

MAY 2026



MY GUNYAH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

COMMUNITY IMPACT

117 FAMILIES SUPPORTED WITH FOOD HAMPERS
1,905 PEOPLE ASSISTED WITH SUPPORT

HUB:
167-169 CONADILLY
STREET, GUNNEDAH

02 6742 7038

WWW.GGACHUB.COM.AU

MAY RECAP

May was a month of connection, collaboration and community. Our teams continued to work alongside individuals, families and partner organisations to provide culturally safe support, strengthen community relationships, and create opportunities for people to access the services they need. From community events and outreach visits to advocacy and case support, we remained focused on helping people build safety, stability and wellbeing. Thank you to everyone who visited the Hub, attended our activities, partnered with us, or contributed to making our community stronger.

FREE COMMUNITY FOOD ACCESS SESSION

 Wednesdays & Fridays
2.00 pm - 4.00 pm

Starting from the 28th of January 2026 @ the
167 - 169 Conadilly Street Gunnedah - The Hub

Gunida Gunyah will operate two Community Food Access sessions each week, held every Wednesday and Friday from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm. During these sessions, community members may attend and select food to take home. Food is donated through community partners, including the SecondBite partnership with Coles, as well as Woolworths. The types of food, quantities, and available stock cannot be guaranteed and will vary at each session depending on availability and the donations received. Food may include:

- Supermarket food that has been frozen prior to the expiry date
- Pantry items
- Fresh food (when available)

Eligibility: Community Food Access is available to people experiencing need, regardless of employment status or whether they are receiving a government benefit. Support is available to individuals and families who may be working, unemployed, or receiving income support.

please bring
your own bag
to fill!

coles

SecondBite
Ending Waste. Ending Hunger.

GUNIDA GUNYAH

woolworths





A FANTASTIC DAY OF CONNECTION AND SUPPORT AT THE HUB

On Thursday, 28 May 2026, The Hub was buzzing with activity as community members came together for a day of connection, support, and essential services.

Our weekly Community Cook Up was once again a great success, with a wonderful turnout from across the community. Guests enjoyed a delicious lunch of French Onion Chicken with Rice, freshly prepared and served in a warm and welcoming environment. The Community Cook Up continues to provide not only a nutritious meal but also an opportunity for people to connect, share stories, and strengthen community ties.

Alongside lunch, The Hub hosted a Birth Registration Assistance Day, delivered by the NSW Births, Deaths and Marriages Community Engagement Team. Families, parents, grandparents, carers, and kinship carers were able to access free support and information regarding birth registrations and free birth certificates. The team provided valuable assistance to community members navigating complex family situations or limited identification requirements.

We were also pleased to welcome Revenue NSW, who attended as a service provider for the day. Their presence allowed community members to access information, support, and guidance on a range of government services, further enhancing the support available at The Hub.

The positive response and strong attendance throughout the day highlighted the importance of accessible community services and opportunities for connection. We thank all service providers, staff, volunteers, and community members who contributed to making the day such a success.

We look forward to continuing to bring valuable services and community-focused events to The Hub in the future.



SERVICES AUSTRALIA OUTREACH JUNE 2026 VISITS

The Hub is pleased to welcome Services Australia Outreach back to Gunnedah this June, providing community members with convenient access to information, support, and assistance with a range of government services.

Whether you need help with Centrelink, Medicare, myGov, payments and services, or have questions about your individual circumstances, the Services Australia Outreach team will be available to provide face-to-face support.

Upcoming Outreach Dates:

Tuesday, 9 June 2026
 1:00pm – 2:30pm
 The Hub, 167–169 Conadilly Street, Gunnedah

Friday, 19 June 2026
 10:00am – 1:00pm
 The Hub, 167–169 Conadilly Street, Gunnedah

No appointment is required. Community members are encouraged to drop in during the scheduled times to access support, ask questions, and receive assistance with Services Australia programs and services.

These outreach visits are a valuable opportunity to connect with government services locally, reducing the need to travel and ensuring support is accessible for everyone in our community.

For further information, contact The Hub or visit during the outreach sessions.

OUR COMMUNITY HUB, LOCATED IN THE HEART OF GUNNEDAH'S CBD, BEATING STRONG AT THE HEART OF OUR COMMUNITY.

Our Community Hub is your space, right here in the heart of Gunnedah. Drop in anytime for a yarn, a cuppa, or a bit of support - we're here for housing help, justice services, family safety, meals, clothing, and more. A safe, welcoming place for our community to connect, feel supported, and stay strong together.



COMMUNITY COOK UP BRINGS GREAT FOOD AND GREAT COMPANY

Our Community Cook Up on Thursday, 28 May 2026 was another wonderful success, bringing people together to enjoy a delicious meal, friendly conversation, and plenty of laughter.

Guests were treated to a hearty serving of French Onion Chicken with Rice, followed by a sweet dessert of Apple Pie and Ice Cream. The warm sit-down meal provided a great opportunity for community members to connect, catch up, and enjoy each other's company in a welcoming and supportive environment.

Adding to the fun, participants took part in a lively game of Kahoot, with some healthy competition and plenty of smiles along the way.

Congratulations to our Kahoot champions:

🏆 Jess
 🏆 Margaret
 🏆 Lisa

Thank you to everyone who attended and helped make the day so enjoyable. We look forward to seeing everyone again at our next Community Cook Up!

HOUSING SUMMIT – SYDNEY (12–13 MAY 2026)

Members of our team attended the Housing Summit in Sydney on 12–13 May 2026, where a range of presentations provided valuable insights into current and future housing initiatives.

Highlights included presentations from Awabakal Limited, showcasing their broad range of community services including health, housing, childcare, and support programs. Homes NSW also shared updates on strategic planning, grant opportunities for land acquisition, and innovative housing partnership models involving organisations and energy providers to support new housing developments.

The summit also featured modular housing providers, who outlined the benefits of modular construction, including delivery timeframes and the overall building process. These presentations generated strong interest from attendees.

While some sessions were less relevant to our current operations, the overall event provided useful insights and opportunities to explore emerging housing approaches and partnerships.



EXPECTING A BABY IN 2026? RECEIVE A FREE NSW BABY BUNDLE

Families welcoming a new baby this year may be eligible to receive a FREE NSW Baby Bundle, a special gift from the NSW Government valued at \$329.

The Baby Bundle is designed to support new parents and give babies a healthy start in life. Packed with practical and essential items for newborns, the bundle includes a range of products that can assist families during those important first months.

The initiative aims to celebrate the arrival of new babies while providing valuable resources and information to support parents and carers on their parenting journey.

If you are expecting a baby or know someone who is, make sure to find out more about eligibility and how to receive a Baby Bundle.

For further information, visit the NSW Health Baby Bundle webpage:

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/kidsfamilies/MCFhealth/Pages/baby-bundle.aspx>



WARRANGAL DHIYAN ATTENDS NARRABRI SERVICE DAY

On 27 May 2026, the Warrangal Dhiyan team attended the Narrabri Service Day hosted by Winanga-Li Aboriginal Child and Family Centre.

We greatly appreciated the opportunity to connect with service providers, participants, and members of the wider community. The event was well organised and provided valuable opportunities to learn more about the services and supports available across the region.

Events like these help strengthen relationships between organisations and support collaborative efforts to achieve positive outcomes for the people and families we work with.

Thank you to the organisers for hosting a successful and informative community event.



SUBSIDISED PET DESEXING AVAILABLE FOR ELIGIBLE GUNNEDAH RESIDENTS

The Animal Welfare League NSW (AWL NSW) is supporting eligible Gunnedah residents through its Subsidised Desexing Program, helping reduce the cost of desexing cats and dogs.

This program is available to pensioners and low-income earners, and aims to promote responsible pet ownership, improve animal welfare, and reduce unwanted litters in the community.

Eligible pet owners can apply for a subsidised desexing voucher through AWL NSW – Gunnedah.

Apply for your voucher here:

<https://forms.awlnsw.com.au/team/forms/desexing-voucher>



GOOD NEWS STORY – WARRANGAL DHIYAN OUTCOMES

A woman from rural NSW with disability and a history of significant childhood trauma was referred to the Warrangal Dhiyan (WD) team through Community Corrections after concerns were identified regarding her support needs.

Having experienced lifelong disadvantage, limited access to education, unstable living circumstances, and little connection to culturally appropriate services, she faced significant barriers to accessing support and building a safe future.

Through persistent advocacy and intensive case coordination, the WD team supported her to obtain photo identification and successfully access an NDIS plan. These achievements have opened the door to long-term, culturally safe supports that were previously unavailable to her.

The WD team continues to work alongside Community Corrections and other service providers to ensure a coordinated and holistic response that promotes safety, wellbeing, and reduces the risk of reoffending.

For the first time in her life, this woman is beginning to access the supports needed to build stability, independence, and hope. While her journey is ongoing, these milestones represent a significant step towards a safer and more positive future.



MESSAGE FROM HOUSING – UPCOMING PROPERTY INSPECTIONS

The Housing Team would like to remind tenants of our upcoming property inspection schedule for June 2026.

Gunida Gunyah staff will be travelling throughout the region to conduct routine property inspections and meet with tenants. These visits are an important opportunity to ensure properties are being well maintained, discuss any tenancy concerns, and provide support where needed.

Inspection Schedule

 Armidale, Guyra, Inverell and Walcha
17 9, 10 and 11 June 2026

 Moree and Collarenebri
17 22, 23 and 24 June 2026

We encourage tenants to ensure their properties are accessible and present on the scheduled inspection dates. If you have any maintenance concerns or questions regarding your tenancy, please raise them with the Housing Team during your inspection visit.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance. We look forward to meeting with tenants and continuing to support safe, comfortable, and well-maintained homes across our communities.

AHO INFORMATION SESSION – NEWCASTLE

Our team attended the AHO Information Session in Newcastle in May, where updates were provided on AHO's proposed 10-year strategic plan for service providers.

AHO discussed their long-term vision for housing management and invited providers to consider where they see themselves positioned over the next decade. Key topics included future property management approaches and evolving expectations for service delivery.

While some concerns were raised by providers regarding proposed changes, these did not impact our organisation, as we already manage a significant AHO property portfolio and are aligned with current and emerging AHO strategies.

Overall, the session provided useful insight into AHO's future direction and ongoing planning priorities.

GGAC STAFF PROFILE

1. What is your name and role at Gunida Gunyah?

Aanmary Thankachen - Mental Health Counsellor

2. How long have you been working with Gunida Gunyah?

Over a year now 😊

3. What do you enjoy most about working at Gunida Gunyah?

Being surrounded by an incredible group of colleagues
- like I say, “who know professionalism and chaos could coexist so beautifully?”



4. What do you enjoy most about your job? There’s something truly special about supporting people in a community where everyone genuinely looks out for one another. The most rewarding part of my work is witnessing the power of human connection and seeing the resilience, strength, and growth people show every day.

5. What do you enjoy doing in your spare time? Reading, refining my driving skills and binge watching any one of my favourite shows.

6. What is your favourite food or meal? Alfredo pasta with a glass of sparkling wine 😊

7. Do you have a favourite movie, TV show or music artist? Big Bang theory is my all-time favourite TV show. Also, you can find me somewhere between ‘All Too Well’ and emotional instability- being a swiftie isn’t a phase, it’s a personality trait.

8. If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go? Amsterdam- only to try out the famous fries and visit Anne Frank’s museum.

9. What’s a fun fact people may not know about you? Mentally preparing for situations that will never happen since forever.

10. What are your hobbies or interests? I enjoy coffee, reading, music, and pretending I have my life together.

