



# CULCAIRN OASIS

CULCAIRN & DISTRICT NEWSLETTER  
NOVEMBER 2023



## Culcairn History Column #2

### 1836 to 1863 – Major Mitchell/Settlers/Commerce

Major Thomas Mitchell, the man responsible for the discovery of the Leadbeater's Cockatoo (otherwise called the Major Mitchell Cockatoo) undertook several long and arduous explorations of different parts of Australia. On one occasion, during his exploration of the Darling River, Murray River and the Murrumbidgee River, he passed through an area he titled "Australia Felix" and remarked upon the well-watered and lightly timbered lands of the region; the area was that of the Riverina and/or Greater Hume and surrounds. On his journey he was escorted by, among others, a local Wiradjuri man who went by the name John Piper. He and Major Mitchell embarked on a few explorations together, as Mr. Piper was one of the few native Australians in the area who was able to speak English well, thus he served not only as a guide, but also as an interpreter for the indigenous tribes they met.

In 1845 two families, the Balfours and the Hentys, names now well known in the area, settled the Eastern Riverina run in Culcairn and called it Round Hill Station. Becoming the eventual home of our main streets namesake, James Balfour. The station house still



John Piper and a local from Lake Benanee

exists and can be visited and rented from the current owner.

In 1848 the Squatters Arms Inn was built by a man named John Post. The hotel ran from 1848 through to 1925. At one point the Hotel was fined 40 shillings due to improper accommodations while being run by Mr. Post's oldest son Edward. Later the Hotel received a publican's license in the name of Mrs. Elizabeth Stamp who ran it for an extended period, and thus, at the time, it came to be known by patrons as Mrs. Stamps Hotel. Now, unfortunately, the ruins of this building lay dormant and are quickly going to rack and ruin. Take a drive down the Morven-Cookardina Road and just before you arrive at Morven-Henty road while heading north-east, you will happen upon the ruins of this historic site.

Cobb & Co. a station settled around 1850, now known as the township of Morven, Cob & Co. began to decline once the railway came through Culcairn. The Bridge Hotel was founded in 1868 and remains operational to this day under the new name, adopted in 1959, of Round Hill Hotel. Maybe for your next night out you could pass through Morven and enjoy a cold one and a meal at the historic Hotel.

~Casey Tucker

## BILLABONG HIGH SCHOOL - CREATIVE WRITING

### Terry

Terry was a very bored man. He had lived his entire life online and in his dull house. He was what we called a 'nobody'. But Terry doesn't matter anymore. Nothing does, as nothing exists anymore. But for the sake of this short story, I'll recount the last moments of Terry's life. Before nothing mattered.

08:01AM is when Terry woke up, which was highly unusual for Terry, as he always woke up at 08:00AM, as his work required him to do so. Slightly unnerved, Terry slowly loped his way through his dull, white house towards his dull, white coffee machine in the hopes of making a dull, white coffee. Except that when he did make a coffee, he didn't. Terry didn't remember there being a rather large hole where his bench and coffee machine were – or used to be. He looked down into the hole, carefully as to not fall down, and the hole stared back at him. Due to him always working at home at his dull, white desk on his dull, silver computer, he never had time to go outside or look out a window, but the new, unstable hole in the wall sort of forced the occasion. He took a gander, expecting to see a grassy field like the background of his computer, but was surprised to find a void staring back at him. There was nothing other than eerie darkness, like the vacuum of space, except there were no stars or planets to light it up, it was PURE darkness...not the evil sort though, it did not froth and bubble like that disgusting coffee that

Terry had always hated, it just stood there. This was exhilarating for Terry; he had never seen something like it before. It was formal and took just one, non-changing form, but it also seemed to dance madly in Terry's eyes. Not long later an impending sense of doom overcame Terry like ice being run down one's back. Two things were the cause of this: one, how was he going to fix that hole and two, Terry's entire life had been a lie. He pinched himself to make sure it wasn't a dream. It wasn't.

Feeling like he had nothing left to lose, because there was nothing left to lose, he dangled his legs off the edge of the hole, tempting the void to snatch him up. As he stared down into the maw of nothingness, he pondered. How long had he lived in that unflattering house for? How many years had he wasted on that average computer just clicking and dragging, clicking and dragging? Who did he work for? Unfortunately, none of these questions would ever be answered. He forgot how long he looked at that hole for, he only knew that he did. Enough was enough. Terry slowly built up his courage to dare the void. When he gathered enough, he slowly began hauling himself downwards, using his underworked hands to lower himself. Tensions were rising, Terry's panic and anxiety were at an all-time high. A drizzle of sweat ran down Terry's arm like a viper, making his fingers slippery. The last thing Terry saw was a thin, blue-green haze.

~Leonard Paton—Year 7

## CULCAIRN GARDEN CLUB

### *The year in review Part 1*

Here are some of the highlights of another busy year at the Culcairn Garden Club.

#### *Coronation Drive Avenue Commemoration project:*

In June 1953, an avenue of trees, known as Coronation Drive, was planted in the Culcairn Show Grounds to celebrate the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. On Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023, to commemorate the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of planting the avenue and to celebrate Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee, a Commemorative plaque and storyboard was unveiled at Coronation Drive.

Many thanks must go to Jennifer and Bruce Christensen who were the driving force behind the organising the planting of a replacement tree by the members of 1953 tree planting group and of the ceremony where the Commemorative plaque and new storyboard were unveiled. Council graciously refurbished the original plaque and funded the creation and erection of the new Storyboard for this event.

There were over 40 people in attendance. Guests of Honour were Kit Middleton and John Ross, representing their fathers, Mr Alister Ross, former Shire President, and Dr Middleton, former local GP; Justin Clancy, State Member for Albury; Annette Schilg, Deputy Mayor GHC; Evelyn Arnold, GM GHC; Ian Forest, Councillor GHC and the members of the 1953 tree planting group. They are John Allitt, Warwick Balfour, Ross Brand, Joyce Gardiner, Lindsay Lowe, Richard Odewahn, Janice Smith, Trevor Smith and Marion Wright. Afterwards, an enjoyable and well-attended afternoon tea, catered by the Culcairn Garden Club, was held in the football club rooms. Do go and have a look at the Coronation Drive

Avenue when you are next in the show grounds!

*Justin Clancy MP and the Coronation Drive Commemoration project:*

Mr Clancy made a report to the NSW Parliament about the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Coronation Drive event which was entered into NSW Parliamentary Hansard. Mr Clancy provided an extract of Hansard to the Culcairn Garden Club detailing his statement.

Maintenance of Culcairn Garden Club public gardens: Sadly, it has become difficult for Garden Club members to maintain both of the Club's gardens. It was unanimously agreed the Olympic Way Garden would be decommissioned, and efforts focussed on maintaining the Valda Hensel Memorial Garden.

A letter was sent to the GHC General Manager regarding the decommissioning of the Olympic Way Garden. Council responded, saying that they would provide basic maintenance of the Olympic Way Garden. We appreciate Council's response and efforts in maintaining this garden.

#### *Valda Hensel Memorial Garden:*

Val Hensel was an active and life member of the Garden Club. She was instrumental in establishing the garden in Railway Parade next to Biti Motors. It is named in her honour. Following representations from the Garden Club, Greater Hume Council refurbished the storyboard which outlines Val Hensel's legacy. Thanks go to Council for their assistance.

## CULCAIRN GARDEN CLUB

The Club meets on the first Sunday of the month, between 2- 4pm, with an afternoon tea after the meeting. New faces are very welcome. If you would like to join us, please contact Lolita Landman, President, on either 0429 660 450 or [lolita12265@hotmail.com](mailto:lolita12265@hotmail.com)

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### IN YOUR GARDEN

Hopefully the cold weather is behind us, and November will bring better periods of growth. Some rain in October has been welcomed.

#### *NOVEMBER:*

Sow seeds or plant seedlings of sunflower, cosmos, lobelia, zinnia and vinca in your flower patch or in your vegie garden to attract pollinators or confuse predators.

Plant out more summer vegies- beans (bush and climbing) tomatoes, cucumbers, mulch well to keep plant roots cool as summer approaches. Stake tall growing tomatoes and remove side shoots to avoid congestion on stems. Citrus are flowering well now- use Epsom salts to help green up leaves. Sprinkle around base of tree and water in well.

Prune back bottlebrush after flowering to keep tidy. When Spring bulbs finish flowering, build up reserves for next year by feeding every fortnight with liquid fertiliser until leaves die down. Lavender is flowering well- requires good drainage and full sun. Continue to dead head roses and feed, this will encourage new flowers for Christmas.

#### *DECEMBER:*

Hard prune Wisteria now, as it won't affect flowers budding in Winter. There are many beautiful colours of Geraniums available, easily grown from cuttings or

available in pots. They will grow well in the garden or in hanging baskets or pots.

Potatoes. Remove any fruit growing on potato plants, so more energy is directed into underground tubers. Pick Tomatoes when they show colour, bring them inside to ripen. You will avoid any "hungry visitors" and encourage more flowers to set fruit. Lift Garlic bulbs as the foliage dies down, air for a few days then hang or store in a box for later use.

#### *CHRISTMAS GIFTS*

A pot of small Succulents looks great and require little watering. Find a shallow round container, and plant small pieces of succulents, (collected or bought). A pot of mixed Herbs is a useful gift too. Try parsley, mint, rosemary, thyme, and sage.

December is the time when New Year Resolutions are made. It's Time to reflect on the joy you've had from your garden through the year, from the chemical free vegies you grew, to the scent of Spring Blooms.

The exercise you gained as you dug, weeded, and mulched was greater than you gained from the gym. The satisfaction of creating something beautiful is great therapy and the perfection of Nature, continues to delight.

Merry Christmas and Happy Gardening in the New Year!

Margaret Pumpa

## BILLABONG HIGH SCHOOL

### DISCURSIVE WRITING PIECE—EXCERPT

#### *Asian Stories and what I've learnt about Australia*

Australia has a very long and complex history with Asia regarding racism. Growing up here, I lived a quaint and serene life. I lived in a rural, mainly white, farming community with a population of 800 people, meaning I knew almost everyone. I spent my days by the pool relaxing and playing netball, in school playing games like Chinese Whispers and wink murder. Some of my favourite lollies were Chicos and Red Skins. Looking back at my childhood I now recognise the microaggressions we got away with as children not knowing any better. We were never told it was wrong, and names like Chicos never received any backlash. We were very sheltered. The first experiences I remember of seeing Asian people were on my numerous trips to Melbourne to go to the hospital. I was taught growing up that Australia was a lucky country where we believed in fairness and equality for everyone. I was shocked to find out just how ignorant we were trained to be. Our history has been littered with racism and combined with cultural ignorance, has resulted in harmful stereotypes that still exist today. Through Asian stories such as Who is an Asian? and Alice Pung's original introduction to Growing up Asian, and with films like Lion we can immerse ourselves in Asian culture and better understand and prevent ignorance. We can shape a better, more honest Australia.

*(The full article is available from Billabong High School)*

~by Patrea Ofak - Year 10

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

With considerable cosmetic changes now evident in the centre of town we are all looking forward to seeing the "final product" in the coming weeks.

Very soon the new paths will be sealed, asphalt will be laid on the roads, new car spaces will be marked and finishing touches added. It will make a massive difference to our town, and both locals and visitors will certainly benefit.

At this point the CDCC would like to separately acknowledge the efforts of the Men's Shed who have refurbished the old bench seats that were removed when work began. President, Cris McPaul, thought it would be a great project for the group and several members have assisted to have them ready to be re-installed. Special thanks goes to Men's Shed members Tony Iorfino (who completed a large portion of the work), Andrew Thompson, Cris McPaul and Alan McPaul. We also appreciate the work of Aaron Dixon (from council) who organised the supply of equipment and materials to get the job done. The seats look fantastic and will certainly be appreciated by those needing a spot to sit in the near future.



### COMMUNITY SUPPORTS GOLD CUP PUBLIC HOLIDAY

At the meeting of Council on Monday 23 October, Albury City Councilors endorsed making an application to the NSW Government for a half-day public holiday for the Albury Gold Cup in 2024 and 2025.

Albury City is required to make an application to the NSW Government for any local public holidays. Since 1998, Council has endorsed an application for a half-day public holiday for the Albury Gold Cup following community consultation.

The decision to apply for the half-day public holiday in 2024 and 2025 comes after consultation targeting tourism partners, the business community, the education, banking and local transport sectors, and the wider community via an online survey.

Councilors also resolved to receive a report from staff on options for future opportunity for a full day public holiday for the Gold Cup event.

Albury City will make the application to the NSW Government by 10 November 2023.

~ [www.alburycity.nsw.gov.au](http://www.alburycity.nsw.gov.au)

### HUME LEAGUE LEGEND MERV WEGENER HAS DIED AT THE AGE OF 86



Family, friends and football are mourning the death of Hume League colossus Merv Wegener.

Wegener, 86, died on the night of Wednesday 25th of October surrounded by his family in hospital in Albury.

His health, which had gradually gone downhill over the past 12 months, became worse in recent weeks and then deteriorated suddenly, leading to heart failure.

Wegener will be remembered as one of country football's greatest servants after a life dedicated to the game and in particular the Hume League.

~By Steve Tervet

*(Taken from an article in the Wagga Daily Advertiser)*

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MEMBER FOR ALBURY

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## CULCAIRN MPS NEWS

Hello and welcome to news from the residents at the Culcairn MPS.

We have had a very busy October. Due to a mistake from the activity officer, we missed out on putting our items into the local show. A few of our residents were upset about this so we decided that we would hold our very own mini show. We have had a wonderful time creating pieces of art, cooking, taking photos, colouring competition and entering in our own flowers and vegetables grown here. There were carnival games out in the courtyard for all to enjoy. All residents entered something along with several staff members. The children from the preschool entered our colouring competition.



Our resident Georgie has just been awarded with an honourable mention from the NSW health awards for all her volunteer work she does within the facility for staff and her fellow residents. Georgie works hard with our health share team, and we are all so proud of her to be recognised at the highest level. Well done Georgie.

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## HENTY-CULCAIRN PROBUS

We met at Henty, Wednesday 11th October, 2023. Probus Clubs came from Wagga Wagga, Murrumbidgee, Albury, Hume and Holbrook to join us in celebration of Probus month.

The presidents of each Club told of their activities which ranged from walking and book clubs to making rugs in association with Wrap With Love and supportive visiting to fire affected Corryong. Julie and Stephen Colley were invited to join Probus and presented with name badges.

Our main speaker was Bernard Clarke and he told of his love of photography and the creatures that he photographs. Bernard showed an amazing slide show with beautiful music.

President Rhonda Walmsley presented Bernard with a Probus pen as a token of our thanks.

We had lunch for 100 people with lots of volunteers to be thanked for having made big efforts to give us a wonderful day.

Our next meeting will be at Culcairn Bowling Club, second Wednesday of November. 9.30 am for a 10.00 am start. We hope to see you there.

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## WE NEED YOU!

### ~OASIS HELPERS NEEDED~

Our team of volunteers needs some manpower! If you are in a position to support the Oasis team with folding and delivery, we'd love to hear from you. Please email [culcainoasis@outlook.com](mailto:culcainoasis@outlook.com) or phone David Gilmore on 6029 8291 - *Please help us keep this town gem alive.*



## In Home Food - Social Support - Transport

Our services can help to support you through times when you just aren't feeling well or for longer periods to help you meet your nutritional and social needs. Our Meals meet the National Meal Guidelines for older people, containing adequate protein and other increased nutrients that older people require to stay strong and healthy.

Our Outreach Hub staff are visiting the Culcairn Shire offices on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November between 10.30am and 12 noon. Look out for our vehicle and signage! This will be the last Outreach Hub hosted in Culcairn on a monthly basis. We are currently restructuring the service and will provide the service on an appointment basis going forward. Please call us anytime to arrange one on one support.

Our services can help with nutritious, delivered meals, food preparation and cooking in your own home, social support - which can provide a friendly visitor, assistance to take you shopping and pay bills or go to medical appointments or any minor home help such as changing a light globe and Transport services. It also provides small group activities such as a movie group and a Men's Group.

We can also support transport to appointments and shopping services either locally in Culcairn, Holbrook, Jindera or more widely to Albury or Wagga Wagga. We have very experienced staff and volunteers working to support people access transport and other services.

To access our services, you must be registered with My Aged Care. We are happy to help you with any My Aged Care enquires and registration, as well as the process of registering to receive referrals for our services.

You can also access our services if you are on a Home Car Package. It's your choice - Speak to your provider and let them know you wish to use our meals or other services. If you would like more information, please give the office a call on 0260363677. You can also call My Aged Care direct on 1800 200 422 to access our services. If you have any questions, please give Sue a call on 02 60363677.

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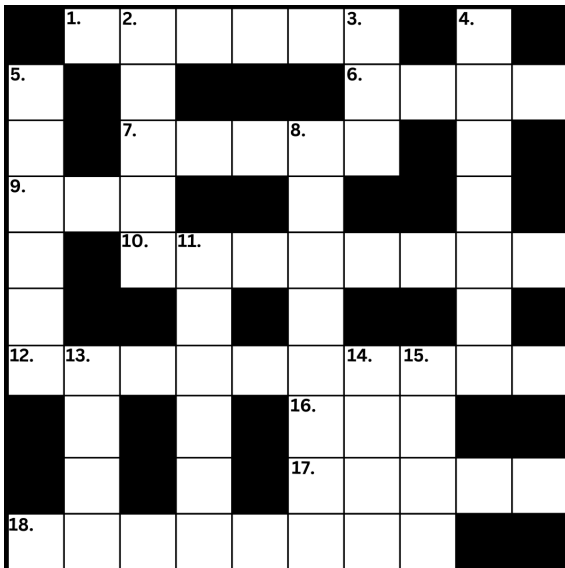
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subscription where you will now see each page of today's newspaper (rather than text only). Go to [www.rrl.nsw.gov.au/newspapers/](http://www.rrl.nsw.gov.au/newspapers/). You can also read The Daily Advertiser and many more news sources. If not a library member, it is so easy to join. You can do this online at [www.rrl.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rrl.nsw.gov.au) or call in to your library.

## CULCAIRN OASIS CROSSWORD #5



### Across

1. Bring into harmony [6]
6. Draw off from sediment [4]
7. Dip or dance [5]
9. Small portion [3]
10. Insistent [8]
12. Native Australian nuts [10]
16. Group of whales [3]
17. A song of triumph [5]
18. Disentangles [8]

### Down

2. One of the senses [5]
3. An age [3]
4. Wind instrument made from clay [7]
5. Preserve the dead [6]
8. European strong, dry alcohol [8]
11. Grassland [8]
13. Indefinite period [4]
14. Watery defense [4]
15. A middle day (Roman) [4]

~ Created by Casey Tucker

## SONNET 18

Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?  
 Thou art more lovely and more temperate:  
 Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,  
 And summer's lease hath all too short a date;  
 Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines,  
 And often is his gold complexion dimm'd;  
 And every fair from fair sometime declines,  
 By chance or nature's changing course untrimm'd;  
 But thy eternal summer shall not fade,  
 Nor lose possession of that fair thou ow'st;  
 Nor shall death brag thou wander'st in his shade,  
 When in eternal lines to time thou grow'st:  
 So long as men can breathe or eyes can see,  
 So long lives this, and this gives life to thee.

-William Shakespeare

## LIFE LESSONS #5

In an Irish convent, there lived Mother Superior. She had an illness and hadn't spoken for months. She was old and only relied on the food served to her by the other nuns. A young man gave baskets treats to the convent. He said they were a gift to the Mother Superior. After all, she would always listen to his troubles, and give advice.

One day, he told the nuns he couldn't send gifts anymore, Mother Superior wasn't getting better.

Upon hearing this news, the other nuns were devastated. But they accepted the man's decision, it was out of their hands. A fiery nun named Sister Mary thought of a solution. One that involved Irish whiskey! When she got hold of the Whiskey, she poured a generous amount into the milk served to Mother Superior in the mornings. When the sick nun drank it, it worked! Mother Superior began speaking — and she did almost non-stop. It was a temporary, but, it got the job done. The sick nun spoke to the young man. And the baskets kept coming!

*Moral lesson: Sometimes, the solution to a problem is unconventional. And if you want to solve it, you need to think outside the box.*



Will Write For Chocolate

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### Culcairn Cricket Club Results

**Round 1** - Saturday, 21 October 2023  
Rand H13 – Forfeit

~  
Culcairn H13 -

**Round 2** - Saturday, 28 October 2023  
Osborne H13 - 2/97(23)

~  
Culcairn H13 - 8/87(25)

#### UPCOMING

**Round 3** - Saturday, 04 November 2023  
Holbrook H13

~  
Culcairn H13  
08:30 AM, Sat, 04 Nov 23  
Holbrook Recreation Reserve / Holbrook Sporting Complex

**Round 1** - Saturday, 14 October 2023  
Culcairn H1 - 10/90 (19.4)

~  
The Rock Yerong Creek H1 - 7/185 (40)

**Round 2** - Saturday, 21 October 2023  
Osborne H1 - 7/150 (38)

~  
Culcairn H1 - 10/149 (40)

**Round 3** - Saturday, 28 October 2023  
Brocklesby-Burrumbuttock H1 - 7/270 (40)

~  
Culcairn H1 - 10/96 (24.2)

#### UPCOMING

**Round 4** - Saturday, 04 November 2023  
Culcairn H1

~  
Holbrook H1  
01:00 PM, Sat, 04 Nov 23  
Culcairn Football Ground / Culcairn Sportsground

**Round 1** - Saturday, 14 October 2023  
Lockhart H2 - 5/200 (35)

~  
Culcairn H2 - 6/191 (35)

**Round 2** - Saturday, 21 October 2023  
Culcairn H2 - 7/139 (31)

~  
Osborne H2 - 9/135 (35)

**Round 3** - Saturday, 28 October 2023  
Culcairn H2 - 3/176 (24)

~  
Brocklesby-Burrumbuttock H2 -10/173 (34.2)

#### UPCOMING

**Round 4** - Saturday, 04 November 2023  
Holbrook H2

~  
Culcairn H2  
01:00 PM, Sat, 04 Nov 23  
Holbrook Recreation Reserve / Holbrook Sporting Complex



### LOCAL TRANSPORT MADE EASY

Available to All Residents for medical appointments, local shopping, social purposes or other in Culcairn. For more information or bookings call David Gilmore 02 6029 8291 or Jan Scheuner 0488 212 905. P.S. If anyone else would like to volunteer their services please contact David or Jan.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

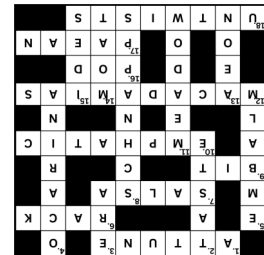
We want to continue improving the content of the Culcairn Oasis Newsletter, as such we would love our readers input. If you have any suggestions for inclusions or improvements that could be made, please feel free to write to our email [culcairnoasis@outlook.com](mailto:culcairnoasis@outlook.com) or 1 South Street, Culcairn NSW 2660.

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ADVERTISING SIZES	CHARGES
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1/8 page	\$22.00
1/4 page	\$44.00
1/2 page (check for availability)	\$88.00
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Pay for 5 ads get 1 free, pay for 10 get 2 free	

If you are a new advertiser, email us for information & a booking form.

### DEADLINE

**Next deadline - 12pm Tues 5th December 2023**

Folding Date– Fri 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 1pm  
Delivery Date - Wed 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023

We prefer articles and advertising to be emailed to: [culcairnoasis@outlook.com](mailto:culcairnoasis@outlook.com) or phone 02 6029 8291 for more information.



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  - Young Living Youth Yr 7-12 - Fridays 6:30-8:30pm
  - Little Living Playspace 0-5yrs - Tues 9:30-11:30am
- stay up to date on Facebook and Instagram.



Every Tuesday during the school term 9:30am-11:30am

0-5yrs

37-39 Henty St Culcairn  
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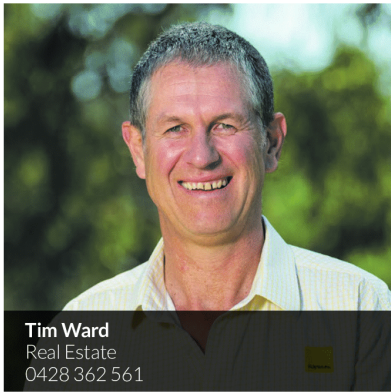
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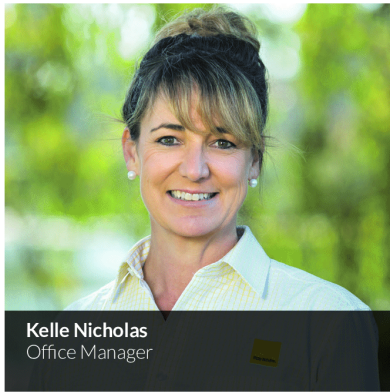
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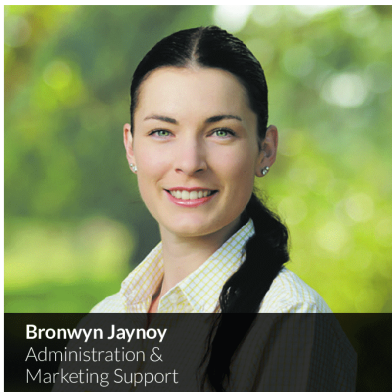


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