



Village Voice

Your monthly Clarence Village community newsletter

FREE

**JACARANDA
SPECIAL EDITION**
November 2023



The 2023 Royal Dougherty Villa Jacaranda Party: Prince Bobby Winner, King Pat Connolly, Queen Joan Smith and Princess Marissa Ryan.

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Villa royalty in all their crowning glory

Dougherty Villa has had its fair share of Jacaranda pomp and pageantry recently with royal ceremonies, weddings, visits, and parties filling up the social diary.

That's why this month's Village Voice is full of all things Jacaranda, with stories and photos galore to celebrate our most colourful season and all the Village people who dived right into the spirit of this almost 90 year old annual festival event.

Enjoy the purple ride inside.

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A note from the Village CEO



As the Jacaranda trees regain their leaves and the weather warms up, it's clear summer is upon us.

Across Clarence Village our teams are preparing for Christmas and the new year, finishing off tasks and projects that will help us make 2024 an even better year than 2023.

One project we're working on is registering Clarence Village as a community housing provider (CHP). When Clarence Village jointly built 5 units at 196 Turf St with NSW Land and Housing Corporation in 1996 it became a community housing provider. However, as the registration system wasn't around at that time and we haven't partnered with Government since, we were never formally registered as a CHP.

That will change in early 2024 when our registration is finalised. This won't affect Clarence Village's existing operations, but it will allow us to apply for funding streams only available to registered CHPs. Hopefully this allows us to access funding to support our Armidale Street development. Congratulations to Tayla Wall for managing the process so far so skillfully.

Kind regards,
Duncan McKimm

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Jacaranda fever hits the village

As you will see from the pages this month, Grafton Jacaranda Festival fever is back, bigger and brighter than ever.

For a festival that is coming up to its 90th birthday, it doesn't appear to be slowing down, which is exactly how we like it here at the Village.

Dougherty Villa certainly embraced that philosophy with a jam-packed itinerary of events and visits keeping residents and staff entertained and immersed in the Jacaranda spirit.

While we welcome a breather now the purple blossoms begin to fade, preparation for the other big festive event of the year is right on our party heels.

Next month is our Christmas bumper edition and the final edition for 2023 so let's see if we can top this one when it comes championing our colourful Clarence Village community.

Lesley

Email me:
news@clarencevillage.com.au





Grafton's Royal Wedding party: Pastor Mandy Stark, Purple Prince Andrew Busch, Jacaranda Blossom Chris Henderson, mother of the bride Tonny Fitzcosta, bridesmaids Sophie Landenberger, Robyn Bale, and front, Kym Richter.

Dougherty Villa's wedding of the year

Dougherty Villa residents attended the lunchtime royal wedding of Jacaranda Blossom and the Purple Prince in the dining room on Jacaranda Thursday.

The bridal party walked down the aisle to the sounds of Going to the Chapel followed by a brief service conducted by Pastor Mandy Stark that saw Chris "Blossom" Henderson joined in matrimony with Purple Prince Andrew under the purple floral arches.

Blossom was ably assisted by bridesmaids Sophie Landenberger, Kym Richter, and Robyn Bale while the Mother of the Bride Tonny Fltzcosta made sure the nervous Blossom didn't do a runner.

After the nuptials, wedding guests cheered the newlyweds as they paraded through the crowds, throwing jacaranda confetti, and

toasting the happy couple with fizzy drink before they were whisked away back to their day jobs.

Let's hope Blossom and the Prince have a long and happy working relationship together.



Newlyweds Blossom and Prince Andrew.



The Jacaranda wedding ceremony underway in the Dougherty Villa dining room.



Jacaranda Bridal party with Pastor Mandy officiating the nuptials.



Resident Bernie Gill looking very dapper ahead of the lunchtime wedding.



The Royal Jacaranda Wedding cake.

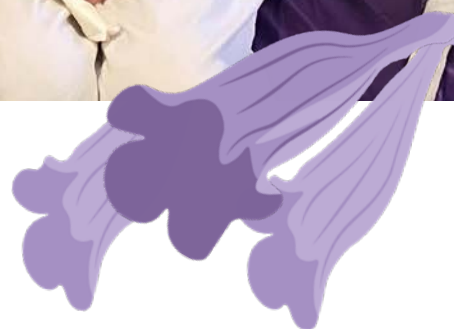


Ernie Really admired the beautiful jacaranda inspired floral display in the Dougherty Villa foyer.



All hail the Jacaranda King and Queen of Dougherty Villa — their Royal Highnesses Pat and Joan.

Another fab four gets our royal seal of approval



Dougherty Villa residents and staff gathered in the Jacaranda Room to see the crowning of the 2023 royal party and the results did not disappoint.

After a record breaking 80-90 votes were cast this year, winners were announced with Magnolia Wing's Pat Connolly chosen as Jacaranda King and Rose Cottage's Joan Smith named as Jacaranda Queen. Junior Jacaranda titles of prince and princess went to general services officer Bobby Winner and carer Marissa Ryan.

After the cheers and speeches the magical ceremony continued in front of the newly appointed royal family as Jester Darol McClymont put in a right royal performance featuring a range of hits from the 50s, 60s and 70s including Sway, Lucky Lips, and Try a Little Kindness.

All hail King Pat, Queen Joan, Princess Marissa and Prince Bobby.



2022 King Ernie relinquishes his crown and passes the duty to 2023 King Pat.



2022 Jacaranda Queen Doris Holbrook wishes 2023 Queen Joan Smith well in her reign.



Princess Marissa is crowned by Sir Big Greg Learmonth.



The three Ds: David, Darol and Doreen show off their jacaranda hairdos.



Large crowds gathered to watch the 2023 royal crowning in the Jacaranda Room.



Prince Andrew hangs out with Waratah resident Liz Katte at the Royal crowning ahead of his lunchtime wedding.



Court jester Darol McClymont kept the royal party and onlookers amused and entertained after the crowning.





Resident Charlie Husking is surrounded by royalty.

Afternoon tea fit for a king

History was in the making as Dougherty Villa rolled out the metaphorical purple carpet for the arrival of the Jacaranda King Toby Power and the royal party.

King Toby is the first to hold the title since the festival started naming royal subjects in 1935 and he was very happy to come along with the royal entourage to meet and greet residents and staff.

Joining King Toby was Princess Talissa Sparrow and Holiday Princess Sarah Langford as well as Matron of Honour Renee Hankinson.

The four spent their visit chatting and exchanging stories with residents and enjoying the specially prepared afternoon tea by kitchen catering team.

The dining hall was also decorated for the special occasion with colourful jacaranda tree placemats and purple napkins and decorations.

Congratulations to the 2023 Jacaranda Royal Party.



Matron Renee Hankinson greets resident Muriel Mackie.



Jacaranda King Toby Power greets resident Patricia Connor and visitor Jill Gill.



Resident Pat Bowling gives Jacaranda King Toby a cuddle.



Jacaranda Princess Tilly Sparrow chats with resident John and Edna Wright.



Holiday Princess Sarah Langford chats with residents Nola Barnier and Muriel Mackie.

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.



Jacaranda royalty past and present



The 2023 Jacaranda Royal Party met the 1947 Jacaranda Queen, resident Claire Smith, at a special morning tea hosted by Dougherty Villa.

Jacaranda Princess Talissa Sparrow kindly loaned her crown and sash to Claire as she reminisced about that wonderful evening 76 years ago. Claire is holding the portrait taken during her reign as Queen Claire Steffen (see inset).

Pictured from left: Holiday Princess Sarah Langford, Matron of Honour Renee Hankinson, 1947 Queen Claire, Jacaranda King Toby Power, and Jacaranda Princess Talissa Sparrow.



WHAT'S ON IN NOVEMBER

Joan Muir Community Centre

Free activities every Tuesday from 10am - 11.30am

TUESDAY

7

Bingo

TUESDAY

14

Bingo



TUESDAY

21

Bingo

TUESDAY

28

Bingo

Clarence on Queen

TUESDAY

7

Melbourne Cup Sweeps from 1.30pm.

AQUA AEROBICS (NO CLASS ON 8th NOVEMBER)



Every Wednesday (NO CLASS ON 8th) at 8am at South Grafton Heated Pool picking up from around the Village from 7.15am. Book your seat with office or Ros.

NEW ACTIVITY! RIVERFRONT WALK



Every Thursday 9.30-11am. Bus pick up and transport to Memorial Park to walk along new Clarence riverfront pathway. Bring your own morning tea. Scenic drive home. Please contact office 6642 5991 or Ros 0478 228 838 if interested.

CLOCKTOWER MORNING TEA - 30th



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.

CHRISTMAS PARTIES



6th: Clarence Village Party at Vines on Fitzroy from 5pm.
13th: Clarence on Queen Street Party at Vines on Fitzroy from 5pm.
RSVP to office if you are requiring bus transport.

CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEA

100 Club vouchers — \$10 for 10 weeks. Starts Tuesday, January 9.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE



Tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5. Drawn Tuesday 19 Dec from 10am at Joan Muir Hall followed by Christmas morning tea. If anyone would like to donate goods for the raffle, please drop them down to the office. Thank you for your support.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday 24th: 10am
Joan Muir Hall, 194 Turf St

To RSVP or contact Ros: rosh@clarencevillage.com.au or 0478 228 838
Please get in touch with Ros if you would like a chat or visit.



Newly crowned Jacaranda King Pat Connolly greets Ken Norton from the Grafton Vintage Motor Vehicle Club.



Recruitment and training coordinator Robyn Bale strikes a pose with a vintage Ford.

Travelling back in time

The sound of vintage cars horns marked a colourful blast from the past on Jacaranda Thursday afternoon at Dougherty Villa.

Residents packed the main entrance to see the parade of shiny classic motor vehicles do some laps around the carpark thanks to the Grafton Vintage Motor Vehicle Club.

There were a range of restored vintage Ford and Holden models from across the decades for residents to see and perhaps remember driving themselves.

While a bout of group shyness meant there were no takers for a ride, our trusty Quality Manager Tonny jumped at the chance to do a couple of laps in the vintage army jeep that could have come straight from the set of M.A.S.H.

Thanks to Grafton Vintage Motor Vehicle Club members for sharing their wonderful motor vehicles with Dougherty Villa residents and staff.



Tonny 'Hotlips' Fitzcosta enjoyed a few laps of the Dougherty Villa driveway in a vintage army vehicle.



Dougherty Villa Jacaranda Princess Marissa Ryan and Hibiscus Team Leader Kaye Ballose with the slick modern Ford Mustang.



Newlywed Purple Prince Andrew 'Buschy' Busch and care staffer Annie Hackett pose with a classic FJ Holden.



Millie does Village proud

The Clarence Village's own candidate Millie Lloyd had the honour of being crowned as the 2023 Junior Jacaranda Princess at the royal ceremony held at Market Square at the festival's opening weekend.

Millie impressed the judges with her poise and wonderful public speaking skills. Fellow candidate Holly Cooper was crowned Junior Jacaranda Queen.



Clarence Village candidate Millie Lloyd is crowned Junior Jacaranda Princess at Market Square ceremony.



Village resident Libby Shearer, Village Manager Penny White, Junior Princess Millie Lloyd, Dougherty Villa's Deputy Facility Manager Carlie Walter and resident Judy Williams at the Sponsors night for Jacaranda at the Clocktower Hotel. Carlie had a very lucky evening winning the raffle prize — a weekend away at a Mudgee winery.



Pat Connolly and Stephen 'Dame Edna' McIlveen

Pat passes the gladiolus to David

Dougherty Villa resident and Jacaranda King Pat Connolly was famous for his annual appearance at Jacaranda Festival as Dame Edna for many years, but the legendary housewife from Moonee Ponds has been absent from the scene since Pat retired. After being approached by Clarence Valley Council's Stephen McIlveen seeking permission to reprise the role, Pat graciously gave David his blessing to keep Dame Edna's spirit and association with the Jacaranda Festival alive. David visited Pat as Dame Edna to get the thumbs up for the outfit ahead of the dame's Jacaranda Thursday appearance.



Junior Jacaranda Princess Millie Lloyd, right, with Junior Queen Holly Cooper.

Proud moment for village

What an exciting and proud time for Clarence Village being able to sponsor our very own Junior Jacaranda Princess, Millie Lloyd.

Millie worked tirelessly throughout her Jacaranda journey and we couldn't have been prouder.

When she was announced as this year's Junior Jacaranda Princess I was privileged enough to be sitting next to her mum and dad and to feel the emotion and excitement of the moment was electrifying.

There were also a few residents in the crowd including Judy Williams who has attended almost every one of Millie's events. She said she was so excited by the announcement she nearly jumped out of her seat.

Millie is an exceptional young lady with a beautiful supportive family. We will let Millie enjoy her Jacaranda time and when it all settles down, she will be back to have some morning teas with you all again.

Now Jacaranda is behind us, let's dive straight into the silly season with resident Christmas parties.

It's an exciting time for us to come together with our larger extended family and enjoy a Christmas meal together. We have so far celebrated our first party with Clarence Village residents at Vines and a great time had by all.

Our wonderful maintenance team have been working tirelessly against Mother Nature, trying to keep everything growing, but losing the battle against keeping it as tidy with those wicked winds.

It's a large job but the boys love what they do and we would be lost without them. Please be patient as they do their best to get around to everyone's requests. There is a priority approach so other more pressing jobs may

have to jump the queue on occasion.

With some help from the Caringa team,, the boys have been busy developing new gardens at the entry of Dougherty Villa. Once the plants have all been positioned it will feel like you are driving through an oasis.

There are a busy few weeks coming up with lots of things packed into the calendar ahead of Christmas.

Finally, a reminder that our AGM for Clarence Village will be held in the Joan Muir Hall on November 24 at 10am

Melbourne Cup: There were too many sweeps to name all winners here. We had about 5-6 sweeps so congratuions to all our winners.

- Penny White, Clarence Village Manager.



Manager Penny White congratulates Clarence Village candidate Millie Lloyd on being crowned Junior Jacaranda Princess for 2023.

The quality of your aged care journey is in the stars

All government-funded residential aged care homes in Australia now have a Star Rating. *(Editors note: Dougherty Villa has a rating of four out of five stars — the highest rating among the Grafton aged care providers).*

Star Ratings make it easier for you to compare the quality of aged care homes and make choices about your care.

Star ratings have the dual purpose of providing both transparent information about the quality of individual homes, and incentivizing facilities to drive for excellence, because as homes continuously strive to maintain and improve their ratings, they are thereby improving the quality of care for residents.

Every facility's star rating, and detailed information regarding how that rating was determined, is available for you to view on the My Aged Care website.

Ratings are determined against four sub-categories:

- **Residents' Experience** – 10% of aged care residents are surveyed annually about their overall experience of their aged care home. This makes up 33% of the Overall Star Rating and is updated annually.
- **Compliance** – with the Aged Care Quality Standards, makes up 30% of the Overall Star Rating, and is updated daily.
- **Staffing** – average amount of care time residents receive from registered nurses, enrolled nurses, personal care workers and assistants in nursing, compared with the minimum average care targets set by the Australian Government. Staffing makes up 22% of the Overall Star Rating and is updated quarterly.



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

- **Quality Measures** – based on five crucial areas of care, including falls and major injury, unplanned weight loss, pressure injuries, medication management and the use of physical restraint. This makes up 15% of the Overall Star Rating and is updated quarterly.

Aged care homes receive Star Ratings between 1 and 5 stars.

1 star ★
'Significant improvement needed' (6 facilities*)

2 stars ★ ★
'Improvement needed' (166 facilities*)

3 stars ★ ★ ★
An 'acceptable' quality of care (1360 facilities*)

4 stars ★ ★ ★ ★
A 'good' quality of care (964 facilities*)

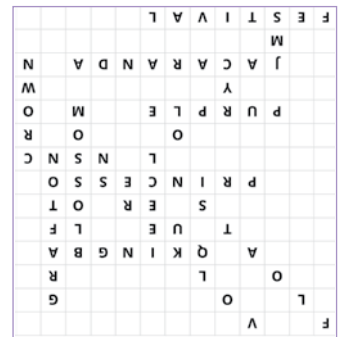
5 stars ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
An 'excellent' quality of care. (54 facilities*)

**as at June 2023*

Star ratings can be found on the myagedcare.gov.au website, if you would like to talk about this in more detail, please call My Aged Care on 1800 200 422, or drop in to see me at Centrelink on King Street.

Grafton Jacaranda Festival Word Search

T F E F V U I P O H Q P R V
 Q M L R B O Z E N B G S G N
 Q Z S O U J L M T G H I R R
 L N T W A N Q K I N G B A M
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|-----------|---------|----------|---------|
| Jacaranda | Blossom | Purple | King |
| Volkers | Maypole | Festival | Floats |
| Crown | Queen | Princess | Grafton |



**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