

WHAT'S ON

MAY – JULY 2025

20



YEARS

HAWKESBURY CITY COUNCIL



ARTS AND CULTURE

ARTS & CULTURE



CELEBRATING 20 STORIES FOR 20 YEARS OF THE DEERUBBIN BUILDING

In 2025, we mark a special milestone—**20 years of the Deerubbin Centre**, a much-loved heart of the Hawkesbury. Since opening its doors, the Deerubbin Building has been more than just bricks and mortar—it's been a thriving hub of creativity, culture, community and connection.

Home to **Hawkesbury Central Library, Hawkesbury Regional Gallery**, dynamic community spaces, and local businesses, this building has welcomed over 2.8 million people through its doors—curious learners, passionate creatives, and locals looking for a place to gather, grow and be inspired.

To celebrate this momentous occasion, **Hawkesbury City Council's Arts and Culture team** is launching a vibrant year-long program: **20 Stories of the Deerubbin Building**.

This special series of events, exhibitions, and upgrades will honour the stories, people and

moments that have made the Deerubbin Building such an integral part of our community over the past two decades.

From the **Dr Rex Stubbs OAM Commemorative History Symposium**, to the **Seniors Expo** at Hawkesbury Library, and the stunning new gallery collection exhibition, ***A river, a mountain, a field, a road***—there will be something for everyone to enjoy. You'll also discover a brand new **Cabinet of Curiosity** in the atrium, plus plenty of surprises still to come.

We're also proud to unveil major upgrades to both the Library and Gallery—future-proofing these much-loved facilities for generations to come. In March, the Gallery received its first-ever lighting system upgrade, dramatically improving how exhibitions are presented. We're also proud to unveil major upgrades to both the Library and Gallery—future-proofing these much-loved facilities for generations to come.

ARTS & CULTURE

And later this year, Hawkesbury Central Library will open a brand-new **Digital Hub**, featuring cutting-edge equipment and technology access for the community—thanks to a **NSW Government Public Library Infrastructure Grant**.

The stories don't stop there. At **Hawkesbury Regional Museum**, a beautiful new garden space will be launched, sharing important First Nations stories in a setting that invites reflection and connection. Opening in Spring, this new space is another way we're deepening the stories we tell—and how we tell them.

Our people are our lifeblood – community members and volunteers, who bring these spaces to life, and our committed staff so dedicated to the Hawkesbury's cultural life.

Join us as we celebrate **20 years of history, art, learning and community spirit**—and look ahead to an even brighter future.

Councillor Les Sheather

Mayor, Hawkesbury City Council



20 STORIES OF THE DEERUBBIN BUILDING PROGRAM

EVENTS

- Dr Rex Stubbs Commemorative History Symposium
- Hawkesbury Library Service Seniors Expo
- Living Stories Western Sydney Writing Prize
- *A river, a mountain, a field, a road* exhibition*
- *Burnt into Memory* exhibition*
- Memoir Writing Workshop*
- Celebrate at Storytime*
- *Olive Cotton and Her Contemporaries* exhibition
- Volunteer Outing
- History Week
- Jane Austen Talk
- *Hawkesbury Now* exhibition
- Deerubbin Centre open day

PROJECTS

- Hawkesbury Regional Gallery Lighting Upgrade
- Cabinet of Curiosities display
- Mezzanine Display
- Hawkesbury City Council Cultural Plan
- Hawkesbury Regional Museum Aboriginal Garden
- Hawkesbury Library Service Membership Drive
- Hawkesbury Library Service Digital Hub

Event information and booking details will be released throughout the year. To be the first to know when tickets are released, subscribe to our e-newsletters.

* learn about it in this booklet!

GALLERY

EXHIBITION



A RIVER, A MOUNTAIN, A FIELD, A ROAD...

11 APRIL – 1 June

The **Hawkesbury Regional Gallery** is home to an extensive array of art collections, developed over many years, starting long before the gallery itself was established.

While these collections have come together through various means, a unifying theme emerges: the landscape.

A river, a mountain, a field, a road... offers a rich exploration of the varied portrayals of landscape in the gallery's collections. The featured works capture the breathtaking beauty of the Hawkesbury region, in addition to diverse interpretations of natural and built environments beyond the area.

This exhibition will showcase works from the **Hawkesbury Regional Art Gallery**, the **Hawkesbury City Council Collections**, and contributions from the **Friends of the Hawkesbury Art Community and Regional Gallery Inc.**

Image details: William Edwin Pidgeon, *Kurrajong*, 1937, oil on board, 34 x 39cm, collection Hawkesbury Regional Gallery. Photo by silversalt photography



WORKSHOP



A PAINTING PICNIC UNDER THE PEPPER TREE

SUNDAY 18 MAY, 11AM – 2PM

Join us for a fun-filled afternoon of painting and refreshments under the magnificent Pepper tree in the garden of the Deerubbin building.

Taking inspiration ***A river, a mountain, a field, a road...*** spend the afternoon capturing this iconic Windsor location, with artist **Dan Kyle**.

Age 15+, no experience necessary.
All materials and refreshments provided.
\$25 – BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

BOOK TICKETS



UNLESS STATED, ACTIVITIES ARE FREE.

EXHIBITION



BURNT INTO MEMORY

6 JUNE - 17 AUGUST

In the summer of 2019-2020 communities across Australia experienced some of the worst bushfires in living memory. Known as the Black Summer Bushfires, the impact of these collective 'fire events' was catastrophic on individuals, their communities and the entire nation.

Burnt into Memory explores the complex impact of these events on individuals and communities within the context of reflection, healing, resilience and forward momentum.

The exhibition will include work from artists living and working in the Hawkesbury, Blue Mountains Region and beyond such as Kathrine Boland, Jody Graham, Wona Bae and Charlie Lawler. These works were created in the aftermath of the fires; including recent responses.

OPENING EVENT

FRIDAY 6 JUNE, 6 - 8PM

Join us for the official opening of **Burnt Into Memory**. Light refreshments provided.

Image details: Kathrine Boland, *Bouquet no. 1*, pigment inkjet print on 300gsm archival cotton rag paper, 60 x 55cm, courtesy the artist.

MAKER SPACE



Immerse yourself in the world of creative making at our drop-in Maker Space.

Our Maker Space is a small room attached to the gallery space that offers simple FREE self-directed craft activities for all ages and abilities. The room and activities change with each exhibition.

Please note the Maker Space is a designated **QUIET SPACE** from 12 - 2PM during the week.

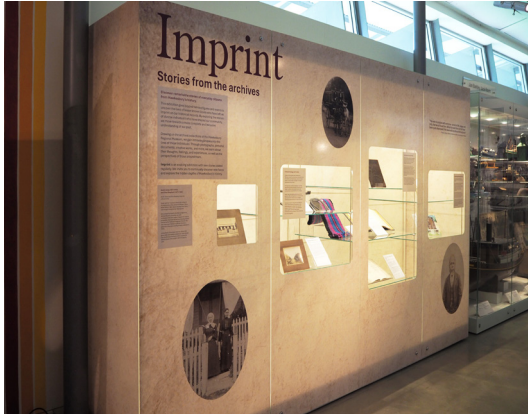
DROP IN ACTIVITY



FOR BOOKINGS, SCAN THE QR CODE OR BOOK ONLINE AT
[HAWKESBURYGALLERY.EVENTBRITE.COM](https://www.hawkesburygallery.eventbrite.com)

MUSEUM

NOW SHOWING



IMPRINT: STORIES FROM THE ARCHIVES

Imprint: Stories From the Archives is a new exhibition, highlighting stories of lesser-known and underrepresented locals that have left an imprint on our historical records. This changing display draws from the **Hawkesbury Regional Museum's** archival collection, and features historic photographs, documents, and more.

Image: *Imprint: Stories from the Archives, iteration 1.*



BRIDGING THE HAWKESBURY/ DYARUBBIN: THE HISTORY OF WINDSOR BRIDGE

Windsor Bridge was the oldest, existing bridge crossing the Dyarubbin (Hawkesbury River). Opened in 1874, it was cited as an engineering marvel. This new exhibition explores the history and significance of this bridge, the engineering feat and expertise utilised during its construction and the communities fight to save it.

Bridging the Hawkesbury/Dyarubbin: The History of Windsor Bridge features never before seen images and original objects from the bridge shown for the first time.

Image Details: *Bridge across the Hawkesbury River, Windsor, NSW, c.1945, E.W. Searle, courtesy NLA.*



BANGADYI NAWI – BUILDING A CANOE

The Nawi is a traditional canoe and a living artifact made by local Aboriginal high school students during an inter-generational camp facilitated by and held at Brewongle Environmental Education Centre. **Bangadyi Nawi** engaged respectfully with the community and will continue to shape learning opportunities for the whole community.

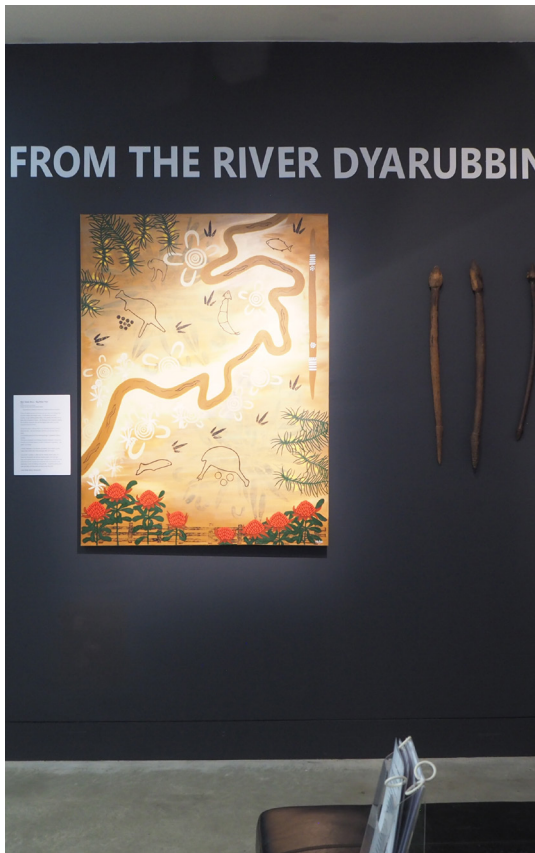
The **Bangadyi Nawi** project won the **2024 Leo Kelly OAM Arts and Culture Award from Local Government NSW** and the **2023 IMAGInE Award for Engagement Programs**.

Image details: *Bangadyi Nawi – Building a Canoe, 2023, installation view.*

BOOK TICKETS



UNLESS STATED, ACTIVITIES ARE FREE.



11 STORIES FROM THE RIVER DYARUBBIN

Hear stories about the river's formation, Aboriginal culture, colonial settlers, historic floods, farming, boats, recreation, and ecology, from deep time to the very present; with over 80 contributors from the wider Hawkesbury area.

Accompanying the exhibition are 11 audio walks located along the banks of the Hawkesbury River between Yarramundi and Sackville, developed by composer and sound designer **Oonagh Sherrard** in partnership with the **Hawkesbury Regional Museum**.

The **11 Stories From the River Dyarubbin** project won the 2024 IMAGinE Award for Engagement Programs in NSW Museums.

Listen to the audio walks on Youtube, Spotify and Apple Podcasts.

Image details: *11 Stories from the River Dyarubbin*, 2023, Installation view.

TALKS



VISIBILITY IN LOCAL COLLECTIONS: WHO IS MISSING?

SATURDAY 10 MAY, 11 – 11:45AM

Join State Library of NSW Consultant, Ellen Forsyth as she shares how important Museum and Local studies collections are in telling the stories of a local area. As not everything can be collected and preserved, questions need to be asked about who and what is not visible. Whose stories and perspectives are we missing out on?

Visibility in local collections: who is missing?

celebrates this year's Australian Heritage Festival theme, *Unearthed* – revealing the past, bringing to light lesser-known histories and stories, and unearthing knowledge.

Light refreshments provided.
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

FOR BOOKINGS, SCAN THE QR CODE OR BOOK ONLINE AT
[HAWKESBURYMUSEUM.EVENTBRITE.COM](https://www.hawkesburymuseum.eventbrite.com)



LIBRARY

TALKS & SEMINARS



365+ WAYS TO SAVE THE PLANET & YOUR MONEY AT SAME TIME

TUESDAY 6 MAY, 6 – 7:30PM

Join author Lottie Dalziel for a talk on her new book *365+ Ways to Save the Planet and Your Money*. Learn easy, impactful eco-tips and win a signed copy of the book!

Bring your “hard-to-recycle” items for Lottie to drop off through micro-recyclers. Small steps make a big difference—join us for an inspiring evening!

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL



LIBRARY HEALTH HUB

TUESDAY 3 JUNE, 10:30AM – 12 PM

Join the Western Sydney Health Alliance for an informative talk on disaster preparedness and the My Community Directory. Learn valuable tips to stay safe in emergencies and discover how the directory can connect you to local services. Don't miss this opportunity to be better prepared for unforeseen events. Tea and coffee provided.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL



FROM PLASTIC PARROTS TO FLYING KANGAROOS

FRIDAY 27 JUNE, 10 – 11:30AM

Join us for an engaging author talk with Geoff Cowell, a former RAAF and Qantas pilot, as he shares stories from his memoir, *From Plastic Parrots to Flying Kangaroos*. Discover light-hearted tales of flying C-130s and 707s in the 1980s–90s, with a special connection to Richmond and the Hawkesbury community.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

BOOK TICKETS



UNLESS STATED, ACTIVITIES ARE FREE.

LIBRARY

WORKSHOPS



GUIDED MEDITATION

SATURDAY 17 MAY, 11AM – 12:30PM

Meditation can reduce stress, promote productivity, improve your mood and sleep patterns and help you find focus in your daily life. Come along to this introductory session presented by the **School of Meditation & Mindfulness**.

\$10 – BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

CARD MAKING

SATURDAY 5 JULY, 10AM – 12PM

Join us for a fun and creative card-making workshop for beginners! Enjoy crafting in a relaxed atmosphere and leave with your own beautiful, handmade creations. All materials provided.

\$10 – BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

MEMOIR WRITING WORKSHOP – WAYS & MEANS LEARNING

SATURDAY 21 JUNE, 10AM – 12PM

Learn the key steps in crafting compelling stories, including how to choose a subject, plan and focus your narrative, and begin writing with confidence.

Presented by writer Keith Whelan. Includes light refreshments.

\$20 – BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL



TECH SAVVY SENIORS

TUESDAY 3, 10, 17, 24 JUNE, 10:30AM – 12:30PM

THURSDAY 10, 17, 24, 31 JULY, 10:30AM-12:30PM

Join us for **Tech Savvy Seniors: Health, Home & Help**, a series of hands-on workshops designed to empower seniors with digital skills. Learn how to access health services, manage home technologies, and find helpful resources online. Perfect for beginners, this session aims to build confidence in using technology for everyday needs.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

UNLESS STATED, ACTIVITIES ARE FREE, AND ARE HELD AT
HAWKESBURY CENTRAL LIBRARY, WINDSOR.

BOOK TICKETS



LIBRARY



REEL TALK TUESDAY: CONCLAVE (2024)

TUESDAY 10 JUNE, 10AM - 12:30PM

Join us for **Reel Talk Tuesday!** Enjoy a screening of the film **Conclave**, followed by a lively discussion. Share your thoughts, insights, and opinions with fellow movie lovers in a relaxed setting. Tea and coffee will be provided for a cosy and engaging experience. Everyone is welcome!

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

HISTORY



UNEARTHED: REVEALING THE PAST

WEDNESDAY 14 MAY, 10 - 11:15AM

Join Local History Librarian, Michelle Nichols, for a presentation on how local histories may shed light and provide context for your family history research. Presented by Hawkesbury Family History Group (HFHG).

IN PERSON NO NEED TO BOOK

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL ONLY IF ATTENDING VIA ZOOM

THE HUMBLE TREND TO GRAZING IN 1802 IN THE HAWKESBURY

WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE, 10 - 11:15AM

While the rich and powerful by 1801 had bought lots of livestock, due to easy credit, the humble Hawkesbury settlers, mostly ex-convicts, had none. This all changed in 1802, but why? Dr Jan Barkley Jack's talk will unravel what happened. Presented by Hawkesbury Family History Group (HFHG).

IN PERSON NO NEED TO BOOK

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL ONLY IF ATTENDING VIA ZOOM

Image Details: *Baker's Farm on the banks of the Hawkesbury* c.1795-6. Engraving by William Lowry from original by Thomas Watling in 'An Account of the English Colony in NSW' Vol 1 by David Collins

BOOK TICKETS



UNLESS STATED, ACTIVITIES ARE FREE.



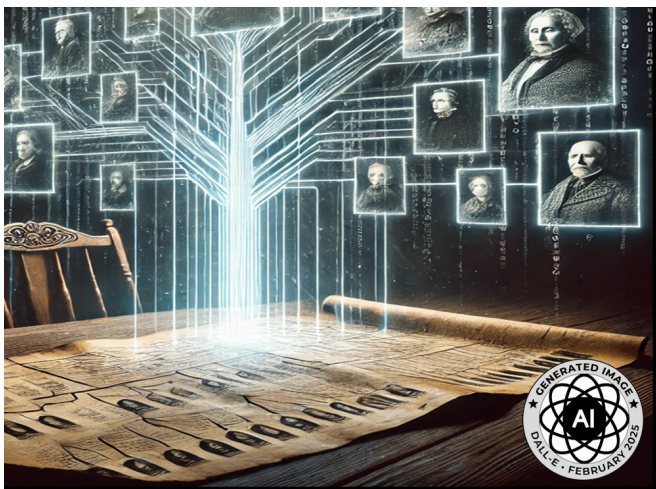
TOP 10 HINTS FOR SCOTTISH ANCESTRY

THURSDAY 12 JUNE, 6 - 7PM

Discover our top 10 hints for researching Scottish ancestry. Learn about the types of records that are available online and in archives and libraries. This session will look at Scottish names, BDMs, census, immigration as well as the major historical events that affected Scottish families.

\$5 – ONLINE EVENT – BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Image details: Unidentified boy in Scottish outfit, c.1890s.
Courtesy State Library of Victoria

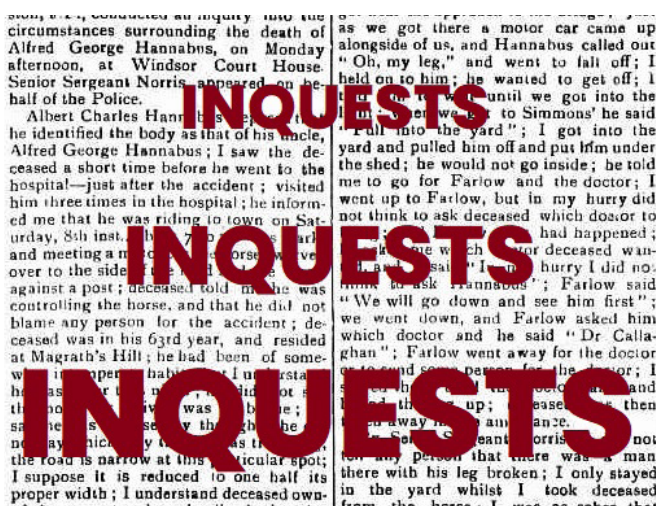


EXPLORING & USING AI IN FAMILY HISTORY

WEDNESDAY 9 JULY, 10 - 11:15AM

Explore how artificial intelligence (AI) can be used in Family History with Andrew Redfern. Using practical demonstrations, Andrew will show how to make use of AI from research to data analysis, image generation and more. Presented by Hawkesbury Family History Group (HFHG).

**IN PERSON NO NEED TO BOOK
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL ONLY IF ATTENDING VIA ZOOM**



SUDDEN OR UNNATURAL DEATHS – NSW INQUESTS

WEDNESDAY 16 JULY, 6 - 7PM

Discover how sudden or unnatural deaths in NSW may result in a Coroner's Inquest and why these records are useful for local and family researchers.

\$5 – ONLINE EVENT – BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

**UNLESS STATED, ACTIVITIES ARE FREE, AND ARE HELD AT
HAWKESBURY CENTRAL LIBRARY, WINDSOR.**

BOOK TICKETS



LIBRARY

TERM EVENTS FOR CHILDREN



RHYMETIME

MONDAYS, 10 - 10:45AM

Introduce your child to the joys of literacy with simple stories, songs, and nursery rhymes. Lots of fun for babies, toddlers, and their siblings. Rhymetime runs during the school term.

Suitable for ages 18 months - 3 years.

DROP IN EVENT

STORYTIME

TUESDAYS (WINDSOR), 11 - 12PM

THURSDAYS (RICHMOND), 11 - 12PM

Come and join us for some entertaining stories, craft activities, and lots of fun for our STORYTIME for pre-schoolers. Suitable for ages 3-5 years, older siblings are welcome. Storytime runs during the school-term.

DROP IN EVENT



PUPPY-DOG TALES

THURSDAYS, 3:30 - 4:30PM

This fun reading program aims to improve early literacy skills by encouraging children to read to a specialised reading dog.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

20
YEARS

CELEBRATE WITH STORYTIME

TUESDAY 4 JUNE, 11AM

Pre-school Storytime celebrates 20 years of the Deerubbin Centre. Listen to some classic stories that were published in 2005, enjoy a fun craft session then stay for birthday cake and party treats.

DROP IN EVENT

BOOK TICKETS



UNLESS STATED, ACTIVITIES ARE FREE.

LIBRARY

REGULAR PROGRAMS & SERVICES



JUSTICE OF PEACE

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, 10AM-12PM

Our volunteer JP can witness, notarise, and certify your documents. Now available three days a week!

Located at Hawkesbury Central Library, Windsor.

DROP IN SERVICE



TECH HELP

WINDSOR: MONDAYS, 11AM-12PM

RICHMOND: THURSDAYS, 2-3PM

Get assistance with general tech issues, including settings, app installations, and more.

To book contact 02 4560 4460

DIGITAL MENTORING

WINDSOR: SECOND WEDNESDAY, 10AM-12PM

RICHMOND: THIRD WEDNESDAY, 10AM-12PM

The Digital Literacy Foundation is offering digital mentoring sessions to seniors in the Hawkesbury community at Central Library, Windsor, and Richmond Branch. To book a free session contact the Digital Literacy Foundation on (02) 9090 4141 or email hello@dlf.org.au



FREE LEGAL CLINIC

FIRST WEDNESDAY, 10AM - 1PM

Western Sydney Community Legal Centre offers a free Legal Clinic at Hawkesbury Central Library. Get expert advice on Civil, Criminal, Family, and Traffic Law.

DROP IN SERVICE

UNLESS STATED, ACTIVITIES ARE FREE, AND ARE HELD AT HAWKESBURY CENTRAL LIBRARY, WINDSOR.



LIBRARY

REGULAR PROGRAMS & SERVICES



KNIT WITH FRIENDS

LAST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH, 10AM-12PM

Enjoy a cuppa and a yarn with friends both old and new to knit blankets for those in need.

DROP IN EVENT



THIRD TUESDAY NIGHT BOOK CLUB

THIRD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH, 6.30-8.30PM

Get assistance with general tech issues, including settings, app installations, and more.

DROP IN EVENT

BOOK CHAT

LAST WEDNESDAY EACH MONTH, 10.30AM-12PM

Book Chat is a relaxed book club with no set book to read. Simply bring along a book that you would like to share with the group.

DROP IN EVENT

THIRD THURSDAY BOOK CLUB

THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH, 10AM-12PM

Looking to meet a group of like-minded book lovers? Come along to the Third Thursday Book Club to share in the joy of reading.

DROP IN EVENT

BOOK TICKETS



UNLESS STATED, ACTIVITIES ARE FREE.

EXHIBITIONS & DISPLAYS



LIVING WITH THE RIVER PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

15 APRIL – 30 SEPTEMBER

NSW Reconstruction Authority's inaugural ***Living with the River*** photo competition. The competition celebrates all aspects of the Hawkesbury-Nepean River – as a place for recreation, a source of livelihood, a place of beauty, a force of nature and a place of cultural significance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

OPENING LAUNCH & TALK

THURSDAY 19 JUNE, 6–8PM

Join us for an evening celebrating ***Living with the River***! Hear Darug woman **Jasmine Seymour** share the story of Gurangatty, the Great Eel ancestor spirit, and explore stunning photographs depicting the community's connection to the Hawkesbury-Nepean River. Plus, **Dr. Stephen Yeo** will share insights on flood history, science, and palaeoflood research, followed by a Q&A session.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL



UNUSUAL & UNEXPECTED OBJECTS DISPLAY

MAY – JULY

This unique array of material, from different eras, will bring together some unique and curious items from various local collectors and collections.

Some rare items from the Local Studies Collection will also be on display including the Hobbs Seals, used by Hawkesbury resident Robert Hobbs 1763–1839, on loan from the NSW Public Trustees Office.

UNLESS STATED, ACTIVITIES ARE FREE, AND ARE HELD AT
HAWKESBURY CENTRAL LIBRARY, WINDSOR.

BOOK TICKETS



PUBLIC HOLIDAYS AND OPENING HOURS

Kings Birthday Long Weekend

Saturday 7 – Monday 9 June

Winter School Holidays

Monday 7 July – Friday 18 July

Library & Gallery

Closed Monday 9 June

Museum

Open Monday 9 June

MUSEUM

Hawkesbury Regional Museum

8 Baker Street
Windsor NSW 2756

Monday – Friday: 10am – 4pm
CLOSED TUESDAY
Weekends: 10am – 4pm

hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/museum
(02) 4560 4655
museum@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

facebook.com/hawkesburyregionalmuseum

instagram.com/hawkesburyregionalmuseum



GALLERY

Hawkesbury Regional Gallery

300 George Street
Windsor NSW 2756

Monday – Friday: 10am – 4pm
CLOSED TUESDAY
Weekends: 10am – 3pm
CLOSED PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/gallery
(02) 4560 4441
gallery@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

facebook.com/hawkesburygallery

instagram.com/hawkesburyregional_gallery



LIBRARY

Hawkesbury Central Library

300 George Street
Windsor NSW 2756

Monday – Friday: 9am – 7pm
Saturday: 9am – 1pm
Sunday: 2pm – 5pm
CLOSED PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

(02) 4560 4460
library@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au
facebook.com/hawkesburylibrary

instagram.com/hawkesburylibrary



Richmond Branch Library

29 West Market Street
Richmond NSW 2753

Monday – Friday: 9.30am – 6pm
Saturday: 9am – 1pm
CLOSED SUNDAY
CLOSED PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

(02) 4560 4270
library@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au
hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/library
hawkesburylibrary.eventbrite.com



WINDSOR



RICHMOND