Issue One | November - December 2016

Our Community Newsletter

We LOVE to help!

A LITTLE RAY OF GIVING

#alittlerayofgiving

The yellow bike giveaway

It's the final few days of our bike giveaway - For your chance to win, get yourself down to: **HOJO Cafe** (Mittagong Market Place)

Good Luck!

Like us on facebook for a second entry into the draw:

Facebook.com/raywhitemittagong

What's on..... in December

1 Dec – 22 Dec	The Little Ray of Giving – gift donation at our office for the under privileged
1 Dec	Berrima open for Christmas – shopping until 8:00pm
3 Dec	Little Mountain Readin – annual poetry reading @ Sturt. 5 pm – 8 pm P: 4860 2083
3 Dec	Twilight @ Joadja Wines - MacDaddy Duo (food stalls available – bus service too) 5pm – 8pm Cnr Greenhills & Joadja Rds High Range P: 02 4878 5236
6 Dec	Art @ Glass – Glass Café Mittagong. Every Tuesday & Thursday in Dec 4 pm – 6 pm M: 0429 042 721
7 Dec	Artisan Cheese Making – CWA rooms, Bowral – Wingecarribee St 8:45 am – 3:30 pm E: lucynias@hotmail.com
TBA	The Southern Highlands Christmas Fair – Southern Highlands Winery 2 day event (usually early Dec) 9 am – 4 pm
8 Dec	Artisan Night Market – in the gardens of Sturt (Frensham) 5pm til Late. E: shop@sturt.nsw.edu.au

Christmas Statistics – "Yule" never know….

- 1 in 10 – the number of presents received that will be broken by the New Year.
- 7 in 10 – the number of dogs that get Christmas gifts from their owners
- 33 – the average amount spent per person on last-minute purchases
- 25 – the percentage time spent in queues when christmas shopping
- 832 – the number of home Santa visits every second to deliver all his presents
- 5340 – Average number of times visa cards are used every minute during Christmas time

Ray White Mittagong T: 02 4872 3632 E: mittagong.sales@raywhite.com 4a/118 Main St Mittagong NSW

8 Dec	Bowral Family Carols – Bradman Oval Starting @ 5:30pm – Fireworks @ 8:30pm E: info@bowralfamilycarols.org
10 Dec	Carols by the Lake – (Bi-annual event) Lake Alexandra from 5pm
10 Dec	Jazz in the Highlands @ Mittagong Hotel 2pm – 5 pm E: mary.armstrong@gmail.com
11 Dec	Christmas at the Loch – Berrima 581 Greenhills Rd, Berrima 12 – 4pm
TBC	Carols in Leighton Gardens – Moss Vale Start with Children's activities from 6pm
12 Dec	Southern Highlands Wines – Monday Masterclass Italian Cooking E: info@shw.com.au P: 02 4868 2300
15 Dec	Bowral to Versailles – Treasure from the Palace 8 am - 5 pm E: info@agranddayout.com.au
17 Dec	Berrima Carols by Candlelight – in the grounds of the Holy Trinity Church 6:30pm M: 0418 971 878
17 Dec	"A Merry Musical Christmas" – Bowral Memorial Hall 7:00 pm E: trinitastheatricals@gmail.com
17 Dec	Dog Trumpet – Medicated Spirits 6:00 pm Bowral Bowling Club E: info@eclecticsound.com.au
22 Dec	Bowral Twilight Markets – the final market for the year 3 pm – 7 pm Bowral Public School E: enqure@bowralpsmarkets.com

It's Local … with history

Harper's Mansion – Berrima

Harper's Mansion is a historic homestead in Berrima, New South Wales. It is recognised for its Georgian design. Harper's Mansion is now a property of the National Trust of Australia (NSW), which acquired it in 1978. In the gounds of the Harper's Mansion is a wonderful hedge maze – my kids have had endless fun in this maze – a must do for all kids, young and old.

James Harper, a district constable in Sutton Forest, completed his house in 1834. He was also the first licensee of the *Surveyor General Inn* at Berrima.

Harper died in 1845 with financial difficulties. It appears he had overreached himself and was caught by the recession of the 1840s. Berrima failed to develop as he had hoped. Many blocks had been sold to speculators, but few had been developed and the streets were not cleared until 1837. In 1846 William Hutchison, as mortgagee in possession, took ownership of Harper's house.

The house was leased by the church from 1853. It was used as a presbytery for the priests of St Francis Xavier Church Berrima in 1853. In 1898 the priest was relocated to Moss Vale and the house was vacant until four Sisters of the Daughters of Our lady of the Sacred heart, who had opened a school in Berrima, used it as a convent from 1903 to 1909. Between 1909 and 1970 the Church leased the house to various tenants and Harper's' Mansion progressively fell into disrepair.

Harper's Mansion

Harper's Mansion
http://harpersmansion.com.au/

In 1970 the Church sold the now derelict property to Mr and Mrs W.G.E. Williams. The new owners intended to restore the house, but on realising the enormity of the task, they decided to sell. Eager to have the house restored, the Mittagong Shire Council applied for a grant, then transferred the grant to the National Trust of Australia (NSW) and facilitated the sale of the property in 1978 which included a subdivision. The firm of the heritage architects undertook the restoration and Harper's Mansion was opened to the public in 1985.