

EST 1889



NEW SOUTH WALES 2793

ISSUE 14

## COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

1ST JUNE 2025

### WODSTOCK FIRE BRIGADE

The Woodstock Fire Brigade had a very quiet fire season with only a couple of callouts. The new station is getting closer to being completed, the Rural Fire Service suggesting completion should be the end of May. Fire permits are no longer required but the Fire Control Centre (FCC) requires 24 hrs notice before a burn. The public can let the local RFS know online or ring FCC on 6363 6666.

**CHECK SMOKE DETECTORS  
CHANGE BATTERIES**

## EXCITING NEWS FROM THE PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

Once again listening to the feedback received, in 2020 following the 'MY BIG IDEA' initiative many respondents suggested the inclusion of a campground, caravan park concept for the village. Early May has seen the DA Approved for a Primitive Campground!

We're thrilled to share some fantastic news with the Woodstock community – the Development Application (DA) for the Woodstock Primitive Campground at the Woodstock Showground has officially been approved! This is a major milestone for our village, paving the way for increased tourism, local activity, and new opportunities to showcase the beauty and charm of our region. Stay tuned as we move forward with the next stages of planning and development – we'll be keeping you updated every step of the way.

The Woodstock Community Post Office Storyboard Project is progressing well. This community storytelling initiative aims to preserve and share the rich history of our village, with particular focus

on the legacy of the post office. We're excited to see it taking shape and can't wait to share more soon.

Also a thankyou to the Woodstock Hotel and all its patrons for the May pub raffle fundraiser, a net of \$590 raised. We'd like to extend a big thank you to Katie for generously allowing us to run our regular pub raffles at the local. These raffles are more than just a bit of fun – they're a vital way for us to raise substantial revenue to support local projects and events. So come on down, grab a ticket (or two!), and help us continue making Woodstock a wonderful place to live and visit. Until next time – your continued support and community spirit make all the difference.

The Progress Association is also working closely with the Woodstock Memorial Show committee to coordinate the installation of a dump point at the Showground providing essential waste disposal facilities for caravanners. This project has been facilitated by a grant acquired by the Woodstock Memorial Show through the Royal Agricultural Foundation.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

29th June

5th July

7th September

26th October

**CMRC Race Day** | Woodstock Park Speedway

**Camp Oven & Smoke Off** | Woodstock Hotel

**Woodstock Memorial Show** | Woodstock Showground

**CMRC Race Day** | Woodstock Park Speedway



## ANZAC DAY TRADITIONS CONTINUE

ANZAC Day traditions were alive and well in Woodstock on April 25th. Sadly, this year was one without Paul "Spud" Bennet at the helm.

But with organisers Di Brown, Meg Thomas and Gail Bennett it was in good hands. A strong contingent of support lined Parkes and Rankin

Streets as the march proceeded to the Sister Jenny Kerr Park for wreath laying and then onto the Arnold Bennett Gates before the official ceremony was conducted in the hall. Over 70 people filled the hall for the ceremony. Afternoon tea was served following the service.



### KINDER ORIENTATION 2025

Woodstock Public School

**WOODSTOCK PUBLIC SCHOOL**

*Fostering Excellence Through Learning*

Woodstock Public School values the importance of early childhood learning. For this reason we run a Kinder Orientation Program each year in Terms Three and Four.

The first year of school in NSW is called Kindergarten – or 'Kindy'. You child is allowed to start school on the first day of first term as long as they turn 5 by July 31 that year. All NSW children must be enrolled in a primary school in the year they turn 6.

**Term 3 Kinder Orientation** - Half days from 9.00am - 12pm weekly on Fridays.

**Dates:**  
 Friday 22 August: school and classroom orientation.  
 Parents are welcome to stay this day.  
 Friday 29 August: Literacy Session  
 Friday 5 September: Arts Session  
 Friday 12 September: Numeracy Session  
 Friday 19 September: Literacy Session

**Term 4 Kinder Orientation** - Full days on Fridays  
 Kinder students will experience a full day at school on these dates.

October 17: Infants classroom, scripture, library  
 October 24: Infants classroom, gardening, library  
 October 31: Infants classroom, scripture, gardening  
 November 7: Infants classroom, gardening, sport  
 November 14: Infants classroom, scripture, library

**Come and see us to register your interest in our Kinder Orientation program now.**

**CONTACT US:**  
 02 6345 0217  
 Parkes St Woodstock  
<https://woodstock-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>



### STUDENT WELLBEING OFFICER 2025

Woodstock Public School

**WOODSTOCK PUBLIC SCHOOL**

*Fostering Excellence Through Learning*

Woodstock Public School is currently seeking interest in our Student Wellbeing Officer position for 2025.

Who is ASK Wellbeing - <https://askwellbeing.au/>

The Student Wellbeing role is a 2 days per week-paid position. To apply:

Applicants should have a qualification of -  
 Certificate 4 in -

- Chaplaincy
- Community Services
- Youth Work
- Mental Health
- Nursing

We also work with a wide range of other qualifications under the Government guidelines.

Applicant should also be able to obtain -

- Working with Children Check

We would love to hear from anyone interested in more information. If you have any questions, please email Caleb at [recruitment@Askwellbeing.au](mailto:recruitment@Askwellbeing.au) or call our office at 1300 513 088.

**CONTACT US:**  
 02 6345 0217  
 Parkes St Woodstock  
<https://woodstock-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>



## A CENTURY IN STYLE: 100-YEAR BALL A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

Saturday May 24th, the community came together for a truly unforgettable celebration – 100 years since the official opening of the Woodstock Soldiers Memorial Hall, an evening filled with music, laughter, delicious food. Held in honor of a centennial milestone, the event brought together 120 guests dressed to impress.

Setting the perfect tone for the evening was the phenomenal band Leather, Lace & Bass. With a genre-blending setlist that had something for everyone, they kept the dance floor full from the first note to the final encore. Their mix of classics and crowd favourites had guests swinging, and

singing along all night long. No celebration is complete without great food, and Mumma Bear delivered in spades. Her menu – a delicious homage to homestyle favourites – struck the perfect balance between comfort and class. From slow-roasted meats to vibrant seasonal sides and desserts, it was a feast to remember.

Guests shared laughter, stories, and memories old and new. The room buzzed with a sense of joy and gratitude – a fitting tribute to 100 years of community, connection, and celebration. Thank you to everyone who helped make the 100-Year Ball a night for the history books. Here's to the next 100!





## BE CONNECTED: FREE ONE-ON-ONE TECHNOLOGY SESSIONS FOR SENIORS

Free one-on-one Technology Sessions are being held at Cowra Library every Wednesday between 10am and 12 noon for seniors.

We have places available for our free one-on-one technology help sessions. Make a date for a 30 minute session. Bring your device (phone, tablet) and questions. Learn more about your tablet, laptop or smartphone. Whatever your question – we can help.

Learn to: \* Send photos via email to family and friends \* Set reminders \* Access social media \* Change your ringtone \* Make text larger \* Use your calendar \*

Bookings are essential for Be Connected Free Technology sessions at Cowra Library. Reserve your half-hour session by calling Cowra Library on 6340 2180.



**COME STAY WITH US AT  
THE WOODY**

**Woodstock Hotel BISTRO**

**BISTRO HOURS**

Monday - Wednesday 6PM TIL 8PM  
 Thursday 12PM TIL 3PM  
 Friday - Sunday 6PM TIL 8PM

**Country Style Accommodation**

ESTABLISHED 1911 WOODSTOCK - NEW SOUTH WALES

Family Room Price start \$ 99  
 Group Room Price start \$ 119  
 Group Room Price start \$ 159

**WOODSTOCK - NEW SOUTH WALES**  
**WOODSTOCK - NEW SOUTH WALES**

**CAMP OVEN & SMOKE OFF**

SATURDAY 5TH JULY '25'

Live Music  
*Emily Reynolds*

SAVING TRUE BLUES

ESTABLISHED 1911  
**WOODSTOCK HOTEL**

**CENTRAL VET SERVICES**

**CENTRAL VETERINARY SERVICES IS COMING TO WOODSTOCK**

**SERVICES WILL INCLUDE BUT NOT LIMITED TO:**

- ANNUAL DOG AND CAT VACCINATIONS
- HEALTH EXAMINATIONS
- A SELECTION OF DEWORMING AND FLEA TREATMENTS
- PUPPY VACCINATIONS AND MICROCHIPPING

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST ANY OTHER SERVICES, PLEASE CONTACT THE CLINIC ON 6341 1768**

**JUNE 26<sup>TH</sup> 9:30AM – 12PM**  
**CWA HALL – 11 RANKIN STREET, WOODSTOCK**



## GET READY FOR THE 2025 WOODSTOCK MEMORIAL SHOW

The countdown is on for the 2025 Woodstock Show, and this year promises once again to be the greatest little show—with a fantastic lineup of entertainment and family-friendly attractions that everyone will love!

Featured Attractions include 25 year old Emiliqua East, the current Australian Ladies whip cracking champion from Bairnsdale, Victoria. Emiliqua has placed in the top 3 in the World Champion Bullock Whip and has taken out the Australian Title for the bullock whip as well. She has competed in the World Championships overseas, representing Australia winning Bronze. She will entertain audiences of all ages. A stockwhip in order to crack must be travelling faster than the speed of sound to break the sound barrier, so her whips are travelling in excess of 1100km per hour. Making for an attention grabbing, fast paced entertaining act. She will be conducting children's lessons after each of her shows on show day. Don't miss the thrilling displays of skill from our Cracking Champion!

Pretty Amazing Jono prepare to be amazed by the one and only! His hilarious, family-friendly show is packed with jaw-dropping illusions and interactive fun that's sure to delight kids and adults alike. Incredi bubbles, mad science games like the marshmallow catapult and toilet roll bazooka, circus stunts, like flaming battle axe juggling, 5ft unicycling and other shenanigans.

AND due to popular DEMAND free Camel Rides. Take a ride on the wild side! Free camel rides will be available throughout the day—an unforgettable experience for the whole family.

Memberships are now open, join the Woodstock Memorial Show community today! Single Membership: \$11, Double Membership: \$17. As a bonus, all members are entered into the draw to win a family pass to the Taronga Zoo! The lucky winner will be drawn on Show Day—don't miss your chance! Bring the family, bring your friends, and get ready for a day full of fun, laughter, and community spirit. We can't wait to see you there!

JOIN OUR MEMBERSHIP TO

WIN

**A FAMILY PASS TO TARONGA ZOO**  
valued at \$150

Single Membership  
**\$11 / YEAR**

Double Membership  
**\$17 / YEAR**

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO LEARN MORE  
[WWW.WOODSTOCKSHOW.COM.AU/APPLICATIONS](http://WWW.WOODSTOCKSHOW.COM.AU/APPLICATIONS)

TO BE ELIGIBLE MEMBERSHIP MUST BE PAID BY 31ST AUGUST 2025  
ALL PAID MEMBERS WILL GO INTO THE DRAW  
DRAWN SHOW DAY SUNDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER 2025



# A BIG THANK YOU FROM WOODSTOCK SWIMMING POOL

As the season comes to a close, we would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported the community-run Woodstock Swimming Pool this year. Whether you visited for a swim, brought your family along to enjoy the water, or simply spread the word—your involvement has made all the difference.

The pool committee are currently seeking funding to replace shade over the pool area.

Special thanks goes out to the dedicated volunteers who helped keep the pool running smoothly, from maintenance to key distribution and daily upkeep. Your commitment is what makes this community resource so special.

As we wrap up, we kindly ask that all keys be returned either to the Post Office or dropped into the honesty box at the pool. Thank you again for a fantastic season. We look forward to seeing you next year!



UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT  
-THE-  
**COMMUNITY POST OFFICE**  
WOODSTOCK  
STAMPS  
PARCEL COLLECTION/DISPATCH  
BASIC GROCERY ITEMS  
LOLLIES CHIPS  
POST OFFICE BOXES AVAILABLE TO RENT  
EFT AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASES  
**SERVICE WITH A SMILE**  
PHONE 0447120290  
MONDAY- FRIDAY 9AM -1PM 4-5.30PM

**PANTHERS**  
WOODSTOCK  
2025  
Community Cup Challenge  
The Panthers are back again for another year, kicking off in September.  
This year we will host a reunion for all past player so keep a eye out for more info  
 ESTABLISHED 1911  
**WOODSTOCK HOTEL**



Outgoing President Ben Johnstone, Paul Dresser, John Cooley, Kevin Graham and outgoing Vice President Diane Brown

## DEDICATION ACKNOWLEDGED WOODSTOCK SHOW VOLUNTEERS

The Woodstock Memorial Show AGM held in March marked some big milestones, with outgoing President Ben Johnstone acknowledging three individuals with Lifetime Memberships. The contributions that these individuals have made over many years and continue to make have helped make the Woodstock Memorial Show what it is today!

Mr John Cooley is a strong advocate for the Woodstock Memorial Show. A steward in the prime lambs for 25 years. The instigator of Tractor Pull steward from the late 1990's until 2024. He served as Vice President for 5 years and President from 2006 to 2008. An individual whom also has tirelessly sought community sponsorship on behalf of the show body.

Mr Paul Dresser, a surname synonymous with the Woodstock Memorial Show. Paul introduced the wool section to the show in 1969 and stewarded the section in its early years. He also instigated the Prime Lamb section in 1976 with a long

standing association as steward. He served as Treasurer from 1971-1988. He has also served a term both as Vice President and President. The family and the business of the family has had a life long association with the show. Paul was appointed show patron in 2022.

Mr Kevin Graham has been an active competitor in the Woodstock Show for many years. Kevin instigated the popular tug-o-war event in 1980 through until 1986. He also instigated the woodchopping event in 1995, now a major event at the Show, attracting a strong contingent of competitors and spectators. He has been and continues to be the Chief Steward of the woodchopping event from its inception in 1995 to 2025. He has been chief gate steward for 36 years. Most significant though is the contribution Kevin makes behind the scenes, with countless hours of maintenance and mowing in and around the showground and seeking sponsorship for the show.



# WOODSTOCK'S PIGEON MAN

Ken Sigsworth has been a familiar face in the village of Woodstock since 1970, when he and his wife settled there. Originally from England, Ken arrived in Australia as a £10 pom first working in rural New South Wales, embracing the Australian lifestyle, before putting down roots in the Woodstock community. He and his wife, Jullianne quickly fell in love with village life—the close-knit atmosphere where everyone knows each other, and at one time, everything a family needed could be found right there in town.

Ken's passion for pigeons began early. As a boy of nine or ten in England, he started keeping and racing pigeons, a hobby that connected him with nature, competition, and quiet moments. After moving to Australia, he helped Jullianne's family race trotters and, for a while, left the pigeon world behind. But after a ten-year hiatus, it was his daughter Janet who rekindled his love for the birds—she surprised him with two pigeons, setting him on a path back into the racing world.

Now a member of the Cowra/Woodstock Pigeon Club, Ken finds joy and challenge in every aspect of pigeon racing—from breeding and training to the thrill of watching them return home. He purchased his original birds from a breeder who left Cowra, and over time has developed a strong bloodline. Falcon attacks remain a constant threat to his flock, but the thrill of competition keeps him going. Ken's pigeons race from July to October, often competing with clubs in Bathurst, Parkes and Grenfell. Racing pigeons can reach incredible speeds—some in large clubs have been recorded flying up to 2,400 metres a minute. Ken once had a bird fly from Roma, Queensland, all the way to Woodstock, leaving at 7am and arriving home at 6pm—a remarkable feat of endurance and instinct.

Homing pigeons have a long storied history as reliable messengers, dating back thousands of years to ancient civilizations such as Egypt, Greece, and Rome, where they were used to carry important messages over great distances. Their incredible navigational abilities made them invaluable during times of war, especially in World War I and World War II. One of the highest honors awarded to animals for bravery is the Dickin



Medal, often referred to as the “animal Victoria Cross.” Instituted in 1943 by Maria Dickin, the founder of the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals (PDSA) in the UK, the medal recognized acts of extraordinary bravery by animals serving with the armed forces. Several homing pigeons received the Dickin Medal for their heroic missions, including carrying critical messages that saved countless human lives under dangerous conditions.

For Ken, pigeon racing isn't just a hobby—it's a lifelong passion rooted in patience, care, and a deep connection to home.



## WOODSTOCK MEMORIAL SHOW ELECTS YOUNGEST EVER FEMALE PRESIDENT

In a historic moment for the Woodstock Memorial Show, the organisation has appointed its youngest-ever female president during the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held in March. This significant achievement comes as the show continues to evolve and strengthen its place in the community, with fresh leadership paving the way for future growth. The newly appointed president, Lily Lawler brings a dynamic vision to the role, emphasising the importance of youth involvement and innovation as central to the future of the event.

At just 22 years old, Lily has already proven herself to be an outstanding leader within the show, working closely with previous organisers to attract new participants, boost attendance, and enhance the show's community reach. "I am incredibly honored to take on this responsibility. The Woodstock Memorial Show has always been a cherished part of our community, and I'm excited to lead the charge in engaging more young people and ensuring the show continues to thrive for generations to come,"

Lily takes over from Ben Johnstone, who served as president for the past three years and was instrumental in revitalising the show. Ben's tenure

saw the recruitment of new volunteers, the expansion of exhibitor categories, and the introduction of modern technologies to improve the event experience. His leadership has undoubtedly left a lasting impact on the show, and he remains committed to supporting Lily during her presidency.

One of the key initiatives Ben spearheaded was the recruitment of young talent to ensure the longevity of the Memorial Show. Under his guidance, a new generation of volunteers and leaders was brought on board, providing the organisation with a fresh and diverse pool of talent. Ben's unwavering belief in the importance of youth involvement in the show's operations has been one of his most lasting contributions.

Lily, is eager to continue this work, focusing on fostering a sense of community, creativity, and collaboration among younger participants. "The future of the show relies on encouraging and empowering youth to take ownership of its success," she added. "We need to ensure that the Memorial Show remains relevant to younger generations and that they have a platform to express their talents, whether through exhibitions, performances, or volunteering."



# ST MATTHEW'S ANGLICAN CHURCH WOODSTOCK 2024

2024 was a most memorable year for St Matthew's and the village of Woodstock, as we celebrated the 120th anniversary of the current church building. The church foundation stone was laid on May 30th 1904 by Mrs Harry Glasson.

The current congregation celebrated at our service on Sunday 2nd June with prayers and blessings and a special "120" cake for morning tea after the service. Over the years many parishioners from the village and district have donated their time, gifts and skills to ensure the church still stands in good order.

At the end of 2024 St Matthew's Anglican Church was the only church still functioning in Woodstock. St Matthew's continues to only have one service a month held on the first Sunday of the month. There were eleven regular services conducted on the first Sunday of the month and very well attended services on both Easter Sunday and Christmas Day. The average attendance for the regular monthly services was eleven parishioners. With favorable grass-growing conditions through most of the year, it was necessary to continue to undertake an extensive grounds maintenance program to present the church grounds in a cared-for condition.

The email contact to all the St Matthew's parishioners and where possible SMS messaging of service dates and time was continued during the year. Contact was made by phone to those who were known to be unwell to check on their well-being.

Through negotiations with the Diocese, the shortfall in the funding for full-time employment of Rev Jono Williams up until his resignation in mid-October was able to be provided from the Glasson Bequest Interest Account. The legacy that was left to St Matthew's by the Glasson sisters is truly appreciated in assisting the continued operation of our very special Church to service the Woodstock district. We are grateful to LLM Ross Burnett for the services that he conducted when



required during the year despite his additional commitments following the former rector's resignation.

Special thanks to the Rev Ben Connelly of St John's Anglican Church in Cowra who very kindly offered to conduct the monthly services for November & December together with a very special service on Christmas Day. A well-deserved thank you to Mary-Ann Wright for her wonderful musical skills in playing the organ when available during the year, which was greatly appreciated by those attending the services.

Joint Church Council Member  
Winter Warden  
4th March 2025



## ENROL NOW

Fostering Excellence  
Through Learning

## WOODSTOCK PUBLIC SCHOOL

Woodstock Public School is a small close-knit school with a family feel. The school has a dedicated teaching staff with over 40 years combined experience. Teachers ensure that all students engage in educational experiences appropriate to their level of learning. Dedicated Infants and Primary classrooms. The primary classroom accesses two teachers and works at a Stage 2 and 3 level throughout the day.

The school has a focus on ensuring all teachers are using current teaching methods, we have high expectations for all students at all times.

In addition, we offer:

- Kitchen and community vegetable gardens
- Extensive playgrounds and ovals
- Students access a range of sports through Sporting Schools Australia
- Additional support through a school counsellor and student wellbeing officer (position currently advertised)
- Highly experienced teachers
- Breakfast club
- Strong Kindergarten and High School transition programs
- Weekly Playgroup (to recommence soon)
- P&C



### CONTACT US:

02 6345 0217



Parkes St Woodstock



<https://woodstock-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>





Simply cut out this form and return it to the Woodstock community post office at your earliest convenience.

[illegible]