



We pay our respects and acknowledge all the traditional custodians of this land, the elders and the descendants, past and present



WELCOME

"All you need is love, but a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt."
Charles M. Schulz, Cartoonist

PHOTO OF THE MONTH - Greg Patterson

A late afternoon walk was topped off with an amazing sunset at Davistown. As the water glistened, the palm trees were the curtain call farewelling a warm breezy day.

Monthly Prizes for Photo of the Month Winner

Receives: \$30 voucher from Shelly's Cafe; \$10 PuppCo voucher from Jas Brewer; and a \$50 drinks or dining voucher donated by 3 Villages Community Group to spend at a local cafe or the DAVO RSL. Many thanks to our sponsors for their support of the Photo of the Month Comp.



Paula Taylor

0410 588 306

e: paulataylor@theagency.com.au

w: paulataylorproperty.com.au

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Saratoga

PROJECT REPORT

Davistown Progress Association

March saw Jenny McCulla step down as President of the Davistown Progress Association after successfully leading the group for ten years. Jenny's position has been taken up temporarily by the group's Vice President, Julie Hale. On behalf of the community, 3 VCG committee gives many thanks to Jenny McCulla for all her extremely hard work on behalf of the DPA and the community in general. Please refer to the DPA website and FB page to see all that Jenny has achieved over those years.

Seniors Luncheon at the DAVO RSL

3 VCG organised and hosted a very successful "Seniors Week" luncheon. Everyone told us they had a lovely day with some pretty slick Fred Astaire moves and remembering all the words to favourite songs.

Many thanks to committee member Tracey-Ann Gulley for coming up with the idea and organising it all, and for inviting Brisbania School Choir to sing a couple of songs to everyone's delight. (There were some beaming grandparents in the audience!) Thank you to AOK Building Services for making available many extra tickets on the day and also to DAVO RSL for providing the venue and helping with ticket sales and promotion.

Saratoga Hall

Regular and casual bookings are welcome. If you are interested in getting a game session going such as chess, backgammon, scrabble, cards etc. please get in touch.

We are also looking for a Kumon Instructor.

The interest in pickleball is growing fast with several sessions underway and more sessions to set up.

Please note, young teens can play some handball on



weekends if the hall is available, and this will be at no charge. Phone Taia on 0414 425301 for more information.

Davistown Rd - The Great Wall Garden

Tracey Ellis from BUGGS, our Bush Urban Garden Group, led a working bee at the garden opposite the telephone exchange, near the Jirramba roundabout on 24th March. The new garden had been planted just a couple of years ago by BUGGS. I must say it is looking beautiful again. Well done Tracey Ellis, Peter Sansom, Julie Hale, Kate Boni and Toni Sansom who were wonderful helpers on the day.

Taia Sansom, President, 3 VCG

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for your Annual Termite Inspection.

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**STONE**

MEET THE LOCALS

Leanne Ball



After living in Bensville for 8 years I moved to the 3 Villages community in 2017 with my family. Matt and I have been married since 1997 and have 2 daughters born in 2000 and 2003.

When the 3 Villages Community Group took over management of the Saratoga Hall in February I volunteered

to take on the role as the new Bookings Officer.

Growing up all my family played sport and we watched a lot of sport, mostly cricket in the summer and rugby league in the winter. Both our daughters played netball and soccer along with competing at high levels in athletics which we love going along to watch. I enjoy watching netball and rugby league on TV through the winter.

When our girls were 2 and 5 years old we sold our businesses, house, everything really and lived in a bus for a year travelling the east coast of Australia and spending 10 weeks in Tasmania. Now our girls are young adults my husband and I have a caravan and take short trips around NSW while planning a longer trip over to Western Australia. We are also content spending more time growing our own herbs and vegetables in our garden.

We currently have a 4 year old mini dachshund x french

bulldog called Bo. He is brindle in colour and very placid... until someone comes to the front door or he sees another dog. The nature of the dachshund being loyal, a good guard dog and small dog syndrome willing to tussle with the bigger dogs.

The people that live in this area make this area wonderful. We live in a cul-de-sac and have drinks with all the neighbours in the street every 2 months to chat, catch up and have some nibbles. It's a perfect place to live away from the busy main road, surrounded by water with local shops and cafes to enjoy.

There is so much to do on the Central Coast on your day off from daffodil picking, orange picking, food markets or a trip to Laycock St Theatre. All my family live locally so also enjoying the local sport, pub meals or a birthday gathering by the water helping to support local.

Something people might not know about me is that after finishing high school I lived overseas for a year. Even though I was accepted into Uni for teaching (I come from a family of teachers) upon returning to Australia I ended up studying Hospitality Management at Tafe and also received my Commercial Cooks Certificate. These days you will find me in the admin and bookkeeping space (and even back at Tafe still learning).

I am happy to be part of the 3 Villages Community Group and look forward to being involved in some upcoming local projects.



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BOWLS FOR YOUNG AND OLD

The Davistown RSL Bowling Club is hidden behind the Davo and is set amongst manicured gardens. There are water views and a cooling breeze on hot summer days, and let's not overlook the availability of a cool beverage. It's no wonder they are celebrating their 50th birthday! Bowls is played on most days of the week at Davistown where you can see members enjoying the benefits of a relaxed paced game in the fresh air with friends, not to mention enjoying the social gatherings after the game. It has to be the easiest way to make new friends in a safe environment.

Bowls is on for young and old! While it is often portrayed as a sport for the 'oldies', it is not well known that the average age of the Australian Bowls Team is younger than the Australian Cricket Team. Bowls is a healthy exercise which can be played by almost anyone of any age. It is truly an all-inclusive sport. Players may be at the club having fun, but there is also a competitive side to the sport. There are club championships and the opportunity to represent the club in local and State Championships. Bowls is even played at the Commonwealth Games. (Just wait 'til it's an Olympic sport!)

The Davo Bowling Club regularly hosts groups of High School students and, in 2024, they are establishing a Young Bowler Group. This is a fantastic opportunity to get young people off their mobile phones or computers and get them into the fresh air. Parents would be happy to know that bowls is, of course, a no-contact, low-impact, and low-cost sport. For under 18's membership is free at the club, including free registration with Bowls NSW. The club provides a free shirt and hat and provides the bowls for the kids to learn. Training days are Saturday mornings and one weekday after school. Lawn Bowls is an easy game to learn and the members at the club would love to show newbies how. Everyone is welcome. If you are interested, please contact either Freddy Dowse on 0418 251 238 or Ariane Dixon on 0419 693 871.

Visit the website:

www.davistownrsl.bowls.com.au

Follow us on



COLLECTION POINT FOR OLD PHONES

Support our cause! Donate your old mobile phones now.

Our local Rotary Club has a new project which is to collect old mobile phones. This is not to remove the valuable parts for sale but it is to repurpose them for a community use. The phones are sent to a professional organisation who ensures that all data is removed from the phone.

Blooms The Chemist at Saratoga Shopping Village has agreed to be the drop-off point for the 3 Villages area. So here's a chance to finally get rid of those old mobile phones in the drawer and do something worthwhile with them.

Consider Joining Rotary

Our local Rotary Club is in its 40th year and among its achievements have been the original organiser of the Putt-Putt Regatta, the 4 Villages - Shipbuilders Heritage Walk and the Shipbuilders Memorial path from Kincumber to Davistown. It has been involved in many more activities locally, nationally and internationally.

For rewarding and impactful experiences consider joining Rotary.

Rotary meets every Monday night at the Davistown RSL

For more information regarding Rotary phone:

Membership:

Fraser McBride
0416 831 088

President:

Margaret Neal
0412 370 732

*Peter Rea
Projects
Director
Rotary
Kincumber*



VOLUNTEER MENTORS REQUIRED

Seeking volunteer Mentors at KINCUMBER HIGH SCHOOL for Year 10 Students.

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WHAT'S ON

APRIL

13th Sat. **Central Coast Regional Show**
14th Sun. 10am - Gosford Showground
Showground Road, Gosford.

14th Sun. **History Ferry Tour - Brisbane Water**
areahistorytours.com.au Ph: 0418 631 313

21st Sun. **History Ferry Tour - Broken Bay / Hawkesbury**
areahistorytours.com.au Ph: 0418 631 313

25th Thu. **Tuff Nutterz at Glenworth Valley**
28th Sun. Australia's most epic inflatable obstacle course.

26th Fri. **GloTopia**
27th Sat. Over 60 Giant illuminated features,
LED & Fire Performers, unlimited rides,
snow bubbles music and more.
Entertainment Grounds, Gosford.

MAY

2nd Thu. **History Ferry Tour - Brisbane Water**
areahistorytours.com.au Ph: 0418 631 313

4th Sat. **Star Wars Trivia Night**
May the Fourth be with You - at the DAVO

4th Sat. **Secret Comedy Club at Gosford**
Bay Road Brewing, Gosford - 7.30-10pm

5th Sun. **Taste the Coast Food Festival**
Entertainment Grounds, Gosford - 12-5pm

5th Sun. **Central Coast Kids Day Out 2024**
Kariang Mountains High School - 10am-3pm

11th Sat. **Coast Race Day**
Entertainment Grounds, Gosford - 10.30am-5pm

11th Sat. **Pseudo Echo - Machine Tour 2024**
12th Sun. Drifters Wharf

11th Sat. **Luminescence**
Central Coast House Music Collective.
Naughty Noodle Funhouse Factory, Gosford.

12th Sun. **Mothers Day High Tea**
Crowne Plaza, Terrigal - 12.30-2.30pm

18th Sat. **Terrigal Antique and Vintage Fair**
Lions Club Community Hall, E. Gosford - 9am-3pm

19th Sun. **Central Coast Chilli Festival**
Memorial Park, The Entrance - 10am-3pm.

25th Sat. **Central Coast Air Show**
12th Sun. Warnervale Airport - 9am-6pm

29th Wed. **Central Coast Words**
3rd Mon. **on the Waves Writers Festival**
(Jul.) A celebration of words and ideas
set on the scenic Central Coast

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS FUN

Moonlight Cinema

19. Apr
\$10



www.davistownrsl.com.au

Plaster Painting

Tue 23. Apr
\$10



"Trees hard as iron, rock as soft as butter"

So an early colonist wrote back to his English family. Robert Henderson knew about this. On the plateau high above Veteran Hall Wharf, named for the land grant he inherited, there is an old ironbark tree that escaped the final axe despite deep cuts because it was "hard as iron". The well named ironbarks are used for slabs in huts, for bridges, piers, wharves, ship building, railways sleepers and in mining for wall supports in mining tunnels. On the other hand, in September 1869, Henderson easily quarried the "soft as butter" sandstone on Mt Pleasant to erect a wall around his family cemetery in Henderson Rd to protect the dearly departed from the curiosity of the wild

Cont. Page 6



Adam CROUCH MP

Member for Terrigal

Parliamentary Secretary for the
Central Coast



02 4365 1906



terrigan@parliament.nsw.gov.au



adamcrouchmp.com.au



[adamcrouchmp](https://www.instagram.com/adamcrouchmp)

How I Can Support You

My friendly team and I are always happy to support you in matters relating to the Central Coast.

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| ✓ Emergency Services | |

Authorised by Adam Crouch MP, Shop 3 Fourtan Plaza, 148-158 The Entrance Road, Erina NSW 2250, funded with parliamentary entitlements.

SCHOOLS



Green Point Christian College Welcomes New Principal

Green Point Christian College welcomes new Principal, Mr Joel van Bentum. Joel commenced working at GPCC in January 2024 following fourteen years in various roles as part of NT Christian Schools in the Northern Territory. During his tenure he held the roles of Principal of Transforming Training, a Registered Training Organisation catering to both secondary students and adults. Principal of NT Christian College, a multi-campus senior secondary college serving students in five campus' across the breadth of the NT, and Principal of Marrara Christian College, a Preschool to Year 12 Christian College in Darwin.

Joel has extensive training and experience as an educator, holding a Bachelor of Human Movement and Health Education from the University of Sydney and a

Master of Education (Leadership) from the National Institute for Christian Education. He has over 20 years experience in various educational roles from PDHPE teacher, Year advisor, Faculty Coordinator, Head of School and various Principal roles.

Joel is passionate about holistic Christian Education that seeks to support every student to find the gifts and talents that God has given them and to see them stretched and developed in those gifts. He is also committed to seeing parents equipped in their God given roles and to support them in partnership in supporting and forming young people.



from Page 5

pigs. Just two months later, he was buried there.

The ironbark in the photo, along with a yellow bloodwood, cool the White's and Retter's homes in Steyne Road in summer by five degrees or more. An arborist told them it is the biggest spreading

ironwood on the Central Coast, its girth being 5.5 m, height maybe 25 m or more. A photo in the Gosford Library, from the very early 1900s, shows the tree as a young sapling. Rosellas now nest in a hollow in the grand old tree. A nesting hollow that big also tells us the tree is at least 120 years old. Trees need to be 300 years old to have hollows big enough for the big cockatoos, so the cockies we see are probably old – they live as long as we do – and they may not be making babies to replace themselves.

The tree was already more than a sapling when the mayor of Strathfield had his lovely Federation-style home built as a holiday house. The Whites moved into the house in 1983 and, when they pulled up the linoleum, they found a copy of The Sun dated 8 December, 1919. It cost one penny. So perhaps that indicates the age of their house. It was built a few doors down from a large guesthouse called Earls Court. Holiday makers would come by boat to a wharf and swimming pool below the house at a little beach also known as Earls Court beach. The guesthouse burned down in 1924 but its track down to the water is still mowed by Council.

Helen Gould

Image: Dr Andrew White, hugging tree

Image: Jennifer Hartich



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