

# The Community Leader

WE'RE ALL ABOUT GOOD NEWS

## Bayside



## ALL ABOARD FOR A BAYSIDE CELEBRATION AS VISITORS SAIL IN!

Baysiders love a good party, and this month, an epic crew of more than 500 sailors hailing from all over the world will cruise into Manly for the Finn World Championships, hosted by the Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron. And while the racing is serious, the on-shore vibe will be anything but!

For the uninitiated, a Finn is sailed single-handed and has one sail and a rotating mast. There's only one design for a Finn, which means in competition, it all comes down to the skill of the sailor. Finn sailing is a physically and mentally demanding sport. Australia has produced many champion Finn sailors, including the legendary John Bertrand, who famously skippered Australia II in the 1983 America's Cup.

Off the water, we're looking forward to showing these international and interstate guests what we love most about the bayside: our bars, cafes and restaurants, waterfront walks, weekend markets, and our friendly village vibe. A highlight on the event calendar is the Finns Rock concert, starring The Filthy Animals, at Manly Harbour Boat Club on February 21 (find out more on page 6). So, even if you don't have your sea legs, you can still be part of the celebrations!

Find out more about the Finn World Championships on page 2, and if you're interested in learning to sail, contact any of our local yacht clubs – they'll be happy to steer you in the right direction.

*Pictured: Finn sailors Anthony Arnold, Tony Bierre, Hayden Barney, Phil Chadwick, and Trevor Martin at RQYS.*





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# INTERNATIONAL SAILING STARS HEADED TO BRISBANE FOR FINN WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS AT MANLY

Brisbane is set to welcome an exciting wave of international sailing action this February as the Porsche Centre Brisbane Finn Championships brings together the world's best Finn sailors at Manly.

The series kicks off with the Australian Finn Championships, leading into the prestigious Finn Gold Cup – the class's premier world championship – and wraps up with the Finn World Masters, which attracts over 100 sailors aged 40-plus from around the world.

Adding to the excitement, World No. 1 Alessandro Marega has just been finalised for the Gold Cup, alongside World No. 2 Peter Peet and World No. 4 Laurent Hay. Entry numbers highlight the scale of the event, with over 70 boats already entered for the Australian Titles, more than 60 for the Gold Cup, and 110-115 competitors expected for the World Masters.

Preparations are well underway, with shipping containers now arriving from Norway, Spain, New Zealand, the USA, and more boats due to arrive any day from Europe in preparation for the busy month at Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron, beginning with training with fellow competitors to sharpen performance in local waters.

While the racing will be world-class, the focus remains on ensuring competitors, families, and the local community enjoy both the sailing and the on-shore activities in and around Manly, including the Finn Rocks Filthy Animals concert on 21 February.

With ideal conditions, excellent facilities, and a well-practised volunteer team, Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron and its local community are ready to host a fantastic international event. The club encourages Brisbane locals to visit during the month and get up close with the world's best sailors in this prestigious class of sailing dinghy.



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# RICHIE’S RAINBOW FUNDRAISING WALK NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT!

Local charity Richie’s Rainbow is gearing up for its annual fundraising walk on Sunday, March 29, beginning at Lota Reserve Park, and you’re invited to join the procession.

It’s all in aid of children’s cancer research, and the charity’s efforts to make the cancer journeys of Queensland families a little brighter. Richie’s Rainbow Foundation supports children undergoing cancer treatment by providing iPads to lift their spirits. Funds are also directed to childhood cancer research, with a strong focus on supporting those treated at the Queensland Children’s Hospital.

The walk, now in its fifth year, began in memory of Richie Walsh, who sadly lost his battle with a rare cancer in 2021, aged nine.

While the walk is a fundraiser, it’s also a celebration of Richie’s life and legacy; a day to honour children currently fighting cancer and to remember those we have lost, and stand in solidarity with families navigating the unimaginable.

Organisers say the continued growth of the walk reflects the generosity and spirit of the local community, whose support has helped Richie’s Rainbow reach more families each year.

With entertainment, family-friendly activities, and strong local business involvement, this year’s walk consolidates the enduring impact of one little boy’s legacy.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to take part, walk in honour of someone special, and help ensure that no family faces childhood cancer alone. Follow this link to make a donation or to register for the walk: <https://richiesrainbow.org.au/shop/ols/categories/bayside-walk-2026>.

Find out more about Richie’s Rainbow Foundation by visiting [www.Richiesrainbow.org.au](http://www.Richiesrainbow.org.au).



Photo: Supplied.



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# LOCAL ARTIST PROFILE: GARRY DOLAN

*We asked local artist Garry Dolan about what an artist's life looks like and the path he took to becoming a professional creative.*

"Having started oil painting at the age of 13, I decided to concentrate on art approximately 20 years ago and am an established professional artist with artwork in many permanent collections around the world.

"I took up art for my sanity, but it has become one of life's greatest gifts imaginable. Through art, I have travelled the world, painted in over 30 countries and all corners of Australia and New Zealand, I have met many incredible people from Prime Ministers to sporting champions to world famous entertainers to war veterans, and have been privileged to get to know them and tell their story.

"As an artist, I see myself as a storyteller. I thrive on traveling, discovering new places, and connecting with the people I encounter. Rather than aiming for detailed records or analyses, my art seeks to capture the feelings a place or person evokes in me. If someone looking at my art feels a little of what I felt when I was painting, then I have successfully told that story.

"Living life as an artist is a great privilege and an incredibly rewarding gift. An artist sees the world with an intensity and focus that ensures we live life to its fullest.

"My artwork has been displayed across Australia and the world at sites such as the Pentagon, the Australian War Memorial, the MotoGP,



**THE RELENTLESS RHYTHM OF NATURE IN TURQUOISE - BYRON BAY**  
By Garry Dolan

international ballet performances, the Queensland State Library, the Army Aviation Museum, the Queensland Parliament, the Queensland Maritime Museum, The Gallipoli Club, and in sites related to Australia's involvement in the Western Front in France, including the Musee Jean et Denise Letaille - Bullecourt 1917, the Brisbane Motor Museum, as well as in private collections within Australia and overseas.

"For more information, please also see my website [www.garrydolan.com](http://www.garrydolan.com) and [garrydolanartist](#) on Instagram."

*Garry's works are available to view at Kaye West Studios, located at 549 Old Cleveland Road, Camp Hill.*



Photos: Supplied.

KWS

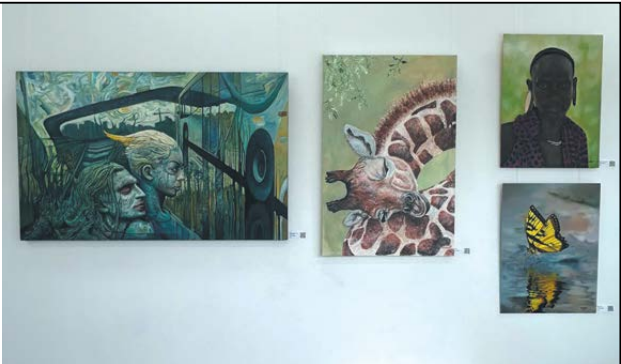
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# LOCAL EVENTS

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.



**TWILIGHT ON CAMBRIDGE**

Friday February 13, from 5:00pm, Cambridge Parade, Manly

Twilight on Cambridge will again light up Manly on Friday, February 13, with an evening full of flavour, music and fantastic community vibes! Cambridge Parade will transform into a lively hub where locals and visitors can wander, taste and enjoy everything this bayside precinct has to offer. Food lovers can graze their way through an enticing selection of food stalls and food trucks, or settle in for a relaxed dine-in experience at one of Manly's many restaurants and bars.



**FINNS ROCK: THE FILTHY ANIMALS LIVE**

Saturday February 21, 5:30pm, Manly Harbour Boat Club, Fairlead Crescent, Manly

To celebrate the 2026 Finn World Championships being held at Manly, The Filthy Animals will perform a live seaside show on the lawn of the Manly Harbour Boat Club. The Australian party supergroup comprises more than 30 rotating members drawn from iconic acts like Dragon, Mondo Rock, John Butler Trio, Savage Garden, Wolfmother, The Vines, and The Superjesus. The star-studded collective is known for delivering classic rock hits and unforgettable live shows, offering a powerhouse experience that bridges generations and keeps crowds wanting more. For tickets, scan the QR code.



**FREE NATIVE PLANT POP-UP**

Saturday February 21, from 9:00am, Wynnum Plaza, 2021 Wynnum Road, Wynnum West

Give your garden a fresh burst of life at Brisbane City Council's free native plant pop-up at Wynnum Plaza, where a total of 500 native plants will be made available to the community. While you're there, explore the Brisbane Carbon Challenge to uncover your household carbon footprint and pick up simple, practical tips to cut emissions and save on bills.



**DISCOVER YOUR PERFECT RIVER CRUISE**

Wednesday February 11, 6:00pm, Pacific Golf Club, Carindale

If you'd like to find out about river cruising through Europe, join Helloworld Travel for this in-depth information session at Pacific Golf Club. Experts will be on-hand to guide you through the world of river cruising – a fantastic way to experience Europe at a gentle pace, connecting deeply with its heart and heritage, gliding past storybook towns, vineyards, and historic cities while unpacking just once. Call (07) 3369 5899 to book your seat.



**JAN POWERS FARMERS MARKETS**

Saturday February 7 and 21, 6:00am to noon, Little Bayside Park, Manly

Fresh produce, ocean breezes, and unbeatable community vibes – the Jan Powers Farmers Markets pop up at Little Bayside Park, Manly, on the first and third Saturdays of the month. Locals and visitors flock to the waterfront for farm-fresh fruit and veg, artisan treats, and gourmet bites. It's the perfect spot to grab a coffee, meet the growers, and soak up the sunshine.



**MEDITATE IN WYNNUM**

Every Tuesday, from 10:30am to 11:45am, Wynnum Municipal Hall, 219 Bay Terrace, Wynnum

Weekly meditation classes in Wynnum offer a calm, welcoming space for anyone seeking clarity and balance. Each session, which costs \$15, features two guided meditations and a practical teaching inspired by Buddhist wisdom. No experience is required, and everyone is invited to take part. No bookings needed, simply drop in and unwind. For more information, go to [meditateinbrisbane.org](http://meditateinbrisbane.org).



# WATERLOO BAY LEISURE CENTRE’S 2026 COMMUNITY CONCERTS

Waterloo Bay Leisure Centre is excited to announce its 2026 Community Concert schedule. Music lovers and community members can look forward to a fantastic calendar packed with talented performers and memorable events.

Attendees can expect to see some familiar faces return to the stage this year. Popular favourites include Terry Scott, the energetic Rob Rosenlund (formerly of Wickety Wak), the smooth-voiced crooner Lachlan Wallace, and newcomer Deb Cox.

The concert season kicks off on February 10 with June Baumber and Nicky Steele. Doors open at 9:30am, allowing guests to enjoy a delicious morning tea before the show begins. There will be lucky door prizes and raffles, adding extra fun to the morning. Bring your mates along and enjoy this wonderful concert for just \$12 per person. If you’re feeling peckish, lunches can be ordered for an additional \$10.

Four major concerts are scheduled for the year, each promising a special experience:

- **Easter Parade:** 24th March, featuring Terry Scott.
- **Christmas in July:** 14th July, with Rob Stevenson.
- **WBLC 48th Birthday:** 9th September, starring Robbie Rosenlund.
- **Christmas Party:** 24th November, headlined by Lachlan Wallace.

Tickets for each of these four major concerts are \$25 and include morning tea, the concert, a two-course lunch, and entry into lucky door prizes and raffles.

Bookings are essential for all concerts. To secure your spot, please phone 3396 9488.



Lachlan Wallace returns to the Waterloo Bay Leisure Centre this year. Photo: Supplied.

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# JOAN PEASE’S COMMUNITY UPDATE

STATE MEMBER FOR LYTTON



Ollie's Story: From Iona to Mt Everest

Wynnum local and Iona Brisbane graduate, Oliver Foran, is turning personal tragedy into an extraordinary act of purpose. After losing his mother to brain cancer in his teens, Ollie later faced significant mental health challenges before rebuilding his life. He received incredible support from the Iona College community. Now Ollie is determined to give back! In April, he will attempt a world-record, fully human-powered journey from sea level in India to the summit of Mount Everest as part of Climbing for Young Minds, raising funds for youth mental health through Youturn. You can support his mission and donate at <https://youturn.org.au/how-you-can-help/climbing-for-young-minds>.



\$200 Kids' Sports Vouchers

A reminder that the 'Play On!' Sports Vouchers (formerly Fair Play vouchers) for Round 2 opened on 29 January 2026. Every Queensland child aged 5 to 17 is eligible for one voucher per financial year.

If your child received a Play On! Sports Voucher in Round 1 (August/September 2025), they won't be eligible for this round. For more, go to [www.qld.gov.au/recreation/sports/funding/playon](http://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/sports/funding/playon)



Lytton Youth Advisory Committee Nominations

I'm excited to announce the establishment of the Lytton Youth Advisory Committee for 2026, giving young Baysiders a direct voice in State decisions. The Committee will include members who reside in the electorate of Lytton, aged from 14 to 18. The Committee will meet quarterly to advise on issues affecting young people, including public transport, the environment, housing, the economy, and industrial matters. Nominations are now open and will close on February 20.

Nominations can be emailed to [lytton@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:lytton@parliament.qld.gov.au). Please add 'Nomination for Lytton Youth Advisory Committee' in the email title with a brief description of yourself, your study and school interests, and your areas of policy that most concern you.

Gambling Community Benefit Fund

Applications for the latest round of the Gambling Community Benefit Fund are now open. This Round 126 (\$35k standard grant round) will close at midnight on 28 February 2026. For more info, go to: [www.justice.qld.gov.au/initiatives/community-grants](http://www.justice.qld.gov.au/initiatives/community-grants).

Recent Gambling Benefit Fund recipients include Wynnum Manly Little Athletics, who received \$43,010 to install a discus cage, and Wynnum Wolves Football Club, which was awarded \$100,000 for essential building works.



Containers for Change 'BINCOIN'

Do you have cans and bottles piling up over the Summer months? Why not head over to your nearest Containers for Change recycling depot where you can drop them off for some change? 'Bincoin' is the waste-based currency you can trade for cash at Containers for Change locations! There's one at 1289 Lytton Rd, Hemmant. For more info, go to [www.containersforchange.com.au](http://www.containersforchange.com.au)



JoanPease MP | State Member for Lytton

PO Box 719, Wynnum QLD 4178 | (07) 3915 1100 | JoanForLytton | [lytton@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:lytton@parliament.qld.gov.au) | [www.joanpease.com](http://www.joanpease.com)

Authorised by Joan Pease 100 Edith Street Wynnum



# HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE FIND THEIR PATH: BABI'S LIFE-CHANGING PROGRAMS

CONTRIBUTED BY BABI



Photos: Supplied.

Wynnum-based BABI has been running its Get Set for Work program for ten years and has achieved great outcomes for participants. The program runs for nine weeks, four times each year throughout the school term. It works with young people aged 15 to 19 who have disengaged from school or have completed school and are unsure of their pathway forward.

Participants not only complete a Certificate II in Skills for Work and Vocational Pathways, but also receive one-on-one support from a youth worker to achieve the goals they set for themselves. This can include obtaining



identification, getting a learner's licence, connecting with Centrelink, applying for a tax file number, linking in with other support agencies, or working towards any other personal goals.

At the end of the program, participants celebrate their achievements with a graduation ceremony attended by family and friends. The support doesn't end there – once someone has participated in the program, they continue to have access to ongoing support from youth workers at BABI.

Find out more about BABI by visiting [www.babi.org.au](http://www.babi.org.au).

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# Maggie's Mates

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Photo: Supplied.

**What's your name?** Hi, I am Plug Davidson, the Boxer dog.

**Where do you live?** I am from Wynnum.

**How long have you lived in Wynnum?** I'm a Kiwi! I moved over from New Zealand just two months ago.

**What is your favourite walk?** I love to walk around Elanora Park in Wynnum.

**What is your most treasured toy?** I really do love a good, strong chew toy!

**What is your favourite food?** I will eat anything with yoghurt on top.

**What is your worst habit?** My worst habit is pulling on the lead while I am out walking.

**What is your favourite hangout?** Anywhere around Wynnum where I can have a good sniff and get lots of pats.

**Who is your best doggo friend?** Saoirse the 'spoodle' – I've got a big crush on her!

**Do you have any funny or embarrassing stories to tell?** I'm too perfect to do anything embarrassing, ha ha!

**What do people love the most about you?** That I'm just a big softie.

*Plug's favourite charity is Animals In Need Brisbane Inc., and we have made a \$50 donation on his behalf. Find out more about this charity at [www.animals-in-need-brisbane.com.au](http://www.animals-in-need-brisbane.com.au).*



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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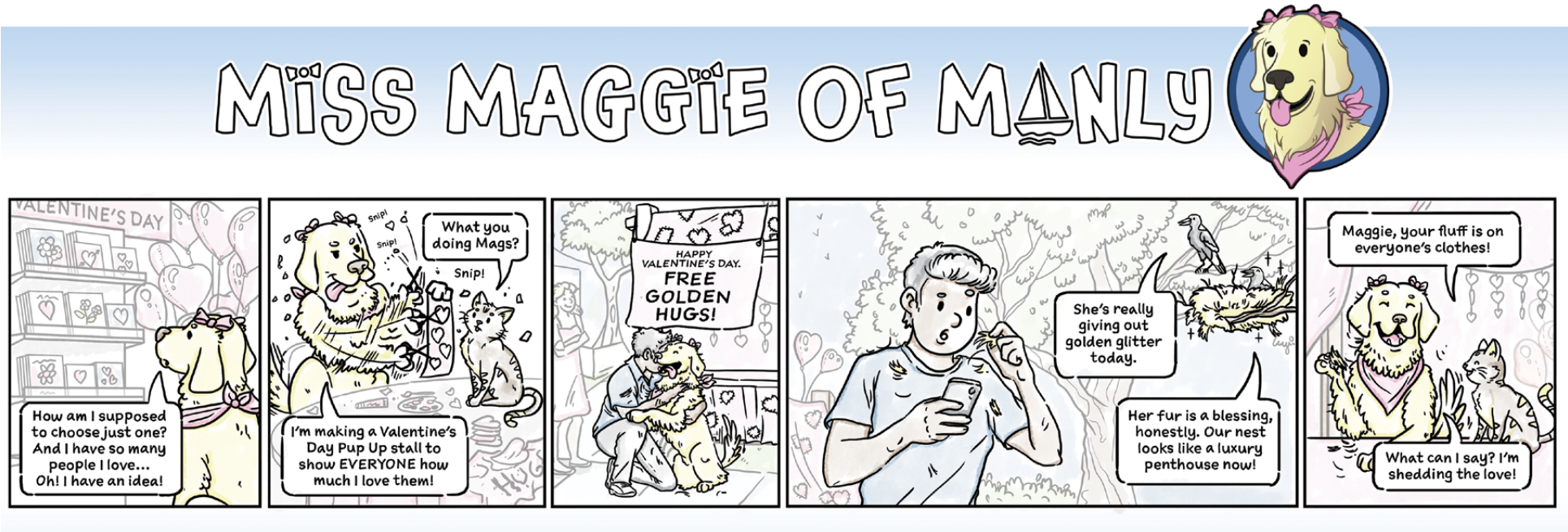


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# CONJUNCTIVITIS IN DOGS AND CATS

BY DR NICKY THOMAS, WYNNUM MANLY VETERINARY HOSPITAL

Conjunctivitis is a condition affecting the lining of the eyes. The moist, pink tissue lining the eyelids (including the third eyelid in dogs and cats) becomes red, swollen, and uncomfortable. Pets may blink and squint frequently and develop a watery to cloudy yellow/green discharge. Further signs such as itching, hair loss around the eyes, discharge from the nose, sneezing, and coughing may develop depending on the cause of the conjunctivitis.



### CAUSES OF CONJUNCTIVITIS

Allergic conjunctivitis is common in dogs and cats. Common allergies that may cause conjunctivitis include:

- Grass or pollen
- Food allergies
- Dust mites
- Household moulds

Infectious conjunctivitis occurs more commonly in cats than in dogs – herpesvirus and chlamydia are two viral infections that can present with signs including conjunctivitis

### TREATMENT OF CONJUNCTIVITIS

Taking your pet for a vet check is important if they are showing signs of conjunctivitis, as the treatment will vary depending on the cause of the condition and whether there are other clinical signs associated.

Your vet will check your pet for the presence of any corneal ulceration. This involves placing a fluorescent dye in the eye to assess for injuries to the cornea.

Medicated drops will likely be prescribed – if there is no ulceration present, these medications will contain an anti-inflammatory to help reduce the swelling and irritation.



The eye should be kept clean and free of discharge with saline. An Elizabethan collar may be required to prevent rubbing and further trauma to the eye and surrounding tissues. Anti-histamines may be useful to help reduce irritation.

## Wynnum Manly Veterinary Hospital

To make an appointment call  
**07 3396 6488**  
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# WYNNUM MANLY SEAGULLS RLFC CELEBRATES 75 YEARS

FROM THE WYNNUM MANLY SEAGULLS

The Wynnum Manly Seagulls would like to announce the beginning of the 2026 rugby league season and the celebration of their 75th season of operation as the Wynnum Manly Seagulls RLFC.

Wynnum Manly Seagulls has, for many years, provided a platform for rugby league athletes to strive for excellence in sport, with many achieving accolades at the highest levels of rugby league, including the National Rugby League, Queensland State of Origin, and playing for Australia.

Rugby League greats such as Lionel Morgan, Wally Lewis, Gene Miles, Bob Lindner, and Greg Dowling have worn the famous ‘green and red’ for the Seagulls. In recent times, players such as Selwyn Cobbo, Cory Paix, and Julia Robinson have played with the Seagulls and gone on to achieve further success with NRL premierships and state and national honours, underpinning the strong reputation of the mighty Wynnum Manly Seagulls RLFC.

“We are very proud to announce the celebration of our 75th rugby league season in 2026,” said Wynnum Manly Seagulls’ CEO Wayne Weekes.



Photo: Supplied.



“The long-standing heritage and history of our club are loved and embraced by our community, supporters, members, and stakeholders alike.

“While the current group of 2026 players and staff are very proud to have our own place in our club’s history, we honour all of the members of the Seagulls from the past who, without their commitment and passion, we wouldn’t have the platform for our men and women to compete in the Queensland statewide competition that we have today.”

Wynnum Manly Seagulls RLFC invites the community of Wynnum/Manly, Redlands, and surrounding areas to get behind the premier rugby league club in our region and support our rugby league club to celebrate its 75th year of operation.

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND MATCH DAYS AT THE SEAGULLS

- Friday 27th Feb** – Golf Day/Season Launch at Wynnum Golf Club.
- Sunday 8th Feb** – Kougari Oval – RD 1, Junior Representative Boys and Girls, 10:30am onwards.
- Saturday 14th Feb** – Kougari Oval – Host Plus Cup Trial: Wynnum Manly Seagulls vs Tweed Seagulls from 3:00pm.
- Saturday 7th March** – Rd 1 at Kougari Oval – Host plus Cup/Mitch Cronin Cup Day: Wynnum Manly Seagulls vs Souths Magpies

## SPONSORSHIP

Wynnum Manly Seagulls is seeking further support through sponsorship partners. Those interested in being involved with the Wynnum Manly Seagulls RLFC, please contact CEO Wayne Weekes at 0478 835 221 or email [wayne.weekes@wynnumseagulls.com.au](mailto:wayne.weekes@wynnumseagulls.com.au).

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**WYNNUM GOLF CLUB**  
Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February





LORD MAYOR ADRIAN SCHRINNER

# CR ALEX GIVNEY

COUNCILLOR FOR WYNNUM MANLY WARD



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## UPDATES FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLOR



Greene Park Playground Opening

### Hooked on Fun at Greene Park Playground

Greene Park Playground officially opened on 19 December, and it is already making quite a splash with its fishing trawler themed design for local families to enjoy year-round. With full shade sail coverage, swings, slides and an impressive boat style structure, there is plenty for kids to climb aboard and explore. My favourite part is the Greene Park Tackle Shop, the perfect spot for kids to cast their imaginations and enjoy creative play.

It was wonderful to reel in such a great crowd on opening day, with Willplay, the company behind the build, adding to the fun with face painting and Jack's Ice Creams bringing plenty of smiles. This playground is shaping up to be a real catch for the neighbourhood, and I am grateful to everyone who joined us and helped make it such a memorable community moment.

### Did You Know? Development.i

Did you know you can keep up to date with local development through Brisbane City Council's Development.i website? All assessable development applications are listed in one place, making it easy to see what is proposed in your area. You can search by address or map, view plans and documents, save searches, set up alerts, and provide feedback during public notification periods. It is a simple way to stay informed and have your say as our city grows.



Councillor Givney and Matthew Hogg from Wynnnum Pickleball at new court site

### Pickleball to Bring New Life to Cox Park

Cox Park in Lota is a much-loved community space, home to our community garden, beautiful trees and playground. Over time, the old netball courts have aged, and it is time for a new chapter. The courts will be removed and replaced with grass, while four new pickleball courts will be built further down the park, positioned to be suitably distanced from nearby homes.

This upgrade will breathe new life into the park and reflect the growing popularity of pickleball as a fun, inclusive and low impact sport for all ages. It will create more opportunities for locals to stay active, connect with others and enjoy our open spaces. Since elected, I have been keen to find a permanent home for the Wynnnum Pickleball Club, and I am pleased they will lease the former canteen building as their clubhouse and host games on the new courts once completed.

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# SOUTHERN DISTRICTS BASKETBALL EXPANDS WITH WAKERLEY SITE TAKEOVER

CONTRIBUTED BY SOUTHERN DISTRICTS BASKETBALL

Southern Districts Basketball, Queensland's largest junior basketball association, has entered an exciting new chapter with the official takeover of the Wakerley Districts Sports Park lease. The move, finalised only weeks ago, positions the association for significant growth as demand for court access and community basketball programs continues to soar.

Located in Carina, Southern Districts has long been recognised as a powerhouse in the basketball landscape, offering pathways from grassroots participation through to elite competition, including NBL1.

The association's reputation has been bolstered by a standout 2025 season, collecting a suite of major honours. These include premierships across our Junior Representative program, QSL2 Winners and the 2025 NBL1 Association of the Year, NBL1 Men's Premier Winners, and NBL1 Women's Runners Up, making Southern Districts the first organisation to have both men's and women's teams reach the NBL1 Grand Finals. Further accolades were earned as a 2025 Basketball Queensland Association Finalist, General Manager Rebecca Stephens won Basketball Queensland Administrator of the

Year, and Kate Stainer won Basketball Queensland Female Coach of the Year.

Beyond performance, Southern Districts continues to lead the way in basketball inclusion, creating pathways to the 2032 Brisbane Olympics. It recently became the first association to enter two national wheelchair basketball teams, underscoring its commitment to accessible and diverse participation. Its growing Neurodiverse Basketball Program further strengthens its reputation as a community-first organisation dedicated to ensuring every athlete has a place on the court.

With record growth, award-winning leadership and a strengthened facilities network, Southern Districts Basketball is set to elevate the sport's future in Queensland while continuing to champion inclusion and development at every level.

The acquisition of the Wakerley outdoor courts facility marks a major opportunity for multiple sports being offered from netball to the exponential growth of pickleball. All outdoor court enquiries will now be managed by Southern Districts, opening the door for expanded



Nigel Stainer (Chair of the Board) with Linda Earnshaw (Board Secretary), Rebecca Stephens (General Manager, Southern Districts Basketball Association) and Phil Binder (Operations Manager, Southern Districts Basketball Association). Photo: Supplied.

competitions, additional training venues, and a broader reach across Brisbane's bayside communities.

To make a court booking, please call 07 3398 2790 or email [info@sdbal.com.au](mailto:info@sdbal.com.au).

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# MANLY HARBOUR VILLAGE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPDATE

BY JEMANDA HANNOUF, PRECINCT COORDINATOR, MANLY HARBOUR VILLAGE



### International Women's Day Breakfast Friday 6 March 2026

The Manly Harbour Village community is proud to once again come together to celebrate International Women's Day, with a special event planned for March 2026. This much-anticipated occasion has become a highlight on our local calendar and, as in previous years, is expected to sell out quickly.

The 2026 International Women's Day theme, *Balance the Scales*, invites our community to reflect on progress made, acknowledge the work still to be done, and champion fairness, opportunity, and equality for women in all aspects of life. It is a powerful call to action that aligns strongly with the values of Manly Harbour Village.

Our International Women's Day event will once again provide an opportunity to connect, be inspired, and celebrate the achievements of women who contribute so much to our businesses, families, and community.

We encourage community members, local businesses, and supporters to save the date, keep an eye out for ticket release announcements, and secure their place early to avoid missing out on this popular and meaningful event.

Tickets for International Women's Day can be purchased online at [www.manlyharbourvillage.com](http://www.manlyharbourvillage.com).

### Manly Harbour Village Business Trader Networking Event – Tuesday 17 February

The Manly Harbour Village Chamber of Commerce's first Trader Networking Night will be held on Tuesday, 17 February, offering a relaxed, welcoming setting for local business owners and traders to connect and strengthen relationships within our vibrant precinct.

Our host for the evening is Shucks Bar, a beloved oyster bar and seafood restaurant nestled on the Manly Esplanade. Known for its fresh oysters shucked to order, locally sourced seafood, and a carefully curated selection of wines and craft beers, Shucks Bar offers the perfect waterfront backdrop for an informal and engaging networking evening. Their warm and inviting atmosphere is ideal for traders to share ideas, build connections, and foster collaboration.

These networking nights play an important role in fostering a strong sense of connection among traders, reinforcing the collaborative spirit that the Manly Harbour Village Chamber of Commerce fosters among local businesses.

Tickets for the Networking Event can be purchased online at [www.manlyharbourvillage.com](http://www.manlyharbourvillage.com).

## What's On

### MANLY HARBOUR VILLAGE IN FEBRUARY

7 <sup>TH</sup> - 27 <sup>TH</sup> FEB		Finn World Championship 2026
SUN 1 <sup>ST</sup> FEB	8am	Manly Creative Market
SAT 7 <sup>TH</sup> FEB	6am	Jan Powers Farmers Market
SAT 7 <sup>TH</sup> FEB	7pm	Free Movies in the Park
SUN 8 <sup>TH</sup> FEB	8am	Manly Creative Market
FRI 13 <sup>TH</sup> FEB	5pm	Twilight on Cambridge Jazz, Food & Markets
SUN 15 <sup>TH</sup> FEB	8am	Manly Creative Market
TUE 17 <sup>TH</sup> FEB	5pm	Manly Traders Networking Event
SAT 21 <sup>ST</sup> FEB	6am	Jan Powers Farmers Market
SAT 21 <sup>ST</sup> FEB	5.30pm	Finn Rock Concert
SUN 22 <sup>ND</sup> FEB	8am	Manly Creative Market





## UPCOMING MARKETS

<b>SATURDAY 7 AND 21 FEBRUARY</b> Jan Powers Farmers Market, Manly	<b>FRIDAY 13 FEBRUARY</b> Twilight on Cambridge, Manly	<b>EVERY SUNDAY</b> Manly Creative Markets
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For more information on upcoming events, be sure to follow Manly Harbour Village on social media, subscribe to our newsletter at [manlyharbourvillage.com](http://manlyharbourvillage.com).



# WOUND HEALING AFTER SURGERY

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

A skin defect or excision site, when surgically closed under sterile conditions, will seal itself against external pathogen invasion within two to four hours. In this way, the body protects itself from infection by skin and other pathogens.

A wound needs to have properly placed sutures tied without tension, Nylon for interrupted, not silk; or a Prolene monofilament subcuticular suture.

The use of “dissolvable” sutures can have disadvantages. In the old days, when catgut sutures were used, they dissolved and disappeared within 10 to 14 days. Catgut is no longer available due to government legislation, even though it has been used safely for years. Monosyn, an artificial synthetic suture, is used instead. This material can hang around within the wound site from 140 to 360 days, causing a persistent inflammatory reaction and a red wound (i.e., it is very slow to return to a skin colour).

If patients are diabetic or have evidence of infection, perioperative antibiotics should be used to cover the surgery. Generally, antibiotic cover is not required unless there are special circumstances. However, Chloromycetin eye ointment is frequently used post-op to improve cosmetic results on the face.

A wound after six hours can be washed with soap and water. This does not increase infection rates. Occlusive (waterproof) dressings should never be used. If used, they increase the infection rate by allowing normal staphylococcal skin flora and other organisms to proliferate in the moisture produced by sweat. This gets trapped under the dressing. A good dressing to have in your first aid kit is Hyperfix or Fixamol, which allows a wound to breathe.

It is recommended that an initial compression bulky absorbent dressing be used to prevent blood contamination of clothing. It will be removed once blood oozing has stopped after four to 12 hours. Then leave the wound open to the air, wash with soap and water, and dry normally as necessary. It is not necessary to keep a wound dry!





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# A NEW APPROACH: BRIGHTER WARNING SIGNS FOR WYNNUM RAIL BRIDGES

CONTRIBUTED BY QUEENSLAND RAIL

Queensland Rail has painted bright red and yellow boxes on the bitumen road leading up to the notorious Wynnum rail bridges in a bid to drive down bridge strikes.

There have been 77 bridge and 271 protection beams struck on the South East Queensland (SEQ) rail network by over-height vehicles so far this year.

Following a surge in dangerous and highly disruptive bridge and protection beam strikes, Queensland Rail, the Department of Transport and Main Roads and Brisbane City Council have painted the road on approach to two frequently struck bridges to drive down incidents.

The trial, underway at rail bridges at Pine Street, Wynnum, will run for up to two years and depending on the outcomes, other frequently hit bridges could follow.

It coincides with the release of new footage showing over-height vehicles slamming into rail bridges and protection beams, sending debris flying, destroying machinery and, in one case, ripping a truck bed in two.

The road markings, similar to school-zone style warnings, clearly state "low bridge" and encourage drivers to slow down and double-check their height before approaching low-clearance rail bridges.

In 2025, between January and November, they were struck 22 times by over-height vehicles.

The painted road markings are designed to grab drivers' attention before it's too late. This initiative is in addition to clearly visible advance warning road signs, height signage, monitoring cameras, and, in some cases, protection beams.

The message is simple: know the height and load of your vehicle and plan your journey so you don't get your truck or load stuck.



Photo: Supplied.

Motorists face fines of \$1,335 and four demerit points for damaging rail infrastructure and if the matter goes to court, the maximum penalty for causing damage to rail infrastructure is \$13,352. Queensland Rail actively pursues individuals to recover costs.

Rail bridge strikes should immediately be reported to Queensland Rail using the telephone number on the identification plate fixed to the bridge or by calling Emergency Network Control on 1800 079 303.

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# Local Business Profile: Care to Care

CONTRIBUTED BY CARE TO CARE

## *The aged care landscape is changing – will real care emerge from this maze of complexity?*

Big changes to aged care in Australia commenced on 1 November 2025, with the introduction of the new Support at Home program. But families and loved ones, already struggling to manage health, mobility, or caring responsibilities, are overwhelmed by new rules, new terminology, new contributions, a complicated application process, and daunted by the much-publicised long waitlists.

That's exactly where Care to Care comes in. We are a local provider dedicated to supporting older Australians to understand, navigate, and make the most of their Support at Home packages. Our role is simple: to make a complex system easier to manage, so people can focus on living well at home.

Here is a quick summary of the questions we get asked most often.

### **What is Support at Home?**

Support at Home is the Australian Government's

new in-home aged care program. It is designed to be simpler, more flexible, and focused on helping older Australians remain safe, independent, and supported at home for longer. The new Support at Home program has been rolled out to replace the previous Home Care Package system.

### **What can your funding cover?**

The program continues to fund essential services, including nursing, personal care, domestic assistance, meal preparation, transport, social support, and access to allied health services, such as physiotherapy, occupational therapy, and podiatry. The updated model offers additional funding for Assistive Technology (equipment), Home Maintenance & Modifications, Restorative Care, and End-of-Life support.

### **What about co-contributions?**

Depending on your circumstances, you may be asked to contribute toward your care. We explain clearly what applies to you, help set up a simple budget, and ensure you're only paying what's required – no confusion, no surprises.

### **How do I apply for Support at Home?**

My Aged Care is the government agency managing this program. We can help you prepare for the My Aged Care call, explain your options, and guide you through the process so you feel supported every step of the way.

### **What about the long waiting periods?**

The Government has announced that more packages will be released this quarter. While this is good news, acting early helps avoid delays and ensures you're ready to access the right support as soon as possible.

### **Feeling overwhelmed?**

Change can feel daunting, but it can also be an opportunity, especially when you have the right support. Care to Care has been preparing for this change for a very long time, and the transition has been smooth with no disruption to services.

At Care to Care, we believe good support starts with listening. We take the time to explain options clearly, answer questions honestly, and tailor

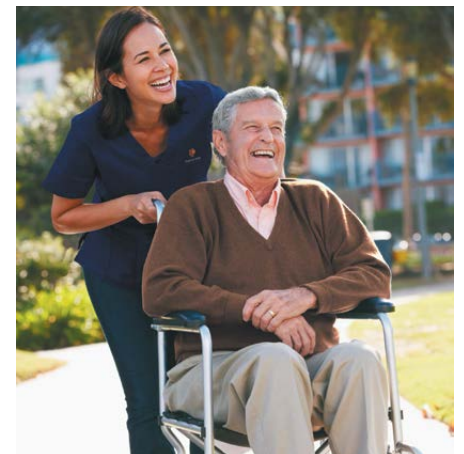


Photo: Supplied.

services to each person's needs and goals. From helping people navigate the application process to coordinating services and supports, we aim to make the process seamless and stress-free.

Your care, your way. Reach out to Care to Care and let us make Support at Home simple, smooth, and focused on your care – the way it should be!



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# From Holiday Mode to Home Goals: What Buyers Are Looking for Right Now

CONTRIBUTED BY SOLD PROPERTY GROUP

February is the start of the most active selling period of the year. After months of limited stock through November and the holiday break, buyers come back refreshed, organised and ready. Finance is sorted, wish lists are clear, and they're watching closely. This is the month when phones ring, inspections fill, and well-prepared homes don't sit around. It's why February has been our busiest month for sales every year – buyers are ready, and when the right home appears, they move quickly.

What stands out most to buyers is how a home feels to live in. Practical layouts that suit modern family life, usable outdoor spaces, and homes that feel easy to maintain are high on the priority list. Buyers want to picture afternoon walks to the park, kids playing safely in the yard, and weekends spent enjoying their local community, without a long list of projects waiting for them. When a home helps buyers imagine that lifestyle with ease, decisions come faster and buyer competition strengthens.

At SOLD Property Group, we take care of every part of this process for our sellers. From advising on layout and cost-effective improvements, to organising maintenance, landscaping, styling and full presentation, we manage each detail so you don't have to. Our role is to protect your time, reduce stress, and ensure your home meets buyers exactly where they are.



If selling is on your mind this year, February is when preparation meets opportunity. With serious buyers active and full-service support guiding every step, the right result is well within reach.

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

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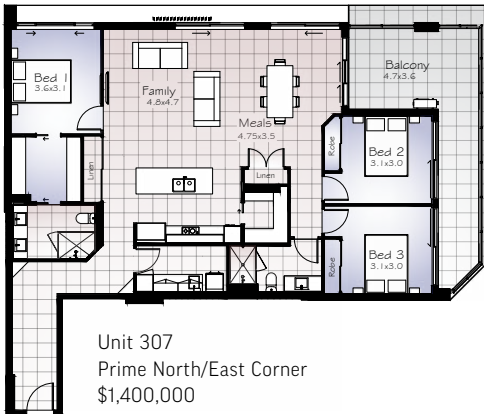
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LOCAL POETRY

# AUSTRALIA'S INJURY

BY GEOFF SMILEY

There was an assault on us  
and we bled.  
Damage to any  
hurts us all.

Rage from those  
who came for refuge,  
refusing the self-identity  
they themselves claim.

Does this horror  
stain us?

Or did the protection and care  
of others cleanse us?  
Certainly, we are proud.  
How dare they!  
The intention to kill  
takes the perpetrators  
beyond belonging.

But one horrible act  
does not represent all.

Sadly, we know

rage continues.  
But yet bravery  
and love overcome  
the darkness.

It was a man from  
their same culture  
who confronted them.

And candles are  
lit for hope.  
© Geoff Smiley



# COMMUNITY ORGANISATION PROFILE: SAILS AT BAYSIDE

CONTRIBUTED BY SAILS AT BAYSIDE

**SAILS at Bayside (S@B) is a wonderful way to experience the pleasures of Waterloo Bay with sit-on-top Viking kayaks staffed by qualified supervisors, and experienced skippers on the Nacra 4.5-metre catamarans.**

Open to the public on one Saturday per month, these days are for any member of the public, and events are advertised on the SAILS at Bayside website – but book in early as places reach their quota within 20 minutes of opening. Later applicants are automatically placed on a wait list and contacted as places become available.

S@B is an outreach of the Bayside Anglican Churches under the control of St Peter’s Anglican Church, Wynn timer, which is the “Parent Parish”. While some volunteers may attend other churches, they and other keen sailors and kayakers within the local community subscribe to the Code of Conduct and ethics of the organisation. All volunteers hold current Blue Cards and have qualified for the Anglican Diocese of Southern Queensland’s stringent Safe Ministry Check for Children. All participants are required to wear life jackets to participate (supplied). A rigid inflatable safety boat patrols the catamaran area and provides support when necessary.

Key team members carry marine VHF radios for communication, ensuring participants are assured of maximum safety at all times.

The main aim of S@B is to offer opportunities for youth at risk, their families and carers, to promote reconciliation and provide a service for the parishes and the community. S@B aims to help young people overcome difficulties, reach their potential, and actively engage in community life through sailing, teamwork, kayaking, and life skills. Closed private days are normally held mid-week twice a month.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of S@B providing sailing and kayaking activities to disadvantaged youth (including Indigenous female youth), refugees recovering from torture and trauma, and young carers (looking after siblings, parents, and grandparents), children in out-of-home care, and the general public.

The public events take place mainly at Breakwater Park, Wynn timer (on the south bank of Wynn timer Creek), Foreshore Park at Raby Bay in the Redlands, and at other locations in the Wynn timer-Manly area for the majority of private clients.



Photo: Supplied.







# BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL’S KERBSIDE COLLECTION DATES 2026

Brisbane City Council’s annual kerbside collection is your chance to conveniently dispose of unwanted bulky items. Items accepted include a range of household items such as bath and laundry tubs, bicycles and sporting equipment, carpets and rugs, electronic waste, furniture, small household appliances, white goods, and wood products under 1.5 cubic metres. However, many materials are not permitted.

Council will not collect items such as batteries (including car and lithium types), bean bags, bricks, concrete, car parts, tyres, chemicals, oils, commercial builders’ waste, dirt, stones, garden waste, gas bottles, glass, mirrors, hazardous waste, household rubbish or recycling, liquids, or lino and fibro sheeting, which may contain asbestos.

<b>Wynnum</b> Week commencing Monday March 2	<b>Chandler</b> Week commencing Monday March 9
<b>Hemmant</b> Week commencing Monday March 2	<b>Belmont</b> Week commencing Monday March 9
<b>Lota</b> Week commencing Monday March 2	<b>Manly</b> Week commencing Monday March 9
<b>Wynnum West</b> Week commencing Monday March 9	<b>Manly West</b> Week commencing Monday March 16
<b>Gumdale</b> Week commencing Monday March 9	<b>Tingalpa</b> Week commencing Monday March 16



<b>Wakerley</b> Week commencing Monday March 16	<b>Carina</b> Week commencing Monday March 23
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- Distribution to commence 2nd of March
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LOCAL READERS

A BOOK REVIEW – BUTTER BY ASAKO YUZUKI

BY ANNE CROWLEY

WHAT THE EXPERTS SAID:

“In this Japanese bestseller based on a real-life case, food unites a journalist and a cook turned murderer in a frequently thrilling novel anchored in misogyny.

“Kajii is a femme fatale who is the target of relentless body shaming during her trial and while in prison. Hungry for an exclusive interview, Rika writes to Kajii asking for the recipe for her beef stew – the last meal eaten by one of her victims.

“The relationship that ensues is as intimate as it is unconventional, with Rika finding herself increasingly fascinated by Kajii’s gourmet tastes ... and the insolence and indulgence of her worldview.”  
Source: *The Guardian*.

MY THOUGHTS:

*Butter* is nothing short of a feast – rich in flavour, stuffed with tantalising recipes, and layered with meaning. It’s not just a crime story with culinary trimmings; it’s an incisive meditation on how appetites – literal and figurative – shape our relationships and our sense of self.

One memorable recipe is the simple dish of rice with butter and soy sauce. This humble meal recurs throughout the story, becoming a

symbol of comfort, nostalgia, and quiet rebellion – a way to reclaim pleasure in a world that often polices women’s appetites. The dish’s unpretentiousness highlights the beauty found in everyday rituals, and Yuzuki’s sensual descriptions make you crave its warmth and simplicity, reinforcing food’s central role as both sustenance and metaphor.

But the book doesn’t shy away from its darker aspects. Indeed, its willingness to explore obsession, shame, longing, guilt, rejection, and the blurry boundaries between reality and illusion is what makes it so satisfying, albeit unsettling.

The novel questions traditional expectations placed on women: to be modest, restrained, and self-sacrificing. For Rika, “Japanese women are required to be self-denying, hard-working and ascetic, and in the same breath to be feminine, soft and caring towards men”. Rika’s boyfriend’s misogynistic statements ring in her ears, “Men putting on weight is different from women putting on weight”.

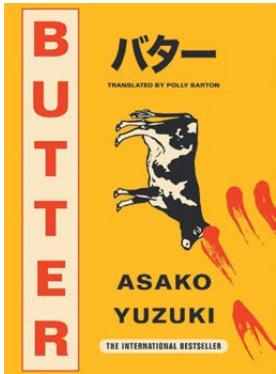
Through Kajii’s character – unapologetically large, passionate, and defiant – Yuzuki challenges the reader to reconsider what it means to live authentically in a world that demands conformity.

The two main characters are well developed, as are their evolving and complex relationship, and the deepening relationships of Rika with her friends.

Some readers may find the pace a bit slow at times, with action suspended for periods of introspection, especially in scenes where Rika muses on her own insecurities and frustrations as she journeys towards self-acceptance. As such, if you’re expecting a traditional crime thriller, while the book does involve the journalist’s investigation of the murders, you might be frustrated by the novel’s reflective passages.

The ending is ambiguous, leaving several threads unresolved, but for me, it adds to the book’s authenticity and emotional impact. Life rarely offers perfect closure, and neither do the best stories.

I missed my book club’s review of this book, but I’m told the host provided rice with butter and soy sauce for lunch.





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# CHICKPEA & LEMON-HERB COLD PASTA SALAD RECIPE

We're loving cold salads at the moment, and this summery version using chickpea pasta packs a protein punch. Load it up with whatever fresh veggies you have on hand.

## INGREDIENTS (SERVES 4)

- 250g chickpea pasta (any short shape – you choose!)
  - 4 cups of chicken stock
  - 1 can (400 g) of chickpeas (or you can use canned lentils), drained and rinsed
- 1 cucumber, diced
  - 1 cup of cherry tomatoes, halved
  - 1 small red capsicum, chopped
  - ¼ of a red onion, diced
  - 1 cup of finely chopped kale leaves
- ¼ cup fresh parsley, chopped
  - A handful of fresh basil leaves
  - 2 tbsp of fresh mint, finely chopped
  - ½ cup grated parmesan (optional)

## DRESSING

- 3 tbsp olive oil
  - 3 tbsp lemon juice
- 1 tsp lemon zest
  - 1 tbsp Dijon mustard
- 1 small garlic clove, minced
  - Salt and pepper to taste



## METHOD

1. Boil the pasta in the chicken stock (this adds depth of flavour) and extra water if needed (add salt) until al dente. Drain, then rinse under cold water, and put it in a large bowl or container.

2. Chop the cucumber, tomatoes, capsicum, kale, onion, parsley, basil, and mint.
3. In a small bowl or jar, combine the olive oil, lemon juice, zest, mustard, garlic, salt, and pepper.

4. Add the herbs, chickpeas and veggies to the pasta, then pour over the dressing and mix well.
5. Top with grated parmesan and you're ready to eat!

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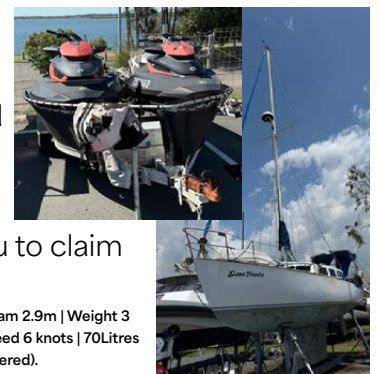
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# LOCAL FISHING WITH SPERO

## SUMMER FEASTS: GET YOUR CALAMARI NOW, FRESH FROM THE BAY!

BY SPERO KARTANOS

February is one of the best months to catch tiger squid in the bay. Find them close in at Green Island, Wellington Point, Mud (on the north-west side), and of course, throughout the weed banks from Chain Banks, Amity, the Rous Channel, the Sand Hills, and all along the western side of Moreton Island.

Tiger squid fishing is great fun for the family, and the kids love to eat them – and at this time of the year, they are ravenous!

All you need for squid fishing is a couple of good-quality squid jigs on a light rod. Jig colours vary, but a pilchard-colour jig, like NKN Yamashita or the Daiwa blood-coloured shrimp, is as good as you can get. Then it's just a matter of casting out and retrieving slowly, or if you are fishing for whiting, a jig under a float will catch them as well.

A little trick: when you catch them and lift them out of the water, grab between the head and body and turn the squid upside down so they release the water. That way, they can't mix water with ink to squirt you, and please, don't drag squid behind the boat to clean and remove the skin – it's the best-tasting part of the squid.

BUT beware... if you catch plenty of squid, sooner or later, when you bring them in, you will get inked! Another tip: if you get ink on your boat, the easiest way to clean up is "30 Seconds" cleaner from Bunnings – it makes squid ink disappear without rubbing, but don't let kids use it, and don't get it in your eyes.

So, get inked and have some fresh calamari for lunch and dinner this month.

Good fishing!



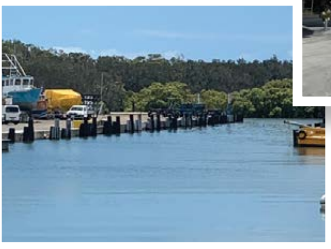
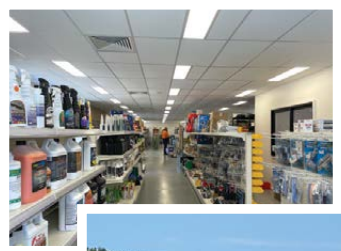
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# LOCAL GARDENING WITH KAT

## DAHLIA DAYS

BY KAT PEARSON, *GIRL IN THE GREEN*

I have three designated veggie beds in the backyard. In theory, I was going to have amazing tomato crops, trellises of cucumbers, salad greens, and brassicas. In reality, I haven't got a lot of time for attention-seeking annual veggies, and while I did have a very impressive broccoli and cabbage crop one winter, I decided to give that bed over to beautiful flowering dahlias the following summer.

I justify this situation with the fact that they're technically edible. The petals can be used as garnishes or added to salads, and the tubers can be eaten like potatoes. The original dahlias come from the mountainous regions of Mexico and Central America and were consumed by the Aztecs as a starch source. The dahlias we love to grow now are generally significantly hybridised, and not necessarily with tuber taste in mind, so it might be a bit hit-and-miss flavour-wise if you care to try.

Dahlias love a spot in full morning sun with a little protection from the harsh afternoon rays. They can be grown from seed or, more commonly, from tubers. When planting tubers, water sparingly until they shoot, so they don't rot. Once established, they do like a fair bit of water. Taller varieties will need staking, but there are many dwarf cultivars that are fine on their own.

When they die down in winter, if your soil is sandy and free-draining, you can leave them in the ground (hence why mine haven't moved from their original veggie patch location!). If you have heavier clay soil or they are in a spot that often gets waterlogged, it's best to lift them and replant next season.

With flowers ranging from 20 mm single open flowers to 20-30 cm massive double extravaganzas, it's easy to see how quickly the dahlia bug can grab you. Mid-summer to autumn is the peak dahlia-flowering time, so have a look at your nursery now and see if you can pick up some potted plants. Save the tubers for next year, and you're well on your way to your next addiction!



Photos by Kat Pearson.

### ABOUT KAT

I love gardening, growing my own food and plants in general. I've been working on our current garden in subtropical Brisbane for the last six-plus years, but have been gardening for much, much longer in all sorts of places. I'm an ex-engineer, recently turned horticulturist (life's too short not to work in something you love!). I grow edibles and ornamentals in an often wild, rambling jungle, filled with birds and bugs, including a handful of pet chooks and a brand new puppy (who likes to chase said chickens, and is not averse to helping me dig a hole!).





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# PERCUSSIONISTS INVITED TO JOIN NATIONAL BAND CHAMPIONSHIPS WITH BAYSIDE BRASS

FROM BAYSIDE BRASS

Bayside Brass is inviting percussion players to join an exciting eight-week opportunity to participate in the National Band Championships, to be held at Brisbane City Hall over the Easter long weekend in April 2026.

This is a rare opportunity to perform on one of Australia’s most prestigious band stages, in a venue renowned for its acoustics, grandeur, and history.

Bayside Brass is attending its first National Band Championships since 2014, and the band is looking for energetic, music-reading percussion players to complement an already committed brass line-up. We are keen to welcome players who want both a musical challenge and a memorable championship experience.

Whether your strengths lie in tuned percussion, mallets, timpani, auxiliary, or kit, Bayside Brass offers an engaging repertoire and a supportive rehearsal environment. The focus is on teamwork, musical excellence, and enjoying the journey as much as the performance itself.

The National Championships are more than a contest – they’re a celebration of banding, camaraderie, and shared passion. Performing in Brisbane City Hall, surrounded by the buzz of Easter festivities and the nation’s best bands, makes this event truly special.

If you’re a percussionist (or brass player) looking to challenge yourself, expand your experience, and be part of a motivated and friendly band, Bayside Brass would love to hear from you. Join us and help drive the rhythm as we take on the National stage in 2026.



Photo: Supplied.

**Rehearsals:** Tuesday evenings, 7:00pm to 9:00pm at 202 Gallipoli Road, Carina Heights.

**For more Information,** email [secretary@baysidebrass.com.au](mailto:secretary@baysidebrass.com.au) or find us on Facebook and Instagram to see what we’ve been up to.



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# MONTHLY GRANTS ON OFFER TO HELP BAYSIDE COMMUNITY PROJECTS COME TO LIFE

Local groups have the chance to apply for up to \$1000 each month, with Australian Country Choice (ACC) expanding its Community Steakholder Grants Program (CSGP) to support projects across the bayside and neighbouring suburbs.

After a strong response to the inaugural round in 2025, the program will now run year-round from February to November, offering simple and meaningful funding to help ideas get off the ground.

ACC Chief Executive Officer, Anthony Lee, said the first year made it clear just how much can be achieved when local volunteers have the right support behind them.

“What stood out this year was the sheer number of good ideas coming from local groups,” Mr Lee said.

“A grant can take pressure off and help them turn a great idea into something real. We want to back that.”

The program supports practical, community-driven projects that bring people together, improve shared spaces, or make everyday life a little better for local residents.

ACC Community Engagement Specialist, Carly Ogborne, said the expansion reflects what the company heard from neighbourhood groups throughout 2025.

“We saw how much impact the right funding can have when it lands in the hands of the right people,” Ms Ogborne said.

“Community groups already put in the late nights, early mornings, and weekend work. Our job is to make support easy to access and help those ideas go further.”

The CSGP is open to groups in the broader 4170 to 4174 area, as well as Wynnum and Manly. Funding can be used for a wide range of local projects, including equipment, community events, youth programs, wellbeing initiatives, and improvements to shared community spaces.



Photo: Supplied.

Local groups can find the guidelines, flyer and online application form at: [accbeef.net.au/grants](http://accbeef.net.au/grants)

For more information, email [community@accbeef.net.au](mailto:community@accbeef.net.au).

# WYNNUM BUGS CELEBRATE MILESTONE AS 2026 REGISTRATIONS OPEN

FROM WYNNUM JUNIOR RUGBY UNION CLUB

The Wynnum Junior Rugby Club is celebrating a landmark achievement following an exceptional 2025 season, during which the Under 15 Bugs secured the league premiership. While the trophy is a testament to their skill, the true story lies in the squad's extraordinary bond.

Among this premiership-winning group are no less than seven young men who recently received their 10-year caps. This prestigious club honour recognises players who have represented the blue, red and white for ten successive seasons – since they were just five years old.

As the club looks to build on this success, the search is now on for the next generation of Bugs to join the family for the 2026 season.

Registrations are officially open for all age groups. The club is placing a particular focus this year on recruitment for the Under 15 and Under 16 squads, inviting new players to step in and join the existing premiership core.

For the youngest aspiring stars, the Wynnum Rugby Walla program remains the premier starting point for four and five-year-old boys and girls. By starting their journey now, these youngsters could be the recipients of the 10-year cap in 2035.

## SEASON 2026 KEY INFORMATION

Wynnum Junior Rugby remains committed to being an inclusive, family-friendly club at Elanora Park, offering affordable fees and accepting the Queensland Government “Play On” vouchers (formerly FairPlay) to assist local families.

- **Training:** Sessions commence Friday night, 13 February. The club offers a “train before you play” option for those who want to build confidence before the competition begins.
- **Match Days:** U6 to U9: Saturday mornings, and U10 to U16: Sundays.



Photo: Supplied.

Whether you are an experienced player looking for a competitive edge or a parent of a four-year-old to lace up their first pair of boots, the Wynnum Bugs welcomes you.

For further inquiries, contact the club registrar at [registrar@wynnumrugby.com.au](mailto:registrar@wynnumrugby.com.au) or [Info@wynnumrugby.com.au](mailto:Info@wynnumrugby.com.au).



# WYNNUM MANLY JUNIORS WELCOME BOYS AND GIRLS TO SIGN ON FOR 2026

CONTRIBUTED BY WYNNUM MANLY JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB

Wynnum Manly Junior Rugby League Club is calling on local families to get involved not only to sign on as players, but also to step forward and help out as volunteers, as it prepares for its upcoming Sign-On/Come and Try Days, marking the official countdown to the 2026 rugby league season.

New and returning players are invited to Kitchener Park on Wednesday, February 11 (Under 6 to Under 12s) and Friday, February 13 (Under 12s to Under 17s and all female players) to register, meet coaches and volunteers, and soak up the community spirit that has long defined the club.

Wynnum Manly is one of the biggest clubs in the region, with all-girl teams from under 10 and up. Teams focus on skill development, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

“This club has always been about community, development, and giving kids a safe, positive place to grow,” said Kylie Hooper.

Kylie adds that whether you’re brand new to rugby league or have been playing for years, there’s a place for you at Wynnum Juniors.

“Junior Rugby League simply doesn’t run without volunteers,” said Julie, the club’s president. From coaches and trainers to team

managers, canteen helpers and game day officials, every role plays a part in creating a great experience for our kids.”

While registrations will be open for boys and girls from under 6 up, club officials say volunteer support is just as vital as player numbers. Volunteers and coaching staff will be on hand to answer questions about the season, training schedules, and player pathways.

Parents are encouraged to attend with their children, as club uniforms, merchandise, and club information will all be available on the day. The event is also a chance for families new to the area to connect with one of Wynnum Manly’s most established junior sporting organisations.

The club is seeking volunteers of all skill levels, with no previous experience required for many roles. Training and support will be provided throughout the season, and volunteering is seen as a rewarding way for parents, carers and community members to contribute.

“You don’t need to be a rugby league expert Kylie said. “What we need is people willing to give a little time, support our players, and be part of a strong community club.”

“Junior rugby league teaches discipline, resilience and respect,”



Photo: Supplied.

football director Mick said. “But most importantly, it’s fun – and the friendships made here last a lifetime.”

With the new season fast approaching, the club is hoping for a strong turnout and another year of growth both on and off the field.

For more information about the Come and Try Day, player registrations, or volunteering opportunities, visit the Facebook page Wynnum-Manly Junior Rugby League Club.

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# SILENT BUT SERIOUS: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT PERIODONTAL DISEASE

FROM DENTAL ON CAMBRIDGE

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Periodontal disease is a chronic infection of the gums and supporting structures of the teeth. It commonly begins as gingivitis, causing red, swollen, or bleeding gums. If left untreated, it can progress to periodontitis, leading to gum recession, bone loss, loose teeth, and, ultimately, tooth loss.

Our experienced team at Dental on Cambridge regularly sees patients from across Brisbane who are surprised to learn they have gum disease – often because they had no pain at all. Bleeding gums when brushing, persistent bad breath, or teeth that appear longer than before are early warning signs that many people ignore.

So what causes periodontal disease? The primary culprit is plaque – a sticky film of bacteria that builds up around the teeth and gumline. If plaque isn't removed through proper brushing, flossing, and professional cleans, it hardens into tartar, which can only be removed by a dental professional. Over time, this bacteria triggers inflammation that damages the gums and bone supporting your teeth. Certain factors increase your risk, including smoking or

vaping, diabetes, stress, hormonal changes, genetics, and even clenching or grinding your teeth. Busy lifestyles, long commutes, and putting dental visits on the back burner can also allow gum disease to progress unnoticed.

The good news? Periodontal disease is manageable, especially when detected early. At Dental on Cambridge, our compassionate dentists and oral health professionals take a thorough and personalised approach to gum care. We assess gum health, measure pocket depths around your teeth, and create tailored treatment plans to stabilise and protect your smile. Treatment may include professional deep cleaning (often called periodontal therapy), ongoing maintenance visits, and guidance on improving your at-home oral hygiene routine. For more advanced cases, our experienced team works with periodontists who are specialists in this area to focus on slowing disease progression and preserving your natural teeth for as long as possible.

Gum health is also closely linked to overall health. Research has shown connections between periodontal disease and conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, and inflammation elsewhere in the body. Looking after your gums isn't just about your smile – it's about your wellbeing. If you've noticed bleeding gums, persistent



Photo: Supplied.

bad breath, or haven't had a dental check-up in a while, now is the time to act. Early intervention can make all the difference. Book a comprehensive gum health assessment with our experienced team at Dental on Cambridge today – because healthy gums are the foundation of a healthy smile.



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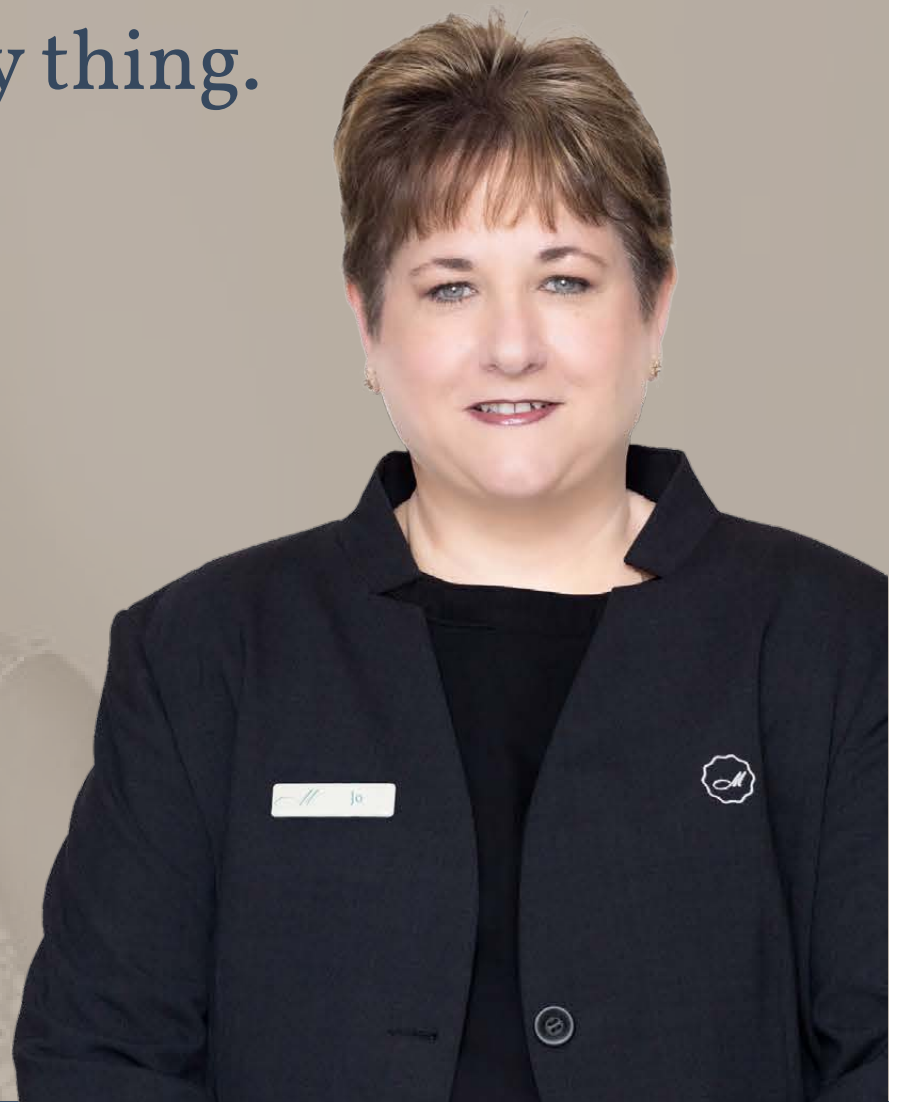
Her calm, compassionate nature and attention to every little detail help families feel supported, understood, and cared for. Jo doesn't just do her job, she truly shows up for every family, every time.

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