

NOVEMBER 2025

SOUTHERN LIVING & *Real Estate*



A GOLDEN TIME FOR STARGAZING AT RIDGEMILL ESTATE.
PAGE 6

Easing into summer

WarwickToday
StanthorpeToday



FOCUS ON STANTHORPE GALLERY



Laurie Astill 'Pillars of the Earth'.



Maryke Miller 'Green Raku Pot with Carving'.



QAGOMA James Gleeson Australia 1915–2008 Structural emblems of a friend (self portrait) 1941 Oil on canvas board 46 x 35.6cm Purchased 1984.

Good things come in threes

November is a busy time at the Stanthorpe Regional Gallery with three exhibitions underway with something for everyone.

Reflections and Celebrations: Maryke Miller and Laurie Astill – until 23 November

An all-new exhibition that reflects upon and celebrates two amazing lifetimes of art by award-winning local artists.

Maryke Miller and Laurie Astill are exceptional local artists specialising in ceramics and painting respectively. This is the third time they have exhibited together at the Gallery and they are both well known and well loved.

Both artists are highly decorated for their work. Maryke has won our Local Art Prize, won an aquisition prize for the Tenterfield Gallery and has a second prize at the highly prestigious Siliceous Award run by Ceramic Arts Queensland. Laurie is a grand prize winner at the Stanthorpe Show, has won the Southern Downs Regional Art Exhibition 2009, and the Margaret Burton memorial award for his painting titled The Picnic in the 2016 Stanthorpe Art Prize.

Maryke shows drive and courage to keep reinventing herself artistically. Maryke's work is constantly evolving as she explores new types and styles of pottery with new skills and techniques. Her variety is certainly on display here in this exhibition.

Laurie explores the subtle effects of light on his subjects and their tones. He has honed his skills to include a variety of different mediums from oil to watercolour.

Come and see this brilliant exhibition and admire both the technical and the creative aspects of the work of these 2 award-winning local artists.

Free entry.
Most of the works are for sale.

Karen Johns, A Moment in Time – until November 23

A captivating all-new exhibition of watercolours that captures moments in time - be it a rain drop, a reflection, a tragedy or just fantasy.

Karen Johns is a multi-award-winning



QAGOMA Vincent Namatjira Western Aranda people Australia b.1983 Albert and Vincent 2014 Synthetic polymer paint on linen 120 x 100cm Gift of Dirk and Karen Zadra.

local artist specialising in watercolours. A Moment in Time mainly showcases Karen's new work and shows off her mastery of light & shade and colour in the dynamic medium that is watercolours.

Karen is not averse to creating shock or revolt in her audience (and family!), as she explores the full range of senses and scenes that are part and parcel of life...and death.

Come and see this brilliant exhibition and admire both the technical and the creative aspects of the work.

Free entry.
All work is for sale.

QAGOMA Exhibition – November 27 until 11 January 2026

People's persistent interest in the self-image is explored in a new exhibition of work from the Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art (QAGOMA) Collection,



Karen Johns 'Echidna Road Kill'. (Supplied)

opening at Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery on 27 November 2025.

Drawing from QAGOMA's Australian, Indigenous Australian, Asia Pacific and International collections, 'Looking Out, Looking In: Exploring the Self-Portrait' highlights richly diverse approaches to the timeless artistic genre.

QAGOMA Director Chris Saines CNZM said 'Looking Out, Looking In' had been devised against the backdrop of contemporary 'selfie' culture.

"We have become increasingly attuned to the self-image through the ubiquity of handheld digital devices, social media and reality TV, all of which create a new context for self-portraiture," Mr Saines said.

"Through historical examples and artworks that reflect contemporary trends, the exhibition reveals significant cultural

shifts and identify the universal themes that still characterise the genre.

"While some artists look inwards to reflect on themselves in self-effacing ways, others project a more flamboyant image. Together, the artworks situate self-portraiture as a dynamic genre responsive to larger societal concerns, and linked to the collective desire to picture and comprehend ourselves."

Works in 'Looking Out, Looking In' are grouped thematically, rather than chronologically, with an emphasis on the contemporary.

The artists included in 'Altered states' scrutinise the mutability of the self-image, whether through masking or distortion, while those in 'In the flesh' examine their bodies as sites of self-assertion or experimentation. 'The composite self' examines the multifaceted nature of identity, and the idea that our sense of self is informed by many influences, including social circles and family ties. 'Role play' includes artworks that contest the notion of individuality, and the idea that a self-portrait can reveal a different identity.

These main themes are augmented by works where artists have captured themselves in profile, and photographs that reflect a documentary value and play on the relationship between camera and photographer.

In an age when digital technology has transformed the way we live and interpret our lives, 'Looking Out, Looking In' offers a broad and accessible setting in which to consider our contemporary obsession with self.

Artists featured include Abdul Abdullah, Davida Allen, Fiona Foley, James Gleeson, Nora Heysen, George W. Lambert, Tracey Moffatt, Yasumasa Morimura, Vincent Namatjira, Luke Roberts, Cindy Sherman and Madonna Staunton, among others.

The exhibition will be on display at Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery until 11 January.

Fiction a love letter to adopted town

.....

BY TANIA PHILLIPS

Stanthorpe-based author and physiotherapist Cynan Lewis was never the kind of guy who had always wanted to write a novel or felt the overwhelming need to write and yet after five years work he has just released his first historical fiction.

Shaped of Granite is a novel not a history book but it is also a love letter of sorts to his adopted home-town inspired by it's people past and present and by the town itself and it's fascinating history.

It seems more than fitting that the man who has become a big part of the town that he has lived in with his American wife Penny for the past 20 years, hold the launch party for the book there.

Although Shaped of Granite is already out to buy, it will be officially launched at the Stanthorpe Regional Gallery Saturday 8 November from 10.30-11.30am.

He said the Gallery, as a central location, seemed like a perfect place for the launch particularly for a book about the region.

This is Cynan's first novel. He works as a physioptherapist in Stanthorpe and is an avid cyclist (Stanthorpe Road Club) and kayaker. He plays the bagpipes in the Stanthorpe RSL Pipe Band and has tried his hand at Shakespearean acting with the Stanthorpe Little Theatre. And now an author thanks to the Shaped of Granite.

Writing isn't his day job or really hasn't been one of his hobbies so what inspired him to sit down and write a novel?

"I have an interest in history and through working as a physio in Stanthorpe I have come across many people who had a link to Stanthorpe's past," he said.

"I've lived here for about 25 years now so I've met many people over the years, some of whom have now passed, who told me snippets of interesting stuff about Stanthorpe and I thought there was a need for it.

"There are some other historical books but I thought you could really bring the human side to the story with a historical fiction, in a way that you really couldn't if you are trying to write just about the history.

"It does give you a freedom too because you're not speaking about historical figures except in passing. It gives you a lot more freedom wit out the worry of offending people or misrepresenting them."

Shaped of Granite is a historical novel that traces the history of the Granite Belt over the



Cynan Lewis was born in the Australian territory of Papua New Guinea, has lived with his American wife, Penny, in the town of Stanthorpe for over twenty years. Two of their three children were born in the town, their first in the US state of Texas.

past century through its fictitious characters.

It tells a very human story full of passion, crime, trauma and hardship as well as the resourcefulness and resilience required to survive and prosper in the tough country that many of us now call home.

Cynan said the book is for those "who love our region and want to explore much of our history".

While the central characters are fictitious, they draw on the experiences of real people and there is some reference to historical figures. The novel begins with the tragedy of the First World War, which shaped the lives of soldier settlers. The migration of Italian families and their profound influence on the region is celebrated. The development of the horticultural and wine industries provides a background for many fascinating aspects of Granite Belt history.

"It took me about five years writing on weekends and whenever I was able to force myself to sit down and get on with

it," Cynan laughed.

"The book ends in 2019 – the initial scenes are from the First World War – I started really from the First World War and the Soldier Settlement in this area. Then it goes to Remembrance in 2019. It was probably around that time that I started writing but that's not why I chose that year. I chose 2019 because I actually played the bagpipes at that Remembrance Day Service there in Stanthorpe. I was there and I had written a poem about that experience which really ends the book. It just seems to be a fitting time to end it and it was just before Covid.

"I didn't really want to go into the Covid experience in this book – I do cover the Spanish Flu pandemic which occurred about a hundred years ago and I didn't really want to go through that again.

"The other reason that I ended it in 2019 is that one of the central characters comes to that service at the age 102 – he's invited by the local RSL Subbranch so really again it was a

nice bookend."

So, is writing something he has always wanted to do?

"No, it's not, I've probably written poems for maybe ten years but to actually write a novel was not something I had an ambition to do but I just thought there was a need to tell the history of this area," Cynan explained.

"It includes Warwick and it includes Glen Innes as well. They're mentioned in passing because of characters that originate there. There is a poem that I include that was passed on to me by the family of a veteran who served in Milne Bay. The 25th Battalion who were at Milne Bay were composed of people from the Granite Belt and Warwick mainly."

The book will be available to buy at the launch where Cynan will personally sign all copies. Shaped of Granite by Cynan Lewis book launch will be held Saturday 8 November 10.30-11.30am



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There's no better time to visit Queensland's premier wine region than spring, when the vineyards are bursting with new life setting the perfect scene for a weekend of indulgence.

Grazing the Granite Belt – Spring, held on 22–23 November 2025, just three hours from Brisbane, invites visitors to sip, savour and stroll their way through Granite Belt Wine Country's boutique wineries, local produce and blossoming landscapes. Across two delicious days, attendees will journey between 12 local venues, each serving up seasonal tasting plates paired perfectly with Granite Belt wines.

The event's Saturday hop-on, hop-off bus connects cellar doors from Ballandean to Stanthorpe, so attendees can focus on the flavours, not the driving. Sunday slows down with a relaxed brunch at one of the region's favourite foodie stops, rounding off the weekend on a high note.

This spring's line-up features iconic names such as Ballandean Estate Wines and Ridgemill Estate, alongside rising favourites like The Church: Local Wine Project, Art of Krupinski, and Flame Hill Vineyard. Each menu celebrates the diversity of the winemakers and their heritage, from Polish to Spanish, Italian to Indonesian and more, showcasing Granite Belt produce with global flair.

So how does it work? Each attendee



Enjoying a wine in the sun.

receives food and drink vouchers, giving them the freedom to design their own grazing adventure. Every participating winery offers appetiser-sized dishes with suggested wine pairings, and with multiple buses circulating throughout the day, it's the perfect way to taste, explore and discover at the visitor's own pace.

Whether planning a girls' getaway filled

with wine, laughter and long chats under the vines, or a romantic escape with someone special, Grazing the Granite Belt is the perfect mix of indulgence and adventure. Boutique stays, spring wildflowers and star-filled skies set the mood for a truly memorable weekend in Granite Belt Wine Country.

Tickets on sale now: <https://granitebeltwinecountry.com.au/grazing/>



Take your friends on an adventure to the Granite Belt.



Hope on and off the bus touring the region.

Saturday Venues: Art of Krupinski, Balancing Heart Vineyard, Ballandean Estate Wines, Bent Road Winery and Distillery, Flame Hill Vineyard, Jester Hill, Ridgemill Estate, The Church: Local Wine Project, View Wine.

Sunday Venues: Jamworks Gourmet Foods, Suttons Juice Factory and Cafe, Vincenzo's Cafe and Deli.

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Shifting Ground Touring Exhibition

BY KARINA DEVINE

Warwick Art Gallery is pleased to present *Shifting Ground*, a touring exhibition curated by Scenic Rim artist and researcher Larissa Warren.

The exhibition is an initiative of The Centre Beaudesert, The Scenic Rim Regional Council, delivered in partnership with Museums and Galleries Queensland.

Opening to the public 13 November 2025, *Shifting Ground* will be displayed at Warwick Art Gallery until 10 January 2026.

Shifting Ground is a celebratory exhibition that explores how clay, as both material and metaphor, can carry stories across time, connecting past makers with present-day artists.

By sharing locally sourced clays, material research, and community stories, this project invites reflection on resilience, place-based practice, and the unseen labour of creative women in regional Australia.

The exhibition showcases a stunning selection of ceramic works by twelve contemporary Australian artists, alongside a poignant collection of historical pieces by pioneering women potters from the Tamborine Mountain region.

Each piece is crafted from Tamborine Mountain's native volcanic clays, uniting



Larissa Warren, *Share Plate* (detail), 2022; porcelain, ceramic stains and Tamborine Mountain local clays: Poplars, School, Hillside, Red Retreat, Eva and Lucille, gold lustre, four plates 21.5 (diameter) x 6.8cm each (variable). (Courtesy of the artist)

artists – both past and present – and highlighting the deep connection between place, material, and tradition.



Sarah Zalewski, *Past - Kumi* (Grandmother), *Present - Waijung* (Mother), *Future - Muyum* (Son), 2023. Tamborine-Oxenford terracotta, Hillside slip, grasses sustainably collected from Mununjali Country (Beaudesert) Display: 28.5 x 27.2 x 9.9cm (Supplied by Larissa Warren).

This exhibition builds on Larissa Warren's 2020 project *Wild Women, Wild Clay*, which was born out of extended periods of isolation during the global pandemic.

Larissa said her research uncovered rich

and fascinating stories of female potters who lived in relative isolation on Tamborine Mountain from the 1940s to 1980s, digging raw clays from their backyards to create decorative ceramics to use and sell from their home galleries.

"The exhibition explores how clay, as both material and metaphor, can carry stories across time, connecting past makers with present-day artists," she said.

"By sharing locally sourced clays, material research, and community stories, this project invites reflection on resilience, place-based practice, and the unseen labour of creative women in regional Australia.

"This exhibition truly highlights the intricate thought processes behind the creation of these ceramics, and the realisation of the artists' visions is nothing short of inspiring."

Shifting Ground is on display from 13 November 2025 to 10 January 2026 (Closed between 24 December and 5 January).

Curator's Floor Talk Saturday 15 November at 11am. • Official Opening Saturday 15 November at 1pm. • Weaving Circles Workshop Sunday 16 November 10am to 12,30pm.

For more information on *Shifting Ground* at Warwick Art Gallery, visit the website at www.warwickartgallery.com.au.

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The sky’s the limit for Ridgemill

.....

BY TANIA PHILLIPS

Ridgemill Estate is a shining light in local tourism- a star – so it’s kind of fitting that one of the winery and accommodation venue’s most popular events is a stargazing night.

The venue, which has just been recognised as one of Queensland’s top shelf catering stays, is about to hold it’s second annual Stargazing Night on Saturday, 15 November 2025.

This magical evening combines award winning Ridgemill Estate wine with live music and breathtaking views of the night sky.

Nestled in Granite Belt Wine Country, Ridgemill offers the perfect conditions for stargazing: high elevation, crisp country air and near zero light pollution.

It’s the ultimate backdrop for an unforgettable night under the stars and is one of the many different events and experiences on offer at Ridgemill according to owner Michelle Feenan.

“There is always something happening for our guests who come to visit us or visit the region,” Michelle said.

“We let fellow accommodation providers know what we’ve got underway so if they want to refer their guest on, then that’s an opportunity for them. The Stargazing night is an annual event. We did it in August last year and decided to do it again this year based upon the huge response.”

The event involves a group of avid night sky watchers coming along with their telescopes and making them available to the general public.

“Through a colleague we’ve got ten different telescopes lined up at this year’s event of all different sizes,” she said.

“I think the biggest one will be 24 inches which provides an amazing opportunity to see different parts of the night sky through these very powerful telescopes.”

Many people who came along to last year’s inaugural event had never looked through a telescope before let alone being able to experience one of the quality on show that night.

“It’s very exciting,” Michelle said.

“People often think - lets check out the night sky and look at the moon which is very close to us and very impressive in its self - but we actually look for those nights where the moon is not present or at least not present during the time that we are wanting to do the viewing.

“This is because the moon throws out so much light that it actually drowns out the visibility of many other things in the night sky. We purposely target very dark skies so it gives us the opportunity to see other planets and I believe Saturn will be one of the planets that will be readily seen on that evening. We also get to look at nebulae, constellations, different constellation formations – the obvious one is the Southern Cross. But between Brian (local astronomer Brian Middleton) and his team they will point out a whole heap of other constellations and just tell the story of how they got their name, what they’re made of and how they feature, not just in the Southern Hemisphere, but also what can be seen from the Northern Hemisphere.”

And this is not just an event for visitors with locals coming along and checking out the event in drove last year was



Owners Michelle Feenan and Martin Cooper. (Supplied).



Winter at Ridgemill.



Enjoying a little Stargazing.



The night sky at Ridgemill. (Kenny Kwan).



Picture from the first Stargazing night. (Kenny Kwan)

predominantly local.

Michelle said they had around 120 people attended what was a free event last – not bad for something that came about through a chance meeting with astronomer Brian Middleton who moved to Stanthorpe three years ago.

“He and his wife Irene are both very avid astronomers and have good quality powerful telescopes,” she said.

“Irene is more into the astrophotography side of things while Brian likes to have his telescope available for people.

“He came to one of our soiree events and we got talking. I’ve had an interest in the night sky myself. I’m not a skilled and knowledgeable as Brian of course, but when we first started talking about it, I said Brian I think we need to do this as event.

“It was very very popular and the talk of the town for a couple of months,” Michelle said about the first event last year.

“So, we decided to have this larger event in November (the venue runs smaller events most months with just Brian’s telescope) and ask some of the local astronomer groups and visiting groups if they would be play a part.”

Local astronomer group members will come to the site set their gear up and make it available for public viewing.

“It’s really generous of them,” she said.

The Stargazer event is just one of the many things that helped put Ridgemill estate on the 2025 Star Ratings Australia Gold List.

Nestled in the heart of the Granite Belt wine region, Ridgemill Estate Accommodation offers guests a boutique blend of luxury, tranquillity and gold standard guest experiences like the

stargazing. With 12 stylish self-contained studio cabins and a beautifully appointed three-bedroom Winery Escape House, it’s the perfect place to sip, savour and slowdown in one of Queensland’s most scenic destinations.

The Star Ratings Australia Gold List celebrates officially rated properties that consistently deliver outstanding guest experiences, using verified traveller reviews collected by ReviewPro. With a 2025 Gold List acknowledgement, Ridgemill Estate has achieved some of the highest guest satisfaction ratings across the state.

Owner, Michelle Feenan said the recognition was an exciting milestone for the family-run estate.

“QTIC which is the Queensland Tourism Industry Council has a number of different programs and things that they look at in terms of the tourism sector,” she said.

“They have this Gold List program which is recognising Accommodational Tourism – so tourism supplier or operators who are achieving good results with respect to what they call the ReviewPro program.”

She said the program it looks at a complex series of data.

“But essentially they look at the way in which customers are reviewing the tourism operators,” she said.

“Based upon the analysis of that data you get scores. Then if you’ve got consistently good scores in that area it tips you into consideration for this Gold List Logo.

“It’s not anything that can we apply for, it’s something that the QTIC recognise with their own analysis of the relevant data.

“They have had the program running for quite some time. We did receive this same gold list recognition back in 2022, it’s lovely that we’ve again been recognized for our customer reviews.

“I guess that’s the real test of how we’re performing - when the customers are giving high scores and good description with respect to our service.

“It’s a real credit to our team.

“There are quite a number of people that contribute to this kind of outcome. It’s not any single person, it’s a team effort.”

She said it was lovely recognition and came as a “bit of a surprise to us”.

“Again, we don’t know when it happens and it’s not something we apply for so when we get advice of this recognition and the associated material then it’s just a great treat,” Feenan explained.

“It’s like Christmas,” she laughed.

For further information on the Stargazing night:

Event Details:

- Where: Ridgemill estate, 218 Donges Rd, Stanthorpe QLD
- When: Saturday, 15 November 2025
- Time: 6:00 pm – 9:30 pm
- Tickets:**
- Adults: \$35 | Kids (5–17): \$10 | Infants: Free
- Family Pass (2 adults + 2 kids): \$80
- Bookings are essential.
- Ridgemill Estate
- Phone: (07) 4683 5211
- Mobile: 0434 466 517
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- 218 Donges Road, Stanthorpe QLD



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Enjoying the trackless train.



Not every day you see a real reindeer in the centre of Allora.

Celebrating 30 years of Bush Christmas

The Allora Bush Christmas is a Southern Downs and Granite Belt Christmas tradition.

It's a part of the life of the town – something locals look forward to every year – a chance to catch up with friends and family, reconnect with each other, get into the spirit of Christmas and maybe even do a little Christmas Shopping.

And this year it's celebrating a milestone – 30 years of memories, fun, laughter and Chrissy fun.

Presented by the Allora Community Circle, this year's event will be held on 6 December from 3pm-9pm in Herbert Street.

Community Circle President, Krissy Henry said the event is an important part of town life and one that they are proud to be part of.

"Allora Community Circle is really proud to be a part of this living history and to continue the legacy that is the Allora Bush Christmas, hopefully passing the baton onto some younger passionate locals as the years go on," she said.

"We are really excited to be partnering with so many businesses, community groups and entertainers to bring this wonderful event to life for its 30th year."

"This is one of those true country events that could only happen in a place like Allora. Held right in the main street, filled with country charm, a safe and welcoming atmosphere, and that old-world community spirit that makes small towns so special."

This year, as always there promises to be something for everyone at this free and much-cherished community event.

There will be plenty to do, see and be entertained by while also getting a chance to do a little Christmas shopping along the way.

Krissy said there would be quality market stalls lining Herbert Street, featuring talented local makers, regional artisans, and boutique vendors offering a wide variety of products, gifts, and festive treats.

And all of the local shops will also be open late for added Christmas shopping.

Of course there will also be live entertainment all afternoon and evening

featuring local school choirs, dance groups and musicians and in-keeping with the 30th anniversary, Krissy promised there would be nostalgic performers from years gone by including the much-loved Fern Brothers and of course the always fabulous Warwick Thistle Pipe Band.

An event like this is always about the young and young at heart so expect plenty of entertainment for the kids – including a visit from the big man himself – Mr Klaus.

Krissy said watch out for Santa's arrival as it will be something special with live reindeer pulling his sleigh through the main street – not something you see every day.

As with all community events like this it takes a village and the Allora P-10 State School is chiming in hosting a disco in the Town Hall.

"There will also be roving entertainment and festive characters throughout the event," she said. And there promises to be lots of entertainment in the Carnival Zone to keep the kids entertained and help create those great memories that the event is famous for.

This year's carnival zone entertainment will include the Trackless Train, everyone's favourite Tea Cups, Inflatables and the new ride for 2025 – The Tornado.

All rides are included with a \$25 all-you-can-ride armband.

There will be plenty of other kids' activities and festive fun for all ages and lots of food and refreshments available from local cafes, hotels, and a variety of food vans serving meals, desserts, and sweet treats

And because this is an event for the community by the community there will be plenty of raffles and community fundraising to support local groups and future Allora events.

Allora Bush Christmas Celebrating 30 Years

- When: Saturday 6 December, 3pm-9pm
- Where: Herbert Street, Allora
- Presented by: The Allora Community Circle

For more information email: allorafestival@gmail.com or head to Allora Community Circle Inc on Facebook.



Here comes Santa Claus, here comes Santa Claus right down - Allora's main street.



The big man arrives.



Hellihoops Entertainment.

Get ready for a lot of Christmas fun

.....

BY TANIA PHILLIPS

Santa may be making a list and checking it twice but so is Warwick Christmas Carols Music Director and MC, Cathi Brown.

Cathi's list of course is more musically orientated than the big man in red – but no less important with the talented performer and teacher on the countdown to this year's Warwick Christmas in the Park

This year's event will be on at Leslie Park, Warwick from 4pm on 14 December – one of the two Southern Downs Regional Council-run carol events. Stanthorpe's Carols will be held at Weeroona Park two days earlier.

"This is the third year I've been involved in the carols," Cathi explained.

"Someone put me in for it because I'm music director for the Melomaniacs and the Choral Society. It was one of the members of the Melomaniacs that heard someone talking about needing someone and said you should give this person a call.

"It's been great to develop the skills to do it well.

"For the past three or four years I've participated in the Stanthorpe carols as well and at different times the Choral Society and the Melomaniacs have been out there to support but this year we're helping out with the Killarney community-run event. It's being held on 30 November in the park next to the Senior Citizen's building (Canning Park) where they often hold markets."

The Warwick event is promising to once again be lots of fun with plenty of music for all tastes and ages.

"We've got the Warwick City Band who will be doing the opening and closing numbers as well as a few items of their own but they will also be accompanying the sing-a-long carols which will be really exciting," she enthused.

"Everyone can sing at the top of their lungs because the band's really loud and bright – it's the best bit of carols going along and singing at the top of your voice.

"The Melomaniacs will lead the singing for the sing-a-long carols. We won't be doing any choral items but we do have the E Street singers joining us this year and they're going to be doing a set of their own with a duet which will be lovely. We have another choir – it's a combination of Central School and East and a few of the public schools in the outlying suburbs. Mrs Jane Shelley is the conductor for those and she'll bring as many kids as can come and they will take to the stage and do five (I think) really different Christmas songs. They won't be carols, they will be really fun and it will be great to have all the families of the kids coming."

She said she will also have a few young singing students who will come along to do solo performances.

"There will be a few Melomaniacs doing a duet, a trio or a solo as well," Cathi explained.

"There will be a big mix of traditional carols and fun songs and different people on stage. The E Street singers are a bit more of a traditional choir and obviously the kids choir are quite funky."

There will be something for everyone but with a very local feel to the whole event.

"The Melomaniacs are also going to do a really little kids set of songs too," she added.



Preparing for another year of Carols in Stanthorpe and Warwick thanks to the Southern Downs Regional Council.

"This is for toddlers – the kind of age group that would be into the Wiggles or High Five - that kind of demographics. We will be dressed up in silly costumes and we've got props and all sorts of things. We're going to have a pretend Santa. I'm hoping that we have something for every age group."

She said over at the Killarney – there have traditionally been a few locals that did their own Christmas gig and that will still be a showcase of local talent with the Melomaniacs adding a little something extra with kiddie songs, some sing-a-long carols.

"We will split up the evening with Santa in the middle and then we will do some more carolling and a few items," she said of Killarney.

So, the big question for Cathi, as she puts the show together and balances out everyone's song choices for the night, is what is her current favourite Christmas song or carol. She laughs heartily at the question.

"As a music director I've had to discover some more songs," she said.

"There is one that I'm really enjoying at the moment which you will hear at Killarney but not at Warwick, it's called Holiday Tango – it's really fun. It's got a tango feel – it's not a traditional carol – it doesn't really tell the Christmas story in a religious sense but it's really fun. I found it on a reputable website that does choral arrangements called JW Pepper and Sons.

"There's another one I found that's called Sing Fa La La because there's a lot of carols that have Fa La La in them – this one is just really fun.

"I really enjoying doing this - I love the actual event, the joy on people's faces and how much fun every one is having. The rehearsal part is fun too – because the Melomaniacs are happy to be heavily involved which is really great and we've done some of our own choreography for the little kiddies songs. We are having lots of fun with it."



It's beginning to sound a lot like Christmas. (Southern Downs Regional Council)



The carols events are always a great chance for the communities to come together, catch up, relax and get into the Christmas spirit.

- | | |
|--|---|
| Stanthorpe Carols in the Park <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Date: Friday, 12 December 2025■ Time: 4pm onwards for kids activities and food vendors; 6pm-8pm live music■ Location: Weeroona Park, Stanthorpe■ Entry: Free and open to all | Warwick Christmas in the Park <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Date: Sunday, 14 December 2025■ Time: 4pm onwards for kids activities and food vendors; 6pm-8pm live music■ Location: Leslie Park, Warwick■ Entry: Free and open to all |
|--|---|



WEDDINGS



20201021 9807_1-JW44-20

Duties of the Bridal Party

The Wedding Party: Who's Who and What They Do

Every wedding is a symphony of love, joy, and a touch of organized chaos - and at the heart of it all is the wedding party. These chosen few aren't just there for the photo ops; they're the trusted inner circle who help the couple glide through the planning and shine on the big day.

Maid, Matron, or Man of Honor:

Think of this role as the bride's co-pilot and chief cheerleader. Traditionally the honor falls to a sibling or lifelong friend, but titles vary: "maid" if unmarried, "matron" if married, or "man of honor" if the bride's closest confidant happens to be male.

They're there for every big decision - dress fittings, bridal shower planning, bachelorette festivities—and they'll be first on hand to calm nerves, fix a stubborn veil, or bustle the gown before the first dance. Some brides even appoint both a maid and matron of honor to share the load.

Best Man or Best Woman:

The groom's counterpart to the maid of honor is equally crucial. This trusted friend or sibling organizes the bachelor party, keeps the groom calm, and sometimes guards the rings like a priceless heirloom. On the day, they stand proudly by the groom's side, deliver a heartfelt (or hilariously memorable) speech, and make sure every last detail runs smoothly.

Bridesmaids and Bridesmen:

Long gone are the days of all-female bridal parties—now, it's all about celebrating those closest to you, regardless of gender. These friends or relatives help with pre-wedding events, from the bridal shower to day-of duties like welcoming guests or handing out favors. On the aisle, they add a flourish of glamour ahead of the bride's



(Rod Noendeng)

grand entrance.

Groomsmen and Groomswomen:

Whether suiting up or donning dresses, this crew rallies behind the groom. They pitch in with bachelor celebrations, rehearsal dinners, and day-of logistics. If no ushers are appointed, they'll guide guests to their seats and, if tradition calls for it, ensure the getaway car is spectacularly decorated.

Flower Girl or Flower Boy:

A sweet touch for any ceremony, this role is open to anyone - a niece, nephew, grandparent, or even a beloved pet. They lead the procession with a trail of petals and a smile (sometimes shy, sometimes gleeful), signalling that the bride is moments away.

Page Boy:

The page boy is often the flower girl's companion down the aisle, adding a charming old-world tradition to the

processional.

Ring Bearer:

Carrying the symbols of the couple's commitment, the ring bearer can be young or grown-up, human or furry. They might walk alongside the bridal party or take center stage in a moment guests will never forget.

Parents of the Groom:

The groom's mother often plays a hosting role, supporting her son and welcoming guests. She may share a dance or speech, while the father of the groom might offer a toast, lend a hand in planning, or simply be there as a reassuring presence.

Parents of the Bride:

Traditionally, the mother of the bride is by her daughter's side from dawn until aisle time, offering both practical help and emotional support. The father of the bride



still often shares the iconic walk down the aisle, gives a heartfelt speech, and enjoys the much-loved father-daughter dance.

In the end, every role in a wedding party is more than just a title - it's a gesture of love, trust, and shared celebration. These are the people who help transform a single day into a lifetime memory.

BRIDAL DIRECTORY



Does your business help couples create a day to remember?

THEN ADVERTISE AND BE SEEN | Contact Samantha on 0439 420 289 for more information

12637997-RR40-23



Prime position

Just two blocks from the Warwick CBD sits this two-bedroom post war home.

With a two car colorbond garage and carport agent Helen Harm believes this is a diamond in the rough.

"It just needs some TLC to revamp and realise full potential," she said.

"It is fenced on 890 m² within walking distance to the CBD, schools and childcare."

The property features two bedrooms, including a master bedroom with wardrobes, and a sleepout. As with many houses of this age there are French doors which lead from both bedrooms to the sleepout.

The kitchen has an electric stove, eat-in dining and good storage while the lounge/living area has R/C air conditioning and timber sliders to the kitchen.

The bathroom features a shower over the bath, vanity and toilet and linen storage while there is a second toilet in the laundry area.

There is a double colorbond garage and a low carport for a small car.

Contact Helen Harm on 0408 457 496 for inspection. Go to www.helenharm.com for more photos



Address: 3 Myrtle Avenue, WARWICK **Description:** 2 bedrooms, 1 bath **Price:** \$500,000 **Offers over** **Inspection:** By appointment

Contact: Helen Harm 0408 457 496 **Agent:** Helen Harm Real Estate





History for sale

It's not every day that someone offers you a yacht as part of a real estate deal but the current owners of the Butter Factory in Inglewood are doing just that.

"The old Butter Factory is full of history and now needs new owners," agent Helen Harm said.

"The owner is also offering the Sydney to Hobart yacht, "Witchdoctor" as a bonus to the purchaser of this historic Butter Factory with Power House beside it.

"He is no longer able to make use of the yacht so is letting it go in the hope the buyer will enjoy another chapter in the boat's rich sailing adventures."

Witchdoctor competed in the Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race for more than a quarter of a century and has almost as much history as the factory itself. According to Helen the yacht is not only a former winner of the iconic race but also many other events and it is still an ocean-going vessel.

The butter factory is situated on 3,194 m²

of land with leasehold title (application can be made to freehold).

Easy access to rail line which may suit astute investor with Inland Rail Project gaining momentum.

Current owner is disposing of this Inglewood asset due to family commitments and is ready to talk.

The Butter Factory was the original power station for Inglewood and Cooper Bessemer engine is still on site.

Helen believes the factory will suit warehouse, tourism, museum or any number of uses.

"Or just make it your own private castle -you'd have the castle and all you'd need is a moat for the boat," she joked.

The old Butter Factory is listed with Goondiwindi Regional Council as a local Heritage site.

Contact Helen Harm on 0408 457 496 for inspection. Go to www.helenharm.com for more photos.



Address: 114 Queen Street Price: \$159,000
Contact: Helen Harm 0408 457 496 Agent: HELEN HARM REAL ESTATE



Commercial premises on the market

These spacious commercial buildings are well located just metres off Albion St, main highway, with plenty of off-street parking available.

The businesses are in the mixed use planning zone and street access to both buildings is at the rear off Albion Street.

The property at 65 Grafton Street is 490 m² and is currently tenanted until 14 January 2026 at \$350 per week to a Pet Grooming business.

It was previously a Veterinary Surgery/ professional offices and features a reception area/ waiting room, five rooms for offices/ treatment rooms as well as a kitchen,

separate toilet and powder room with plumbing suitable for toilet/bathroom. There are four reverse cycle air-conditioners. There is a separate building at rear with two rooms (offices or storage?) and parking for five vehicles.

The 67 Grafton Street is 297 m² and currently leased at \$400 per week until 30 June 2026.

There is a reception/office area and a workshop at rear. The properties are \$800,000 for two (\$ 400,000+ each).

Contact Helen Harm on 0408 457 496 for inspection. Go to www.helenharm.com for more photos



Address: 65 and 67 Grafton street, WARWICK Price: \$800,000
Contact: Helen Harm 0408 457 496 Agent: HELEN HARM REAL ESTATE

Enjoy the cool of colour for summer

With summer almost upon us, there has never been a greater need to slow down, live in the present, and look to appreciate what we have around us.

It's a time for reshaping the way we feel and surround ourselves with colours of the day - colours that brighten our lives yet create a sense of calm. Colours that encourage a sense of warmth with those around us yet keep us cool on the hotter days.

For more than 25 years Dulux has presented a design calendar that helps set the pulse for Australian interior design and what colours will be surrounding us.

Mid-tone colours continue to dominate; however, the palettes are more muted compared to previous years.

Soft browns and the continued emergence of warmth provides depth in each palette, affording spaces a feeling of grounded cosiness.

Whilst the palettes have lent towards subdued hues, Dulux Still is predominantly neutral which bucks the trend of bolder use of colour from trends past.

The shift towards neutral shades aligns with consumer sentiment during periods of uncertainty - be it with the economy or the growth of the digital world - and we are drawn to tones that represent comfort and security.

As a member of the Dulux Colour Marketing Group (CMG) team, colour manager Lauren Treloar explains: "During times of instability, such as the current cost-of-living crisis and ongoing overseas conflicts, reduced consumer sentiment tends to see colour trends shift less dramatically.

"However, colour can be a powerful antidote to lift spirits and provide a sense of comfort and warmth."

Communications manager Andrea Lucena-Orr said the feeling of being overwhelmed due to our continual connection to the digital world and the rise of AI further compounds this feeling.

"There is a sense to slow down and appreciate life's everyday moments, to look for joy in our surroundings and find comfort in reminiscing about times when we felt safe and secure."

As a counteract to the fast pace of life, the Dulux Still palette encompasses slow design with an appreciation for the beauty of the mundane and the comforting everyday rituals of life.

This need for living in the present goes hand in hand with the increased desire to have a greater connection with nature. As a result, the subdued palette is filled with calming neutrals with brown undertones, as well as mid-tone shades as that exude warmth and a sense of ease.

Dulux Studio Cream, a pale buttery yellow, is a standout within the Dulux Still palette. It acts as a soft highlight in otherwise neutral spaces, often paired with browns that range from toffee to chocolate.

Yellow-greens are also a key trend for summer, with Dulux Cornstalk shining within the joyful palette Dulux Emerge, which is sure to add a relaxed feel to any room.

Lighter neutrals in the palette include Dulux Slight Mushroom and Deluxe Clay Pipe with Dulux Antique White U.S.A.®



Lighter neutrals in the palette include work harmoniously as a soft accent shade against darker hues. (513693)



Yellow based neutrals and greens blend with muted and serene cool blues. (513693)



Lighter neutrals in the palette include work harmoniously as a soft accent shade against darker hues. (513693)



Utilitarian furniture adds a monastic quality but is complemented by textural finishes that achieve a warm minimalist feel. (513693)



Colours from the Dulux Still range. (513693)



Colours from the Dulux Still range. (513693)



Demonstrating a broader cultural movement towards sustainability and a renewed appreciation of traditional craftsmanship, the trend is full of thoughtful and considered materiality choices. It combines organic, biophilic shapes, with chiselled, imperfect forms that are natural and unrefined.

Utilitarian furniture adds a monastic quality but is complemented by textural finishes that achieve a warm minimalist feel.

Celebrating the mundane, artwork embraces still life compositions evoking a



Colours from the Dulux Still range counteract to the fast pace of life. (513693)

sense of understated luxury.

Undyed textiles are selected for their natural properties and colours, in wool, shearling, cotton and linen; and innovative new materials designed for full circularity are integrated alongside traditional materials such as stone, ceramic and lava stone.

Metal accents in beaten silver, platinum, or bronze finishes appear alongside paper, cord and leather, and primitive-style line work patterns to enrich the sensory experience.



SOLD

Endless Possibilities

'Kurrajong' 518 Ha country haven, top of Herries Range. KARARA is halfway between Warwick & Inglewood on Cunningham Highway. Sheds, shearing setup with power. Lean-to for tractors & equipment, rainwater tanks, water holes, cattle yards, fencing round property.

- 4 Bed, 2 built in • Bathroom, shower over bath, vanity • Open plan living, aircon/woodfire • Kitchen- gas cooktop, electric oven, rangehood,

\$ 900,000+



SOLD

3 Street Frontages

Industrial buildings, located in the Industrial estate just 2.7K off interstate highway through Warwick & close to Morgan Park Complexes. 2000 m² lot fronts 3 streets, Zoned Industrial.

- 3 Phase power to 9m x 18m workshop
- Insulated roof • 270m sq Floor space
- Aircon offices lower & mezzanine levels
- Kitchen & Toilet areas on both levels
- Instant security alarm system

\$ 880,000+

- BUSINESS OWNERS -

No rental vacancies?

Have you considered housing as part of your employment package?

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WANTED FOR QUALIFIED BUYERS

Unit 2-3 bed, 1-2 bath, garage...Up to \$400,000

100+ Acres, 2 deeds...\$600,000+

Acreage to run 110 breeders, water...\$900,000+



Commercial Site

Commercial building, well located just off Albion St, main highway, zoned Mixed Use. 65 Grafton St – 490 m² - LEASED til 2026 at \$350 p.w.

- Reception area • 5 rooms • Kitchen, toilet & powder room • Room has plumbing for toilet/bathroom • 4 reverse cycle air-con • Building at rear has 2 rooms • Parking for 5 vehicles

\$ 400,000+



Prime Location

Prominent street position, high traffic exposure in Warwick City commercial precinct.

- Ample car parking - on street & city carpark.
- 93 sqm floor area providing retail/office space
- 6.2m frontage, visibility for signage & displays
- Ducted aircon, plenty of power points, data points, phone. Telecommunication system
- Toilet wash room
- Conveniently located for main street foottraffic

\$ 425,000+



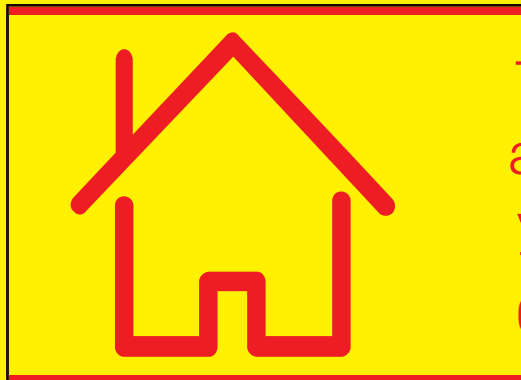
Commercial Site

Spacious commercial building, well located just metres off Albion St, main highway, plenty of off-street parking available, zoned Mixed Use. 67 Grafton St – 297m² - Currently vacant - FOR LEASE \$400 p.w.

- Reception/office area
- Workshop at rear

BUY both 65 & 67 Grafton for \$ 800,000 + GST if applicable

\$ 400,000+



This could be advertising for your property

Call Helen today!

WE'RE IN A SELLER'S MARKET!!

Take advantage of this unprecedented timing. BUYER interest from Interstate and across Queensland.

LIST YOUR PROPERTY WITH US NOW!!



MotoX, SuperX

FOR SALE due to ill-health. Track unused few years - needs some attention. Within 2.5 hrs of Brisbane - 20 mins to Warwick on 47.11ha. Established shed, lined, self sufficient + extras

- 1.5K MotoX & SuperX track, dams, irrigation/sprinkler. • Freestyle motoX area
- Fencing 3 side boundary & bore pump
- Solar system 12V 52W 560amp hrs 1kw inverter • 2 shipping containers, awning

\$ 600,000+



2 Street Frontages

Great opportunity for a light industry venture, establish new business or upgrade to higher profile site near Black Toyota, Top Two Motorcycles, Betta Storage.

- Corner of Murphy Street & Ogilvie Road. Both are bitumen roads with 300m or more frontage.
- Power, water sewerage nearby.
- Zoning is Specialised Centre
- 2.6 Ha off Cunningham Highway.

\$ 2,210,000



40 Wood Street

- Business Office with reception & rest room, concrete storage yard.
- Zoning is "Mixed Use" which permits – Residential, Low Impact Industry, Commercial Office, Childcare
- Home – 4 Bed, 1 Bath, carport
- General Development Requirements please contact our office
- Land Size is 1897 m²

\$ 1,450,000



Helen Harm

Real Estate

for Property in Warwick



Quiet Cul de Sac

In established estate at the end of a cul de sac.
• 4 Built-in Bedroom Brick, ensuite/walk-in robe
• 2 Living Areas
• Well-appointed kitchen, electric appliances
• Main bathroom is 2-way
• Undercover entertaining
• Double remote garage
• 3KVA Solar System
• 875 m² backyard

\$ 725,000+



Ground Level

Single storey air conditioned 2 bed brick terraced home near hospital, with own courtyard.
NO BODY CORP FEES – Separate title
Extras:- NEW cooktop, Gas Hot water, 1.5 KVA Solar system, low maintenance Stramit cladding
• Aircon 2 built-in Bed • Shower, vanity & toilet
• Open plan – kitchen, living, dining & lounge
• Laundry & storage • Remote single garage
INVESTORS: Rent is \$450 p.w till 20/04/2026

\$ 450,000



Brick & Tile

Open plan living brick & tile, 4 bed, 2 bath, 2 car.
• 4 Bedroom, built ins
• King sized Master has ensuite, walk in robe
• Bathroom – bath, separate shower, vanity
• Separate toilet next door
• Mod con kitchen with pantry
• Aircon tiled living, slider to u/c entertaining
• Separate laundry • 472m² lot • 2 Car garage
INVESTORS: Rent is \$500 p.w. till 22/08/25

\$ 600,000+



This could be advertising for your property

Call Helen today!



Your Private Castle

Old Butter Factory full of history, now needs new owners.
• 3,194 m² with leasehold title (application can be made to freehold).
• Easy access to rail line may suit astute investor with Inland Rail Project
• Current owner is disposing Inglewood asset due to family commitments and is ready to talk.
• Suit warehouse, tourism, museum or???

\$ 159,000



Prime Position

Two blocks to Warwick CBD, Needs some TLC to revamp and realise full potential.
• 2 Bedroom + sleepout
• French doors from both bedrooms to sleepout
• Lounge living has R/C aircon - timber sliders to kitchen with electric stove, eat-in dining
• Bathroom - shower over bath, vanity & toilet
• 2nd Toilet in Laundry area
• Double colorbond Garage on 890 m²

\$ 500,000+



Optional Extra for Your Private Castle

Old Butter Factory full of history, now needs new owners. The owner is also offering the Sydney to Hobart yacht, "Witchdoctor" as a bonus to the purchaser of the historic Butter Factory. He is no longer able to make use of the yacht so is letting it go in the hope the buyer will enjoy another chapter in the boat's rich sailing adventures.

Optional



Suit Investors

NO BODY CORP FEES – Separate title
Extras:- Gas Hot water, 1.5 KVA Solar system, low maintenance Stramit cladding
Upstairs • Airconditioned 2 Bedroom – built-ins
• Bathroom has shower, vanity & toilet
Downstairs • Remote single garage
• Open plan Living – kitchen, living, dining
• Laundry, separate toilet & storage
INVESTORS:- Rent is \$450 to 07/07/2026

\$ 470,000

- BUSINESS OWNERS -

No rental vacancies?

Have you considered housing as part of your employment package?

CALL HELEN TODAY!



Central Location

Short walk to schools, shops, business and sport facilities. 1950's home has hardiplank exterior.
• Double block frontage on one title
• 4 bedrooms • Large kitchen
• Separate lounge • Enclosed sunroom
• Bathroom with separate toilet
• Large yard 1166 m² • 2 Carports
• Close to Primary school and shops
INVESTORS: Tenant pays \$460 p.w. to Feb 2026

\$ 650,000

For Rent: 4661 3663

House – 2 bed, 1 bath, Open plan, lounge living, u/c outdoor, 1 car, shed..... **\$ 400 p.w**
MT COLLIERY – 3 bed + office, 1 bath, Open plan, lounge living, 4 car, shed..... **\$ 400 p.w**
House 4 bed built-ins, bath/sep shower, Open plan living, N deck, 1 car **\$ 550 p.w**
FURNISHED – Aircon 2 bed, 2 bath, Open plan, lounge living, 1 car..... **\$ 570 p.w**
House 4 bed built-ins, bath/shower, living, kitchen/dining, u/c outdoor, 2 car **\$ 600 p.w**
House – 3 bed, 2 bath, lounge living, kitchen dining, 6 car **\$ 650 p.w**

URGENT !! WE NEED RENTALS IN GOOD REPAIR

LAND

WARWICK - 25930 m², High profile, 2 street frontage, Zoned specialised **\$ 2,210,000**
WARWICK - 1897 m², High profile, 2 street frontage, Zoned mixed use **\$ 1,450,000**
PRATTEN - 47.11Ha, MotoX, shed, solar power, rural fence **\$ 600,000+**

See www.helenharm.com for more listing