexandra Torrens,  
Pharmacist at  
Hornsby Heights  
Pharmacy

Contact Hornsby Heights Pharmacy  
on 9987 4777 for more information



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# NEW PLAYERS WELCOME AT BEROWRA RSL SUB-BRANCH YOUTH CLUB BAND

Story: Elizabeth Russell

## We are keen to welcome NEW PLAYERS to the band!

If you play an instrument such as flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, French horn, drums, percussion and you like playing in a band and performing, and have a good sense of fun, then simply turn up with your instrument and join us!

**Berowra RSL Sub-Branch Youth Club Band meets once a week on Tuesdays each school term from week 2 onwards. You can join at any point, not just the start of term!**

A highlight of the year is the end of year party when we announce the recipient of the **Anne Cosier Conductors Award**. In 2018 the recipient was one of our drummer/percussion players, **Jackson Miles**. "Jackson's efforts have positively impacted the whole ensemble and allowed us to achieve much more than we otherwise could have," said Band Conductor, **Narinder Vaccarella**.

The Berowra RSL Sub-Branch Youth Club Band which started in 1993 is a community band for children and young people aged 6 to 24. The band receives financial help from the Berowra RSL Sub-Branch and we thank them for their ongoing support. Each year the Band plays at the ANZAC day service in Berowra as well as the Long Tan service in August and at the various school fetes and at the Uniting Church Annual Fete in November.

**FIND OUT MORE – contact Elizabeth on 0401 924 123.**



L-R Anne Cosier, Jackson Miles, Narinder Vaccarella (Conductor).

## 50 YEARS IN REAL ESTATE

Story: Courtenay Morrison

Well known real estate professional, **Barry Hudson**, is a name familiar to many in the greater Hornsby area.

Barry, who is integral part of the real estate industry particularly in the Hornsby unit area, celebrated an amazing 50 years in real estate in February.

Some readers will remember Barry Hudson from when he first started his career in February 1969 at Chambers & Frewin Hornsby. He was the youngest real estate sales agent in town, after seeking to try something different from his previous job as a motor mechanic.

Barry Hudson sold his first home on the corner of Sutton Street & Galston Road Hornsby to a Mr Kelly. From there, Barry had a huge role to play in the development of most of the walk up, three level developments in Hornsby Central Business District. There aren't many buildings in Hornsby that Barry has not sold in. He still has clients come back to sell their property with him again 15, 20 even 30 years later. Some of these properties have been sold 4 or 5 times over.

Barry Hudson has worked for the Ray White organisation for 30 years. We here at **Ray White Hornsby** think he is a *bit of a legend* in the real estate industry!

Barry Hudson is a dedicated man who is an asset to not only our business but to the wider community.

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We are thrilled to announce Barry Hudson has recently achieved two significant milestones.

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## INTRODUCE YOUR KIDS TO THE WORLD OF MUSIC

Come and bring your kids and families along to the Epping Club on **SATURDAY 9TH MARCH** for the Golden Kangaroos Hornsby Concert Band's annual Meet the Band!

Starting at 10am, this is a morning of interactive and educational music making!

Kids will get to see all the different kinds of musical instruments up close, dance and sing along with the band, try out some instruments of their own, and even have a go at conducting the band!

The concert is aimed at young children from 2 to 8 years old, but kids of all ages are more than welcome to come.

Tickets are \$10, with children under 1 FREE!

Bookings are available online at [www.gks.org.au](http://www.gks.org.au). For more information, please email [contact@goldenkangaroos.org.au](mailto:contact@goldenkangaroos.org.au).

The band's next major concert is on **Sunday 7th April** at the Epping Club, so stay tuned for more details.

For more information, you can check out the band's website at the link above or follow the band at [www.facebook.com/GoldenKangaroos](https://www.facebook.com/GoldenKangaroos).



## BEROWRA COMMUNITY MARKETS THIS WEEKEND

This month the Berowra Community Markets will support the **NSW Disaster Recovery Chaplaincy Network (DRCN)**.

DRCN is an ecumenical network of chaplains established to assist people in NSW who have been affected by disasters and major emergencies within their communities.

The Chaplaincy network, complements the other welfare services within evacuation and recovery centres following major emergencies. DRCN is one of the five Community Partners co-operation to help people under the State Emergency Plan. *Some of the Chaplains were in action in the Recovery Centre established at the Berowra Community Centre in the aftermath of the hail storm.*

**When disasters strike, people are affected in every aspect of their lives** – physically, emotionally, psychologically and spiritually. *Holistic care must account for all aspects of a person's experience and need.*

As the Berowra Community does care and support very well, come and meet up with friends over a delicious Devonshire tea, listen to *Soul Impact* or browse the many market stalls.

**See you there Saturday 2nd March from 9am at Berowra Uniting Church, Alan Road, Berowra Heights.**

## TELL US YOUR STORY

*Through interviews and recordings, Tell Your Story helps paint a picture of life in Ku-ring-gai during the 20th century.*

As part of its Seniors Festival, Ku-ring-gai Council is inviting residents over 60 with an interesting life story to be part of a unique oral history project between 19 and 28 March. The Tell Your Story project began in 2017 and has been continuing since then as part of a program by local studies librarians to capture the history of long term residents of Ku-ring-gai aged over 60. The interviews – which will be held at Gordon Library between 19 and 28 March - will ultimately be added to the Library's collection of several hundred oral history recordings.

A selection of interviews with sixteen local residents has already been turned into a video on YouTube!

Tell Your Story participants have included a Gordon resident aged 91 who lived in the same street all her life; a Polish migrant who became a Soccerroo; a 94-year-old RAF pilot who was a resident of the Bradfield Park migrant camp, and a survivor of one of Hitler's concentration camps. Participants should be able to spend up to an hour discussing their memories and ideally bring mementos to illustrate their life story.

**Bookings are essential as places are limited.** To apply call Gordon Library staff on 9424 0120 or email [gordon.library@kmc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:gordon.library@kmc.nsw.gov.au)

*What a great idea, KMC! HSC take note! Ed.*

### Golden Kangaroos (Hornsby Concert Band)

**Meet the Band!** Aimed at kids of all ages. Come and explore our musical instruments All welcome.

Time: 10am

Date: 9th March 2019

Place: The Epping Club, 45 Rawson St, Epping

Tickets: \$10 with children under 1 FREE

**Tickets online: [www.gks.org.au](http://www.gks.org.au)**

For more information, please email [contact@goldenkangaroos.org.au](mailto:contact@goldenkangaroos.org.au)



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## FRONT COVER STORY



Lion Island and Broken Bay as seen from Taffy's Rock.

## TAFFY'S ROCK

Story & photos: Tim Stewart

**Most locals know about the Great North Walk that passes through our district, and many would have traversed the popular scenic section between Cowan and Brooklyn.**

Leaving Cowan train station, this part of the walk crosses the M1 motorway before descending down a gully into the back of Jerusalem Bay. The site of an old house and boatshed business, operated by George Rhodes in years gone by, now provides a sunny spot to rest before a steep scramble up the southern side of Govett Ridge brings the walker to the crest of the hill. Behind a small timber sign post, a rough footpad heads off invitingly through the scrub to the east, and for those who study the topographical map of the area, they might notice a feature about three and a half kilometres along this track named 'Taffy's Rock'.

This elevated location offers superb views towards Lion Island in Broken Bay, and down into Cowan Creek. The first inhabitants left behind a wealth of rock art in the immediate area, including a line of 40 'mundoes' across the top of this prominent rock outcrop. Early maps refer to the area as "the Lookout", whilst the current name is derived from an old plaque bolted to the vertical rock face, which reads (photo top right):

**Taffy's Rock**  
**In Memory of**  
**Dorothy (Taffy) Townson**  
**Died 8<sup>th</sup> January 1948**  
**Rucksack Club (Sydney) NSW**

According to contemporary newspaper reports, Dorothy Townson was a member of the Rucksack Club, one of the many bushwalking clubs that were active in the golden age of bushwalking between the wars, and this lofty rock outcrop was apparently her favourite spot.

In the new year of 1948, Dorothy, an unmarried 39-year old hairdresser from Murwillumbah, and two companions (Samuel Hinde and Allan Watkins) left Waldheim Chalet at Cradle Mountain in northern Tasmania to walk to Lake St Clair, along what is now arguably Australia's premier multi-day bushwalk, The Overland Track. Leaving the chalet on Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> January, they had reached Pelion hut (photo front cover) by Tuesday, where they spent the night. The party continued south on the Wednesday morning, but when Dorothy lagged behind, Samuel went back to check on her progress and found her resting. Tragically, she told him that she'd been bitten twice by a snake, almost certainly the ubiquitous tiger snake.

The press reports describe two bites on her lower right leg, with the snake

hanging on for a time after the second strike. However, Dorothy was stoic, insisting that she *felt alright*, and proudly showed her agitated companion the ligature that she had already applied to her leg. Whilst Samuel bolted madly back down the track to retrieve his medical kit, another bushwalking party from Sydney University happened upon Dorothy, and proceeded to administer an old fashioned and discredited first aid procedure, which entailed cutting the bite site with a razor blade to try and 'bleed out' the venom. She was then carried back to Pelion hut, from where a hasty rescue operation swung into action.

**In the days before personal location beacons, satellite phones, and helicopter evacuations, hikers along the track performed an amazing feat of endurance to run in relay through 40 kilometres of rugged Tasmanian scrub, and raise the alarm with Sheffield police by just 9.30pm on that same Wednesday night!**

A rescue party set out from Cradle Mountain the next morning, but the police took a wrong turn, and did not reach Pelion that day. The navigational bungle made no difference to the outcome anyway, as they met Hinde and Watkins carrying Dorothy's body back up the track the following morning. Sadly, she had succumbed to the effects of the venom during the early hours of Thursday morning, 14 hours after envenomation.

Many bushwalkers assisted in carrying Dorothy's body, wrapped in a sleeping bag on a makeshift stretcher, back to Waldheim Chalet over extremely rugged country. In the fierce heat of high summer, taking turns of just 10 minutes each, the stretcher bearers crossed two mountain ranges and several swamps. On the steep terrain, they were pulled and pushed by other hikers, and it took 16 hours to reach Cradle Mountain.

**An inquest into Dorothy's death was held the following week, and surprised no-one by concluding that she had died as the result of a snake bite! The coroner recommended that all bushwalkers should carry first aid kits, and wear leggings as protection against serpents.**

*Although Dorothy was interred in the Devonport cemetery in northern Tasmania, her spirit lives on at the lonely, windswept tor high above the Hawkesbury that now bears her name.*

\*mundoes – Tim Stewart says, "Mundoes are aboriginal rock engravings of feet, sometimes very large feet. They are thought to represent the footsteps of various spirit figures, such as Daramulan or Biaime, in Aboriginal mythology. The best examples of mundoes locally are at Mt Kuring-gai, between the highway and the railway line. There is a long line of big feet leading to a rock platform with engravings of Biaime and two of his wives."

Tim Stewart of Brooklyn is an amateur historian with a degree in Cultural Heritage. He wrote this short account about an attractive scenic spot in the bushland east of Cowan, that has a tragic background.

The information is sourced primarily from Trove's online archives of press reports. "I did attempt to contact Sydney Uni Bushwalking Club (SUBW) to see if they could confirm/deny some of the details, but to no avail," said Tim. "The 'credible' source that I quote is a well-known (in the bushwalking community) Berrilee local resident and ex-SUBW member."

Tim Stewart has a long-running project (on a volunteer basis) going with NPWS in surveying the surrounding countryside for Aboriginal art and archaeology. This involves site survey audits of previously identified Aboriginal heritage sites, as contained in the N.S.W. Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System database (aka AHIMS), updating and adding to these known sites, as well as identifying and documenting previously unreported ones.

**Photos:**(Tim Stewart, 2017).



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## LEESER SUPPORTS LOCALS IN HAILSTORM AFTERMATH

On 20 December, severe storms hit the Berowra district, with Berowra, Cowan and Berowra Heights being smashed by hail the size of golf balls. Two months later, the suburbs remain a sea of tarpaulins.

**Julian Leeson MP, Federal Member for Berowra**, delivered a speech in Parliament last week to recognise

the outstanding work of emergency services and offer support to those affected by fire, floods and storms during the recent summer period.

Mr Leeson said, "Without fail, the stories I heard from those days were of neighbours putting themselves last to make sure others had what they needed. The SES found themselves swelling in numbers as people across the community spontaneously volunteered. Trucks came from as far away as Lightning Ridge and Broken Hill to offer whatever help they could."

Mr Leeson acknowledged the extraordinary emergency service workers and volunteers. He also shared stories about the selflessness of neighbours, such as **Dennis Greene** and roofer **Michael Solomon**, who put others before themselves after the storms.

"Sometimes we are told that our communities are fragmenting and that people aren't like they used to be. The experience in Berowra is anything but that. **But we need to remember that a disaster doesn't end when the crisis is over and the news crews leave.**"

"The Federal Government has pledged support through the disaster recovery arrangements. Support will be given to people without insurance; to community groups; and to fund public assets that have been damaged. This again, will be important as the long recovery process takes place," said Mr Leeson in Parliament.



## VOLUNTEER RECOGNISED FOR CONTRIBUTION TO SURF LIFESAVING

For four decades Craig Holland has been dedicating his time to ensuring the safety of the community at the beach, traveling from his home in Mount Colah to Newport beach twice a week.

**Craig Holland of Mount Colah** (pictured right with **Matt Kean MP**) was presented with the Premiers Recognition award for 40 years

services to the community, by Member for Hornsby **Matt Kean MP**.

First joining **Newport Surf Club** in 1976, Craig has been an integral part of the club specialising in long boats. He has spent many hours maintaining boats and towing them to competitions up and down the coast.

**Matt Kean** said, "Craig has been a hard working member of the Newport team since the 70s and he deserves to be recognised for his hard work and commitment for an extensive length of time. Craig has also help providing leadership and mentoring younger members of the rowing team"

Craig is known as the quiet achiever of the club. Always in the background ready to lend a hand, offer advice to newer members or run a BBQ with the assistance of his wife **Lindy**.

"Craig and **Lindy** are special people and I am pleased to be able to honour Craig with this award," Mr Kean said.

Craig was also awarded Life Membership of Newport SLSC in 2017.

You can nominate a volunteer through the Premier's Volunteer Recognition Program at [www.volunteering.nsw.gov.au](http://www.volunteering.nsw.gov.au)



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*What the  
LOCALS  
are saying*

Dear Bush Tele,

Re: TBTW 21/2/19 "A Public

Statement from Hornsby Shire

Council"

It was reassuring to read that our

present councillors have reviewed

their own conduct, collectively and

individually, and found no evidence of

corruption.

From my knowledge of them, I have

no problem in accepting that, but their

statement highlights a major problem.

The statement claims that Council

will be able to "progress its vision".

Surely the role of a council is to reflect

the vision of the community that

elects its councillors and employs its

bureaucrats.

I wonder how many residents shared

their vision for Asquith!

The letter refers to achieving "the best

possible outcomes for the ratepayers"

but many ratepayers disputed the

necessity to demolish the CWA

building and few, if any, wanted it to

be removed.

Perhaps the next review exercise

could seek to establish means by

which the Council, elected and

employed, can establish closer

connections with the community

whose visions should be their guiding

light.

Tom Richmond, Brooklyn



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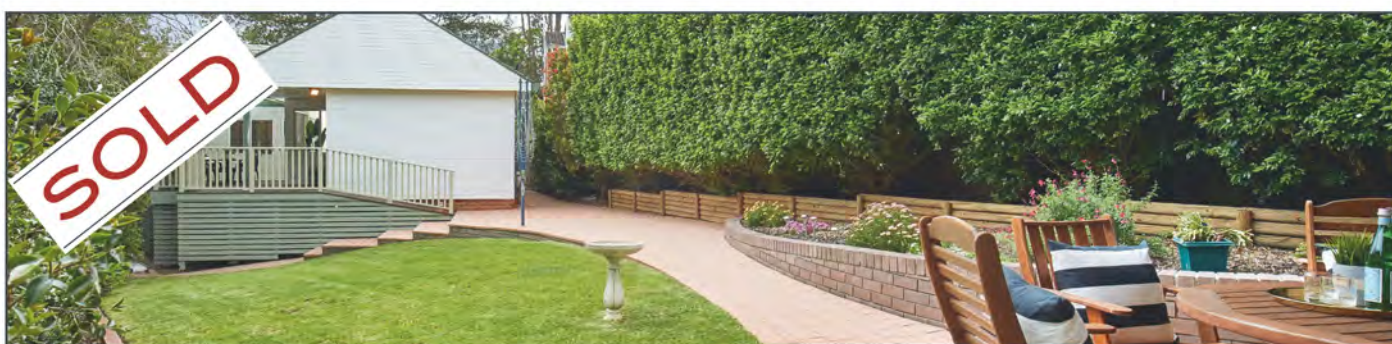
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