

NEWSLETTER

Meals and Messages for 1 - 31 December 2025



The HMC acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Australia, and that our office is on Awabakal land. We pay our respect to Elders past, present and emerging, and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Peoples, with their connections to land sea, and community.



HMC Highlights!

What a wonderful year at the HMC!

It has been an amazing year at the Hunter Multicultural Communities! For this newsletter, we're going to look back on the fun we've had and the things we've achieved together in 2025!

- The 2025 Multicultural Fiesta!
- We upgraded our carpark to make it safer for everyone
- A brand new chicken coop built by Orica!
- We've begun holding monthly Volunteer Information sessions for anyone looking for more information about volunteering with us!
- Recorded a podcast series to promote the meal service
- Auspicing for Jesmond Public School to sponsor children
- Launched HMC Online Meals, so that anyone can get a meal delivered!
- We've sponsored an African football team named Zambia
- Launched a volunteer program, called Greening Hamilton, to care for the pot plants in Beaumont St!
- We've made plans for the children's playground we're building next to the Community Garden, with support from Tim Crankenthorpe, who has granted us \$173,000!
- We've begun collecting donations for a HMC bus that we can use to support our community, with a fundraising event coming in February of 2026!
- We've hosted many events, including Holi Mela and Diwali!
- The HMC Meal Service turned 5 this year! Thank you to all our team and clients!
- We've made and strengthened partnerships with other organisations in our community, like Beyond Bank, City of Newcastle, Net Zero Economy Agency, Active Stronger Better, Joblink, Habitat for Humanity & Atwea College, SSI, Jesmond Public School, and Empower HER Pathways (Career Links)!

This list couldn't cover every thing that we've been able to accomplish this year. Thank you to all of our staff and volunteers who have worked so hard this year and made the above list possible! And thank you to our clients and community who continue to support us and make all our efforts worth it! We will see you in 2026! Have a happy and safe holidays, and a happy new year everyone!





Birthday Corner!



2 December	Heather J
2 December	Leone C
4 December	Eveline N
4 December	Maria T
4 December	Pamela M
4 December	Raymond M
6 December	Ron T
7 December	Raymond H
8 December	Dzierzyslawa J
8 December	Miroslava K
11 December	Jane J
12 December	Audrey J
13 December	Phillip B
16 December	Anelia P
16 December	Antonia S
18 December	Steven S
19 December	Harry K
19 December	John O
20 December	Giolinia S
20 December	Louise S
20 December	Luz S
20 December	Susan H
21 December	Brian N
21 December	Soliman S
22 December	Sally M
24 December	Douglas S
24 December	Natalina F
25 December	Isobel H
25 December	Natalina I
25 December	Ronald V

25 December	Ruth G
26 December	Danuta S
26 December	Helen P
26 December	Paul D
27 December	Carmel B
27 December	Margaret H
28 December	Giuseppina V
28 December	Lynette H
30 December	Barbara J
31 December	Kevin T

Staff and Volunteer Birthdays!

2 December	David K
13 December	Margaret K
16 December	Gayle F
16 December	Jane P
27 December	Ahmad S
30 December	Peter B



GARDEN NEWS

1 December 2025

Sadly, this is the last HMC Newsletter for 2025 – however for those of you who are on my HMC Gardeners & my Friends of the Garden Lists – I will be sending you a weekly email with some Garden News including Garden opening times, Plants & Items for Sale, Don't leave it to the last minute to buy your Christmas Plants & Gifts, so come on over and see what novelties etc. we have to offer!!!!

Produce for Sale

Jars of "Propagating Honey" for \$4.00, Use this when propagating your favourite plants & shrubs instead of the Expensive Commercial Gels & Powders on the market, & 2Ltrs Worm Juice to feed your plants. Fresh Turmeric & Herbs, Parsley, Rosemary, Variety of Mints, Saltbush, Lemon Myrtle & Warrigal Greens. Come and sample our "Lemon Myrtle Tea or Cordial" – we also have some bottles for Sale.

Native (Bush Tucker) Plants for Sale.

Native Warrigal Greens (Tetragonia), Native Basil Plectranthus gravoelens), Native Leek (Bulbine bulbosa), Coastal Pigface (Karkalla) \$4.00 each or 3 for \$10.00.

Native Atherton Raspberries (Rubus probus) \$10 ea. Strawberry Plants \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00, (these have been selling fast – so don't miss out!!) A wide Selection of potted Indoor & Outdoor Plants – various prices, why not choose a pot and then select a plant to go with it!!

Please place your families name on the list for the "Children's Holiday Gardening Workshops" in January, these have been proving very popular and some days fill up fast, so watch this space!!!

Keep Saturday 13th December free, as the Garden will be hosting a Children's Christmas Party for all our regular young Visitors and our Children's Workshop Attendees, PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU PHONE or EMAIL ME if you are coming. The date also happens to be my Birthday!! – and I can't think of a nicer way to Celebrate than with all my Gardening Friends!!

Another busy week in the Garden with visits from lots of new families who have recently moved into the area, and some students joining us to assist with composting, feeding our Izer Brown Hens & watering.

I will be in the Garden this week, Monday 9am to 12n, Wednesday & Thursday 9am to 2.30pm, & Saturday 9am to 11am, so call in and say "Hello", I look forward to seeing you!!!!!!

Have a great week, Stay out of the Heat & Keep Safe & Well Everyone!!

**Margaret – HMC Garden Co-ordinator – Phone 0413 229 740 westwick1@dodo.com.au
& Jay – HMC Garden Manager**

HMC Calendar

Services for December 2025 and January 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	15	Last Day 16 Of Group	Last Day 17 Of Group	Last Day 18 Of Group	Last Day 19 Of Group	20
21	Last Day 22 Of Group	End of year 23 Christmas Party	24 Office Closes	25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27
28	29	30	31	2026 New years day		3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	GROUP 12 RETURNS	GROUP 13 RETURNS	GROUP 14 RETURNS	GROUP 15 RETURNS	GROUP 16 RETURNS	18

KEY DATES:

16 - 22 Dec: Last week of groups
 23 Dec: Christmas Party
 24 Dec: HMC closes at 12:00pm
 2 Jan: HMC reopens
 12 Jan: Groups and Meal Service return

- All meal orders for end of year need to be in by Friday 12 December 2025 by 2:00pm.
- Please note all cancellations are required to give 1 week's notice to avoid fees
- Menu 10 will begin from Monday 12 January 2026 and the menu will be released early December more info to come.

HMC Group Activities

For Mondays and Thursdays in November

MONDAY

1st of December
 -Concert with Lothar
 -BINGO

8th of December
 -Drumming
 -BINGO

15th of December
 -Seated Dancing (DVD)
 -BINGO

22nd of December
 -LAST DAY OF GROUPS
 -Christmas Quiz & Trivia
 -BINGO

THURSDAY


4th of December
 -Crafting
 -BINGO

11th of December
 -Indoor Bowls
 -BINGO

18th of December
 -Christmas
 Conversation Ball
 -BINGO

GROUPS RETURN
 ON MONDAY 12TH
 OF JANUARY 2026

Seniors' Days Out!



SENIORS' DAY OUT
Trip to The Junction
THURSDAY 2ND OF DECEMBER

Join us for a trip to The Junction! First we will have morning tea at The Grumpy Baker, followed by optional shopping at Harris Farm. For lunch, we will go to the Mex Club for a buffet lunch!

Departing HMC at 9:30am
returning to HMC at 3:00pm

ONLY 25 SPOTS! BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Ph: (02) 4960 8248
2A Platt Street WARATAH 2298



SENIORS DAY OUT
Trip to Speers Point
11th of December 2025

Join us for a trip to Speers Point! First we will go for morning tea at Pippi's at the Point, followed by an optional walk along the waterfront. Afterwards, we will have Christmas Lunch at Survivors R Us, which is \$20 per person.

Departure HMC 9:30am
Return HMC 3:00pm

ONLY 26 SPOTS AVAILABLE!
BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL

Ph: (02) 4960 8248
2A Platt St WARATAH 2298



SENIORS DAY OUT
Last Bus Trip of 2025!
THURSDAY 18TH OF DECEMBER

Join us for the last bus trip of the year! We will be going to Sandgate for morning tea, shopping and lunch!

Morning tea: Saffron and Sage Cafe
Optional Shopping in Pudding Lane
Lunch: The Grove Hotel (\$15 lunch specials!)

Departing HMC at 9:30am
Returning to HMC at 3:00pm

ONLY 28 SPOTS AVAILABLE!
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL!

Ph: (02) 4960 8248
2A Platt Street Waratah 2298

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE
HUNTER MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITIES

Christmas Party!

TUE
DECEMBER 23 10AM - 2PM

30 CREBERT STREET MAYFIELD 2304

Join us at our annual Christmas Party for fun and festivities! There will be a raffle, music and a Christmas meal to enjoy together. Entry is \$20.00 per person.

Let's celebrate the holiday season!

Limited Spots Available! Bookings Essential!
Ph: (02) 4960 8248
2A Platt Street Waratah 2298

Call our office to secure your spot!
(02) 4960 8248

Weekly Menu

Week 1, 1 - 5 December 2025 Orders Close Friday 21 November

Monday 1 December 2025

E: Vegetable Spring Rolls with Sweet & Sour Sauce

M: Crumbed Pork Schnitzel with Mash Potato and Seasonal Vegetables

D: Peaches and Custard

Tuesday 2 December 2025

E: Summer Split Pea Soup

M: Roast Lamb Dinner with Roast Potato, Roast Pumpkin, Vegetables, Gravy and Mint Sauce

D: Pancakes with Maple Syrup and Cream

Wednesday 3 December 2025

E: Mushroom, Cheese and Herb Mini Quiche with Side Salad

M: Mild Massaman Beef Curry with Rice and Seasonal Vegetables

D: Banoffee Pie

Thursday 4 December 2025

E: Gnocchi with Napolitana Sauce

M: Grilled Chicken Scallopini with Mushroom and Masala Wine Sauce, Mash Potato and Seasonal Vegetables

D: Mango and Rice Pudding

Friday 5 December 2025

E: Chicken and Corn Soup

M: Mediterranean Fish Bake with Saffron Rice and Seasonal Vegetables

D: Strawberry Mousse

Week 2, 8 - 12 December 2025 Orders Close Friday 28 November

Monday 8 December 2025

E: Pea and Pesto Pasta Salad

M: Beef and Guinness Pie with Sweet Potato Wedges and Seasonal Vegetables

D: Eton Mess

Tuesday 9 December 2025

E: Greek Salad

M: Mild Curry Prawns with Steamed Rice and Seasonal Vegetables

D: Sticky Date Pudding with Butterscotch Sauce

Wednesday 10 December 2025

E: Cream of Broccoli

M: Roast Pork Dinner with Roast Potato, Roast Pumpkin, Seasonal Vegetables, Gravy and Apple Sauce

D: Chocolate Cake with Chocolate Icing

Thursday 11 December 2025

E: Chorizo and Roasted Capsicum Savoury Muffin with Side Salad

M: Butter Chicken with Steamed Rice and Seasonal Vegetables

D: Apple Danish

Friday 12 December 2025

E: Pork Sliders with Slaw and Barbecue sauce

M: Minute Steak with Red Wine Jus, Herbed Chat Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables

D: Fruit Salad

Disclaimer: Menu subject to change without notice

Disclaimer: While all care is taken, Please be aware that our food may contain or be exposed to common allergens, such as dairy, eggs, wheat, soybeans, tree nuts, peanuts, fish, shellfish or wheat

Weekly Menu

Week 3, 15 - 19 December 2025
Orders Close Friday 5 December

Monday 15 December 2025

E: Pumpkin and sage Risotto Balls with Tomato Sauce
M: Beef Stroganoff with Sweet Potato Mash and Seasonal Vegetables
D: Jelly Fruit

Tuesday 16 December 2025

E: Soft Fish Taco with Slaw and Tartare Sauce
M: Char Siu Pork, Mash Potato and Seasonal Vegetables
D: Apple and Blueberry Turnover with Fresh Cream

Wednesday 17 December 2025

E: Traditional Caesar Salad
M: Seafood Mornay Pie with Mash Topper and Seasonal Vegetables
D: Tiramisu

Thursday 18 December 2025

E: Creamy Tomato Soup
M: Roast Chicken Dinner with Roast Potato, Roast Pumpkin, Seasonal Vegetables and Gravy
D: Mini Cinnamon Scrolls

Friday 19 December 2025

E: Bacon and Vegetable Linguine in a Extra Mild Chilli Sauce
M: Magnolian Lamb with Noodles and Seasonal Vegetables
D: White Chocolate Mud Cake with Chocolate Icing

Week 4, 22 - 26 December 2025
Orders Close Friday 12 December

Monday 22 December 2025

E: Creamy Pumpkin Soup
M: Pork Sausages with Seasonal Vegetables, Sauerkraut and Mash Potato
D: Black Forest Trifle

Tuesday 23 December 2025

E: Roast Vegetable Frittata with Side Salad
M: Mild Lamb and Spinach Curry with Steamed Rice and Seasonal Vegetables
D: Coffee Cake

Wednesday 24 December 2025

E: Prawn Cocktail with Seafood Sauce
M: Roast Turkey Dinner with Roast Potato, Roast Pumpkin, Seasonal Vegetables, Braised Red Cabbage, stuffing, Cranberry Sauce and Gravy
D: Christmas Pudding and Custard

Thursday 25 December 2025

NO MEALS

Meal Service returns January 12th 2026

Friday 26 December 2025

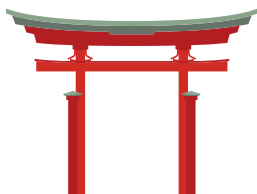
NO MEALS

Meal Service returns January 12th 2026

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Happy Holidays AROUND THE WORLD!



Calendar of Observances: December



3: International Day of Persons with Disabilities
5: Krampusnacht
6: St. Nicholas Day
8: Bodhi Day
10: Human Rights Day
12: International Day of Neutrality
13: St. Lucy's Day
14-22: Hanukkah
16-24: Las Posadas
18: International Migrants Day

18: Arabic Language Day
20: International Human Solidarity Day
21: World Mediation Day
22: Summer Solstice (Australia)
24-26: Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day
26/27: St. Stephen's Day
26 Dec-1 Jan: Kwanzaa
31: New Year's Eve
31: Ōmisoka

Joke of the Year!

What is a spider's New Year's resolution?
To spend less time on the web!





THANK YOU TO
OUR SUPPLIERS!

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Hygiene and food safety

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Newcastle





Goodbye 2025!



Hello,

2026!