WRF
Your Warrawong Community Centre

AUGUST 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.

RSPCA New South Wales

WARRAWONG HEALTHY PET DAY

WRF was proud to support the RSPCA Healthy Pet Day—an event that offered free health checks, vaccinations, and advice for pets in our community. The turnout was strong, with locals expressing gratitude for how easy and welcoming the day felt.

Our community's furry friends acted as wonderful icebreakers, creating moments of connection, conversation, and care. One pet even received a home visit from the RSPCA team—showing how far the team went to ensure everyone felt included.

The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, with many calling for a repeat next year. We're incredibly thankful to all the partners who helped make this possible.

WRYF
Warrawong Residents Youth Forum

We're excited to welcome our new Program Officer – Youth, who will play a vital role in supporting and strengthening the Warrawong Residents Youth Forum (WRyF).

This part-time, 12-month position marks a big step forward for youth-led work in our community. We've also reached out to local delegates to introduce WRyF and share what's ahead — and we can't wait to see what's next!

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. 1,640 KG OF FOOD AND SERVED / ENGAGED 922 PEOPLE
634 ADULTS, 288 CHILDREN
AND 5 COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

ANOTHER YEAR DONE

As we approach the final quarter of the year, it's time for reflection — and celebration.

Warrawong Residents Forum is proud to announce that our 2025 Annual Report is on its way and will be officially launched at our Annual General Meeting in late October. This report captures a year of growth, transition, and deep community connection.

From setting up our new temporary home to launching youth initiatives, supporting thousands through food relief, and strengthening our secure-base approach — we're incredibly proud of how far Warrawong has come in just 12 months.

Stay tuned for the full report release — and join us at the AGM as we reflect on the past and look forward to what's next for our community.

MEET LAURA

Laura, a single woman living with complex mental health challenges and a mild intellectual disability, came into our space after an unexpected referral—from a stranger she met in her GP's waiting room. That simple moment of connection led her to WRF.

Over the years, Laura had absorbed steady rent increases without fully understanding the strain they were putting on her limited income. By the time she found us, her rent had overtaken her ability to meet even her most basic needs. With no local family or formal support system, she was facing a frightening level of isolation.

We stepped in to initiate a housing application and provide immediate food support. As the pressure eased, Laura's stress levels visibly reduced—and something beautiful started to emerge. She began stopping by regularly, sharing her progress, ticking things off her to-do list, and telling us how much she missed "just having a good chat."

For Laura, a safe and welcoming space made all the difference—not only to her living situation, but to her sense of connection and hope.

for more information
WWW.WRF.ORG.AU