



We pay our respects and acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land, the Darkinjung people, and also pay respect to Elders both past and present.

PRODUCED BY 3 VILLAGES COMMUNITY GROUP Inc. VOLUNTEERS



### March Photo of the Month

#### Jennifer Hartich

Mother Nature at her best. So lucky to come across these beautiful spiderwebs whilst out walking with the Amblers on the Davistown Bike track. Perfectly formed circles suspended between the long grass. They looked like satellite dishes to me.

Jennifer is the lucky winner of a \$30 voucher from Shelly's Cafe, and a \$20 voucher from Jas Art Photography, for whom we thank so much for their support of the 3 Villages Newsletter.

### WELCOME

Happy March, everyone! And welcome to Autumn - my second favourite season of the year.

We hope you all enjoy our new and improved newsletter, we have been so excited to get it out to you all and hope you love it as much as we do! We've been able to include a lot more content and we are so appreciative of the feedback we have received so far.

It feels so wonderfully strange to be back to a somewhat normal life, considering Covid is still devastating so many parts of our planet. I have a lot of clients in the US and the UK who haven't left their homes for months, and

long to be in Australia where we are currently the envy of the world. We are so incredibly lucky to be in the position we are in, and the way it has brought so many communities together has been truly humbling.

I'm going to finish off with a quote, which I hope will help bring a smile or some motivation to those who need it.

"People who wonder if the glass is half empty or full miss the point. The glass is refillable." – Unknown

Stay positive and keep smiling!

Love and light,

Ally Adamson

Media and Communications Team Leader



## PROJECT REPORT

The 3VCG is run by volunteers, who work to enhance 3 villages of Yattalunga, Saratoga & Davistown. Through grant funding, sponsorship & fundraising we aim to increase funding to our shared community spaces. There's lots of work being done, if you're wondering how you can support us we have some options below-;

### MEMBERSHIP

We work with the council, and government to get funding into the community. In order to have a stronger influence it is important that we increase our paid membership numbers. We currently have 1700 followers on Facebook but only 43 paid up members. Our monthly Newsletter goes to the 3000 houses / 7000 residents of the 3 villages and is delivered by volunteers. In addition to preparing the newsletter the Committee of 10 individuals works hard to represent the area, to local, state and federal governments, and others but this role would be made much easier if we could say we were truly representing a large number of members. Members have the opportunity to have a say in what projects the 3VCG prioritises and how any funds raised are spent within the community. Annual Cost of Membership is \$10 plus \$5 joining fee. In order to encourage membership we are currently waiving the \$5 joining fee & your membership will go for 15 months, until June 2022.

### VOLUNTEERS

After successfully launching the 3VCG last year we have some exciting plans for this year. From the community garden to Jirramba playground upgrade, as well as art and community projects there is always lots happening in the background for the committee. However, we can only do so much. We would like to invite more interested members of the community to come and help and volunteer sometime on projects of interest. There are several ways you can help, are you a local trade or run a local trade business, do historical and/or ordinary research, assist with art projects, marketing, events, grant writing; there are so many ways & opportunities to get involved. We are hosting a volunteers info night at the Davo RSL- 31st March at 6pm (follow our facebook page for more details). Community members are welcome to come by, ask questions, learn about our projects and learn

## THE BELLS AND WHISTLES

### RILEY'S ISLAND, BRISBANE WATERS

In 1827 John Riley (born in London circa 1811) was imprisoned and given the death sentence for stealing a hat and handkerchief. He was just 16 or 17 years old, 4'11 inches tall and was to be hanged. But instead, he was transported to Australia, aboard the Phoenix. Serving under Mr Jenkins at Pittwater, John gained his pardon in 1842. Although married previously, he moved North and in 1843, married Margaret Costigan (d 1895) at East Gosford. Their children were Ellen, James and Thomas.

In 1855 John purchased Shell Island, (now Riley's Island), a 45 ha parcel of land, covered in swamp oak, from Robert Henderson for 140 pounds, 17 shillings & sixpence. Taking a shovel and mattock, he laboriously cleared the land, built his home and farm which included banana trees, corn, potatoes and cows. The corn was taken to Windsor and ground into flour, with plain old seaweed used for fertiliser.

Although John could not read or write, he began to build ships around the 1860's. In 1883, he built Bell Bird, a 70' ketch with two masts and a round stern, designed to carry timber up and down the coast. Another similar ketch was Maggie Riley, built by James, his son. So, another boat building family.

John's youngest son, Thomas, married Suzannah Frost in 1885 at the Catholic Church, Kincumber South and had 10 children. Unfortunately, John Riley passed away, two weeks after the wedding, the story being from contaminated wine served at the wedding. Thomas died in 1906 and Suzannah in 1928.

### project report cont.

about how you might like to become involved. We all love our 3 Villages & want it to be the best community it can be. By becoming part of the 3VCG volunteers you're putting back into your community and making a real difference to where we live.

For more info on both volunteering and membership please visit our website <https://www.3villages.com.au> or scan this QR code:

*Monique Roy*



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### CURRENT OPENING HOURS

DINNER from 5:30pm

Thursday, Friday + Saturday

LUNCH – Midday-3:00pm

Thursday, Friday, Saturday + Sunday

SUNDAY HAPPY HOUR

3:30pm-5.30pm

### THURSDAY DINNER

2 Courses \$48 . 3 Courses \$58

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In 1946, Donald Daisley, from Daley's Point, purchased the Island for 11,000 pounds and lived there with his family and two sisters. He made improvements like holiday accommodation, tidal swimming baths and grass tennis courts. So

many great times and lots of fun activities were had.

In the 1960's, Hooker Rex had a vision to build a bridge from Riley's Island to St Hubert's Island and build canals and houses. However, after an environmental battle in the late 70's, after St Hubert's had been developed, council stopped further development and Riley's Island was purchased by the NSW government. Since 1989 Riley's Island has been administered by NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service as a Wildlife Sanctuary & Nature Park.

*Taia Sansom*

## meet the locals cont.

### **What's your favourite thing about the 3 Villages Community?**

I love how friendly everyone is when you pass by, often saying hello. I also love how we have everything on our doorstep - the beautiful waterways, awesome coffee and food options and great health & beauty services.

### **Tell us something about yourself that people might not know.**

I have a Diploma in Counselling, but I've never practiced as a counsellor. I just like to lend a sympathetic ear.

**Paula Taylor**  
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Property Partner  
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**Adam CROUCH MP**  
State Member for Terrigal

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## MEET THE LOCALS

### **How long have you lived in the 3 villages community?**

I was born here, and lived in Saratoga until I was 21. I attended Brisbania Public School and later studied at Gosford High School. I then moved to London and Sydney, and came back to Saratoga in 2018. So I guess 24 years all up!



### **Are you a mum or grandparent?**

I am a mum to two awesome little boys.

What's your role in the community? I'm a local small business owner, running my own marketing and social media agency from home. I'm also part of the local primary school community, as my oldest son goes to Brisbania.

### **Do you have a favourite spot within the 3 Villages?**

Too many to count! My favourite coffee spot is Shelly's, favourite place to hang out with the family is the Davistown waterfront, and Saratoga Oval is great for a kick around with the kids.

### **Are you or have you ever been a member of any local clubs?**

I played netball for the Davistown Netball Club until I was a teenager. Now I'm just a member of the Davo RSL.

### **What are your hobbies or interests?**

Yoga at The Sanctuary in Kincumber, gym classes with Landete Health, cooking, reading (and posting my book reviews on Instagram) and I've just started getting into stand up paddle-boarding.

### **Do you have any pets?**

Three goldfish called Cuddle, Mug and Grug (can you guess who named them? It certainly wasn't me!)

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Ask for Peter or Andy.



## SEE YOU AT THE DAVO

### DAVISTOWN RSL BOWLING CLUB

The Davistown RSL Bowling Club was formed on the 23rd of August 1973 with a membership of 93. The Club was affiliated with the RNSWBA in 1973.

The first clubhouse was a tin shed with a liquor license on land owned by the Davistown RSL in Murna Road, Davistown. The first green came into play in 1974 and a second green was added in 1976.

In 1986 the club occupied a new clubhouse that was built by members adjacent to the greens. In 1991 this clubhouse was destroyed by fire and the Club was housed in the Davistown RSL Club premises.

In late 2017 I began thinking about what I could do once I retired. I had been involved in sports, mainly Rugby League, for nearly 60 years. I contacted a club member, who organised for me to meet one of the Club coaches, and from that point I was hooked. The only thing I regret is that I didn't make the decision to try bowls many years earlier.

The Club is always looking for new members. To assist new bowlers, the Club has a number of coaches willing to help any new members with the basics of the game.

The Club caters for bowlers of all abilities. For the competitive bowler, the Club enters a number of teams in the Zone 15 Pennant competition. The teams then play a 10 week season against other clubs on the coast. For the social bowler there are numerous days throughout the week to play in a relaxed atmosphere.

Bowls is one of the few sports where all family members can play with each other – no matter the age. You will not regret trying bowls. For more information, please contact – Bowling Club direct – 4363 0135 (if unattended please leave a message).

Webpage – [davistownrsl.com.au](http://davistownrsl.com.au) which has a link to [davistownrsl.bowl.com.au](http://davistownrsl.bowl.com.au) which has a link to the Bowls Club Facebook page. Hope to see you on the green.

*Warren Reekie – Club Coach*



## WHAT'S ON

### 14th March 9am-2pm

Davistown Waterfront Markets Sunday

### Friday 19th March 7pm

Ocean Film Festival Tour Avoca Beach Cinema "At the Ocean Film Festival World Tour our vision is to inspire you to explore, respect, enjoy, and protect our oceans. The film is at the heart of the Ocean Film Festival World Tour and we aim to share the best films from around the globe with our audiences."

### 19th February - 28th March

Central Coast Art Society - Summer Exhibition  
Gosford Regional Art Gallery



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## SCHOOLS



### BRISBANIA

As the 422 students of Brisbania PS entered the school gates for the first time this year they were surprised and delighted to be greeted by new and bright pavement games that are located throughout the grounds. A Yarning Circle can be found where new and old friends can sit and share stories. A fitness circuit is located on the bottom playground for a little bit of huff and puff. A counting crocodile, alphabet caterpillar, mirrors, snakes and ladders are all being used and enjoyed. All the games help our students in their social/emotional development of confidence, persistence, resilience, organisation and getting along while playing and learning together.

Thank you to Miss Parrey, our Principal, and her executive team for making a very bright and colourful start to 2021.



### GREEN POINT CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Recently we held our Secondary School Thanksgiving and Academic Assembly to celebrate the efforts of our students in 2020.

Awards presented included Academic, Sustained Effort and Application, 2020 NSW School of Languages High Academic Achievement, Sydney Distance Education High School Academic Achievement, and Australian Indigenous Ministries Boys and Girls Mission Trips from 2020.

Outstanding 2020 HSC Results were awarded to:  
Nomination for ONSTAGE: Jemilla H, Emma H  
Nomination and selection for ARTEXPRESS: Alex M  
Dux of the College for 2020: Cody B  
Principal's Cup: Anthea D (Year 12)

The Criteria for the Principal's Cup is awarded to a student who most typifies the goals we have as a school for our students. This is a person who exhibits Godly character, a committed learner in all circumstances, is creative and learning how to think critically, who is socially engaged with their relationships characterised by service to and care for others.

Congratulations to all the recipients of awards for your outstanding efforts.

*Mrs Justine Collins,  
Communications and Events Officer*



Above Left: (right to left) Head of Secondary, Mr Peter McLellan with recipients of our special awards - Emma H, Jemilla H, Anthea D, Cody B and Alex M

Above: Principal, Mr Phillip Nash presenting 2020 Dux of School Award to Cody B

Left: Principal, Mr Phillip Nash presenting Principal's Cup to Anthea D (Year 12)



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## HISTORY

Since the 3 Villages Newsletter commenced publication, we have talked about our maritime heritage and that the Brisbane Water was THE major area for shipbuilding on the entire east coast of Australia.

This beginning in the 1820s when

the first ship, Sarah, was built by Robert Henderson at Veteran Hall, Saratoga. Over the next 120 years, 500 wooden Australian registered ships were constructed in the Brisbane Water district. Many more ships were built as island traders and went off into the Pacific without their construction being recorded with Australian registration.

Four sons of William Davis; Ben, Thomas, Rock and Edward all became shipwrights establishing their shipyards along Cockle Creek Channel, there were so many of the family in the area, some wag called the place Davistown, and the name stuck.

Prior to this, ships were being constructed in the Cockle (Kincumber) Broadwater, one of the first shipyards being Jonnathan Piper's adjacent to the current suburb of Yattalunga. The first vessel built by Piper was the ketch *Ada*, built in 1844. The shipyards extended to the upper reaches of Kincumber Creek, where George Frost had his yard, near today's Frost Reserve sports ground. On the opposite bank of the creek was where the 170 year shipbuilding tradition effectively ended when Warren Yachts moved manufacturing to Queensland after building a succession of multi-million dollar luxury vessels like 'Aussie Rules' built for golfer, Greg Norman.

Following the dawn of the new century our local Rotary Club led a community project to mark this maritime history by establishing the Shipbuilders Memorial along the new waterfront pathway from Kincumber to Davistown. About the same time Rotary began thinking about an annual event along this path called the 4 Villages Walk.

Over the year's the popularity of the 4 Villages Walk fluctuated, the plug was finally pulled on the event in 2017 with a recommendation to suspend the event entirely. This prospect brought on a re-think by local supporters, so the next year the event returned with a new theme.

The focus was firmly on the maritime heritage of the area, with historical displays along the route of the Walk. This proved very popular, so building on this success, the 2019 event added 'Shipbuilders Heritage' to the original title of '4 Villages Walk' and the number of participants walking continued to increase significantly. The event, however, was de-railed during the Covid affected year of 2020.

Now for 2021 the focusing on the local shipbuilding will continue, with five traditionally constructed wooden models typical of the different types of sailing ships built in the local area being displayed. These have been specially built for the 4V-SHW by the Sydney Model Shipbuilders Club, which is

supported by the National Maritime Museum, Darling Harbour. Kincumber Mens Shed has built display cases that will mount specially produced art and information.

Other *Mens Sheds* involvement includes *Terrigal*, who will unveil a superb 1.8 m log model of the *Krait* built from the actual timbers taken from the real *Krait* during a recent refit. *Central Coast Model Makers* will have a number of displays including the USS Saratoga and Davistown's *Codock II* ferry.

There will be an historical machinery exhibition, while the Transport theme is being expanded with a planned big display of classic vehicles.

Also planned is:

- A Big Red Double Decker Bus to take walkers on a free ride back to their cars. kids of all ages should enjoy this!
- History boat tours on Cockle Channel to the Broadwater.
- Craft Stalls.

So come and celebrate your heritage 2nd May

Peter Rea - [shipbuildersheritagewalk.com.au](http://shipbuildersheritagewalk.com.au)

Pictured: Three of the beautifully handcrafted models built especially for the 4V-SHW, 2021



## COMPUTER AND TECHNOLOGY PROBLEMS?

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