

ISSUE 25



FEBRUARY

2025

# BARRENJOEY BULLETIN

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[barrenjoey-h.schools.nsw.gov.au](https://barrenjoey-h.schools.nsw.gov.au)



TALIAH WHITMORE  
YUIN WOMAN  
Class of 2021

With respect and appreciation, we, the Barrenjoey High School community, acknowledge the Traditional Peoples of the Parramatta and Hawkesbury River Basin, who belong to the land and waters that we live, learn and play on. We acknowledge that this has been and always will be First Nations land.

We pay our respect to Elders past, present and emerging and extend our respect to all First Nations people present today. Since time immemorial First Nations people have lived in harmony with the land, taking only what they needed and giving back love and respect. First Nations people live according to the laws and customs of the land and sea that have been passed down from their ancestors. As the longest continuous culture in the world, First Nations peoples have sophisticated cultures that vary between different Indigenous groups.

We meet you here today with the understanding that when we share knowledge there is a better tomorrow.

# KEY DATES | TERMS 1-2



Month	Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Weekend
FEB	4	17	18	19	P&C New Parent Welcome 20	Clean Up Australia Day 21	22/23
FEB MAR	5	24	25	26	27	28	1/2
MAR	6	3	Open Night 4	5	School Photos 6	7	8/9
MAR	7	10	U18 Rugby League Gala Day Warringah Zone Swimming Carnival 11	NAPLAN 12 13		14	Zonta Volunteer Day (Sat) 15/16
MAR	8	17	18	Sydney North Regional Swimming Carnival 19	20	21	22/23
MAR	9	NAPLAN 24	Yr 11 Student, Parent & Teacher Evening 25	26	School Photo Absentee Catch Up 27	28	29/30
MAR APR	10	31	1	2	Athletics Carnival 3	4	5/6
APR	11	Yr 7 Student, Parent & Teacher Evening 7	8	9	10	11	12/13
HOLIDAYS							
APR MAY	1	School Development Day 28	School Development Day 29	Students Return 30	1	Yr 12 Motivational Day 2	3/4
MAY	2	5	6	7	8	9	10/11



**TIME!**  
**TO UPDATE!**

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Have you recently  
changed your contact  
details?

Please email us to  
update your address,  
email or phone  
number.

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# PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



*Dear Barrenjoey High School Community,*

As we step into a brand-new school year, we want to take a moment to celebrate the outstanding achievements of our 2024 HSC students. Their hard work, resilience, and dedication have resulted in some truly remarkable results, and we couldn't be prouder. Congratulations to all our graduates—we know they are heading towards bright futures!

Looking ahead to 2025, our focus remains on setting high expectations for both learning and conduct. We are committed to ensuring that every student strives for excellence in their studies and personal growth. Student attendance, literacy, and numeracy will continue to be key priorities, as we know these are the foundations of academic success.

This year, Barrenjoey High School will continue to offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities for our students to ensure their holistic needs are met. On Monday 24th of February, all parents, carers, and students will receive a copy of the updated Excursion/Sport Code of Conduct, which must be reviewed and signed.

In the past, multiple Code of Conduct agreements have outlined different expectations for student participation in excursions and sporting activities. This updated document establishes a clear and consistent standard across all areas, reinforcing that representing Barrenjoey High School is a privilege—one that must be earned through application, attitude, and effort both inside and outside the school.

Developed in collaboration with our Executive Team and P&C Executive, this document will be distributed via School Bytes and must be signed by parents/carers and students to ensure participation in future excursions and sporting events. We appreciate your support in upholding these high expectations and look forward to a fantastic year ahead.

I warmly invite all parents, carers, and students to join us for our upcoming Open Night on Tuesday 4th March, from 4.00pm - 7.00pm. This evening is a fantastic opportunity to showcase everything that makes Barrenjoey High School such a special place to learn and grow.

The more families we welcome through our gates, the more we can share the positive experiences and opportunities our school provides. As I've often said, my goal is for Barrenjoey High School to be the top choice for our local community, and events like this play a key role in helping families make that important decision.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Regards,

*Brett Blaker*

Mr Brett Blaker | Principal

# DEPUTY PRINCIPALS' REPORT

*Jeff Brown | Yrs 7 & 11*  
*Sarah James | Yrs 8 & 12*  
*Sarah Saunders | Yrs 9 & 10*



## School Development Days

This year, the Department mandated four School Development Days for all public schools. Barrenjoey ensured that those days were used to build on the knowledge and skills of our teachers, school leaders and school administrative support staff through a targeted professional learning program.

Our staff have been actively engaged in refining their teaching practices to enhance student learning. This includes developing clear learning intentions and success criteria for lessons, improving lesson planning, and strengthening scope and sequencing. They have also worked on designing high-quality assessment tasks, organising Wellbeing Days, and setting faculty goals, all aligned with our overarching school goal:

**"To develop our knowledge and skills to promote a quality environment that enhances student engagement and success in learning."**

Additionally, staff participated in two teacher-led planning days, focused on classroom engagement, expectations, and mandatory training to ensure a supportive and effective learning environment.

## Week 2

All students returned on Thursday of this week and classes began immediately. We welcomed our new Year 7s and they have had a great time working out where their classes are and meeting new students from different primary schools.



# DEPUTY PRINCIPALS' REPORT

## Week 3

Thank you to over 100 parents and carers who joined us at the Barrenjoey Engagement Evening last night! It was wonderful to have presentations from: Principal Brett Blaker, all three Deputy Principals Sarah James, Jeff Brown, and Sarah Saunders along with, Fiona Gudmunson (CAPA), and Mikaela Bate (Sport). Sam Groom (Sport), Michelle McKay (Learning Support) and Mick Moylan/Huzzy Rodriguez (Wellbeing) were also there to speak with parents/carers. Special thanks to Year 12s Jayden for the music, Claire Dwight (P&C President), and our School Captains for their inspiring addresses!

## Year 7 Lighthouse Walk

The Year 7 Barrenjoey Lighthouse Walk marks the start of an exciting educational journey at Barrenjoey High School! The day includes teamwork, navigation challenges, exercise, and building initiative—a fantastic way for our new students to bond and have fun together!

## Week 4

### Swimming Carnival

On Monday, Feb 17, the Barrenjoey High School Swimming Carnival took over Ku-ring-ai Fitness & Aquatic Centre! Students wore House Colours to cheer on their mates, and participated in races, and nonstop fun! We are pleased to advise that attendance at this event was at a new high.

### Assessment Information for Students Year 7 - 11

On Tuesday and Wednesday, all students received their 2025 Assessment Booklet, which outlines key assessment information, including school-based requirements, common grade scales, marking criteria, assessment procedures, and important rules. The booklet also provides a timeline of assessment tasks, detailing when they will be distributed and completed throughout the year.

During the session, students examined an example assessment task, focusing on the marking rubric and guidelines. They also received an explanation of their reports and GPA (Grade Point Average) calculation. To support their organisation and time management, each student was given a large yearly calendar to help plan for their first assessment task.

Regular attendance and punctuality are essential for success. If a student is absent on the day an assessment task is due, they must provide a medical certificate or have approved leave; otherwise, a mark of zero will be recorded. Students in Year 10 -12 are also required to complete an Illness and/or Misadventure application.

### New Parent Welcome

On Thursday night, the Barrenjoey P&C will be hosting the New Parent Welcome Evening held on the School Hall Deck. This special event is your chance to meet your child's teachers and the Executive Team. We look forward to welcoming parents and carers in an informal and friendly atmosphere.

### NAPLAN Years 7 & 9

Online NAPLAN examinations for Years 7 and 9 begin on Wednesday 12th March and conclude on Monday 24th March. Detailed examination timetables will be sent to students and parents in the coming weeks.



# YEAR 7 LIGHTHOUSE WALK

JACKSON BAKER | YEAR 7 COORDINATOR

On Friday, the 14th of February, our Year 7 cohort set off on the much-anticipated Barrenjoey High School tradition – the Lighthouse Walk. This annual walk provides students with an opportunity to not only explore the beautiful coastal landscape that we are so fortunate to be situated on, but also an opportunity to strengthen and develop friendships.

Throughout the day, students took part in a range of peer support activities which were designed to challenge their memory, communication and teamwork skills. These activities were led by our Year 10 peer leaders, who shared their mentorship skills and experiences at Barrenjoey High School, helping to foster a sense of connection and support among the younger students.

Despite a burst of rain towards the end of the day, spirits remained high. The resilience and optimism shown by the students were a true testament to their growing sense of camaraderie, and understanding of what it means to be a Barrenjoey Student. As they returned, albeit a little damp, the smiles on their faces made it clear that the Year 7 Lighthouse Walk had been a resounding success –one filled with laughter, teamwork, and the beginnings of lasting friendships.













# Every Day Matters

If your child misses  
as little as

**1 day**  
per fortnight

they will miss

**4 weeks**  
of school  
per year

which adds up  
to over

**1 year**  
missed over  
their school life



Make sure your child doesn't miss out on the important things like:



Learning



Strengthening friendships



Emotional development



Scan the QR code  
to learn more



# SWIMMING CARNIVAL

SIMON FLOOD | CARNIVAL COORDINATOR

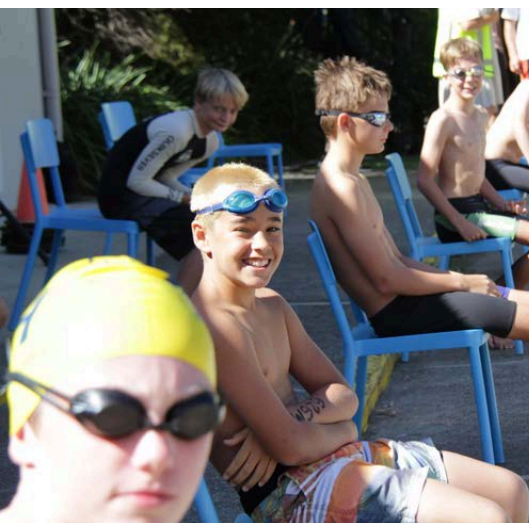
A glorious sun-drenched day greeted Barrenjoey students for the 2025 Swimming Carnival. The Ku-ring-gai Leisure Centre outdoor 50m pool played host and with competitive races, novelty races and a chill pool there was something for everyone to participate in.

The first 2 places in all events (Top 4 in the 50m Freestyle form the Age Group relay) qualify for the Barrenjoey High School team to contest the Warringah Zone Swimming Championships: Tuesday March 11th at Warringah Aquatic Centre Notes will be emailed home to qualifiers.

## 2025 Swimming Age Champions

- 12 YEARS GIRLS - Sophia Mills**
- 12 YEARS BOYS - Charlie Garrard**
- 13 YEARS GIRLS - Cleo Eriksson**
- 13 YEARS BOYS - Marcus Shaw & Xavier Van der Wallen**
- 14 YEARS GIRLS - Mackenzie Pedersen**
- 14 YEARS BOYS - Archer Gertler**
- 15 YEARS GIRLS - Willow Davis**
- 15 YEARS BOYS - Alex Randau and Leo Walling**
- 16 YEARS GIRLS - Makayla Pedersen**
- 16 YEARS BOYS - James Hogan**
- 17+ YEARS GIRLS - Krystal Elliott**
- 17+ YEARS BOYS - Toby Lehman**

PHOTOGRAPHER | GUY HAWSON





# SWIMMING CARNIVAL

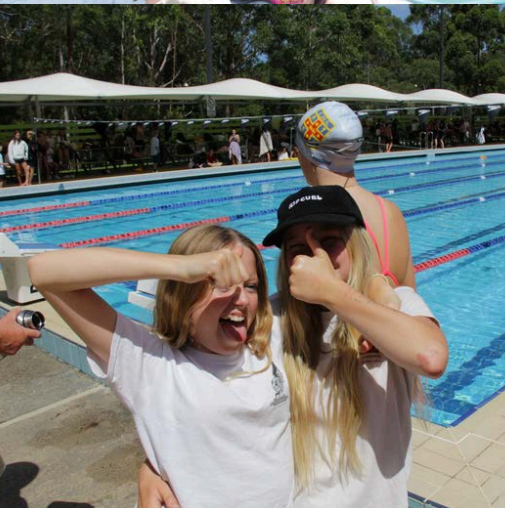
PHOTOGRAPHER | GUY HAWSON





# SWIMMING CARNIVAL

PHOTOGRAPHER | GUY HAWSON





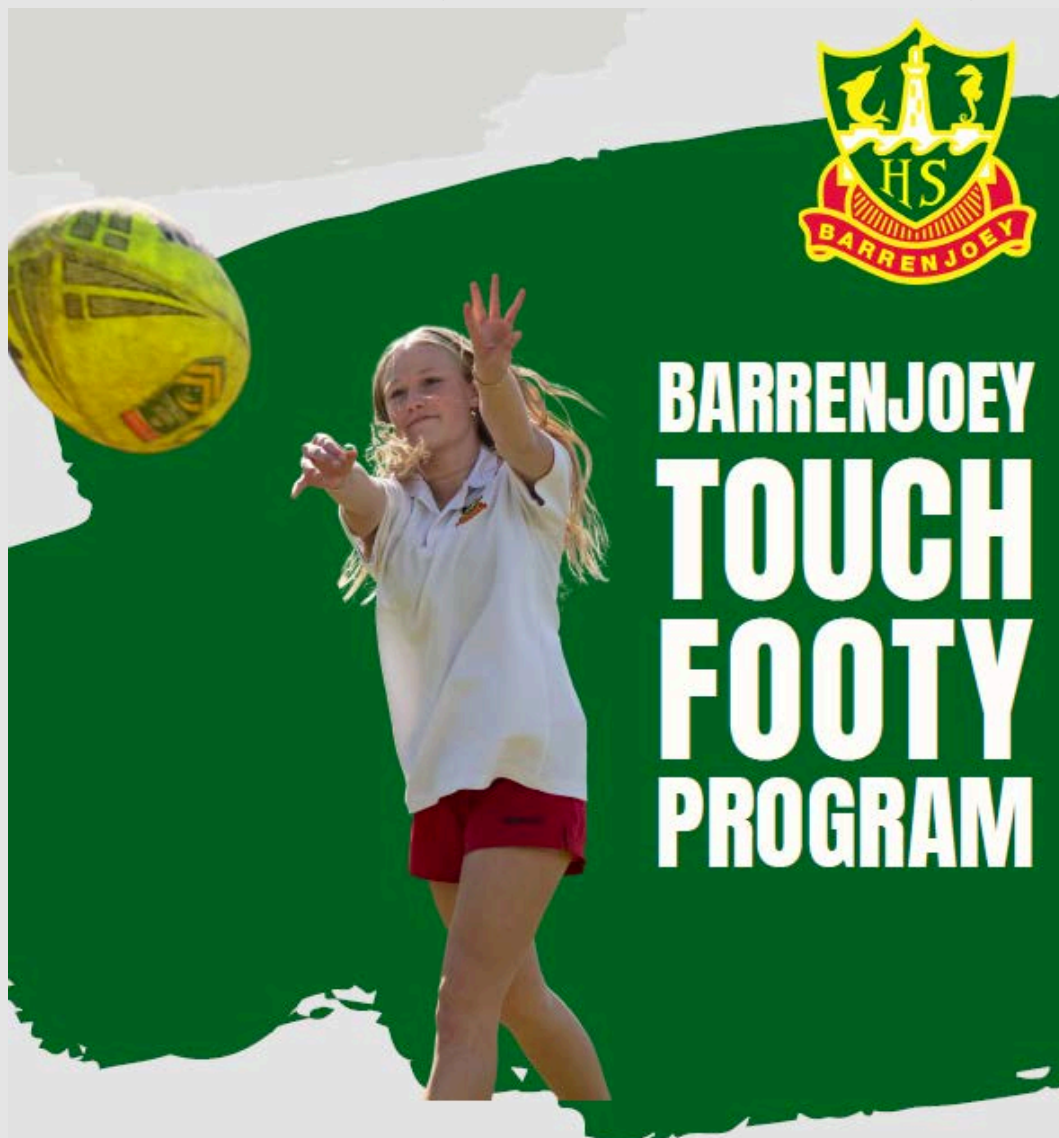
# PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

GABBI DELAMONT | HEAD TEACHER PDHPE

This term in PDHPE, students have begun to engage in a range of physical activities designed to help build their fitness, teamwork, and overall health awareness.

One of the highlights thus far this term has been the introduction of an exciting **new Touch Football Program run by Mr Groom**. We have been very fortunate to acquire Mr Groom as a PDHPE teacher this year as he has had extensive experience in the private system, coaching NSW CIS Touch & Rugby Sevens teams and has worked as a Development Officer with the Waratahs & NSW Touch Football Association. Mr Groom's program provides students with a fantastic opportunity to develop their touch football skills, enhance their game sense, and foster school pride. Mr Groom's expertise and coaching will help our students build confidence on the field, setting them up to compete not only locally but also in interstate competitions.

We are excited to see how this program will nurture a sense of teamwork and school spirit while providing students with valuable skills they can carry forward. We look forward to seeing the growth and success of all our students as they continue to thrive in PDHPE throughout the year.



- Over 100 expressions of interest to date
- Training sessions before & after school
- Improve skills, fitness & game sense
- Represent Barrenjoey with pride
- Connect with your Barrenjoey mates outside the classroom
- Stay tuned for pics, comps and updates - coming soon!

# SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

## Barrenjoey High School

Day of Photography

**6/3/2025**

1. Please wear your full school uniform
2. Please place your order online before the day of photography  
- Go to **www.advancedlife.com.au** and enter this code:

**MMZ 1HX TGV**

3. Payment can be made using Visa, Mastercard or PayPal
4. If you are unable to order online, please hand your completed order envelope directly to the photographers on the day of photography

If you have any queries concerning school photographs and ordering, please contact **advancedlife** directly:

**www.advancedlife.com.au/contact**



# order your school photos now

to order visit: [www.advancedlife.com.au](http://www.advancedlife.com.au)

enter code: MMZ 1HX TGV



scan to order

or collect a cash order envelope  
from your school office



**advancedlife**  
school photography & print specialists



# **HOMEWORK CLUB**

**COME & DO YOUR HOMEWORK WITH THE  
SUPPORT OF A TEACHER IN THE  
LEARNING HUB/TOP DECK**

**MONDAY & TUESDAY**



**MONDAY 8:15 TO 9AM  
TUESDAY 3:15 TO 4:15PM**

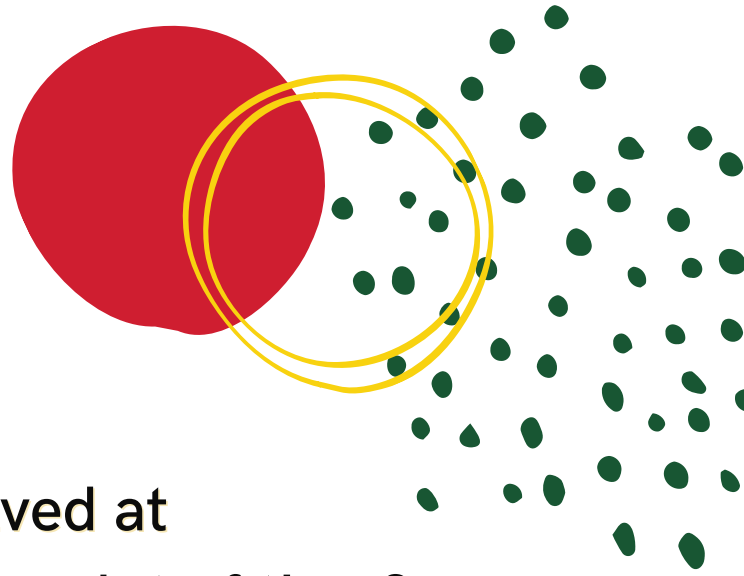


# LET'S GET SOCIAL!



## FOLLOW US TO BE IN THE KNOW!

# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



Would you like to be involved at  
Barrenjoey but do not have a lot of time?

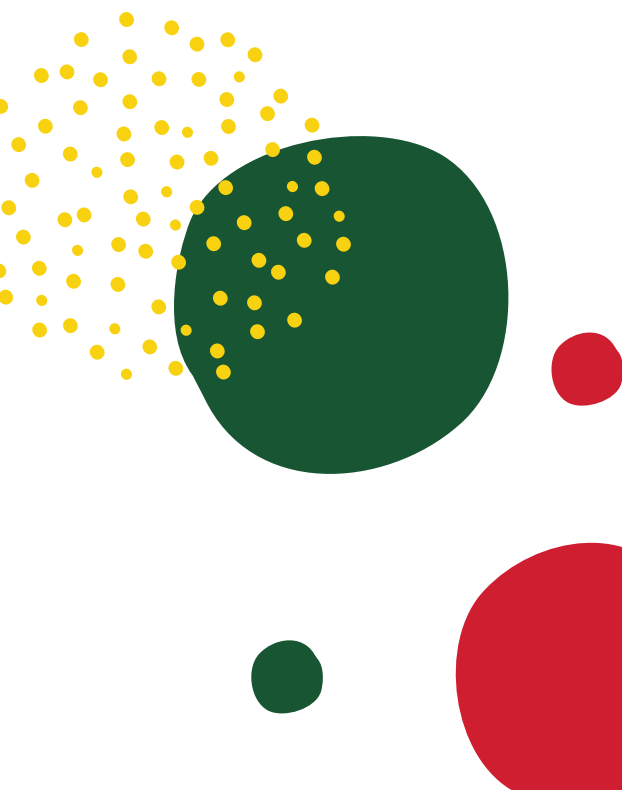
Barrenjoey High School needs volunteers to support students who require assistance with their tests/examinations. This is a great way to get involved on an occasional basis and is very rewarding!

A working with children check will be required. It's a simple process and we can point you in the right direction.

All training will be provided.

If you are interested or have questions please get in touch with the Learning Support Team.

[catharine.smith@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:catharine.smith@det.nsw.edu.au)  
or phone 9918 8811







NSW Department of Education

# Are you looking for part-time work and want to make a difference?

Become an Assisted Travel Support Officer

The Department of Education is looking for Assisted Travel Support Officers (ATSOs) to work on a temporary basis during the school year.

The Assisted School Travel Program (ASTP) provides specialised transport to eligible students with disability, to ensure their safe travel to and from school.



## How to apply

Scan the QR code to find out more about the ASTP and applying to become an ATSO, or visit:  
<https://education.nsw.gov.au/astp-atsos>  
Phone: 1300 338 278





**Do something amazing for your local community this year!**

Did you know Barrenjoey High offer an amazing Mentoring program to students in year 8 & 9? They work with Raise Foundation to provide a trained and trusted mentor who shows up every week just for that student.

We are looking for mentors so we can give more young people access to this great program.

Do you have 2 hours a week for 2 school terms to mentor a teen at Barrenjoey? Raise provide all the training and support. Together with Raise, we can help solve the youth mental health crisis in our area and give more young people in our community confidence.

Apply today. Find out more at [Raise.org.au](https://www.Raise.org.au)





# Teaching a learner driver?

## Free online workshop

Wednesday 12th March, 6.30 - 7.45pm

Get practical advice on:

- Changes to the Learner Driver Licensing Scheme
- Transport for NSW approved logbook apps
- Completing the learner driver logbook
- Supervising learner drivers
- Understanding licence conditions for learner and provisional licence holders

Registration essential. Log in details for the online presentation will be emailed closer to the event. Learner drivers are also invited to attend.



Enquiries: 8495 5014 or  
[roadsafety@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au](mailto:roadsafety@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au)  
[Scan to register](#)

Photo: Copyright State of New South Wales (Transport for NSW)





NSW Health



# Safe Haven

## Feeling overwhelmed?

If you are a young person (12-17 years) who is experiencing suicidal distress, come to the Safe Haven and have a chat with people who understand.

Safe Haven is a friendly, non-clinical place where everyone is welcome and you won't be judged.

Have a chat, have a tea or coffee, join in an activity or just relax in a welcoming environment.

**Find out about support services that are available to meet your needs.**

**You can choose what's right for you. It's about choice and control.**

**No referral or medicare required. No costs involved.**

**OPEN** 4.00pm to 8.00pm everyday (including Public Holidays)

**LOCATION** Ground Floor, Brookvale Community Health Centre, 612/624 Pittwater Rd, Brookvale, NSW 2100

**CONTACT** 02 9388 5044

**If you have immediate concerns for the safety of yourself or someone you know, please call 000 for immediate support.**



LOCATION  
QR CODE



Safe Haven is a NSW Health  
Towards Zero Suicides initiative





VENLA resell + relove is  
Australia's leading rent-a-rack  
quality secondhand fashion  
store where you can find new  
preloved arrivals daily.



# venla

resell + relove

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into cash



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OFF**

To celebrate our arrival in Avalon,  
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checkout.



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13 Avalon Parade, Avalon



# McGrath

CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF AVALON BEACH SLSC

**FEB 1- MAR 1, 2025**



**SAT, FEB 1**

TICKETED EVENT

**HIGHWAY ONE**

@ AVALON CINEMA / 6PM

FOLLOWED BY CANAPES  
AT THE SURF CLUB BY LOVAT  
COMPLIMENTS OF McGRATH

**FRI, FEB 7**

**SURPRISE SURF MOVIE SOIREE**

BAR OPEN  
FROM  
5:30PM

@ AVALON SURF CLUB / 7PM / BRING YOUR OWN CUSHION!

**SUN, FEB 9**

**COCKTAILS & CANAPES**

CANAPES  
COMPLIMENTS  
OF McGRATH

@ AVALON SURF CLUB / FROM 3PM

**SAT, FEB 15**

**SURPRISE SURF MOVIE SOIREE**

BAR OPEN  
FROM  
6PM

@ AVALON SURF CLUB / 7PM / BRING YOUR OWN CUSHION!

**SUN, FEB 16**

**TUNES & TEQUILA**

@ AVALON SURF CLUB / 3PM

**FRI, FEB 21**

**SURPRISE SURF MOVIE SOIREE**

BAR OPEN  
FROM  
5:30PM

@ AVALON SURF CLUB / 7PM / BRING YOUR OWN CUSHION!

**SUN, FEB 23**

**SURF SHIRTS, SARONGS  
& SUMMER SPRITZ**

@ AVALON SURF CLUB / FROM 3PM

**SAT, MAR 1**

TICKETED EVENT

**100 YEAR CELEBRATION**

@ AVALON SURF CLUB / FROM 6PM

**TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE ONLY**

VIA [TRYBOOKING.COM/CXYQM](https://trybooking.com/CXYQM)

