

Callala Bay NEWS

June 2025

Issue 140-2025

Monthly Magazine from the Callala Bay Community Association Incorporated



The Callala Bay NEWS *proudly supports your local community
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www.callalafirstnational.com.au

CALLALA BAY NEWS

*A monthly newsletter of the
Callala Bay Community Association Inc.*
ABN: 68 031 980 561
www.callalabaycommunityassociation.com
Email: admin@callalabaycommunityassociation.com
PO Box 14 Callala Bay 2540

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Note from the Editor:

The CBnews proudly supports our community, consider subscribing for a small yearly fee.

Please contact us with any local issues or concerns with the intention of having it published.

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Culburra Beach & Districts Men's Shed

Regular readers of this column, and all Shed members and followers, recognize that our most popular products are from our range of nestboxes. We cover all local endemic species of native birds, possums and microbats.

As well as producing the nestboxes, it is important that purchasers are educated and advised about installation techniques, orientation and the desirable attributes of nestboxes in general. In this article, we attempt to answer some common questions and concerns, so that more readers are motivated to assist our local wildlife.

The primary purpose of artificial wildlife nestboxes is to replace habitat loss from land clearance and the removal of mature, hollow-bearing native trees. A natural tree cavity provides excellent insulation against heat and cold, so the very first consideration in selecting a nestbox is its thermal insulation

properties. Our boxes are fabricated from 17mm plywood or 20mm pine. Anything less will not provide adequate insulation. External surfaces are painted with UV stable acrylic paint in a light colour for protection against the natural elements.

Nestboxes have varying internal volumes, depths and opening diameters specific to target species. Of course, wildlife can't



*Some of our nestboxes for sale
at Callala Markets*

read, so acceptability and success are never guaranteed.

Orientation can be very important, especially for some bird species. The western summer sun can be deadly for fledging chicks so it's always preferable that the box is shaded and/or facing southeast. Preferred installation heights vary; about 4 metres is a good guide, or a high as one can safely operate from a ladder. Always remember, two people always for ladder safety.

Our nestboxes have hinged, secured lids so that they can be checked periodically for feral pests. The lids are designed to deflect water entry, and drainage holes are also provided in the bases as a precaution.

Possums bring their own fill to nestboxes; birds generally don't. So, it's desirable to provide about 50mm of fill e.g. pine bark mulch, in the bottom of boxes to prevent egg damage.

The May Callala Markets were a little disappointing with low numbers, despite

excellent weather. We'll be back at the Markets on Saturday 14 June, from 8am 'til 1pm. So, please come along and check out our range of timber craft, nestboxes and native bee hotels. Or just call in for a chat and see what Shed membership can offer you.

The Shed is open for door sales on Mondays and Wednesdays from 8.30am to 1.00pm. Feel free to call in and peruse our full product range.

Our "Fix it Mondays", where we undertake minor repairs and refurbishments for local residents, continue to be well patronised. Bring in that broken chair, garden ornament or family heirloom and we'll endeavour to bring it back to life. Our welding bay is also always ready to assist with repairs to metal and steel items

Follow us on Facebook or join our Facebook group to stay up to date with news and events. You can contact us through Facebook, via email to CBDMS1@outlook.com or by phone on 0494 055 329.



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Notes from the CBCA General Meeting held 9 Apr 25

A small but very animated meeting of the Callala community was held on Wed 12 May 25. Reports from those attending suggested the "Democracy Sausage" sizzle held on 3 May for the election was a great success with 250 snags sold and the surplus being directed to the provision of doggie bags which has again been heavily utilised by many visitors to Callala Bay. As many of our readers and walkers will be aware, the Sheaffe Street project is now 'up and running', with trees removed, and form work being situated. (See article in this issue.) Coincidentally, there is also much movement on the corner of Emmett Street and Australia Avenue, with a path being installed across from the over 50s accommodation. Thanks to the project leader for the addition to public safety.

Readers are again reminded of the import to complete the Liveability Survey with a deadline of 30 June: https://survey.placescore.org/s3/lc25?channel=nsw_shoalhaven.

There is a new Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/callalaconnect>. Facebook group, Callala Bay Community Association (CBCA), is now private for discussion.

The next Meeting of the CBCA will be held on Wed 13 Aug 25, while the Committee will of course continue to support the community.

ANZAC Day Ceremony

On Anzac Day, Miss Collins was joined by the school leaders at the Club Callala Anzac Day service. They represented the school with pride and lay a wreath on the school's behalf.



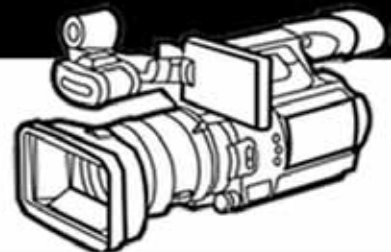
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SHEAFFE STREET PATHWAY

At long last, after many years' work by the various CBCA groups (I think between 15 and 18 years) the Sheaffe Street pathway is progressing.

The various CBCAs have been tireless in their approach, and the Council, of late, has been very supportive. Our thanks also go to the NSW Government who has provided much of the funds to make it happen.

To the stalwarts, petitioners, and supporters, thanks to you all.



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Robert Rose

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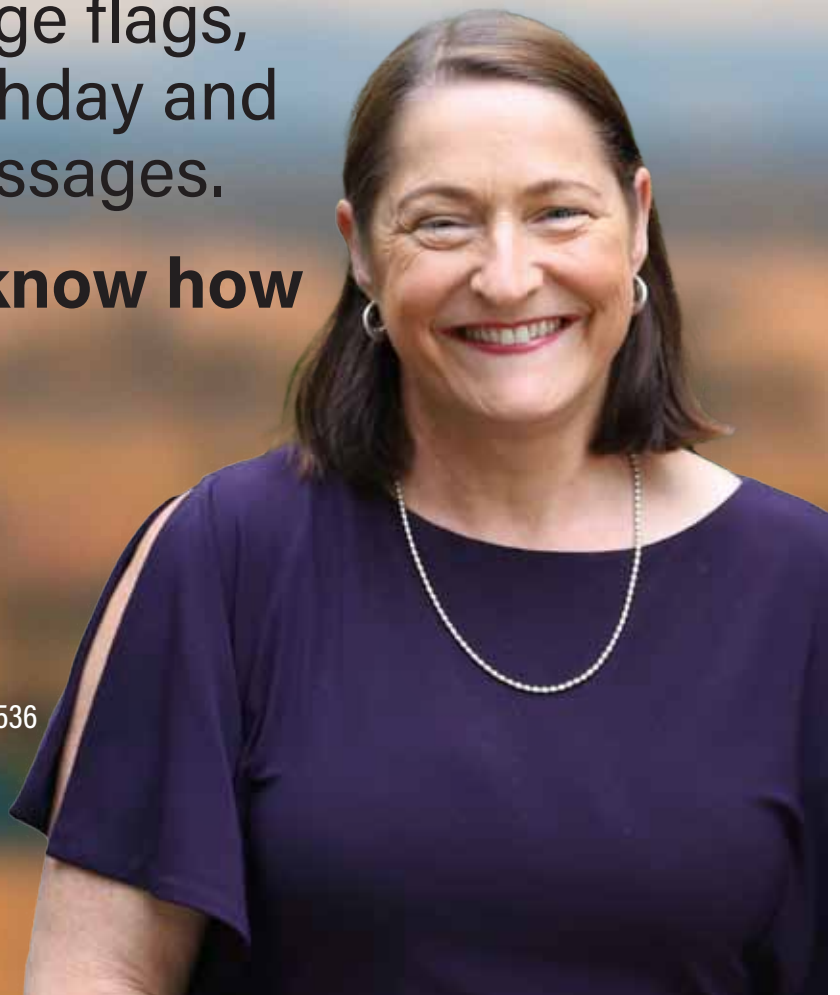
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@ Fiona.Phillips.MP@aph.gov.au

🌐 fionaphillips.com.au

🏠 3/59 Junction St Nowra NSW 2541 &
1/6-8 Orient St, Batemans Bay NSW 2536



Authorised by Fiona Phillips MP, Nowra.



ANGLICAN CHURCHES of Culburra Beach | Callala | Currarong

Callala Church Service - 5pm Sunday
All Welcome | 4:30 pm for afternoon tea
St Marks, 2 Hunter Street, Callala Bay



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p: 02 4447 3277

e: office@culburraanglican.asn.au

www.culburraanglican.asn.au

Growth Group Bible Studies
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Caterpillar's Playgroup
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289youth
Friday Nights @ Culburra Beach Anglican



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Facebook: Culburra Beach Orient point Men's Shed <https://www.facebook.com/cbopmshed>



CLUB HOURS

Mo: 10AM - 7PM
Tu: 10AM - 9PM
We: 10AM - 10:30
Th: 10AM - 10:30
Fr: 10AM - 10:30
Sa: 10AM - 10:30
Su: 10AM - 9PM

43 Callala Beach Road, Callala Beach
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generalmanager@clubcallala.com.au



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SATURDAY:

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SATURDAY:

Fisho's Raffle -
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SUNDAY:

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Social Darts from 5PM

Trivia starting 6:30PM

THURSDAY:

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Member's Badge Draw 6:30PM, 7:15PM, 7:45PM

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Second Chance Draw & Members Badge Draw

SUNDAY:

Fisho's Weigh-In on 4th Sunday at 2PM

Callala RSL Country Fishing Club



Callala Beach Road, Callala Beach 2540

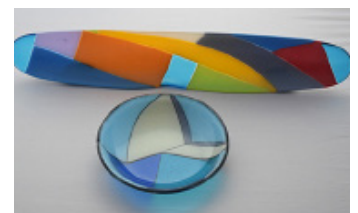
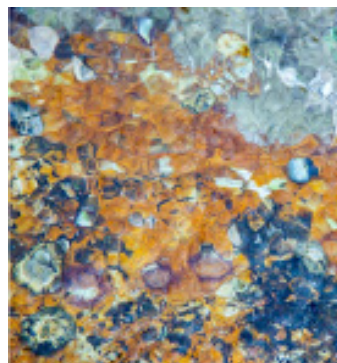
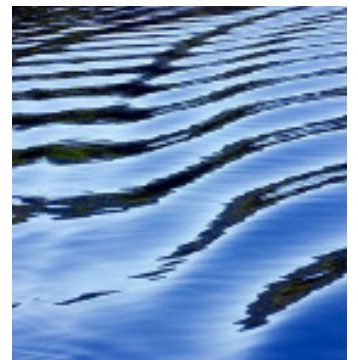
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Motor Vehicle Accident	000	police.nsw.gov.au
Police	000	police.nsw.gov.au
Police – Non Emergencies	131 444	police.nsw.gov.au
Police Crime Stoppers	1800 333 000	police.nsw.gov.au
Household Fire / Hazmat	000	fire.nsw.gov.au
Bushfire	000	rfs.nsw.gov.au
Shoalhaven RFS District Office	4424 4424	rfs.nsw.gov.au
Bushfire Survival Plan	-	rfs.nsw.gov.au
Bush Fire Information Line	1800 679 737	-
Flood, Storm and weather warnings	-	bom.nsw.gov.au
Storm / Flood	132 500	ses.nsw.gov.au
Power Outages	131 003	endeavourenergy.com.au
Main Road Closures	132 701	livetraffic.com
Local Road Closures	1300 293 111	shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au
Shoalhaven City Council	1300 293 111	shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au
Shoalhaven Hospital	4423 9500	-
Milton Hospital	4454 9100	-

If you are **deaf** or have a **speech** or **hearing impairment** dial **106** for the Text Emergency Relay Service

Useful Apps & Websites

Visitors to the area can download the following free mobile apps to stay informed of the latest advice and information in the event of an emergency.

Emergency+ App

The Emergency+ app is a free app developed by Australia's emergency services, Government and industry partners.

The app uses GPS functionality built into smart phones to help a Triple Zero (000) caller provide critical location details required to mobilise emergency services.



emergencyapp.triplezero.gov.au

Other Helpful Apps & Websites



Fires Near Me NSW



Floods Near Me



Weather Zone



COVID Safe



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shoalhaven.disasterdashboards.com/get-ready/overview





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IMPROVEMENTS



NEW TRELLIS

Latest update – climbers have been purchased from Wirin Wirra ...with a range of colours, they are white and cerise Hardenbergia, pink and white Pandorea and yellow Hibbertia. Thanks Madeleine and Clare for sourcing them and Diana for advising. They will be a great asset, not only visually, but also to add to our goal of year-round access to flowers for pollinators.

AUTUMN PLANTINGS

RHUBARB

Donated by Pam on her last home dividing session, this different variety of rhubarb was nurtured, then planted into bed 19, along with soil goodies. This variety naturally has thicker, deep red stems. This bed gets partial shade and is free draining. We plan to divide some of our existing rhubarb crops. A couple will be relocated to bed 19 with the other two, some will have deeper, richer and more free-draining 'soil' where they currently grow.

Garlic is progressing well. There was some concern about the excessive rain in April, about 120mm, which isn't good for garlic. We are hopeful of good progress after noticing these healthy shoots. Below the soil, the roots are establishing. The plants will now continue putting on their shoots but then go into a kind of dormancy over the winter months. Spring will spark the next growth phase.

The cabbage family is well underway, but they have a long maturation time. Our Cabbages: Mini-Ball are loving life, developing full and healthy foliage. Accompanied by dill, there appears no problems insect-wise but no hearting yet. Fingers crossed. The other varieties in the cabbage family include different types of broccoli, red cabbage, mangel wurzel and radicchio. Also full-sized and snowball cauliflowers in beds and boats!

Mangel Wurzel is a crop that attracts some attention. Also called mangold wurzel or yellow beet. According to Gardening Australia, it is an heirloom belonging to the same species as beetroot and silverbeet. The roots and leaves are edible: the leaves somewhat like silverbeet and the roots tasting and prepared as you might beetroot.





Coriander was easily raised from collected seed in a corner of another bed. Wanting to grow it on in a shaded location, it has been transplanted to behind the 'screen' of the snow peas to limit its tendency to bolt.

The Vietnamese Coriander or Vietnamese mint, now partially in flower, has escaped its raised bed. No problem, we have lifted the escapees and potted some up. Some visitors also called in and were delighted we had some available

Currently our range of herbs is very pleasing and we hope garden members and visitors come and enjoy harvesting this fresh and mostly year-round produce.

The first snow peas to be sown are developing flowers. They are the highlight of our winter growing season! The sugar snap peas, sown at the same time have progressed to providing their delicious juicy pods. For reasons unknown, the plants seem less vigorous than snow peas, much to our disappointment. We hope the snow peas are in full production for the June market day, as they weren't quite ready in May.

Our red and yellow chrysanthemums are putting on a fabulous display. The plot has spread into a showy mass.

While the past summer proved a bit tricky for growing loads of lettuce, they are just now coming on to better production. While selling whole lettuces is not as popular, our mixed leaf packs sell very well at the monthly market. Consisting of firm and frilly lettuce leaves, French sorrel, rocket and beetroot leaves they're snapped up by visitors. Collecting seed – some varieties just need fresh purchased seed to ensure good germination.



NATIVE STINGLESS BEES



Update: we are very impressed with these bees and are excited about the prospect of installing a hive in the garden. We have followed up on the informative talk from Jeff at Shoalhaven Native Stingless Bees, hosted by Council. He has now called in to the garden and recommended a site in our top enclosure for the hive. Installation could happen around the end of the year.

WHATS ON

Regular mornings Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9.00a.m.

General Meeting Saturday 7th June from 2.00p.m.

Working Bee Sundays 1st and 15th June from 9.00a.m.

Pick and Prep Friday 13th June from 3.00.p.m.

Produce Market Saturday 14th June from 8.00a.m..

Family Fun Friday 30th May & 27th June 9.30 to 11.00a.m.
Morning Tea will be provided.

WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS

Do you have ANY free time that you would like to spend being useful in our Community Garden?

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Callala Markets

Following our recent donation, Callala Public School advises that they will be using the funds to help support students who will be performing in Wakakirri in August. Wakakirri is a nationwide festival for Australian schools that provides a platform for students to express their thoughts, ideas, and aspirations through the art of storytelling and dance. Inspired by the belief that great stories can inspire change, Wakakirri is designed to promote student engagement and well-being in schools through the creation and performance of captivating Story-Dances.

The students have been performing in Wakakirri for several years and it is a wonderful opportunity for them. This year, the theme is “Mind Over Matter: Tales of Inner Strength” and they are retelling the story of ‘Giraffes Can’t Dance’ through dance.

Here is a photo from last year of the students performing at Wakakirri. The story told last year was ‘The Rainbow Fish’. As you can see, a lot of effort was put into costuming, so the latest donation will be very helpful.

All of our stall holders offer a range of locally made products, including handmade candles and soaps, timber craft, nestboxes for our local wildlife, wooden plaques and bowls, beautiful handmade pottery, jams and spreads, jewellery, crystals, baby



booties and hats, designer cards, and soft knitted children’s toys. Come along and check out the variety available at your local market.

Your support of local craft makers and stall holders assists our Markets in supporting the local community. All profits from stall holder fees contribute to future donations.

The June Markets will be held on Saturday 14 June from 8am to 1pm at the Callala Community Centre, Emmett Street, Callala Bay. Whatever the weather, come on down and support our local artisans and craft people.

The Callala Community Garden will be open, as usual, for locals and visitors on the day. Fresh seasonal produce is always popular, so come on down and check the entire range.

Want to join us? Contact Sandra on 0413 581419 for stallholder enquiries.



2nd Saturday
EACH MONTH
42 EMMETT ST,
CALLALA BAY
8:00AM - 1:00PM



The image is a promotional graphic for Callala Markets. It features a circular logo on the left with the text 'Callala Markets' in a blue script font and 'Community focus' in a smaller sans-serif font below it. To the right of the logo, the text '2nd Saturday', 'EACH MONTH', '42 EMMETT ST,', 'CALLALA BAY', and '8:00AM - 1:00PM' is displayed in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. At the bottom right, there are icons for Facebook and Instagram. The background of the graphic is a light beige color with scattered seashells and small stones.

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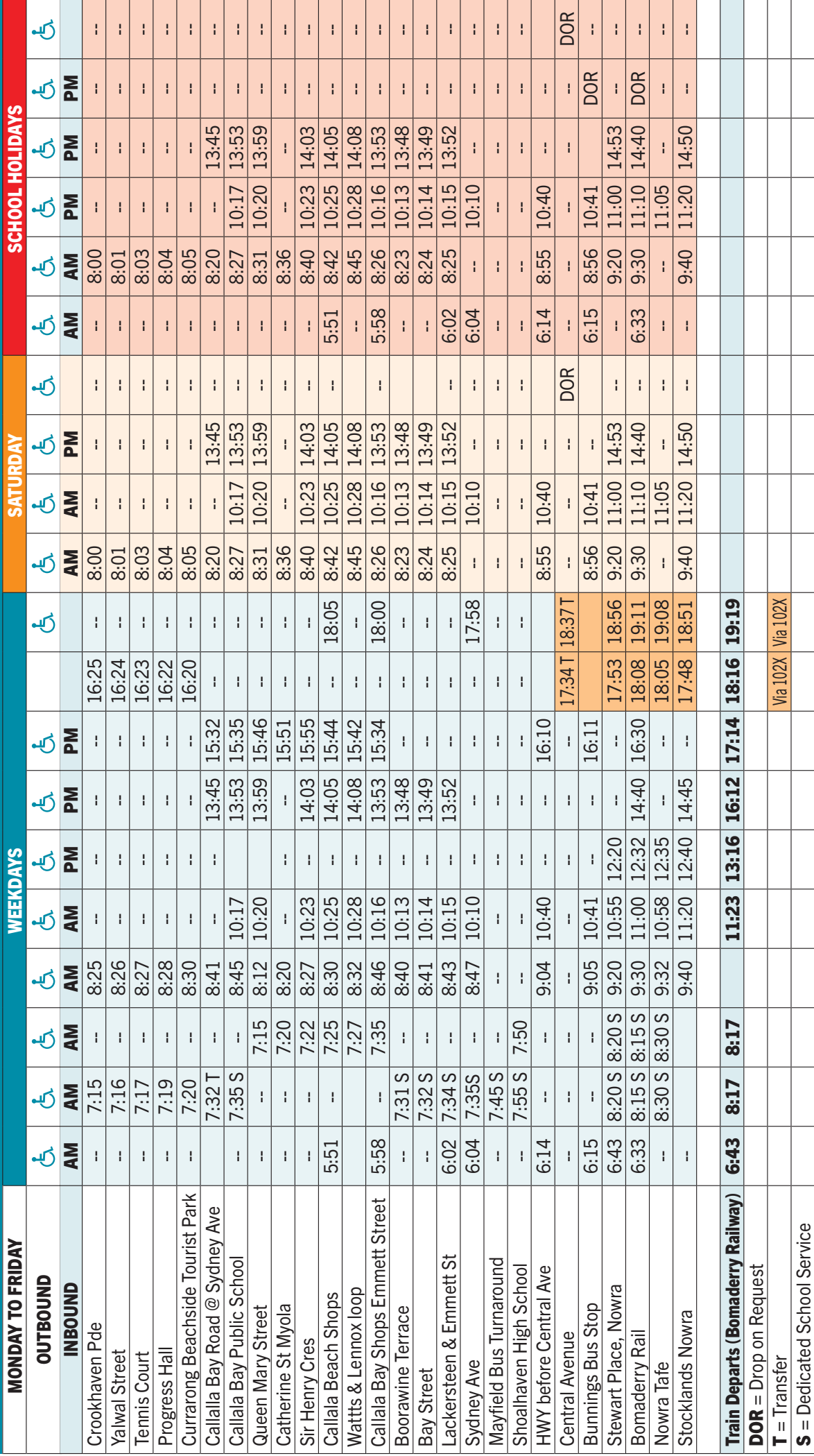
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Stewart Place, Nowra	--	6:43	--	--	9:20	--	12:20	14:55	--	17:24	--	9:20	12:20	14:55	--	--	9:20	12:20	14:55	17:24		
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Shoalhaven High School	--	--	7:55	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
St Michaels School	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	15:00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
HWY opposite Bunnings	--	--	--	--	9:45	--	12:45	15:10	--	--	--	9:45	12:45	15:00	--	--	9:45	12:45	15:00	17:40		
HWY Pearl Service Station	--	--	--	--	9:46	--	12:46	15:11	--	--	--	9:46	12:46	15:01	--	--	9:46	12:46	15:01	17:41		
Mayfield	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	15:45 S	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
Sydney Avenue	--	--	--	--	10:10	--	DOR	15:32	16:05 S	17:58	--	10:10	DOR	DOR	--	--	10:10	DOR	DOR	17:58		
Boorawine Terrace	--	--	--	--	10:13	--	DOR	--	--	--	--	10:13	DOR	DOR	--	--	10:13	DOR	DOR	--		
Callala Bay Shops	--	--	--	--	10:16	--	DOR	15:33	--	18:00	--	10:16	DOR	15:15	--	--	10:16	DOR	15:15	18:00		
Callala Bay Public School	--	--	--	--	10:17	--	DOR	15:34T	16:17 T	--	--	10:17	DOR	DOR	--	--	10:17	DOR	DOR	--		
Queen Mary Street	--	--	--	--	10:20	--	DOR	15:46	16:31 S	--	--	10:20	DOR	DOR	--	--	10:20	DOR	DOR	--		
Catherine Street Myola	--	--	--	--	--	--	DOR	15:51	16:35 S	--	--	--	DOR	DOR	--	--	--	DOR	DOR	--		
Sir Henry Crescent	--	--	--	--	10:23	--	DOR	15:56	--	--	--	10:23	DOR	DOR	--	--	10:23	DOR	DOR	--		
Callala Beach Shops	--	--	--	--	10:25	--	DOR	15:44	--	18:05	--	10:25	DOR	DOR	--	--	10:25	DOR	DOR	--		
Watts & Lennox loop					10:28		DOR	15:42	--	--	--	10:28	DOR	DOR			10:28	DOR	DOR			
Callala Bay Shops	--				--	--	DOR	--	--	--	--	--	DOR	DOR	--	--	--	DOR	DOR	--		
Fishery Rd @ Merimbula St Currarong	--	7:12	--	8:23	--	--	DOR	15:56	16:26	--	--	--	DOR	DOR	--	--	--	DOR	DOR	--		
Crookhaven Pde @ Piscator Ave	--	7:15	--	8:25	--	--	DOR	16:00	16:25	--	--	--	DOR	DOR	--	--	--	DOR	DOR	--		



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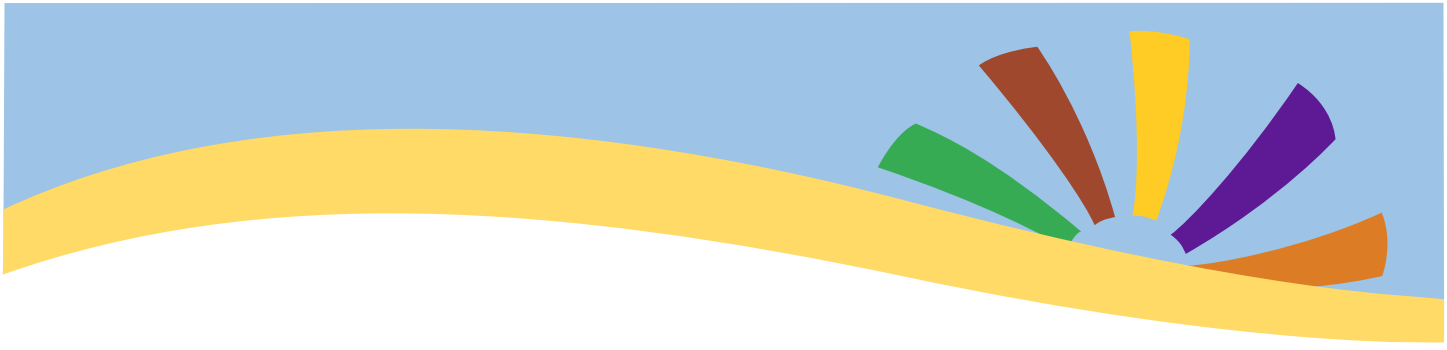
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Tennis @ Callala Bay



Fancy a hit?

Located here in Callala Bay, the courts are attached to, and managed by the Callala Bay Progress Hall. They are located at the corner of Wearne and Morton St.

Bring your own rackets and balls!

Ring 444 64 313 to book

Available for casual and regular bookings.

Lessons—call Daisy on 049 053 7551

Culburra Beach & District Garden Club Inc.

Hi everyone, At the May meeting we celebrated our lovely Mums. Members were asked to wear or bring in something their mum had given them. The response was great as they shared jewellery, a much-loved photo, glass, and porcelain objects and even a knitted jumper. We were also asked to bring a small posy of flowers. President Bev used her mum's cut glass vase to display Roses, Geranium, African daisies, and purple Sage while I took pink, yellow and white Chrysanthemums – the official flower for Mother's Day

President Bev once again took the floor as guest speaker and recalled her first camping holiday she did when still a young mum. She said that the recent floods in Queensland triggered that time away, so she went in search for her diary and photos from that holiday which she did with a work mate named Joy. For us, as she read her notes it sounded more like the camping trip from hell. The word 'glamping' did not exist in 1975. Twenty-six eager travellers went on a coach (it was really a bus with no toilets or air conditioning) and visited the outback towns along rough, dirt roads. The bus was called "Horse with no name" after the song by pop group America. Bev had never put up a tent or even slept in one, but she quickly adapted to roughing it- digging a hole for toilet stops and making do with no showers. Their bush camps were rough, dogged by heavy rain and getting bogged for days. They had to push the bus most times, but Bev said that everyone chipped in to help. The Royal Flying Doctor Service would drop down water and meat onto their camp. The comradeship that developed is what got them through as nothing would dampen their spirits. They entertained themselves with concerts, a mock wedding, and races. Following this trip the group kept in touch and even travelled together but in better conditions. We asked Bev about her friend Joy, and she said that her nickname on the trip became "Kill Joy" because she would only share her beer with Bev and no one else.

This did not go down well with the others. We thanked Bev for her recollection of a never to be forgotten camping trip.

In Q/A one member asked what is causing the lawn to have holes with small mounds of soil around each hole. We thought bandicoots or beetles, but member Jeni said it could be worms. I googled it and it is earthworms. The tunnelling of earthworms helps to aerate and loosen the lawn's soil. My lawn problem is caused by bandicoots, but they leave a little calling card (poo) every night. Backyard bandicoots also dig for insects, grubs, and other invertebrates they eat. Their digging helps to aerate the soil too which can be beneficial for plant growth.



Worms



Bandicoots

*****Our club numbers have dropped recently as some of our "golden girls" have retired from attending meetings and one sadly passed away. We need more people -men and women.***

You are welcome to join us at the next meeting
June 21st 1.30 pm at Culburra Anglican Church, Penguin Head Rd, Culburra Beach.

Cheers to all and happy gardening, Doris Carpenter - 4446 5631

Thinking of having a function or meeting . . .



Why not have a look at the Callala Community Centre?

There is table seating for 110 with crockery and cutlery and a modern kitchen.

The centre is airconditioned and has state-of-the art audio visual capability for presentations, training and other entertainment included as part of the hire fee.

Car-parking is adjacent to the Centre and the Callala shops are opposite the Centre.

The Centre has grass surrounds, giving you the option of outdoor training as well as indoor.

If you have an exercise or social group or are looking for a place to hold your next celebration, call Cynthia on **0412 121 737** for enquiries. You can also look for us on **Facebook**

FREE

Pre-Loved Clothing & Book Stall

First Saturday of the Month
at the

Callala Community Centre

9.30am to 12.00 NOON

Clothes in good condition can be dropped off at the stall (on the day only). If clothing can be delivered by 10am; this will allow them to be displayed.

Sponsored by the Anglican Church, Callala

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Saleable Goods are most welcome, but we can't accept furniture, white goods, mattresses, encyclopedias, computer ware and videos.



You can drop goods at shop or in charity bin situated at Culburra Anglican Church, Penguin Head Rd, Culburra.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact

Manager Neroli McCusker:

4447 4084 (Shop) or 0401 466 590

Defibrillators in Callala Bay



There is a number of defibrillators in Callala Bay.
They are located at:

- Club Callala
- IGA Supermarket
- Jervis Bay Sailing Club
- Callala Community School
- Callala Medical Centre
- Callala Community Centre
- Callala Rural Fire Brigade
- Myola Tourist Park

If you know the location of others, could you please contact Merry on 0439 809 088.



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Regular Community Users

Craft Group: Tuesday (10am)
Friends of Dance: Tuesday (2:30 pm)
Yoga: Thursday (9am)
Advanced Tai Chi: Saturday (8am)
Pickleball (Wed and Thursday afternoons)

Maree ph 0408 250 443
Ann ph 0418 477828
Anna ph 0405 102 234
Jenny ph 04477 43179
Blair ph 0433 926 659

Tennis Lessons: Thursday After School Daisy 0490 537 551

<https://callalabayprogresshall.weebly.com/>



WELCOME to the Callala Community Centre, conveniently located opposite the shops in Emmett St, Callala Bay.

We are one part of the Shoalhaven Community Information Network (SCIN). Our technology has been upgraded to include solar panels, a storage battery, and satellite communications to provide an independent, continuous, communication solution with the Nowra Emergency Centre.

The information can be seen on the screens located at the Centre.

An audio-visual system has been installed in the Centre offering flexible and comprehensive facilities, including;

- **blue tooth; computer connectivity; the ability to operate DVDs and CDs and play personal audio-visual files from a USB drive or SD memory card.**

If you want to have a wedding; memorial service; business conference; group gathering or family reunions the Callala Community Centre is well worth considering.

Our facilities include

- **A well-equipped kitchen; air conditioning; raised stage and off-street parking, and**
- **Crockery, cutlery and glasses and seating for up to 120 people**

**For all hiring enquiries contact Cynthia on 0412 121 737
or email cynirwin974@gmail.com**

Follow us on Facebook at Callala Community Centre.



Callala Public School Parents & Citizens Association Inc.
Emmett Street, Callala Bay, NSW, 2540
callalapandc@gmail.com

Callala Public School P & C Canteen Volunteers Needed

Callala Public School's canteen is operated by the P&C with all profits invested back into the school.

It is a purely volunteer run canteen, with Dan Applebee being our manager who looks after the daily running of the canteen along with the help of other volunteers.

At the present time we only have one other volunteer. In order to keep the canteen operational we need more volunteers. If you have time to spare 9am - 12, be it once a week, fortnightly, monthly or even once a term we would love your help.

Duties include preparation, heating and serving of lunch orders, assisting with window sales at 1st break and some light cleaning.

To volunteer in the canteen you are legally required to complete the following:

Working With Children check, which is obtained through Services NSW. It's free as you are a volunteer.

<https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-for-a-working-with-children-check>

Food Handler Basic Training online through NSW Food Authority

<https://www.foodauthority.nsw.gov.au/training/food-handler-basics-training>

Can you help us? It's only 3 hours and 15 minutes. For more information or assistance in completing the online forms please contact the school office on 44464352 and one of our P & C representatives will contact you, or email us at callalapanc@gmail.com

We look forward to meeting you.

FROM THE DOCTOR

Protecting our community from Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) is a common virus that can cause serious respiratory illness – especially in babies under 6 months, young children, older adults (60+) and people with chronic health conditions. It spreads via droplets (coughing/sneezing) and can survive on surfaces for hours. Symptoms may include a runny nose, cough, fever and/or wheeze or difficulty breathing.

What's new in RSV protection?

Thanks to the National Immunisation Program (NIP) and state RSV protection programs, new options are available to help protect the most vulnerable:

Pregnant women (28–36 weeks gestation) - free RSV vaccine (Abrysvo®) available through the NIP. Why? Vaccination during pregnancy allows protective antibodies to pass to your baby through the placenta; this reduces risk of hospitalisation from RSV in the first few months by around 70%.

Key points are one dose only, it is safe to receive with whooping cough, flu, and COVID-19 vaccines and is available at the Callala Medical Centre.

Infants and children (under 2 years) - free RSV protection with Beyfortus™ (nirsevimab)

through NSW Health. Who is eligible? Infants under 8 months where the mother didn't receive RSV vaccine in pregnancy, babies born <2 weeks after mum's RSV vaccine and children up to 2 years with medical risk conditions (e.g., congenital heart, lung, neuro disorders).

What is it? It is a long-acting antibody (not a vaccine), protects vulnerable infants during RSV season and is safe to give with routine childhood immunisations.

Older Adults (60+ years) – it is not government-funded – private purchase only.

Who can consider RSV vaccination? Adults 75+, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults 60+, and adults 60–74 with underlying medical conditions.

Anyone wanting to reduce RSV risk - speak to your GP about vaccine availability and pricing options and you will need a script. Is it Safe? Yes, all RSV vaccines and antibody products are TGA-approved. Common mild side effects could include injection site pain, tiredness, or headache, and serious reactions are rare. All vaccinations are recorded in the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR).

How do I get vaccinated? Call the Callala Medical Centre for more information

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IPART approves council rate increase of 12 per cent

Published on 16 May 2025



The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) has approved Council's request for a Special Rate Variation (SRV) of 12 per cent from 1 July 2025.

The rate increase of 12 per cent, including the 3.8 per cent rate peg, will see an average increase in rates of around \$3.46 a week.

Acting CEO James Ruprai said the 12 percent rise would go some of the way towards helping Council to prioritise the backlog of maintenance required for critical assets across the city, while also recognising the financial pressures being felt by many in the community.

"At a time when every dollar counts we believe this increase strikes the right balance and will allow Council to get vital work done in the community," Mr Ruprai said.

"A lot of good work has already been carried out by Council staff to find ways to reduce costs and increase revenue internally. This will continue as we progress towards our goal of \$10 million in savings over the next four years," he said.

"Our condition assessment of local roads and community buildings to understand the true cost of renewal is almost complete and this will inform the amount of funding needed to repair and renew these assets."

Shoalhaven City Council was one of six NSW councils to apply to IPART for a special variation to increase our general income from

rates above the rate peg.

IPART carried out a four week consultation period between February and March 2025 and received 46 submissions and 390 survey responses for Shoalhaven City Council. The Tribunal assessed the applications in accordance with the Office of Local Government's criteria and based on compliance with the required criteria, the Tribunal approved the application.

Background

Council staff recommended the Council endorse an SRV following an independent review of the organisation's finances in November 2023 which identified an annual shortfall in the general fund of up to \$35 million dollars.

In December 2024 Councillors resolved to seek a rate increase of 12 per cent and Council submitted its application to IPART in early 2025.

The decision followed a period of community consultation where residents were invited to provide feedback on the proposed SRV options of 8 or 12 per cent. More than two thousand residents provided feedback.

Since Feb 2024, Council has embarked on a range of initiatives to reduce costs and increase revenue. The organisation has made over \$2.5 million so far in ongoing savings through a range of budget reduction and revenue generation measures. The organisation has also implemented other workforce initiatives such as cuts to overtime and reduced recruitment, which has resulted in one-off savings to date of over \$4 million.

In December 2024, Council endorsed the Sustainable Financial Futures Plan, which outlines the organisations commitment to deliver more savings to further improve Council's financial position by \$10 million over the next four years.

For more information visit our Financial Sustainability website.

CULBURRA & DISTRICTS COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES Inc.



Hello EVERYONE,

We would like to tell you a little about our Culburra & Districts Community Health Services Inc.

We are a Not-for-Profit organisation and was incorporated (CDCHS) on 8th March 1988.

We have a great Medical Bus service for you to avail yourselves of if needed, runs Monday-Friday (no Public Holidays). If you have a Medical appointment (only) either locally or into Nowra and you would like transport, please phone:

CULBURRA PHARMACY
187 PRINCE EDWARD AVE
CULBURRA BEACH
02 4447 2382

All you need to do is supply your details –

NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER, DATE & TIME, WHERE YOUR MEDICAL APPOINTMENT IS THAT YOU NEED TO GO TO AND RETURNING FROM.

The Chemist shall put your details onto the Medical Bus run sheet for that day.

We cover the areas of: Currarong, Callala Bay, Callala Beach, Myola, Orient Point, Culburra Beach, Pyree, and Greenwell Point.

A small donation is always welcome as this along with our Op Shop helps to keep this fabulous community service running.

If you would like to be a volunteer Bus Driver (no special licence is required) or Op Shop Gem, please contact:

Contact: Neil Watson (Bus Drivers) 02 4447 4713
or
Pat Porter (op Shop) 0408 019 930.



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Proposal to increase Shoalhaven Water fees

Published on 01 May 2025

Fee increases to cover rising costs, new projects and infrastructure upgrades are being proposed by Shoalhaven Water in the draft budget 2025-26.

The water utility services more than 54,000 properties across the Shoalhaven, while managing in excess of \$2 billion in infrastructure, including 13 wastewater treatment plants, four water treatment plants, 260 pumping stations, four dams and more than 3,200 km of water and sewer pipelines. Acting Director, Matthew Kidd said the increase was part of a 10-year plan to ensure that critical water and sewer infrastructure was maintained and future-proofed for the community.

“We take pride in providing a high-quality service to the community and this increase will allow us to continue improve and maintain everyone’s water and sewerage services for years to come,” Mr Kidd said.

“As part of our long-term financial planning we are taking the necessary steps to ensure we have the funds to carry out future capital works projects,” he said.

“Shoalhaven Water historically has low prices for both water access and water usage charges and we will remain one of the most affordable for water customers in NSW.”

The drinking water usage charge will increase from \$2.50 to \$2.85/kL and the water access

charge will increase from \$145 to \$173.

Modelling using a residential customer’s average water consumption shows the total increase in customers’ annual water and sewer account would be around 10 percent or \$164 for the full year.

The long-term financial planning focus for Shoalhaven Water includes:

- Maintenance and renewal of critical infrastructure that is reaching end of life.
- Planning for and delivery of infrastructure to support the growth of the Shoalhaven in new urban release areas along with infill development areas to meet the needs of the region’s growing community.
- Delivery of Bamarang to Milton Water Trunk Main Stage 2 project at \$175 million. Planning and design is under way with construction to begin in 2030.
- Major sewerage treatment plant refurbishment as part of the Northern Water Recycling Plants at \$100 million. Early feasibility and design has begun with construction to begin in 2030.

To be across the full implications of the changes, customers are encouraged to use Shoalhaven Water’s online tool to calculate water bills for 2025-26.

The proposed fees and charges are on exhibition until 29 May, as part of Council’s draft Delivery Program Operational Plan and draft budget 2025-26. Information and feedback options are available on Council’s Get Involved page.



The new Sharp printer has been purchased through the generosity of a grant from the Veolia Mulwaree Trust.

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COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Emergency Police Fire Ambulance: 000

Nowra Police Local Area

Command: **4421 9699**

Crime Stoppers: **1800 333 000**

(anonymous reporting)

Police Assistance Line: **131 444**

(non emergencies)

State Emergency Service: **132 500**

Jervis Bay Marine Park: **4441 7752**

Callala Medical Centre: **4446 5350**

Shoalhaven Hospital: **4423 9500**

Milton Hospital: **4454 9100**

Shoalhaven City Council

General enquiries, business hours: **4429 3111**

Emergencies & after hours: **1300 293 111**

Justices of the Peace

Howard Duncan: **4446 6535**

Dallas McMaugh: **0400 189 875**

Culburra Beach & District Garden Club

We meet every 3rd Saturday of month

Feb-Nov at 1.30pm

Venue: Culburra Anglican Church
Penguin Head Rd, Culburra Beach.

For more details contact

Doris Carpenter: **4446 5631**

**Culburra & Districts Community
Health Service**

Visit the Op Shop and pick up a bargain!
Proceeds help maintain the Medical Bus
that transfers people to Nowra for medical
appointments from Greenwell Point,
Culburra Beach, Callala Bay & Beach,
Currarong and Myola.

Please contact Culburra Pharmacy on
4447 2382 to arrange transport.

Culburra Beach & Districts Men's Shed

Location: Beside the Banksia Community
Hall, off Fred Evans Lane, Culburra
Beach (IRT entry).

Open: 8.30am to 1.00pm, Monday and
Wednesday.

All enquiries: Phone **0494 055 329** or
email **CBDMS1@outlook.com**

**Culburra Beach Orient Point Men's
Shed Inc.**

Location: Old Scout Hall Cnr West Crest
& Wollumboola Lane

Open 8:30am - 12:30pm Tuesday,
Wednesday and Thursday

All enquiries:

Phone 0498023781 or email
cbopmshed@gmail.com

www.culburrabeachmensshed.org.au

FACEBOOK: Culburra Beach Orient Point
Men's Shed

www.facebook.com/cbopmshed

Callala Community Garden

52 Emmett Street Callala Bay
Opposite The Shops

Victoria Maudson: **0424 590 105**

email: callalacommunitygarden@gmail.com

 /groups/CallalaCommunityGarden

Drop In's welcome

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LJ Hooker

Vanessa is a well known face in our community, a **local of Callala for 28 years** and working locally in real estate for the past **17 years** with extensive knowledge and insight into the local market. Her dedication to customer service, innovation, honesty and openness have been the cornerstones of Vanessa's record of success over many years. Known for her friendliness, understanding, enthusiasm & strong negotiation skills.

A consistent number of repeat referrals is a testament to her expertise.

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