

The Community Leader

WE'RE ALL ABOUT GOOD NEWS

Bayside



WYNNUM'S VOLUNTEER-POWERED COMMUNITY HUB IS A HIVE OF ACTIVITY!

When it comes to building community, few non-profit organisations do it better than Wynnum's Waterloo Bay Leisure Centre. Run by a fantastic crew of tireless volunteers, the centre's jewel is the 135-year-old Shire Clerk's Cottage, maintained by funds from hosting events like the regular art and craft markets.

Volunteers work to host a packed schedule of classes, concerts and special events at the Tingal Road location, designed to bring people of all ages together — including a new weekly initiative to provide meals to those in need.

You can support the centre this month by hopping along to the Shire Clerk's Cottage Easter Market on April 12. Browse more than 70 stalls, then take a seat on the breezy cottage verandah for a divine Devonshire Tea — the scones are baked fresh on market day, and they're irresistible! More details are on page 2.

Take a look at the website wbhc.com.au to find out more about this amazing community hub, where everyone is welcome!

Pictured: Sandy Lawton, Ian the Easter Bunny and Julie Dixon at the Shire Clerk's Cottage.



BEST PROCESS = BEST PRICE



"DAVID WAS RECOMMENDED TO US BY 3 DIFFERENT SOURCES AS THE PREMIER AGENT FOR THE BAYSIDE, THEY WERE SPOT ON!"

Verified Review: Seller - Manly West

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HOP ALONG TO THE SHIRE CLERK’S COTTAGE EASTER MARKET

FROM THE VOLUNTEERS AT THE WATERLOO BAY LEISURE CENTRE

After a longer than usual break, the Shire Clerk’s Cottage Market will resume on Saturday, April 12 at 8:00am.

Mercifully, we did not have a market scheduled for March as Ex-Tropical Cyclone Alfred decided to visit, resulting in significant damage to our auditorium at Waterloo Bay Leisure Centre. However, this should not impact our Easter market.

We are pleased to welcome some new stallholders this year as some of our long-term supporters have retired, so there will be some interesting new offerings. You’ll be amazed at the talent on show from market stallholders!

The Easter market will have over 70 market stalls, including 40 inside the Waterloo Bay Leisure Centre, so please make sure you don’t forget to have a look. There will also be a wide and delicious array of hot and cold treats available in the canteen.

But first, to get to the canteen, you must pass our own cake stall, which is the first stall you will come to, loaded with homemade

cakes, biscuits, slices (and possibly other delights).

We will also have an exciting Easter raffle with tickets priced at three for \$5, located in the foyer just after you pass the cake stall.

Need more motivation to come along? The cottage grounds are delightful on a fine day. Stroll around the stalls, grab a coffee from our on-site vendor and a sausage sizzle or bacon and egg sandwich from our barbecue – we think they’re the best on the bayside!

Make your way up the steps of our beautiful, historic Shire Clerk’s Cottage. Built in 1890, the cottage is lovingly maintained by the Waterloo Bay Leisure Centre, and proceeds from the market go towards its maintenance. The cottage is filled with lovely antique furniture and furnishings donated mainly by the community.

Round out your morning with a delicious Devonshire Tea on the cottage verandah served by the fantastic Boomerang Bag ladies. Scones are baked on-site on the morning of the market.



Photo: Supplied.

The Shire Clerk’s Cottage Easter Market will be held on Saturday, April 12, from 8:00am to 1:00pm at the Waterloo Bay Leisure Centre, 241 Tingal Road, Wynnum.

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ANZAC DAY AT THE ARMISTICE CENTENARY WAR MEMORIAL

FROM THE QLD RIFLE ASSOCIATION

The Armistice Centenary War Memorial is sacred to the memory of the more than 500 Riflemen of the Queensland Rifle Association who gave their lives in the Great War of 1914-1918 for our freedom.

When the Great War broke out, the first men to be called up in defence of the nation were members of QRA's rifle clubs throughout Queensland. It was these Riflemen who took part in the expeditionary force which captured German New Guinea. A smaller force was committed to manning the fortifications on Thursday Island. The War effort progressed and so many more QRA Rifle Club members joined the AIF and fought in many locations including the Gallipoli Peninsula and Western Front. At the end of the Great War, some 568 of the 5,316 QRA Rifle Club members who joined the AIF, had been killed on Active Service.

As the nation approached the 100th anniversary of the Armistice that ended the Great War of 1914-

1918, the QRA Museum Committee recognised that there was no discrete memorial established in Queensland that records the loss of the 568 Riflemen in the Great War. The ACWM was then established at Belmont to commemorate the members who served, many of whom made the ultimate sacrifice for our nation.

On ANZAC Day – the most significant day of commemoration, reflection and gratitude – we open our gates at the ACWM to the community. Family, friends, servicemen and women are invited to attend our ANZAC memorial service.

- What:** ANZAC Day Memorial Service.
- Where:** ACWM Belmont Shooting Complex.
1485 Old Cleveland Rd, Belmont.
- When:** Friday April 25, 10:15am March commences. 10:30am Service begins (9:50am gates close).



Photo: Supplied.

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BOOKING AND PREPAYMENT ESSENTIAL

BRISBANE RACE WEEK PROMISES AN UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE ON THE BAY

CONTRIBUTED BY ROYAL QUEENSLAND YACHT SQUADRON, MANLY

Brisbane Race Week will showcase its signature array of diverse sailing formats over a festive five days from 2 to 7 May 2025 in southern Moreton Bay.

Hosted for the second year and with three divisions, the regatta caters to thoroughbred racing yachts, cruising monohulls, and multihulls while opening its doors for the general public to enjoy the spectacle.

“Brisbane Race Week is a week of friendly rivalry between all sailing clubs based in South-East Queensland. It has swelled in popularity due to the unique sailing courses and active social calendar of events,” says race organiser and participant Anton Prange.

“We are thrilled to see many more entries from a variety of clubs and have prepared an action-packed week on and off the water for our participants and community.”

Friday kicks off the event in 2025 with Formula-1-style ‘hot laps’ around Green Island, with the winner completing the most laps in a three-hour window before the popular opening fiesta with Mexican fare and entertainment at the Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron.

Weekend racing sees the stakes raised with short, handcrafted courses putting crews to the test and using the newly installed recreational marks, followed by more themed evening celebrations at Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron and Wynnum Manly Yacht Club. A Texan Night on Sunday at Wynnum Manly Yacht Club reinforces the ‘cross-border’ sentiment and cheerful rivalry between the clubs.

A long passage race on Monday allows yachts to stretch their legs with beautiful Brisbane and Moreton Island as a backdrop,



Photos: Supplied.

with the day ending at a community fundraiser event of Burgers, Beer and Bingo supporting the Making Waves Foundation. Making Waves provides unique on-water experiences for young people with disabilities or young adults experiencing disadvantage and is based at Manly.

Finally, after a day of rest for Labour Day, Wednesday welcomes the mother of all pursuit races. With handicaps and start times already decided, it's a winner-takes-all battle, with the first boat across the line winning the race.



Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron invites all sailors to register for the five-day event by visiting brisbaneraceweek.au. Early bird discount is available until 26 April 2025, and one-day passes are available for \$38 (casual entry).

The week is open to the public to come along and enjoy the festive atmosphere of Brisbane's premier regatta week, including live entertainment and food options on the waterfront lawns of RQYS' Brisbane bayside home in Manly.



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EXCITING GROWTH OF GIRLS' RUGBY ACADEMY AT WYNNUM RUGBY UNION

CONTRIBUTED BY DAN POWER

The Wynnum Rugby Union Club is celebrating an exciting milestone in the development of its Girls' Rugby Academy. In its second year, the academy has more than doubled in size, reflecting the increasing enthusiasm for girls' rugby in the bayside community.

Established in 2024, the academy welcomed 22 girls aged 12 to 17 in its inaugural season. This year, that number has surged to over 50 registered players, highlighting the program's success and the growing interest in the sport among young female athletes.

The Girls' Rugby Academy at the Bugs was created to provide a supportive and inclusive environment where young girls can develop their rugby skills, fitness, and confidence. The program focuses on skill development, teamwork, and fostering a love for the game while ensuring that every participant, regardless of experience, has the opportunity to grow and succeed.

"The growth has been incredible," said the club president. "It's amazing to see so many girls keen to get involved in rugby. The enthusiasm, commitment, and talent on display are truly inspiring."

The rapid expansion of the academy can be attributed to several factors, including increased awareness of women's rugby, the club's dedicated coaching staff, and strong support from the local community. Parents and players alike have praised the positive atmosphere and the sense of camaraderie that the academy fosters.

The club is excited to continue developing the program and providing more opportunities for young female athletes to excel in rugby. Wynnum Rugby Union Club is proud to be at the forefront of this exciting movement as the sport gains popularity among girls.



Photo: Supplied.

As registrations continue to rise, the club encourages any interested players to get involved and experience the thrill of rugby firsthand. With a strong foundation, the academy is set to go from strength to strength in the years to come.





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EVENTS

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If you're looking for something to do locally, check out The Community Leader's What's On page here and online.



STOP BEING SCARED OF INSTAGRAM

Friday April 11, 12:00pm to 2:00pm, Wynnum Manly Leagues Club, Wondall Road, Manly West

Feeling intimidated by Instagram? Bayside Women in Business is excited to host a hands-on session with Nici Bickley, who will demystify Instagram and explain how to make the most of its video features, effects, and stickers. Learn how to create engaging content – whether recording in-app or designing in Canva. And, if Instagram's new Edit app launches in time, Nici will share how to leverage it for your business. Walk away with practical tips to streamline content creation and boost your confidence. Be ready to take plenty of notes! For tickets, scan the QR code.





FREE BASKETBALL SKILLS SESSIONS

Wednesday April 9 and 16, from 8:45am (ages 5-12) and 9:30am (ages 12-17), Primrose Park, Primrose Parade, Wynnum West

Kids will love these free basketball skills sessions, hosted by Made Concepts in conjunction with Brisbane City Council as part of its Active and Healthy program. During the 45-minute workshops, kids will learn new skills via fun games and basketball drills on the Primrose Park court. Bring a water bottle and towel; all basketball equipment will be provided. Bookings are essential. For more information, call 0434 433 078 or email info@madeconceptspty.com. Tickets can be booked by scanning the QR code.






MANLY CREATIVE MARKETS

Every Sunday, 8:00am to 2:00pm, Little Bayside Park, Manly, and Friday April 18 (Good Friday)


Shop by the bay at Manly's Sunday markets, enjoy the vibe of the gorgeous waterfront precinct, browse boutique market stalls, then make your way up Cambridge Parade for more easy breezy shopping! There's a huge selection of cafes, restaurants, and take-away options, so make a day of it and shop, eat and drink your way through Manly on a Sunday.



WENDY MATTHEWS LIVE

Saturday April 12, 7:00pm, The Lou Lou Room, Bay Terrace, Wynnum

Enjoy a spellbinding night with Wendy Matthews on the bayside in April. With her unmistakable voice, ARIA-winning hits like *The Day You Went Away*, and a gift for heartfelt storytelling, Wendy delivers a performance that lingers long after the final note. Joining her is the legendary Peter Cupples, whose soulful vocals and stellar career with Stylus makes him the perfect complement to this intimate evening. This is a rare opportunity to experience two of Australia's finest artists up close in Wynnum! For tickets, scan the QR code or go to www.theloulouroom.com.au.






SHIRE CLERK'S COTTAGE EASTER MARKET

Saturday April 12, from 8:00am to 1:00pm, Waterloo Bay Leisure Centre, 241 Tingal Road, Wynnum

With over 70 stalls inside the Shire Clerk's cottage and on the grounds of the Waterloo Bay Leisure Centre, this Easter market is an annual tradition and a much-loved and anticipated community event. Indulge in a Devonshire Tea on the cottage verandah (scones are baked fresh on-site on the market day) and browse a huge range of hand-made arts and crafts.



WYNNUM MANLY YACHT CLUB TRIVIA NIGHT

Friday April 11, registration at 6:30pm, trivia starts 7:00pm, Wynnum Manly Yacht Club, 510-542 Royal Esplanade, Manly

Do you have a friend who's a bit of a know-it-all? Here's your chance to put their skills to good use and let them shine! Get a team together and compete at Wynnum Manly Yacht Club's Trivia Night. Meals will be available at the Captain's Parrot Café from 5:30pm. Trivia entry is \$10 – buy your tickets online by scanning the QR code, or at the door.



THE DYNAMIC DUO GIVING BOOKS A NEW SECOND CHAPTER!

FROM THE WYNNUM MANLY & DISTRICTS MEN’S SHED

Ian and Karen Peden are a dynamic duo, highly regarded in the bayside community for their lifetime of service through their donations of books to homes, clubs and street libraries.

Soulmates Ian and Karen share a passion for books that brought them together. When they met, Ian was a young and skilful handyman, and Karen was an entrepreneurial collector of rare, antique and second-hand books, all needing varying degrees of TLC (all 10,000 of them!).

With their shared passion for books and their belief that reading holds the power to ignite the spark of knowledge, they embarked on their journey of ‘stealing’ books from imminent death and giving them a second chance through market stalls.

They remain as driven today as ever and continue selling at the Manly Creative Markets on Sundays, all because ‘Mumma Tetris’ is still able to do the impossible and pack a library of boxes into their small car.

At the Men’s Shed, Ian makes himself available to do ‘fixit’ jobs for the community. Then, for fun, he attends the Repair Café, which is very challenging as customers bring their broken equipment and implore the impossible.

Ian attests to the 5Ps: Precise Preparation Prevents Poor Performance. You can be assured whatever Ian works on will be stronger than ever and likely to outlast its owner. Ladies applaud his handiwork on furniture repairs and insist that he is an OCD – an Obsessive Compulsive Darling. Men’s Shed members are in awe of his MAAD – Minute Attention About Details.

Ian and Karen’s book donations are available from the Wynnum Manly and District Men’s Shed to refresh local street libraries.



Ian and Karen Peden. Photo: Supplied.

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THE BONNER UPDATE

ROSS VASTA MP FEDERAL MEMBER FOR BONNER



STRONGER TOGETHER

Thank you to the many volunteers, community groups, council workers and local businesses who showed resounding community spirit in preparation, during, and after Ex-Tropical Cyclone Alfred.

The work is not done, but we are moving in the right direction.

Ex-Tropical Cyclone Alfred has had devastating effects on the Bonner community. From intense rainfall, to fallen trees, power outages to flooding, significant damage was done to many homes and businesses. Moreton Island, Carina and Tingalpa

experienced some of the worst damage residents had seen in decades.

This is why **I wrote to the Prime Minister**, asking that he make the Federal Government's Disaster Recovery Payment available to Brisbane residents.

This was relieving news for our community, I'm glad the Prime Minister chose to listen and recognise how much it is needed.

As we continue to repair homes, streets and communities, it's heartening to see so many locals stepping out of their usual routines and

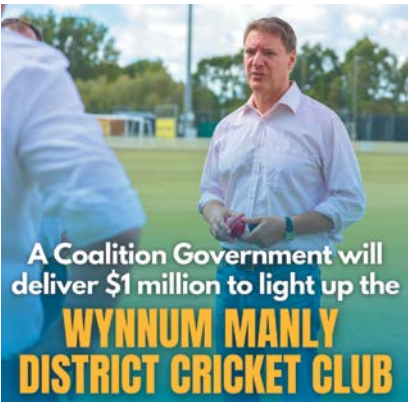
conveniences to help one another.

It was fantastic to see so many staff, players and volunteers at Wynnum Wolves Football Club at Carmichael Park pitching in to get the grounds back in shape after it was inundated by flood waters. Many hands make for light work and the community spirit is immense here in the Bonner. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped a friend, neighbour or stranger.

Whether it be a phone call or a helping hand, we continue to prove that we are stronger together.



LET'S LIGHT UP CRICKET IN BONNER!



Anyone who has met me knows I love cricket. Beyond the thirteen bats in my electorate office, and fond memories playing with my brothers growing up – cricket is very much part of our national identity. It's a sport steeped in rich tradition, driven by a vibrant community, and enjoyed by the masses.

Now, I want to light up the future of cricket for Bonner!

If a **Coalition Government** is elected this year, we'll provide the **Wynnum Manly District Cricket Club**

with **\$1,000,000 for a critical lighting upgrade**. The club's current facilities at Bill Albury Oval lack sufficient lighting... which unfortunately limits training, competitions, and community engagement outside of daylight hours. This is the infrastructure we need to support growing junior, female, veteran, and multicultural cricket competitions. The upgrade will also assist **Queensland Cricket** and **Cricket Australia** by offering a high-quality venue, capable of hosting high-performance matches and additional community events, especially approaching the 2032

Olympics. Improved lighting means better training facilities, safer conditions, and greater opportunities for players of all ages.

I am proud to be part of a team that values community sports, sees the potential in local infrastructure, and is taking practical steps towards a brighter future for all who play and support the game.

OUT AND ABOUT...

In Bonner, there is no shortage of opportunity to get involved with local events, and support the people and organisations who make the Bayside such a wonderful place to live, work and raise a family. While most of March was dedicated to Cyclone recovery and budget week, I dropped in to a few events to catch up with the community, including with the Bayside Sea Scouts, and Darling Point Special School.

At the **Bayside Sea Scouts**, I saw firsthand the power of mateship that brings young people together to learn, grow and give back. For generations, Scouts have been helping shape confident, capable citizens and it was terrific to see that spirit of service and adventure alive and well in our local group. This same spirit runs strong in the Belmont Scouts, who I joined for **Clean Up Australia Day!** Thank you to the leaders, volunteers and families who continue to make it all possible.

I also had the pleasure of attending **Darling Point Special School's 'Art in Motion' Exhibition**, a beautiful evening showcasing the creativity and talent of the students. Each artwork reflected not just artistic skill, but also the support and encouragement of a passionate school community. Thank you to Principal Charmaine and her team for the incredible work they do every day, and for inviting me to be part of the event.



WYNNUM FRINGE RETURNS FOR ITS SIXTH ANNUAL FESTIVAL THIS JULY!

FROM WYNNUM FRINGE

Block out your calendars! The award-winning spark on Queensland's cultural calendar is set to light up Brisbane's bayside with colour, creativity and community spirit from July 9 to 20!

Showcasing a diverse mix of comedy, cabaret, circus, live music, family shows and more, Wynnum Fringe is now accepting expressions of interest from artists, sponsors, venues and volunteers.

Wynnum Fringe has employed over 2,000 artists since it began as a COVID recovery effort in 2020, welcomed more patrons than a packed night at Suncorp Stadium, won the prestigious Gold Matilda Award for contributions to Queensland's creative sector, and now returns for its sixth year.

"It's an exciting time to be in Brisbane," said Tom Oliver, founder/ CEO/ Artistic Director. "With seven years until the Games, it's time for festivals like ours to celebrate artists and audiences gathering in a big way. Wynnum Fringe is a perfect example of the creative and corporate sectors working together to propel our cultural identity

into the future. I'm thrilled we are back, and I strongly urge artists of all genres to apply!"

Wynnum Fringe is accepting artist applications until April 17 at 5pm before announcing its lineup in May. The festival is also opening its doors to sponsors and philanthropists who see the value in big creative events in Brisbane.

"I believe this should be an ongoing part of the cultural growth of this area," says Margaret Vote, principal of Raine & Horne Wynnum Manly and founding sponsor of Wynnum Fringe.

Wynnum Fringe 2025 will also introduce 'Fringe of the Fringe' – a new initiative that invites local venues such as bars, cafés, galleries and creative spaces to become official festival partners and host performances and events. This also means that venues outside of Wynnum are welcome to be involved in the event!

"This is about bringing even more of our community into the festival experience," said Oliver. "We want to give as many opportunities as possible to artists and small businesses around the bayside."



The Spiegel tent, located on Bay Terrace, will host a variety of Wynnum Fringe performances. Photo: Supplied.

Whether you're on stage, behind the scenes, or providing a unique venue, the festival offers a chance to contribute to one of Queensland's most exciting creative movements.

Artist applications close on Thursday, April 17 at 5pm. Apply now at wynnumfringe.com.

LET THE PEOPLE SING! THE GREATEST SHOW CHOIR COMES TO TOWN

BY JAN NARY

"Art is not a mirror held up to reality but a hammer with which to shape it." Berthold Brecht's approach to performance resonates through Jonathon Welsh's many ground-breaking choirs that have their footings firmly planted in the community.

Jonathon, awarded an MA for his ground-breaking social justice work, combined with his decades of professional arts experience, knowledge and passion for music, has created choirs that address social issues, involving local communities, the homeless and disadvantaged, choirs that include the Choir of Hard Knocks, Peace Choir Project and No More Excuses. His work at RPAC over the years has included the Rock Choir, Pop Choir and this year – the Greatest Show Choir!

Grown in the Redlands and performing at RPAC, this multi-generational community choir features nearly 200 performers, special guest artists Queenie van de Zandt and Jan van de Stool, with Jonathon Welsh conducting. Jonathon says the show's format, presenting iconic Broadway hits, will strike a chord with most music lovers.

"Musicals are very popular at present. The songs draw people in then I have twelve weeks to teach them fifteen arrangements – competence builds confidence. There are no auditions, everyone can sing. Our choirs are based on access and inclusion and giving a sense of connection.



Photo: Supplied.

"They're a wonderful group; they're so passionate and such lovely people. I feel blessed to have found my musical village in the Redlands!"

A feeling, no doubt, shared by his choir members and audiences. For tickets, go to rpac.com.au.

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What is your name? Hello, my name is Regal.

Suburb: I've lived in Manly, Lota and Wynnum.

How long have you lived in the bayside area? For nine years.

What is your favourite local activity? I love walking anywhere along the Wynnum/Manly esplanade.

What is your most treasured toy? It would have to be my squeaky furry octopus.

What is your favourite food? Anything that's at all edible, including raw carrots or peanut butter toothpaste!

What is your worst habit? I'm an old girl and I get fed up with little yappy puppies. I tolerate them for a couple of minutes, but if they keep on yapping, I squat and do a poo!

What is your favourite local hangout? The dog beach at end of Davenport drive behind the Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron.

Who is your best doggo friend? My cousin Koa.

Do you have any funny or embarrassing stories to share with us? I really like licking the hairy legs of men in shorts (but only if they are VERY hairy).

What do people love most about you? I smooch up to humans who are upset or very sad or crying, especially little kids or seniors with dementia.



Would you like your best mate to be featured in Maggie's Mates? Email us at sales@market2market.com.au and we'll send you a questionnaire. We will donate \$50 to a registered animal charity of your choice for each profile published in The Community Leader.

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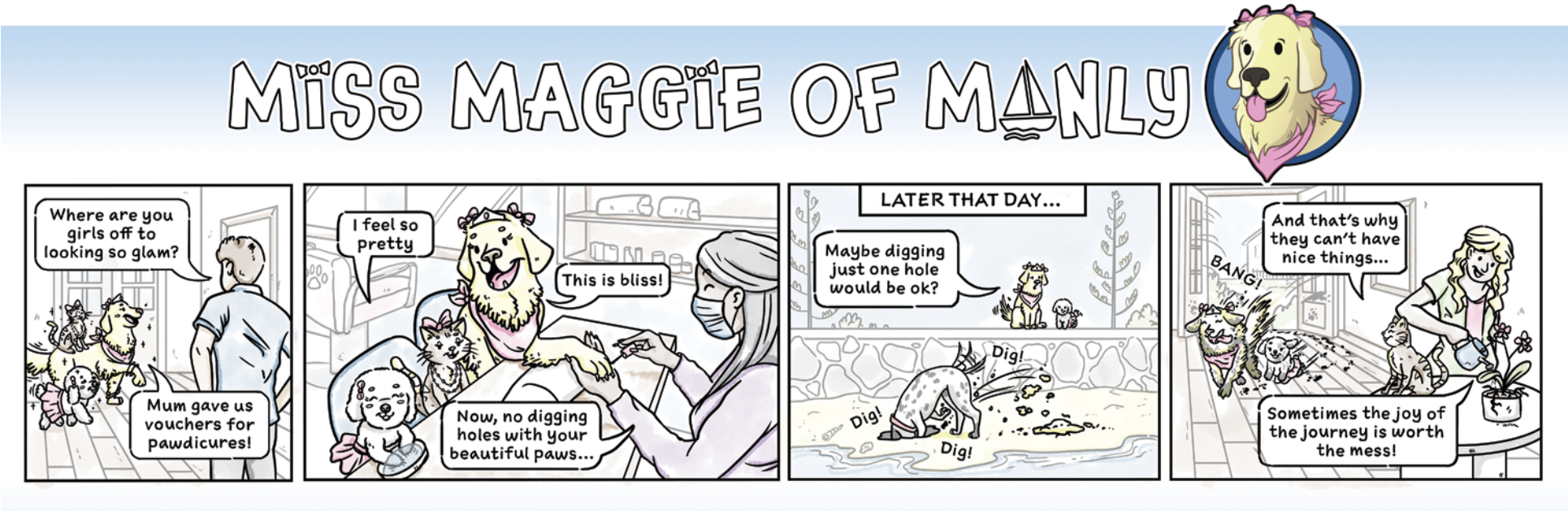


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ALL ABOUT FELINE ORAL RESORPTIVE LESIONS IN CATS

BY DR NICKY THOMAS, WYNNUM MANLY VETERINARY HOSPITAL

Cats can suffer from many different dental problems – periodontal disease, fractured teeth, and oral tumours are all common. Tooth resorption is another common condition seen in over half of cats over the age of three years.



WHAT IS TOOTH RESORPTION?

Tooth resorption (also known as FORLs or feline oral resorptive lesions) occurs when tooth roots erode and are replaced by bone. The erosion begins at the outside of the tooth where the gum meets the dental hard tissue and most commonly occurs in the lower premolars. Resorption starts at the gumline and progresses to erode the dentin, leaving the sensitive inner tissues of the tooth exposed. Bacterial infection of the pulp of the tooth may then occur as the

hard protective layer of dental tissue is absent. It is suspected that this condition is caused by an autoimmune process.

WHAT ARE THE SIGNS OF TOOTH RESORPTION?

Cats with resorptive lesions may show signs including excessive salivation, blood in the mouth, decreased appetite, and difficulty eating. Cats are very good at hiding pain so it may not be obvious that there is dental disease occurring until it is quite advanced. Your veterinarian will likely recommend dental X-rays to diagnose the presence of these lesions.

HOW ARE FORLs TREATED?

Treatment of tooth resorption requires extraction of the affected tooth. This is performed under general anaesthesia. Removal of damaged teeth often results in immediate relief.



Regular dental check-ups throughout your cat's life are advised in order to diagnose and treat dental disease and prevent painful conditions developing unnoticed.

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JOAN PEASE’S COMMUNITY UPDATE

STATE MEMBER FOR LYTTON



UPDATE YOUR ENROLMENT

If you have recently moved into our Bayside community, please make sure you update your enrolment details at www.ecq.qld.gov.au. Voting is compulsory for all Australian citizens over the age of 18. If you don't vote, you may receive a fine. If you are aged 16 or 17, you can provisionally enrol and this means you can vote as soon as you turn 18. Once you have enrolled, your name and address will be added to the electoral roll.



SPORTS CLUBS RECOVERY GRANTS

Funding is now available for eligible sport and recreational organisations impacted by Ex-Tropical Cyclone Alfred. Applications for grants have now opened. To apply go www.qld.gov.au/recreation/sports/funding/disaster-recovery. A grant of up to \$5000 is available for eligible items. To be eligible, organisations must be an incorporated not-for-profit organisation with a primary objective relating to the delivery of local sport and active recreation, demonstrate tenure over the infrastructure and have the legal right to conduct works on the site to request repair damaged infrastructure.



HEALTH BOOST WELCOME

Good news for local health services. The Federal Government has made the single largest investment in Medicare since its creation, with \$8.5 billion to deliver an additional 18 million bulk billed GP visits each year, hundreds of nursing scholarships, and thousands more doctors in the largest GP training program ever. Australian patients and families will save hundreds of dollars a year in out-of-pocket costs, with patient savings of \$859 million a year by 2030. It will mean 9 out of 10 GP visits will be bulk billed by 2030, boosting the number of fully bulk billed practices to around 4,800 nationally – triple the current number.



BABI YOUTH FESTIVAL

Every year, BABI youth organise the Baywave Youth Festival, during Youth Week. This year's event will take place on Tuesday, April 8th from 11am to 4:00pm at the Ed Devenport Rotary Park at Bowering St, Lota. The Baywave Youth Festival is an important day dedicated to young people in the Bayside area. The Festival includes a basketball workshop, a skating demonstration, and other exciting activities, all designed to foster community connections and provide a fun, positive experience for young people.

WATERLOO BAY SAINTS FEED NEEDY

Waterloo Bay Leisure Centre has started providing free meals to vulnerable Baysiders in need. Meals are provided every Wednesday from 4pm to 5pm. With the continued closure of Wynnum Community Place due to the Queensland Government not making funding available (despite promises to do so), there is a clear need to support and feed Baysiders in need. I congratulate the Waterloo Bay Leisure Centre for stepping up to fill this void. I'm very proud to help sponsor this worthwhile initiative. Likewise, if any local organisations, supermarkets, food outlets or restaurants can donate food to the Waterloo Bay Leisure Centre, all help is welcome.



SUPPORT FOR SMALL BUSINESS

Small businesses need immediate financial support in the wake of Ex-Tropical Cyclone Alfred. To date (at the time of publication), the Queensland Government has not offered any direct financial assistance to small businesses in South East Queensland (SEQ) impacted by Ex-Tropical Cyclone Alfred. Some local small businesses, particularly in hospitality, lost tens of thousands of dollars as a result of the cyclone. The Queensland Government must step up and provide real financial support. If your small business has been impacted, please sign the petition by scanning the QR code.



JoanPease MP

State Member
for Lytton

Authorised by Joan Pease 100 Edith Street Wynnum

PO Box 719, Wynnum QLD 4178 (07) 3915 1100 JoanForLytton lytton@parliament.qld.gov.au www.joanpease.com

MANLY-LOTA RSL'S ANZAC DAY SERVICES

The Manly-Lota RSL Sub Branch is commemorating Anzac Day this year with the following services on April 25:

- **4:15am** Dawn Service in Richard Russell Park
- **5:00am** Gunfire Breakfast following the Dawn Service in the Manly-Lota RSL Memorial Hall
- **8:00am** Anzac Day Parade from outside Manly State School to Richard Russell Park
- **8:30am** (approximately) mid-morning service in Richard Russell Park following the Parade
- **9:30am** (approximately) morning tea following the mid-morning service in the Manly-Lota RSL Memorial Hall

All Veterans, their families and members of the public are welcome to attend.

For further information, please contact the Manly-Lota RSL via email info@manlylota.rslqld.net.au or via the Facebook page.

WYNNUM WEST STATE SCHOOL STUDENTS CLEAN UP!

FROM WYNNUM WEST STATE SCHOOL

Volunteers make a difference every day in our community. And whether you're young or old, even the smallest contribution you make can have a positive impact on a greater cause.

Wynnum West State School students and teachers took to the school's gardens, pathways, and surrounding footpaths recently, participating in the Clean Up Australia Day for Schools event.

"Being a bayside school and living so close to the beautiful Moreton Bay, we believe that taking on an initiative to reduce the amount of rubbish in our school and wider community is important," said the school's principal, Ben Turner.

"Participating in the Clean Up Australia Day Schools event was a great way to start students thinking about cleaning up our school and learning about the different types of rubbish we have in our school community."

Wynnum West State School hopes their participation in this event will encourage the next generation of community leaders to take their environmental responsibilities seriously. They are proud of their contribution to the community, ensuring a cleaner school community, one piece of rubbish at a time.



Wynnum West students pitching in at the Clean Up Australia Day for Schools event. Photo: Supplied.

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WHAT IS AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER?

BY DR DALE GARRED, MANLY VILLAGE MEDICAL

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a lifelong neurodevelopmental condition. Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is NOT the same as Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), but the two conditions can coexist. The word ‘spectrum’ highlights that people with autism experience varying types of difficulties to varying degrees. The term Autism has replaced outdated terms such as Asperger Syndrome.

Autism affects the way people communicate, process information and interact with the world. Children with Autism have difficulties in two main areas:

1. Social Communication – for example:

- a. Limited ability to interact or engage in play with others.
- b. Slow to learn to speak.
- c. Less use of nonverbal ways of communicating such as eye contact, pointing and gestures e.g. waving.
- d. Struggling to share information or join in conversations.
- e. Unusual sensitivity or lack of sensitivity to sounds, textures, pain or light.
- f. Difficulty making lasting friendships.

2. Repetitive behavior – for example:

- a. Rocking.
- b. Finger flicking.



The main support for a child with ASD is to enhance their existing skills (strengths) and help them develop strategies to overcome their difficulties.

- **Psychology** – helps with managing emotions and challenging behaviours as well as helps develop social understanding.
- **Speech Pathology** – helps to develop good communication skills and explore how language can be used for social engagement.
- **Occupational Therapy** – helps with sensory sensitivities and helps develop joint play skills.

Medication is NOT recommended for the core features of ASD, but may be used for co-existing conditions such as Anxiety.

If you are concerned that a loved one may have features of Autism, speak with your doctor about what support services might be most appropriate. It is important to get support early (Psychology, Speech, OT) to try and improve long term outcomes and reduce the overall amount of support an individual will need over their lifetime.

To book an appointment with a Doctor at Manly Village Medical or Baywest Medical Centre go to the website and book online.





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Community Spirit in Full Force

A heartfelt thank you to everyone for taking the warnings about Cyclone Alfred seriously and coming together to support one another during this time of uncertainty. Cyclones aren't something we Baysiders are used to facing, but we tackled it like the supportive community that we are!

The incredible acts of kindness we've seen—from helping with sandbags, clean up efforts to assisting those in need with green waste cleanup, or simply checking on a neighbour - remind us of what true community spirit is all about. A huge thank you to **Energex, Council Officers and Staff, The SES, QPS**, and our **Sandbag and Ute Army volunteers** who tirelessly worked to help those in the community who needed assistance, we could not have done this without your help. A special mention to **BMD** and **4M-Cru, Max and Troy** for their support during this time, you definitely went above and beyond!



Photo of Georgia, Blas and Audrey



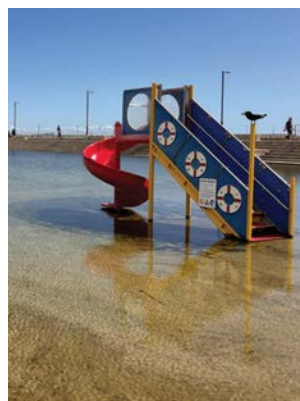
Exciting Projects Coming to Wynnum Manly

I am thrilled to share that work has begun on two fantastic new projects for our community.

The **Lota Outdoor Gym**, a great new space will be created to support active, healthy living for locals of all ages.

The **Whale Park Dry Playground**, a fun and creative new play area for our little ones to enjoy. The Whale Park water play area will remain open during construction.

These projects will help enhance our beautiful bayside and provide even more opportunities for families to stay active and connected.



Foreshore Masterplan Information Kiosks are coming!

The Foreshore Master Plan is an exciting opportunity to enhance our waterfront for locals and visitors alike. Learn more about the project online using the QR code or drop by one of the upcoming information kiosks to learn more about the project and share your thoughts. Your feedback will be the foundation for the Master Plan, ensuring it reflects the aspirations of our community.

Wednesday 26 March, 2-4pm, Elanora Park – corner of Southwick and Granada Street

Saturday 29 March, 8-10am, George Clayton Park

Wednesday 2 April, 2-4pm, Lota Camping Reserve - Esplanade and Ernest Street

Saturday 5 April, 8-10am, Manly Markets

Wednesday 9 April, 2-4pm, Wynnum Wading Pool Park



Stay in the Loop!

Want to stay updated on all the latest news and developments? Join our mailing list today! Simply scan the QR code to join the Wynnum Manly Watch E-news Community.

Let's keep the momentum going, Wynnum Manly! Together, we're building a brighter Bayside to keep Brisbane moving!





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DISCOVER MANLY HARBOUR VILLAGE THIS EASTER: A PERFECT STAYCATION BY THE BAY

BY CATH COOK, PRECINCT COORDINATOR

As Easter approaches, there's no need to travel far to enjoy a well-deserved break. Whether you're a local looking for a relaxing escape or a visitor keen to explore, spend a relaxing day by the Bay in Manly.

Manly offers more than just markets. Take a leisurely stroll along the esplanade, enjoy a family picnic in one of the many green spaces, or visit the Moreton Bay Discovery Centre. There's so much to explore along the waterfront!

This Easter, the beloved Manly Creative Markets are extending their trading days by running an extra market day on Good Friday, in addition to their usual Sunday. The ever-popular Jan Powers Farmers Markets will take place on Easter Saturday, giving you plenty of time to stock up on some carrots for the Easter Bunny!

In the week leading up to Easter, The Mad Hatters Bookshop has a range of activities to keep the kids entertained, from storytelling

to arts and crafts. Visit www.madhattersbookshop.com.au for more details and tickets. 'Hop' in on Easter Saturday for a free Easter egg hunt and craft activities from 10am to 1pm.

Families won't want to miss the Easter fun at the Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron, which is hosting a Kids Easter Party on Easter Sunday. Children can take part in an exciting Easter egg hunt, face painting, a jumping castle, and a special Easter colouring competition. For more details and tickets, visit the Kids Easter Party event page at www.rqys.com.au.

Food lovers will be spoiled for choice with Manly's waterfront cafes and restaurants, offering fresh seafood, gourmet delights, and, of course, Easter treats! And if you're looking for some evening entertainment, keep an eye out for live music at The Manly Hotel and Manly Deck Bar and Restaurant. Stay up to date on what's happening in the precinct by following our socials @manlyharbourvillage.



DATE
CLAIMERS

- 3 MAY: Movies in the Park (*Young Einstein*)
- 20 MAY: Manly Chamber and Friends Medical/Allied Health Networking
- 6 JUNE: Business Breakfast

LOCAL
MARKETS

- 5 AND 19 APRIL: Jan Powers Farmers Markets
- GOOD FRIDAY 18 APRIL: Manly Creative Markets
- EVERY SUNDAY: Manly Creative Markets

For more information on upcoming events, be sure to follow Manly Harbour Village on social media, subscribe to our newsletter at manlyharbourvillage.com or email us at promotions@manlyharbourvillage.com.

HISTORY ON WHEELS AND WINGS – NATIONAL MOTORING HERITAGE DAY

The early humans who developed the wheel probably had no idea of the pleasure they'd bequeath to later aficionados of historic vehicles – trains, planes, trucks, boats, cars and buses, all forms of transport that come under the loving wings of the Queensland Historic Motoring Council (QHMC). The QHMC will soon celebrate National Motoring Heritage Day, supported by the Bayside Vehicle Restorers Club, with combined displays of historic cars and bikes and scale models that would make a collector's knees go weak.

President of the QHMC, Carle Gregory, says that people are usually attracted to historic cars and bikes because of the nostalgia factor.

"They're reminded of things they saw when they were children or teenagers, and there's curiosity about how things were back in the 'olden days'. The old vehicles are works of art; they had real style compared to new cars and you could easily identify the different makes," he says.

"Another attraction with pre-computerised cars is that you could work on them yourself; if something went wrong you could look at it, identify the problem and probably do something about it."

There will be a wide range of cars and bikes in the display, which

will hopefully include a 1976 Ford Falcon police car, a replica early MG and a three-way hearse*. When asked, Carle admitted that he couldn't say what his favourite make and model car is, "I love them all!"

A special entrant will be the 'Gooney Bird' Dakota DC3, one of the WW2 'Biscuit Bombers' that among many other tasks, dropped food supplies to troops engaged in war zones.

Proceeds of the day will go to the Robert Shannon Foundation and Farm Angels. The Foundation encourages people under the age of thirty to become involved in the restoration and preservation of historic vehicles, by assisting with costs and education fees; Farm Angels supports primary producers impacted by all natural disasters. The Cancer Council will run food stalls in the hall.

Originally founded in 1968, QHMC represents over 100 member clubs, with a total of 13,000 club members and 21,000 historic (more than 30 years old) vehicles. That's a lot of enthusiasm and love. Those early wheel developers didn't know what they'd started...

*A three-way hearse can unload a coffin from either side or from the rear. The trip is still one way.




Photos: Supplied.

The QHMC National Motoring Heritage Day will be held on May 17, 2025 at Ormiston State School from 7:00am to 12:00pm. Entry is cash only; \$10 per vehicle, \$5 for motorcycles and \$2 for the general public. All classic and historic vehicles are welcome.







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ESCAPING TO ST HELENA ISLAND FOR A HISTORY LESSON

FROM WYNNUM 60 AND BETTER

Don't let kids have all the school holiday fun! Adventurous bayside seniors are preparing to take off on a day trip overseas.

On the eve of Easter, Thursday April 17, a boatload of Wynnum 60 and Better members will set out on a 30-minute ferry ride to the fascinating island of St Helena, beckoning in the bay.

A historical treasure just five kilometres off Manly, the small island was first a colonial-era quarantine station, then an infamous gaol for decades, supported by an innovative prison farm and award-winning trade workshops.

Wynnum 60 and Better program manager Wendy Stewart said the island excursion was a five-kilometre guided walk of the penal settlement ruins. "The tour is designed for people in reasonably good health," said Wendy. "Wear sturdy walking shoes, a shady hat and sunscreen, bring insect repellent, and prepare to be enthralled."

A world away from the mainland, this picturesque place is brimming with ghosts of the past, local stories and natural beauty. "The entire island is a history lesson, from earliest Aboriginal occupation, through the harshness of prison settlement and stories of great sadness and ingenuity, to the heritage National Park of today," said Wendy.

"Besides, it's a bit of a lark to add a little 'back to school' for our local seniors because we are based in the old school building in Wynnum, and St Helena Island is typically a school excursion. We can't have the kids stealing all the holiday adventures!"

Better still, the boat carries double the number of passengers than the centre's usual monthly bus trips, making it the perfect opportunity to experience one of the most engrossing days out on the bayside.



Wynnum 60 and Better members. Photo: Supplied.

"Anyone who is not sure if they can walk the distance can give me a call to find out further details. All of our activities are for members only, but it only takes a few minutes to join and membership is just \$10 per calendar year. Our only requirement is that you are at least 60 years old."

Wynnum 60 and Better's St Helena Island tour with Cat O'Nine Tails Cruises departs on Thursday April 17, 2025 at 9:00am from William Gunn Jetty, Manly, and returns at 2:00pm. The cost is \$55 a head, including lunch.

For more information and bookings, contact Wendy Stewart at 07 3348 6306 or admin@wynnum60andbetter.org.au.

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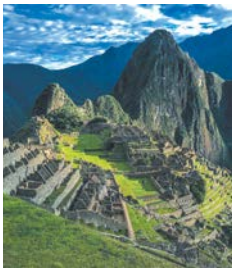
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Travel Dates: 14 November – 23 November 2025

LOCAL GARDENING WITH KAT

A PASSION FOR FLOWERS

BY KAT PEARSON, *GIRL IN THE GREEN*

Ah, the ubiquitous passionfruit. Just like mulberries and lemon trees, they have been a staple backyard addition for forever. Apart from a tendency to smother anything in their path, they take relatively little effort and soon produce so much fruit that you can't make enough pavlovas. Assuming the rats don't eat them first. Or the possums.

But, in my opinion, there is more to the passionfruit than the fruit. The flowers are stunning, and in a climate where we can't grow delicate clematis and perhaps struggle with climbing roses, Passiflora vines are here for you.

If you have yet to pay attention to the common Passiflora edulis (or regular edible passionfruit) flowers, they are works of beauty. The base ring of petals with the frilly 'corona filaments' sitting on top, stick out at right angles like a tutu. Look at the flower from the side, and you will notice the anther and stigma (boy and girl bits) sticking up, looking, at least to me, quite alien-like. And if you thought the regular passionfruit flowers were something special, you need to investigate some of the other species.

Another variety that produces edible fruit is P. quadrangularis or the giant granadilla. These fruit grow to the size of a football, and I've heard they taste like sweet tropical melon, although I wouldn't know because the few fruit my vine has managed to produce have been eaten by rats. We all know rats always take the good stuff, though, so I assume they're delicious. Nevertheless, I persist because the flowers are out of this world! A similar structure to P. edulis, they are much bigger, have even more squiggly (technical term there) filaments and are the most brilliant shade of purple.

Another stunner, not grown for fruit, is P. racemosa. The filaments are smaller, but the longer coral-coloured petals are reflexed (bent backwards), and as the species name suggests, flowers are born in racemes or clusters that hang down from a slightly less boisterous vine, making it the perfect climber for an obelisk or graceful archway.

Regular passionfruit vines are available everywhere. The other two I mentioned should be able to be sourced through local nurseries or online.



Clockwise from left: P. quadrangularis, P. quadrangularis, P. racemosa, P. edulis, P. racemosa. Photos by Kat Pearson.

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Queensland rentals – listed one week, leased the next

FROM THE REAL ESTATE INSTITUTE OF QLD

Queensland's rental market in 2024 was characterised by quarter after quarter of tight vacancy rates, with the strain on rental supply continuing in the December quarter.

The Real Estate Institute of Queensland's (REIQ) residential vacancy rate report for the final quarter of 2024 shows a statewide vacancy rate of 1.0% – mirroring the rate of the previous two quarters and only slightly increasing from 0.9% in the first quarter.

Of the 50 local government areas and sub-regions covered in the report, vacancy rates tightened in 18, remained stable in 15, and relaxed in 17 this quarter.

Cook (0.0%) retained the unenviable position as the tightest region in the state, with Goondiwindi and Charters Towers only just moving the dial at 0.1%.

At the other end of the spectrum, the Bay Islands (3.5%), including North Stradbroke, Russell, Macleay, Karragarra, Lamb, and Coochiemudlo, held a healthy vacancy, along with Isaac at 3.2% – the only other healthy rental market in the report.

The December quarter delivered some strong seasonal swings, with holiday hotspot Noosa's vacancy rate halving compared to the previous quarter from 2.4% to 1.2%.

REIQ CEO Antonia Mercorella said reporting on 'little to no vacancies' had begun to feel like a broken record, with nearly every region recording a vacancy rate in the tight range and well below a healthy rating of 2.6-3.5%.

"Despite the movements over the quarter and over the year, 48 out of the 50 regions in the report have landed in what we classify as a tight rental market," Ms Mercorella said.

"A tight vacancy figure tells a story of fewer properties becoming available for rent, and for those that do, they are not considered 'vacant' until they've been listed for over three weeks.

"The ugly reality is that when you have a prolonged tight rental market like this, everyone feels it. We know that the most vulnerable in our community are the hardest hit; however, its impact is felt at all levels, including amongst those with higher or double incomes."



Regarding the biggest falls and rises in vacancy rates in the December quarter, Ms Mercorella explained some seasonal factors could be at play. However, it was difficult to pinpoint the cause.

"It's not uncommon to see people relocating at the end of the year, and we suspect in the case of Noosa it could be attributed to people taking a 'try before you buy' approach – renting and enjoying the summer holidays while waiting for the right property," she said.

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Re/Max Wynnum-Manly Office Recognised As Australia's Most Productive Real Estate Team

FROM RE/MAX ADVANTAGE

RE/MAX Advantage won the title of 'Most Productive' for its performance through 2024, which was announced at RE/MAX Australia's gala annual awards event held on 20th February at The Star Brisbane.

The award recognises the most effective team in generating business over 12 months as determined by the average gross commission per sales associate in the office and was a repeat of the previous year's accomplishment.

Also announced each February, the RE/MAX Australia Club Awards recognise the preparation, effort, performance and commitment essential to real estate success. Broker owner Travis Gill and his teammate, Liza Martinez, were awarded Diamond Club status for their achievements in 2024. Sales associate Jan Mahon entered the Gold Club.

RE/MAX Australia acknowledged operations manager Lorraine Carter's 10 years of continuous service at the real estate network's gala event.

Joel Davoren, Managing Director of RE/MAX Australia, said the network's most successful offices in 2024 shared one thing:

business practices guided by overarching principles of strong, trust-based relationship management.

"Everyone in the team works together as partners while building rapport, earning loyalty and establishing mutual trust with their clients, and this was never more vital than in recent years.

"RE/MAX was founded 52 years ago with an innovative, entrepreneurial culture that gives its agents and franchisees the flexibility to operate their businesses with great independence," he said. "The strength of the RE/MAX brand in Australia is a testament to the seriousness we place on having the best people in our offices, people like Travis and his team, as well as the RE/MAX business model."

Mr Davoren said real estate customers could be confident they were dealing with the industry's best when they dealt with the Wynnum-Manly-based RE/MAX Advantage teams.

"I'm proud of my team and very pleased to be recognised for our skills, enthusiasm and dedication," said Mr Gill, who can be contacted on 0407 124 733 or via email at travis.gill@remaxwm.com.au.



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ROTARY CLUB OF WYNNUM AND MANLY CELEBRATES LOCAL YOUTH

FROM LES LOUIS, ROTARY CLUB OF WYNNUM AND MANLY

The Rotary Club of Wynnum and Manly has recognised some outstanding young people in its recent Citizenship Awards.

The club has also provided opportunities for several other young people to experience the magic of science and for others to learn how to transition from school to life after school. "These young people are an inspiration to us all and our future is assured when youth of this calibre are coming through," said president Mick Matthews.

The Citizenship Awards are bestowed on outstanding senior high school students who embody Rotary's core values of integrity, service and helping others. The awardees were nominated by their schools, and the award winners were recognised at a recent club meeting, where they addressed the club and spoke about their future dreams.

Charlotte Bluck (Wynnum State High School), Ella Luckensmeyer (Moreton Bay College) and Kahtie Neave (Brisbane Bayside State College) spoke at the meeting, but Arie Van KerKwyk from Iona College was unable to attend.

Charlotte was School Captain and was involved in a wide range of activities, excelling in academic subjects and work ethics and being

a role model for her peers. She was prominent in public speaking, a lead in school musicals and had previously been Year 9 Captain. She will be studying International Business Studies.

Ella received her Citizenship Award because of her strength of character, sense of justice, loyalty, leadership and always being there for her peers. She assisted Grade 7 students in Grade 11; she was House Cultural Captain and Captain of Art in 2024. Ella wants to study Visual Arts.

According to deputy principal Louise Briers, Kahtie Neave is a ray of sunshine every day. She is a dedicated and hardworking student, representing the student council at numerous events, including an event at Parliament House. She worked hard to improve her grades and was involved in senior basketball, concerts and the arts, becoming Senior House Captain in 2024. She would like a career in music or, running her own cake business, or both!

In addition to these awardees, it has been particularly pleasing to hear from other students we have supported at recent meetings. Science Experience attendees Charles McKee, Eva Healey, Nev Kaper and Miles Bailey spoke about their exhilarating interaction with science at



Photo: Supplied.

our universities in Brisbane; Hemish Dubey also told of his experience at the London International Youth Science Forum; and Oliver Zaccaria explained the value of attending the National Youth Science Forum in Canberra this year. Angus Clouston gave an entertaining account of his week-long camp, where participants could look at the issues of moving into the world after school. Their presentations reinforced the conclusion that our future is in safe hands.

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OZFISH CHAPTER SAVES OVER 1,000 TONNES OF SHELLS FROM LANDFILLS

FROM MARK ROSSOW, OZ FISH COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER, CENTRAL MORETON BAY CHAPTER

OzFish is Australia’s only fishing conservation charity dedicated to empowering and supporting recreational anglers and their communities to take control of the health of their rivers, lakes and estuaries. We operate nationwide and, through our network of members and volunteers, are organised into local chapters. OzFish has delivered dozens of impactful habitat restoration projects that benefit fish.

The OzFish Central Moreton Bay Chapter collections team deserves immense recognition and congratulations for reaching an extraordinary milestone. They have successfully collected and diverted over 1,000 tonnes of oyster shell material from landfills, marking a significant achievement with far-reaching benefits for both the environment and marine ecosystems. This accomplishment is not just a numerical

feat but a testament to their dedication to sustainability and environmental stewardship.

The shells collected by the team will be repurposed to construct new shellfish reefs, which play a critical role in supporting marine life. These reefs serve as essential habitats for a variety of species, offering shelter, breeding grounds, and feeding areas. Beyond providing ecological homes, shellfish reefs also contribute to improving water quality by filtering pollutants and excess nutrients from the water. This natural filtration process enhances the overall health of marine environments and



Photos: Supplied.

promotes greater biodiversity, creating a more balanced and resilient ecosystem.

LOCAL READERS: A BOOK REVIEW – JAMES BY PERCIVAL EVERETT

BY ANNE CROWLEY

WHAT THE EXPERTS SAID:

“A brilliant reimagining of *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* – both harrowing and ferociously funny – told from the enslaved Jim’s point of view.

“When Jim overhears that he is about to be sold to a man in New Orleans, separated from his wife and daughter forever, he runs away until he can formulate a plan. Meanwhile, Huck has faked his own death to escape his violent father... thus begins the dangerous and transcendent journey by raft down the Mississippi River toward the elusive and unreliable promise of the Free States and beyond.

“Brimming with the electrifying humour and lacerating observations that have made Everett a literary icon, this brilliant and tender novel radically illuminates Jim’s agency, intelligence, and compassion as never before.” (goodreads.com)

MY THOUGHTS:

Jim led a double life, feigning ignorance and illiteracy to stay under the radar rather than attract the wrath of his white slave owners. In fact, he was a well-read philosophically and strategically-thinking man, living by his values including honour and kindness – and he had a great sense of humour.

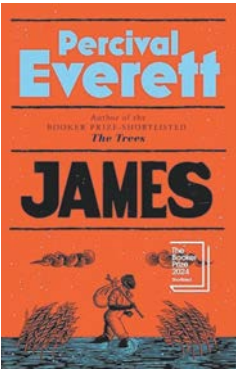
Jim is a likeable character, through whose eyes we gain an insight into the experience of slaves in

the southern states of America – generally appalling, often outrageous, and at times hilarious. My favourite quote comes after a bizarre situation where Jim was enlisted as a member of a travelling minstrel group and was required to use black face (as did the white members of the group) so people would think he was white pretending to be black – he could not be discovered to actually be black. He says: “Never had a situation felt so absurd, surreal and ridiculous. And I had spent my life as a slave!”

We see Jim, after many dangerous encounters, eventually claim his truth proudly and become James. I believe there was a turning point where, having numerous times been ‘damned if I do and damned if I don’t’ he finally chose DO.

I really enjoyed the book – far more than *Huckleberry Finn*, which I read after *James* and found impenetrable in terms of the slave lingo and really annoying in the depiction of the so gullible and ignorant Jim.

Almost all my book club friends also really enjoyed it – bar one, who found it contrived and unbelievable. Life would be dull if we all thought the same way! I’d recommend it.



LOCAL POETRY AVE MARIA

BY GEOFF SMILEY

She stands there;
in beauty, singing
Ave Maria,
perfect mother.
Violet eyes, dark hair,
caring and maternal.

Arms reaching out
embracing, promising
never to leave.
There is love in those eyes;
the giving of herself
in generous love

for her receptive child.
Ave Maria,
maternal perfection
for the lonely.



Investing in Property Debt Funds

FROM CAPITAL PROPERTY FUNDS

The global economic landscape is evolving and is being driven largely by US trade policy.

The United States' implementation, reversal, and then subsequent implementation of stringent tariffs has caused global economic uncertainty, leading to volatility in global stock indexes such as the S&P 500.

Comments by US president Donald Trump, regarding a potential US recession, has further exacerbated concerns and, as at the date of this article, these concerns are being reflected in a lowering in US Treasury yields – a proxy for interest rates.

Meanwhile, central banks worldwide are trying to navigate potential 'stagflation' – being rising inflation and declining economic growth.

In this uncertain economic environment, property debt funds may prove an attractive investment option for investors looking for capital stability combined with high-income yield.

A property debt fund is a type of investment where investors pool their money together in a fund, which then provides loans to real estate projects. These loans are secured against the property, meaning if something goes wrong, the property can be sold to recover the investment. Real estate is generally regarded as a very stable asset class in Australia.

Unlike listed equities, which are highly sensitive to economic uncertainty, property debt funds are generally regarded as less volatile due to the fact they are not listed on the stock exchange and are secured via mortgages over real estate. The security of real estate assets means that even in cases of borrower default, investors have a level of protection.

In addition, property debt funds generate regular income returns based on fixed interest payments from borrowers.

Due to stricter regulation on traditional banks, their reduced appetite to lend has created an opportunity for alternative lenders like property debt funds to fill the funding gap. This has led to an increase in demand for private real estate credit, allowing these funds to negotiate favourable lending terms, further enhancing investor returns. Additionally, RBA cuts to the official cash rate could create a tailwind for the real estate sector, improving borrower conditions and reducing default risks.

For investors seeking capital stability and a consistent income yield in a challenging economic climate, property debt funds may offer a compelling investment opportunity.



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EASTER BUNNY CUPCAKES



Hop to it! These fluffy vanilla cupcakes topped with creamy buttercream and adorable bunny decorations are fun to prepare and delicious to eat!

INGREDIENTS

CUPCAKES

- 1 ½ cups (190g) all-purpose flour
- 1 ½ tsp baking powder
- ¼ tsp salt
- ½ cup (115g) unsalted butter, softened
- ¾ cup (150g) sugar
- 2 large eggs
- 2 tsp vanilla extract
- ½ cup (120ml) milk

ICING

- ½ cup (230g) unsalted butter, softened
- 2 cups (375g) caster sugar
- 2 tbsp milk
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- A dash of food colouring (you choose the colour, we love pastels!)

TO DECORATE (choose a few, or all of these and be creative!)

- Mini chocolate or candy eggs
- Mini marshmallows (for bunny ears)
- Mini chocolate chips (for bunny eyes)
- Pink jelly beans (for the nose)



METHOD

1. Preheat your oven to 175°C. Line a 12-cup muffin tin with cupcake liners.
2. In a bowl, whisk together the flour, baking powder, and salt. In a separate bowl, beat the butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Add eggs one at a time, then mix in the vanilla. Alternate between adding the flour mixture and milk, starting and ending with the dry ingredients.
3. Divide the batter evenly among the liners and bake for 18-20 minutes or until a toothpick comes out clean. Let cool completely.
4. Beat butter for the icing until smooth, then gradually add in the sugar. Mix in vanilla and milk, beating until fluffy, then add food colouring to the icing.
5. Pipe a swirl of frosting on each cupcake, then you're ready to decorate. You might like to cut mini marshmallows diagonally to create bunny ears, then add mini chocolate chips for eyes and a pink jelly bean for the nose. Or you could create a nest of chocolate or candy eggs on your cupcake.

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LOCAL FISHING WITH SPERO

THERE’S LIGHT ON THE BAY AFTER ALFRED’S DESTRUCTION

BY SPERO KARTANOS

I don't really want to remember March, and as for Alfred, 'scary' is the only word I can use to describe it, as well as the devastation and hurt folks in the area went through – and some are still suffering. Looking back over the years, March seems to be the time of the year for experiencing terrible weather in this part of the state, with horrible storms and big winds, and this year, nature gave us one to remember and tell our grandchildren about.

But as nature has it, a few weeks have passed, and the bay looks like nothing happened with all the fishing and catches back to normal. The whiting are normally bigger around Amity Banks and the Rous this time of year, and the prawns and crabs seem to be flushed out. Reef fishing takes a little longer as thousands of catfish get flushed out of the rivers, and the pelagic fish – like the school mackerel – tend to swim into the wind, so Peel and the Rainbow Channel will be worth looking at, as will the close-in areas as the water clears.

So, get out there and catch a fish; it's great for the soul and any anxiety you feel after a horrible event. Till next month, keep safe and good fishing.



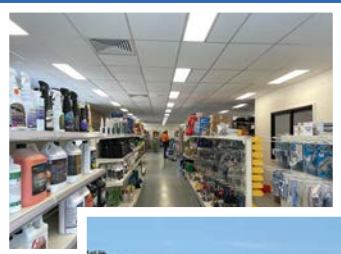
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BMD’S UTE ARMY HELPS WITH POST-CYCLONE CLEANUP

FROM BMD

Australia’s largest privately-owned civil contractor mobilised its Ute Army, donating resources and gear in response to Lord Mayor Adrian Schrinner’s call for assistance.

The 20-strong BMD team worked alongside Brisbane City Council and local volunteers to aid in recovery efforts, clearing green waste from the streets of Brisbane post Ex-Tropical Cyclone Alfred.

Across three days, BMD’s Ute Army made an impact, providing crucial support to affected residents, and transporting debris to designated disposal sites.

BMD assisted over 130 households, covering 120 streets in more than 20 suburbs throughout Brisbane, filling over 75 two-tonne tipper loads of green waste.

BMD CEO Scott Power said their commitment to supporting community aligns with its values and way of operating.

“At BMD, community is at the heart of everything we do. From building infrastructure to lending a helping hand, we’re committed

to connecting and transforming communities every step of the way.

“We are a company built on relationships, and it’s that sense of community and partnership that drives us to make a difference. Seeing our team, partners, and the broader community come together to roll up their sleeves and help is truly in the spirit of our values.”

Community support also came from local businesses, with Felons Brewing Co generously donating cartons of their award-winning beer to thank BMD’s volunteers, as highlighted on Nine’s Today Show. The goodwill extended further, with BMD sharing 55 cartons with volunteers via Federal Member for Bonner Ross Vasta MP, Wynnum Manly Ward Councillor Alexandra Givney, and Doboy Councillor Lisa Atwood.

With a commitment to making a positive impact and leaving enduring legacies, BMD is a company that lives by its core values – empowering its people and building relationships that make a lasting difference.



Photo: Supplied.





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LIVING LIFE AT THE POINTY END – THIS IS THE SES

If you’ve needed the help of the SES during Ex-Tropical Cyclone Alfred’s rampage through the bayside, the smiling face, the reassuring words and the capable assistance may well have been from SES member Cindel Richardson or one of her team.

Cindel, group leader of the Cleveland State Emergency Service, has been a member of the SES for 24 years, joining as a teenager in Yeppoon to gain the experience necessary to join the police service. Mission accomplished; Cindel has been a police officer for 17 years and is now an Acting Inspector within the Multicultural Affairs Unit of the Queensland police service. “I just like getting out into the community and helping out where I can,” she says.

Her skills at getting out and helping are evidenced by Cindel’s awards, including the RCC’s Australia Day 2025 achievement award, the Spirit of Suncorp Award, and various other regional awards and police awards – though she’s quick to refer to the importance of the team.

“Knowing who you are and knowing where your limits are and knowing your team is vital,” she says. “Team members need to support each other as well as the community and you have to draw on your reserves of empathy and emotional intelligence while keeping a resilient space for yourself. There’s a real sense of camaraderie in this team, they’re close and they’re passionate.”

Are there any frustrations?

“The main frustration for all of us is being obliged to go home and rest when there’s still work to be done,” she grins.

There’s no doubt of the high esteem and regard that the community feels for the SES and it finds expression in small but sincere ways.

“There’s nothing like feeling the relief that people experience when you turn up in their hour of need – members of the team just give it all they can – even if their own properties are damaged they just put their orange on and get out there to help,” Cindel says.

“A really good thing happened during Alfred – a couple of the women on the team were chucking on their chainsaw chaps and getting out the big chainsaws to clear a tree and a little girl came out of the house with a note saying that them showing up gave the family an understanding that women can do anything. A lot of individuals and charity groups turn up with food and support – it means a lot.”

So, what else keeps the commitment and the energy going?

“My biggest concern is being there to do my bit for my three families – my kids, my ‘orange’ SES family and my ‘blue’ police family; they’re my worlds,” she says. “It can become challenging to balance the three and



Photo: Supplied.

sometimes there are overlaps, such as police searches for missing persons that may involve the SES so it’s good to be interoperable across the boundaries, guidelines and rules of both organisations – but my main concern will always be for my kids.”

Cindel is on first-name terms with several of eastern Australia’s historic disasters, including Marcia, Yasi and Larry, as well as bushfires in NSW but she says that you don’t have to be super-fit to be a SES volunteer.

“We have members of various abilities and ages – some of our volunteers are in their mid-eighties – and they give what they can, through the peer support program, administration, logistics, organising supplies. You don’t always have to climb on roofs and cut trees or get out the flood boat. If you’re interested, get onto our website and see how we work.”

In the meantime, Cindel and her team are there at the pointy end – just getting out into the community and helping.

For more information at the SES, go to <https://www.ses.qld.gov.au/>.

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ICONIC ‘EYESORE’ GONE, YET IMMORTALISED AS PART OF QR UPGRADE

Commuters from bayside suburbs travelling to and from the CBD have been curiously watching the upgrade of Morningside train station on their commutes.

Now, the final piece of an infamous Morningside ‘eyesore’ has come down as part of the station upgrade. But the iconic footbridge, famed for its brutalist style, isn’t gone forever – it’s immortalised in a local artwork displayed at the station.

It’s been a feature of the Morningside suburb for decades, dividing residents over whether it was a brutalist masterpiece or just plain brute – but now the iconic steel footbridge is, well, nothing at all. A stalwart feature of the station since 1992, the final pieces of the iconic steel bridge were removed during a weekend track closure in February 2025.

Two cranes completed the removal, pulling 51 tonnes of steel from the structure, adding to the 274 metres of concrete linear ramp already demolished early in 2024.

True to the saying that beauty is in the eye of the beholder, the structure will be immortalised in a stunning artwork, *Bright Night* by local artist Patricia Woods, which will be mounted on the station, so

locals can enjoy it for decades more.

The modernised station reopened in December 2024, with bike enclosure and carpark works continuing.

“Whether you liked or loathed the old steel footbridge at Morningside station it was certainly a picture of brutalism which was iconic to the suburb and train station,” said Queensland Rail Head of South East Queensland Neil Backer.

“It might be gone, but it is also immortalised in Patricia Woods’ artwork *Bright Night*, which will grace the Wynnum Road entry side of the station.

“Our crews and contractors did a stellar job of completing its removal safely and efficiently during recent planned track closures.

“It was time for an accessible upgrade, and so the new footbridge, complete with lifts, maintains the connection between the station platforms, Waminda Street and Wynnum Road at Morningside station.

“We thank our customers for their patience while the final accessibility improvements at Morningside station continue.”



Photo: Supplied.



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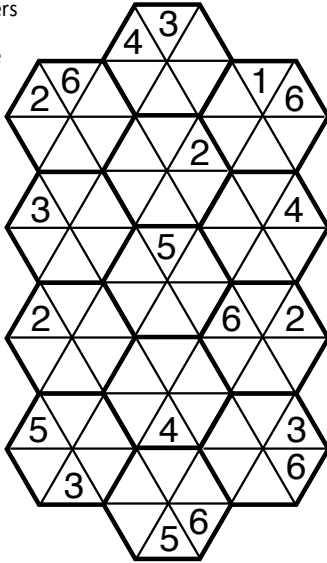
Sudoku

Fill in the blank cells using numbers from 1 to 9. Each number can only appear once in each row, column and 3x3 block.

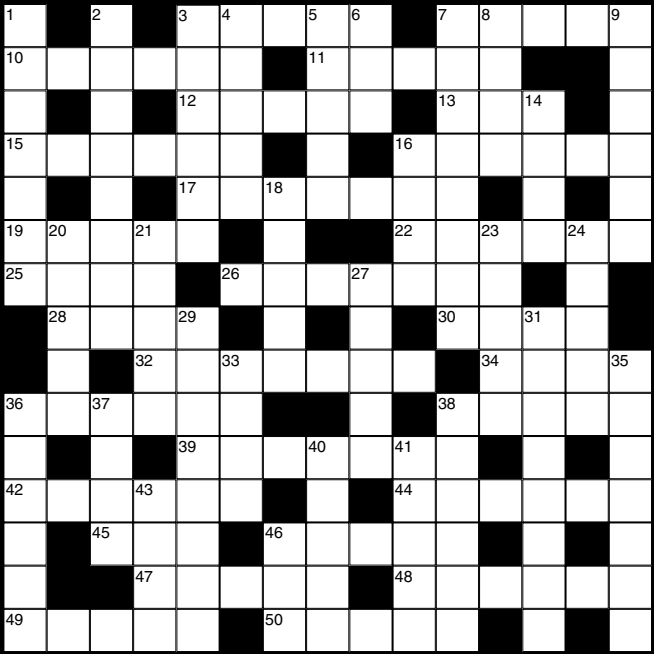
6					9			5
2								
			1				3	
		4		6	7			
5		9			2			6
					3			9
			5				2	1
		3					7	4
	4					5		

Quick Workout

Fit the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 into the hexagons so that where the hexagons touch, the numbers will be the same. No number is repeated in any hexagon.



Crossword



- ACROSS**

 - 3 Social event
 - 7 Prejudiced person
 - 10 Rubber
 - 11 Wanderer
 - 12 Sea nymph
 - 13 Fate
 - 15 Combines
 - 16 Persons under age
 - 17 Arbitrator
 - 19 Expel by legal process
 - 22 Exact satisfaction for
 - 25 Identical
 - 26 Dyed
 - 28 Be ahead
 - 30 Eats evening meal
 - 32 Brother or sister
 - 34 Incisions
 - 36 Stick
 - 38 Thick
 - 39 Sanction
- DOWN**

 - 1 Makes safe
 - 2 Of the sea
 - 3 Barren place
 - 4 Get up
 - 5 Pancake
 - 6 Vast age
 - 7 Credits
 - 8 Golf club
 - 9 Sharp struggle
 - 14 Rent
- 16 Spiteful
 - 18 Death-dealing
 - 20 Well-founded
 - 21 Stop
 - 23 Draw forth
 - 24 Sudden wind blasts
 - 27 Interior
 - 29 Ordered
 - 31 Prompt
 - 33 Curved
 - 35 Hide away
 - 36 Foreigners
 - 37 Brick troughs
 - 38 Merchant
 - 40 Musical drama
 - 41 Garden tool
 - 43 Greek letter
 - 46 Solemn promise

Focus An All Australian Word Game

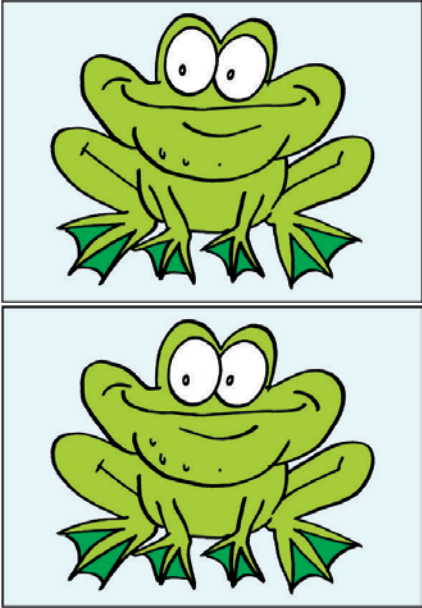
- * Each word must contain the centre 'Focus' letter and each letter may be used only once
- * Each word must be four letters or more
- * Find at least one nine letter word
- * No swear words
- * No verb forms or plurals ending in 's'
- * No proper nouns and no hyphenated words

TODAY'S FOCUS

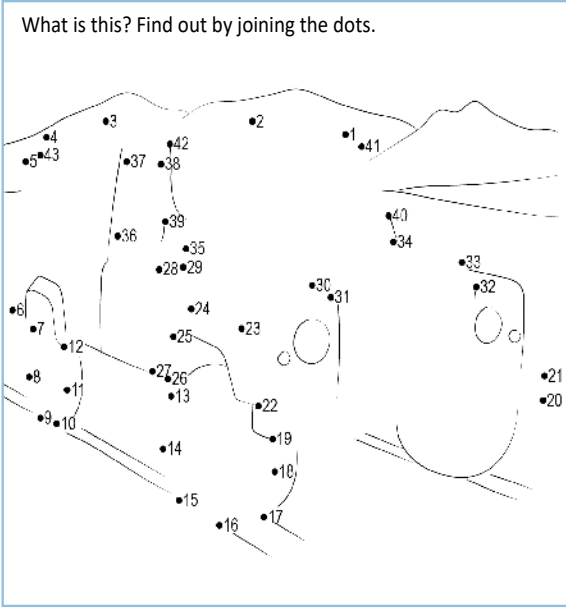
Good: 9 words
Very good: 18 words
Excellent: 32 words

Reference: Macquarie Concise Dictionary
Focus No. 3892

Spot the 5 Differences



Join the Dots



Solutions

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UNDERSTANDING DECAY: PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OPTIONS

FROM DENTAL ON CAMBRIDGE

Tooth decay is one of the most common dental issues affecting people of all ages. Despite its prevalence, many people don't fully understand what decay is, how it develops, and the options available to repair damaged teeth. At Dental on Cambridge, we're here to provide the knowledge, tools, and care you need to protect your smile from decay and restore it when necessary.

WHAT IS TOOTH DECAY?

Tooth decay occurs when the hard outer layer of your teeth, known as enamel, is damaged by acids produced by bacteria in your mouth. These bacteria feed on sugars and starches left behind from food and drinks, producing acid that gradually destroys the enamel. Over time, decay can penetrate deeper into the tooth, reaching the dentin and even the pulp, where nerves and blood vessels are located. If untreated, decay can lead to pain, infection, or tooth loss.

SIGNS OF TOOTH DECAY

Some common signs of decay include:

- Tooth sensitivity to hot, cold, or sweet foods and drinks.
- Visible holes or dark spots on the teeth.
- Pain when biting or chewing.
- Persistent toothache or discomfort.

If you notice any of these signs, it's important to seek dental care promptly to prevent further damage to your teeth and costly treatment.

HOW CAN I PREVENT TOOTH DECAY?

Prevention is always better than cure, and the good news is that tooth decay is largely preventable with proper care. Here are some steps you can take to protect your teeth:

- 1. Maintain Good Oral Hygiene:** Brush your teeth at least twice a day and floss daily to remove food particles and plaque. Yes – we said DAILY!
- 2. Regular Dental Visits:** Schedule check-ups and cleans every six months to catch any early signs of decay and remove tartar build-up. Behind in your exam and cleans? It's never too late to get back on top of your oral health!
- 3. Eat a Healthy Diet:** Limit sugary snacks and drinks, and opt for tooth-friendly foods like fruits, vegetables, and dairy products. Drinking water with meals also helps to wash away any residual food.
- 4. Use Toothpaste containing Fluoride:** Fluoride strengthens enamel, making it more resistant to decay. Your dentist may recommend additional fluoride treatments for added protection.
- 5. Dental Sealants:** For children and adults, sealants can be applied to the grooves of molars to prevent decay in hard-to-reach areas.

WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS FOR REPAIRING DECAY?

If decay has already affected your tooth, don't worry – there are effective treatments to restore your smile. At Dental on Cambridge,

we offer a range of options tailored to the severity of the decay:

- 1. Fillings:** For minor cavities, we remove the decayed portion of the tooth and fill it with a durable material such as composite resin.
- 2. Crowns:** If decay has significantly weakened the tooth, a crown (or cap) may be placed over it to restore its strength and function.
- 3. Root Canal Treatment:** When decay reaches the pulp, a root canal is needed to remove the infected tissue, and clean and seal the canals. This procedure saves the natural tooth from extraction and alleviates pain.
- 4. Extractions and Replacements:** In severe cases where the tooth cannot be saved, extraction may be necessary. We can provide tooth replacement options like dental implants, bridges, or dentures to restore your smile.

YOUR PARTNER IN DENTAL HEALTH

At Dental on Cambridge, our goal is to provide exceptional care that keeps your smile healthy and beautiful. Whether you're seeking preventive advice or need treatment for decay, our experienced Dentists are here to guide you every step of the way. If you're concerned about tooth decay or need a new dental perspective call us on 3348 6661 or visit www.dentaloncambridge.com to schedule your appointment. Together, we'll ensure your teeth stay strong and healthy for years to come!



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