

# Our Own News





## UPCOMING EVENTS

### JAN

16 JAN-15 FEB 'STEPPING INTO THE DAY & NIGHT'  
EXHIBITION—FIRESHED GALLERY P5

MON 26TH - AUST DAY FAMILY PICNIC & PLAY DAY,  
WOLLOMBI TENNIS CLUB 12:30PM—All welcome! P6

### FEB

SUN 8th—PICKLEBALL GAME —WOLLOMBI TENNIS CLUB  
AT 4PM - P6

14TH—'TAINTED' BURLESQUE SHOW, THE BARN P6

MON 23RD —WOLLOMBI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
GENERAL MEETING & COMMUNITY DINNER 5-9PM  
MYRTLE & STONE P4

SAT 21 FEB—WOLLOMBI CERAMIC GROUP EXHIBITON –  
FIRESHED GALLERY P5

SAT 28TH—ART HISTORY TALK—BEING AN ARTIST IN  
PARIS IN THE 19TH CENTURY. DETAILS SOON FOR  
TICKETS



## Congratulations to Jan Harrison On receiving her Australia Day Award

**“SENIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR”**  
for her outstanding contribution to the  
Wollombi Valley Community



Jan's tireless efforts and involvement over many decades is honoured by this award.

Join us today at the Wollombi Tennis Club  
from 12:30pm for refreshment and share with  
us to celebrate with her for this meritorious  
award.

The Tennis Club is also hosting their annual  
January 26 Picnic & Play Fun Day. Come along  
and for some activities, bring finger food to  
share and your picnic rug & chair. BYO.

Starting our New Year off with a bang. The Wollombi Tavern delivers yet again with another years' incredible fireworks evening! Full of lively entertainment, spectacular fireworks, menu and topping it off with Cherry Highway ice cream!

**Thank you! once again to the Wollombi Tavern team for making our New Year celebrations so special!**



The beautiful gardens of Grays Inn came alive with the sound of Pricilla last Saturday night with Cinema under the Stars.

A night of laughs, good wine and food courtesy of Chef Nathan of OneTomato.

Thank you to Noyce Wines and their team for another fun event for our community to enjoy!

## **THE HISTORY OF WOLLOMBI VALLEY TENNIS CLUB**

There is evidence that the tennis club was operating in 1934. No minutes available.

The Harrison family arrived in the valley in 1980. We were disappointed to see an unplayable court, cracked asphalt growing weeds with chicken wire fencing.

The community was searched for interested players to join the club to assist in court reparation. The club worked constantly with Cessnock Council since 1985 to develop and improve the facility.

In 1989 with a donation from Progress Association and a grant from council, as a temporary solution, a flexipave surface was laid at a cost of \$6,690. This enabled the community to play.

September 1992 a 527 council committee (later changed to 355 committee ) was re-elected to include Cheryl Nesbitt, Kevin & Pat Evans, Robyn Butler, Colin & Jan Harrison, Malcolm Goudie, Wayne Montgomery, William Crump and John Field. This committee was to maintain and manage the facility. At that time, our clubhouse was the present day storage shed.

Under the presidency of Yvette Thompson in 1992, an interest free loan of \$4,000, was obtained from council, this to be repaid in \$250 instalments. This money enabled a synthetic grass surface to be laid at a cost of \$15,270. Yvette was president for 4 years, this followed by an election appointing Colin Harrison who continued to be president for many years.

During the 1990's so much work by members & the committee was undertaken. Many grants were applied for some granted, but more refused. Lights, tank & fittings installed with the grants. In 2000 a Licence Agreement was negotiated to replace council committee. This document is similar to a lease, it gives the club more control in the operation of the facility.

The club held the Australia Day Markets for many years. For a few of these markets the club invited St Michaels Church and Tidy towns to share the day. These markets were the least profitable due to the weather conditions. The profit for the club in 2002 was only \$2000, which was very disappointing when the work involved was the same as the other 3 markets for the year.



Fair Cooking Team



Players May 2013

**To be continued....**

**By Jan Harrison**

**MEET NEW PEOPLE, LEARN SOMETHING NEW, BRING SOMETHING NEW**

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**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED NOW**

[See our back page for all organisations](#)



## COUNCIL RATE INCREASE 2026

### **Application to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal for a permanent one-year special variation of 39.9%**

At a meeting on 14 January 2026, Cessnock City Council voted to submit an application to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) for a permanent one-year Special Variation (SV) of 39.9%, inclusive of the applicable rate peg, to general income, commencing in the 2026/27 financial year.

The application is supported by extensive independent financial analysis, updated Long Term Financial Planning, efficiency and capacity-to-pay assessments, and a comprehensive community engagement program undertaken in accordance with IPART and Office of Local Government (OLG) requirements.

Wollombi Valley Chamber of Commerce (WVCC) and Wollombi Valley Community Association (WVCA) put a series of questions to Council regarding the proposed application to IPART for a rate rise of 39.3%. Read the response from Council to these questions at

**<https://wollombivalleyprogress.org.au/council-rates-increase-2026>.**



## **WVCC: Welcome to the New Year 2026**

The Wollombi Valley Chamber of Commerce is stepping into the new year with renewed energy and a clear focus: increasing the visibility and visitation of the Wollombi Valley. Our region is not only a beautiful place to visit—it's a wonderful place to live and work—and our growth strategy this year reflects that pride. We would love to see our local school in Laguna at full capacity for enrolments and our businesses buzzing.

A key priority will be strengthening collaboration across the valley. We're excited to work closely with the Sculpture in the Vineyards committee and Community formerly known as Progress. This partnership will amplify our shared goals, strengthen our collective voice, and help ensure that local needs and opportunities are heard at every level of government.

We're also delighted to share some good news. WVCC has been awarded a \$1,500 grant from Cessnock City Council. This support will help us deliver a new project that benefits the valley—stay tuned as we announce where the funding will be directed.

Mark your calendars for our next General Meeting and Community Dinner on Monday, 23 February, from 5 pm–9 pm at Myrtle & Stone Wollombi. We're delighted to welcome guest speaker Jennie Curran from the Hunter Valley Wine & Tourism Association, who will share insights into regional partnership and opportunities ahead. Bookings will be available via Sticky Tickets, with the link to be shared on our socials soon. We'd love to see our community come together for another relaxed, engaging evening.

As always, if you have any feedback, suggestions, questions or comments, please contact [secretary@wollombivalleytourism.com.au](mailto:secretary@wollombivalleytourism.com.au).

Here's to a year of connection, creativity, and continued growth for the Wollombi Valley.

**Until next time...Brett, Julia, Nick, Dani, Deb, Michael & Annie**





## Wollombi Valley Arts Council Inc.

### Wollombi Valley Arts Council Inc. What's on at The Wollombi Cultural Centre January - February 2026

The Wollombi Valley Arts Council encourages and fosters all kinds of artistic and cultural expression within the Wollombi Valley in order to support and promote artists and our community.

Please visit our website [www.wollombi.org](http://www.wollombi.org)

#### 'DAY & NIGHT'

#### An exhibition by PETER & KATIE WILLIAMS Open DAILY 10am – 9pm 16 January – 15 February 2026

"Stepping into the "Day & Night" exhibition, you are invited to experience the deep connection First Nations people hold with the cycles of day and night. It highlights why our seasons matter and how they link to our songlines, country, language, and culture.

The exhibition showcases works by Peter and Katie Williams, alongside vibrant creations crafted by their children." - Katie



#### WOLLOMBI CERAMIC GROUP Exhibition: 21 February - 8 March 2026

#### 2026 exhibitions in the OLD FIRESHED GALLERY

'Day & Night': Peter & Katie Williams: 13 Jan - 15 Feb  
Wollombi Ceramics Group: 21 Feb - 8 March  
Paintings & Mosaics: 14 - 29 March  
Bhret McIntyre: 3 - 19 April  
Wendy Black: 25 April - 10 May  
Laguna Collective: 17 - 31 May  
Fibre Artists Plus: 6 - 21 June

Taotocs: 27 June - 12 July  
Fiona Bateman & Michael O'Sullivan: 18 July - 2 August  
Wayne Munce: 8 - 16 August  
Artz Emergence: 22 August - 6 Sept  
Sculpture in the Vineyards: 7 - 27 Sept  
Family Ties: 3 - 11 Oct  
Susanna Chen Chow: 17 - 25 Oct  
Jodie Usher: 31 Oct - 8 Nov  
Glenda Mellows: 14 - 29 Nov  
The Artists Market: 5 Dec - 3 Jan 2027

#### LIFE DRAWING at the OLD FIRESHED GALLERY

We are continuing the Life Drawing classes, with a different tutor on every occasion.

We will be creating a 2026 calendar. If you are interested in participating, please contact us by email to [artscouncil@wollombi.org](mailto:artscouncil@wollombi.org)

Wollombi Valley Arts Council Inc.

Email: [artscouncil@wollombi.org](mailto:artscouncil@wollombi.org) or [yengogallery@wollombi.org](mailto:yengogallery@wollombi.org)

Web: [www.wollombi.org](http://www.wollombi.org)

F/B: <https://www.facebook.com/artscouncilwollombi>

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Email: [wollombiearthworks@bigpond.com](mailto:wollombiearthworks@bigpond.com)



Tainted is a tragic love story & Victorian comedy burlesque Opera set to 90s grunge LIVE music. It has pole dance, burlesque, brolesque, comedy, magic, stilt walking, sexy slap stick, nostalgic music & very little Opera.

The Wollombi Burlesque Troupe are Fun(d) Raising to help them tour their latest sexy show Tainted in 2026. We want to invite those who missed Tainted version 1.0 in 2025 and entice those who want to see Tainted 2.0 again with some fresh meat, additional performers and an even more tainted story line.

The Wollombi General Store will be providing an optional 3 course candle lit dinner made by Shea Piggott for those who want to wine and dine before hand. Bookings are essential. Wine/beer/cocktails are available but are not included in the \$80 meal cost.

VIP seats will get the best seats in the barn & a glass of bubbles. Splash out to help us visit Dungog, Bungwhall, Sydney, Newcastle & Katoomba.



What a great start to our New Year with plenty of Tennis and sunny days.

Get active and join in our regular games or into a single game with friendly and helpful players to help you get started.



**Join us for the next  
Pickleball session  
Sunday 8th February  
at 4pm**

We hope you saw us at our Bunnings fundraising BBQ last weekend and managed to enjoy a saussie sanger served by our wonderful volunteer members. Many thanks to Nick & Julia Brooke for their amazing efforts organising and working the event.

***INVITATION TO JOIN US!***

***Monday 26th from 12:30pm***

***Come along to the Clubhouse for our Picnic & Play , and celebration of Community!***

***Please join us for some fun activities, bring a plate of finger food for the share table, your picnic chair (we do have some chairs at the clubhouse) and BYO. Icy poles for the kids (& Adults!)***

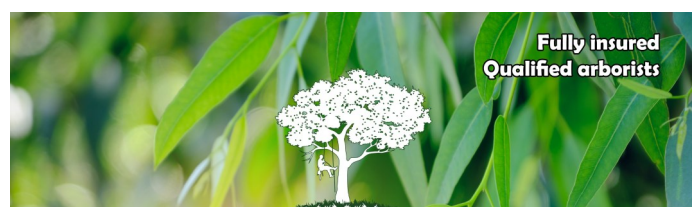
***Would be fabulous to know if you can join us, if you're not sure just come along. All the community welcome.***

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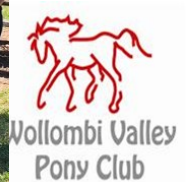


## Wollombi Valley Pony Club

We are very excited to get our Wollombi Valley Pony Club year started with our Working Bee on February 1 and first Rally Day on February 8.

Members will be focusing on getting our horses, gear, and riders show-ready for the year ahead, a great chance to fine-tune the details & learn all about show preparation.

We look forward to seeing you there, lending a hand, sharpening skills & kicking off the year together.



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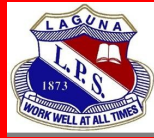
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## Laguna Public School

3738 Great North Road

Laguna NSW 2325



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### Lovin' Learning at Laguna!

We're excited to kick off 2026 with **all students back on deck from Monday, 2 February**. We look forward to welcoming all of our **K-6 students** and gearing up for another amazing year of learning at Laguna.

A new addition for 2026 is the introduction of **sports shorts for both girls and boys**, to be worn with the sports shirt on Fridays. These will be **available for purchase from Tuesday, 27 January**, when staff return for the new school year.

We hope our beautiful students and families have enjoyed a wonderful holiday break. We can't wait to welcome everyone back and discover all the exciting learning and experiences that 2026 has in store!

**Jaclyn Zoneff**

**Laguna Public School**

P: 0249 98 8251 E: [laguna-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:laguna-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

W: [laguna-p.schools.nsw.gov.au](http://laguna-p.schools.nsw.gov.au) F: [LagunaPS](http://LagunaPS)



Education

## Wollombi School

Patron  
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Wollombi School Community Centre - WSCC



Happy New Year to all readers be you locals or visitors to the Valley.

Though we have some work meetings prior to the following date, our Committee next meets at

10 am on 10 February at the Stone Cottage on the corner of Crawford and Wollombi Roads. All welcome.

You may have heard or read that some mystery items belonging to Wollombi School have been unearthed at Laguna School – apparently from when the school closed in 2014. Apart from some paperwork, there may be sealed time capsules (pic attached). The Committee is currently researching with locals who may know what these mystery items are, prior to opening them. More about that in the next OON.

We are always keen to have any interested locals join our totally volunteer work to retain the historic school buildings and campus in community hands, so if you are interested please contact Suzanne at [secretary@wollombischool.com.au](mailto:secretary@wollombischool.com.au). There is lots to do and all hands are welcome.

Wishing everyone a safe coming year

## Wollombi Pilates

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Wednesday 9.30am

Friday 10.00am

in the Wollombi Community Hall

Doors open 15 mins before each class for sign-in & equipment set up

For more information contact Susan  
0403 270 365 or [leithsu@bigpond.com](mailto:leithsu@bigpond.com)

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## Celebrate Wollombi's Waterways with a Stunning New Mural

Over the years, many landholders have partnered with Hunter Local Land Services to restore waterway health through weed control, bank stabilisation, native planting and fencing riverbanks to protect fragile ecosystems. To recognise the communities' achievements, visitors to Slacks Park can now enjoy a vibrant mural celebrating the area's natural waterways.

Created by artist Daniel Joyce, the artwork features a riverine scene with native plants and animals found in the Wollombi Brook catchment. Alongside the mural, there is an informative sign with information about creek health and environmental DNA surveys. These highlight the communities' efforts as well as key indicator species like turtles, platypus and rakali, which are present in our waterways.

This project aims to increase community involvement, raise awareness about the importance of healthy ecosystems and promote continued improvements to riparian habitats. To celebrate Wollombi's beauty and the community's commitment to conservation consider taking a photo in front of the mural and share it on our Facebook page at [facebook.com/HunterLLS](https://facebook.com/HunterLLS) with your feedback.

This project was proudly supported by Hunter LLS through Hunter Catchment Contributions. Together we are shaping a healthier future for our waterways!

**Hunter LLS project contact:**

**Lorna Adlem - 0437 967 311**



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## WOLLOMBI ENDEAVOUR MUSEUM



Standing on the corner of Wollombi and Great North Roads since 1866 is the old Wollombi Courthouse which replaced the original timber courthouse built in 1840.

While visitors to the valley often come to have a look it seems that many locals don't appreciate what we have in the centre of our village.

The old building operated as the courthouse until 1951 when it became the police station and then was repurposed as The Endeavour Museum in 1970.

The building now houses hundreds of local artifacts depicting the history of Wollombi which have been donated by local families over the last fifty years.

The new Wollombi Museum Committee is David Roache Convener, Lindsay Self and Nick Glover Committeemen.

We have some exciting plans for the future and are seeking New Members for our Museum.

So next time you are in the village take a second look at this amazing old building, come and have a look inside, become a member, have your input into what we as a community should do to improve and preserve this important part of Wollombi history.

This significant building deserves a bit of love and we locals can make this into the pride of Wollombi which it should be.

**Nick Glover**

*For information on becoming a member of The Wollombi Museum*

*Call David Roache 0400330760*

*Or Lindsay Self. 04091239589*



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## Greater Wollombi Valley Community Resilience Network

### Happy New Year and to a good year ahead!

With rain breaking up periods of extreme heat and drought, we have been spared thus far from the worst that fire season can bring. Extreme heat also brings risks, and we hope that everyone is keeping cool, safe and well-hydrated. With the severe lightning storms coming our way, it is essential to keep properties cleared of debris, overhanging trees trimmed, gutters clear, hoses available, and a fire plan in place for you, your family and animals you are caring for as well as for your property.

Being connected is a key part of community-building and resilience. Workshops and events help strengthen our community and our capacity to be better prepared and able to respond and help one another.

We look forward to hearing from you

If you have an idea for a workshop or event that you believe would help strengthen our community, increase knowledge about the land and how to care for it effectively...

If you would like to be involved in helping to plan community-building activities and events that strengthen our community...

If you would like to be connected with the coordinator in your area to receive information about climate events that could impact you and your family... Please email us at [info@greaterwollombiresilience.org.au](mailto:info@greaterwollombiresilience.org.au)

**We look forward to a good year, together!**

## Be connected!

email: [gtrwollombivalleyresilience@gmail.com](mailto:gtrwollombivalleyresilience@gmail.com)  
facebook: Greater Wollombi Valley Community Resilience Network

### Notices and advertising in Our Own News

Payments for Advertising and notices are what keeps the OON going and we are happy to provide a rate sheet.

If you are interested in advertising in the OON or placing notices please contact us to assess what costs are involved.

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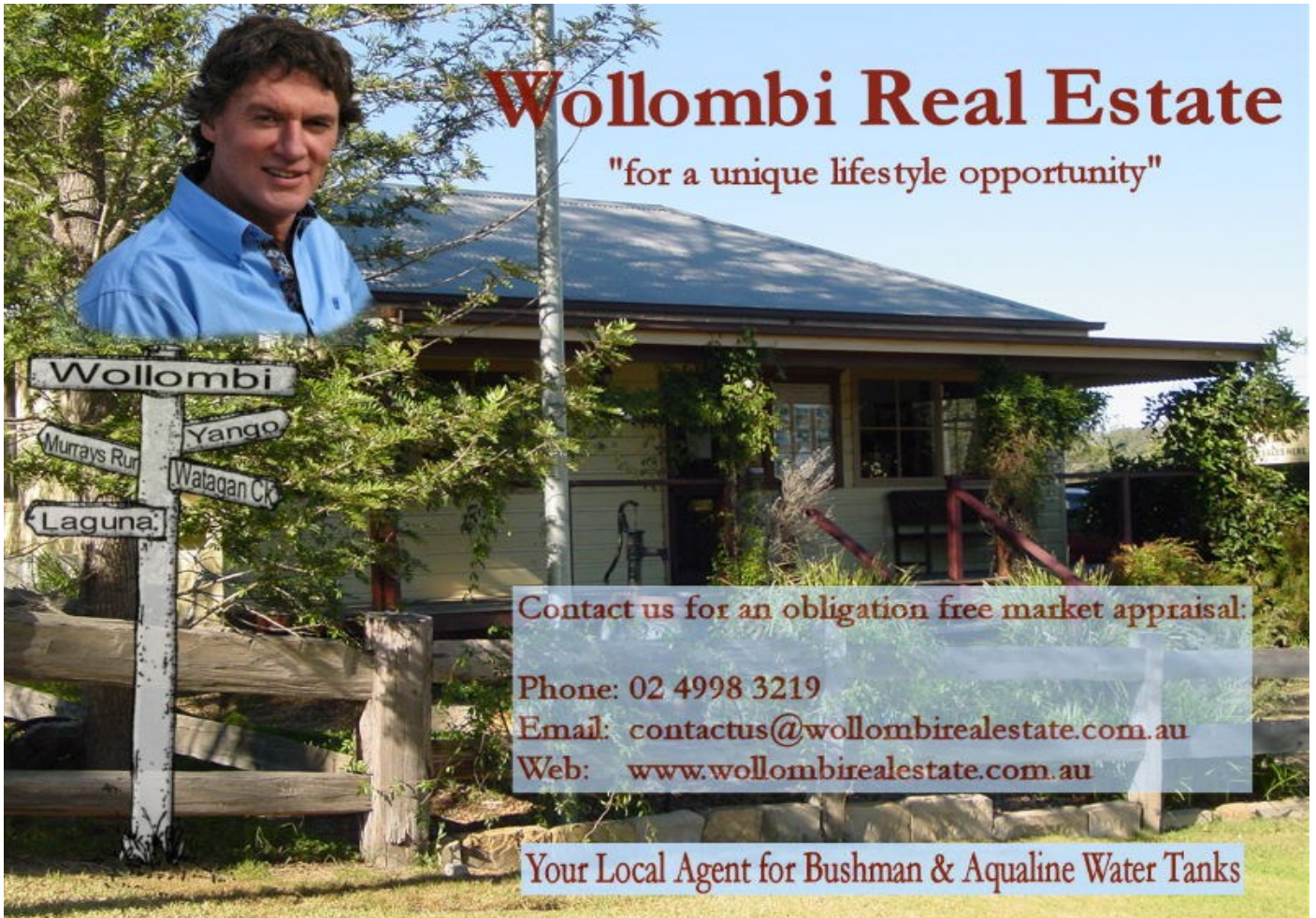
**More info:** [sirv.com.au/lewis-drinkwater](http://sirv.com.au/lewis-drinkwater)

Lewis combines clinical expertise with a warm, person-centered approach. Whether you're an NDIS participant, family member, or provider—Lewis is here to help.

*"I'm Lewis. I am an experienced and motivated manager and Registered Nurse with a passion for developing teams and optimising outcomes for our participants. I live a purposeful life – at home with my family and at work. I bring a sense of meaning and purpose to everything I do, and I strive to instil these values in those around me. Along with this sense of meaning, I possess a wealth of leadership and management experience gained over the last 12 years in and out of the NDIS sector. Myself and my team all share one thing in common – we believe in the work we do."*



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### **Weed of the month:**

#### **Purple-top (*Verbena bonariensis*)**

Currently swathing the valley floor in a purple haze...



Photo credit: [weedsofmelbourne.org](http://weedsofmelbourne.org)

Over summer, you will have have seen swathes of purple in our valley pastures, riparian zones and on roadsides. While it is attractive to bees and

butterflies, purple-top can quickly over-run native grasslands and pastures, smothering other plants.

In contrast to those blueish, prostrate verbenas that are also present in the valley, purple-top is an upright perennial plant, growing up to 2 metres high. It produces tight clusters of flowers at the end of erect, quadrangular shaped branches which tend to be hairy. The elongated brown seeds are starting to set now and will be spread over autumn by wind, water and animals.

The stems are often woody at the base and once the plant is established, it is deep-rooted and difficult to pull out.

For alternative control measures, refer to the sources below:

<https://weedsofmelbourne.org/purple-top-vernea-bonariensis>

<https://nuturf.com.au/article/post/purpletop>

<https://keys.lucidcentral.org>



# Wollombi of Old

**WOLLOMBI. February 17<sup>th</sup>, 1848.**

We know not of a more adequate method of describing the present agreeable season than by saying that it is a perfect English May, with the additional warmth of our own sweet Australian climate. The gardens present a most anomalous variety. Strawberries are in blossom, the grape vine has thrown out abundance of new wood, with a well-formed bloom topping their rich branches of nearly ripe fruit, and this has been the case both in the sweet water and muscatels whilst, in the orchard, the Worcester Pearman and golden pippin are in full flower, with fruit ripe or ripening. Of the latter fact the flying foxes seem to be perfectly aware, as they are nightly visitors of disagreeable and injurious character.

Various species of cabbage seeds sown on the 11th of last month progressed so rapidly as to be ready for planting out on the 5th of the present one, and have neither drooped or gone back in the least, and lucerne, twice cut since the month of November, is just now ripening into seed. The white moss rose and English cabbage rose, which the severe drought had prevented flowering in November, are at the present time giving fragrant evidence of being in full vigour and beauty. Pheasant eye, or small clove pink, is in its second blow,

We do not know whether it be that grapes are generally smaller this season, but in this locality, they are unusually diminutive in size, although the bunches are heavy.

**The Sydney Morning Herald.**

**Sourced through Trove by Steve Sullivan.**

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## Council Notifications which may be of interest to the community

### MAYORAL COLUMN

Happy new year! Hopefully you're well-rested, you've spent some quality time with loved ones, and you've finished the last of the leftover ham. Sincere thanks to those who worked through the holidays, ensuring our community remained well supported. While it was a tough end to the year for many, let's look towards 2026 with optimism for the future.

Australia Day is around the corner. In Cessnock LGA, we will be joined by our 2026 ambassador Robyn Moore – the iconic voice of Blinky Bill – for our awards and citizenship ceremony at Performance Arts Culture Cessnock. Seventy-seven new Australians will be sworn-in as citizens – a record cohort for our LGA. We will also acknowledge those who work tirelessly for our community with awards across 10 categories including Citizen of the Year and Community Event of the Year. There will be free entry to Cessnock and Branxton pools, with a free sausage sizzle, lamingtons and icy poles, as well as DJs and roving entertainers. Hope to see you there!

You may have heard Council is introducing an opt-in fortnightly red-lidded bin collection schedule. There seems to have been a little confusion in some of the chatter on social media of late. I want to emphasise that changing from a weekly to fortnightly collection is totally your choice – it's simply an opportunity to reduce waste and save money (about \$95 a year for those who opt-in during the initial registration period). The change of service for those who apply by 30 January will take place on 23 February. If you don't want to opt-in, you don't need to take any action. Opt-in through Council's website.

#### MEDIA RELEASE - For Immediate Release THE ULTIMATE EAGLES LEGACY



**An Unmissable Tribute to One of the Greatest Rock Bands in History!** An incredible line-up to a fantastic and phenomenal tribute to the legendary American rock band the **Eagles**.

These talented musicians bring their unrivalled skills and passion to recreate the iconic sound and unforgettable performances of the **Eagles**. Together Mark, Clinton, Ben, Chris and Fernando form an extraordinary ensemble that pays homage to the timeless music of the **Eagles**.

**The Ultimate Eagles Legacy** pride themselves on professionalism and the intricate details of replicating the sound of the Eagles .... And they don't stop there!

The show's first set will see the band performing all the hits from the **Eagles** folk/country inspired early days, followed by the second set of all the other **Eagles** classic hits from a more rock infused era. Renowned for their pitch-perfect harmonies and masterful musicianship, The Ultimate Eagles Legacy is quickly becoming Australia's leading Eagles Tribute show.

Formed in Los Angeles in 1971, the **Eagles** are one of the best-selling bands of all time, with more than **150 million albums sold worldwide**, six number-one albums, and six Grammy Awards. Their *Greatest Hits (1971–1975)* remains one of the best-selling albums of the 20th century, while *Hotel California*, released in December 1976, is widely regarded as one of the greatest rock albums ever recorded.

**The Ultimate Eagles Legacy** is a true celebration of The Eagles music that doesn't just perform the songs — they channel the spirit of the original band, transporting audiences back to the heyday of one of rock music's greatest acts, wowing fans across Australia and beyond.

***They do not disappoint and will make it a night to remember***

**Location:** PACC | Performance Arts Culture Cessnock | Saturday 21 February 8pm

**For more information and to book visit:**

**<https://www.mypacc.com.au/Whats-on/The-Ultimate-Eagles-Legacy>**



## Diary & Events

### Church Services

**St John's Anglican Church Wollombi** is a festival church. There is a service at Christmas and Easter. Baptisms, weddings, funerals and other services are by arrangement. Please contact the Parish on 02-4991 4761 or 0418-269 892 or email: stjohncottage@bigpond.com

**St Michael's Wollombi**, Mass is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month at 2pm

### **Wollombi Valley Home Church**

Meets at Tennis Club  
1st Sunday of the month at 2pm, followed by afternoon tea.  
Contact Keith 0409-909 971 or Pastor Neville 0467-210 478

### Crafty Yarns

Knitting/crochet group meets in Wollombi.  
For more information contact Jane 4998 8158  
or Jillian 0477 519 996.

### 500 Cards—Wollombi

commence at 6 pm on last Monday in the month.  
Wollombi Tennis Clubhouse  
Contact: Jan Harrison  
janeceharrison08@gmail.com

### Chamber of Commerce - Wollombi Valley

General Meetings held every 2<sup>nd</sup> month. See  
www.wollombivalleytourism.com.au for venue.

### Fire Brigade—Laguna

Training 3rd Saturday of the month with breakfast at 8.30am followed by training from 9am to 11am. Laguna Fire Station. Members meeting 11am after training in March, June, September and December.

### Fire Brigade—Wollombi

Training 3rd Saturday monthly 8.30am Wollombi Fire Station. Members meeting 11am following training in even months. All welcome. Enquiries to brigade@wollombibushfire.org.au

### Fire Brigade - Bucketty and District

Training 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday monthly from 9am - 12pm  
Members meeting 4 times per year  
Enquiries to: bucketty@lowerhunterffs.com.au

### Garden Group

1st Monday monthly.  
Contact Judy Zieren 0405-281845

### Conversations en francais à Wollombi

Rencontres detendues pour ceux qui veulent parler francais a Wollombi. Nous nous reunissons les samedis une fois par mois vers 17 heures chez des particuliers. On discute l'art, l'histoire, la politique, la France – avec un bon vin et fromage bien sur.  
Contactez: Gwen Lansbury, glansbury@ gmail.com  
Ph: 02-4998 3141, 0451 693 376

### Landcare Group - Wollombi Valley

Join us to learn more about caring for the land and the wildlife on it. We meet regularly for workshops, planting days and other events. New members are always welcome! Contact us at www.wollombilandcare.org.au or wollombi.landcare@gmail.com

### Monthly Historical Ghost Tours

Newcastle Ghost Tours & Jo Potter Ph: 0411-357 519

### Museum—Wollombi

6pm summer – 5pm winter, 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday monthly except January. Wollombi Cultural Centre  
Contact: David Roache 0400330760  
or Lindsay Self 04091239589

### Pony Club—Wollombi Valley

Every 3 weeks contact President Simone 02-4998 8214 for details

### Playgroup (all kids 5 and under welcome)

10.30am every Tuesday, at Slacks Park Wollombi

### Theology in the Pub discussion group:

4th Sun/month at Wollombi School Residence 2:00.pm

### Wollombi Valley Community Association

Community meetings held 3rd Thursday of the month,

### Wollombi Tidy Valleys

11am, every 2nd Thursday Bi-Monthly Wollombi School Meeting Room. All welcome. Contact—Bernice 4991 1688

### Wollombi School Community Centre:

Committee meetings held 10am on 2nd Tuesday of each month. Venue is the Principal's Cottage on Cnr of Crawford & Wollombi Roads, Wollombi. Interested persons welcome.

## Transport

**Grape Experience Tours** 0414 457 956

**Wine country taxis** Cessnock (02) 4990 1111

## Sport and Fitness

### **Pilates Classes**

Mat Classes are held Wednesday 9.30am & Fridays 10.30am.  
Wollombi Community Hall  
Contact: Susan 0403-270 365

### **Wollombi Tennis**

Thursday from 4:00pm  
Sunday 8:00 am  
All welcome.  
Contact: Julia Brooke 0403-500 381

### **Eureka Taekwondo**

Thursdays 4pm – 5pm  
Wollombi Community Hall  
Contact: Steve Turner 0400-002 951

### **YOGA**

Wednesday 7:30-8:30am Vinyasa  
Saturday 8.30-9.30am Hatha Flow  
Wollombi Community Hall

### **Zumba Classes:**

Fitness With Milly Monday Wollombi Hall  
7:45am HIIT  
9:00am Zumba Gold  
Friday Wollombi Tennis Club 8:30am Zumba  
Contact: Milly Ph 0414-435 576

**Services**

Dog and Cat Beds and Accessories 0421 431 451  
<http://growls-hisses.com>  
[houndsfelines@mail.com](mailto:houndsfelines@mail.com)

**Local Accommodation****Bellbird**

Tabitha Hill Cottage 0429 657 166

**Laguna**

Byora Farm House 02 4998 8227  
 Ipakey Cottage 02 4998 3219  
 Kawalang Studio –Bucketty/Murrays Run 0404 896 396  
 Laguna Cottages 02 4998 3219  
 Twin Pines Cottage 0403 083 381  
 Valle Laguna 0408 809 471  
 Valley Field Escape 0488 436 001

**Millfield**

Bellbird & Swallows Cottages 0414 786 705  
 Neudorf Country Retreat 0414 920 013

**Congewai**

Brown Muir Cottage 0409 416 416

**Wollombi**

Applegums 0419 416 416  
 Blair Athol Estate 02 4998 3323  
 Capers Cottage 0409 305 285  
 Cedar Creek Cottages 02 4998 1576  
 Corrabare Cottage 0409 416 416  
 Cowboys Cabin 0423 109 558  
 Cranky Rock Cottage 0438 757 442  
 The Farm @ Hunter Escape 0418 114 303  
 Grays Inn 02 4998 3483  
 Gypsy Willows 02 4998 3404  
 Hollybrook Hunter Valley 0411 968 873  
 Hunter Valley Escapes 0409 416 416  
 Ironbark Cottage 02 4998 3427  
 Maggies in Wollombi 0416 039 081  
 Mystwood Retreats 02 4998 3234  
 Myrtle Cottage Accommodation 0409 416 416  
 Pepper Tree Cottage 0416 039 081  
 Redleaf Hunter Valley 0412 566 637  
 Somewhere Unique 02 4998 3257  
 The Studios 02 4998 3182  
 Tiny Escape 0426 891 870  
 two8seven5 Boutique Stays 0437 977 798  
 Undercliff Settlers Cottage 02 4998 3322  
 Wild Edge Retreat 02 4998 3304  
 Wollombi Barn Stay 02 4998 3221  
 Wollombi Birdhouse 0423 376 804  
 Wollombi Brook Family Farm Stay 0422 515 905  
 Wollombi Bush Retreat 0432 156 396  
 Wollombi Farm Country House 0416 039 081  
 Wollombi Stays 0416 039 081  
 Woodcutters House 0416 039 081  
 Yango Creek Farmhouse 0416 039 081

**Fernances Crossing**

Willows Retreat 0249 988623

**Restaurants, Pubs and Stores**

Laguna Village Providore 0478-712613  
 Millfield General Store 02 4998 1263  
 Myrtle & Stone Cafe 02 4998 3220  
 The Trading Post Laguna 02 4998 8244  
 Twine Home Store 02 4498 3331  
 Wollombi Café—Next Door 0408-599177  
 Wollombi General Store 02 4998 3230  
 Wollombi Tavern 02 4998 3261

**A NOTE FROM THE OON TEAM**

Our Own News is a Wollombi Valley Community Association (WVCA) initiative co-ordinated by volunteers.

Articles or advertisements must be emailed as a **word file** with photos attached as a separate **jpeg** file to **oon\_news@hotmail.com** no later than the *15th day of each month* for publication in the following month's edition.

Articles are not edited but printed as received unless otherwise agreed and there is no guarantee of publication. Articles must be no longer than 200 words.

WVPA and the OON Team accept no liability for statements made or opinions expressed and are not responsible for the veracity of articles or advertising material.

Opinions expressed in OON are not those of WVCA or the OON Team, although they have the final word on content. If you are mentioning someone in an article please check details and facts with them and obtain their permission prior to submitting any articles for print.

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**The OON Team**