



PHOTO OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to this month's
WINNER!

Julie Davis

Captured in the early-morning fog at Cockle Channel, Davistown, the image showcases the peaceful atmosphere and natural beauty of our local waterways.

Thanks to our sponsors for donating the following prizes:

\$30 voucher – Village Cafe Co.

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QUOTES OF THE MONTH

"How beautiful a day can be when kindness touches it!" — George Elliston.

"It's easy to make a buck. It's a lot tougher to make a difference." — Tom Brokaw.

FUN FACT: Fairy floss (cotton candy) was invented by a dentist, Dr. William Morrison of Nashville, in 1897.



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DAVISTOWN RD/AVOCA DR ROUNDABOUT TRAFFIC

The 3 Villages Community Group has some positive news to share following recent advocacy by Adam Crouch MP, Member for Terrigal, and Taia Sansom, President of 3 VCG. While government processes often take time, it is encouraging that Transport for NSW has finally undertaken its first formal review of the traffic issues at this intersection.

Since its review, Transport for NSW has confirmed it is investigating ways to improve traffic flow at the Avoca Drive and Davistown Road roundabout, and after reviewing traffic camera footage and inspecting the intersection at peak hour, they have identified one of the main causes of congestion is that of vehicles turning into Beatties Road, with traffic queues backing up along Davistown Road.

As a result, Transport for NSW is now investigating a number of minor improvements that could help reduce congestion and improve traffic flow.

While there is currently no funding allocated for a major upgrade, the intersection has now been identified for consideration as part of future funding opportunities.

With Davistown Road being the only road in and out of The Three Villages, improving traffic flow remains a key priority, and we will continue advocating for practical solutions and essential funding to improve this intersection and keep the community updated as further progress is made.

*Taia Sansom,
President, 3 VCG
Ph 0414 425301*

MITZI SELF

In 2005, Kevin and I moved from the UK to Australia with our 10-month-old son through my teaching qualifications as an Assistant Principal. After six months with Kevin's family in Windsor, we wanted to be closer to the coast. We found Saratoga from driving around, and after settling here, have proudly called it home ever since.

We were immediately drawn to the friendly community, picturesque Brisbane Water and easy access to stunning beaches. I began casual teaching at Brisbania, Empire Bay and Terrigal Public Schools. I also ran the Saratoga Superstars Playgroup at St Bede's, where I met many wonderful local families.

Brisbania Public School has been my professional home ever since. I've been fortunate to work as Sports Coordinator and relieving Assistant Principal while teaching children from Saratoga, Davistown and Yattalunga. One of the highlights has been watching many of those children grow up and, **cont. P 3**



Above: Adam Crouch MP giving a "Notice of Motion" on the traffic issue in NSW Parliament - March 2026

**3 VILLAGES
NEWS**

Editor: Taia Sansom
Graphic Design: Peter Rea
Layout Assistance: Dora Rea



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MEET THE LOCALS



Above: Mitzi Self, Sports Coordinator and relieving Assistant Principal from P2

in some cases, later teaching their younger siblings.

Our family grew with the arrival of our daughter and second son, and becoming Australian citizens was a proud milestone.

When not teaching, you'll usually find me cheering on our children at sport, walking our dog Alfie around Saratoga, spending time on the water or enjoying our local cafés and beaches. We love coffee at Olive and meals from Oriental Concept or Fred & Mags. After more than 20 years on the Central Coast, I still feel incredibly grateful to be part of such a caring and welcoming community.

*Story and photo:
Sue Garling, Saratoga*



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DAVO' RSL AMATEUR FISHING CLUB

Davistown RSL Fishing Club June Competition

The Davistown RSL Amateur Fishing Club's mid-winter competition didn't disappoint, with cool, wet and windy conditions greeting competitors. Despite the weather, 25 keen Davo fishers headed out in search of a winning catch.

In the estuary competition, all sub-juniors fished hard, with everyone finishing on equal points. Jimmy Kalimeris claimed the Men's Veterans honours, while Jenny McRae took out the Ladies division with a beautiful 85cm flathead measured on the brag mat before being safely released to fight another day.

The Men's Estuary competition produced a close father-and-son contest, with Billy Splatt narrowly getting the points over dad Jason.

The deep-sea competition was eagerly contested, with Adam Overton finishing as top rod in the Men's division, while Jenny McRae added another win by taking out the Ladies category.

In the Rock and Beach competition, Ian Henderson claimed the points ahead of Col "The Stingray" Farr.

The Davistown RSL Fishing Club fishes on the weekend of the first Sunday of every month, with weigh-ins at 2:30 pm on Sunday at Davistown RSL Club. New members are always welcome and you can get in touch on Ph 4363 0199.

*Story and photo:
Simon Cole, President*



Above: Fraser Carey proud of his award.



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BRISBANIA CRICKET TEAM – WINNERS!

Congratulations to our Cricket Team who have just won their game against Bateau Bay. The score was 26/27, with us just losing 2 wickets.

Formidable game play by all the boys, but special mention goes to Kai, Finn and Siaki for their catches out and Harrison and Hamish for their bowling out.

Player of the match goes to Barney for his multiple catches out and consistent strength throughout the game!

Thank you to Steve Rogers for his umpiring and coaching and to Wendy Bridge for her expert scoring. Also, a big thank you to all the families who supported us today. We now progress through to the next round to play Copacabana PS.

What a fantastic way to end Term 2, well done boys!



Source: *Brisbania Public School*
Facebook



BEARS FOR CARE

On Monday 29th June 2026, a group of six girls from our GPCC primary 'Yarn Club' had the wonderful opportunity to visit Gosford Hospital to deliver Bears for Care.

For months, the dedicated members of the club have been working tirelessly, pouring their hearts into sewing beautiful teddies and hand-crocheting vibrant scarves.

The girls visited the Children's Ward with a simple mission: to bring joy and bless the young patients with these handmade treasures. The gifts were a massive hit; many of the older children in the hospital were absolutely delighted to accept a teddy to use as a "signing bear" for their visitors and doctors. We pray that these heartfelt gifts will bring comfort, smiles, and hope to the patients during their stay. This special visit was a beautiful reflection of our school mission, which is to serve our local community with genuine compassion and to put our faith into action.

Story and photo:
Christina Hutchinson



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HERITAGE – MORE ON OUR SHIPBUILDERS

In past 'Heritage' articles we have dealt with the history of Jonathan Piper who established Brisbane Water's first major shipyard at Yattalunga and how he apprenticed the four orphaned Davis brothers. After learning the trade the brothers established their own ship yards about two kms south on Cockle Creek. Because of the number of Davis brothers, their wives and all the children there, some wag dubbed the area Davistown and the name stuck.

Two other shipwrights built ships on the Kincumber Broadwater at Saratoga, only a short distance south of Piper's Yard. One was John Booth who was born near London in 1822 arriving in New South Wales in 1838, he also was taught his trade by Jonathan Piper. The first ship built under Booths name was a ketch called *Prosperous*

launched in 1846. He went on to build ten more ships at the Saratoga yard and the last being another ketch called *Frolic* in 1853.

Booth also owned considerable property at Balmain including the Balmain Steam Sawmills which were under-insured when destroyed by fire in 1874. He recovered from the significant financial hardship which followed and successfully reestablished the business.

He served as local Alderman and became the first Mayor of Balmain in 1867. John Booth and wife Susannah had a total of 11 children, he died in 1898 aged 76.

Pre-dating this, either on or very close to the Booth works, farmer and sawyer William Woodward built two ships, a cutter *Currency Lass* and a ketch *Favourite* in 1843 and 1849 respectively. One of William Woodward's sons, William James Woodward who was born and raised among the shipyards on the shores of Brisbane Water and apprenticed to Benjamin Davis. When he began building ships himself, his first yard was virtually on the same site where both his father and John Booth had at different periods constructed their ships.

It is recorded that William James Woodward opened his yard 'for building ships and boats' in 1875, his father built his first ship in 1843 and John Booth had his operations there from 1846 until 1853. Probably due to all the usable timber having been felled, W. J. Woodward moved his yard to Green Point in 1886 where he built four more ships.

While it is impossible to say precisely where each of the works were, aerial photographs show two deep holes in the shallow intertidal area that were probably dredged deep enough for launching the ships. One is adjacent to the site of Piper's yard, while the other is approximately where other workings were, all three probably used the same launching site during the times each operated between 1843 to 1884.

Celebrate Our Maritime Heritage Peter Rea
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Above: Corey Vogt proudly showing off the Lego® Day Banner

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22 AUG

DAVISTOWN RSL



WHAT'S ON

AUGUST 2026	
Sat 2nd	Social Dance Featuring RareTreats 6.30pm – Saratoga Community Hall – Kyeema Ave
Sun 3rd	The Great Elvis Spectacular Tribute Show 3pm – Avoca Beach Theatre
Tues 4th	MakerSpace Skills – Design Tech Introducing Basic Digital Design Tools 1 - 3pm – Gosford Regional Library
Thurs 6th	MakerSpace: Crochet Foundations for Beginners Work basic stitches like chain and single crochet 5.30 - 7pm – Gosford Regional Library
Sat 8th	"No Static at All" Tribute Show The Songs of 'Steely Dan' – Featuring 'The Kites' 7.30pm – Avoca Beach Theatre
Tues 11th Wed 12th	The Bugalugs Bum Thief A bum-tastic adventure to uncover the mystery of the missing bums of Bugalugs! A whimsical journey. Various Session Times – The Art House, Wyong
Thurs 13th	Open Doors: MakerSpace Skills: Cricut Unpack the wonders of the Cricut vinyl machines 1 - 3pm – Gosford Regional Library
Fri 21st	Lloyd Langford – Okay, I Believe You Professional Stand-up Comedian 8pm – The Art House, Wyong
Fri 21st	A Tribute to 'The Delltones' featuring two former members 2pm – Avoca Beach Theatre
Sat 22nd	LIVE BABY LIVE, INXS Tribute Show 8.30pm – Davistown RSL Club
Sun 23rd	Live & Original – Joe Camilleri, 'The Black Sorrows' 7.30pm – Avoca Beach Theatre
Sun 23rd	"Mr Snot Bottom" A show for all ages A Stinky Silly Show full of Gross Laughs 2pm – Davistown RSL Club
Tues 25th	Anh Do – The Happiest Refugee Live! Laugh and cry with one of Australia's most talented comedians 7.30pm The Art House, Wyong
Sun 30th	A Tribute show – The Music of Lennon & McCartney 1.30pm – Avoca Beach Theatre
Markets	Avoca Beachside Markets – Every 4th Sunday 9am-2pm CC Farmers Markets – Gosford Showground 7am Sundays

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