



# Village Voice

Your monthly Clarence Village community newsletter

FREE



## \$3.5m pledge for seniors housing

Residents from Clarence Village on Queen and Village directors gathered to hear MP Kevin Hogan's funding announcement ahead of the Federal Election. *SPECIAL REPORT* pages 4-5.

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Mother's Day: Gladys Gray (matriarch of 74 family members - and growing) and daughter Sue Martin. Full story Page 3.

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## A note from the Village CEO



The last two months have thrown plenty of challenges at us, from wild weather to covid staff shortages. Last week the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission arrived unexpectedly for an accreditation visit at Dougherty Villa as well, which took place over three days.

While we're yet to receive the formal report, the feedback from the assessment team was very positive, which is a terrific commendation to our team on the great work they do day in, day out.

Throughout the pandemic our focus has been on getting stronger as we overcome the challenges we're faced with and this is certainly a demonstration of how well the team has taken to that.

There are certainly more challenges coming our way – the only thing we can do is focus on meeting them as best we can and keeping the interests of our residents at heart. It's the quality of our people that determines the quality of the outcomes we get.

Kind regards,  
Duncan McKimm

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## Merry month of May

Now most freedoms have returned, we seem to be powering through year.

Last month was jam-packed with events and activities as the community gets back into the swing of things so this issue we have a bumper photo edition to encapsulate some of the action and the people from around the Village and beyond.

It's also Mother's Day this month and there are plenty of those to be found in the Village. This month's cover star Gladys Grey has created her own village of family members which we celebrate in this issue.

We also include our final interaction with some of the campaigning candidates for the Federal Election almost upon us. Don't forget to exercise your democratic right on May 21.

Enjoy this issue and our glorious autumn weather. See you in June.

*Lesley*

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*LEFT: Gladys Grey with one of her family's latest arrivals, great granddaughter Bronte June, who was born in February this year (great grandson Vincent Ryan also arrived in the same month).*

*ABOVE: A rare gathering of (most of) Gladys Gray's family at her 87th birthday reunion in March held at the family home.*

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## Celebrating Gladys' 74 shades of Gray

For an only child, Dougherty Villa's Gladys Gray certainly made up for her lack of siblings with her own progeny.

At last count it was 74. Nine children, 20 grandchildren, 45 great grandchildren.

Most of team Gray gathered to celebrate Gladys' 87th birthday at the Bacon Street home where she raised her family across almost 70 years before moving into the Village late last year.

Gladys began her colourful life in that same street, on March 14, 1934, in the private maternity hospital/house of Nurse McKnight.

She grew up in the rural surrounds near Halfway Creek with her grandmother, mother and extended family while receiving her education at South Grafton Primary and Grafton High.

Gladys married to Vincent Gray in 1963 and the pair worked and raised their children until

Vince's untimely death in 1982 saw her take the reins solo.

A devoted mum, Nanna and great grandma, Gladys managed to find the time in her busy life to volunteer in the Grafton community for the past quarter of century.

Her singing and musical talent is also a much loved facet to her community contributions, her vocal abilities stretching from folk and country genres to singing classically with the Cathedral Church Choir.

Some folk may remember Gladys as one of The Live Wires singing group that provided fun and frivolity during their morning music sessions at Dougherty Villa and many other aged care facilities around the Clarence Valley.

Happy Mother's Day this month to Gladys and all the Clarence Village mums.

# Aged care under the political spotlight

Clarence Village management put three important questions about aged care to the three main contenders to answer ahead of the upcoming Federal Election:



**Kevin Hogan**  
*The Nationals/  
Coalition  
sitting  
member  
since 2016*



**Patrick Deegan**  
*Labor  
candidate*



**Hanabeth Luke**  
*Independent  
candidate*

## 1. Aged care staff earn 25% less than workers in NDIS. If your party forms Government will it commit to funding a 25% pay increase for aged care workers?

**Hogan:** An increase is necessary. The Fair Work Commission has responsibility for this and will make their recommendation to Government shortly.

**Deegan:** It's very clear that aged care workers do not get paid enough for the complex work that they do. In Australia, decisions about wages are taken by an independent umpire, the Fair Work Commission. Labor supports the recommendation of the Royal Commission for a pay rise for aged care workers and, if elected, Labor would make a submission to the Fair Work Commission in support of a 25% pay increase. A Labor Government will fund the outcome of this case.

**Luke:** I will support them and fight for this - it is under my Health Equity policy, caring for the carers. It's high time for a wage increase in this sector and in the disability sector as well. They are a major employer in Page, where average rents have soared beyond affordability in recent years.

## 2. Affordable housing for seniors in the Clarence Valley is a significant issue. Clarence Village has unsuccessfully sought grant funding and concessional finance to construct dozens of new affordable housing units for seniors. How would a Government you are part of address this issue?

**Hogan:** I am delighted, that as an election commitment, we are committing \$3.4 million to support Clarence Villages proposal for new affordable housing units for seniors (if a Morrison Coalition Government is re-elected).

**Deegan:** It was a pleasure to meet with Clarence Village CEO Duncan McKimm and President Mark Dougherty, to discuss the

outstanding work the organisation does in the community. I was impressed by their commitment to supporting older people in the Clarence and their enthusiasm to extend the support that is provided.

I was impressed by the plans to construct dozens of new affordable housing units for seniors, and if elected one of my first priorities will be to work with Duncan and the board of Clarence Village to ensure the required funding is secured.

**Luke:** Housing affordability is the single biggest issue for people in our region. I will fight hard for this, for people of all ages. Everyone deserves the safety and comfort of an affordable home, whether to rent or buy.

**3. Many residents of residential aged care have GPs that won't visit them because Doctors get paid less for these visits than they do for in-clinic consultations. Would a Government you are part of amend the Medicare Benefits Scheme to address this issue?**

**Hogan:** I am already lobbying for this. The Federal Government has begun to address this, which includes \$42.8 million of incentives for GPs.

**Deegan:** Since 2013, out of pocket expenses for visiting a GP have increased by 42% in the Page electorate, this has made it harder for many people in the local community to access GP's, particularly those who are on fixed incomes. Labor built Medicare and Labor will protect it. My view and the view of Labor is that GP's should be paid the same amount to see a patient in their home as do for in-clinic consultations. Labor is committed to fixing this and ensuring the rebate GP's receive increased to keep up with the cost of providing GP services.

**Luke:** Yes. I am also aware of this issue, people have shared their concerns with me across the electorate. Doctors want this changed and the elderly need this changed. I will fight hard for increasing Medicare funding including increasing bulk billing payments for doctors, which were frozen for years thus have not risen with inflation.

## \$3.5m for affordable seniors housing

With a federal election just days away, the climate for funding announcements is in overdrive.

After five years of talks with governing bodies at every level, sitting Page MP Kevin Hogan was pleased to announce \$3.5m of funding towards Clarence Village's proposed affordable housing development in South Grafton.

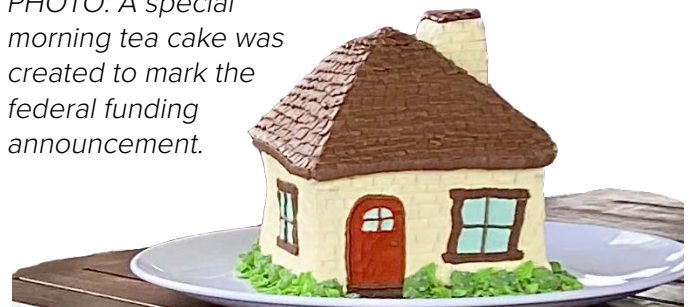
Mr Hogan made the announcement at Clarence Village on Queen alongside Clarence Village board members and a few curious residents.

Clarence Village Director Geoff Shepherd said it was an important announcement for Clarence Village and the wider community of Grafton.

"Last time we had assistance from Government to construct independent living units was in fact 25 years ago," Mr Shepherd said.

Mr Hogan acknowledged Mr Shepherd's and Clarence Village CEO Duncan McKimm's commitment to seeking funding for the project. "They have ridden pretty hard on this one".

*PHOTO: A special morning tea cake was created to mark the federal funding announcement.*



"We've tried to get this project up through different government programs had never been successful through the bureaucratic process, so to try and get this through we are doing this as an election commitment. If we (Coalition) win it happens", Mr Hogan said.

The sitting member since 2016, Mr Hogan said he would like to think "the other side" would match the commitment. Clarence Village's Chairman has contacted Labor candidate Patrick Deegan to seek this commitment.

"We hope to get them to match this because we don't want to rely on a (particular party) win to get this delivered," said Mr Hogan.

"I think that will encourage the others (candidates) to do the same."

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# Anzac spirit out in force

After two years of COVID keeping people away from Anzac Day ceremonies, the numbers at this year's street march and service in Grafton's Memorial Park more than made for the temporary setback.

Hundreds of people, representing all facets of the community, lined the park's perimeter to listen to tributes and pay their respects to those who served including the many thousands who lost their lives fighting for their country.

Wreaths were laid and The Last Post sounded as an airforce jet plane performed a fly-over to mark the occasion.

*School children gather at Memorial Park in Grafton for the Anzac Day service.*



*Grafton's Jacaranda Queen Hannah Craig and Princess Breeze Paine lay a wreath at the service.*



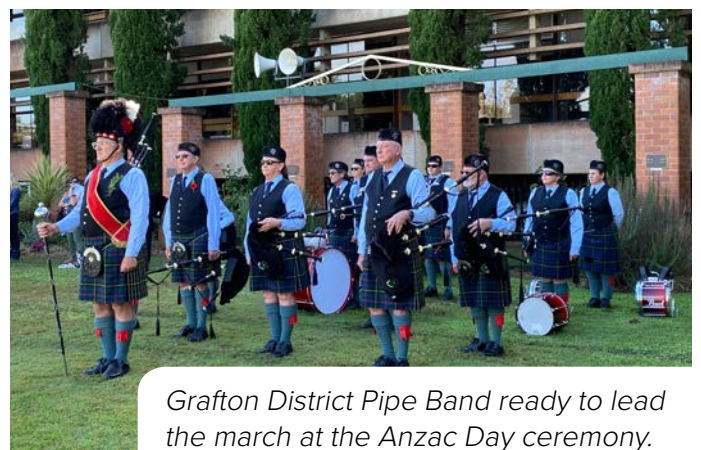
*There was a huge turnout for this year's Anzac Day service in Grafton.*



*Emergency services representatives lay wreaths at the Grafton Anzac Day ceremony.*



*Standing guard at the Cenotaph during the service.*



*Grafton District Pipe Band ready to lead the march at the Anzac Day ceremony.*



A panoramic of the 2022 Anzac Day ceremony at Grafton's Memorial Park.



Anzac Day bugler Gary Nichols has been performing *The Last Post* at ceremonies since he was 12 years old.



Memorial to the fallen.



Lest We Forget.



One of the many colourful wreaths placed at Cenotaph during the Anzac Day service.



Poppies to honour our servicemen and women.

# Out and About



A happy Harry Layton with the prize he won in the Dougherty Villa Easter Egg guessing competition.



Dougherty Villa staff David Weale, Dai Kinoshita, and Andrew Busch make an Easter hat-trick.



Chief floral arranger for Clarence Village Sue McKimm delivers beautiful arrangements for the Anzac high tea held at the Joan Muir hall in April.



Dougherty Villa team members Sara Linsley and George Butler all dressed in readiment for the Easter Hat parade.





*Dougherty Villa resident Norm Stanford recently enjoyed a visit from his daughter Debbie. Besides the chance to spend some quality time together, the father daughter duo put their catch up to good use by tackling the garden outside Rose Cottage rooms to give it a tidy up. They did a great job and the smile on Norm's face says it all. Thanks to Debbie and Norm for all their hard work.*

*Dougherty Villa resident Warren Moss is all smiles after receiving his new set of electric wheels.*



## WHAT'S ON IN MAY

### Joan Muir Community Centre

Free activities every Tuesday from 10 - 11.30am  
(please note no activity 24th May)

TUESDAY

**17**

Games

TUESDAY

**31**

Cancer Council  
Biggest Morning Tea  
Entertainment, lucky  
door prizes, raffle  
& tombolas. Gold  
coin donation, all  
proceeds to Cancer  
Council.

To RSVP or contact to Ros  
[rosh@clarencevillage.com.au](mailto:rosh@clarencevillage.com.au)  
or 0478 228 838

*Please call or email Ros if you would  
also like a chat or visit.*



A few of the Clarence Gardens crew gathered in their community hall to mark Anzac Day.



After a long wait, live entertainment is back at Dougherty Villa. Last month's performance was by Jeff Hine and the residents thoroughly enjoyed it.



Looking very Anzac Day in her poppies frock is Marcia Muldoon while Carole Finn shows off a plate of Anzac biscuits baked by fellow resident Karlie Stockton. The ladies were getting into the spirit of April's high tea theme held at Joan Muir Community Centre.



Clarence Village resident Joan Want was chuffed to win the February 100 club raffle.



Activities officer Ros Houlahan with the next raffle prize to be drawn at the Biggest Morning Tea on May 31. All proceeds to Cancer Council.

# Easter raffle results

The results for the Clarence Village Easter Raffle are:

- 1st** Yvonne Hall
- 2nd** Marie and Max Murray
- 3rd** Jean Kearn's daughter Tanya.
- 4th** Moorea Boyle
- 5th** Jean Kearns

Thanks to everyone who supported the raffle — \$482.00 was raised for the community bus.



Jean Kearns collected two trophies from the Clarence Village's Easter raffle, her daughter Tanya taking out 3rd prize, a beautiful hand-knitted rug, while Jean snuck in winning the 5th and final prize of a basket of goodies.



Marie Murray with the Murrays second prize win in the Easter Raffle.



Moorea Boyle took out a pretty impressive 4th prize in the Clarence Village Easter raffle.

Clarence Village



**1st PRIZE**

**\$30**

**2nd PRIZE**

**\$15**

**3rd PRIZE**

**\$5**

**Tickets \$1 each**

The 100 Club will continue throughout 2022.

Every completed 100 Club raises \$50 for the Community Bus. Let's see how much we can raise this year.

Get your tickets from Ros Houlahan or Vicki Valja.

# Celebrating our staff



## EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Robbie Coulton was Employee of the Month for February. Robbie is a new carer at Dougherty Villa and works on Hibiscus wing. Enjoy your gift voucher Robbie.



## EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

The lovely Lisa Tanner was March's Employee of the Month.

# STAYING COVID SAFE



## WASH YOUR HANDS

Wash your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds, or clean and sanitise them with an alcohol-based hand sanitiser.



## COVER YOUR NOSE

Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing and sneezing, or use your elbow, not your hands.



## STAY HOME

Avoid close contact with people unwell with cold or flu-like symptoms, and stay home if you have symptoms.



## AVOID TOUCHING YOUR FACE

Avoid touching your face and don't shake hands with others.



## SOCIAL DISTANCE

Try to maintain a distance of 1.5m from others at all times.



## AVOID CROWDS

Avoid public places if they look over-crowded.

# FOR RENT

Spacious and neat seniors-friendly unit in Alice Street



3 bed 2 bath 2 cars \$410 p/week

Clarence Village is looking for a tenant for 1/188 Alice St. This modern and spacious 3br unit is located around the corner from Grafton Base Hospital. Lifestyle and maintenance programs are included in the weekly rent, giving you all the benefits of being part of Clarence Village without having to pay an entry contribution. Contact [villageadmin@clarencevillage.com.au](mailto:villageadmin@clarencevillage.com.au) to express your interest or call 6642 5991.



## Welcome to the team



New to Dougherty Villa is staff member Allyson Coggan who working as a GSO (cleaning) and in the kitchen while she is currently doing her Cert 3 in Aged Care with CHS.



New staff member Belinda Green has joined Dougherty Villa's Hibiscus team. She previously worked at St Catherine's and is loving her new role.

# Village stargazers - your monthly horoscopes

Welcome to May. This month is a time for reflection and the great things we have achieved in life. How different events in your life inform all you do. Always be willing to make adjustments.



## ARIES

This month you welcome financial freedom into your life. You will need to nurture all your relationships. Family will always come first, your loved ones mean the world to you. Take care of your health, and you will live happily.



## TAURUS

Your health will not pose any problems this month. Both single Taurus men and women will be able to find love in social gatherings. Your marriage will paint a rosy picture. Always be a good example to your children.



## GEMINI

Gemini natives will find this month a blessing. All aspects of their lives will be headed in the right direction. Peace, love, harmony, and happiness will be your portion this month. Make some positive changes in all your life.



## CANCER

Many things are happening at the same time so try not to feel overwhelmed and stressed out. You will travel towards the end of the month and enjoy a little relaxation. Your grandchildren will do well in school, and your spouse will be extra supportive when required.



## LEO

This month you will make new friends that will influence your life positively. You also have to be present for your loved ones because they will need you. Though you will have challenges with your health at the beginning of the month, things will get better.



## VIRGO

You should be proud to have a family that cares for you. Know that your loved ones will support you. Follow through with your plans and ensure that you make the best of all the opportunities that present themselves in your life.



## LIBRA

This month will see you experience a few financial and professional challenges. Your marriage life will be on point while your health can be compromised towards the end of the month. You should expect some hurdles when it comes to your family life.



## SCORPIO

This month you face your fears and go after the things you want to achieve. Focus on the things that truly matter. Fill your mind with positive thoughts. This month you will travel a lot, but your travelling will face difficulties here and there.



## SAGITTARIUS

Single Sagittarius natives will be able to attract lovers with their grace, charm, and beauty. You will have some challenges with your finances this month due to mismanagement of funds. You will travel more with your spouse to strengthen the love and bond you share.



## CAPRICORN

Your health will be exceptional this month. Everything will work out for the better, save for your professional life. You need to make some changes that will enable you to pursue the right career. Also, pursue your passions with enthusiasm, courage, and confidence.



## AQUARIUS

May is a month of change and transformation. You should be willing to make changes that will lift your spirits up. Always work hard if you want to see abundance and success manifest in your life. Take life seriously and ensure that you are keen on your lifestyle choices so that you can live a healthy life.



## PISCES

Your married life will be okay, but at some point, you will have issues with your partner for focusing too much on yourself. To avoid unnecessary confrontations, you need to achieve balance. Finances will pose minimal problems while your travel prospects are bright. It will be a prosperous month for Pisces natives.

# Word Search: Mother's Day



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

Love

Mother

Hugs

Nurture

Dance

Snuggle

Bake

Help

Read

Console

Forgive

Gifts

Cards

Chocolates

Roses

Sunday

Dinner

Brunch

Memories

Flowers

Cook

Cuddle

Kisses

Special

# Tipping season heats up

According to Dougherty Villa footy tipping score-keeper Bryanna Boyd, it's been stiff competition at the skinny end of the ladder with the top 3 positions switching out for the No. 1 spot each week.

When we went to print supreme leader D. McKimm was holding onto the chalice but that

could all change by next week if left-fielder Ros Houlahan and Marion 'Maz' Lloyd have anything to do it.

Meanwhile the rest of the pack are hanging on game by game in the hope the leaders have a bad week. We'll be back in a couple of issues to see who can hold their nerve.

RANK	TIPPER	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6	Round 7	Round 8	Round 9	TOTAL
1	Duncan McKimm	4	5	5	7	7	5	6	4	6	49
2	Ros Houlahan	5	5	5	5	5	6	6	6	5	48
3	Marion Lloyd	2	4	5	7	9	6	6	4	3	46
4	Brooke Gorman	7	6	1	7	5	4	4	5	6	45
5	Natasha Cook	4	6	2	7	6	5	5	4	6	45
6	Jim Armstrong	3	7	3	7	4	5	6	5	3	43
7	Pat Connelly	5	3	5	6	5	5	5	5	3	42
8	John Treacy	3	5	3	4	7	5	5	6	3	41
9	Harry Layton	4	5	3	6	7	2	5	6	3	41
10	Kevin Burns	5	4	6	5	6	5	3	3	3	40
11	Suzie Hudson	2	5	5	6	3	4	5	5	3	38
12	Monique Watling	3	3	5	6	7	1	2	5	6	38
13	Pat Connor	6	2	5	5	4	5	2	3	3	35
14	Len Wadling	3	3	0	3	3	5	5	2	3	27



**Clarence  
Village**



CarePage QR Code.  
Scan this code to take  
you directly to our online  
feedback form.

## 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

[www.clarencevillage.com.au](http://www.clarencevillage.com.au)