

B L I B L I BULLETIN

ISSUE 49 | WINTER 2023



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Bli Bli

"Our River Community"

The Bli Bli Public Hall & Community Association Inc is the parent organisation of Bli Bli's own local Magazine, distributed FREE to Bli Bli and the surrounding district.

PO Box 1, Bli Bli 4560

ADVERTISING
ads@blibli.qld.au

Editorial contributions welcome
editor@blibli.qld.au

Bli Bli Public Hall & Community Association Inc Meetings
7.30 - 9.00pm

Third Tuesday each month
Bli Bli Public Hall

All Residents are welcome.
secretary@blibli.qld.au

Hall Bookings & Old Church
Bookings: 0427 635 558

bookings@blibli.qld.au

Business Number 22132715

Design and Print
BrandGrowth - 0431 771 059

Front cover image -
ANZAC Day 2023



A message from

THE BLI BLI COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

This past 3 months have been particularly busy for the Community Association. We have been working with Karen Simpson for some time now using her photos in the Bulletin and so we were keen to be able to repay the favour and enable her to exhibit some of her works. She was joined by 3 artists Cam and Helen Minto and Ursula Kelly on Sunday 19 March and collectively they filled the Hall with displays. It was wonderful that so many people took the opportunity to check out the display and meet the artists. As a result of its success another day is being planned for later in the year.

Following our AGM on 21 March the Community Association facilitated a public consultation evening at the Bli Bli State School Hall in respect to the proposed Bli Bli Northern Village Development. It was an opportunity for people to ask questions and try and find out more about the proposed development. As is well known now the developer has lodged their notice in respect to their application for a material change of use to the planning scheme with public submissions open until 30 June.

As a result of the interest in the development the May monthly meeting of the Community Association attracted quite some attention with Cr Maria Suarez on hand to address the meeting. Our next meeting on Tuesday 20 June is sure to attract more interest and we anticipate that Cr Suarez will also be joined by local state member Dan Purdie MP where traffic is sure to be an agenda item.

Friday 14 April saw the unveiling and dedication of the new cenotaph with a good size crowd gathered for the event. Then the ANZAC Day service at the new cenotaph saw a larger than expected crowd gather for a fitting service being the very first held in Bli Bli. This clearly will be an annual event which will see the 2 local schools working together with the broader community to host a service each year. The plan is to involve some local returned service men and women whom maybe interested in being on a steering committee. If this is of interest, please get in touch with the Community Association.

Finally, the Old Church received a new outside coat which has been in the planning stage for over 12 months. It is great to see the building looking fresh again and hopefully this time the paint will last a little bit longer.

Hopefully the Community Garden area behind the Old Hall will take shape shortly. Some progress has occurred, and we are just waiting on the final stages for the area to be cleared and safe for the raised gardens to be constructed. Once that occurs the interest group will be able to get going to fill the area with gardens and produce which will be a great community meeting space.

The Bli Bli Community Association acknowledges the continued support received from the Sunshine Coast Council by its grants program.




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Dan PURDIE MP
Member for **Ninderry**
Shadow Minister for Police and Counter Terrorism
Shadow Minister for Corrective Services

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Councillor Maria Suarez
Division 9
Environment and Liveability Portfolio

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sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au

Sunshine Coast COUNCIL
Our region. Healthy. Smart. Creative.

An update from your LOCAL STATE MEMBER, DAN PURDIE MEMBER FOR NINDERRY

Just in case you missed it, a community campaign has been launched to improve pedestrian safety and access in Bli Bli, ahead of the upcoming State Budget.

Locals have been telling me that pedestrian safety is one of their top concerns, and although I've raised the issue with TMR on numerous occasions, we've always been told there's no funding.

An accident earlier this year which saw a school student narrowly avoid serious injury after being hit by a car has reignited the need to address the matter, and we're calling on locals to support the campaign by signing the petition which calls on the State Government to fund safety improvements in the State Budget.

We all know that Bli Bli is one of the fastest growing areas on the Sunshine Coast, and for good reason, but unfortunately, infrastructure hasn't kept pace, and there is a lack of pathways connecting residents with the main shopping and commercial area.

With thousands more families and seniors now calling the area home, there's a real need for better pedestrian facilities. A big thank you to Bli Bli local Natalie Tattam, who was brave enough to share her daughter's story in order to get something done.

The campaign is also being supported by the Bli Bli Community Association, which has long been behind a push for better pedestrian access.

To sign the petition, simply scan the QR code below, or go to <https://queensland.typeform.com/to/THi4ORer>

In other road-related infrastructure news, I recently asked the Transport Minister for an update on the \$800,000 in funding that was re-announced earlier this year to start planning upgrades of the Bli Bli bridge.

The Minister confirmed that around \$100,000 of the funding has been spent to date on an assessment of the existing bridge,

including surveying, preliminary assessments and transport modelling, as well as preparing procurement documentation.

Further funding will be allocated to planning activities to determine options for a future bridge upgrade, including an analysis of future transport demands, active transport requirements and social, cultural and environmental considerations.


With the remainder of the \$800,000 funding to be spent in the upcoming financial year, this is a project I will be closely monitoring, and I look forward to providing regular updates as I receive them.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Dan Purdie MP
Member for Ninderry



To sign the petition, simply scan the QR code



A word from CR MARIA SUAREZ DIVISION 9 - SUNSHINE COAST COUNCIL

BLI BLI CENOTAPH

The first ANZAC Day ceremony at the new Bli Bli Cenotaph was very special. I felt privileged to play in creating a united place of remembrance for the Bli Bli and Parklakes communities. Sunshine Coast and Regional District RSL Inc. had been working on this since 2015, with the Veterans In Step group an integral part of the process, and thoughtful design by Cam Crossley.

Sunshine Coast and Regional District RSL received an Australian Government Grant for \$110,000 yet this still wasn't enough to complete the project.

Through additional funding sources making Sunshine Coast Council were able to contribute \$59,000 to make this project happen.

Huge thanks to Stephen who managed the project delivery, (and any hiccups along the way), as well as the Parks and Gardens team and Permits team for their work in ensuring all elements were covered and paperwork in order.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Did you know that with just 10 minutes of your time, you could help protect our environment and improve liveability for future generations?

Council is updating its Environment and Liveability Strategy, which helps manage growth and shape our region's future, and we want residents to tell us what issues most need to be addressed, and which priority actions are required. Complete the short survey by May 26 on the Have Your Say website.

Kangaroos, wallabies and pademelons (known as macropods) are much-loved animals of our coastal area. The Draft Sunshine Coast Macropod Conservation Plan calls for a strong agency partnerships and outlines a list of actions to help the species thrive. I invite you to have your say on both of these issues and share your view at haveyoursay.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au Before June 5, 2023.

GRANTS FOR RURAL PROPERTY OWNERS OPEN NOW

Rural landowners can apply for financial help to complete on-ground environment projects on their private property, with Sunshine Coast Council's Landholder Environment Grants now open. Grants of up to \$15,000 are available for projects like bush regeneration; reducing sediment loss on farms; control of environmental weeds; modifying non-boundary fencing to make it wildlife friendly; revegetation of degraded areas; and to establish vegetation corridors and buffer zones. Please read the Landholder Environment Grant Guidelines at www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/grants to submit your expression of interest before 14 August 2023.

DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION

It's important residents know about development in their area and Council have a fantastic online tool called Developmenti, where you can access information and receive alerts about current applications. To learn how to use the site and access the information visit <https://www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/Development/Development-Tools-and-Guidelines/Development-i>

ENTRIES OPEN FOR WildHeART STUDENT ART PRIZE

Does your child like to draw? Unleash their creativity and enter your art into the competition for native Australian flora and fauna art and be in with the chance to win a share of \$3000. The WildHeART Student Art prize is a children's art exhibition with three age categories. Entries close 16 July. Visit the "See and Do" on botanic-garden.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au for competition details.

As always, please contact council direct for any service requests such as road hazards, graffiti, dumped rubbish, parking, parks, potholes, roads, trees and waste collections. Contact details or service request forms are available at www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au or call 5475 7272

If you have any other issues or suggestions to discuss, please contact me on 5475 9810 or maria.suarez@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au.

Cr. Maria Suarez
Division 9 – Sunshine Coast Council





Ted O'BRIEN MP
Federal Member for **Fairfax**

📍 17 Southern Drive, Maroochydore QLD 4558 📞 07 5479 2800
✉️ ted.obrien.mp@aph.gov.au 🌐 tedobrien.com.au 📺 TedOBrienMP

A message from

TED O'BRIEN - FEDERAL MEMBER FOR FAIRFAX

Phone: 5479 2800 Email: ted.obrien.mp@aph.gov.au Web: www.tedobrien.com.au
Mail: PO Box 1978, Maroochydore QLD 4558

Ted with Ian Hall at the opening of the Bli Bli Cenotaph



NEW CENOTAPH IN TIME FOR ANZAC DAY

They told me they wanted it constructed before ANZAC Day, and they did it!

Congratulations to the Bli Bli community - especially the Sunshine Coast & Regional District RSL Sub Branch - on their new cenotaph. It was a pleasure to join local veterans at its unveiling today.

While I helped secure nearly \$110,000 for the cenotaph through the former Coalition Government's Salute Your Service program, it's the local community who did the really hard work and made it happen.

Standing 3.4 metres high, it will be a focal point for Bli Bli residents to commemorate and honour the men and women of our defence force who have served, or continue to serve, in war, conflict and peacekeeping operations.

CYBER SECURITY HIGHLIGHTED AT THE FAIRFAX SENIORS FORUM

My 2023 Seniors Forum was held recently where we discussed cyber security.

Online safety continues to be a priority issue and it was great to hear from the experts - NBN Australia, IDCARE and CAPA Services.

Preventing scammers from reaching our information was the number one message, and below are the top three points taken from the presentations on the day:

1. Pause - if you receive unsolicited contact from someone (phone call or email), pause and cease contact to verify what they are saying. Contact the organisation directly using publicly available contact points;
2. Never allow anyone remote access to your computer unless YOU have initiated it; and
3. Consider using a password manager and multi-factor authorisation apps for added layers of security.

Thank you to Living Choice Twin Waters for hosting the Forum.

If you or a loved one thinks they may have been scammed, contact iDCare on 1800 595 160 or www.idcare.org.

NEW LOCAL ROADS

I am proud to have secured 80% for the \$301 million upgrade of the Maroochydore-Mons Rd Interchange on the Bruce Highway a few years ago.

The project reached two key milestone recently, with the opening of the new eastern and western service roads to traffic at Forest Glen and Chevallum respectively.

The practical benefit of these service roads is that motorists, pedestrians and cyclists no longer have to enter the Bruce Highway for local commutes around this area; getting people home sooner and safer.

If you travel the Bruce regularly, you would also have noticed that the speed limit is again 110 km/hr through Forest Glen/Chevallum

COMMUNITY PHARMACIES

A number of community pharmacies on the Sunshine Coast are under threat due to Labor's new policy on dispensing medicines.

My Coalition colleagues and I have called for the government to guarantee that its new policy will NOT:

- harm the viability of community pharmacies;
- adversely affect medicine supplies; and
- increase medicine stockpiling and wastage.

If you're visiting a community pharmacy, please be conscious of the pressure they're under. Some pharmacists are worried about the sustainability of their business model and many staff worry about the future of their jobs.

FAIRFAX BIGGEST SURVEY

Thank you to everyone who contributed to my 2023 Biggest Survey.

With 1,783 submissions, I'm currently reviewing your responses and will report back to you on the results in a later edition of the Bli Bli Bulletin. Stay tuned.



IT HAS BEEN A BUSY FEW MONTHS AT THE SHED.

We have been entertained by the Sunshine Coast Caring Clowns, Rocco and Toto, with their sleight of hand tricks and humorous antics (at our expense).

A team from the Maroochydore Fire Brigade paid us a visit but just as the Team Leader began to talk about the importance of checking and maintaining smoke alarms, they received a call about an emergency and had to leave immediately with siren sounding. We hope they will be back to complete their presentation.

ANZAC Day saw a good attendance by members at the Cotton Tree service where one of our members, ex RAN, laid a wreath on behalf of the Shed. The writer attended the Bli Bli service and was impressed with the organization, particularly the involvement of local Primary Schools.

Members held their own service of remembrance with talks on the origin of ANZAC Day (a Queensland idea), Casualties of war and its effects and one told of his father's

experiences as a POW of the Japanese. This was followed by The Ode, one minutes silence and the Last Post.

Dan Purdy MP, Member for Ninderry, addressed us with his thoughts on the problems with juvenile crime in Queensland. Well received and prompted many questions from the floor.

Readers may have seen on TV the "dome home" being constructed at Flaxton. The clip featured a fire pit which was built by members in our metal workshop.

We continue to support Uban Angels with vegetables from our gardens.

In April the Camera Group had a field trip to Montville Gardens which gave members an opportunity to take photos of the lakes and flora in the area near the car park. Some beautiful photos were taken.

There is always something happening at the Maroochy Men's Shed. For information, please contact Ian Mackay on 0407898430



21

SARAH ROBERTS
17 Years A Bli Bli Local

Century 21 on Duporth and Sarah Roberts specifically were absolutely amazing in every aspect of our journey. Sarah was friendly, knowledgeable and very easy to contact with any questions. She was very approachable and a big part of the reason we ended up purchasing the property we did.

I would definitely recommend Sarah to anyone who is selling a property or looking for a new home. She will communicate with you every step of the way and she goes above and beyond in her job and it shows. She is an asset to Century 21 and the profession. Would definitely recommend to anyone who needs an agent!

Suzanne Graham - May 2023

0422 242 425
sarah.roberts@century21.com.au

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UNVEILING & DEDICATION OF THE BLI BLI CENOTAPH

On Friday 14 April an unveiling and dedication service was held at the location of the new Bli Bli Cenotaph in Honour Avenue Parklakes. The service was open to the general public with various invited dignitaries. A good size crowd gathered for the service to be welcomed by District President of RSL Sunshine Coast and Regional District Mr Ian Hall OAM. The assembled crowd also heard from Ted O'Brien MP and Mayor Mark Jamieson. Both gave some background as to how the Cenotaph came about and the involvement of both the Federal Government and Sunshine Coast Council financially to make it happen. They both spoke about the importance of the Cenotaph and how it can bring a community together.

Following a prayer by Padre Davide Eden and a rendition of the Advance Australia Fair by the Halcyon Choir, the dignitaries collectively cut the ribbon and unwrapped the Cenotaph.

A special mention needs to be made of Cam Crossley a local Sunshine Coast Sculptor who was commissioned to make the Cenotaph. The end product has been very well received by all as a fitting design for the area and credit must go to Cam Crossley. One of the prior owners of the land when it was a sugar cane farm Max Perren was present and said that "my father would be very happy to see where the Cenotaph has been located and what has been achieved."



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MISSION STATEMENT

Bli Bli State School inspires children to confidently contribute to our dynamic world through strong foundations of commitment, creativity, character and community.



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Bli Bli State School continues to shine in our community. In 2023 we joined our Bli Bli community to participate in the inaugural ANZAC service at our new cenotaph while also supporting the services held at Mudjimba and Halcyon.

We are very proud of our students including those who officially represented the school in these events, such as choir, marching, flagbearers, speakers, and wreath layers, as well as those who were present in the large crowds at the services.

Within our school we continue to focus on our 5 key improvement areas:

- 21st Century Curriculum
- Digital Futures
- Literacy and Numeracy in Focus
- Diversity – everyone belongs
- Positive Culture 4 Learning

Within this, our staff and students continue to work hard in our classrooms, with quality teaching and learning at the forefront of every day. We are loving the journey of 'focused reading' and will share more in the next Bulletin.

Bli Bli State School is proud to play a strong role in our amazing community, and welcome all to visit, and participate in our journey of 'Equity and Excellence' in education.

Monique Pfingst
Principal



Bli Bli School Tour

EXPERIENCE WHAT Bli Bli State School HAS TO OFFER YOUR CHILDREN ON A TOUR OF OUR GREAT SCHOOL.

If you are considering enrolling at Bli Bli State School, we encourage you to visit the school for one of our regular school tours.

After your campus tour you are welcome to stay and chat with our staff. All tours commence from the administration building of the school.



TOUR DATES

- 9.15am Friday 21st July 2023
- 9.15am Thursday 10th August 2023
- 5.30pm Wednesday 23rd August 2023



Bli Bli State School
 in association with Playgroup Queensland
 warmly invite you to join us for

Buzzy Bees

Playgroup

EVERY TUESDAY & THURSDAY
 9.00AM - 10.30AM
 OSHC Room, Bli Bli State School

Hosted by Bli Bli State School staff



PLEASE CALL 5458 2111
 TO SIGN UP OR FOR MORE INFORMATION



Wednesday 21st June and Thursday 22nd June 2023

6.30pm (doors open at 6pm)

\$20 per adult, \$10 per school-age child

Tickets on sale from Monday 23 May online at

<https://schoolshoponline.net.au/blibliss/eventdetails.aspx?ID=618>

Bli Bli State School's bi-annual musical has been rehearsing since the start of the year. 'Where The Heart Is' is a musical about families and was written by extension Year 5 writing students.

It tells a story of brother and sister, Robert and Julia who don't always see eye to eye. They get caught up in a magical journey helping fauns, Caley and Forrest, find their way home. On their journey, they realise that despite their differences, home is where the heart is.

We have an exceptional Performing Arts program and the talent of our students shines in every rehearsal. We have 177 students from Years 3 - 6 performing on stage, where they are joined by staff, our instrumental music students and guitar students. Our backstage and dressing room crew consist of past Bli Bli students. Our P and C provide food for dinner and interval. It is wonderful to have our extended Bli Bli community come together for two nights of spectacular performances.

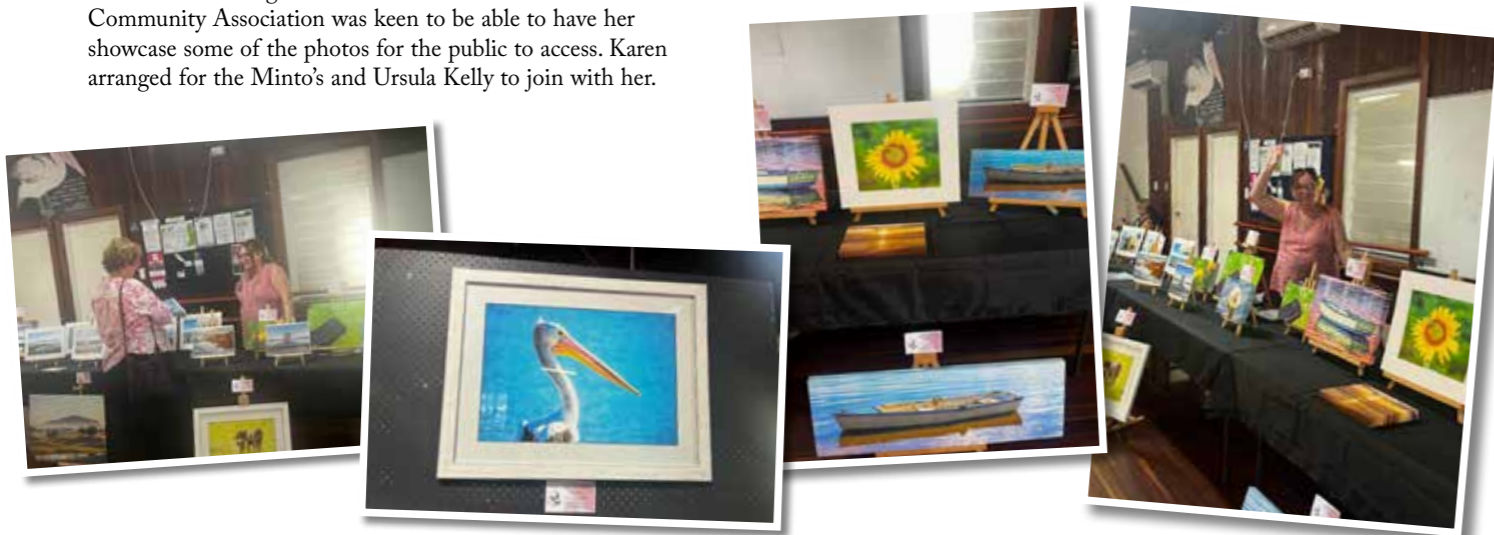


PHOTOGRAPHY AND ART EXHIBITION

On Sunday 19 March the Community Association partnered with a number of local artists to host in the Community Hall a Photography and Art Exhibition showcasing Photography by Karen Simpson and Art by Cam and Helen Minto and Ursula Kelly.

Karen Simpson is well known in the area for the photos she has been taking in and around Bli Bli and so the Community Association was keen to be able to have her showcase some of the photos for the public to access. Karen arranged for the Minto's and Ursula Kelly to join with her.

The day was very successful with a steady stream of people through the doors looking at the display as well as buying various items that were for sale. As a result of the success of the day another similar event has been planned for Sunday 22nd October but on a larger scale across both the Hall and Church with other artists being invited to join. So, make sure you put this date on your calendar as it is sure to be another wonderful local event.



McMartin's Strawberry Farm

PICK YOUR OWN STRAWBERRIES

You can choose to either buy from the fridge or pick your own (PYO) strawberries.



CAFE - serves devonshire teas with delicious home made scones, barista coffee, smoothies, sundaes, light lunches and of course our award winning ice cream. We cater for group morning teas up to 50 people, so why not make your next morning tea outing to the Strawberry Farm. You can sit back and relax in the tranquil surroundings while the children play on the playground.

MARKETS - you can find us at the markets
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You're Welcome at the MAROOCHY RIVER GOLF CLUB

There's nothing better than sitting down for a great meal with family and friends, watching the sunset. The terraced deck at Maroochy River Golf Club (MRGC) is the place to be, either after golf or having a relaxing meal in a family friendly atmosphere. It is great to see and hear of so many locals utilising the deck area with expansive views to Mount Coolum. Bli Bli locals and nearby residents are always welcome to enjoy the club facilities.

MRGC was awarded one of the top 100 Golf Course in Australia. So if you're planning a round of golf on one of Australia's best courses, call the Pro Shop on (07) 5457 0900.

Here's some of what else we offer for members and guests.

CANE CUTTERS BAR & BISTRO

If you are thinking of having a party, (and we are currently catering for every type of party – children's & adult birthdays, special occasions, work parties), the Cane Cutters Catering crew can offer all sorts of options for you.

We have 17 taps of different beers, including a few local craft beer favourites. Families and friends love coming out in the fresh air, sharing some value time, having some drinks and staying for a pizza or snack. Guests enjoy the Cane Cutters Bar & Bistro facilities and taking in the great views of the golf course to the North, with Mount Coolum on the horizon, as the sunset glistens across the water in a friendly family atmosphere.

The Friday night raffles are proving very popular, with raffle prizes up for grabs from 7pm. These include meat trays, breakfast trays, food and beverage vouchers and mini golf vouchers. After the raffles, the membership draw starts, where members who are present have the chance to win thousands of dollars. The Courtesy Bus also runs on Fridays from 5pm to bring patrons to and from the club.

With easy parking the Cane Cutters Bar & Bistro has a gaming room, and is open every day for coffee & cake. We also have mouth-watering lunches and dinner with a new great menu, plus a new head Chef!

MINI GOLF

The Maroochy River Mini Golf course (adjacent to the Clubhouse) is very popular with families and groups who play 18 holes of mini golf with specially designed putters and balls.

For those who are still not sure what mini golf is, it is a supercharged version of the old 'putt putt' game but without clowns faces and animal obstacles etc... Instead, it has classy, landscaped humps & hollows, delightful water features and pretend sand traps. Overhead

Maroochy River Golf Club – Sit back and relax on the terrace deck of the Cane Cutters Bar & Bistro...

lighting for the evening players and great background music make the mini golf so much better! There are 18 holes with two challenge levels to choose from.... An easy one for relaxed fun players and a harder one for players who are looking for a bit of a challenge.

The mini golf course is open from 9.00am every day until late, 7 days a week. Game costs are just \$17 for adults and \$12 for children. A family of 4 is only \$45.

Thursdays is Mini Golf Putt 'n Parmi for lunch or dinner. Get the family together or call on your mates, and let's play Mini Golf. Enjoy a beautiful meal at the Cane Cutters Bar & Bistro before or after you hit the course, all for only \$35.00 per person. Who doesn't love a good Parmigiana with family & friends for lunch or dinner? Here's what is included - 18 holes of Mini Golf, Chicken Parmigiana, Chips & Salad on Thursdays only.

A special Friday Family Pizza Deal is only \$70 and provides mini golf games for 2 adults and 2 children (extra children only \$5-max 2 extra), an 11-inch pizza, bowl of hot chips and jug of Schweppes soft drink! It's a great thing to do with the family before the raffles start.

There is also a full-length driving range open every day and some evenings, not to mention 18 holes of championship golf. Bring your clubs, bring your family, it's all here at MRGC.

For table reservations or to book the Courtesy Bus call Reception on 5373 1000. Table bookings are recommended (particularly on Friday nights) so please email bookings@maroochyrivergolfclub.com.au. For more information on club facilities, golf or mini golf, go to maroochyrivergolfclub.com.au.

Bli Bli and nearby residents are always welcome. Become a social member for just \$5 and receive club discounts at the Cane Cutters Bar & Bistro. We hope to see you soon....



You're welcome at the club



- New Menu and New Head Chef
- Enjoy magnificent views
- Family friendly atmosphere
- Friday Night Raffles & Members Draw
- 17 Taps of Beer including Local Craft Favourites



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BAR & BISTRO



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Let's Play

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374 David Low Way, Bli Bli Qld. 4560 (07) 5373 1000

ANZAC DAY

This ANZAC Day saw the inaugural service being held in the Bli Bli area. With a long history back to WW1 of Bli Bli providing soldiers to the Australian Armed Forces, it was fitting that finally a local meeting point has been established to be able to hold such a service.

The Bli Bli service has been established at a time that allows for people to attend dawn services in other areas and then meet at 9am. The organisers were expecting a reasonable crowd, but were thrilled to see the large crowd that did turn out. The sight of people wondering down the hill from their home with their children for the services at the new Cenotaph was exactly what had been hoped in the location of the Cenotaph at the end of Honour Avenue.

The service commenced with a welcome from the District RSL President Mr Ian Hall OAM, followed by a wonderful address to

those gathered by ex Afghanistan soldier and local GP, Dr Glen Mulhall. Glen recounted some stories as well as talking about 3 local soldiers that had served and were heroes for their sacrifices. Both Good Samaritan Catholic College and Bli Bli State School students joined to sing God Bless Australia, 400 seasons and Amazing Grace with the Halcyon Choir giving a rendition of God Defend New Zealand and Advance Australia Fair.

The service at the new Cenotaph was a wonderful way of bringing the wider Bli Bli Community altogether in one location. Planning is already under way for next year with an expectation that the Bli Bli ANZAC Day service will continue to grow.

Acknowledgement must go to the Federal Government and Sunshine Coast Council for the financial contribution they made to the delivery of the Cenotaph.





RayWhite

Thank you to my local community for your continued support, this wouldn't be possible without you!

Cameron Hackenberg
Ray White Bli Bli
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On February 22nd, we had the privilege of hosting a group from Bli Bli Quilters at our station. These dedicated individuals had been collecting donations from their members each week, and decided to donate the proceeds to our brigade.

During their visit, we had the pleasure of showcasing our new 41 Light Attack Vehicle, which the government provided to us. However, as part of our duty to ensure our job is as safe and efficient as possible, we also need to supply additional equipment such as chainsaws, a tyre compressor, a reversing camera, and a refrigerator. We were proud to share with the Quilters the modifications we have made and will continue to make to ensure that our vehicle is fully equipped for our needs.

We want to express our heartfelt gratitude to the Bli Bli Quilters for their remarkable generosity, which helps us continue to serve our community to the best of our abilities.



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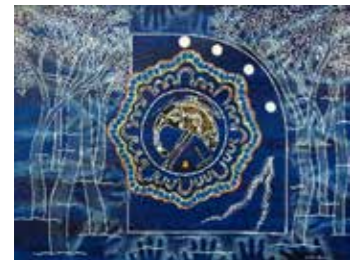
GOOD SAMS DAY

GOOD SAMS DAY IS A CELEBRATION OF WHO WE ARE!

Our identity integrates faith, life and culture within a contemporary context and Good Sams Day provides students and families with a rich encounter of our founding story and mission.

One of the challenges of building a new school with varying perspectives is shaping an identity that is authentic, relevant and purposeful for all. Unlike many other schools, we don't have a 'saints' or 'founders' day to base our date around. The last Friday in May is the date for Good Sams Day, which celebrates the day we officially blessed and opened our College in our First year of 2019. By using this date, we have a link back to the foundations of our College and as we grow and develop, a sense of journey and reflection. Our hope is that in 20 or 30 years, Good Sams Day still celebrates not only the foundations of our College but all that has happened in the intervening years.

One of the unique features of Good Sams Day is our P-12 approach throughout the day as students participate in a Foundation liturgy, House war cries, Tabloid sports and an Arts showcase. During the day, Pastoral Care Buddies will move from one activity to another, building connections between older and younger students. Our identity is lived through our motto to *Journey with Compassion* and as we continue to grow, Good Sams Day will also evolve and develop as new traditions emerge.



DUNETHIN HOUSE



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PRINCIPAL'S PONDERINGS

As we approach the cooler months of the year and the brisk winter mornings welcome the new days, things seem to warm up at schools. At Good Sams, the second term of the year has started with a flourish of activities for our students. It has been wonderful to observe students from Prep to Year 11 focussed on their learning and striving to achieve to the best of their ability. On the sporting fields and courts, our students are involved in a huge variety of competitions and competing very successfully. Our dance students just completed the Sunshine Coast eisteddfod with excellent results, while rehearsals for our first College musical, hitting the stage at "The J" in August, are in full swing. Year 6 and Year 8 students have experienced their camps, while our youngest students enjoyed all the fun of Under 8s Week. We joined the community at Bli Bli, Mudjimba and Halcyon for the commemoration of ANZAC Day, joining with Bli Bli State School to form the choir at the inaugural Bli Bli Service.

This year is the fifth year of our College's history and as I reflect on our short journey, I am amazed by the strength of our community and the growth that has taken place. We commenced in 2019 with 172 students and have grown to just under 1000 in this short time. Our College has been in a constant state of change as buildings take shape to meet our growing demand. Despite the interruptions caused by the pandemic over the last three years, our community has gone from strength to strength. As we continue to develop, this will be our touchstone for the future.

Next year, our first Year 12 students will complete their studies at the College and we are very proud of the way they have accepted the challenge of senior schooling. Our Assistant Principal, Dean Hose, has highlighted this in the adjacent article. On the last Friday in May, we celebrated Good Sams Day, commemorating our College foundation but also celebrating our identity and community. The article by our Assistant Principal Religious Education, Louise Mills, talks about this great day in our College calendar.

There are still some vacancies at the College for Years 7 to 12 for 2024 and waiting lists established for other year levels. I strongly encourage families to complete an online application for enrolment for an opportunity to join our community in the future.

Greg Myers
Principal



GOOD SAMARITAN CATHOLIC COLLEGE
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SCAN TO LISTEN!

YIN AND YANG

MOST OF US HAVE HEARD OF THE WORDS YIN AND YANG BEFORE.

You know the symbol, half black half white with a little dot of white in the black and a little dot of black in the white. Just think of the old surf brand "Town and Country" or Kung Fu Panda. This symbol represents that everything works best when balanced. When things are in balance harmony prevails. The white on the left represents the Yin and the Black represents the Yang. Yin is water, Yang is fire. Yin is night and Yang is day. Yin nourishes and Yang gives energy. As the days and nights become colder you might notice your skin become dryer, muscles become tighter and things just feel like they are stiffening up. Winter is considered more Yin than Yang. The Yin goes deeper into the body to nourish the organs. While our bodies seem to be more dry we don't seem to get more thirsty. This is where the problems can start. Often we don't drink enough water in the winter months. Our cells need to be hydrated. Our muscles need to be hydrated. The standard 8 glasses a day is a good guideline. To help you get your 8 glasses in, try having 2 glasses in the morning

before breakfast. 6 glasses to go. For those of us who don't like the taste of water try to avoid using things such as cordial or sugary supplements to flavour of water. This can give a false energy. We will have a rush of energy then have a crash in energy once the sugar wears off. Check the backs of labels especially in the cold tea sector. While these teas have a nice taste they contain a lot of sodium (Salt). This in turn dehydrates us even more and makes us more thirsty.

Why not try adding a bit of lemon or lime juice to your water? Another great way to flavour your water is with fresh Lemon grass. Lemon grass is so easy to grow in pot or in the yard. Just a couple of blades of the grass boiled in water and then put in the fridge makes a lovely flavoured water. So this winter, remember it's not only our mouths that get thirsty but so does our skin, muscles and every cell in our body.

Keep hydrated, keep moving, keep stretching and keep warm this winter. Until next season...



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Is your Pet

OVER FIVE YEARS OF AGE?

Pets age much faster than people do, and their rate of aging is dependent on their species as well as their size:

Cats are generally considered senior citizens after the age of 8.

Dogs however, come in a wide variety of weights - the greater their size, the sooner they reach their golden years:

- Tiny dogs (<10kg) are considered seniors once over the age of 8
- Small dogs (10-25kg), over 7
- Medium dogs (25-40kg), over 6
- Large dogs (>40kg), over 5.

Most of us don't need a medical checkup more than once a year. But dogs and cats are different. By age two, most pets have already reached adulthood. At age four, many are entering middle age. And by age seven, many dogs, particularly larger breeds, are considered "SENIORS".

For many pet lovers, watching our companions grow older is a comforting, rewarding experience. Hard to believe the same bundle of energy tearing around the yard just a few years ago is now the calm and kind old friend curled at our feet.

As dogs and cats age much faster than we do, health problems progress much more rapidly. Dramatic health changes can occur in a very short amount of time, and as they age, pets can experience the same aches, pains and other health problems associated with ageing that we do. They are at risk for diabetes, arthritis, heart disease, kidney disease and cancer, to name a few. Additionally, as today's pets are living longer, chances are many will experience a potentially serious illness during their lifetime. Just as we give special attention to the needs of puppies, dogs heading into their later years require unique attention to help comfort them and extend their precious time with us.

As your pet ages, you may notice the outward signs: white around the muzzle, less exuberance, hesitation trying to stand up after a nap or difficulty climbing into your vehicle. Then there are the internal signs we can't see, like a slowing metabolism, and changing nutritional requirements.

Observe your pet for the EARLY WARNING SIGNS of aging and age-related diseases:

- Change in appetite
- Weight loss or weight gain
- Loss of housetraining
- Difficulty rising, walking or climbing stairs
- Confusion or disorientation
- Persistent cough
- New lumps or bumps
- Bad breath, plaque on teeth, or bleeding gums

- Diarrhoea or vomiting
- Change in sleep patterns
- Ear odours, redness, scratching, or head shaking
- Excessive drinking and/or urination

It is common to assume these signs are a normal part of the aging process; however, these symptoms may indicate underlying age-related disease.

If you're lucky enough to share your home with an older pet, we recommend having them seen by a Veterinarian at least twice a year. Early detection is key, and fortunately there are many ways we can detect and treat these conditions, and improve the quality of your pet's life.

In the meantime, here's a few tips so you can help your pet enjoy their golden years:

- Exercise is important at every stage in your pet's life. However, with senior pets you may need to adjust the frequency and intensity of the exercise. If your pet doesn't use their muscles, they will lose mass, tone, and it will become even harder to move about. Shorter, more frequent walks or swims can help keep your dog in shape and their weight under control.
- If your pet has arthritis or is stiff and sore, giving them access to a ramp to get up and down from higher areas (vehicles or furniture) will make it much easier on their joints, and allow them to maintain some of the adventure they enjoyed as a youngster.
- Maintain a familiar routine and environment to minimize stress.
- Keep them warm and comfortable. A bed that allows your pet to distribute their weight evenly will reduce pressure on joints and make it easier for them to get out of in the morning.
- Elevate your pet's food and water bowls, particularly if there is stiffness in the neck or back.
- Senior pets generally require fewer calories, less protein and phosphorus. Change to a diet specifically formulated for seniors.
- Keep your pet's teeth clean, by following the home cleaning instructions your vet has given you. Dental disease can cause persistent pain and discomfort, and leads to systemic health problems. Some signs that your pet may be having a dental problem are bad breath, pawing at the mouth or teeth, drooling, difficulty eating and red, irritated, swollen, or bleeding gums.

If you have any concerns or queries about your aging pet, remember to discuss them with your Veterinarian during your next visit, or please contact our team to book a Senior Pet Health Check.

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The Cane Barracks Story

In the last century people may have wondered at the small buildings located on a lot of the existing sugar cane farms. A lot of these original structures have been lost to cyclone, flood, fire and time; some have endured, but are completely unrecognisable due to decay and the passing years of their original purpose.

The barracks, as they were commonly referred to, housed itinerant cane-cutters who would come together at the beginning of the season, usually assembled by a recognised leader known as a ganger, on the understanding that the team would stay together for the seven-month season.

The team would consist of eight or nine men, often young single males or older drifters, travelling from cane farm to cane farm cutting the harvest by hand at piece-work rates or for an agreed sum for the overall crop. The success of a full season would depend very much on the organisational ability of the ganger.

When the Moreton Mill commenced crushing in 1897, cane was cut and loaded on to cane trucks on the mill tramline. Local growers cut their own cane, and hauled it to the tramline by horse and slide or horse and dray. The cane was tipped off and reloaded on to the cane trucks. For the first few years, cane was grown within a few miles of the mill, and barracks were not needed for cutters.

As cane growing expanded out to the districts, farmers supplied tents for their cutter's accommodation, several farmers would form a group (this practise was carried on when the barracks became necessary) to get enough cane to employ a gang of six to eight cutters. Each tent would sleep two men. A large tent fly would cover a common dining table. Some farmers built a cooking shed and hot water fireplace with sheets of iron, also a place to bath and shower.

The ganger had to fulfil many functions, be able to bargain with the cane farmers on the team's behalf, ensure that the pay and working conditions were satisfactory and that the barracks supplied were of reasonable standard. He would need to be sure the team was well-fed - a cook usually travelled with them, selected from one of the team, food supplied by the Cane grower.

There were a number of consistent features in the barracks: a cooking recess, a water supply, a wash-house, toilets and waste disposal. Most of these rules were stipulated in the legislation.

The buildings were governed by the *Workers Accommodation Act 1915-21* which stipulated:

Every building ... shall be constructed of wood, iron, brick, *pise, cement or other such material as the Minister may approve, and shall be properly provided with light and ventilation to the satisfaction of the inspector.

Floors of sleeping and dining rooms were to be wood, cement, brick, flagstones, tiled, asphalt or other approved by Minister.

The legislation included details about the number of beds in rooms, the bedroom size, ventilation, lighting, the provision of vessels for cooking, eating, drinking and storage. Although barracks vary in style and materials, each can tell the story of how the sugar industry between 1905 and the 1960s relied upon seasonal migrant labourers to manually harvest cane. They are therefore, powerful symbols of a way of life that has made a significant contribution to the evolution of Queensland's community and environment.

The sugar industry in Australia has brought wealth not only to the Nation as a whole, but social stability to many areas of coastal Queensland. Although no record exists of a canecutter strike in the Sunshine Coast area, there was a severe strike in North Queensland in 1935, by the canecutters, which lasted for nine weeks.

A form of plague spread by rats, had appeared in 1933 and continued until 1936, had stricken hundreds of cane cutters working in the cane fields of North Queensland. During 1933-34, 19 cane cutters died, it was called *Weil's Disease (**leptospirosis**) spread by infected rats living in and around the cane fields in the undergrowth, an ideal breeding area for the pests.

To settle the strike the growers finally gave in and agreed to go back to burning the cane prior to harvest, although it added to the cost of cutting, burnt cane gave the cutters more protection. Their close connection to each other in the barracks did not help with the control.

A few years ago, Professor Olavi Koivukangas of the Institute of Migration in Finland began a search for an Australian cane barrack. A lot of Finnish immigrants had made their homes in the barracks during the 1900s, while they worked as cane cutters.

It became a long and complicated process. Mikko, a Finnish architect, who at the time, lived in Brisbane, first received a Christmas email from the Professor with the initial request. On the bottom of the email was a PS, "Can you please organise a cane cutters barrack to Finland for the Emigration Museum." At the time he did not know what cane looked like!

Eventually while in Finland for a seminar, he met Reijo Korte a former cane cutter who had lived in Ingham. From there Mikko acted as the liaison between Finland and Australia, while Reijo did the groundwork. When word spread of a search for barrack, a local man, offered the old barrack on his property in Lannercost as a donation.

The project of dismantling a Barrack from Ingham and donating it to the Finnish Migration Museum was a complicated process. Due to the size of the building and a lot of bureaucracy, it took several years for it to be sent to Finland.

Its new home is in the Finland Migration Museum, fully furnished with the old beds, crockery, stove etc. looking like it did in its heyday, all donated from families of the cutters who had worked here. Almost good enough to consider moving in.

The coast at one time, had its own canecutters barrack that was to be furnished with all the requisite items relating to its use as a memorial to the hardworking canecutters. This was at the Maroochy Wetlands Sanctuary, but the council in its wisdom, has since removed any resemblance to its original design, along with the donated furniture.

References: Oral history Mr. Fred Perren (cane grower). Weil's Disease in North Queensland 1933-1936, Beris Penros. The Cane Barracks Story - Eugenie Navarre.

*Pise refers to Rammed earth, a building technique often used for flooring.

*The Weil's disease form of leptospirosis is contracted from the urine of infected rats. The bacteria get into your body through cuts and scratches or through the lining of the mouth, throat and eyes after contact with infected urine or contaminated water.




This is one of the few (if not the only) barracks still standing on the coast, now used as a storage facility for the farm, it rests in. Could a developer be interested in transporting to a piece of land to preserve this part of our heritage? Finland did.

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Other times are by appointment with President Ailsa Watson
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All Historical Society members, guests, researchers and the public are also welcome to join us on the 1st Monday of each month in the old Church Hall located at 89 Willis Road, Bli Bli from 9.30 a.m. Refreshments provided.



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7.00am							
8.00am							
9.00am	MBK Dance Studios						
10.00am							
11.00am							
12.00pm							
1.00pm							
2.00pm							
3.00pm							
4.00pm							
5.00pm							
6.00pm							
7.00pm							
8.00pm							
9.00pm							
10.00pm							
11.00pm							

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heatherkichenyoga@gmail.com

MBK Dance Studios
Hayley 0408 988 119

Dance Fever
Sandra 0432 980 432

Sundance Line Dancers
Heather 0407 174 591

MBK Dance Studios
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Bli Bli Quilters
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U3A Zumba Class
Wayne 5430 1123

Kelly Karate
Simon 0408 064 439

Maroochy River Country Music Club
Lynda 0409 588 939

Zumba with Tianna
Tianna 0421 833 971

Budist Temple (monthly) Ramon

MBK Dance Studios
Hayley 0408 988 119

GKR Karate
Andrew 0407 695 005

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	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
7.00am							
8.00am							
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10.00am							
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8.00pm							
9.00pm							
10.00pm							
11.00pm							

MBK Dance Studios
Hayley 0408 988 119

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Bli Bli Community Association
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Daniel 0427 635 558

Wayne Hewson Marshal Arts
Mark 0409 271 168

Church of United Spiritualism
Rosemary 0409 457 352

Didgeridoo Music Therapy
Caleb 0422 805 580
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All information is correct at the time of printing



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