

Fairhaven Op Shopping Village has WON the Outstanding Specialised Retail Business category at the 2025 Central Coast Local Business Awards!

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Our weekly Bingo and Cash Housie events across the Central Coast are a chance to win cash, prizes and support Fairhaven, your local disability charity.

Cash Housie

Thursdays 7.30pm
Ettalong Bowling Club
103 Springwood St, Umina Beach

Saturdays 7:00pm
Peninsula Community Centre
Cnr Ocean Beach Rd & McMasters Rd
Woy Woy

Bingo

Mondays 11.00am
Ettalong Bowling Club
103 Springwood St, Umina Beach

Fridays 10.30am
Everglades Country Club
Dunban Rd, Woy Woy



We're excited to announce this month's Employee Recognition Award winners – a big congratulations to:

Michelle Patey Downes — recognised for bringing positivity and joy to the team, perfectly reflecting the value "Have Fun".

Gina Tiffany – celebrated for her fantastic teamwork and collaboration, showing the true spirit of "Work Together".

SEE BACK COVER FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO NOMINATE.



OP SHOP DONATIONS

By donating your unwanted goods, you're not only giving a once loved item another home, you are helping Fairhaven continue to create opportunities where people living with disability can achieve what they want from life.

Fairhaven Op Shopping Village Donation Hours

10am - 3pm, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays only.



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CEO Update A Fun-Filled Quarter at Fairhaven!

What a quarter it's been! Our 2030 Strategic Plan is charging ahead as we keep our eyes firmly on sustainability and growth.

Awards & Recognition

Big news from our Op-Shopping Village – we won Outstanding Retail Business at the 2025 Central Coast Business Awards! A huge congratulations to the team for this incredible recognition. We also made it to the Business NSW Awards finals in multiple categories. While we didn't snag the win, being nominated at that level is Rhonda Wheatley FCPA/CEO something to celebrate!



Green Pathways Nursery

Over at Point Clare, our Green Pathways nursery project is buzzing with activity. Major building works are underway, with Dan keeping everything on track (go Dan!). Training programs are being built as we get ready to launch our horticulture program. We've even partnered with schools who are already excited to be part of the first intake of students.

Community & Fun

Our Community Hub is thriving! We're gearing up for a spooky Halloween Disco on 31 October and have already been out and about at concerts, Sydney festivals, farm visits... and we're wrapping up the year with adventures to Luna Park, BattleKart, movies, and more.

Youth Programs

Our Youth Program, led by the incredibly talented April Smith, is soaring! Students are flocking to join our tailored, bespoke programs – a real testament to April's vision and creativity.

Residential Life

Life in our Residential homes is full of joy. From dinner parties and BBQs to fun activities, our residents at Kincumber and Booker Bay are thriving thanks to Isaiah and his amazing team.

Living Our Values

At Fairhaven, we live and breathe our values every day: Have fun, work together, be enthusiastic, always improve, and be fair. And looking back at this quarter, we think we're doing just that!

Here's to finishing the year with the same energy, passion, and fun that makes Fairhaven shine.





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Outstanding Achievement Brings Recognition to Fairhaven Op Shopping Village

We're absolutely thrilled that Fairhaven Op Shopping Village won the Outstanding Specialised Retail Business category at the 2025 Central Coast Local Business Awards! This incredible achievement marks a significant milestone in our op shop's journey of community service and impact.

This remarkable recognition represents far more than just an award. It celebrates the extraordinary dedication that drives our mission every single day. At the heart of this success are our amazing volunteers, whose selfless commitment and generous hearts make everything we do possible. They bring skills, enthusiasm, and

unwavering support to our cause, creating the warm, welcoming environment our customers have come to love.

Equally central to this achievement are our wonderful supported employees, who bring such joy and dedication to everything they do. Their contributions are invaluable, and their presence enriches not just our workplace but our entire community. This award recognises their important role in making our op shop the special place it is today.



Isaiah Vane accepting the Award.

We owe enormous gratitude to our loyal customers, who continue to choose us and support the Fairhaven cause. Every purchase, donation, and kind word contributes to the positive impact we make in our community.

CENTRAL COAST
COAST
SPECIAL MEET
LETAN
US

Fairhaven's screenshot presented at the awards night.

We also must congratulate all the fantastic businesses who were finalists alongside us. The Central Coast is home to so many incredible enterprises, and we're proud to be part of such a vibrant business community.

This wonderful recognition shows how far we've come together and reminds us why we love what we do by helping our community, caring for the environment, and making a real difference in people's lives.

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YOUTH SOCIAL GROUP OUTINGS FOR SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER



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Yarramalong Farm Visit

A wonderful day was had by the participants at the farm. We started off feeding the miniature ponies carrots and buns and then all hopped into trailers and drove around to all the paddocks feeding the Arabian horses hay and oats. Everyone was amazed to see how fast the horse galloped around chasing the trailers. We then went for a short walk in the forest to see some wombat holes and a magic tree before heading to the other side of the farm where we cuddle the rabbits which I'm sure was one of the highlights. Then it was off to feed the other hungry animals the goats, sheep, ducks and chickens who were waiting and calling out to us when we arrived. A great day was had by all!























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Community Outings

Wanted Man: Paul Kelly Tribute Show

This was a great night out at Mingara Recreation Club. Participants danced the night away to the live music of the Paul Kelly tribute band 'Wanted Man'. The participants even got the chance to have a chat with the band.



Medieval Festival

The Medieval Festival took place this year at Newcastle Foreshore Park, offering a fantastic chance to step back in time and dress in costume. One of our participants came as a Viking, adding to the excitement of the day! Visitors enjoyed thrilling jousting matches, sword fighting displays, and axe-throwing demonstrations. There were also fascinating sessions on medieval cooking and medicine, as well as a Birds of Prey exhibition where people could learn about their role in hunting throughout history—and even hold one on their arm. Archery practice was another highlight, alongside a wide variety of market stalls to explore. With so much to see and do, it was truly a fun-filled day for everyone.







Hyde Park Barracks

Despite the heavy rain, our visit to the Hyde Park Barracks was well worth the trip!

Clients enjoyed a self-guided tour through the historic site, learning about Australia's convict past and the many stories of those who lived here in the 1800s. After the tour, the groups split up—one explored the city, enjoyed lunch at Pitt Street Mall, and wandered through the Queen Victoria Building.

Even with the wet weather, participants agreed it was a fantastic day out!







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STAFF RECOGNITION AWARDS





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This month's Employee Recognition Award winners – a big congratulations to:

Michelle Patey Downes – recognised for bringing positivity and joy to the team, perfectly reflecting the value "Have Fun".

Gina Tiffany – celebrated for her fantastic teamwork and collaboration, showing the true spirit of "Work Together".

Gina & Michelle – you can collect your gift cards from the office next week.

Michelle Patey-Downes

Gina Tiffany

Don't forget – nominations for the next Employee Recognition Awards are now open!

This is a great opportunity to recognise the incredible efforts of your teammates who go above and beyond in living our Fairhaven Values: Be Fair, Always Improve, Work Together, Be Enthusiastic, Have Fun.

How to nominate:

Just send an email to **staffrewards@fairhaven.org.au** with a short summary of why your teammate deserves recognition, and which value(s) they've shown in action.

Nominations are reviewed by the Leadership Team every two months, and winners are announced shortly after.





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