

SHOP LOCALLY THIS CHRISTMAS — IT'S A WIN-WIN FOR ALL!

You know it's Christmas on the bayside when the poincianas are blooming, the sea breeze is warm, and the kids are counting down to sunset so they can check out the Christmas lights. Evening strolls turn into mini-adventures, and festive vibes are everywhere. Life's busy, but it's fun.

Need to tick off items on your Christmas shopping list? Lucky for us, the bayside is packed with awesome local businesses ready to help make your holidays extra special. When you shop locally, everybody wins!

And let's talk Christmas spirit – because we've got sleigh-loads of it! Manly Harbour Village is glowing thanks to the Christmas Lights Competition (details on page 16), and Bayside Carols is back on December 20 with an hours-long lineup that'll get everyone singing (check out page 2). And Wynnum Wonderland

will light up Bay Terrace with evening markets and spiegeltent shows with a festive twist (more on page 9).

Last month, we revealed the nominees for the Bayside Community Awards. Flip to page 42 to see who took home the honours. Huge congrats to all the winners, nominees and the Bayside Community Fund – you make this place a top spot to live, work and play.

A big thank you to everyone who has been part of The Community Leader this year. It's been a team effort, driven by community contributions, and we couldn't do it without you.

Have a cracking bayside Christmas and see you in the new year!

Pictured: Manly Harbour Village Chamber of Commerce members L-R: Jessica Nguyen (Manly Village Pharmacy), David Farley, Julieann Star (Ebb + Flow Boutique), Peter Cumming, and Tammy Vitale (Vitale & Co).



MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE...
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BAYSIDE

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BEST MONEY. EVERY TIME.

BAYSIDE CAROLS BRINGS FIVE HOURS OF FESTIVE JOY TO MANLY ESPLANADE

CONTRIBUTED BY THE QUEENSLAND SERVICES HERITAGE BAND ASSOCIATION

Christmas spirit will be shining bright on Saturday, December 20, 2025, when the Queensland Services Heritage Band Association (QSHBA) hosts its much-loved Bayside Carols at George Clayton Park, Manly Esplanade.

Now in its 12th year, the free community event promises more than five hours of festive entertainment for the whole family. The celebrations begin at 2:00pm with a pre-carols variety show featuring local artists and groups, followed by the main concert of Christmas carols at 6:45pm.

Families are encouraged to bring a rug or chairs and settle in for an afternoon of fun, including rides for the kids, food stalls, and plenty of Christmas cheer.

This year's event will also feature an LED screen and live-stream to mark QSHBA's 20th anniversary of providing music and entertainment across Queensland.

"For two decades, we've supported communities through music at festivals, ceremonies, and special events," said event organiser Paul, from QSHBA. "Bayside Carols is our way of saying thank you to our local community."

The association's Christmas message for 2025 is 'Never let the lights go out' - a reminder to keep the joy and light of community events burning brightly, no matter the challenges in the world.

Anyone interested in performing, volunteering, or helping organise events can contact Paul on 0418 740 919 or email qshba@topshowmusic.com.au.

Bring your family, join your neighbours, and celebrate the season as Bayside Carols lights up the waterfront once again!





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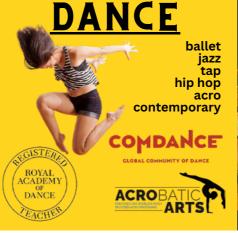
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A MERRY & SAFE CHRISTMAS FOR ALL CREATURES GREAT & SMALL

The festive season is approaching, and Emma Lagoon, spokesperson for the RSPCA, has tips on the special care pet owners need to exercise during the festive season.

"Make sure your pet, no matter what it is, has plenty of water and shade," she says. "Don't leave animals tied up in the backyard; the sun moves throughout the day, and restraints can get tangled so the animal can't reach shade and water.

"When you're travelling, don't leave pets in hot cars or on hot ute trays. If you are planning to go away, book in early with a reputable pet sitter; having back-up options is a good idea. Not every animal will enjoy being in a kennel, so if that's your option, check the kennel, its routines, and food supplied — pets are creatures of habit!"

Emma says that clipping dogs in hot weather is appropriate for some breeds, but others need their long coats, so it's best to consult with the pet's vet and groomer about the best option.

"Some dogs really appreciate the clam shell pools to cool off in," she says, "and it's a good idea to walk dogs in the cool times of the day or on the grass – hot pavements can burn their paws."

If you find injured wildlife, call the local wildlife carer or the RSPCA on 1300 264 625, between 7:00 am and 7:00 pm. If the injured animal is anything that can bite or scratch, contact an expert.

While adopting an animal from the RSPCA is a good and caring act, it requires forethought – especially during this season of gift-giving.

"Make sure you're not gifting a pet as a surprise for someone," says Emma. "It should be a family decision, not impulse buying. Pets are a lifelong commitment."

Watch for toxic foods and pets this Christmas; these are all harmful: cooked bones, onions, garlic, chocolate, caffeine, nuts, grapes, raisins, and sultanas (including those in Christmas cake), as well as fatty and preserved meats.

"We've also had dogs come into the RSPCA with corn cobs stuck in their tummy, so do not leave them lying around," says Emma.

"And if you're going away or there are storms/fireworks, ensure your pet's microchip is up to date and they have a collar with ID in case they get lost."



Photo: Supplied.







Want more time out on the water with your family? Freedom Boat Club Brisbane is the answer!





SHARING JOY: BAYSIDE UNITING'S FREE BOXING DAY LUNCH

CONTRIBUTED BY DESIREE CLARKSON

For more than 40 years, Bayside Uniting Church has welcomed those feeling lonely during the festive season with a warm, free lunch. This tradition continues in 2025 with a Boxing Day gathering that celebrates community, kindness, and connection.

The event will be held on December 26 at midday, with doors opening at 11:30am. Guests will enjoy a delicious lunch and dessert, festive Christmas carols, and receive a thoughtful gift – all in a friendly, inclusive atmosphere.

Whether you're spending the holidays alone or simply looking to share in the joy of the season, Bayside Uniting Church invites you to join in this special celebration.

LOCATION: Bayside Uniting Church, 420 Wondall Road, Manly West, QLD 4179.

DATE AND TIME: Boxing Day, 26 December, lunch served at 12:00pm (doors open 11:30am).

RSVP: By December 12, 2025, to the church office at 3890 2395 (please provide your name and phone number).

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Desiree Clarkson, Church Council

Phone: 0417 730 601

Email: desireeclarkson@bigpond.com

Let's make this Christmas season a little brighter – one shared meal at a time.



Photo: Supplied.



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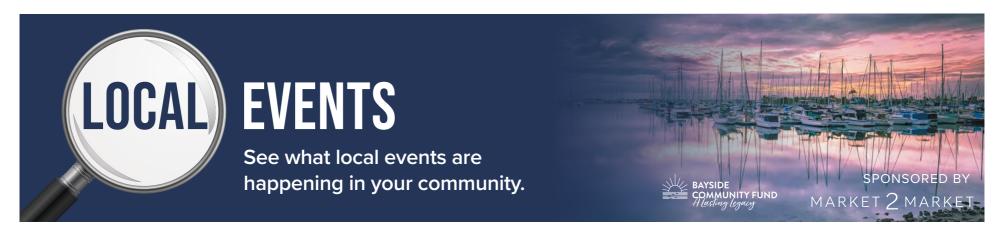
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If you're looking for something to do locally, check out The Community Leader's What's On page here and online.



DAVE HUGHES LIVE

Wednesday December 10, 6:30pm, Augathella Spiegeltent, Bay Terrace, Wynnum

Comedy legend Dave Hughes is back with his hilarious new show WTF?- a riotous hour of stand-up inspired by life's most baffling moments. With his signature Aussie wit and razor-sharp storytelling, Hughesy turns everyday chaos into comedy gold. Don't miss your chance to see the GOAT of stand-up live on stage. Tickets are flying, so book now before it's WTF... sold out! Go to wynnumwonderland.com for tickets.



FREE MOVIE IN THE PARK: HOME ALONE 2

Saturday December 6, 7:00pm, Little Bayside Park, Manly

Join the fun at Manly Harbour Village for a free outdoor screening of the family-friendly movie *Home Alone 2*. Bring a folding chair, rug, or cushion and settle in for a family-friendly night under the stars. Come early — music plays before the movie, and there's space for the kids to dance. Pack a picnic or pick up dinner from nearby restaurants offering a variety of options from burgers and fish and chips to gelato.



NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION AT MANLY

Wednesday December 31, from 7:00pm to midnight, Little Bayside Park, Manly

Celebrate New Year's Eve by the bay with fireworks, food, and family fun at Little Bayside Park. Manly Harbour Village invites everyone to a magical night under the stars on December 31. Enjoy live entertainment, movies, food trucks, and two spectacular fireworks displays (9:30pm and midnight) lighting up the waterfront. With a family-friendly atmosphere and free entry, it's the perfect way to ring in 2026 surrounded by friends, family, and seaside charm. For more information, visit manlyharbourvillage.com.



CAROLS IN THE SPIEGELTENT

Wednesday December 17, 7:00pm, Augathella Spiegeltent, Bay Terrace, Wynnum

Experience the wonder of Christmas at *Carols in the Spiegeltent*, a heartwarming night of music and joy at Wynnum Wonderland. Set beneath the enchanting spiegeltent, this festive celebration features Australia's finest voices performing beloved holiday classics. With dazzling performances, family-friendly fun, and a vibrant community atmosphere, it's the perfect way to light up your season. Tickets are available at wynnumwonderland.com.



SANTA VISITS

Friday 12 and 19 December, 5:00pm to 7:00pm, Wynnum Manly Leagues Club, Wondall Road, Manly West

Santa's coming to Wynnum Manly Leagues Club! Families are invited to enjoy a festive photo with Santa and receive a free chocolate stocking for every child. It's a joyful way to kick off the Christmas season and create magical memories before Santa returns to the North Pole. Don't miss this festive community celebration! Terms and conditions apply. Go to wynnummanlyleagues.com.au for more information.



THE NOUGHTY NINETIES PARTY

Saturday December 20, doors open at 7:00pm, The Lou Lou Room, Bay Terrace, Wynnum

Get ready to party like it's 1999 at The Noughty Nineties Party! Step into a full-blown Y2K time warp with live music, DJ sets, neon lights, and nonstop throwback anthems from the '90s and 2000s. From Blink 182 to Beyoncé, this 18+ event is packed with guilty pleasures and retro vibes. Dress in your best nostalgic fits — think butterfly clips, cargo pants, and metallic chaos. For tickets, go to www.theloulouroom.com.au.

CRIME STOPPERS BAYSIDE

CONTRIBUTED BY ROBERT PLUMMER

Crime Stoppers Brisbane Bayside supports a safe community by promoting the anonymous reporting of crime. We have volunteers across the bayside and Redland City areas, supported by Crime Stoppers Brisbane Bayside Volunteer Area Committee, winners of the 2024 Queensland Volunteer Area Committee of the Year award.

In addition to supporting anonymous reporting, the group promotes online safety with free E-scam presentations to community groups, via public forums, and at lifestyle villages. You can request a free presentation by visiting our Facebook page or emailing Crime Stoppers Queensland.

We would like to share the message below to help our community stay safe this festive season.

KEEP WATCH THIS FESTIVE SEASON

As Queenslanders gear up for the festive season, many of us will be heading away on holidays, spending more time outdoors, or simply enjoying the warmer weather with neighbours and friends. It's also a time when our streets can look a little different with more visitors, more deliveries, and sometimes, more opportunities for suspicious activity to go unnoticed.

Crime Stoppers Queensland is encouraging everyone to stay alert and look out for things that seem out of place in your neighbourhood. This could include unfamiliar vehicles parked for long periods, people loitering near homes or businesses, or someone looking into yards or sheds. Even small details can help police connect the dots and prevent crime in your community.

If something doesn't look or feel right, trust your instincts, and make the right call:

- In an emergency or if you see a crime in progress, call 000.
- For non-urgent matters, contact Queensland Police on 131 444.
- To share information anonymously, call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or visit crimestoppersqld.com.au.

Your information could be the missing piece that helps solve or prevent a crime.

So, while you're celebrating this festive season, keep an eye out for anything unusual and help keep your neighbourhood safe for everyone.





Photos: Supplied



Season's Greetings from Ray White Tingalpa

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raywhitetingalpa.com

JOAN PEASE'S COMMUNITY UPDATE

STATE MEMBER FOR LYTTON





DONATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Christmas is a time for giving. Many Bayside families are struggling. You can do your bit to ensure one family has a special day. St Pete's Pantry has created a food hamper donation list which includes Christmas cake, Christmas pudding, minced pies, tinned ham, biscuits, nibbles and sweets. Please consider purchasing food items to donate to St Pete's Pantry this Christmas. My office at 100 Edith St, Wynnum, is a food collection point during weekdays (8am to 4pm). Donations are required no later than 15 December.

BUSINESSES CAN NOW APPLY DIRECTLY FOR GRANT

Small and family businesses across the Bayside are now eligible to apply directly for the Secure Communities Partnership Program, which supports the installation of security infrastructure to deter crime and strengthen commercial precincts. Businesses with fewer than 20 employees and turnover under \$10 million that have experienced crime in the past three years can apply for grants between \$5,000 and \$20,000 (excluding GST), with at least a 50% co-contribution required. Applications close on 27 February 2026. To apply, go to www.business.qld.gov.au/ running-business/support-services/financial/grants/secure-communities.



BAYSIDE SUNSAFE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

People living in the Bayside have significantly higher rates of melanoma than the national average. In Wynnum, melanoma rates are 57% higher than the national average. In Lota, it's a shocking 93% higher. In fact, our area has the third-highest melanoma diagnosis rate in Australia. With Queensland's strong sun, skin can burn in as little as 10 minutes when UV levels are high. That's why it's so important to be SunSmart: slip on protective clothing, slop on SPF50+ sunscreen, slap on a hat, seek shade, and slide on sunglasses. Early detection saves lives, so please check your skin regularly and speak to your doctor about professional skin checks.



OUR EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Nicole Waller, Deputy Principal at Guardian Angels' Wynnum, for winning the Best Educator Award at this year's Bayside Community Fund Awards night. It's an award I proudly sponsor every year. We have brilliant schools on the Bayside and it's hardworking educators like Nicole Waller that make it so. Thanks to everyone who voted for these 2025 BCF Awards. Having co-founded the Bayside Community Fund many years ago, it's wonderful to see it go from strength to strength every year. The BCF is a perpetual benefit fund, with every dollar donated invested and proceeds directed back to the community and non-profit organisations in the Lytton electorate.



BAYSIDE CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Bayside families are invited to come together for the much-loved Bayside Carols at George Clayton Park, Manly, on Saturday 20 December. This free community celebration features a fantastic Pre-Carols Show from 2pm-6:30pm, followed by the Carols Concert from 6:45pm-8:15pm and a stunning fireworks finale at 8:15pm. With live music, food trucks, and plenty of festive fun, it's the perfect way to join the community in celebrating the spirit of Christmas in our beautiful Bayside



DARLING POINT SPECIAL SCHOOL KIDS SHINE

Every year, I personally handwrite hundreds of Christmas cards for our wonderful Bayside community groups and each card is proudly designed and produced by the talented students at Darling Point Special School. The students recently delivered their 2025 cards - and they look absolutely fantastic!

Thanks to the students and staff for their creativity and care. I'm so proud to support Darling Point Special School, which is currently undergoing a massive capital works program that delivers new facilities and even greater learning opportunities for local students.



Joan**Pease MP**

State Member for Lytton

Authorised by Joan Pease 100 Edith Street Wynnum



PO Box 719, Wynnum QLD 4178



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www.joanpease.com

WYNNUM WONDERLAND BRINGS CHRISTMAS MAGIC TO THE BAYSIDE

This festive season, Brisbane's bayside will shimmer with joy as Wynnum Wonderland transforms Bay Terrace into a vibrant celebration of music, comedy, cabaret, and circus from 28 November to 22 December.

Presented by Tom Oliver Productions, in collaboration with Trigger Happy Productions and Head First Acrobats, Wynnum Wonderland promises a month-long extravaganza of world-class entertainment with a distinctly Queensland twist.

At the heart of the festivities is the breathtaking Augathella Spiegeltent – a 380-seat marvel blending Belgian craftsmanship with Aussie shearing shed charm. This iconic venue sets the stage for a dazzling program that includes cheeky cabaret, family-friendly spectacles, and festive favourites.

Highlights include the adults-only comedy cabaret *Cirque Du Sleigh*, comedy legend Dave "Hughesy" Hughes live on December 10, and the award-winning *Bubble Show in Space* for kids and families. Audiences can also expect jaw-dropping acrobatics from *All Star Circus*, explosive science in *KABOOM: Christmas Chaos Edition*, and heartwarming singalongs at *Carols in the Spiegeltent* and the community-led *Wynnum Wonderland Choir*.

The season wraps with *The Guides* on December 21 - a groove-filled musical finale inspired by Sting, Jamiroquai, and Stevie Wonder.

With its joyful atmosphere, stellar lineup, and community spirit, Wynnum Wonderland is set to become a new Christmas tradition on Brisbane's festive calendar.

For tickets and the full program, visit wynnumwonderland.com.



Photo: Supplied.





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Maggie's Mates





Photo: Supplied.

What's your name? Hi, my name is Jimmy McCartney.

Suburb: I live in Alexandra Hills.

How long have you lived there? From April 2025.

What is your favourite local walk? I love to walk at Wellington Point

Your most treasured toy: I love my monkey; he squeaks for me.

What is your favourite food? I love anything fish, especially sardines.

What's your worst habit? Jumping on Mum when I want to play!

What's your favourite local hangout? I love lying in the aircon on my Mum's bed. It's cool!

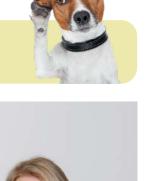
Who is your best doggo friend? Meaty, but he is old and gets cranky.

Do you have any funny or embarrassing stories you'd like to **share?** I love going for rides in my Mummy and Daddy's sidecar – it is a Harley! When I hide in the bottom and pop my head out, people laugh at me as I look like a little alien.

What do people love most about you? I think my funny little face, because my ears look too big for my head.

Jimmy's favourite charity is the RSPCA Queensland, and we have made a \$50 donation on his behalf.

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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WELCOMING A NEW PET INTO YOUR FAMILY

BY DR NICKY THOMAS, WYNNUM MANLY VETERINARY HOSPITAL

It is always exciting to welcome a new puppy or kitten (or guinea pig, budgie or goldfish!) into your family. Here are some tips to help make the experience positive for everyone involved.

FEEDING

Young animals need to be fed a well-balanced diet which meets all their

nutritional requirements. It is important to slowly introduce new foods in order to avoid causing gut upsets — find out what your puppy or kitten has been eating prior to leaving their previous home and continue this for the initial period in your home. If you plan to change your pet's diet it is best to do so over a week or two, slowly increasing



the proportion of new food every few days.

MAKE YOUR HOME PUPPY AND KITTEN FRIENDLY

Puppies and kittens like to explore new environments, and often this involves chewing things. Clear your home of small objects and toxic plants, keep electrical cords tidy and store medications and chemicals securely out of your pet's reach.

Provide your pet with a quiet and cozy place — young animals need a lot of rest. A crate or small room with comfortable bedding and lower lighting will give them a chance to settle and sleep.

SOCIALISATION AND TRAINING

Start early with socialisation and training. The more experiences your puppy and kitten have at a young age, the better adjusted they will be in the long term. Expose your pet to different household sounds

such as vacuum cleaners, lawn mowers and kitchen noises (pots and pans, kettles, etc.) and introduce them to people of different ages. Puppies benefit from attending puppy preschool in order to learn how to interact with other dogs in a controlled environment.

VET VISITS

Book an appointment with your vet for a general health check and to answer any questions you may have about caring for your new pet. Make sure that puppies and kittens are up to date with their vaccinations, have been microchipped, and have started a parasite prevention program. Your vet will be able to help you formulate the best plan for your pet.

Being prepared for a new pet will give them the best start and help them settle into your family as quickly as possible.

Wynnum Manly Veterinary Hospital



To make an appointment call

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BAYSIDE WOODIES TEACH DARLING POINT STUDENTS PRACTICAL SKILLS

CONTRIBUTED BY CHRIS MAY

Bayside Woodies is proud of its members' expertise and willingness to provide support to local community organisations.

Earlier this year, Darling Point Special School's Tammie Carter visited the Bayside Woodies Club with an idea after hearing about the club's community work. The club's president and Darling Point School started negotiations about taking on some senior students to teach them woodworking skills as part of the community integration program. After these initial discussions and club visits, a plan was formulated to take on three senior students in October/November this year. Once all the necessary insurance and Education Department requirements were formalised and completed, the date was set. The students were selected and started on October 16 for one morning per week over eight weeks.

The students would be taught woodturning (three weeks), pyrography (wood burning; three weeks) and scroll-saw work (two weeks). So far, they have completed woodturning, making a knife handle and a vase. They have also just finished their first pyrography session and really impressed the teacher with their talent.

Feedback from the teachers and students has been really positive. All three students showed great talent and enthusiasm. It is hoped the students will do well in the future, having been given these skills.

It has been a great success so far. After this initial trial, the club and school will discuss the possibility of taking students on a regular basis.

The club would like to thank Tammie Carter and the school team for initiating this project. I would personally like to thank all of the club members who volunteered their time to teach the students and give them new skills and self-confidence.



Photo: Supplied.



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FEDERAL MEMBER FOR BONNER



End Of Year Wrap Up

It has been a busy year in Bonner, and seven months since the people of Bonner put their trust in me to represent our community in Canberra. I am proud to be your voice in Parliament and to represent our community on the national stage.

Across the country, the Albanese Labor Government has focused on building a stronger, fairer, and more secure Australia. Here in Bonner, that commitment has translated into real local outcomes.

We hosted the **Bonner Seniors Expo**, which welcomed hundreds of seniors for a day of connection, information, and celebration. I've also had the opportunity to **visit 21 local schools**, meeting students, teachers, and parents who are passionate about learning and their future.

My office has supported more than **1,500 constituents** with assistance across the NDIS, aged care, housing, and government services. We've also continued to run monthly mobile offices to make it easier for locals to raise issues and access support directly.

Local groups are the heart of our community, and it's been great to help them grow. So far, **23 community and sporting clubs** have shared almost \$60,000 in Volunteer Grants.

Through the Stronger Communities Program, another seven local organisations have received more than **\$71,000** in funding. These grants are helping boost participation in sport and create safer, more inclusive community spaces.

There's even more on the way for Bonner. Soon, families will benefit from the opening of a new **Medicare Urgent Care Clinic in Carindale,** providing bulk-billed, walk-in care for urgent but non-life-threatening needs.

On a national scale, the Albanese Labor Government has delivered significant national reforms, continuing the focus on delivering real and practical cost-of-living relief, strengthening Medicare, protecting our environment, and improving safety and equality for women and children.

This includes new measures to support victim-survivors, allowing Services Australia to waive social security debts incurred as a result of domestic and family violence.

We've also introduced reforms to the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act), delivering stronger environmental protections, more transparent project approvals, and greater accountability.

Legislation has now passed requiring employers to pay superannuation on payday, tackling the problem of unpaid super.

Priya's Law is another compassionate reform that ensures employers cannot cancel paid parental leave if a baby is stillborn or dies shortly after birth.

And on 1 November, the Albanese Labor Government tripled the bulk billing incentive, marking the single biggest

investment in Medicare since it was created.

In Bonner, we now have 11 fully bulk-billed GP clinics, with more expected to join soon. Because when it comes to your health, it should be your Medicare card, not your credit card, that matters. In the Bayside, this includes:

- Doctors on Manly Road (Manly)
- Yulu-Burri-Ba (Wynnum)
- Tingalpa Family Health Care Centre (Tingalpa)

A reminder that my office is always available to help with any Federal issues you may have and is also a collection point for *Share the Dignity,* mobile phone DV Safe Phone program, now has a community library, and hosts a community pantry available on weekdays from 8:30am to 4:30pm. My office is also providing Seniors and Youth information kits, you can collect these by reaching out to my office.

I will also be holding 2 last mobile offices before Christmas on 3 December 10-11am at Gumdale Eastside Village and 14 December 9-10am at the Manly Creative Markets. Please feel free to pop by if you want to say hello, have a chat or raise an issue.

It continues to be a privilege to represent the people of Bonner. Thank you to everyone who has written, called or visited my office since my election. Your input shapes the work I do every day. I wish everyone in our community all the best for the festive season.



69 Clara Street, Wynnum Qld 4178 kara.cook.mp@aph.gov.au (07) 3893 3488





CR ALEX GIVNEY

COUNCILLOR FOR WYNNUM MANLY WARD

Dedicated to a better Brisbane



THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT ARRIVES ON THE BAYSIDE!



The Bayside is beginning to sparkle as the Christmas spirit makes its way to our community once again. From shopfronts to rooftops, you'll soon spot the familiar smiling Santas returning to spread festive cheer across Wynnum and Manly.

A big thank you to the Rotary Club of Wynnum and Manly for continuing the beloved tradition of the Rotary Santas, with the generous support of the Wynnum Manly and Districts Men's Shed. Their hard work ensures these cheerful figures keep bringing joy and colour to our community each festive season, a wonderful reminder of what can be achieved when locals come together. And for those who love a classic Christmas treat, our ward office is once again selling the famous Lions Christmas cakes and puddings, available now while stocks last!





Bayside Carols

Get ready to wrap up the year in true Bayside style. The 12th annual Bayside Carols will light up George Clayton Park in Manly on Saturday 20 December 2025 from 2 pm to 8.30 pm.

Festivities begin with a Pre-Carols Variety Show featuring local performers, followed by the main Carols Concert from 6.45 pm, giving everyone the chance to sing along and celebrate the spirit of Christmas together.

There is fun for the whole family with kids rides, markets, food trucks and live entertainment throughout the afternoon. Gather your friends, pack a picnic rug or chairs, and settle in by the bay for a magical evening of Christmas cheer. The night will finish with a beautiful fireworks display over the water to close out the celebrations.

Proudly presented by the Queensland Services Heritage Band Association, Bayside Carols is a wonderful way to celebrate community, connection and the joy of the festive season.



Manly Harbour Lights Competition

The sparkle of Christmas is returning to our beautiful bayside with the much-loved Manly Harbour Christmas Lights Competition, shining from Saturday 6 December to Wednesday 31 December 2025 along the Manly Esplanade.

Each year, homes, businesses and boats transform the harbour into a glittering wonderland. With thousands of dollars in prizes across Best House, Best Business and Best Boat categories, there is every reason to get creative and join the fun.

The event launches on Saturday 6 December at the Celebration in the Park in Little Bayside Park. From 4 pm, families can enjoy free Santa photos, a Christmas parade, Kellehers Dance Academy's show, live music and a Christmas movie under the stars.

But the competition is about more than lights. Every glowing window and sparkling boat brings neighbours together and helps turn Manly Harbour into a magical destination for locals and visitors alike. Share your festive creations using #ManlyHarbourLights.



New Year's Eve Fireworks

Say goodbye to 2025 and welcome the new year by the water at Little Bayside Park in Manly with Manly Harbour Village Chamber of Commerce New Year's Eve Fireworks.

From 7 pm on Wednesday 31 December, families can enjoy a relaxed evening under the stars with live entertainment, food trucks and two fireworks displays lighting up the bay at 9.30 pm and midnight.

There is plenty to keep everyone entertained with kids movies on the big screen from 7 pm and a friendly atmosphere perfect for all ages.

Pack a picnic rug or chairs, grab a bite to eat, and settle in along the waterfront as the Bayside counts down to 2026 together. Come early, enjoy the entertainment, and make the most of one of the Bayside's biggest nights of the year.

STAY IN THE LOOP! SCAN THE QR CODE TO SUBSCRIBE TO OUR E-NEWSLETTER













CHRISTMAS CHEERS FROM MANLY-LOTA RSL!

BY HARVEY SHORE

Harry Pregnell, President of the Manly-Lota RSL, remembers the first big Christmas Party his sub-branch organised for its members and their families at the Wynnum Manly Leagues Club over a decade ago.

"It was a modest affair, with just 15 or so people sitting around two tables", he recalled. Since then, Harry Pregnell and his team – immediate past president Michael Muir and Senior Vice President Rex Coombes – have worked hard to lift the Christmas spirit up several notches, and enfold every member of their RSL.

As a result, this year's Christmas Party (on Saturday December 6) will be the biggest ever staged by the small sub-branch in Manly. Over 160 members have already booked to attend the event.

"Our planning for this year's event has been ongoing for months. As always, our focus has been on friendship and support, in accordance with our motto: Mateship In Practice," Mr Pregnell said.

"Our Christmas aim has always been to foster a community atmosphere, and to support veterans and their families, especially those who are battling. This year, our Christmas party is being held as usual at the Wynnum Manly Leagues Club. The response from members has increased five-fold. We intend matching it with an increase in festivities. For example, every member attending this year will receive a specially designed Christmas present.

"Our Christmas plans this year have been supported by many community organisations, which is greatly appreciated by our Veterans. In response, our executives are holding an additional Christmas BBQ at our Manly Hall on the weekend before Christmas, for all members and their families, and our supporters, to spread the Christmas cheer. We're working hard to make 2025 a very special merry Christmas for all."



Rex Coombes, Harry Pregnell and Michael Muir planning the Manly-Lota RSL Christmas Party, with potential Father Christmas Col Pickering looking on. Photo by Harvey Shore.

HOW ROSIES HELPS THOSE DOING IT TOUGH ON THE BAYSIDE

For years, Jarrod has slept in the back of his car on quiet Wynnum streets, with his greyhound Angel curled beside him for comfort. The heat of summer and the cold of winter press in each night, but Angel's gentle presence and unwavering loyalty have kept him going.

Jarrod's story is one of quiet resilience. Originally from Hawke's Bay in New Zealand, he moved to Australia fourteen years ago, hoping to build a better life for himself and his children. But without Australian citizenship, he couldn't access Centrelink or a safety net when life unravelled.

"What a lot of people don't realise," Jarrod said, "is that Kiwis living here, unless you're a citizen, you get nothing. No welfare, no support. That's why you see so many of us on the street. We fall through the cracks."

Over the years, Jarrod has worked as an arborist, furniture maker, martial arts instructor, cook, and more. Yet the instability of short-term work and the strain of physically demanding jobs took a toll. When his long-term relationship ended and rent became unmanageable, he was left with nowhere to go.

Despite the hardships, Jarrod's compassion has never wavered. He writes poetry, checks in on others doing it tough, and offers kindness to people who feel invisible. "When I meet someone who's scared or lonely, I tell them, 'Come here, brother, I love you.'

Because I know what it feels like to have no one."

Rosies – Friends on the Street has been a lifeline in his journey. Through shared cups of tea, conversations and connection, Jarrod found a community that reminded him he mattered.

"I wouldn't have met half the amazing people I know today without Rosies," he said. "They make you feel human again, like you're seen."

Recently, after 14 long years of uncertainty, Jarrod received news that changed everything. He is now officially an Australian citizen.

"It feels unreal," he said. "Now I feel like I belong. I finally feel like I have a home, this country."

For Jarrod, that small, long-awaited piece of paper means stability, access to healthcare, and a sense of safety he hasn't felt in years. Through it all, Angel has stayed by his side. "She saved me as much as I saved her," he said.

As Christmas approaches, Jarrod hopes people will remember those who are still struggling.

"People think it takes a lot to help someone," he said. "But sometimes all it takes is listening, showing love. That's what Rosies does. That's what keeps people going."



Pictured: Jarrod with his greyhound Angel. Photo: Supplied.

Rosies offers friendship and connection to people who are homeless, lonely, or isolated across Queensland. Through the dedication of its volunteers, Rosies provides outreach, companionship, and practical care to thousands of Queenslanders every year. Find out more at rosies.org.au.

MANLY HARBOUR VILLAGE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPDATE

BY JEMANDA HANNOUF, PRECINCT COORDINATOR, MANLY HARBOUR VILLAGE

Twilight on Cambridge – next market December 12

The first Twilight on Cambridge market proved a runaway success, drawing hundreds of locals and visitors to Cambridge Parade for an evening filled with colour, flavour, and community spirit.

The launch event marked the beginning of Manly's exciting new Twilight Market summer series — and it didn't disappoint. From the moment the sun dipped below the horizon, the precinct buzzed with life as families, friends, and visitors explored rows of boutique craft stalls and indulged in an array of food and drink options from local favourites.

Live music performances throughout the evening added to the laid-back coastal charm, transforming Cambridge Parade into a lively hub of entertainment and connection.

The Manly Chamber of Commerce and traders alike were thrilled with the turnout. "We couldn't have asked for a better start," said one stallholder. "The community really came out to support local; the atmosphere was amazing."

The excitement continues with the next Twilight on Cambridge market on Friday December 12, promising even more local stalls, great food, and live entertainment. It's the perfect way to kick off the weekend and soak up the summer vibes by the bay.







Christmas Lights Competition – launches December 6

Get ready to *light up Bayside!* The Manly Harbour Village Christmas Lights Competition launches on Friday December 6, inviting locals to decorate their homes, businesses, and boats for a chance to share in a fantastic prize pool. Celebrate the start of the festive season at Little Bayside Park, where the official launch will feature Santa's arrival, a Christmas movie under the stars, food trucks, and plenty of holiday cheer. It's the perfect way to kick off a magical Christmas by the bay.





UPCOMING EVENTS

6 DECEMBER

Christmas Lights, Celebration in the Park (Little Bayside Park) Christmas Lights Competition Official Launch

6 DECEMBER

FREE Movies in the Park: Home Alone 2 (Little Bayside Park)

31 DECEMBER

New Year's Eve Fireworks Celebration (Manly)



6 AND 20 DECEMBER

Jan Powers Farmers Market

12 DECEMBER

Twilight on Cambridge, Manly

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.

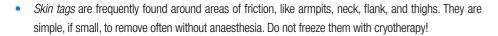
I HAVE AN UNSIGHTLY LUMP. CAN IT BE FIXED?

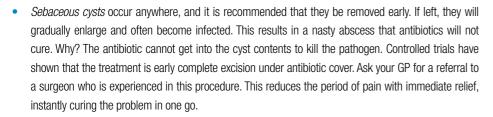
BY DR ROGER DOWN, MBBS, FRCS, FRACS, MD (LOND)

Unfortunately, many of us are born with or develop unsightly moles, skin lesions or lumps. Can they be fixed? The truth is, some can and others cannot.

Common lesions that can be removed include:

- Compound naevi (moles) or hairy naevus are usually elevated, unsightly, pigmented non-cancerous (benign) skin lesions. They frequently occur on the face, often referred to as beauty spots. Some people treasure them, others regard them as cosmetically unacceptable and
 - prefer to have them removed. For a good cosmetic result, choose a qualified plastic or specialist skin reconstructive surgeon. Remember, straight line scars stand out and are unsightly, so choose wisely.





Drainage of the abscess is now not acceptable as it requires repetitive dressings and discomfort for three to four weeks, with all the complications of antibiotic therapy. You will still need the cyst removed at a later date.





An experienced surgeon can instantly diagnose and manage these common lesions, differentiating them from hernias. There is no need to waste your or taxpayers' money on ultrasounds. It does not alter the management!

More next time. Have fun, take care, and God bless.



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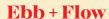
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Celebrate the season with thoughtful, coastal-inspired gifts from Ebb + Flow. From timeless fashion to beautiful homewares, find something special for everyone on your list. Give the gift of seaside style and effortless elegance, wrapped with love from our boutique in Manly Harbour Village.

71 Cambridge Pde, Manly



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Sonny Jim has everything you need for the man who's hard to buy for! Discover quality clothing, gifts and accessories for men – it's your one-stop mens' Christmas shop!

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Sobidah

A welcoming boutique offering everchanging fabulous fashion items, ranging from fun and casual to sleek and stylish, along with dazzling accessories. Sobidah – for all our festive and party outfits. Thank you for not choosing Carindale!

60 Edith St, Wynnum



Wynnum Fine Jewellers

Wynnum Fine Jewellers is turning 10! To celebrate, we're doing a STOREWIDE sale, with 20-50% off. And that's not all...every purchase over \$250 will automatically go into the draw to win a WFJs piece valued at over \$2500! Plus, there are runner-up prizes of 1 x \$500 WFJs voucher and 1x \$250 WFJs voucher. Pictured: 9ct white gold crisscross diamond ring.

107 Edith St, Wynnum









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Green Thumbs of the Bayside: Yards Takes Top Spot at Awards

Bayside landscaping company Yards has marked its 20th anniversary with a prestigious win at the 2025 Landscape Queensland Construction Excellence Awards. The team took home the Residential Maintenance Award for their standout work on a Manly property, praised for its flawless turf, refined pruning, and meticulous attention to detail.

The award, presented at The Star Brisbane, recognises excellence in the ongoing care and presentation of residential gardens. Judges highlighted the Manly project's "exceptional landscape care" and "sharp interface between lawn and native violet" as hallmarks of Yards' commitment to horticultural precision.

Director Ben French, who was named Australian Horticulturist of the Year in 2024, said the accolade was a fitting tribute to the team's dedication and the trust of long-standing clients. "This recognition feels especially meaningful as we celebrate 20 years of Yards," he said.



The award-winning garden at Manly. Photo: David Kelly.

Among the team is Kat Pearson, Assistant Horticultural Care Manager, who brings a unique perspective to her role after a career as a Naval Engineer. Kat also shares her gardening wisdom each month in The Community Leader as the author of the popular gardening column.

With eight consecutive wins in Landscape Queensland's maintenance categories, Yards has become a quiet powerhouse in the local horticultural scene. Their latest award is a well-earned moment of recognition for a team that's helped shape the beauty of Brisbane's bayside — one garden at a time. Congratulations to Yards!



The Yards Team at the LQ Construction Excellence Awards at The Star.





POWER UP YOUR CHRISTMAS WITH SOLAR AND BATTERY STORAGE

FROM GOODHEW ELECTRICAL & SOLAR

As the festive season approaches and another long, hot Queensland summer sets in, households across the Bayside are preparing for two things: rising temperatures and rising energy use. From air-conditioning running around the clock, to Christmas lights, holiday gatherings – and don't forget the kids being home from school – December and January consistently deliver some of the highest electricity bills of the year.

For many local families, this summer is shaping up to be different thanks to the growing adoption of rooftop solar and battery storage in part thanks to the federal funding currently available.

HOLIDAY SEASON = SOLAR SEASON

Summer is the most productive time of the year for solar systems. Longer days and stronger sunlight mean your panels can generate significantly more power, often well beyond what your home uses during daylight hours. If you're not storing the excess energy, you're leaving value on the table, particularly with feed-in tariffs at their lowest point in over a decade.

By combining solar with a home battery, you can run the home almost entirely on solar, even during the evening peak; keep the air-con on during heatwaves without bill shock; power Christmas lights and holiday entertaining for free; and, maintain essential power during summer storms and outages.

THE CHEAPER HOME BATTERY REBATE IS DECREASING SOON

Queenslanders have responded strongly to the Cheaper Home Battery rebate with installations surging through 2025 as families look to combat rising energy bills and gain energy independence. It is important to note that the rebate will decrease from January 1 2026.

Households that install a battery before the end of 2025 can still access the higher rebate amount, but after this date the incentive reduces — meaning many families could miss out on thousands of dollars in savings if they wait until the new year.

YOUR LOCAL SOLAR AND BATTERY EXPERTS

As Redland's multi award-winning solar, battery experts, Goodhew Electrical & Solar has supported over 20,000 local families and businesses through two decades of summers.

Whether you're looking to beat the heat, cut rising bills or protect your home from blackouts, now is the perfect time to explore a holiday season upgrade and take advantage of the incentives currently available.



Photo: Supplied.

This summer, make the switch to cleaner, smarter and more affordable energy. Contact our team on 07 3286 1422 or visit our website at www.goodhewsolar.com.au.









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GOLD MASTER ELECTRICIAN







Small Summer Projects. Big Property Gains.

FROM SOLD PROPERTY GROUP

Summer's heating up - and so is buyer demand, especially for well-presented, entry-level homes.

The Christmas/summer break is the perfect chance to slow down and finally tackle those small projects that have been sitting on the "when we get time" list. But, here's what many homeowners don't realise: these small improvements can have a big impact when it comes time to sell.

Right now, demand for quality, entry-level homes across the Bayside is strong. Buyers are active. Competition is high. And, well-presented homes are achieving premium results — often within days of hitting the market.

You don't need to renovate. You just need to refresh.

A fresh coat of paint. Rejuvenated gardens. Modern tapware. New door handles. Decluttering and simple styling. These are the updates that increase perceived value and help your home photograph beautifully – the first thing that attracts buyers online.

The goal is to remove a buyer's "to-do list". The more move-in ready your home feels, the more emotional connection buyers form — and the higher your final sale price can climb.

If you're thinking about selling in 2026, the best first step is understanding your home's current market position and the type of buyers competing for homes just like yours.



Book a free home appraisal and we'll show you where your property sits in today's market – no pressure, no obligation. From there, if you choose to sell with SOLD, we'll guide you on the smartest improvements to maximise your result.

Make your next move your best one yet. Contact Keryn today on 0421 594 529.

2025 Price Records - Sold by Keryn Osgerby

Thinking of selling in 2026? Partner with the agent who's already breaking records.

Suburb#	8 Iona Close, Belmont	\$1,700,000
Street	18 Lychee Place, Belmont	\$1,640,000
Estate	54 Highland Crescent, Belmont	\$1,610,000
Street	9 Arran Place, Belmont	\$1,558,000
Street	29 Burstall Avenue, Belmont	\$1,500,000
Street	6 Benetti Close, Belmont	\$1,500,000
Street	28 Pinnacle Place, Belmont	\$1,485,000
Street	41 Eversholt Street, Belmont	\$1,480,000
Street	6 Best Place, Tingalpa	\$1,470,000
Street	13 Tremain Street, Tingalpa	\$1,450,000
Street	19 Wambaya Street, Belmont	\$1,450,000
Street	17 Marwood Street, Belmont	\$1,350,000
Street	1 Thredbo Close, Belmont	\$1,313,500

Street	2 Sierra Close, Belmont	\$1,254,000
Street	5 Samarinda Street, Tingalpa	\$1,250,000
Street*	5 Gorham Street, Tingalpa	\$1,210,000
Street	4 Oneil Court, Wakerley	\$1,189,250
Complex**	16/16 Hartigan Street, Belmont	\$1,130,000
Street	39 Currigee Circuit, Tingalpa	\$1,125,000
Complex	4/8 Howsan Street, Mt Gravatt East	\$1,100,000
Street	8 Eisley Street, Tingalpa	\$1,030,000
Complex	6/391 Belmont Road, Belmont	\$888,000
Complex	41/184 Radford Road, Manly West	\$880,000
Complex	68/583 Wondall Road, Tingalpa	\$850,150
Complex	15/1501 Wynnum Road, Tingalpa	\$845,000

*Non-Acreage. *Single Dwelling. ** Townhouse.





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The Importance of Pest Control During Summer

CONTRIBUTED BY AMG PEST MANAGEMENT

Summer in Australia is a time we all look forward to – longer days, family barbecues, and more time outdoors. But with the warmer weather also comes an increase in unwanted visitors: pests! From ants marching across the kitchen bench to cockroaches hiding in the dark corners, summer is the peak season for pest activity.

Pests thrive in the heat and humidity, making our homes and backyards an easy target. Ants, cockroaches, flies, mosquitoes, spiders, and even termites are far more active during summer. Not only can they be a nuisance, but many pests also carry diseases or cause serious damage to your property. For example, termites alone are responsible for thousands of dollars in damage to homes each year. Scarier is that one in three homes are impacted by termites.

Simple steps can make a big difference in keeping pests away. Keeping food sealed, cleaning up crumbs, emptying bins regularly, and reducing standing water around the home can help reduce the risk. Regular professional pest inspections are also important, especially during the warmer months, to catch problems early before they become a costly issue.

Taking action now means you can enjoy your summer without the stress of pests invading your home. A safe, comfortable, and pest-free environment lets you focus on what matters most, such as spending time with family and friends.

This summer, stay one step ahead of pests and protect your home and loved ones with simple prevention and timely pest control.

Thank you for choosing A.M.G Pest Management: proudly 100% family owned and operated!



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15 Jared Place, **Wynnum West**



35 Macadamia Street, **Wynnum West**



42 Carnation Road, **Manly West**



28 Pine Street, Wynnum



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7/10 Bay Terrace, **Wynnum**



19 Earl Parade, Manly

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KABOOM! MULTI AWARD-WINNING CHILDREN'S SHOW COMES TO WYNNUM!

Wynnum had better brace itself... because this December, the Augathella Spiegeltent is about to explode with festive fun! The infamous mad scientist, Magnus Danger Magnus, is rolling into town with his award-winning spectacle *KABOOM! – The Christmas Chaos Edition.*

From December 14 to 22, families will gather at 166 Bay Terrace for an electrifying 11:00am show that promises more sparks, bangs, and belly laughs than ever before. Magnus, fresh from sell-out seasons across Australia and the UK, has cooked up a brand-new concoction of science and silliness – this time wrapped in tinsel and powered by 20,000 volts of yuletide cheer.

Audiences can expect chaotic mayhem, dazzling experiments, and gadgets so wild they could only be dreamed up by a scientist with a flair for festive mischief. With a trophy cabinet bursting from Perth, Adelaide, Sydney, and Melbourne Fringe festivals, Magnus has proven time and again that his shows are not just science lessons — they're unforgettable adventures.

Kids will gasp, parents will cheer, and imaginations will ignite as Christmas collides with chemistry in a high-octane celebration of curiosity. It's messy, it's merry, and it's magnificently mad.

So whether you're a science buff, a thrill-seeker, or simply looking for the ultimate family day out, *KABOOM! Christmas Chaos* is the ticket to holiday magic.

Tickets are on sale now at splash.wynnumwonderland.com – but be quick, because this show is guaranteed to sell out faster than you can say "Merry Magnus!"



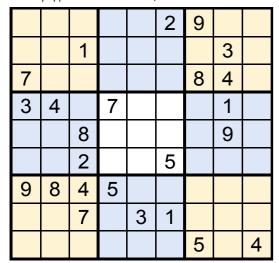




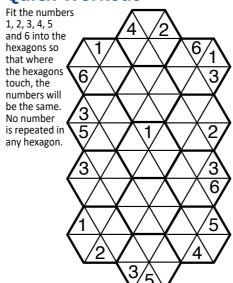


Sudoku

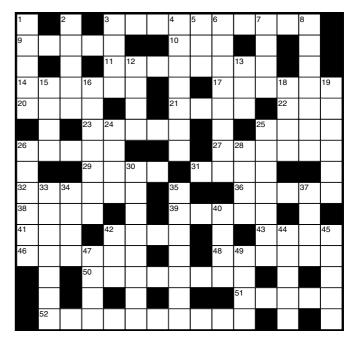
Fill in the blank cells using numbers from 1 to 9. Each number can only appear once in each row, column and 3x3 block.



Quick Workout



Crossword



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
- f * No verb forms or plurals ending in 's'
- * No proper nouns and no hyphenated words

TODAY'S Good: 16 words **FOCUS** Very good: 24 words Excellent: 39 words



Reference: Macauarie Concise Dictionary Focus No. 3900

ACROSS

- 3 Representative group
- 9 Oily fruit 10 Play on words
- 11 Approximate calculation
- 14 Refer casually to
- 17 Heavenly bodies 20 Ooze
- 21 Musical instrument
- 22 Regret
- 23 Not hollow
- 25 Deep mud
- 26 Short gaiters 27 Male honey bees
- 29 As well
- 31 Stretched tight
- 32 Agricultural implement
- 36 Mouse-like mammal
- 38 Send out

- 39 Confused fight 41 Encountered
- 42 Colour
- 43 Coarse file
- 46 Coating on teeth
- 48 Assemble
- 50 Worships
- 51 Banishment
- 52 Maker of women's attire

DOWN

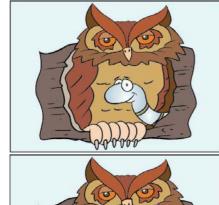
- 1 Roman garments
- 2 Weapon
- 3 Exploit 4 Serial part
- 5 Adhesive
- 6 Large South American boa
- 7 Article
- 8 Upbringing

- 12 Vend 13 Digit
- 15 Bound
- 16 Parvenu 18 Ireland (poet)
- 19 Teeter
- 24 Capital of Norway
- 25 Parents 26 Plot
- 28 Trick
- 30 Birds
- 33 Corrected
- 34 Girl's name **35** USA
- 37 Otherwise
- 40 Crippled
- 42 Resting place
- **44** Top room **45** Groom the feathers

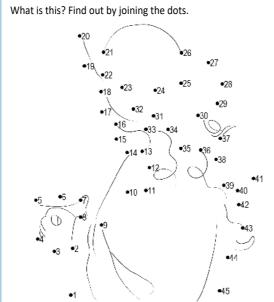
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- 47 Rodents
- 49 Consumer

Spot the 5 Differences



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Solutions

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BOOZY CHRISTMAS BALLS RECIPE

Here's one for the grown-ups: a decadent, rum-laced treat that's so indulgent it should probably only be enjoyed at Christmas time. We've made these with a spiced rum and they're delicious!

INGREDIENTS

- 250g biscuits (like Nice, Scotch Finger, or even Ginger Nut or Biscoff biscuits for a festive twist)
- 1 x 395g can sweetened condensed milk
- 1 cup of desiccated coconut
- 1/4 cup of cocoa powder
- 1/3 cup of rum (or, if you're feeling adventurous, use a spiced rum like Sailor Jerry's or Kraken Black Spiced Rum for extra depth of flavour but use plain biscuits if you're using spiced rum)
- 1/2 cup of desiccated coconut for rolling (or chocolate sprinkles or hundreds and thousands if you prefer)

METHOD

- 1. Crush the biscuits into a fine crumb using a food processor, or put them in a freezer bag (tied up) and smash with a rolling pin.
- Combine ingredients: In a large mixing bowl, add the crushed biscuits, sweetened condensed milk, 1 cup of desiccated coconut, cocoa powder, and rum. Mix thoroughly until everything is evenly combined and the mixture is sticky.
- 3. Chill the mixture in the fridge for about 30 minutes (this makes rolling easier).
- 4. Remove your mix from the fridge. Scoop heaped teaspoons of the mixture and roll between your palms to form balls. Tip: wetting your hands can make the balls easier to roll without sticking.
- 5. Roll each ball in the extra desiccated coconut (or sprinkles) to coat.



6. Place the finished balls on a tray lined with baking paper and refrigerate for at least 1 hour before serving. Store in an airtight container in the fridge for up to a week.

For a fun twist: Build a Christmas tree using the balls, starting with a circular layer of balls as a base, building up to a single ball at the top of the tree using toothpicks to secure the structure.



FESTIVE CHEER AT THE SHIRE CLERK'S COTTAGE CHRISTMAS MARKET

Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 6, as the annual Shire Clerk's Cottage Christmas Market returns to Wynnum, bringing holiday magic from 8:00am to 1:00pm. This annual event promises a joyful start to the season, with twinkling stalls, festive spirit, and divine Christmas treats.

Visitors can browse over 70 market stalls brimming with hand-crafted treasures. From artisanal gifts to charming decorations, the market offers something for everyone and is perfect for those still hunting for that special Christmas present.

A highlight not to be missed is the famous Devonshire Teas, served fresh on the verandah of the historic Shire Clerk's Cottage. With over 500 scones sold at last year's market, it's clear this classic indulgence is a crowd favourite. Enjoy a



Photo: Supplied

warm scone, a cup of tea, and the festive ambiance as you browse the stalls.

Celebrate the season, support local artisans, and make merry memories at the Shire Clerk's Cottage Christmas Market.

Located at 241 Tingal Rd, Wynnum, the market is a must-visit for locals and visitors alike. For more information, call 3396 9488.

LOCAL PERSONALITY PROFILE

Name: Steven Singh.

Suburb: Wynnum West.

Where do you work? I am an Associate at DBL Solicitors in Bay Terrace, Wynnum.

Do you have any fun or interesting stories about your job? I was in court once, when a self-represented defendant fronted regarding his latest 'driving while disqualified' charge. Confused and exasperated as to why he was in court again, he exclaimed, "Well judge, there wouldn't be a problem if you just gave me my licence back!" Not the best argument.

What's your favourite local dine-in and takeaway? The Pera Palace Ottoman in Edith Street, Wynnum. I love the décor, service and the Mezze menu. The Baba Ganoush is perfectly at home in my mouth!

What would you recommend as a great local activity? Biking the esplanade between Wynnum Wading Pool and the park at Lota. Or pedal a bit further to Lota Creek Boardwalk. It's the best type of relaxation on two wheels.

What's the last book you read? The Long Road to the Deep North, by Richard Flanagan. A harrowing tale of an Aussie doctor haunted by his time as a prisoner



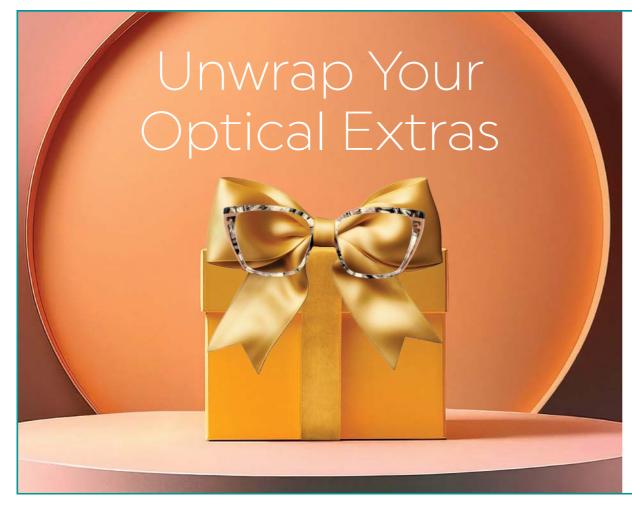
of war, an affair, and his own shortcomings. Beautifully written by a true Australian literary craftsman.

What's the last TV show or movie you watched?

Black Bag, with Michael Fassbender as the lead. A slick, spy thriller, with a buttoned-down agent investigating his own wife. Never a good idea!

Is there anything you'd like to see happen in the local area? More live gigs, if possible. The Wynnum Fringe Festival has me hungry for more. I managed to see Theo Katzman (of Vulfpeck) at the spiegeltent venue in Bay Terrace. That tent can stay.

Is there a local business, club or community group you'd like to give a shout-out to? Mad Mile café. Dragan serves the best coffee, and the service can turn any frown upside down.



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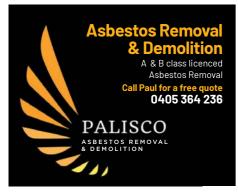


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WYNNUM MANLY YACHT CLUB REFLECTS ON A BIG YEAR

CONTRIBUTED BY WYNNUM MANLY YACHT CLUB

This year has been a standout year for the Wynnum Manly Yacht Club, marked by major upgrades, vibrant community engagement, and milestone sailing events.

A long-awaited improvement is underway with the replacement of the demountable administration and sailing office, installed over 20 years ago, with a purpose-built extension. This new facility is set to open early in 2026, enhancing the club's operations and appearance.

The Captain's Parrot Café continues to thrive, drawing locals and visitors to the waterfront and adding a lively social atmosphere to the precinct.

A major highlight of 2025 was the 50th Ratu Rum Saint Helena Cup, a two-day regatta that saw more boats participating than any year in the past two decades. With 110 boats and over 350 sailors, the event was a spectacular celebration of sailing and teamwork, reinforcing the club's reputation as a premier host on Moreton Bay.

Other events, including the Lady Skippers Race, also saw growing participation, reflecting the club's commitment to inclusive and engaging sailing experiences.

The marina and slipway remain vital assets, with professional facilities supporting both classic cruisers and modern yachts.

This year also saw a leadership change, with Sharon Boyle stepping down as Commodore after three years of dedicated service. Her key achievement was securing a new lease with the Queensland Department of Transport, ensuring the club's future in Manly Harbour until 2053. John Vandermaat was elected to the Commodore role, bringing experience and continuity to the club.

With strong momentum and exciting developments ahead, the club looks forward to an even bigger 2026.







Photos: Supplied.



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LOCAL FISHING WITH SPERO

WHERE TO CATCH THE BEST FISH THIS CHRISTMAS

BY SPERO KARTANOS

Where has the year gone?! The end of 2025 is fast approaching, and let's hope that in 2026, the fishing is just as good.



When the weather allows, the bay has plenty of fish for all, whether you're a

fishing fanatic, someone who likes a weekend fishing on the bay, or you're dropping a line with the kids and family.

So, here is my rundown of the species available to us this time of year that most of us go to catch in the bay.

Whiting: It's the easiest and the best fishing for the kids and the family, and probably the best tasting for most of us. You'll find whiting in good numbers at the southern side of the Chain Banks, Amity Banks, the Maroon Bank side of the Rous Channel, and, of course, the Sand Hills at Moreton Island and the Blue Hole. In the northeasterlies, they'll be around Horseshoe Bay at Peel Island, where there are plenty of whiting, but also lots of traffic. The best bait is sandworms, bloodworms, and peeled small prawns, as well as squid strips, on a paternoster rig while drifting.

Squire/Snapper: These tasty fish will be closest to Wynnum Manly on the eastern side of Peel, Mud, and St Helena Islands, and from

Wellington Point all around Peel Island (in particular Lazaret Gutter), and of course Harry's Artificial Reef and Mt Cotton Reach in the Rous, and further north to Cowan Reef. I prefer the shallow reefs close to our Bay Islands, with smaller currents. Fishing in depths of 18 to 21 feet makes it fun — run a rig with enough weight to get to the bottom on a 3.0 to 6.0 snapper hook. The best baits for me are small whole whiting, garfish (whiting heads are my favourite), but squid, cuttlefish, octopus, mullet flesh, and grinner fillets will all catch a fish or two. I prefer a good run in the tide — especially outgoing. Also, sweetlip, bream, and flathead are all bi-catches while fishing for squire.

School Mackerel: The best way to catch school mackerel is with diving boards. I recommend yamashita, delta, or yozuri, or orange boards with 3-inch spoons trolling around the 5 to 7 knots around the bay. Try around Hope Banks, the basin at Peel Island, the Rous Channel, Rainbow Channel, and in the deeper water at the Sand Hills, Shark Spit, the Shipping Channel, and the Measured Mile Beacon. You can also float a pilly out around any of the bay markers, or when you are whiting fishing, there are always mackerel swimming around.

Spotty Mackerel should start showing up in the next few weeks, and you can catch them trolling, but a chrome slug thrown and retrieved in a feeding school is the way to catch them. The tradition of them

coming into the bay has gone pear-shaped, so let's hope this is a good season.

Let's not forget **Sand Crabs** – they have been in great numbers over the last few months throughout the bay.

And, last but not least, one of the best-tasting critters in the bay: **Tiger Squid**. They're starting to show up in all the weed banks in the bay on the western side of Moreton Island, the Rous Channel, Small Boat Channel, Amity Banks, Rainbow Channel, and Green Island. But...you need nice, clear water and a couple of good quality squid jigs. Cast and slow retrieve, and you should get a squid and a face full of ink (this happens to us all)!

So, have fun and be careful. Watch the weather and all the extra boat traffic over the holidays, and look out for a couple of the nastiest of creatures in the bay: stonefish, which are normally found on the bottom, but this time of the year they float on the surface; and Moreton Bay morbakka jellyfish (Irukandji species), which we have in the bay around the Bay Islands, off Wynnum, Wellington Point, and King Island – they will be seen in bigger numbers as the water warms.

To all the readers, Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year, and good fishing to you all! See you in 2026.



ELAINE WEST HONOURED FOR TWO DECADES OF COMMITMENT TO FORUM

Long-serving Bayside Forum member Elaine West has recently been awarded Life Membership of Forum Communicators, recognising more than two decades of commitment, leadership, and service to the organisation.

Elaine first joined Forum over 20 years ago when she wanted to learn how to run effective meetings at work and speak confidently in front of colleagues. Fortunately, she was invited to attend a Forum meeting – and, as Elaine says, "the rest is history!"

It didn't take long for her to realise just how much Forum had to offer — as a multi-faceted organisation, Forum Communicators provides countless opportunities for learning, growth and connection.

Elaine joined Bayside Forum, which now meets at the Wynnum Library, and has held many roles over the years in that Forum, including Treasurer, Secretary and President. She recalls that being encouraged to join the State Committee, and later stepping into the State President's role, was a steep learning curve — but one she embraced with the support of her fellow members.

That same encouragement continued when Elaine became an Accredited Assessor within Forum Communicators. This is a role she has greatly enjoyed, as mentoring and assisting new members

over the years has been one of her most rewarding experiences.

Elaine currently serves as Forum Communicators' Historian and State Secretary. She embraces both of these roles with her trademark diligence, respect, and attention to detail.

In previous years, members of Bayside Forum nominated Elaine for two Redlands Australia Day Awards in recognition of her outstanding contribution to volunteering. That same spirit of service led to Elaine receiving Forum's highest honour, Life Membership, which was presented to her at Forum's recent conference. At the same event, Elaine also won the Ruth Don Grand Champion Speaking Award.

Since retiring from the workforce, Elaine and her husband have moved to Nandeebie Retirement Village, where she continues to give generously of her time. She currently serves as Chairman of the Residents' Committee, liaising with management, organising events and supporting fellow residents. She also keeps communication flowing, producing Nandeebie's monthly newsletter, and is currently preparing a second book of residents' short stories.

Elaine says that Forum Communicators has given her the skills and confidence to embrace countless opportunities — both professionally and personally.

"I will be forever grateful for the encouragement and support given to me by so many Forum members, who have helped me on my journey of lifelong learning."

Elaine, whose formative years were spent on a farm near a small town on the Darling Downs, was "addicted to learning right from the start." After finishing Year 12 at Warwick High School, she



Photo: Supplied.

chose to pursue nursing — a profession she loved and still feels deeply connected to. Marriage, three children and limited work opportunities on the Downs saw the family move to Brisbane in the early 1970s. There, Elaine transitioned from nursing to clerical work, which offered more suitable hours for a working mum. A few years later, the family settled in the Redlands, where they still live today.



BACK TO THE '80s NYE BASH SET TO LIGHT UP WYNNUM MANLY

Wynnum Manly Leagues Club is gearing up to host a dazzling throwback celebration this New Year's Eve with its "Back to the '80s NYE Party". On Wednesday, 31st December 2025, partygoers will be transported to the neon-soaked era of big hair, sequins, and synth-pop as they ring in 2026 in retro style. It's a night designed to evoke nostalgia and pure fun, bringing together lovers of the decade's unforgettable fashion, music, and energy.

The Motif Lounge will come alive from 8:30pm with a high-voltage live performance by the CHI CHI Band, delivering all the iconic hits that defined the '80s, from Madonna and Prince to Bon Jovi and Cyndi Lauper. Guests are encouraged to dress the part — think shoulder pads, leg warmers, acid-wash denim, and bold neon looks are not just welcome, they could win you a prize. The event will feature a Best Dressed competition, adding extra sparkle to the night's festivities and giving everyone a chance to strut their stuff.

Expect themed cocktails, vibrant décor, and a dance floor that won't quit. With great music, electric energy, and a crowd ready to party, this bayside New Year's bash promises to be one of the most memorable ways to welcome the new year. Whether you're reliving your youth or discovering the magic of the '80s for the first time, this event is set to deliver unforgettable vibes and a night of pure celebration.

So gather your crew, glam up in your retro best, and get ready to boogie into 2026 with style and flair.





LOCAL GARDENING WITH KAT

MERRY MISTLETOE

BY KAT PEARSON, GIRL IN THE GREEN

When someone says mistletoe - especially at this time of the year - most likely your thoughts go straight to a bunch of green above an English doorway and the chance encounter with a dreamy Hugh Grant-esque bloke. Or maybe that's just

Mistletoe is a common name for a freeloading bunch of plants that grow on 'host' trees or shrubs. They are hemiparasitic organisms that send their root-like haustoria into the host and suck the water and nutrients they need. Because most mistletoes have leaves, they can perform some level of photosynthesis on their own (hence the 'hemi' part). There are around 1500 species worldwide.

English mistletoe (Viscum album) mostly grows on trees like hawthorn, apple, and poplar. Whilst its hosts are deciduous and lose their leaves in winter, the mistletoe is evergreen and obvious during the Northern Hemisphere holiday period.

Of course, us Aussies like to do things our own way. We have about 90 species, all of which are endemic (found here and nowhere else) and – because things are bigger down under – we also have the largest. The Western Australian Christmas tree or mungee (Nuytsia floribunda) looks like a tree, growing up to 10m tall with a trunk over 1m wide. It attaches itself to the roots of other trees (sometimes over 150m away).

Closer to home, we are more likely to see mistletoe in eucalypts. Look closely and you may see a tree that seemingly has a branch with a different leaf type – that's probably mistletoe!

Mistletoes are spread by birds, with seeds excreted in poop. The seed sticks to a branch, germinates, and voila! A new plant is formed. Some mistletoes are host-specific, which means they will only grow on a certain species of tree, whilst others will grow on a wide range of plants. They usually will not kill their host, but may cause some local stunting. If you are lucky enough to have one growing in one of your own trees, don't remove it. Embrace the biodiversity. Mistletoes are an important part of our ecosystem and provide food and habitat for insects and animals. And who knows, you might find yourself standing underneath it, "just a girl, standing in front of a boy".





The mistletoe has a different leaf shape – it has droopy clusters of leaves hanging down and is more yellow in colour, whilst the gum tree's leaves are a greeny-grey colour. Inset: The mistletoe branches are the darker branches on top and have grown into the pale-coloured host branch. Photo: Kat Pearson.





THE COFFEE CLUB

WYNNUM BUGS: EVERYONE AT EVERY AGE HAS A PLACE AT THE BUGS

CONTRIBUTED BY WYNNUM BUGS

In 2025, Wynnum Bugs launched Walla Rugby, a national entry-level program introducing four to five-year-olds to the fundamental movements and core skills of rugby. The program was a roaring success and will continue in 2026. We can't wait to welcome back previous members and new participants, as well as see some of our little Walla friends transition into the U6 squad.

Battered Bugs is our veterans rugby side, built on inclusion, positivity, and connection. We welcome players over 35, whether they're new to the sport or have been playing for years. Supporters are also encouraged to join and be part of something bigger than just rugby.

Our focus extends beyond the field — we champion mental health awareness and aim to strengthen our community by forging lifelong friendships and looking out for one another.

Whether you want to pull on the boots or simply be part of the community, social membership is always an option.

From bus trips and post-match banter to community events and giving back to the club, Veterans Rugby is where mateship thrives.

Rugby is the game; community is the heart. Wynnum Bugs is proud to offer Walla Rugby, Junior, Colts, Seniors, and Veterans Rugby. Find out how you can become involved by visiting wynnumrugby.com.au.







Latest news from the Port of Brisbane December 2025





Trade

The Port has seen strong trade volumes in the first three months of 2025/26, with most commodity sectors recording growth compared to the same period last year.

Import containers increased more than 15% year-on-year, driven by household goods, retail and electrical products, and building materials. Export container volumes were also strong, particularly beef and cotton volumes.

Bulk commodities are also performing strongly, with cement import tonnages increasing 83% against year-on-year volumes.

Community

In October we partnered with Dunwich State School and others to help deliver the Quandamooka Jarjums Camp on Minjerribah (North Stradbroke Island), our 11th consecutive year supporting the cultural immersion program which hosted over 50 students from the Island and Bayside schools.

During 2024/25, more than 2,600 school students discovered how the Port of Brisbane supports the economy, cares for the local environment, and manages operations sustainably. We're pleased to continue this over the next 12 months, once again partnering with eco-education organisations Moreton Bay Environmental Education Centre and EcoMarines Foundation to support their work.

We've also proudly joined Foodbank Queensland as an 'Impact Partner', supporting its vital work providing food relief to Queenslanders in need.

Brisbane International Cruise Terminal

The busy summer season has arrived for the Brisbane International Cruise Terminal, with over 140 cruise calls expected during the 2025/26 cruise season which runs from 1 October to 30 September.

This season, the BICT is looking forward to welcoming 9 maiden callers, including Voyager of the Seas, Queen Anne, Discovery Princess and Island Princess.

Onsite car parking is limited and in demand, so if you're intending to park and cruise, please book car parking in advance via the Wilson Parking website: www.wilsonparking.com.au.

For more information about the Port of Brisbane, visit www.portbris.com.au or email info@portbris.com.au.

Channel Enhancement Project

Work has now commenced on the draft environmental impact statement (EIS) for Port of Brisbane's proposed 25-year Channel Enhancement Project following the release of the final terms of reference in September by the Queensland Coordinator-General.

Over the next 18 months, we will undertake EIS studies covering all aspects of the project including program of works, material placement, natural environment, coastal processes, cultural heritage matters, social and economic development, and project funding.

Brisbane International Cruise Terminal fast facts: In 2024/25:

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LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUP PROFILE ST PETE'S PANTRY

FROM ST PETE'S PANTRY

St Pete's Pantry is a small, totally volunteer-run charity that operates twice weekly from within St Peter's Anglican Church Hall in Bride St, Wynnum.

On Mondays and Wednesdays, St Pete's volunteers distribute much-needed assistance in the form of groceries, fresh fruit and vegetables, along with frozen foods, to local folk in need.

Starting many years ago as a small outreach of St Peter's Church, The Pantry grew to become a fully registered charity in 2021.

Wanting to do more for the community, a Brekky Club was started on Monday mornings, where people can come and sit, chat with friends for a while, and enjoy a hot toastie or two, tea, coffee, or a cold drink at the same time. Expanding on the idea of helping others, the Monday Hub came into being, where several other organisations gather, including Rosies – Friends on the Street, the SUSO team with their popular Wash Bus, and the hairdressers from HairAid Australia give free professional haircuts to 30 or more people, every six weeks. All volunteers dedicate their time to helping others in the most practical ways.

Christmas becomes a very busy time at The Pantry. Each year in October, The Pantry launches its Christmas Project. This involves, with the aid of the local community, businesses, organisations, and individuals, a special giving of Christmas fare in the form of Christmas hampers containing an assortment of goodies, to those who, through their financial circumstances, cannot enjoy Christmas as many of us do. The aim is to gather, pack, and distribute up to 200 single and family hampers. Along with the Christmas Hampers, toys for children are collected and given as presents from Santa to younger children up to the age of 12.

Early in December, The Pantry will host a hot Christmas lunch for up to 100 people, all catered for by the local Wynnum RSL, as they have done for several years now. It's only through the generous support of the community, individuals, organisations, and businesses that The Pantry can carry out its vital work of helping others in need in our wonderful bayside of Brisbane.







Photos: Supplied.

Home Delivering More Good News to More People

The Community Leader is a monthly publication, home delivered to parts of Wynnum, Wynnum West, Manly, Lota, and parts of Gumdale, Wakerley, Hemmant, Tingalpa and Belmont. Please note that if your home has a 'no junk mail' or 'Australia Post Only' label, then we are unable to deliver the newsletter to you. However, copies will be available around the local area for you to read. If your home does not get a copy, you can collect one from a local pick up point. Maps are subject to change and availability of walkers, however the total number of copies delivered remains constant.

Any submissions can be emailed to sales@market2market.com.au for consideration.

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LOCAL POETRY CHRISTMAS

BY GEOFF SMILEY

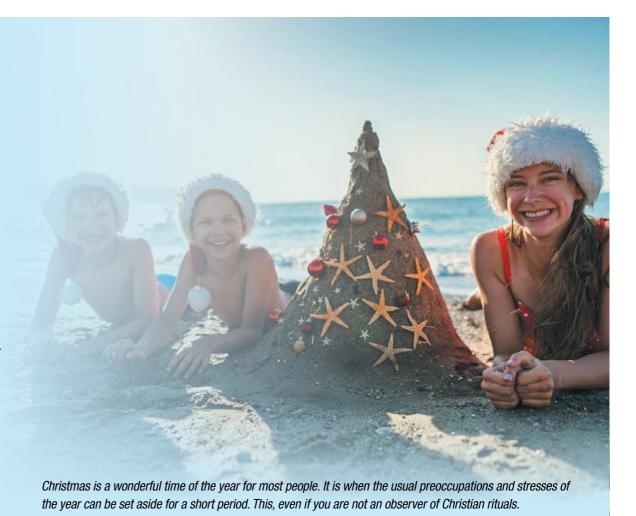
Christmas here is often told as though winter is about. But all of us reside where the sun shines bright. Summer warmth, not a fireside is our Christmas delight.

Christmas, first of all, is a time to notice an event that enthrals; a baby's birth and sacrifice. The love God has for all, His gift, the Christ.

An Australian Christmas, Like all around the world, reminds of joyous things; of families, parties, friends. We all love Christmas, It is hope that never ends.

Gone are the distractions of the past year. Christmas and its joys, bring peace so near. Children's excitement for these. What fun, Christmas is here.

The Christmas tree stands; decorations everywhere.
Presents waiting to be shared, anticipation in the air, festive plans abound.
Yes, Christmastide is here!
© Geoff Smiley



TRAILER

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WEEKLY AWARD
BEST KIDS SHOW
ADELAIDE FRINGE 2024 SYDNEY FRINGE 2024 RERITHERINGE 2023

MAKE A NOMINATION FOR THE AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS 2026

FROM THE SCOPE CLUB OF WYNNUM INC

As another year draws to a close, it's time to recognise those in our community who have given their time as a volunteer helping those less fortunate and to nominate them for the 2026 Australia Day Awards.

Nominees must be older than 18, and their volunteer work must be separate from their usual

Nominations are accepted in writing and should include a brief history of the nominee and details of their community activities.

The award will be presented to the winner at The Australia Day celebration on January 26. 2026, at George Clayton Park, Manly (weather dependent).

Post your nomination to:

The Scope Club of Wynnum Inc. P.O. Box 184 Wynnum Qld 4178

Nominations must be received by January 19, 2026.

For further information, call Jenny Peach at 3396 7318, call or email Merrie O'Neill at merrilyn.oneill@bigpond.com.





Start your dance journey today... Enrolments now open for 2026!

PRESCHOOL, KIDS, TEENS and ADULTS

- ★ Ballet★ Contemporary★ Inzz★ Hip Hop

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BAYSIDE COMMUNITY AWARDS 2025: CELEBRATING LOCAL EXCELLENCE

The bayside region has once again come together to honour its most outstanding businesses and individuals through the 2025 Bayside Community Awards. Determined by public vote (over 35,000 votes were received), these awards highlight the dedication, innovation, and community spirit that define the bayside area. Here are the winners!



BAYSIDE COMMUNITY FUND 123456 7891011:

Bayside Community Fund committee members present a grant to BABI Youth and Family Services.

Bayside Business of the Year winner Munja Pizza.

TOP HONOUR

Bayside Business of the Year

Sponsor: The Community Leader

Winner: Munja Pizza

EDUCATION & PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT

Best Educator (Individual) of the Year

Sponsor: Joan Pease MP Winner: Nicole Waller

Outstanding Apprentice of the Year

Sponsor: Aspiring Technical Services & Electrical Winner: Eliza Beauchamp - EJA Electrical & Air

BUSINESS EXCELLENCE

Best Beauty Business

Sponsor: Manly Hotel Winner: Little Birdie Hair Co

Best Health, Wellbeing and Fitness

Sponsor: Raine & Horne Wynnum/Manly

Winner: Evoxia Physio

Best Hospitality Business (Small)

Sponsor: Wynnum Golf Club Winner: Banette Bayside

Best Hospitality Business (Medium/Large)

Sponsor: Bartons Automotive Group Winner: Cedar and Pine Wine Bar

Best Pet Services Business

Sponsor: Wynnum Manly Leagues Club Winner: Wynnum Manly Veterinary Hospital

Best Professional Services Business

Sponsor: Wynnum Commerce Inc Winner: Bayside Hand Therapy

Best Real Estate Agency Business

Sponsor: Jayco Brisbane Camperland

Winner: Vitale & Co Property Management Services

Best Retail Business

Sponsor: Wynnum Plaza Winner: Little Cedar Store

Best Small Business Newcomer (Less than 18 Months)

Sponsor: Kara Cook MP Winner: Scotty's Espresso

Best Trade/Industrial Business

Sponsor: Annual Pest Management Winner: Keid In Electrical

COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

Outstanding Customer Service (Individual)

Sponsor: My Financial Design

Winner: Tommy Butterworth - Little Gnome Bookshop

Outstanding Community Service (Individual)

Sponsor: Cr Alex Givney & Cr Lisa Atwood

Winner: Kylie Alcorn - Rosie's, Wynnum Community Place

Outstanding Community Service (Organisation)

Sponsor: Bendigo Bank Wynnum Branch Winner: Rosies Wynnum Manly Branch

These awards are a testament to the vibrant spirit and hard work of bayside locals. Congratulations to all the winners – your

contributions continue to make our community shine.

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SILVER SPONSORS











A very happy raffle winner!



Joan Pease MP with Best Educator winner Nicole Waller.



Bell Ellis from Little Gnome accepted the Customer Service award on behalf of Tommy Butterworth.



Winner of Best Trade/Industrial Business - Keid In Electrical.



The team from Scotty's Espresso, winner of Best Small Business Newcomer.



Winner of Outstanding Community Service Organisation, Rosies Wynnum Manly, with JJ from Bendigo Bank Wynnum Branch.



Chris Vote of Raine & Horne Wynnum with Evoxia Physio, winner of Best Health, Fitness and Wellbeing Business.



The Wynnum Manly Veterinary Hospital team — winner of Best Pet Services Business.



Best Real Estate Agency Business winner Vitale & Co.



Cr Lisa Atwood with Kylie Alcom (winner of Outstanding Community Service – Individual) and Cr Alex Givney.



Winner of Best Hospitality Business (Small) – Banette Bayside.



The team from Bayside Hand Therapy, winner of Best Professional Services Business.

LOCAL READERS

A BOOK REVIEW – GHOST CITIES BY SIANG LU

BY ANNE CROWLEY

WHAT THE EXPERTS SAID:

"Ghost Cities is as beautiful as it is honest as it is funny as it is silly, absurd and satirical.

"A Chinese-Australian character named Xiang Lu gets fired from his job at the Chinese consulate in Sydney after it's discovered he doesn't speak the language, and has been relying on Google Translate for his work. The incident goes viral under the hashtag #BadChinese and attracts the attention of a megalomaniacal film director, Baby Bao, who uses Lu to attract press for his latest film. Bao's movie is based on an ancient text whose empirical story is to be filmed in one of China's 'ghost cities': vast developments quickly built for the country's booming population that stand mostly empty." Source: *The Guardian*.

MY THOUGHTS:

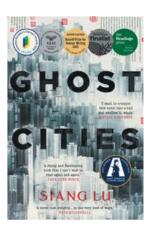
I agree with the opening description by *The Guardian*! This is a feast and a labyrinth of a book. The interspersed stories of the ancient Chinese city and modern Port Man Tou, and their whimsical dictators, highlight parallels despite the centuries between. "What other role in this world is more like that of Emperor than Director? Both are in full command of his world, his domain, his set."

"The Emperor was uniquely talentless and took enormous pride in this fact." So too was the Director, whose films showed smart watches on historical characters — accidentally on purpose! Each was prone to bankrupting their realms, building huge edifices to cast their shadows over their minions. Each dispatched frequent missives to the population pronouncing erratic new edicts that increased the stranglehold on people's freedoms, and extreme punishments for non-compliance. And each banished their deputies at whim when displeased — the Emperor 'rehousing' them in a tower named 'the six levels of hell', and the Director 'recasting' them into slave-like roles in a factory.

I saw resemblances among these two and a current leader we hear about daily!

The book's dark side explores duality, duplicity, reality and illusion, for example, in the ancient city, the Imperial Chef created entire banquets from tofu made to mimic a smorgasbord of delicious treats: "Attendees reveled and feasted as if their very lives depended on it". In Port Man Tou, a bookshop the setting for the launch of Lu's ghost-written-book is filled with books, but all are completely blank except for a one-line message aimed at manipulating Lu and his girlfriend.

Other common themes are: art versus artifice — the imposter farmer had created a garden of fruit made of painted stones; "He had constructed a thing that was useless in its beauty and beautiful in its uselessness." And the question of 'what is perfection?'—"Everything crumbles in time, but that which is conceived as a ruin is forever perfect in its ruination. Its deliberate imperfections appeared flawless."



And woven through each setting is a love story, with language and stories at the heart.

I enjoyed the word-play and sense of the ridiculous, and there are so many topics to explore, making for a very enjoyable thought-provoking book club conversation. I'd recommend it to both individual readers and to book clubs – but you will need to read it at least twice to plumb its depths.

Join us for our Community Open Day

Saturday 29 November • 9am - 12pm

Visit our newest residential aged care home, Estia Health Cleveland.

Take a tour, meet the team and hear about the exceptional care being delivered at our beautiful new home.

Estia Health Cleveland

4-10 Doig Street, Cleveland







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All offers for demo vehicles are valid on available vehicles in stock at time of publication that are sold and delivered between 13 and 30 November 2025. Colour of vehicles may differ to colours advertised. Private and retail customers only. Excludes fleet and government buyers. This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. [*]. Save price based on RRP of vehicle.

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IS THE END OF THE YEAR WEARING YOU DOWN?

FROM DENTAL ON CAMBRIDGE

If you've noticed your teeth feeling more sensitive, having sharp edges, or your jaw aching in the morning, you may be experiencing bruxism – a condition where you grind or clench your teeth, mostly during sleep. It's a common issue among busy adults juggling work, family, and social commitments!

Over time, grinding can wear down enamel, cause cracks, and even affect your bite alignment. Some people also grind due to an uneven bite or sleep disturbances — whatever the cause, the effects can be significant if left untreated.

At Dental on Cambridge, our experienced team often helps patients identify and manage tooth wear early. During your consultation, our compassionate dentists will examine your teeth, assess your bite, and look for signs of grinding – like enamel flattening, small fractures, or jaw tenderness.

A very effective solution for night-time grinding is a custom-made splint, designed to protect your teeth while you sleep. Unlike generic store-bought guards, these are tailored to your mouth for maximum comfort and protection. Our team can also recommend muscle relaxation modalities or jaw exercises to reduce clenching during the day.

Snoring also an issue? We can help with that, too! We work with quality Australian-based labs to design and develop individual snore guards. These are different from the store-bought ones because our qualified Dentists measure your individual jaw and create a device suited uniquely to your jaw positioning to assist with airflow and snoring. These can also help to prevent wear and tear on your teeth.



Photo: Supplied.

Early intervention makes a huge difference! Preventing further damage from grinding now can help you avoid more complex treatments in the future, such as crowns or root canal therapy.

You deserve a smile that feels as relaxed as a Bayside weekend!

If you're waking with jaw pain or noticing wear, book a consultation with our experienced team at Dental on Cambridge today at 3348 6661 – we're here to help you protect your smile for the future.





When families want the best care, they ask for Jo.

At our Wynnum office, Jo is more than a Funeral Director, she's a quiet, comforting presence when families need it most.

Her calm, compassionate nature and attention to every little detail help families feel supported, understood, and cared for. Jo doesn't just do her job, she truly shows up for every family, every time.

We often hear how much Jo's kindness and genuine care meant to people in their most difficult moments.

She's everything we believe in at McCartney Family Funerals, thoughtful, respectful, and wholeheartedly dedicated to the families she serves.

We're incredibly proud to have her on our team.



155 Bay Terrace, Wynnum | mccartneyfunerals.com.au | 1300 043 522 Local Family Owned and Operated. Caring for Families in the Wynnum and Bayside areas.

The ones with the expertise.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas from

Team Jan Goetze.

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