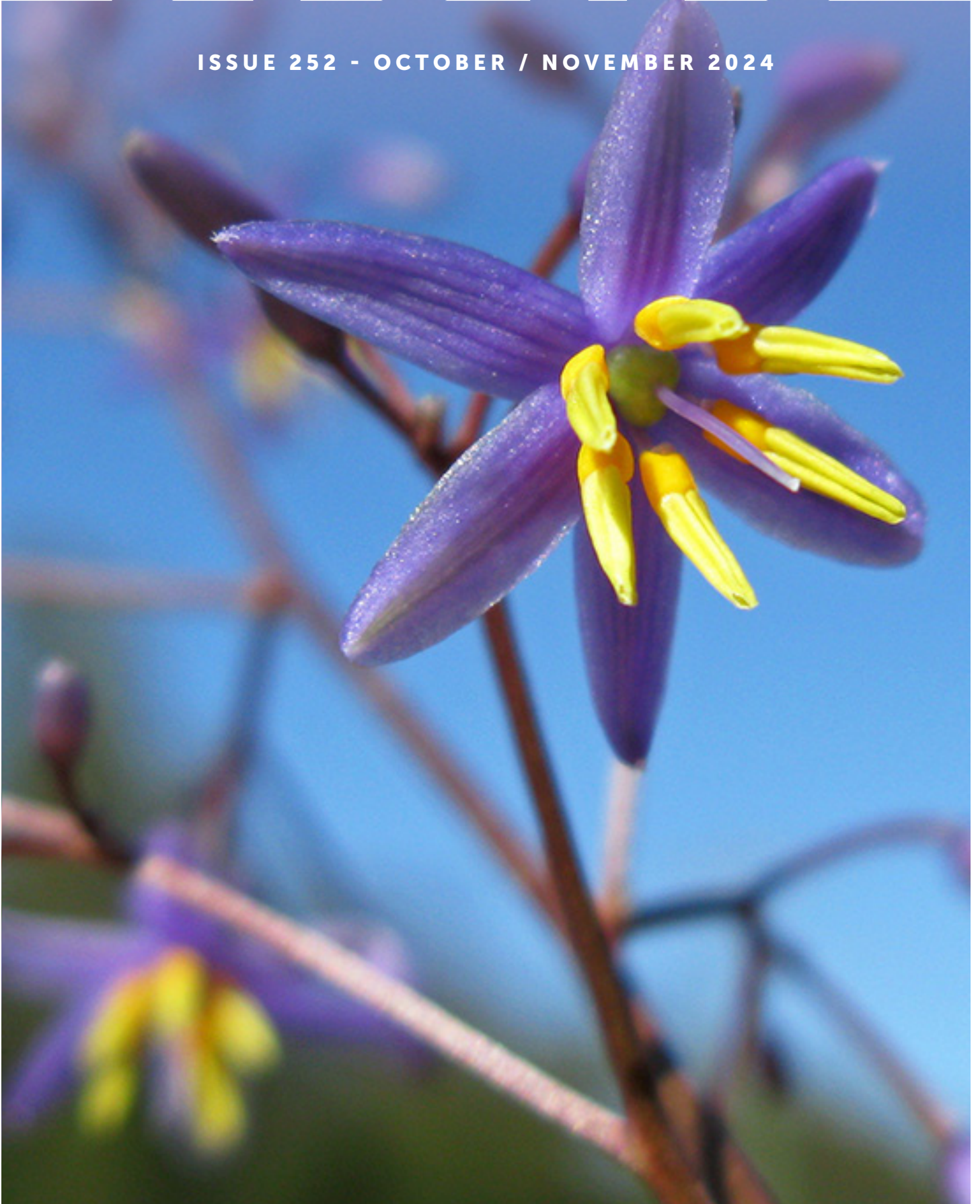


**SURREY  
HILLS**

**NEIGHBOURHOOD**

# News

ISSUE 252 - OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2024



# COMMUNITY SAFETY

## Working Together to Keep our Homes Secure

'Safety of my property and possessions' was Boroondara residents' top safety concern in 2023, according to the last Victoria Police Community Sentiment Survey. Home burglary, car break-ins and attempted theft seem permanently on the radar of our local social media pages.

From April 2023 to March 2024 incidences of stealing from a motor vehicle have indeed seen an increase – up to 1,390 reports compared to 1,316 the previous year. The number of residential, non-aggravated burglaries, actually saw a decrease from 577 reports in 2022-2023 down to 489 reports. Aggravated burglaries have also seen an increase possibly due to perpetrators breaking in to seek out car keys. The majority of attempts are opportunistic, with would-be thieves walking the streets and trying car doors and house windows.

Since 23rd March this year, Operation Trinity has brought in an additional 70 police officers to be out and about across Boroondara overnight. Additional police cars are out too, and mapping tools are used to pinpoint where to target resources.

This all means that police can lock down an area quickly when need be.

During its Neighbourhood Policing Forum in Hawthorn in August, where it was clear that many in our community don't feel as safe as they used to, Victoria Police stressed that residents shouldn't feel like they have to make their house a fortress. Locking doors and windows, having good lighting, prevalent CCTV cameras can go a long way to preventing attempted break-ins; it's worth checking that your car is locked as part of your night-time routine. Having a dog, or hearing a dog barking on the property, is often one of the biggest deterrents.

Try to build a rapport with neighbours – and look out for each other if you see something out of the ordinary. Neighbourhood Watch works closely with Victoria Police – there is undeniable strength in our community working together. A neighbour's CCTV footage can often help police to track offenders.

Reporting offences or attempted break-ins is vital to help police spot patterns and use this information to target resources.



Camberwell Police, Sergeant Jason Hymans (left) and Senior Constable Alex Jenkins

If you have any questions for our local police, the Neighbourhood Centre is hosting a Coffee with a Cop session on Monday 28th of October from 11.30am till 1pm.

### Who to contact?


For emergencies call 000 immediately. To report a theft from your property or car after it has occurred, call 131 444 or, for online reporting, go to [www.police.vic.gov.au](http://www.police.vic.gov.au)

Cover Image: Native Flax Lily, the flowering of this plant is one of the defining features of the current Prooroneet (Tadpole) season for people of the Kulin Nation.

## WE'RE SHOWING THE PARTIES HOW TO GET THE JOB DONE

**DR MONIQUE RYAN**  
Independent Federal Member for Kooyong  
✉ [monique.ryan.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:monique.ryan.mp@aph.gov.au) ☎ (03) 9326 2900

- ✓ **Successfully advocated to cut the cost of 300 common prescription drugs**
- ✓ **Pressured the government for fairer Stage 3 tax cuts**
- ✓ **Took on the government over the broken HECS debt system and won**



Authorised by Dr M. Ryan MP, Independent Federal Member for Kooyong, 145 Camberwell Rd, Hawthorn East, Victoria 3123

# HUMANS OF SURREY HILLS

## Our Very Own Centenarian



*Giovanna Trivisonno celebrating her 100th birthday*

Long time 3127 resident, Giovanna Trivisonno, who still lives independently in her own home in Surrey Hills, turned 100 on the 27th of August.

Mother to four children, who attended Canterbury Primary and Camberwell High for their education, Giovanna has been part of our community since moving here from Italy with her husband in 1968. Now grandmother to six and great-grandmother to five, she says the rearing of her children is her proudest achievement.

Originally a pharmacist from Sardinia (one of the worlds 'blue zones'

where it's not uncommon for people to live to 100) Giovanna initially found the language barrier and cultural differences hard to navigate. School-girl English, learnt back in Italy, was woefully inadequate and both she and her husband joined English classes very early on in their time in Melbourne. However, it was by volunteering at her children's schools and being determined to integrate, that she soon became enmeshed in the local community.

When asked what two pieces of advice she has for younger folk, she says: "Firstly, have courage and be adventurous. Seize all that life offers; it's full of opportunities, and, secondly, mix with people and get involved."

Wise words that have served her very well indeed. Giovanna and husband Antonio arrived in Australia having already lived overseas. Antonio, a surveyor, had a working stint in Egypt, where he was involved in relocating the Temple of Ramses II in Abu Simbel before the Aswan Dam was built. He was employed by U.N.E.S.C.O who had assembled the most talented surveyors and engineers in the world at that time. What an adventure that must have been!

Moreover, Giovanna and her husband were very involved in Melbourne's Italian Clubs and Antonio, who passed away 12 years ago, was awarded an OAM for his services to Senior Citizens.

And for those who were wondering, yes, she did receive a letter from the King on her 100th birthday!

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# ON WURUNDJERI COUNTRY

## Change of Seasons

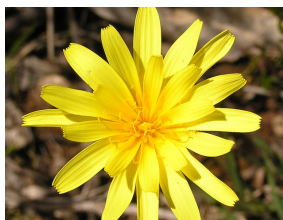
Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people of the Kulin Nation recognise seven local seasons.<sup>1</sup>

It is Poornet Tadpole season until end October. Rain continues, with temperatures rising. Flax-lilies are in flower (as pictured on the front cover of this edition), as are Myrnong (Yam Daisy) whose tubers, a staple food for pre-contact Wurundjeri people, are ready for eating. Pied Currawongs call often and loudly. Bulen-bulen (Superb Lyrebird) males

have finished displaying. Days and nights are of equal length.

November sees Buath Gurru - Grass Flowering Season. Warm weather, and still often raining. Buliyong (bats) are catching insects in flight, and male Common Brown Butterflies are flying. Coranderrk (Victorian Christmas Bush) is coming into flower. The Orion constellation is setting in the western sky around sunrise.

<sup>1</sup> <https://museums.victoria.com.au/melbournemuseum/resources/forest-secrets/>



The Yam Daisy Flower



Pied Currawong



The Yam Daisy Tuber



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## SPRING GARDENING

### Tony's Top Tips for October

The Magic of Spring continues!

I've studied and worked in horticulture for 46 years, but I still look forward to, and marvel at the magic that is Spring! The exponential change from dormant or fast asleep to wide awake and going flat out is an annual miracle that I watch, appreciate and enjoy.

Now that spring is well underway, October is the best time for planting the widest variety of plants. However, when planting, remember to avoid these 3 planting mistakes: - don't plant deeper than it is in the pot, don't plant into unimproved soil and NEVER tease the roots, (even if the plant has a mat forming root system).

Whilst spring is a time to enjoy our gardens, it's also a time when there is lots to do:

#### Who needs pruning and feeding?

Feed Gardenias to ensure maximum flowering.

Prune and feed evergreen Magnolias before their Spring flush of growth. They are much more attractive if fat and bushy and the foliage is highly prized for flower arranging. ie Little Gem and Teddy Bear.

Give roses their second feeding.

Prune and feed azaleas, spirea, wisteria, weeping cherries and other early Spring flowering plants after flowering. This is their most serious prune of the year!

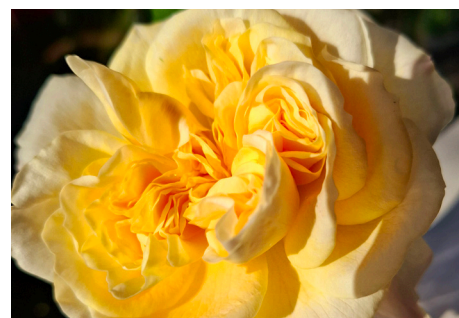
**Bugs?** Treat lawns with selective weedicide to control Bindi and Clover. Both are in abundance due to favourable conditions. Control aphids and black-spot on roses.

#### Who needs repotting?

Repot Cymbidium orchids now if they need it, up one size in orchid mix and give a good dose of high K Osmocote

**And for those in a pot** Dose all long-term potted plants indoors and outdoors annually with a wetting agent to ensure that there is maximum water absorption therefore more efficient use of food and water.

**Tony from Acorn Nursery**



Spring Rose

# OCTOBER IS SENIORS' MONTH

## Enthusiastic Aging

When we've lived busy lives and we're ready for a break, it's important to remember that we still need a full life. We have to look after ourselves to keep in trim shape mentally and physically. There's much we can do.

Keeping fit and healthy is a good start: regular exercise can be enjoyable, and it ensures you maintain physical ability to be as active as you can. Regular walking – with friends, with headphones and your music, or just with the joys of nature – can be a help. Or, if you prefer, take up another activity – bowls or golf, perhaps, or regular swimming. Joining in with these activities can both keep you fit and improve your social life. Joining a choir can be very positive emotionally and socially, and it will keep your respiratory system in good order.

Stay involved and be committed. When you're working you're involved with a team, you interact, share common goals. Commitment gives a sense of purpose, a feeling that you're making a contribution that you – and others – will value. You could try volunteering – there's always places which will appreciate the help you can provide, and the feeling of reward that you can get from volunteering is priceless. Having a regular commitment to



Participants enjoying an Ageless Grace class at the Neighbourhood Centre

a cause you believe in can be very rewarding, and volunteers are paid in appreciation – the most valuable currency of all! The Boroondara website is a great place to start a search for something that fits your skillset. See <https://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/get-involved/volunteering/volunteer-opportunities>

Keep in touch with family and friends. If you've got kids and/or grandkids do what you can for them, and with them, and if you get to the point where you really can't, then tell them; likely they'll be very happy to return to you some of the giving that you've given to them over so many years.

If you're short of ideas, come and see what we can offer at the Neighbourhood Centre. We have

a wide range of tutor-led classes at a fee, and volunteer-run groups which require only a nominal fee each time you join in. And if you're looking for an activity we don't have, let us know. We're always on the lookout for new ideas, and we can also direct you elsewhere if another Neighbourhood House is offering the activity you seek.

There are so many opportunities waiting for us out there. Keep active, enjoy life: your laurels aren't there to be sat on, they're there to be pruned!

October is Senior's Month. This year's theme is: Explore. Engage. Evolve. See: <https://www.seniorsonline.vic.gov.au/victorian-seniors-festival> for details

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Term 4 is packed with exciting activities at Surrey Hills Neighbourhood Centre! Whether you're looking to learn something new or connect with others

in the community, there's something for everyone.

For fitness enthusiasts, spaces are still available in our Group Personal Training Classes on a Monday mid-morning or Wednesday after school drop-off. There are also a few places on our brain-stimulating Ageless Grace exercise class and Monday and Tuesday evening Yoga classes.

Our VERY popular 4-week Wiser Driver program is back from the 17th October. Book early to ensure you don't miss out.

To nurture ones' soul as we head into the silly season, we're running a NEW 8-week Mindfulness and Meditation class on a Tuesday morning at 10am and our popular Saturday Women's Retreat Day again on the 19th October.

Save the date to join us for our family focused annual Christmas Vibes event on Saturday 7th of December. There'll be Santa Photo's, Christmas musical performances, a neighbourhood BBQ, market stalls and much more.

**Rochelle Anderson,**  
Centre Manager

## Course Highlights

Join us for an exciting term of activities and events this October, November and December, including the chance to be part of our vibrant Christmas Vibes Community Day! Get involved and let's celebrate the season together.

There are plenty of ways to jump into Term 4 and it's a wonderful time to get involved, meet new friends, and have a blast. Join us now!

## Community

### Wiser Driver

Join us for an informative, informal and friendly refresher course to upgrade your knowledge and build on your experience to keep you driving safely.

**Thursday 17, 24, 31 Oct and 7 Nov (4 sessions)**

**1.30pm – 3.30pm**

**REE – Bookings essential**

### Coffee with a Cop

Coffee with a Cop brings police officers and members of the community together over a cup of coffee or tea, to discuss issues and learn more about each other.

**Monday 28 October 11.30am – 1pm**

**Free**

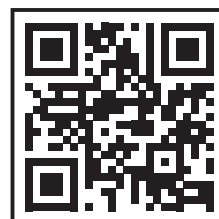


### Monday 'Early Bird' Walk

Join us for an energizing 'Early Bird' Monday Morning Walk! Kick off your week with a refreshing stroll in the fresh air, perfect for all fitness levels. Dogs on leads are welcome. Feel free to hang around for a coffee after your walk.

**Mondays 6.30am – 7.15pm**

**Free (with SHNC membership)**



To book a workshop, class or activity scan the QR code or visit our website at [www.surreyhillsnc.org.au](http://www.surreyhillsnc.org.au)

## Fitness and Wellbeing

### Group Personal Training

Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned fitness enthusiast, this class is the perfect blend of personalised attention and group synergy. Focusing on overall wellness and designed to help you reach your fitness goals in a fun and engaging environment.

**Monday 11.30am – 12.30pm \$187.20**  
**Wednesday 9.15am – 10.15am \$187.20**

### Ageless Grace

Imagine drawing a square with your right hand, a triangle with your left foot, and a circle with your left hand—all simultaneously. It might sound unusual, but this challenge is exactly what stimulates your brain! Join us to discover the profound benefits of the Ageless Grace class. It's our integrated mind-body session.

**Mondays 9.15am – 10.00am**  
**\$187.20**

### NEW Meditation and Mindfulness

Join our enriching Meditation and Mindfulness Course, where you'll learn practical skills to help you reduce stress, enhance well-being and cultivate a deeper sense of inner peace.

**Tuesdays 10am – 11am**  
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## Arts and Creativity

### Mixed Media Art

Release your inner creativity and explore new mediums including watercolour, drawing, collage and abstract.

**Mondays 2pm – 4pm**  
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## Children and Families

### Playgroup (1–5 yrs)

Learning, laughter and LOADS of fun!

**Fridays 9.30am – 11am**  
**\$117 per term**  
**\$16 per casual session**



## Diary Dates

**Coffee with a Cop Morning Tea:**  
**11.30am – 1pm Monday 28 October**

**Term 4 concludes Friday, 6 December**

**Christmas Vibes Community Day,**  
**11am – 2pm Saturday 7 December**



## Host your event at SHNC!

Did you know that you can book a space at Surrey Hills Neighbourhood Centre for your next event? Whether you're looking for a space that can accommodate 2 people or 60 people, the Centre has a range of rooms that can accommodate your room hire needs.

For further information and to book, please visit our website ([www.surreyhillshnc.org.au](http://www.surreyhillshnc.org.au)) and refer to the 'venue hire' menu tab.

# 3127 SPORTING NEWS

## Local Olympian and Paralympian do us proud

By Yvonne Bowyer

It was wonderful to see Union Road and Mont Albert Village celebrating two local women, Susannah Lutze and Georgia Griffith, competing in this year's Olympic and Paralympic Games in Paris.

Georgia Griffith competed in the 1500m track and field event at the Olympics, making her way through to the semi-finals. This is Georgia's second time competing at the Olympics, debuting at the Tokyo games in 2020. No doubt this experience was very different as the 2020 games were held during Covid, with strict measures in place for all athletes.

Susannah Lutze competed in the PR3 Mixed Coxed 4 Paralympic Rowing. Susannah (pictured second from left), and her other crew members made it through to the final. This was Susannah's first time competing at the Paralympic Games.

Both Susannah and Georgia are fantastic role models for women and girls with both hailing from local sporting groups. Georgia was a member of the Box Hill Athletic Club and Susannah participated both in school rowing and a Melbourne rowing club.



Mixed Coxed 4 Paralympic Rowers. Susannah Lutze (second from the left)

Thank you Susannah and Georgia, it was thrilling to watch you both in Paris and we look forward to seeing you in action in the future!



Middle distance runner, Georgia Griffith

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# 3127 HAS STYLE!

## Entry Styling

*By Allison Guerrieri*

A well-designed entry is your home's chance to make a great first impression. It is a preview of the style, scale and ambiance yet to be revealed. Create a lasting impression in your entry with key pieces that combine function and form.



### Artwork & Mirrors

Artwork in your entry adds colour and creates a focal point for you and your guests to enjoy. A mirror placed above your console reflects light and creates the illusion of more space. It is also handy for checking your appearance before leaving the house! If the space allows, place artwork opposite the mirror to reflect the image and tie in the colours of your décor.



### Ottoman or Bench Seat

An ottoman or bench seat is a useful item in your entry, particularly if you like to remove your shoes when indoors. Ottomans look beautiful when styled with cushions and throws. They add colour and texture to the room and create a welcoming space to come home to.



### Console

A console table is the perfect multifunctional furniture piece for any entry. Consoles with drawers provide storage for essentials such as keys and wallets. Baskets placed under or beside the console provide additional storage for umbrellas or shoes.

### Coat Rack/Hooks

Depending on your space, a coat rack or wall hooks are the perfect solution for storing for coats and hats, keeping them organised and accessible.



Need help styling your home?  
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# THE GEN Z ZONE

## Future-Ready:

### Smart Financial Moves Gen Z Can Make to Buy a House

By **Makenzie Bourne**

The question of whether Gen Z will ever be able to afford a home is complicated and is shaped by a combination of economic and social factors. As house prices continue to soar in many surrounding suburbs, the challenge of affording a home intensifies for younger generations. Economic conditions, including fluctuating interest rates and inflation, further complicate this issue. However, opportunities exist for Gen Z through strategic financial planning, such as saving diligently, taking part in first-time homebuyer programs, and seeking out less expensive markets.

Easier ways Gen Z can save money for a home can start with creating and sticking to a budget. This may include cutting unnecessary expenses such as eating out less and instead, cooking easy meals at home. Side gigs are also a quick and easy way for boosting incomes. This could be simply pet sitting, babysitting or tutoring. Additionally, taking advantage of first-time homebuyer programs and avoiding new debt will further strengthen financial positions. Small, consistent efforts in these areas can add up significantly over time, making the dream of homeownership more attainable.



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# HISTORIC HAPPENINGS

## Myth or Reality - Was WW2 Declared in Surrey Hills?

By **Andrea Chung**

The Surrey Hall, later a picture theatre, located at 99-105 Union Road, was purpose built circa 1891 as a meeting place for the early residents of Surrey Hills. Throughout the years it has been used for a range of activities and by various community groups. It was the Rex Theatre from around the 1920s to the 1930s. Today it is occupied by Ross Hunt Real Estate.

The theatre relocated to a new building at the corner of Croydon and Union roads. This was officially opened on Saturday 26th August 1939 by local member and Prime Minister Robert Menzies. It has often been said that it was here that Mr Menzies declared "Australia is now at war with Germany."

However an account of his words, printed in The Argus newspaper on Monday 28th August 1939, read differently.



The old Surrey Theatre on the corner of Croydon and Union Roads where Vintage Cellars is today.

"Time marches on in favour of peace," declared the Prime Minister (Mr Menzies) when he opened the new Surrey Theatre, at Surrey Hills, on Saturday night. "I have not given up hope for peace," he said. "Every hour gained with the world in its present state is a real hour gained."

It was in fact, a week later on 3rd September 1939, when Menzies broadcast to the nation that Australia was at war.

It's easy for facts to get twisted over time and important for urban myths to be seen for what they are.

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# ARTS AND CULTURE

## Foreigner

by **Pamela Caire**

I always knew there would be a day when I wouldn't think about him anymore. A day when I would no longer sing our song in the middle of the day without realizing it. In which I would not wake up wanting to close my eyes again, striving to return to one of the dreams in which I saw him smile when he saw me arrive.

I knew the day would come when I wouldn't try to bring his voice to my memory: recreate his smile, sketch his eyebrows, echo his laughter, count his eyelashes.

I knew it would happen that one day memories of him would simply abandon me completely, despite any effort, despite any impetus. I knew that, without even realizing it, without being able to avoid it or anticipate it, it would happen.

Two summers arrived in less than a year. Crossing down the Equator, I lost track whether the time moved backward or forward. Suddenly, it seemed that I was living a day ahead from everything I used to know, like if I belong to the future now. At some point in the latitudes and

longitudes of the journey, a day eluded me. I still wonder if the hours of sunlight I missed have aged me, and if my maturity quietly evolved during the nights untouched by dreams.

I always knew there would be a day when I wouldn't think about him anymore. I knew that without even realizing it, without being able to avoid it or anticipate it, that day would happen.

It arrived. I missed it.

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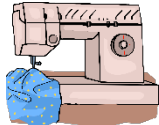
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