

Primary entry #8: Karuah Public School



Karuah Current



Harley McQualter shows his respect annually at the Karuah dawn service. This year he recited *In Flanders Field*.

With pride they march forever more

By FAITH WATT

STUDENTS have marched to mark the 100th anniversary of the Anzacs. The very country that the brave soliders fought to free celebrated in many ways in order to honour those men and women.

On Anzac Day the Karuah dawn service march started at 5.50am from outside Tony King's garage on the Old Pacific Highway, then proceeded along the Pacific Highway for the service in Memorial Park at 6am.

After the service, breakfast was served in the Karuah RSL Club.

At 9am a memorial service was then held at the Memorial Wall adjacent to the club entrance.

Participants in the march who wore medals of deceased family members were reminded that they are worn on the right hand side of the body.

"I love celebrating the landing of the Anzacs and I feel deeply sad about how most of them had to pass away like that in a terrifying war", said one year 6 student at Karuah Public School, Harley McQualter.

"With this year being the Gallipoli landing centenary, participation at the services [was] very high," secretary of the Karuah RSL Sub Branch, Mr French said.

Keep Australia beautiful

By TYSON CLOUGHESSEY
and HARLEY MCQUALTER

SINCE the national event "Clean Up Australia Day" started in 1990, Australians have donated more than 27.2 million hours taking to their streets, bushland, parks and waterways on Clean Up Australia Day, removing an estimated 288,650 tonnes of rubbish from 145,754 sites across the country.

This year local community members around the country donned their gloves to tidy up towns on Sunday, March 1.

Despite this selfless act, locals of Karuah are still battling the issue of pollution.

Every community member in the Hunter fights against the lazy litter bugs to keep our waterways and land free from rubbish.

Despite many years of promotion, warning and campaigning Australians are still working towards a litter free and sustainable environment.

Each square kilometre of Australian sea surface water is contaminated by around 4000 pieces of tiny plastics, according to a recent study.

These small plastic fragments, mostly less than 5 mm across, are loaded with pollutants that can negatively affect several marine species, from tiny fish and zooplankton to large turtles and



Connor Walker, Harley McQualter and Cody Myers pitch in to keep the town tidy.


up in our waterways, not only harming land creatures but also harming sea creatures.

"Every day rubbish blows off the highway on to our property, and it's not fair that we have to clean it up, we have animals on our land that can get very sick if the rubbish is not cleaned up. I help out every year on Clean Up Australia Day," said Cody Myers, resident of North Arm Cove.

"It doesn't have to be Clean Up Australia Day to keep our communities tidy," suggested Megan Saffioti, a local school teacher.

It can be any day of the year. It's time to keep Australia clean for our future generations to enjoy.

whales. Plastic pollution hazards to Australian species and ecological communities are detrimental to their survival and waste levels must be reduced. Often rubbish that is littered on the land will end

 For more information head to cleanupaustaliaday.org.au



Karuah loves its delicious oysters so much, it hosts an oyster festival every year to celebrate.

Fresh oysters on front doorstep

By BONNIE JARMAN
and ELOISE GENTLE

KARUAH is famous for its oysters. Being the pearl of Port Stephens, Karuah offers oysters fresh from the riverside oyster farms to locals and visitors alike.

Try crumbed oysters or oyster pies from one of the food outlets in town. Otherwise enjoy oysters riverside at Longworth Park.

Fresh oysters are available from sheds located on the waterfront.

The Farley family have one of the oldest oyster sheds in town with three generations running the successful family business. Farley Oysters supply many Hunter businesses. They are located in Bundabah Street and have continued to make a healthy profit during the seasonal changes, pH levels changing

in the river, the new highway bypassing the town, thieves and the influx of trade during the Christmas season and tourist peaks.

"It's fun and interesting, sometimes it can take up to four years to grow a good quality oyster," said Heidi Farley.

The town is abuzz each October during the Timber and Oyster Festival. This year it will be held on October 17.

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