



A MESSAGE from the BCCT Team

As autumn arrives and the weather begins to cool, it's a lovely time to get out and spend time together.

We have a great range of outings planned over the next few months. You can visit historic Ebenezer Church, enjoy a relaxing cruise on the Nepean Belle, explore Sydney Zoo or the NSW Rail Museum, or see the lights of Vivid on a dinner cruise. There are also theatre shows, markets, shopping trips and plenty of lunches to enjoy with friends. We hope there is something in the program that you'll enjoy.

In this edition, we are proud to share that BCCT was named Community Organisation of the Year at the 2026 City of

Canterbury Bankstown Australia Day Awards. With 130 nominations received across all award categories, this was a very special honour for our organisation. We are also proud that our dedicated volunteer Les was nominated for Volunteer of the Year, recognising the important role volunteers play in our service.

Did you know that when Bankstown Square opened in 1966, it was Australia's largest shopping centre? In this edition, we share the history of this local landmark and how it has evolved over the years.

We look forward to seeing you and continuing to bring people together and keep our community connected in the months ahead.

Social Outings

Pine Ridge Mini Donkey Farm

We had a wonderful time getting up close and personal with the beautiful mini donkeys and alpacas at Pine Ridge Mini Donkey Farm.

It was so good to be out in the sunshine and enjoy the experience with such gentle and friendly creatures.



Your suggestions are always welcome and help us put together a calendar of events for everyone to enjoy.



BCCT Named Community Organisation of the Year

We are incredibly proud to share that BCCT has been named Community Organisation of the Year at the City of Canterbury Bankstown 2026 Australia Day Awards.

Council advised that 130 nominations were received across all award categories, making this recognition particularly meaningful. The award celebrates organisations that make a real difference through programs, services and advocacy, and we are honoured to be acknowledged among so many individuals and groups who contribute to our community.

For more than 40 years, BCCT has supported people who need a little extra help to stay connected, independent and engaged in everyday life. This recognition reflects the dedication of our staff, volunteers and partners, and most importantly, the community members we are privileged to support.

We are also proud that our dedicated volunteer Les Wilson was nominated for Volunteer of the Year, highlighting the vital role volunteers play in community transport.

Thank you to the City of Canterbury Bankstown and to everyone who helps make our community strong, caring and inclusive.



Price Increase

For some time, we've absorbed the rising costs we have all become accustomed to. We understand how important our service is to our valued community.

In order to ensure we remain sustainable into the future, we are bringing in a modest price increase to help us cover the cost of our social outings we are proud to offer you.

From April 1 2026 new pricing is as follows:

\$13 trip will now be \$15

\$27 trip will now be \$30

\$39 trip will now be \$40

Did you know?



If you know something about our local area that you would like to share in our newsletter let us know at info@bcct.org.au

Bankstown Square

Bankstown Square was opened on the 21st of September 1966 by Lady Cutler, the wife of then NSW governor Roden Cutler. Bankstown Square was, for some time, Australia's largest shopping centre, boasting more than 100 shops. It was opened not long after the opening of the nearby Roselands Shopping Centre.

The Torch newspaper reported that the cost for establishing the new shopping centre was around \$17 million. The centre's footprint and adjoining car parks covered an area "of almost 26 acres formerly occupied by almost 100 homes, three small shops and several churches".

The centre attracted major retailers, including David Jones, whilst also becoming a centre for government services in South-West Sydney. Other major stores at the time included Nock & Kirby's, Woolworths and BigW.



Australian Photographic Agency

In 2003 the shopping centre was renamed Centro Bankstown following a change in ownership and subsequently, in 2013, it was renamed to Bankstown Central, which is the name it is known by today.

COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
BANKSTOWN CANTERBURY



REMINDER

Please remember that on our Assisted Shopping Service you may bring 4 bags, but you must be able to carry 2 of them & share the load!

ADVERTISE IN OUR MAGAZINE

Grow your business with BCCT
Reach our trusted community



Scan the QR code to find out more!



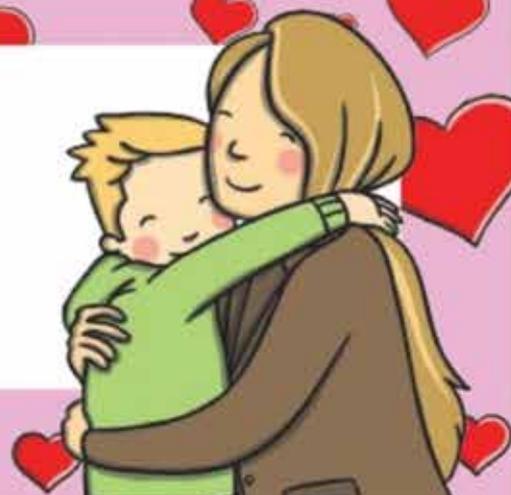
Mother's Day

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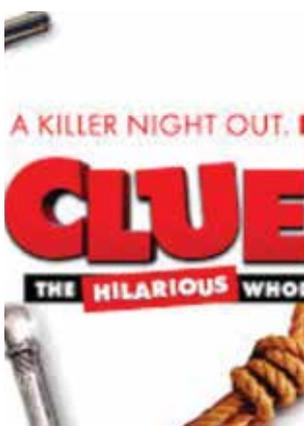




Ebenezer Church

Friday 10th April

This is Australia's oldest church, est. 1809, and was the first non-conformist then Presbyterian Church in Australia. Ebenezer Church and its community hold a unique place in the heritage of the Christian faith and in the nation's pioneer farming. The churchyard cemetery is recognised as one of the most important in Australia. This outing includes a delicious Devonshire Tea, a very informative talk, and the opportunity to buy handmade jams and souvenirs. **Trip cost - \$40 + \$10 tour & morning tea**



Cluedo Matinee Show

Wednesday 15th April

Murder and blackmail are on the menu when six mysterious guests assemble at Boddy Manor for a night they'll never forget! Was it Mrs. Peacock in the study with the knife? Or was it Professor Plum in the library with the wrench? Based on the fan-favourite 1985 Paramount Pictures movie, Clue and inspired by the classic Hasbro board game, Cluedo is the ultimate whodunnit that will leave you dying of laughter and keep you guessing until the final twist.

There is a limited number of tickets available for this outing, and seating is general admission, and there are stairs – you may not be able to attend if you are using a walker. Please also note that the performance runs for 90 minutes with NO INTERVAL.

Trip cost - \$30 + \$90 PREPAID OUTING



Sydney Zoo

Monday 20th April

Sydney Zoo is home to over 150 species including awe-inspiring and endangered species from all around the world. Take a stroll down the African Boardwalk where you'll see scenes from the savannah in the remarkable mixed-species habitats, wander down the leafy Primate Boulevard, and be mesmerised by the animals of South-East Asia. Get closer to all your favourite Australian natives in our beautiful open-range Australia habitat, where kangaroos and wallabies hop freely around the meandering pathways. Sydney Zoo is also the only combined zoo and aquarium in NSW and boasts the largest Reptile & Nocturnal House in the world! **Trip cost is \$40 + \$40 entry fee PREPAID**



Nepean Belle Paddlewheeler

Friday 24th April

Step aboard for a memorable 2.5-hour river adventure! Soak in the breathtaking river scenery as you relax and unwind. Enjoy a delicious 2-course lunch served with freshly brewed tea and coffee. You'll have behind-the-scenes access to the Captain on every cruise, why not take the helm and try your hand at steering an authentic Paddlewheeler! Oh, and you're not confined to your seats; you are welcome to wander, explore, and take in the sights! **Trip cost is \$40 + \$75 ticket PREPAID**



Mother Hubbard's Cupboard Camden

Thursday 30th April

This Op Shop in Camden is every bargain shopper's dream. There are so many second-hand items at the cheapest prices; you'll never buy new stuff again. They have plenty of clothing for women, men, and children. There are all the kitchen and household items you could possibly imagine. Need a gift? They've got plenty! **Trip cost is \$40**

April 2026

FOR BOOKINGS
CALL (02) 9772 4928, PRESS 1

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Notes: Bookings for May open Tuesday 14th April.			1 🛒 The Acres Club Dinner Cost: \$15 Buy Dinner	2 Ingelburn RSL Variety Show Cost: \$40 Buy Lunch Rookwood Cemetery Shuttle	3 GOOD FRIDAY P/H BCCT IS CLOSED	4 EASTER SATURDAY P/H BCCT IS CLOSED
5	6 EASTER MONDAY P/H BCCT IS CLOSED	7 🛒 Lidcombe Shopping Trip Cost: \$30 Buy Lunch	8 🛒 Club Condell Park Dinner Cost: \$15 Buy Dinner	9 🛒 Bunnings DIY Club Cost: \$15 Buy Lunch Chester Hill RSL Variety Show Cost: \$15 Buy Lunch 🕒	10 Ebenezer Church Visit Cost: \$50 Morning Tea Included 💰 🕒	11 Parklea Markets Cost: \$30 Buy Lunch
12	13 Yarra Bay Sailing Club Lunch Cost: \$30 Buy Lunch	14 🛒 Secret Men's Business - Western Sydney International Airport Experience Cost: \$15 Bingo Community Restaurant Cost: \$29	15 🛒 Cluedo Matinee Cost: \$120 💰 🕒	16 Upright Fitness Cost: \$17 Light Snacks Included	17 The Family Brasserie Lunch, Haberfield Cost: Free Buy Lunch	18 Savers Op Shop Auburn Cost: \$30 Buy Lunch
19	20 Sydney Zoo Cost: \$80 Buy Lunch 💰	21 🛒 Social Club & Knitting Nannas Cost: \$17 Light Snacks Included	22 🛒 The Lantern Club Dinner Cost: \$15 Buy Dinner	23 🛒 Bunnings Gardening Club Cost: \$15 Buy Lunch	24 Nepean Belle Lunch Cruise Cost: \$115 Lunch Included 💰 🕒	25 ANZAC DAY BCCT IS CLOSED
26	27 ANZAC DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY BCCT IS CLOSED	28 🛒 Wellbeing Community Restaurant Cost: \$29 Podiatry Clinic Cost: \$30 Buy Lunch	29 🛒 Earlwood Hotel Dinner Cost: \$15 Buy Dinner	30 🛒 Mother Hubbard's Cupboard Camden Cost: \$40 Buy Lunch Woronora Cemetery Shuttle		

💰 Outing requires pre-payment. **Please Note:** Full Cost of outing MAY include bus fare, lunch and entry fee, unless otherwise specified.

🚶 Outing involves walking. 🕒 Longer than usual outing.

🛒 **RED WEEK SHOPPING**
 Tuesday: Bass Hill
 Wednesday: Menai
 Thursday: Chullora

🛒 **BLUE WEEK SHOPPING**
 Tuesday: Bass Hill
 Wednesday: Menai



Hambledon Cottage Museum

Friday 1st May

Hambledon Cottage was built by John Macarthur in 1824 on the grounds of his Elizabeth Farm Estate as additional accommodation for family and friends. It was home to many prominent Parramatta identities and is listed on the NSW State Heritage Register.

This elegant cottage is built of sandstock brick in the Colonial Georgian style and boasts a veranda enclosed by French doors and a beautiful, vaulted ceiling. It has been lovingly restored to this period. In the grounds are many heritage-listed trees, some nearly 200 years old.

Trip cost is \$30 + \$16 entry & morning tea



NSW Rail Museum

Monday 4th May

The NSW Rail Museum is located within the historic town of Thirlmere in Southwest Sydney.

Go all the way back to the beginning as you walk the timeline of rail development from the invention of the very first steam engine to today, and discover how NSW railways brought life to town and country.

See inside the driver's cab of a historic steam locomotive, explore a mail van, walk through a prison van and admire the Governor-General's carriage in all its glory.

Visit the Great Train Hall to see an impressive collection of locomotives, carriages and wagons – each with a unique story to tell.

Trip cost is \$40 + \$36 tour, morning tea and lunch PREPAID



Science Space

Friday 15th May

Explore two floors of over 100 hands-on exhibits that demonstrate science, technology, engineering and mathematics in action! From dinosaurs and fossils to motors and electricity, there are exhibits to intrigue young and old. This outing also includes a Planetarium show.

Trip cost is \$40 + \$18 entry & tour



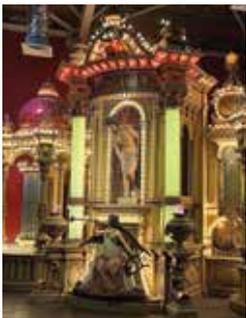
The Lion King Musical

Wednesday 27th May

Giraffes strut. Birds swoop. Gazelles leap. The entire Serengeti comes to life as never before. And as the music soars, Pride Rock slowly emerges from the mist. This is Disney's THE LION KING, making its triumphant return to Sydney! 2.5 hour show, with a 20 minute interval.

PLEASE NOTE – YOU MUST HAVE YOUR OWN SMART PHONE TO GO TO THIS SHOW AS YOUR TICKET WILL BE ON IT.

Trip cost is \$30 + \$105 ticket PREPAID



Fairground Follies

Friday 29th May

“WHERE GOOD TIMES OF THE PAST, MAKE GREAT TIMES TODAY”

Welcome to Fairground Follies, an exciting new concept that embraces fun with interactive cultural music, Folk Art, Mechanical Music, 100-year-old carousels and much more of the World's Greatest Museum exhibits from 1840 through to 1950.

An informative tour followed by a traditional Aussie morning tea with cupcakes and lamingtons!

Trip cost is \$40 + \$40 entry PREPAID

May 2026

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CALL (02) 9772 4928, PRESS 1

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	Notes: Bookings for June open Tuesday 12th May.				1 Hambledon Cottage Museum Cost: \$46 Morning Tea Included	2 Dollar World Bankstown Cost: \$15 Buy Lunch
3	4 NSW Rail Museum Cost: \$76 Morning Tea & Lunch Included \$ 🕒	5 🛒 Ikea Rhodes Shopping Cost: \$30 Buy Lunch	6 🛒 Campsie Hotel Dinner Cost: \$15 Buy Dinner	7 🛒 Ingleburn Variety Show Cost: \$40 Buy Lunch Rookwood Cemetery Shuttle	8 Italian Bistro @ Bankstown Golf Club Cost: \$15 Buy Lunch	9 Fairfield Markets Cost: \$30 Buy Lunch
10	11 Hotel Mosman Lunch Cost: \$30 Buy Lunch	12 🛒 It's Showtime! Kings & Queens Of Country Cost: \$35 Morning Tea Included Secret Men's Business- Mill in Milperra Cost: \$15	13 🛒 The Mill Dinner Cost: \$15 Buy Dinner	14 Chester Hill Variety RSL Variety Show Cost: \$15 Buy Lunch 🕒 Bunnings DIY Club Cost: \$15 Buy Lunch	15 Science Space Visit Cost: \$58 Buy Lunch \$ 🕒	16 Club Mount Lewis Lunch Cost: \$15 Buy Lunch
17	18 Kurrajong Radio Museum Cost: \$50 Light Morning Tea Included \$ 🕒	19 🛒 Social Club & Knitting Nannas Cost: \$17 Light Snacks Included	20 🛒 Crown Hotel Dinner Cost: \$15 Buy Dinner	21 🛒 Upright Fitness Class Cost: \$17	22 Pie In The Sky Cost: \$40 Buy Lunch 🕒	23 Auburn Tennis Club Lunch Cost: \$30 Buy Lunch
24	25 The Mill Hotel Lunch Cost: Free Buy Lunch	26 🛒 Picnic Point Bowling Club Lunch Cost: \$15 Buy Lunch	27 🛒 The Lion King Matinee Cost: \$135 \$ 🕒	28 Bunnings Gardening Club Cost: \$15 Buy Lunch Woronora Cemetery Shuttle	29 Fairground Follies Bowral Cost: \$80 Morning Tea Included \$ 🕒	30 Maggies Sports Club Lunch Croydon Cost: \$15 Buy Lunch

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🛒 BLUE WEEK SHOPPING
Tuesday: Bass Hill
Wednesday: Menai

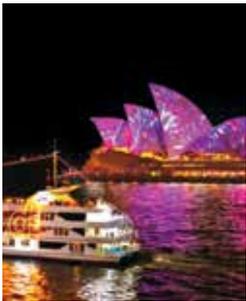


HARS Aviation Museum

Monday 1st June

The HARS Aviation Museum is unlike many others you may visit. Admission includes the guided tour through the premises, which, owing to them being “working” hangars, requires an escort. The advantage of this approach is that you will not be hampered by barriers, and you will be able to experience the aircraft and other displays in a way that is just not possible elsewhere. Admission to the museum with a guided tour through all the displays and hangars, with limited access to the Boeing 747-438.

Trip cost is \$40 + \$53 entry, morning tea and lunch



Vivid Dinner Cruise

Wednesday 10 June

Following the huge success of last year’s Vivid experience, we’re thrilled to be able to offer this opportunity once more.

Don’t miss out on the chance to see the exciting installations from the comfort of a Captain Cook vessel and enjoy a delicious meal during a 2.5-hour cruise on the world’s prettiest harbour.

Trip cost is \$30 + \$85 cruise PREPAID

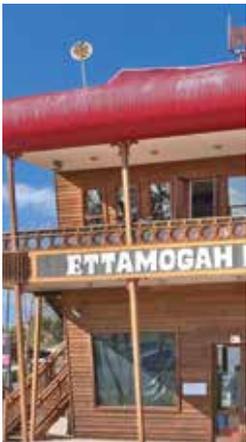


Hurstville Museum & Gallery

Friday 12th June

Hurstville Museum & Gallery is home to approximately 6,000 objects and artworks from the local area. Run by a dedicated team within Georges River Council, Hurstville Museum & Gallery offers a full schedule of high-quality exhibitions throughout the year, a diverse range of public programs for all ages.

Trip cost is \$30



Ettamogah Pub

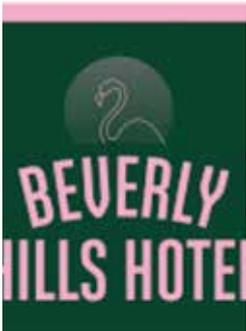
Monday 22nd June

The original creator of the Ettamogah Pub was Ken Maynard who started drawing the Ettamogah Pub in 1959. It was made famous through his regular cartoons in The Australasian Post.

The Ettamogah in Sydney was opened in 2003 and is located on the corner of Merriville road and corner Windsor road, Kellyville Ridge. However, it is a copy of the original one at Albury, NSW.

The original Ettamogah pub was built by businessman Lindsay Cooper and first opened in 1987. The aim was to create a themed family restaurant which would become a tourist icon. The timber building featured sloping walls and a distinctive architectural style true to the original cartoon design.

Trip cost is \$40



Beverly Hills Hotel

FREE EVENT

Monday 29th June

Perfect for a friendly get-together with friends, the bistro offers affordable meals in a relaxed atmosphere.

The chef’s specials are a big attraction and are always popular with customers. Char-grilled steaks, innovative pasta, delicious salads, and mouth-watering desserts that will continue to bring you back to the Beverly Hills Hotel.

Free outing – just pay for your meal!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Hars Aviation Museum Cost: \$93 Morning Tea & Lunch Included   	2  Lidcombe Shopping Cost: \$30 Buy Lunch	3  Canterbury Hurlstone Park RSL Dinner Cost: \$15 Buy Dinner	4  Ingelburn RSL Variety Show Cost: \$40 Buy Lunch Rookwood Cemetery Shuttle	5 Corrimal RSL High Tea Cost: \$75 High Tea Included 	6 Cobbitty Village Markets Cost: \$40 Buy Lunch
7	8 KINGS BIRTHDAY P/H BCCT IS CLOSED	9  Secret Mens Business - The Mill Hotel Cost: \$15 Buy Lunch It's Showtime! Orbison & Diamond Cost: \$35 Morning Tea Included	10  Vivid Dinner Cruise Cost: \$115 Dinner included  	11 TEAM TRAINING BCCT IS CLOSED	12 Hurstville Museum & Gallery Cost: \$30 Buy Lunch	13 Salvos Darrell Lea & Ingleburn RSL Cost: \$40 Buy Lunch
14	15 Lantern Club Lunch Cost: \$15 Buy Lunch	16  Art Community Restaurant Cost: \$29 Lunch Included Social Club & Knitting Nannas Cost: \$17 Light Snacks	17  Hurlstone Park Hotel Dinner Cost: \$15 Buy Dinner	18  Reverse Garbage Visit Cost: \$30 Buy Lunch Upright Fitness Cost: \$17 Light Snacks	19 Old Government House Cost: \$52 Buy Lunch  	20 Carlo Dragon @ Carnarvon Golf Club Cost: \$30 Buy Lunch
21	22 Ettamogah Pub Lunch Cost: \$40 Buy Lunch	23  Silly Solly's Cost: \$40 Buy Lunch	24  Narwee Hotel Dinner Cost: \$15 Buy Dinner	25 Bunnings Gardening Club Cost: \$15 Buy Lunch Woronora Cemetery Shuttle	26 Scots Club Arncliffe Lunch Cost: \$30 Buy Lunch	27 Twin Willows Lunch Cost: \$15 Buy Lunch
28	29 Beverly Hills Hotel Lunch Cost: Free Buy Lunch	30  Seniors Rights Community Restaurant Cost: \$29 Lunch Included	Notes: Bookings For July Open Tuesday 9th June.			

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Get to know
HAYDEN

Name: Hayden

Position: Client Services Team Member

Time at BCCT: 3 months

Q: If you were to have coffee with anyone, who would it be?

A: A conversation with Greg Inglis would be amazing, I admire how he's overcome adversity and become a strong athlete.

Q: What song would you sing at karaoke night?

A: Gold – Spandau Ballet

Q: What did you want to be when you grew up?

A: I wanted to be a policeman or a footy player.

Q: What was your favourite family vacation?

A: I always love going to the Gold Coast, there's perfect weather and beaches!

Q: A Pets name?

A: I have a dog named Abby; she is a Cavoodle.