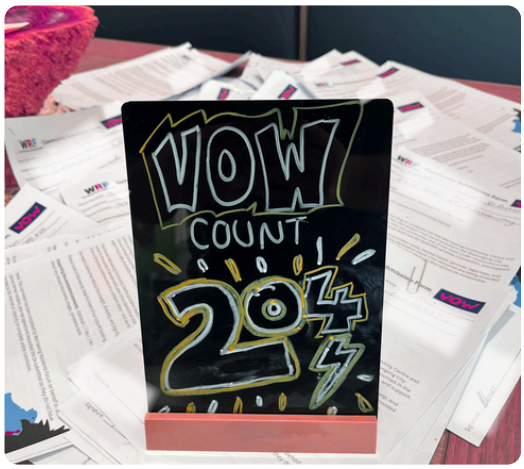
WRF
Your Warrawong Community Centre

MAY NEWSLETTER

Warrawong Residents Forum Inc (WRF)

Based in the Warrawong Community Centre in the Illawarra Region, we support one of the area's most under resourced communities (SEIFA Index: 2%). With 1 staff and volunteers, we provide emergency relief interventions including information, referral services, and advocacy.
Our initiatives like community lunches, food hubs, and service hub address basic needs, fostering trust for deeper engagement and resource connections.

VOICE OF WARRAWONG (VOW)



The Voice of Warrawong (VOW) continues to grow as a powerful community-led movement, ensuring that the voices of local residents are heard in decisions that shape our future.

Established in 2023 by Warrawong Residents Forum, VOW is about more than consultation, it's about representation, empowerment, and impact. Over the past 3 years, we've collected and shared stories from local residents, highlighting lived experiences around housing, safety, youth engagement, health, and access to essential services.

We're proud to share that we have now gathered **204 signed VOW letters**, which have been formally shared with Wollongong City Council. These letters are a strong reminder that people power matters—and that when our voices are united, they carry weight.

This year, VOW continues to advocate for the timely delivery of the Southern Suburbs Community Centre, improved local infrastructure, and greater investment in essential community services across Warrawong and Bundaleer.

We thank every resident who has taken part so far and invite you to add your voice to the growing VOW movement. Together, we are shaping a stronger, safer, and more connected Warrawong.

WANT TO KNOW MORE? OR TO GET INVOLVED.

admin@wrf.org.au
02 4275 1875

Donate
Help us to bring our vision to life.

Join Our Board
Be a part of our meaningful cause.

Volunteer
Help us to provide supportive services.

Sign our VOW
Voice of Warrawong Statement.

Community Champ
Give back to your local community.

OUR FOOD INITIATIVES,

Our food initiatives rely on donations, grants, and gifts. We thank Oz Harvest, Woolworths, Aldi, Green Connect, Coomi Gardens, and all our local supporters for helping sustain this essential service.

Alongside individual and family support, we also supply food to breakfast clubs, youth groups, schools, and local services working to reduce food insecurity in our community. To get involved or learn more, visit our website or contact us directly.

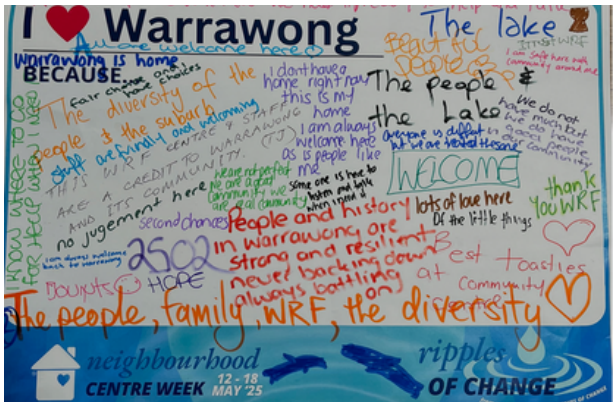
WE RESCUED APPROX. 2,120KG'S OF FOOD AND SERVED / ENGAGED 925 PEOPLE

630 ADULTS, 295 CHILDREN AND 8 COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

CELEBRATING VOLUNTEER AND NEIGHBOURHOOD WEEK

May was a month of gratitude and connection at Warrawong Residents Forum as we celebrated both Volunteer Week and Neighbourhood Week.

During Volunteer Week, our incredible WRF team was showered with thanks in the form of bright blooms and kind words collected from community members. These messages, drawn from real experiences and feedback, were a heartfelt reminder of the impact our volunteers make every day.



For Neighbourhood Week, we turned to the community and asked, "Why do you love Warrawong?" The responses poured in—expressions of pride, stories of belonging, and reflections of resilience. These words have since been transformed into a collaborative work of art now hanging proudly in our centre—reminding us all of the strength, colour, and heart that lives in Warrawong.

To everyone who contributes to our community: thank you. You are what makes Warrawong strong.

WWW.WRF.ORG.AU

SAFE PATHWAYS

We're proud to continue our partnership in hosting Community Parole at Warrawong Residents Forum. By offering a relaxed, welcoming space for parole reporting, we're seeing the positive ripple effects this setting can have—not only on compliance, but on connection, healing, and prevention.

Clients have described the environment as safe, comfortable, and non-judgemental, allowing them to open up to services they may have avoided for years. Several have accessed counselling, basic needs support, and engaged in meaningful conversations with our team.

One client shared that their time in the space helped them grieve the end of a past relationship—a loss that had previously triggered harmful thoughts.

Through quiet connection and a sense of belonging, they've been able to process difficult emotions safely and with support.

This initiative reflects crime prevention at its core—meeting people where they're at, removing barriers to support, and creating a pathway forward built on trust and dignity.