



# Village Voice

Your monthly Clarence Village community newsletter

FREE



Village residents Chrissy O'Farrell, Roxanne Deece are joined by Bright Sparks kids Lara, Charlie and Eli at Joan Muir Hall for a special morning of fun and friendship.

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## Fun and games for all ages

Clarence Village residents welcomed a busload of excitement recently when around 20 Bright Sparks pre-schoolers arrived at Joan Muir Hall for a fun-filled morning of interaction and entertainment.

The residents and children had a blast getting to know one another, so much so they plan on doing it again very soon.

Read more about the wonderful encounter on page 6.



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## A note from the Village CEO



Thank you to all the residents, family and friends of Clarence Village that supported our petition to Clarence Valley Council on the issue of sewer charges. Resident and board member Libby Shearer presented the petition to Councillors at the June meeting, where she and I both made deputations to Councillors speaking against the charges.

While we weren't successful in getting Councillors to fix the issue, we're a long way from finished with this fight.

You may have heard radio ads run by Clarence Village on this issue leading up to the June meeting. These were very effective and clearly resulted in many Councillors being contacted by residents outside of Clarence Village's ordinary reach.

We're confident that sense will prevail and we'll once again be charged for the actual number of sewer connections on our properties, but it will likely take some months. Thanks for your support and we'll keep battling on!

Kind regards,  
Duncan McKimm

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## Coming to you live from .... Melbourne

Thanks to the wonders of modern technology and a bit of pre-planning, this issue of Village Voice was wrapped up some 1500kms away from Grafton in not-so sunny Melbourne.

I'm house/dog sitting for my daughter who is off overseas for a month for a well earned break from her busy teaching job.

The weather here makes you appreciate how lucky we are in the beautiful Clarence Valley, especially during winter.

This time of year also means it's racing carnival season in Grafton and this issue is right on

theme with photos, stories, poem and puzzle all dedicated to the biggest sporting event on the local calendar.

It might not be as famous as the Melbourne Cup but for us the Grafton Cup is the next best thing.

*Lesley*

*with Monty in Melbourne*

Email me:  
[news@clarencevillage.com.au](mailto:news@clarencevillage.com.au)





Newest groundsman in the village Josh Piggott.

## Gardener Josh breaks new ground

The newest member of the Clarence Village's landscaping crew really is a jack of all trades.

Josh Piggott grew up at Sandy Beach south of Grafton and since leaving school has worked in retail, for the mining industry, and in a sausage factory, in various locations around the state.

His nomadic lifestyle was down to love, accompanying his then girlfriend and her family wherever they moved for worked for the next six years.

"We met on the school bus so we've known each other since we were 12 but didn't get serious until we were adults."

Besides the colourful job history Josh has behind him, his mainstay throughout life has been on the greener side of things.

"I've been doing lawns since I was tall enough to hold a whipper snipper. I used to work for a large coastal apartments complex doing the lawns, gardens, and handyman stuff but when COVID hit it was too quiet so I started my own business doing lawn maintenance for the real

estate industry in Coffs Harbour."

Josh then moved into grounds keeping for home support services in aged cared and found that work "really fulfilling".

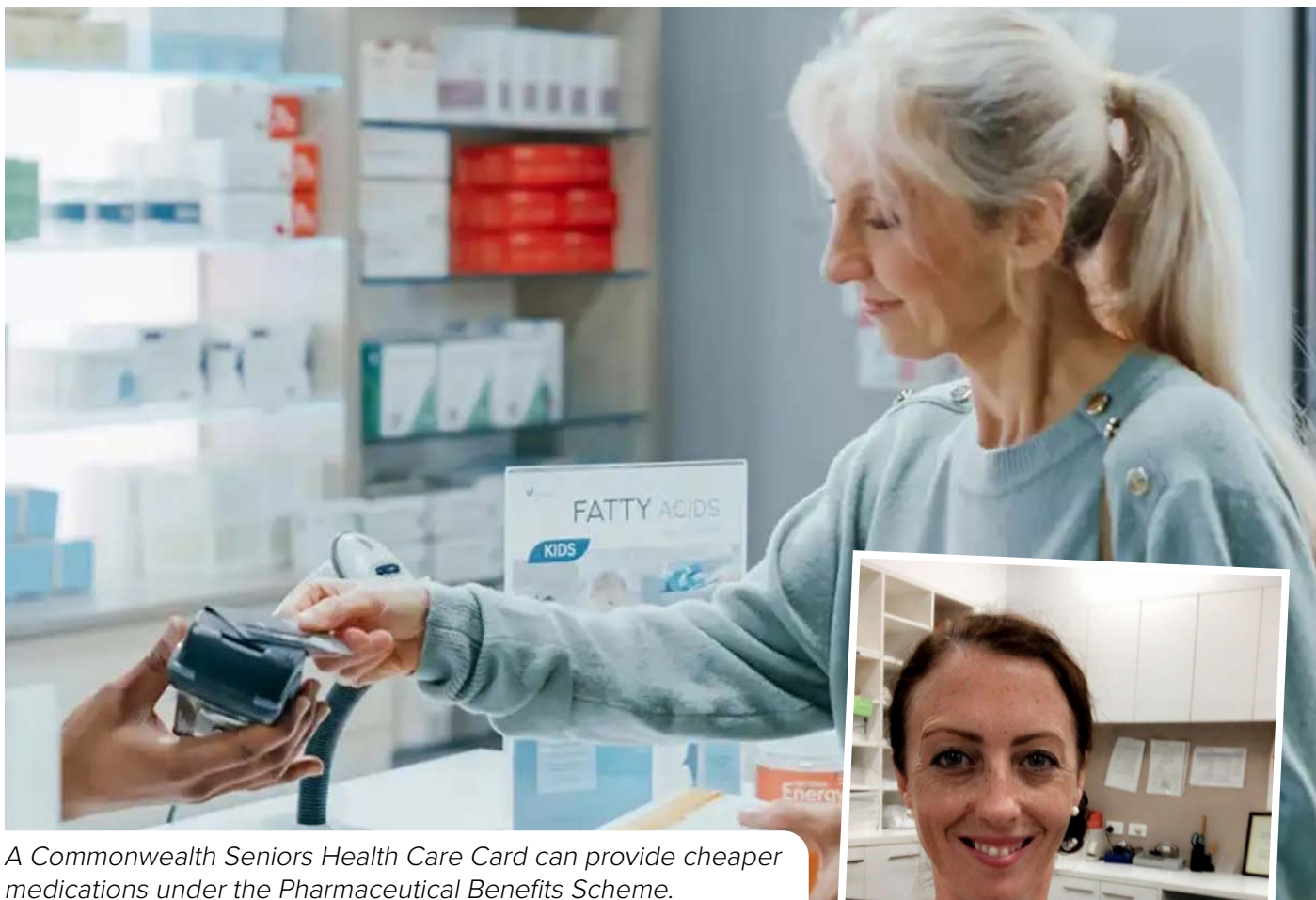
"I enjoyed working with the elderly and thought I might pursue this further."

So when his partner's family moved to Coutts Crossing and the job at Clarence Village came up for Josh it was the perfect match all round.

Not only is he getting married next year, he has hit the ground running since he recently started his job and is really enjoying the company of his new clients.

"The residents here are most grateful, so you just feel like you are making a difference in their lives. They are genuinely happy with your work and not strangers to compliments.

"Just yesterday I did one of the sites pretty much all day mowing non-stop and everyone was coming out saying what a great job I was doing, so that was a really nice welcome."



*A Commonwealth Seniors Health Care Card can provide cheaper medications under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.*

## Rachelle's here to help

*Your monthly guide to all things aged care with Services Australia's Rachelle Farmer.*

Starting out on your aged care journey can be overwhelming.

There's a lot to think about, including how to access government funded services, what you might be eligible for, and what it could cost.

My role at Services Australia is to provide a free face-to-face service that helps to support older Australians and their loved ones to navigate this process.

Thanks to many of you reading this, who may have already met with me or have been to one of my community information sessions, the Clarence Village is kindly offering the opportunity to make regular contributions to the Village Voice to share some insights, changes, or frequently asked questions about aged care.



This month I want to draw attention to a change which means many more of you who aren't receiving an age pension, may now be eligible for a Commonwealth Seniors Health Care Card.

A Commonwealth Seniors Health Care Card is not asset tested, and recently the income threshold has significantly increased. If you are 67 years old, a single person and earning less than \$90,000 per year, or a member of a couple whose combined income is less than \$144,000 per year, you may be eligible for this concession card. This will provide cheaper medications under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and other possible benefits from local council and private businesses.

To find out more or to make a claim, please phone our Older Australians team on 132 300, or drop in and see us at Centrelink on King Street.



Clarence Village on Queen Street resident Marie Mulligan with the photographic display capturing the family's co-owned racehorse Ward's Mistake winning the Grafton Cup 40 years ago.

## Buying this racehorse was no mistake

There aren't many Grafton Cup winners that can claim the local trifecta — a racehorse that was owned, trained, and ridden by locals.

But four-year-old gelding Ward's Mistake is one of them.

And Clarence on Queen Street resident Marie Mulligan can vouch for that because she was there on that exciting day in 1983.

"I remember race caller John Carlton saying it has been at least 30 years since a cup winner was as local as that."

Marie's late husband Kevin was co-owner of Ward's Mistake with well known identity and auctioneer Mick Moy.

"Kevin used to work for Mick and when this man in Glen Innes told Mick 'I've got this horse that could be alright, do you want to buy it?' He said yes and took Kevin into partnership to do it."

And what a great investment that was.

Not only did their horse win the Grafton Cup, it also won in Sydney and went on to win the Coffs Cup.

While his career was cut short due to injury, Ward's Mistake exemplified quality over quantity Marie said.

"Mick Moy was a great talker being an auctioneer and when their horse won the Grafton Cup, it was the only time I ever saw him lost for words," she laughed.

But Mick wasn't the only one that was shocked by the results of the extraordinary day Marie confessed.

"The horse was a long price price because nobody thought he would win so it was very exciting for us watching the race. I remember belting Bill Dougherty with my handbag when it happened and he said 'I think you're getting a bit excited there Marie.'"

# Bright Sparks visitors light up residents' day

Thirteen young Bright Sparks paid a visit to Joan Muir Hall in June to spend the morning chatting, dancing, and playing games with village residents.

The pre-school children sang a Bundjalung song for the residents and provided plenty of entertainment with their energetic interactions and conversations.

Bright Sparks pre-school's John Gorrie said the children loved going on the bus to different places.

"It's great for them to interact with new people and older people who share their wisdom."

Residents also enjoyed the young company for a couple hours so much so there are plans to meet up again soon.

"It was good fun but we're all exhausted," residents concurred after waving the kids goodbye. "We all need to go home and have a rest now."



Getting into some hokey pokey action.



Four year old Eva and her Bright Sparks buddy were all smiles.



Community Connections officer Ros Houlahan has some fun with three year old Ji Ji.



Five year old Nate and resident Judy Williams having a great time over a few board games. Judy worked in the Bright Sparks kitchen for 10 years cooking and making playdoh for the kids.



Four year olds Rylee and Ellie join residents Jeanette Solomon and Ian Dowell in a game of cards.



Four-year-old Alexis had a ball at the Bright Sparks/ Clarence Village gathering at Joan Muir Hall.



The piano at Joan Muir Hall was a popular place to be.

# Photo finish at our staff race day



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4.



5.



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7.



8.



9.



10.

Clarence Village staff enjoyed a few hours of fun, food, and flutters, at the Clarence Village's trackside marquee at the July Carnival's first race meet — the Kensei Club Community Prelude Race Day.

The social day is way to thank all the staff for their hard work and dedication to Clarence Village and its wonderful residents.



11.

1. Dougherty Villa residents and racing gurus Warren 'Mossy' Moss and Kevin Burns joined in the July Carnival fun with staff members Kim Morgan and Wan Colgrave and her children, Aidan, 9, and Tasha, 6.
2. Clarence Village CEO Duncan McKimm with Dougherty Villa Facility Manager Mandy Stark are all smiles.
3. Enjoying the Kensei Club Community Prelude Race Day at the Clarence Village staff gathering is Callum Body, left, with Kim Morgan and Andrew Busch
4. Shiela and Bear Williamson enjoy the hospitality of the trackside staff day.
5. Samantha O'Shea, left and Aaron Collins check the

- form guide.
6. Connie Nagle, left, and Shiela Williamson enjoy the staff day at the Kensei Prelude Day.
7. Tayla Wall and Carlie Walter enjoy catching up at the trackside staff event.
8. Clarence Village board member Chris Wheelahan with his wife Bev and daughter Clare Hanlon.
9. Judyann Ainsworth, left, and Kristie Richards have a good laugh in the Clarence Village corporate tent.
10. Neil Darragh, Annie Hackett, Carlie Walter and Mandy Stark enjoy the staff race day.
11. Allyson Coggan, left, enjoys the race day with Bobby Winner.

# Top Hats and Tiaras morning tea for Millie

A lovely morning tea for Clarence Village Junior Jacaranda Queen Candidate Millie Lloyd was held at Joan Muir Hall on June 17.

Around 30 residents and guests came along for the special gathering to support Millie in her quest.

Millie flexed her excellent public speaking muscle welcoming guests and thanking them for their generous support.

More than \$200 worth of raffle tickets were sold on the morning as part of Millie's festival fundraising duties, almost hitting her personal quota for the festival fundraising.

Millie said she was looking forward to more upcoming events especially the festival's pinnacle, the queen crowning ceremony.

"I already have my outfit planned. I'm wearing a custom gown made from my grandmother's ballgown. It's purple and shimmery and the lady who made it also made my mum's wedding dress."



Val Layton and Colleen Donovan were among the many helpers involved with decorating the Joan Muir Hall for the Top Hats and Tiaras morning tea.



Val Sheehan, Ian Dowell and Judy Williams get into the Top Hats and Tiaras theme.



A sparkling smile from Princess Chrissie O'Farrell.



Donna Gorrie enjoys some morning tea with village resident Jacqui Lancaster.



Jack of all trades Pez helps decorate Joan Muir Hall ahead of the morning tea with Clarence Village Junior Jacaranda Candidate Millie Lloyd.



Junior Jacaranda candidate Millie Lloyd at the Clarence Village's own Top Hat and Tiaras morning tea.





Residents Jean Grady and Valda Morrison show off some of the morning tea treats on offer.



Clarence Village Community Connections officer Ros Houlahan went along to support Millie Lloyd at the glamorous Top Hats and Tiaras cocktail party held at the Clocktower Hotel.



Hazel Lawson, Marcia Muldoon, Barbara Fraser and Vicki Forrest get into the Top Hats and Tiaras theme.



Millie Lloyd and her mum Sonia at the candidates' official Top Hats and Tiaras evening at the Clocktower Hotel.



Tayla Wall and her daughter Oakley had a lovely time at the morning tea.



Clarence Village manager Penny White and her son Joseph helped out with the morning tea event.



Clarence Village sponsored Junior Queen Candidate Millie Lloyd was joined by representatives Vicki Valja and Tracey Schulte at the Jacaranda Festival Musical Quiz fundraising night held at the Grafton District Services Club on June 17.

# Still some sizzle in those fundraising sausages

Despite the wet weather, Sausage Sizzle 2.0 at Bunnings was an outstanding success. After a busy Election Day fundraiser, Clarence Family Daycare and Grafton Community Bus teamed up again in June making just over \$1000.

Family daycare volunteer Maggie McDade said it was a great day all round.

“It was such a pleasure to work with the bus crew again. Even the rain couldn’t dampen our spirits.”

*Pictured: Clarence Family Daycare volunteers Ellen Wilson and Maggie McDade were back to barbecue with Grafton Community Bus for another joint fundraiser.*



*Di from Honey Bee Hives recently came to the Joan Muir Hall and gave a talk on all things bees at the Garden Club monthly meeting. Di's presentation was very interesting and she also had some amazing products for sale.*



*Friday afternoons shenanigans at the Villa Tavern from left: Warren Moss, Kevin Burns, Micheal Fahey and Arnold Mathews. Photo: Buschy.*

## Walking in the sunshine

Volunteer Carol Williams takes Dougherty Villa resident Heather Freeman out for a stroll to enjoy a lovely sunny Grafton day.

The team at Lifestyle and Leisure have organised regular Tuesday morning walks for Dougherty Villa residents. If you would like to book in an escorted outdoor walk please let a staff member know.



# WHAT'S ON IN JULY

## Joan Muir Community Centre

Free activities every Tuesday from 10am - 11.30am

TUESDAY  
**11**

No activity  
(Ros on leave)

TUESDAY  
**18**

Poetry with  
John Sullivan



TUESDAY  
**25**

Bingo

## CLARENCE ON QUEEN: SES TALK

Tuesday 11th: SES talk and morning tea at Clarence On Queen.  
RSVP to Darrel on 6642 5991 by the 10th.



## WALKING CLUB

No groups walking until Summer.

## AQUA AEROBICS

Weekly class at South Grafton Pool every Wednesday 8am picking up from around the Village from 7.15am. Book your seat with the office.



## CARD GAMES

Card games every Thursday from 1.30pm at Joan Muir Hall.

## CLOCKTOWER MORNING TEA - 27th

Held last Thursday of each month 10am. Devonshire tea \$7.50 or coffee/tea with cake \$10. Resident and their guests welcome.  
Meet us there or arrange transport with the office.



**Ros is on leave in July so if any queries please phone the Village office on 6642 5991.**

Clarence Village



## WEEKLY PRIZE DRAW!

**WINNER TAKES HOME \$50**

Competition runs every 10 weeks.

All profits go to the Grafton Community Bus.  
Let's see how much we can raise this year.

Get your tickets from Ros Houlahan or Penny White.



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# Recipe of the month: Sweet and sour

Pecans are now in season and this sour cream cake recipe shared by Libby Shearer is a great way to showcase them at their tasty best.

## PECAN SOUR CREAM CAKE

### INGREDIENTS

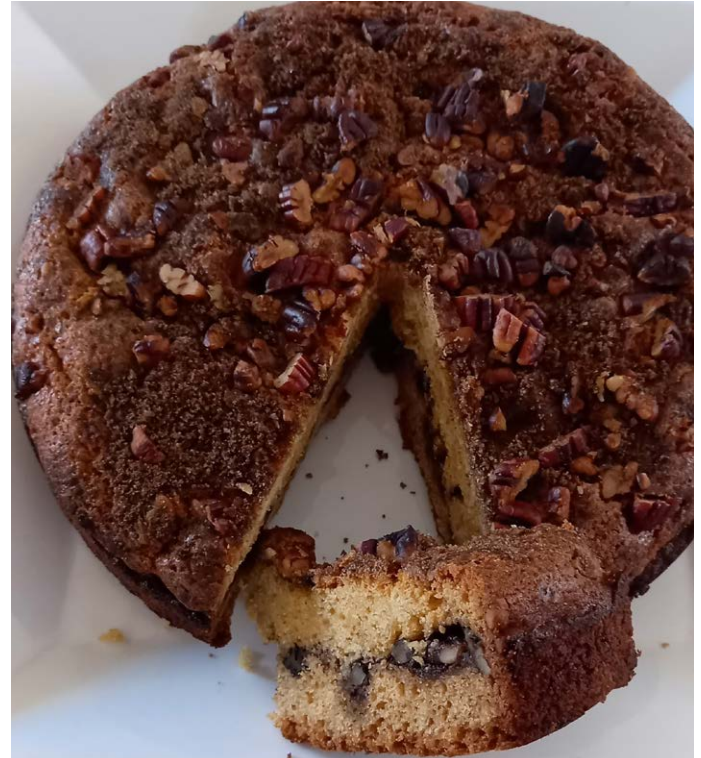
- 250g butter, softened
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 165g caster sugar
- 2 eggs
- 300g sour cream
- 225g plain flour
- 75g self raising flour
- 1 teaspoon bicarbonate of soda

### Topping

- 60g chopped pecans
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon

### METHOD

1. Preheat oven to 180°C. Grease a 23cm round cake pan. Line base with baking paper.
2. Beat butter, vanilla and caster sugar in small bowl until light and fluffy. Beat in eggs one at a time. Stir in sour cream, sifted flours and soda.
3. Spread half the cake mixture into pan; sprinkle with half the combined nuts, brown



sugar and cinnamon. Spread with remaining cake mixture; sprinkle with remaining pecan mixture.

4. Bake cake for about 1 hour. Stand cake in pan 5 minutes. Then turn out onto rack to cool.

*Serving suggestion:* serve with cream and/or ice cream.

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## Bon voyage to the Kellys

Clarence Village husband wife team Terrence and Kerry Kelly are pulling up stumps and heading off on an extensive caravanning holiday adventure. Terrence was part of the mowing maintenance team while Kerry was an integral part of the kitchen crew at Clarence on Queen.

Village residents and staff are sure to miss the hard working duo. We thank them for years of dedication to landscaping and cooking for village residents and wish them well for the next chapter of their lives. Safe travels Terrence and Kerry.



*Terrence and Kerry with their dog Rowdy Hoodlum, named after PBR bulls.*

# Around the Village

## New arrivals great & small

Babies have been booming in the maintenance department. Darrel and Margaret Kliendeinst welcomed one of the first bundles of joy with beautiful little granddaughter Haislee Mae.

Tracey Schulte followed up with gorgeous grandson Oliver Robert. Both mums and bubs are doing well. There are another two babies due this month so watch this space for another new arrivals update.

## Josh joins the green team

On the staff front we welcome our new groundsman Josh Piggott. Josh will be working closely with our garden guru Ryan and the rest of the maintenance team to continue the upkeep of your places so they continue to look wonderful.

## Maintenance window

Cleaning of residents' windows are set to commence shortly as well as unit inspections, so keep a close eye out on the notice boards and in your letterboxes for the dates.

## Council collection

After requests from residents we will be scheduling a council pickup from each stage. Please keep an eye on your notice board for dates.



## Ros out of office

Ros Houlahan will be away for the month of July, so if you are needing anything please phone the office. We will still be running the bus to aqua aerobics each Wednesday.



## Emergency preparation

NSW SES zone community officer Scott McClennan is coming to Clarence Village for a presentation on new warning systems and the importance of having an evacuation plan and kits in place in the event of an emergency.

Two sessions will be held, the first at the Joan Muir Hall on Tuesday July 4, and the second at Clarence on Queen on Tuesday July 11, both sessions will be at 9:30am and followed by morning tea. I encourage you all to come along as this is vital information during an evacuation situation.

## Fundraising fun

Village staff have been busy attending Jacaranda events for our Junior Queen Candidate Millie Lloyd. Ros went along to the official opening event of Top Hats and Tiaras held at the Clocktower Hotel and said she had such a good time she is going back every year.

The Village held its own morning tea version of the event at the Joan Muir Hall on Saturday, June 17. Everyone had a great time during the morning with yummy baked treats, lucky door prizes and Tombolas keeping everyone entertained.

Mille spoke to group about why she wanted to be a part of the tradition of the Junior Jacaranda Queen. As part of her fundraising commitments she is selling festival raffle tickets at \$5 each. First prize is \$3000 cash. If you would like to purchase a ticket please see Ros. The raffle will be drawn on Saturday, November 4 at Market Square.

— Penny White, Clarence Village Manager.

# Reflections on a July Racing Carnival great

## Takeover Target

*Excerpts from John Sullivan's poem about the famous 2004 Ramornie Handicap winner.*

From caravan to plush motels,  
from Queanbeyan to Coffs,  
he mixes with the knockabouts,  
he mixes with the toffs.  
His life has changed dramatically  
since he acquired the horse,  
That took the racing world by storm  
through patience, not by force.

Rejected as a two-year-old,  
too many things went wrong,  
he sent him for a lengthy spell,  
he knew that he was strong.  
With patience, Joseph Janiak  
would treat his troubled legs,  
this horse had such potential  
he would get a chance, his pledge.

Five races in a row he won  
and then the acid test,  
At Grafton, the "Ramornie"  
where he'd meet some of the best.  
A Listed race for speedsters,  
little room to make mistakes,  
he sat four wide the journey,  
soon they'd all be in his wake.

Well! He didn't break the record  
but he didn't miss by much,  
Jay Ford found another gear,  
and then he slipped the clutch.  
He quickly put three lengths on them  
inviting them to chase,  
for the greatest win there's ever been  
in this historic race.

The horse, "Takeover Target"  
He's an equine speed machine  
fast cruising speed, accelerate  
burnt grass that once was green.  
The "Salinger" at Flemington  
a goal that seemed ambitious  
but! win he did fulfilling  
Joseph Janiak's dear wishes.

Last month he set a record  
Doomben track, twelve hundred metres,

one zero seven eighty eight  
whilst losing sweat by litres.  
Another win, a well earned spell  
there's better things in store,  
the autumn sprints in Melbourne  
beckons Joe down there once more.

*John Sullivan, 2004-2006*



Joe Janiak with  
Takeover Target.

Resident village poet John Sullivan was a judge for the Clarence River Jockey Club for 29 years and chief judge for Northern Rivers region for Racing NSW for 21.

These six verses are from a poem John wrote across a couple of years as Takeover Target's story got more and more interesting.

"When he became a global superstar I kept adding verses," John said. "His owner Joe Janiak kept telling me not to finish it as there was more to come. I ended up with 36 verses."

John said Joe loved the poem so much he told the journalist from The Australian (who was writing a book about Takeover Target) about the poem and she included a verse in the book.

Takeover Target was purchased by Joe for \$1250 plus GST in July 2003. The gelding went on to earn more than \$6 million in prize money winning 21 of his 41 races -- eight at Group 1 level.

# Village stargazers - your July 2023 horoscopes



## ARIES

Get outside and get creative. It doesn't have to have any particular goal or outcome—just get lost in play. There doesn't have to be any deep meaning. Ultimately the intention is to ignite the part of you that has been burnt out and exhausted.



## TAURUS

July might be heavy on the topic of family and home. Or perhaps on a need to explore the past so you can understand your relationship dynamics in the present. Root down and contemplate the meaning of belonging to people and places.



## GEMINI

It's a great month for having lighthearted conversations that facilitate a deeper connection with the people around you. Tour an unknown part of your city and see it with fresh eyes. Sometimes the familiar just needs a spark of novelty.



## CANCER

Realisations around how your relationships have been shifting will finally culminate this month. There may be precise and blunt words that need to be exchanged, but sometimes this is better than beating around the bush. Prioritise establishing a sense of stability in your life.



## LEO

There is an emphasis on your health this month. Tend to yourself and make sure you're taking care of what your body needs—is it rest, is it specific kinds of food, is it movement? Take stock of your emotional and mental baseline and focus on what feels necessary.



## VIRGO

With the right people and the right vibes, you can feel replenished by being as social as you desire. When your energy meter dwindles, you must recharge. Exciting new things are brewing—you must give them both time out in the sun and the internal processing they require.



## LIBRA

Time to get out of your safe house, literally and metaphorically, and face the world that wants to get to know you. Something new is brewing and it's in your best interest to support this emergence. Connect with people who are supporting your growth.



## SCORPIO

You'll be compelled to learn something new that will ultimately support your current path in life. Whatever it may be, even if it doesn't make sense yet, it's the kind of exploration that will take you closer to the work you wish to contribute to the world.



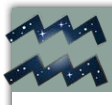
## SAGITTARIUS

Determine why you spend your money on specific things. Review your expenditures to understand the value you attach to things. When you can identify the cause of your financial decisions, you'll be better equipped at unlearning behaviours that can stretch your resources and the planet's.



## CAPRICORN

Are you spending enough time with the people who matter most? Do you have regrets about how you've handled past conflicts? Do you wish to unlearn the ways you equate your sense of worthiness? July is a psychological processing month for you, which is a good thing. But it's also hard work. Be gentle with yourself.



## AQUARIUS

The practice of articulating your needs is a practice of self-advocacy. You may want to appear easy by agreeing to other people's whims, but it can be challenging to articulate what it is you really want. Get to know this part of yourself by learning how to communicate what it is you desire. You can still go with the flow in the end.



## PISCES

There is an issue of excess at the moment. Remember the cliché: too much of a good thing might actually do you more harm than good. So figure out where you might need to tone some things down—especially as it relates to your health. The point is finding the balance between having fun while also working hard.

# Word search: Grafton Cup Winners

U H Z B T O L L J D X W M S  
 X I F H W W Q A S H R A F I  
 P D F G I A U A H H B B R X  
 B E I M N R E S A A O E E T  
 M S R Y W R E A M R N L D I  
 A K S S I I N C A A F U N E  
 S T T T N O S R R P I S A S  
 T O C O G R T E D A R S V G  
 E P R R J W O D A H E I E R  
 R L U M I I W D S O H M E O  
 P O S H P T N A H T Y I B O  
 O V H I Z H L Y I A Q G N V  
 M E P L P I O A N J U A V E  
 I R O L D N U M G M T N I D

Arapaho  
 Rednav  
 Bonfire  
 Queenstown  
 Ashraf  
 Stormhill  
 Belus  
 Simigan  
 Shamardashing  
 Master Pom  
 Desk Top Lover  
 Twin Wing  
 First Crush  
 Sacred Day  
 Warrior Within  
 Sixties Groove



**Clarence Village**



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## Aged Care

Dougherty Villa

206 Arthur St, Grafton

6643 2377

## Supported Living

Clarence Village on Queen

166 Queen St, Grafton

6642 5991

## Independent Living

Clarence Village & Clarence Village Gardens

194 Turf St, Grafton

6642 5991