



# HELLO 2026! LET'S CELEBRATE OUR STORIES FOR ANOTHER YEAR!

Since the first edition of The Community Leader almost six years ago, we thought that if we could get even one person to join a club, volunteer, or launch an initiative that makes our community better, we'd done our job.

Since that first edition, we've met so many great people. Some have kicked off charities like the Bayside Community Fund and Bayside Shelter Inc. Others spend their time volunteering with local groups such as the Bayside Community Legal Service, BABI, YMCA, and the Waterloo Bay Leisure Centre. Others bring people together through sport and exercise, like the crews running our clubs, including Wynnum Manly Junior Rugby League. And then there are the local legends – the ones who connect people, lend a hand without being asked, and just make our community a better place to be.

Whatever you do this year, whether it's starting a new hobby, volunteering, or just putting one foot in front of the other, chalk it up as an achievement. When you look back at the end of this year, you'll be amazed at what you got done! Small things add up.

We're looking forward to collaborating with our community this year to bring you more stories that truly reflect the people and places that make the bayside such a great place to live. If you've got good news, get in touch – we'd love to hear from you. Happy 2026!

*Pictured L-R: Mike Sarquis (Bayside Community Fund), Denise Strawbridge (YMCA), Hugh Bettinson (Bayside Community Legal Service), Sandy Lawton (Waterloo Bay Leisure Centre), Kylie Hooper (Wynnum Manly Junior Rugby League), Shaun Staunton (BABI), Carly Motu (Bayside Shelter Inc.), Julie Dixon (Waterloo Bay Leisure Centre), Michael Stubbins (Bayside Community Legal Service), Carly Ogborne (Bayside Shelter Inc), and Trudy Maher (Wynnum Manly Junior Rugby League).*





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# EXPLORE QUEENSLAND'S AMBULANCE HERITAGE AT WYNNUM OPEN DAY

The Queensland Ambulance Service invites the community to step back in time at the Wynnum Ambulance Museum Open Day on 18 January 2026. Located at 33-35 Tingal Road, Wynnum, this heritage-listed building offers a fascinating glimpse into the evolution of ambulance services in Queensland, from the early 1900s to today.

Families and history enthusiasts alike will enjoy free entry to explore an impressive collection of historical ambulances, medical equipment, and photographs that showcase the dedication and progress of emergency health care for more than a century. The museum's exhibits highlight the remarkable journey of paramedics and the vital role they have played in the community.

Visitors can wander through displays that bring to life the challenges and triumphs of ambulance officers across generations. For those wanting a deeper experience, group tours of 10 or more can be booked, while smaller groups may join existing tours by contacting the museum directly.

Whether you're a local resident, a student of history, or simply curious about Queensland's emergency health legacy, this is an opportunity to connect with the past and appreciate the progress that shapes the present.

For further details, contact the Wynnum Ambulance Museum at 0407 117 916 or email [QAS.HeritageAndHistory@ambulance.qld.gov.au](mailto:QAS.HeritageAndHistory@ambulance.qld.gov.au).



Photo: Supplied.

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ROYAL QUEENSLAND YACHT SQUADRON SAILING ACADEMY



# MANLY TO HOST 2026 FINN WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS & CONCERT

FROM THE ROYAL QUEENSLAND YACHT SQUADRON

The bayside community is gearing up for one of the biggest international sporting events ever to come to Manly, with the Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron (RQYS) and the Australian International Finn Association securing hosting rights for the Porsche Centre Brisbane 2026 Finn World Championships in February.

For the first time in the history of the Finn Class, which dates back to 1952, the Finn World Masters will be held in the Southern Hemisphere, right here in Manly. The Finn Gold Cup, the open world championship, will also return to RQYS for the first time in 50 years – the last time being in 1976.

Three major regattas will run across February: Australian Finn Nationals (7–12 February); Finn Gold Cup World Championships (13–19); and the Finn World Masters (20–27).

More than 500 competitors and supporters from across Australia and the world are expected to compete, bringing a welcome boost to local cafés, restaurants, shops, accommodation providers, and the broader bayside economy.

RQYS has a long and celebrated connection to Finn sailing, with a history of producing elite sailors including Olympians Ron Jenyns, John Ferguson, Jake Lilley, Brendan Casey, and Olympic medallist and coach Rafa Trujillo.

To share the excitement with the wider community, RQYS is hosting two major public events in Manly Village and at the Manly Harbour Boat Club, including the FINNS ROCK concert, featuring the Filthy Animals, on Saturday, February 21. With top Australian musicians, the concert is expected to sell out, bringing locals and visiting sailors together for a signature bayside celebration. Tickets will be available via Ticketek.



Photo: Supplied.

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# NEW YEAR’S RESOLUTIONS – TO DO OR NOT TO DO?

BY JAN NARY

Evolving as hunter-gatherers in a natural world has patterned us to have rituals around the seasons, the phases of the moon, solstices and turning points in the year, hence our New Year celebrations – complete with New Year’s resolutions.

New Year’s resolutions are reputed to have started in Babylon 4,000 years ago at crop planting time, traditionally including intentions of renewing loyalty to the king, paying debts and returning things you’d borrowed – like your neighbour’s wheelbarrow.

Julius Caesar shifted the New Year to January in honour of Janus, the two-faced deity of transition who looked forward and backward, and in the 18th century, John Wesley strove to subdue the usually riotous celebrations into Methodist sobriety and a determination to be better people in the coming year.

Our resolutions are probably the product of things that have been chewing at us for a while; the need to lose weight, to exercise more, to quit smoking,

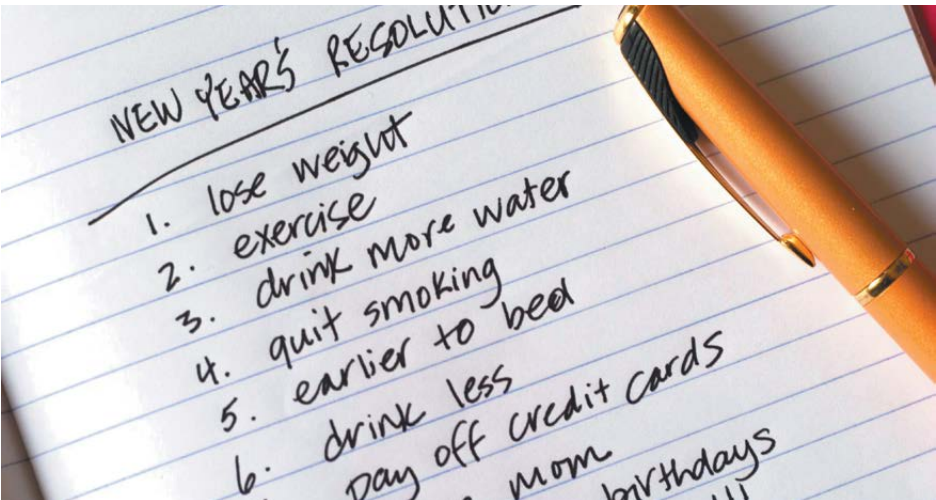
to reduce alcohol consumption, to take up a mind-improving hobby...The opportunities are numerous, but we have to really want change to achieve them, and if we understand our motivation for seeking change, we’re less likely to revert to old habits that we’re comfortable with.

Psychologists have pointed out that many resolutions fail (about 90% is one assessment), because they’re too big or there are too many of them, and that we may have better luck if we make them a series of smaller steps rather than an indigestible chunk.

So what are some of our neighbours intending for the brave new year?

**Lorraine, Capalaba:** *No resolutions because I wouldn’t keep them, but I do make little lists of parts of my life – health, creativity, career – that need attention in the coming year.*

**Jim, Cleveland:** *I don’t make them and people I know who do either break them or forget them – I think they’re an urban myth.*



**Kathy, Capalaba:** *Every year I resolve to lose weight, but this year I’m going to do it – because I need to stay healthy for my grandchildren.*

**Ian, Wellington Point:** *I wouldn’t keep them, so I don’t make any.*

**Fiona, Cleveland:** *I don’t make them – I don’t have time!*

**Cheryl, Wellington Point:** *Every challenge is an opportunity – make the resolutions as you need them!*

So maybe now is a good time for reflection – and for returning that wheelbarrow to the neighbour.

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# LOCAL EVENTS

See what local events are happening in your community.



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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.

### ALL STAR BEATLES SINGALONG!

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ALL STAR BEATLES SINGALONG

Sunday January 18, 5:00pm to 7:00pm, Wynnum Bowls Club, 1 Bridge Street, Wynnum

Get ready to sing your heart out at the All Star Beatles Singalong! On Sunday, January 18, Wynnum Bowls Club will come alive with the timeless music of The Beatles. Featuring Jane & The Rain and Those Folk, this event promises the ultimate sing-along experience with lyrics provided so everyone can join in. With a fully licensed bar and delicious meals available, it's the perfect way to spend a summer evening surrounded by music, friends, and community spirit. Don't miss your chance to relive the magic of the Fab Four in an unforgettable night of harmony and nostalgia. For bookings, scan the QR code.



JAN POWERS FARMERS MARKETS

Saturday January 17, 6:00am to 12:00pm, Little Bayside Park, Manly

After a short hiatus, the Jan Powers Markets returns to Manly's breezy foreshore for another year of fresh and fabulous produce, arts and crafts and divine gourmet goodies. Stock up on fresh fruit and veg and support Queensland growers. Stick around afterwards and explore Manly's boutique shopping options along Cambridge Parade, and enjoy a long lunch at any of the cafes and restaurants in the village or the waterfront. You'll feel like you're on holidays!



FISHING GOLD

Friday January 30, 9:00am to 12:00pm, Pandanus Beach, Wynnum

Seniors are invited to cast a line at Pandanus Beach, Wynnum, with the award winning team from 2 Bent Rods. Part of Brisbane City Council's Active and Healthy GOLD program, this land-based fishing session offers expert tips, all equipment provided, and plenty of fun in the sun. Designed exclusively for older adults, it's the perfect chance to learn new skills, stay active, and enjoy the outdoors. Bookings are essential – scan the QR code – so secure a spot and reel in a memorable morning.



WYNNUM PARKRUN

Every Saturday, 7:00am, start beside Wynnum Wading Pool

Get your shoes on, and join Wynnum Parkrun for a free, friendly 5k along the Wynnum Manly Foreshore. Whether you're walking, jogging, running, volunteering, or cheering from the sidelines, everyone is welcome to join the fun. Participants simply register once, bring their barcode, and enjoy the event at their own pace. Afterward, the group gathers for coffee at Pelican's Nest to celebrate the morning. Wynnum Parkrun is entirely volunteer-led, making it a true community tradition that inspires fitness, friendship, and connection. For more information and to register before you come to Parkrun, visit [parkrun.com.au](http://parkrun.com.au).



BVRC RACQ BATTERIES AUSTRALIA DAY EVENT 2026

Monday January 26, gates open at 7:00am to 10:30am, Ormiston State School, Gordon Street, Ormiston

The Bayside Vehicle Restorers Club (BVRC) will host the RACQ Batteries Australia Day Event on Monday, 26 January 2026, at Ormiston State School. Visitors can enjoy a spectacular display of historical, vintage, classic, hot rods, trucks, bikes, and military vehicles from 7:00am until 10:30am, when the vehicles will depart on a navigation run. A raffle will be held on the day (drawn at 10:00am) with proceeds going to Sailability.



NATURE JOURNALING WORKSHOP

Tuesday January 20, 10:00am to 11:30am, IndigiScapes, Runnymede Road, Capalaba

Join illustrator Megan Forward who will guide you through the process of creating a nature journal at this IndigiScapes workshop suitable for students aged 12 to 18. You'll learn how to capture nature on a page using clever techniques and tricks. All materials are provided and the workshop costs \$45. For bookings, scan the QR code.





# FRIDAY NIGHT PICNICS AT LOTA PARK BRING THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER

CONTRIBUTED BY WYNNUM 60 AND BETTER

**Balmy summer evenings, gentle breezes from the bay – what better time for a picnic!**

Wynnum 60 and Better president Tina Cotis is hosting monthly Friday night picnics at Lota Park to give members a relaxing wind-down to the weekend.

It's a very casual affair, just turn up with a bite to eat (or local takeaway), and something to drink. Music, games and company are supplied.

“Friday night can be a lonely time for some of our seniors,” she said. “Rather than feeling at a loose end, this is a chance to mix and mingle over conversation and activities as the sun goes down. Time to play quoits, bocce, meet friends old and new, break into dance if the mood and music grab you...whatever you feel like doing.

“Besides, this just could be the opportunity to make 2026 the year to expand your social circle.”

Weather permitting, the monthly picnics take place in the park shelter closest to the gym station in Lota Park from 5pm to whenever. This spot is easy to find, clearly visible from the road along the esplanade – just look for the welcoming banner.

The next picnic dates to get into the new year vibe are on Friday, 16 January and 20 February 2026. For more information, contact the Wynnum 60 and Better office on 07 3348 6306.



Wynnum 60 and Better members meet at Lota Park for a monthly Friday evening picnic. Photo: Supplied.

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# KARA COOK COMMUNITY UPDATE

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR BONNER



## Medicare Urgent Care Clinic NOW OPEN!

The Carina–Carindale Medicare Urgent Care Clinic is now open at 805 Old Cleveland Road, providing free urgent care for non-life-threatening injuries and illnesses. The clinic is walk-in, with no appointment or GP referral needed. This is another way the Albanese Labor Government is delivering for residents across Bonner. High-quality healthcare close to home where all you need is your Medicare card, not your credit card.

## Delivering for Health

Cheaper medicines are also here, from 1 January 2026 the maximum cost of PBS medicines will be capped at \$25. There are also 11 fully bulk billed clinics across Bonner, helping more people see a GP without out-of-pocket costs. Women’s healthcare has also been strengthened, with cheaper oral contraceptives, IUDs and menopausal hormone therapies now available under the PBS. Together with our new urgent care clinic these changes are easing pressure on households and supporting a health system that is accessible, affordable and focused on patient care.



## Bonner Future Leaders Advisory Group

I am launching the Bonner Future Leaders Advisory Group to empower youth voices in our community. If you are between 16-23 and live in Bonner please consider applying!

The Council will meet bi-monthly to hear from guest speakers, provide thoughts and insights to the Federal Member for Bonner, and create community and collaboration between young people in our local community.

The Federal Electorate of Bonner includes Lytton, Wakerley, Wynnum, Manly, Lota, Hemmant, Tingalpa, Wynnum West, Mackenzie, Manly West, Ransome, Gumdale, Chandler, Belmont, Carindale, Burbank, Rochedale, Wishart, Moreton Island, Mansfield, Mount Gravatt, Port of Brisbane and parts of Cannon Hill, Eight Mile Plains, Murarrie and Carina.

For any questions or to apply, please contact [kara.cook.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:kara.cook.mp@aph.gov.au) or call 07 3893 3488

## Bonner Electorate Awards

Do you know someone who deserves special recognition in the Bonner electorate?

**Applications are now open for the inaugural Bonner Electorate Awards.**

These awards will celebrate the people who go the extra mile for our community, whether through volunteering, leadership, community service or simple acts of kindness. If you know someone making a real difference, I encourage you to nominate them.

They don’t have to hold a special position or be someone well known. They can just be someone you see making a difference in other people’s lives.

To nominate someone, please request a nomination form by emailing my office at [kara.cook.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:kara.cook.mp@aph.gov.au)



**Two categories:** Under 18s, Over 18s.

**Nominees:** All nominees will be presented with a personally signed Bonner Electorate Award Certificate.

**Finalists:** Determined by an independent judging panel, finalists in both categories will be invited to and acknowledged at a ceremony on **Wednesday 22 April 2026.**

**Nominations close:** 5pm Monday 6 April 2026.

KARA

COOK

MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR BONNER

69 Clara Street, Wynnum Qld 4178

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Labor





# AUSTRALIA DAY DRIVE: VINTAGE AND CLASSIC CARS ON DISPLAY

If your passion is classic old cars – or pretty well anything big with wheels – January 26th is the day to get along to Ormiston State School, where the Bayside Vehicle Restorers Club will have up to 800 vehicles lined up to look at and love.

Sponsored by RACQ Batteries, the day will feature everything from pre-1920 veterans to classic collectibles such as Ford Mustangs. Organisers are hopeful that the lineup will include standouts such as a Ferret – a military personnel carrier – and a Stanley Steamer (with a top speed of 25 kph). Cross fingers, there may even be a flyable fold-up jet...it seems the flatpack syndrome has reached everywhere!

Steve Mellish, BVRC Special Events Committee Chairman, says that diversity makes the day particularly interesting.

“Quite a few of our club members belong to other specialist clubs as well, so we get quite a variety of vehicles – trucks, motorbikes, jeeps, bubble cars, Volkswagen combies, Morrisies, and all sorts of stationary steam and traction engines. No matter what comes along, it’ll be a spectacular day.”

Steve says the vehicles’ provenance is always interesting.

“Sometimes, they’re handed down through the family from grandparents, or dad might have spent 20 years or more doing it up; sometimes people buy old wrecks and restore them, top to toe. One fellow in the club has spent 30 years restoring an old Talbot; he’s 93 now, and he’s still driving it – as well as his early Toyota Corolla.

“My story is that I grew up with my father’s old Chev in the yard, which I loved. I came home from school one afternoon and it was gone – he’d sold it. That drove me to buy my own; now I’ve got a 1927 Chevrolet and I love it to death.”

The day isn’t all self-indulgence.

“A huge raffle helps cover the cost of the day, and any profit goes to Sailability, ‘freedom on the water regardless of ability’, one of the charities that we support,” says Steve.

Steve says that the day is open to the public from 7am.

“We’ll be doing breakfast for about 1400 people, so it’s a good idea to get in early!”

For more information, visit <https://baysideclub.org.au/>.



*Pictured: Bayside Vehicle Restorer’s Club members Cheryl Nott with her Holden and Albert Budworth with his Bentley.*

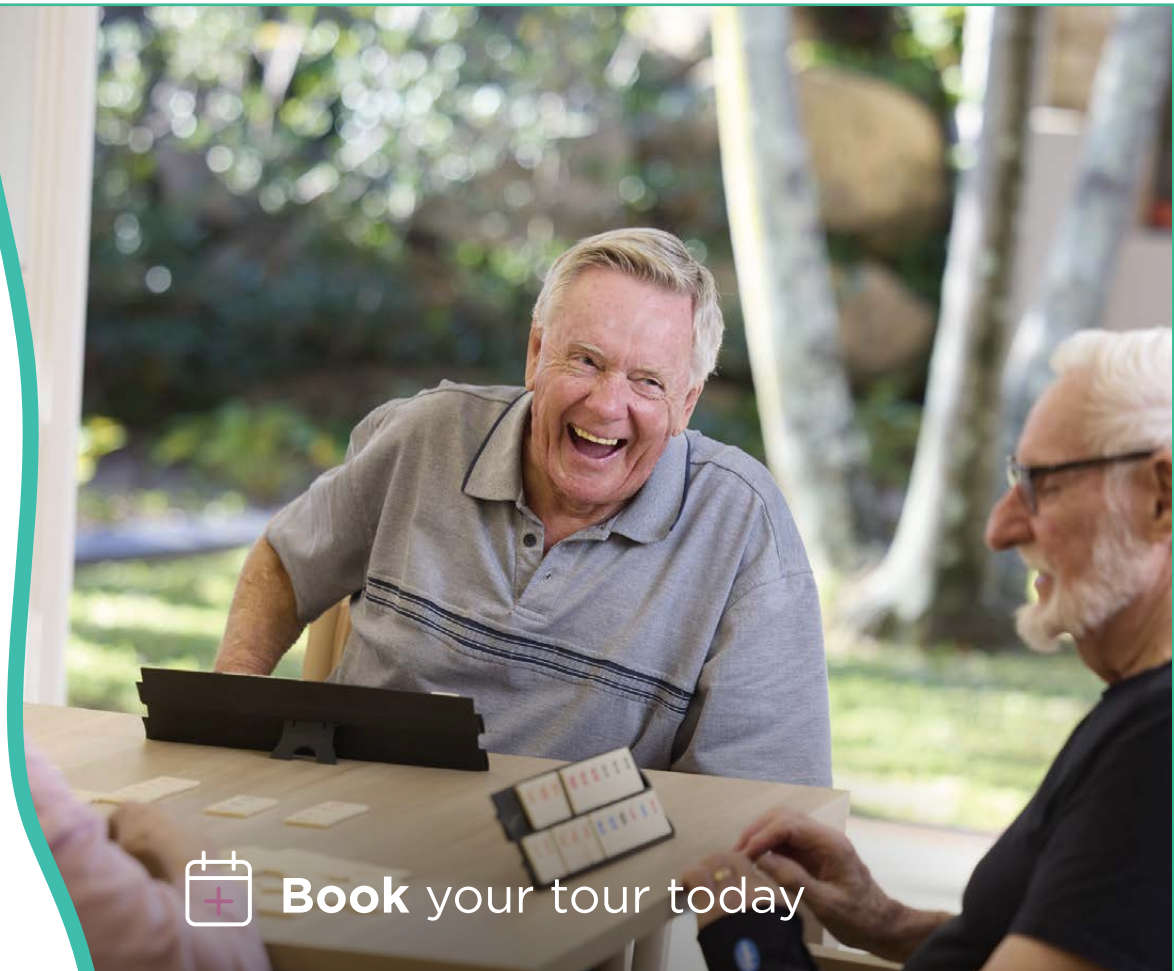
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# Maggie's Mates

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Photo: Supplied.

**What's your name?** My name is Mollie. Nice to meet you!

**Suburb:** I'm from Wynnum West.

**How long have you lived there?** Since I was eight weeks and one day old. My birthday is October 31st – Halloween – so my older human sister calls me the Spawn of Satan sometimes when I am naughty.

**What's your favourite local walk?** I like the Wynnum North area near the Men's Shed, or around the golf course. If I am on vacation, it is usually on the beach tracks at the Sunshine Coast.

**What is your most treasured toy?** I have 18 (and still counting; see my photo) warthogs and porcupines in my possession.

**What is your favourite food?** Hot chips, steak or any type of meat, and especially BISCUITS!

**What is your worst habit?** 'Cobbing' people – and sometimes I get too excited and hurt my human friends (nibbling them in excitement)!

**What is your favourite local hangout?** Little Gnome Bookshop or Zen Barista. Or Lota dog park.

**Who is your best doggo friend?** I have sooooo many! My main friends are: Indi, who visits weekly for playdates; Wally and Bill – brothers from across the road; Howie, who visits when his parents are busy or when we meet at Lota dog park; and Jack – my doggy stepbrother.

**Do you have any funny or embarrassing stories you'd like to share?** I once pulled an entire

homemade seafood pizza – complete with prawns and yummy things – off the kitchen counter onto the floor. For my first birthday party, my human sister had a 'meat' cake especially made for me...complete with real liver and a real meat heart! I do go crazy in the swimming pool and attack my unicorn water pistol.

**What do people love most about you?** I am always excited and happy, and I love meeting new friends at the park or the beach! My friends love to do zoomies with me, or at the beach, I like to dig sand worms or catch waves into shore with my ball, so people love to watch and laugh at me!

**Mollie's favourite charity is RSPCA QLD, and we have made a \$50 donation on her behalf.**



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

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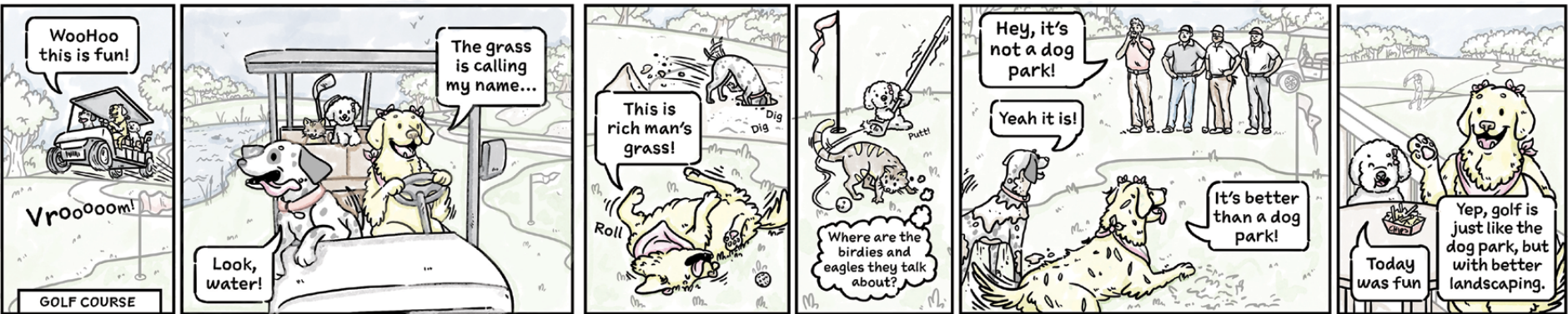
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# MISS MAGGIE OF MANLY



## LOOKING AFTER YOUR PETS IN THE SUMMER HEAT

BY DR NICKY THOMAS, WYNNUM MANLY VETERINARY HOSPITAL

Summer time is well and truly upon us, and with this comes some extreme weather. From consistently hot, sunny days, to intense thunderstorms with severe wind gusts and hail (as we all experienced in November and December) and tropical storms verging on cyclones (a la Alfred), Brisbane is prone to some very dramatic conditions. It is important to ensure that our pets are kept safe throughout these challenging weather events.



### HEAT STROKE

Did you know that animals can suffer from heat stroke in temperatures as low as 24 degrees? Our furry friends do not have sweat glands, so they rely on panting and the availability of shade and shelter to stay cool.

Signs of heat stroke include:

- Seizures, dizziness, confusion, collapsing, staggering.
- Lethargy, restlessness.
- High body temperature and racing heart.
- Vomiting, diarrhoea, excessive salivation.
- Heavy panting and a change in gum colour.

How to avoid heat stroke:

- NEVER leave pets in parked cars.
- Avoid exercising your pet during the hottest part of the day.
- Do not walk pets on hot sand, concrete or bitumen.
- Ensure your pet has a reliable supply of cool, clean water and access to shade and shelter.

### STORM SAFETY

Dogs and cats may become very frightened during storms, with some animals developing a noise phobia related to the wind and thunder which often accompany summer storms.

During a storm:

- Keep your pets inside where possible during severe weather; provide a safe, quiet space to help reduce anxiety.
- Secure all gates and doors to prevent panicked animals from escaping.
- Make sure your pet is wearing a collar and is microchipped with all details up to date.
- If your pet is extremely anxious, have a chat with your vet about medication options to help reduce their stress.
- Make sure you have food, water and medication supplies to last for at least three days in the event of severe weather.

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# POWER OF SMALL – WHY YOU DON’T NEED ACREAGE TO FEED A FAMILY

CONTRIBUTED BY ADELIA BERRIDGE

Green spaces significantly drive Australian home values and buyer demand, with recent research indicating they can add a premium of over 17% to house prices and help properties sell faster. This trend is driven by buyers seeking lifestyle value, quality, and liveability benefits.

These were the key findings in recent reports, such as the October 2025 *Plant Value Report* by Domain, and *Greener Spaces Better Places*, highlighting specific metrics on how greenery impacts the Australian property market.

Redlands Organic Growers Inc (ROGI) scooped a winner at their last meeting with ABC presenter from Gardening Australia, Jerry Coleby-Williams. Jerry travelled from his Wynnum home to Redlands to present to a packed room, explaining why backyard veggie gardens are now in demand and how anyone can live sustainably on an 800-square-metre block. His own 815m<sup>2</sup> block with a lowset house was the example of ‘the power of small’ and proof that you don’t need acreage to feed a family all year round. In fact, 100m<sup>2</sup> of good soil is sufficient.

Jerry’s food growing area is 310m<sup>2</sup>, and the rest is companion planting and fruit, nut, berry bushes and trees, and he recently sold enough

marmalade to pay six weeks’ mortgage payments. Basil seeds provide a good predator border, as do the spider plant and amaranth leaf, noting bugs are attracted away from food plants to the companion plants.

No words were wasted getting the message across that pesticides are the gardener’s enemy.

“Over the long term, pesticides can cause soil degradation by harming beneficial microorganisms, which reduces soil fertility and its ability to retain water and nutrients. This can lead to a loss of biodiversity, soil contamination, and the persistence of harmful chemical byproducts in the soil. Long-term pesticide use can also lead to pesticide-resistant pests, creating an ecological imbalance”.

Wasps, while not his favourite species, do a tremendous job in removing caterpillars, flies, and aphids, so are treated with great respect.

Jerry is no stranger to Redlands, and he adds his voice to protect flora and fauna. Jerry’s message in 2020 emphasised that koalas need their native food trees and shade for resting periods, as their diet is highly specialised and they cannot survive on alternative foods like bananas.



Photo: Supplied.

The take-home message – train the kids early with nutritious sprouts, because every meal they help grow is a daily vote for an edible system.

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# JOAN PEASE'S COMMUNITY UPDATE

STATE MEMBER FOR LYTTON



**WYNNUM SOCIAL HOUSING PROJECT**

There's a housing crisis in Queensland, with reports of 56,000 people now on a public housing waiting list. You may have noticed big cranes in Emsworth St in Wynnum. That's because Niclin Group are busy building 50 social housing homes that got the planning green light by the previous Miles Government. It's coming along nicely – near completion and set to open soon.

I'm proud to have fought for this worthwhile project for our community. It won't solve the housing crisis in Queensland, but it will help vulnerable Baysiders, particularly women, in desperate need of housing.



**CONSULTATION OPEN FOR CARINA LEAGUES BUILD**

Last month, the Carina Leagues Club announced plans to build a multi-story development at the foreshore site of the old Wynnum fish markets at 1 Fox, Wynnum.

The multi-level proposal includes, a large gaming venue (80 pokie machines), a late-night entertainment complex, high-capacity dining and rooftop areas, with the venue seeking operating hours from 7am to 4am daily.

There is no doubt this site requires suitable development, which will add to the amenity of the area and benefit our community. Whilst many residents have raised concerns about the lack of parking, noise, excessive gambling, and the size of the proposed building, the best course of action is to lodge a submission directly with Brisbane City Council via <https://developmenti.brisbane.qld.gov.au>.



**BAYSIDERS ADDED IN HAIL HARDSHIP PAYMENTS**

After I wrote to the Queensland Minister for Disaster Recovery about making Bayside residents eligible to receive Disaster Hardship Payments following November's severe hailstorms, the Bayside suburbs of Lota, Manly, Manly West, Wynnum, Wynnum West were activated for targeted Personal Hardship Assistance

The income-tested support, provided under joint Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) between the Federal Government and Queensland Government is for uninsured residents who suffered property damage from the storms and subsequent power outages. For more info about the grant, eligibility and how to apply, go to [www.disaster.qld.gov.au](http://www.disaster.qld.gov.au).



**BUSINESS GROWTH FUND GRANTS**

You can now register your interest for Round 7 of the Business Growth Fund Program (a previous Miles Government initiative). Grants are now available for eligible small and family businesses. For more, go to: [www.business.qld.gov.au/running-business/support-services/financial/grants/growth-fund](http://www.business.qld.gov.au/running-business/support-services/financial/grants/growth-fund)



**THE TRAGIC STORY OF BAYSIDER TAMMY**

I recently raised in Parliament the heartbreaking story of Tammie Thrower, a Bayside woman who spent her final months dying of cancer while facing homelessness. Despite her family, my office and frontline services doing everything possible, no safe home was found. This is not an isolated case.

According to Micah Projects, a reported 21 people with a terminal illness died whilst homeless over the last 12 months. The youngest was 27 years of age. It's very likely there are more. With more than 56,000 Queenslanders waiting for social housing, our system is failing the most vulnerable. No one should spend their final days without dignity, security and a place to call home. We must fight for change.



# WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP ROTARY SERVE THE COMMUNITY IN 2026?

CONTRIBUTED BY LES LOUIS

The Rotary Club of Wynnum and Manly has been serving this community continuously for more than 70 years since its inauguration in October 1953. Last year, nine new members joined the club, bringing the total to 53.

They joined for many reasons. It may be because the club:

- Undertakes projects that make our local community a better place, such as the monument to the Quandamooka people near the Wynnum wading pool; Eastwood Beach near the Manly swimming pool, and the reconstruction of Balgüe's Slip (Pelican's Roost) on the Wynnum foreshore.
- Contributes to education and health locally and in such places as India, Tanzania, Cambodia, Timor Leste, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands.
- Provided solar lights for villagers in Timor Leste.
- Improved sanitation and health through clean water projects in the Pacific Islands.

- Has great camaraderie among members and arranges social gatherings to enjoy each other's company.
- Has interesting and informative guest speakers each week at its meetings.

It may be any or all of these things – every person has their own reason for getting involved. What is common is that after joining, they enjoy the experience, the company and the satisfaction of helping their fellow citizens, to the extent that several members of the club have been involved with Rotary for more than 40 years.

Members have also made friends from around the world through Rotary. Member Tracey Wyatt recently received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Rotary International Travel and Hosting Fellowship for her outstanding work helping visiting Rotarians in our area.

The Rotary Club of Wynnum and Manly would love members of the community to join them in helping others and to *Have Fun While Getting Things Done!* For more information, visit rcwm.org.



Balgüe's Slip – unveiling the history sign. Photos: Supplied.



Rotary Club of Wynnum and Manly members enjoying coffee while campaigning against domestic violence.

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# MANLY HARBOUR VILLAGE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPDATE

BY JEMANDA HANNOUF, PRECINCT COORDINATOR, MANLY HARBOUR VILLAGE

## MANLY HARBOUR VILLAGE CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION IN THE PARK

The Manly Harbour Chamber of Commerce Christmas Lights Celebration in the park, held in the park on Saturday, 6 December, was a wonderful afternoon that captured the true spirit of the festive season and showcased the strength of our local community.

Families, friends and neighbours gathered in Little Bayside Park as it was transformed into a vibrant hub of Christmas cheer. The highlight of the day, for many, was the much-anticipated arrival of Santa Claus, who delighted children and adults alike as he made his grand entrance and allowed families to take free photos with Santa.

Adding energy and colour to the celebration was a fantastic dance performance by the Kellehers Dance Academy. Their enthusiasm, talent and festive flair brought the stage to life and entertained the audience, earning well-deserved applause and admiration from all who attended.

As the sun set and the Christmas lights sparkled, the evening transitioned into a free, family-friendly Movies in the Park experience.

The Manly Harbour Chamber of Commerce extends sincere thanks to all volunteers, performers, sponsors and community members who helped make this event such a success.

We look forward to continuing this tradition and wish everyone a safe, joyful and festive Christmas season.

## MANLY HARBOUR CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMPETITION: THANK YOU FOR MAKING IT SHINE

The Manly Harbour Christmas Lights Competition once again turned the waterfront into a festive spectacle, filling the harbour with colour, joy, and community spirit. The glowing reflections on the water created a magical experience for locals and visitors alike.

A heartfelt thank you to the boat owners who transformed the harbour into a floating Christmas display, and to the homeowners whose festive lights brought warmth and cheer along the shoreline. Your creativity and effort made the season extra special.

We also thank the local businesses for embracing the festivities and helping make Manly Harbour a vibrant Christmas destination. We look forward to seeing Manly Harbour shine again next Christmas.



## TWILIGHT ON CAMBRIDGE

The next Twilight on Cambridge is set to bring another enjoyable evening to the community, taking place on Friday 13 February. This regular twilight market will offer its signature relaxed atmosphere, making it the perfect way for families and friends to unwind and connect at the end of the week. Featuring a variety of local stalls, delicious food, and entertainment, Twilight on Cambridge promises a vibrant evening out and a chance to soak up the welcoming community vibe.



Photography by Steven Krige Photography.



**SATURDAY 17 JANUARY**  
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**FRIDAY 13 FEBRUARY**  
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For more information on upcoming events, be sure to follow Manly Harbour Village on social media and subscribe to our newsletter at [manlyharbourvillage.com](http://manlyharbourvillage.com).



# MYTHS SURROUNDING THE VALUE OF MOHS SKIN CANCER SURGERY

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

**Is Mohs surgery better than standard plastic or reconstructive surgery?**  
**In my opinion, its use is a controversial marketing tool.**

Proponents state that Mohs surgery is ‘tissue sparing’; only the cancer is removed, without an additional margin of ‘normal skin’ being taken around the cancer, which preserves all healthy skin and keeps the surgical site as small as possible.

Mohs is not more ‘tissue sparing’. It is standard practice for plastic or reconstructive surgeons to remove ‘only the cancer’ with an appropriate margin of 1mm for BCC and 1-2mm for squamous cancers of the skin, including deep tissue clearance. So, what is the difference? Mohs takes all day and is very expensive!

The Mohs surgeon claims to minimise the extent of the resection to make closure easier. But it is standard plastic surgical practice to draw a 1-2mm clearance of the macroscopic tumour edge, which is very obvious to the skilled eye, before undertaking any cutting. So why can’t a MOHS surgeon do this?

Mohs:

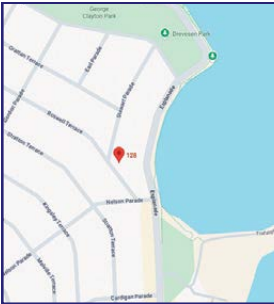
- Increases the chance of an inadequate initial resection, which will be found when the specimen is sent for frozen section.
- A pathologist will then examine the edges for complete clearance, which takes around two hours. A frozen section is also not the most reliable method to examine the specimen for possible residual cancer. The path report is often incorrect due to distortion, folding and the limitations of the process itself. If formalin slides are made, this delays closure for at least 24 hours.
- Necessitates an initial dressing and delay in primary closure of the skin, sometimes overnight, increasing the risk of infection.



- It may also interfere with primary defect flap repair surgery.

A skilled Specialist Surgeon will achieve good cosmetic removal of the cancer within 30 minutes, resulting in early discharge without the MOHS ‘razzamatazz’.

It is my view that Mohs is a very expensive gimmick, because multiple and expensive procedures are added to a simple procedure. It confers no demonstrable improvement in the cure rate for skin cancer and is time-consuming.



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# CARINA SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB – WHERE FRIENDSHIPS AND FUN FLOURISH

The Carina Senior Citizens Club Inc. is calling on community members aged 50 and over to discover a vibrant hub of activity, creativity, and connection. Nestled in the heart of Carina at 1 Edmond Street, this welcoming group offers a diverse weekly program designed to enrich lives and foster friendships.

From Monday to Saturday, members can enjoy a wide range of activities tailored to suit varied interests and abilities. Whether it's painting with "Painting Partners", playing cards, or joining the lively social group on Mondays, there's something for everyone. Tuesdays bring the thrill of Mahjong, Bridge, and Indoor Bowls, while Wednesdays and Thursdays are perfect for craft lovers with "Creative Stitching" and "Busy Fingers".

Fridays offer a blend of wellness and creativity, featuring Tai Chi, gentle exercise classes, and the "Needles and Hooks" craft group. For those who enjoy a weekend challenge, Saturday's Pony Cards session provides a fun and engaging way to spend the day.

Each session costs just \$5 and includes morning tea, with free tuition available for all activities, making it easy for newcomers to jump in and try something new.

The club is more than just a schedule of events; it's a community where laughter, learning, and companionship thrive. Interested individuals can reach out via phone at 3395 4636 or email [carinaseniorcitizensclub@outlook.com](mailto:carinaseniorcitizensclub@outlook.com) to learn more.



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BY GEOFF SMILEY

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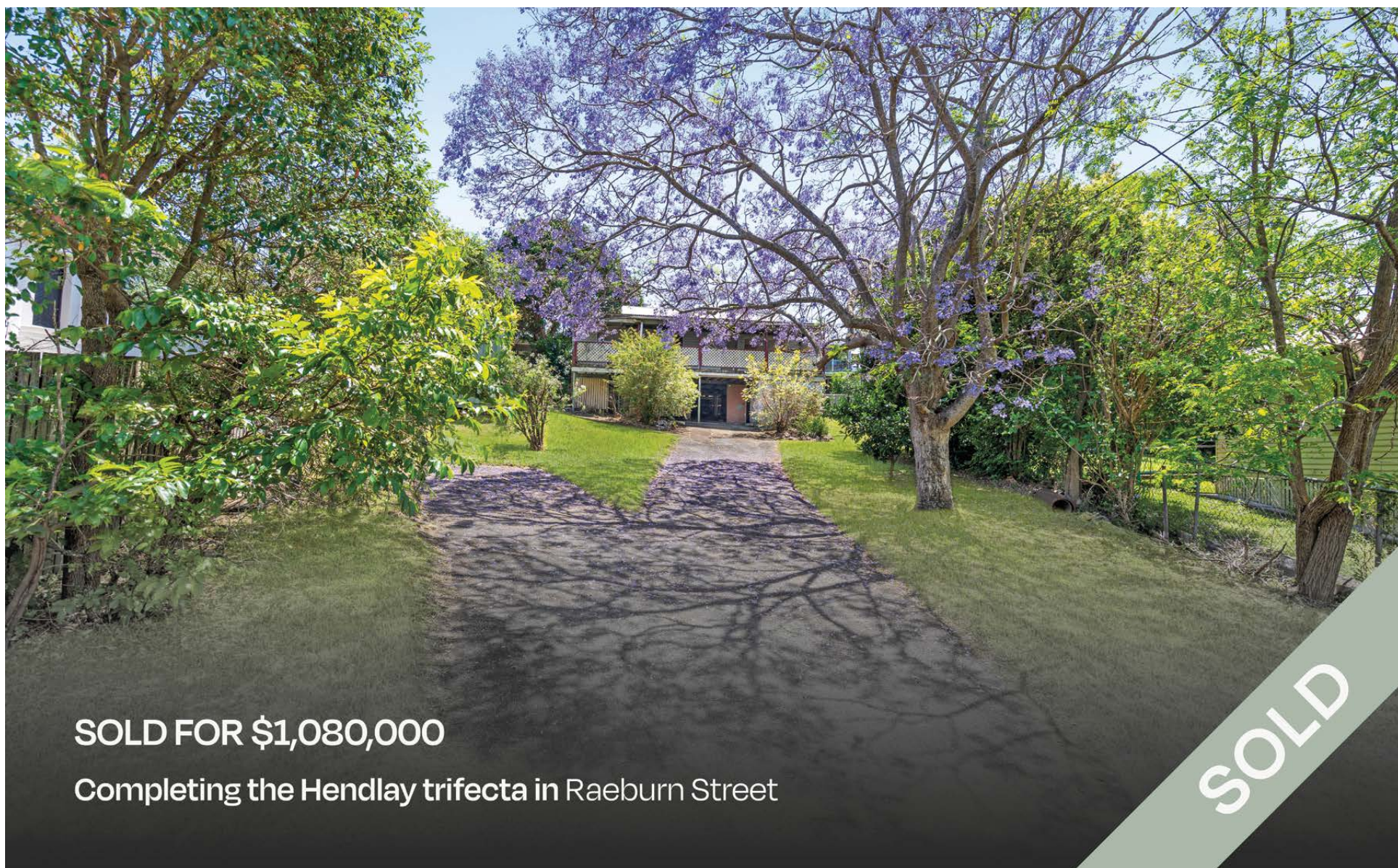
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# Blocked Drains: A Small Problem That Can Turn Messy Fast

FROM A GRADE PLUMBING AND GAS

**Blocked drains are one of those household problems that are easy to ignore until they are suddenly not. What starts as a slow sink or a strange gurgling noise can quickly turn into overflowing drains, bad smells, and water where it definitely shouldn't be.**

Most blockages do not happen overnight. In kitchens, grease, oils, and food scraps slowly accumulate in pipes. Bathrooms tend to cop it from hair and soap residue. Outside, leaves, dirt, and tree roots are common causes, especially after heavy rain when stormwater systems are working overtime.

The tricky thing with blocked drains is that they rarely sort themselves out. When water cannot flow properly, pressure builds up in the pipes, which can lead to cracks, broken joints, or even sewage backing up into the home. Aside from being unpleasant, these issues can be expensive and stressful to deal with.

The good news is that prevention does not have to be complicated. Being careful about what goes down the drain goes a long way. Avoid pouring grease down sinks, use simple strainers in showers and basins, and keep outdoor drains clear of leaves and debris. Having drains checked from time to time can also help catch problems early. With modern camera inspections, plumbers can see exactly what is going on underground without digging things up.

If you notice slow drainage, ongoing blockages, unpleasant smells, or water pooling outside, it is best not to put it off. Fixing the issue early is usually quicker, cleaner, and far cheaper than dealing with an emergency later on.

Blocked drains might seem minor at first, but looking after them can save a lot of trouble and keep your home running smoothly.

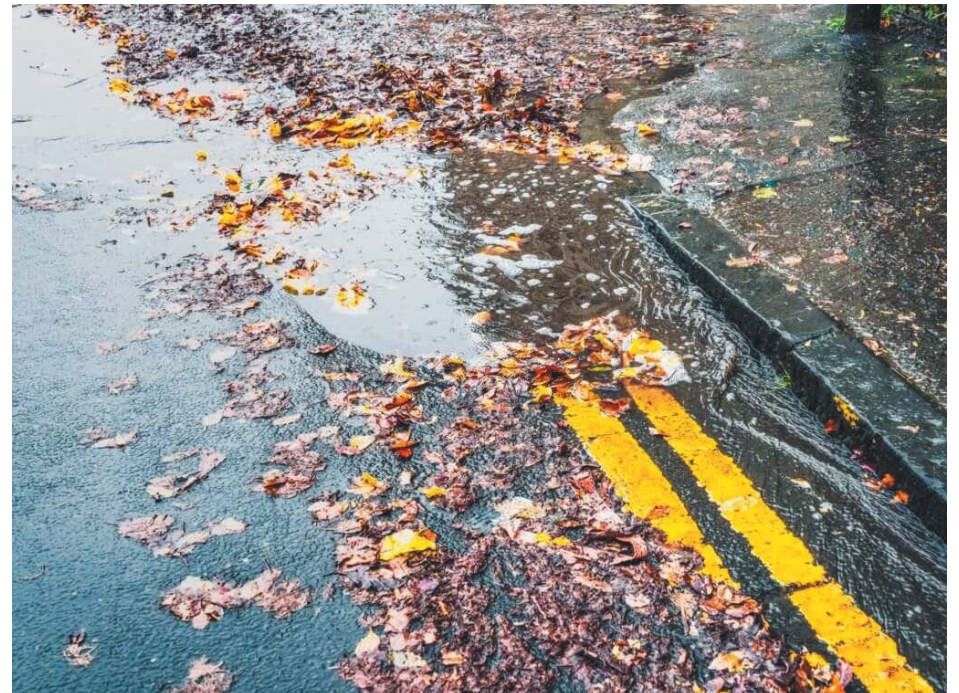


Photo: Supplied.

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- ◆ These are just some of the questions you should consider when contemplating making a change.



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# Managing Property and Probate

CONTRIBUTED BY BECKY MCKAY AT KATE REDMAN AND ASSOCIATES

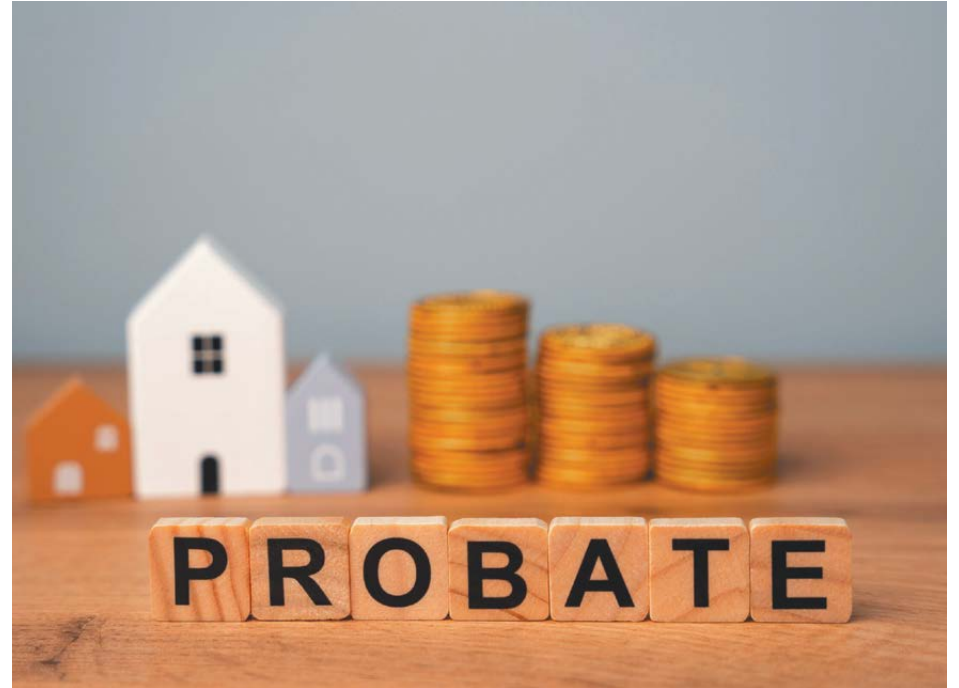
**Losing a loved one is an emotional whirlwind, and amidst the grief, managing their property can feel overwhelming.**

In the Bayside, where property values continue to soar, handling a deceased estate requires careful navigation to ensure assets are protected and distributed smoothly. As a wills and estates lawyer at Kate Redman and Associates, I've seen firsthand how proper planning can prevent costly disputes and delays.

When an owner passes away, their property – whether a family home in the suburbs or an investment unit in the CBD – becomes part of their estate. If there's a valid will, the executor is responsible for obtaining a Grant of Probate from the Supreme Court of Queensland. This legal step confirms the will's validity and grants authority to manage assets. Without a will, intestacy laws apply, potentially leading to unintended beneficiaries and prolonged court involvement.

Key challenges include transferring property titles through Queensland Titles Registry, addressing any outstanding mortgages or rates, and handling capital gains tax implications if the property is sold. For instance, exemptions may apply if the property was the deceased's primary residence, but timing is crucial to avoid unnecessary tax burdens. Family provision claims can also arise if dependents feel inadequately provided for, turning a straightforward process into a contentious one.

Professional guidance is essential to streamline this. By engaging experts early, you can safeguard the property's value and honour the deceased's wishes efficiently.



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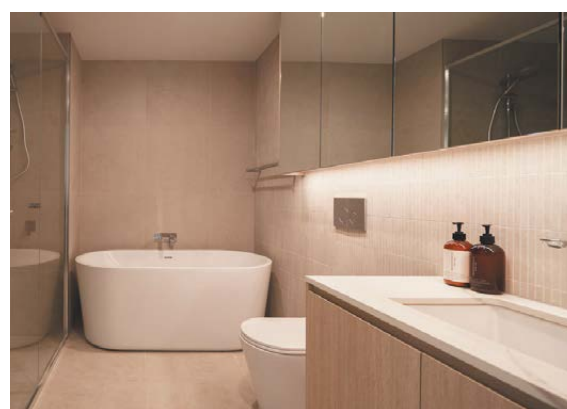
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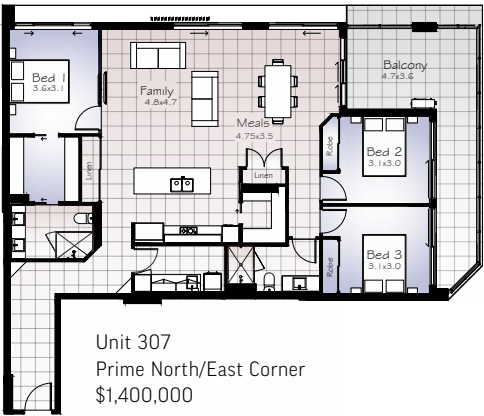
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# CORN & ZUCCHINI FRITTERS WITH A TANGY AVOCADO SALSA RECIPE

These fritters are an easy summer brunch option for a steamy Brissie summer. They're light, fresh, and use seasonal produce, and you don't need to run your oven in the heat!

## INGREDIENTS (FOR 4 SERVES)

- 3 medium zucchinis
- 1 cup corn kernels (canned is convenient, but fresh is best)
- 2 big eggs
- ½ cup of self-raising flour, sifted
- ½ cup of grated cheese (cheddar, tasty, parmesan – or use a mix)
- 2 spring onions, finely chopped
- Salt and pepper to taste
- A dash of olive oil for frying

## AVOCADO SALSA

- 1 ripe avocado, diced
- 1 roma tomato, diced and de-seeded
- 1 small red onion, very finely chopped
- The juice of 1 lime
- Coriander leaves to garnish – optional (so don't panic if it gives you the 'ick'!)
- ½ teaspoon of cayenne pepper for some spice – optional
- Salt and pepper to taste



## METHOD

1. Using a box grater, grate the zucchini (watch your fingers!), then wrap it in a clean tea towel and squeeze out any excess water.
2. In a large bowl, mix the zucchini, corn, eggs, flour, cheese, and spring onions, and season with salt and pepper.
3. Heat a dash of olive oil in a non-stick frypan over a medium heat. Just like making pancakes, dollop circles of the mixture (about the size of your palm) into the pan and fry on each side for around 3 to 4 minutes, or until they're golden. Set aside, but keep the fritters warm under a tea towel (not the one you used in point 1!).
4. For salsa: Gently combine the avocado, tomato, onion, lime juice, cayenne pepper and coriander (if using). Season with salt and pepper.
5. Serve up the fritters while they're warm and top with the salsa. You can also add a dollop of Greek yoghurt or sour cream for extra depth of flavour.

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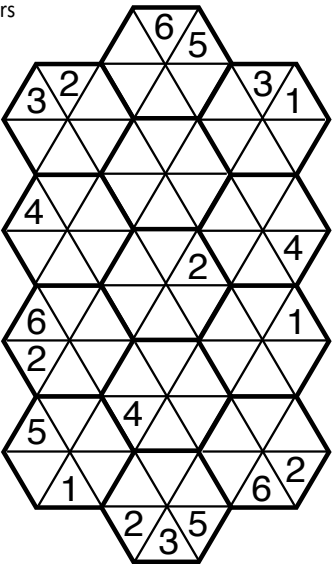
Sudoku

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

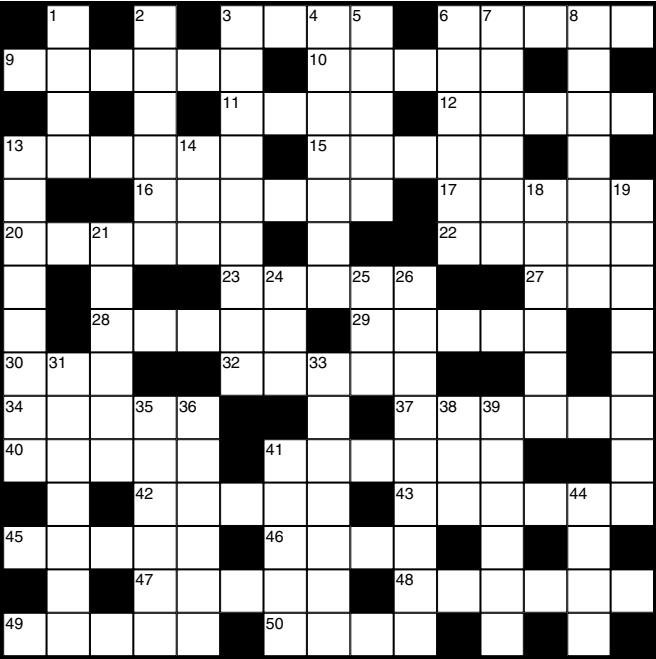
2		7	6					
		9					8	
	6				3		9	
	1			3				
				5	6			4
						2		9
		8			4			1
6	3		5					
		1	9			8		

Quick Workout

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



Crossword

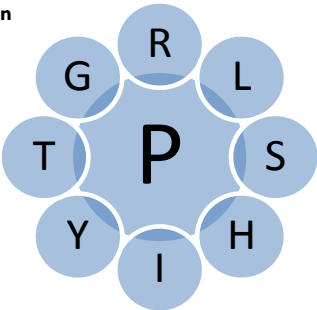


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- \* Find at least one nine letter word
- \* No swear words
- \* No verb forms or plurals ending in 's'
- \* No proper nouns and no hyphenated words

TODAY'S FOCUS  
Good: 10 words  
Very good: 17 words  
Excellent: 25 words



\_\_\_\_\_

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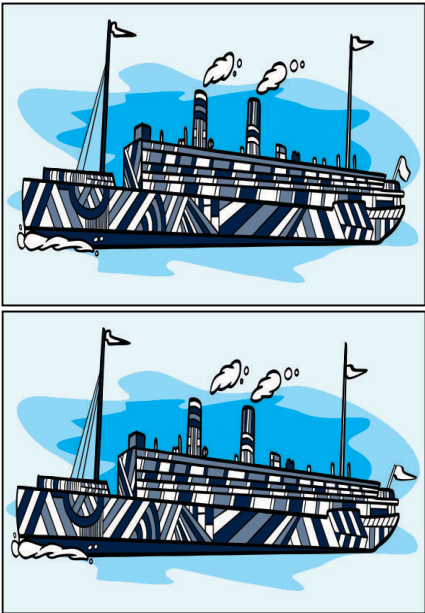
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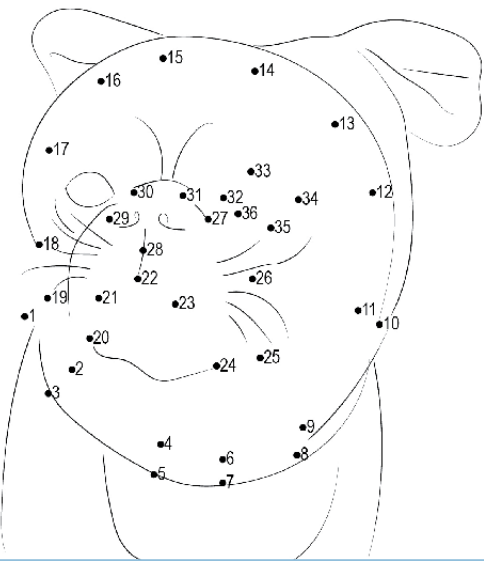
Reference: Macquarie Concise Dictionary  
Focus No. 3901

Spot the 5 Differences



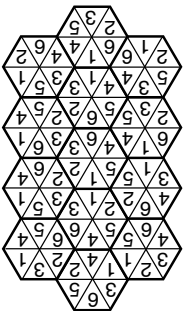
Join the Dots

What is this? Find out by joining the dots.



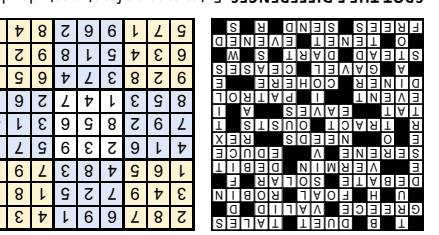
Solutions

Puzzles and pagination supplied by Auspact Media



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slip split spily split split split split split split split split split  
FOCUS: gilyph gilyph gilyph gilyph gilyph gilyph gilyph gilyph gilyph  
flag at back.

SPOT THE 5 DIFFERENCES: Extra rope on front mast, cloud moved, flag lower on mast, missing pipe on roof, shape of



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# WYNNUM MANLY’S STORYTELLERS AND WRITERS FIND THEIR VILLAGE AT WOW

CONTRIBUTED BY SHARNA WILDS, WRITERS OF WYNNUM MANLY

**Are you a writer, poet, or storyteller with a desire to see your work in print? Perhaps the new anthology of short stories and poetry by Writers of Wynnum Manly could be the perfect opportunity to make this happen.**

Wynnum and Manly have a flourishing writing and literary community, to which Heather Jacobs has contributed for over 20 years. Heather brings her vast experience and credentials as a writer, poet, editor, and competition judge to her role as the convener of Writers of Wynnum Manly (WOW), a community writing group.

Heather received the Lifetime Membership Award from Women Writers Queensland in October last year. This accolade celebrates the commitment and contributions she has made to the organisation over many years, especially during her six-year tenure as president.

WOW provides a warm and encouraging environment, and Heather offers critiques, prompts, and challenges to inspire members in their individual writing journeys. Through Our Eyes is the group’s previously published anthology of short stories and poetry, with Heather at the helm as editor, and plans for a second edition are now underway.

Heather and WOW are welcoming new members, whether aspiring or experienced, to make connections, collaborate, and contribute their little bit of ‘wow’ to the new anthology.

WOW is held at Wynnum Library, every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 9:30 am to 12:00pm. A \$3 donation is requested to cover the teas and biscuits, which are shared alongside the stories and smiles.

Please contact Don on 0417 601105 to attend WOW’s first meeting of 2026 on January 20, or visit the Facebook page WOW – Writers of Wynnum Manly for more information.



Heather Jacobs, convener of Writers of Wynnum Manly. Photo: 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.

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- Advertising cut off 14th of January
- Distribution to commence 2nd of February
- Bookings are for a minimum of 3 months and space is limited
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# LOCAL FISHING WITH SPERO

## DROP A LINE: MORETON BAY’S SWIMMING WITH FISH THIS MONTH

BY SPERO KARTANOS

Happy New Year to all our readers, and a happy and healthy 2026!

Well, if you have a boat, January is a good time to get out on the bay to catch a fish or two. Thousands of boats will be out this month, with many families trying to catch fresh fish for the table. Busy spots are usually the western side of the islands from Tangalooma to the Sand Hills at Moreton Island, and from Amity to One Mile, and of course, Horseshoe Bay. It will be great to see so many boats on the bay.

The fishing should be good with plenty of whiting for all. Try the Small Boat Channel, the Rous, the Sand Hills at Moreton, and Amity Banks – there will be enough for everyone. The school mackerel will not be in the hundreds, but if you put some time into having a troll between east of the Hope Banks and the entrance to the Small Boat Channel (and at the start of the Chain Banks), then you might get a couple of nice fish. Hopefully, as I write this, the spotties should also be in the bay.

The tiger squid season will have started, and as the water clears a little more, they should front up at Green Island as well as around the weed banks at the Small Boat Channel, all through the Rous and Amity Banks, and in the weed banks at Moreton Island. All these areas will be producing plenty of squid, especially an hour each side of the tide, and at dawn and dusk.

For snapper and squire and some really nice sweet lip, try around Mud Island and the Lazaret Gutter at Peel. For me, the best fishing this time of year is for whitebait at Peel and Green Islands at night. All you need to catch these tasty critters is a butterfly net and a light at the back of the boat at night.

So all in all, what we want for January is great weather and no wind, and a few great weeks on the water and lots of fun. Let’s hope 2026 brings health, happiness, and plenty of fish for all.

Till next month, good fishing!



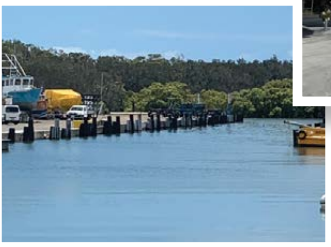
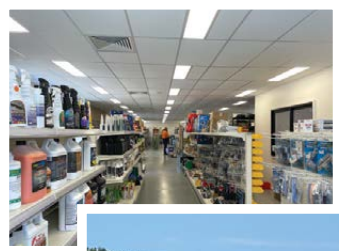
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# LOCAL GARDENING WITH KAT

## SSSUMMER SSSNAKE BEANSSS

BY KAT PEARSON, *GIRL IN THE GREEN*

We may have farewelled the year of the snake, but with the warm weather, we should be welcoming the growth of snake beans! Move over delicate French runner beans, hardcore subtropically ideal snake beans are the new favourite. They're also known as yard-long beans – and while usually they're more like 'foot-long', that still makes one snake bean worth maybe ten French beans!

While we're lucky in the subtropics and can be reasonably successful with French/green beans (*Phaseolus vulgaris*) over summer, they can suffer a little in the heat. Snake beans (*Vigna unguiculata ssp. Sesquipedalis* – how's THAT for a scientific name!), on the other hand, THRIVE in heat and humidity. They are popular in many Asian cuisines and can be blanched, stir-fried or stewed. My favourite is frying them with lots of chilli and garlic and a splash of sweet soy sauce. Like French beans, pick them while they're young and tender, and twist them gently off the tip of the vine – more beans continue to develop from that growing point. The more you pick, the more that grow. Leaving

pod of any sort on a plant (and this includes peas and sweet peas) lets the seed develop and signals to the plant that its job is done and can die now! Handily, they last ok in the fridge for a few days, so pick, pick, pick!

You are unlikely to find snake bean seedlings for sale, and at any rate, they are happier grown from seed. Check online seed retailers, or if you're lucky, you might find a pack of Mr Fothergill's in your local nursery. You can get dwarf and red/purple varieties, but I think the regular green ones are the most successful. Sow seeds now, and you'll still have time for a crop before the weather cools. Push the seeds a centimetre or two into the soil, water in, and don't water again until they have germinated (to prevent the seeds from rotting). Snake beans are enthusiastic climbers, so they need a good-sized trellis, but they aren't the kind of climber that's going to pull half your fence down, so don't fret. Mine are manageable in the veggie patch with a 1.8m climbing frame and two rickety wooden stakes.



Left: Snake beans up a trellis; top right: doesn't the flower look like a purple Mickey Mouse?; Bottom right: beans form in twos. Twist them off gently and more flowers and beans will grow. Photos by Kat Pearson.

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# LOCAL READERS: A BOOK REVIEW – *CONVENIENCE STORE WOMAN* BY SAYAKA MURATA

BY ANNE CROWLEY

**WHAT THE EXPERTS SAID:**

“Not all novel titles manage so very literally to describe the contents, but this one – unapologetically deadpan yet enticingly comic – absolutely does.

“Keiko has been a worry to her family all her life, bullied and friendless, her behaviour sometimes even chilling... Her salvation appears when, aged 18, she secures a job at the local convenience store and, paying conscientious attention to the training video, realises ‘it was the first time anyone had ever taught me how to accomplish a normal facial expression and manner of speech’... Now part of the ‘machine of society’, she reckons she’s at long last ‘pulled off being a ‘person’.

“But now Keiko is 36 years old and her family still isn’t happy. Concerned that she’s hurtling towards a childless middle age in a dead-end job, they hanker to ‘fix’ her.” *The Guardian*.

**MY THOUGHTS:**

This is a quick read, and I found the main character, Keiko, intriguing, if not the story itself!

A couple of anecdotes from Keiko’s childhood show her as logical in the extreme, and lacking the ability to empathise with the emotional

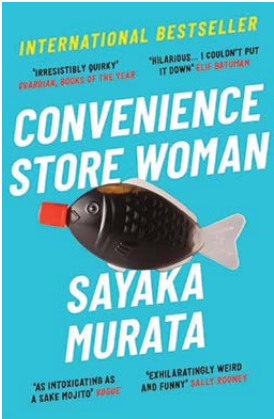
reactions of others. On finding a dead bird in a park, while other children mourn it, she wants to take it home and cook it – like yakitori. When two boys are fighting in school and the crowd yells, “someone stop them”, Keiko grabs a shovel and hits one over the head – the quickest way to stop them. While she intellectually knows (from her family’s reactions) she has done something wrong, she doesn’t understand why it’s wrong.

The convenience store’s operational manual provides a very detailed prescription for Keiko to function – one that isn’t available in other jobs or in life (apart from her sister’s occasional help with a script to manage awkward social interactions). So she stays there for 18 years, happy with her routines and surroundings, much to the concern of her family and society that she will be a failure as a woman.

Constantly under pressure to conform, Keiko mimics and mirrors the behaviours and language styles of her convenience store colleagues. “My present self is formed almost completely of the people around me. I am currently made up of 30% Mrs. Izumi, 30% Sugawara, 20% the manager, and the rest absorbed from my past colleagues... I think the same goes for most people.”

Fitting in is a matter of survival. Following the dismissal of another

convenience store worker, Keiko reflects, “...If I ever became a foreign object, I’d no doubt be eliminated in much the same way...so that’s why I need to be cured”. Keiko takes some desperate measures to enable her to fit, and thus lift the pressure, including her involvement with Shiraha – a totally obnoxious and shallow character, who was very uninteresting in my opinion.



The reactions of my book club friends to the book and particularly Keiko were diverse in the extreme. Some found her charming and simple, some wondered if neurodivergence explained some of her behaviours, others felt she was psychopathic, pointing to her seeing herself as machine-like, not sure how to be human. (Please note, none of us are experts in psychology or psychiatry.)

Most were pleased we had read the book as it made for an interesting discussion, but only one found it thoroughly enjoyable. Your thoughts?

## HAILSTORM HARDSHIP ASSISTANCE FOR WYNNUM-MANLY RESIDENTS

**Residents in Wynnum, Wynnum West, Manly, Manly West, Lota, Wakerley, and Gumdale are among those eligible for targeted hardship assistance following November’s destructive hailstorm. The support, delivered under the joint Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA), is designed to help uninsured households recover from property damage and service disruptions.**

The program offers three key measures:

- **Structural Assistance Grants** – up to \$80,000 for uninsured, income-tested owner-occupiers to repair or replace damaged homes.
- **Essential Household Contents Grants** – income-tested assistance for those who are uninsured of up to \$1,765 for individuals and up to \$5,300 for families to replace vital items such as whitegoods.
- **Essential Services Safety and Reconnection Scheme** – up to \$5,000 per household (income-tested) for uninsured homeowners to restore electricity, gas, water or sewerage.

Federal Member for Bonner Kara Cook MP said many seaside families were among the hardest hit, with hailstones the size of golf balls damaging homes and cars. “These payments will be a helping hand for uninsured local families who need to undertake repairs and reconnection work,” Ms Cook said.

She emphasised that severe weather events are becoming more frequent and intense, and that governments must match that intensity with recovery support. “We know the importance of getting people through tough times and will continue working with all levels of government to ensure recovery needs are met,” she added.

Residents can check eligibility and apply via [www.disaster.qld.gov.au](http://www.disaster.qld.gov.au) or call the 24/7 Community Recovery Hotline on 1800 173 349.

This assistance aims to ensure Wynnum-Manly locals have the resources to rebuild, reconnect, and recover from one of the region’s most damaging hailstorms in recent memory.



Photo: Supplied.



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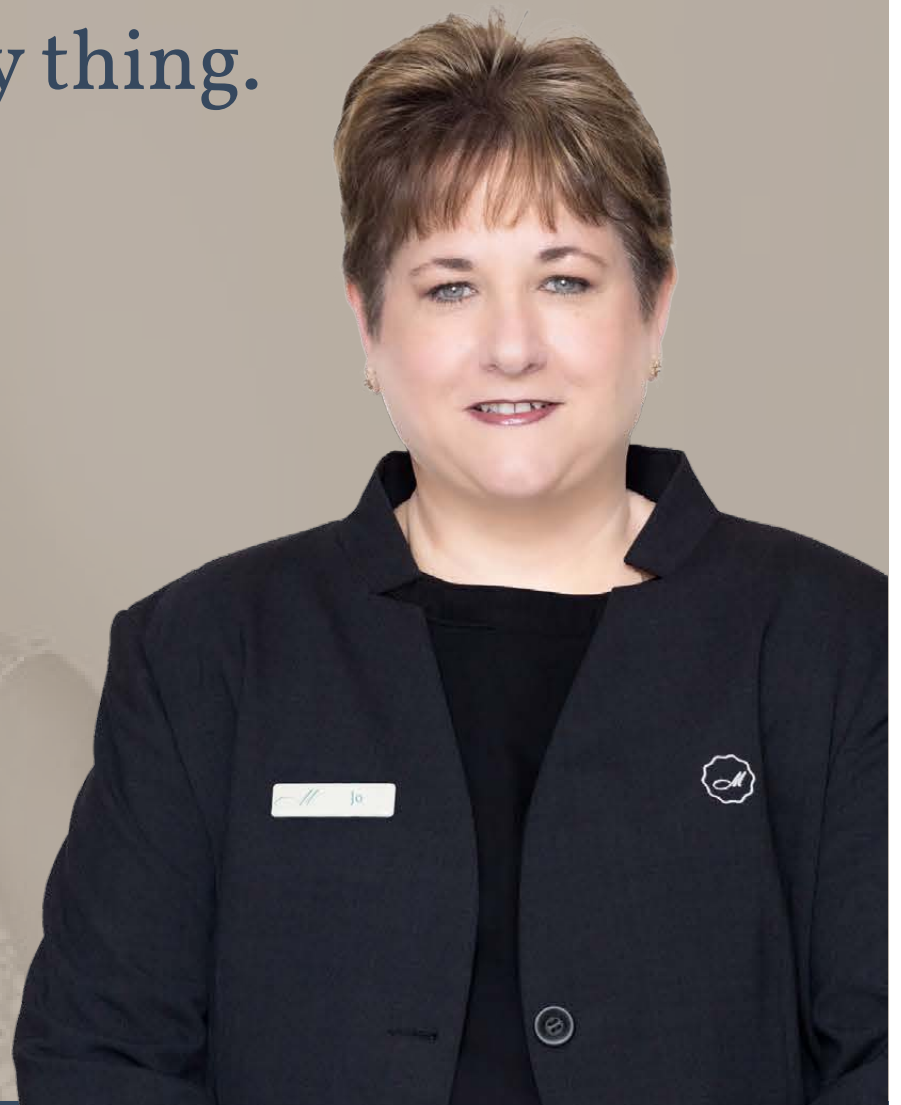
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