

# Flannery's welcomes two new pharmacists to community

Health services in Forbes have been bolstered with Life Pharmacy Group (LPG) welcoming two new experienced pharmacists to Flannery's Pharmacy.

LPG pharmacists Chris and Brooke Young, together with their daughter Lily, have relocated to Forbes where Chris is the newest Pharmacist in Charge at Flannery's Pharmacy. Brooke will join the team this year.

"I've been really impressed with how well the pharmacy teams and the doctors in Forbes communicate as well as how community focused the pharmacies are, it's very heartwarming to see the community be so supportive in return," Chris Young said.

"I'm looking forward to being a part of the pharmacy, and continuing to grow the services we offer, as well as being a part of the Forbes community."

"Hopefully I can get involved with the local Rural Fire Service, Landcare and church organisations."

"Managing both work and



Life Pharmacy Group pharmacists and partners Jack Buckley (left) and Sarah Hazell (right) with new Forbes pharmacists Chris and Brooke Young, with daughter Lily.

a young family has proved a little tricky so far!"

It has been a busy period for Chris and Brooke, who have relocated from Canberra, via a stint at Life Pharmacy Orange.

Having grown up in a farming family, Chris is no stranger to the region,

having worked with LPG in Forbes and Parkes in the early stages of his career.

"I chose pharmacy as I saw small country town pharmacists as being respected in their communities for their ability to be both accessible and professional and that certainly

holds true in Forbes. Farming is still certainly my happy place, I've still got my wool classers stencil and sheepdog," Chris said.

"In 2026, Forbes will also welcome Aisling Casey from New Zealand as well as Forbes local, Sami Duggan as Intern Pharmacists.

"Working with Intern and student pharmacists is a real passion of mine, it's nice to be able to reciprocate the mentoring and training I had from some truly inspiring and helpful pharmacists to see them have every success possible and develop their own special interest areas."

Partner at Flannery's and Life Pharmacies, Sarah Hazell, has welcomed the Young family to Forbes and says they are a welcome addition to the local community.

"We are so pleased to have Chris, Brooke and Lily here in Forbes," Sarah Hazell said.

"Both Chris and Brooke bring a wealth of pharmacy experience and expertise to Flannery's, they're such a wonderful addition to our team."

"They're both country people who work hard and appreciate the importance of their role."

"They're engaging and approachable so if you see them in store, don't be afraid to say hello and welcome!"

Flood study, plan open for comment

A review of the flood warning system, including the possible need for new gauges, and road upgrades that would stop Forbes being split into islands in major flooding are among the measures flagged for further investigation in a new draft Forbes Flood Risk Management Study and Plan.

The plan is now on exhibition for feedback, with Forbes Shire Council planning a community meeting on the proposals for the end of this month.

The study and plan are informed by an updated flood study and damages assessment prepared by consultants Lyall and Associates under the guidance of a flood risk management committee including Forbes Shire Council, the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, the NSW State Emergency Service and community representatives.

The report updates flooding patterns and peaks, also modelling for the first time the impact of mature crops on flood behaviour in Forbes, and has put an estimated dollar value on flood damages.

Other measures to be considered under the plan include commissioning a new flood study to define the other types of flooding that affect Forbes; preparing a flood information brochure for residents based on the information presented in this flood risk management study; and commissioning a study to investigate the feasibility of a voluntary house purchase scheme and a voluntary house raising scheme.

The draft documents will be on public exhibition until 31 March 2026, and can be viewed at the council's administration office or in the public exhibitions section of its website at [www.forbes.nsw.gov.au](http://www.forbes.nsw.gov.au)

Details of venue and time are yet to be published but will be shared as soon as possible, along with a more detailed story on the plan.

Submissions due 31 March 2026 via:

Email [forbes@forbes.nsw.gov.au](mailto:forbes@forbes.nsw.gov.au);

Post Forbes Shire Council,

PO Box 333 Forbes NSW 2871

In person at Council Office 2 Court St Forbes NSW 2871.

## Youth Centre to open for drop-in sessions

An initiative for local young people will launch next week, aimed at providing a safe and welcoming space to unwind, learn and connect with friends.

The youth drop-in sessions at the Forbes Youth and Community Centre (YACC) will take place each Wednesday afternoon from 4pm to 6pm.

These free sessions will commence next Wednesday 11 February 2026 and run for 10 weeks in line with the school term.

Developed directly in response to community feedback, the concept reflects what young people in the region say they need - a relaxed after school environment that supports both learning and wellbeing.

"Young people told us they wanted somewhere informal to study,

hang out and feel supported during the week," Forbes Shire Mayor, Phyllis Miller OAM, said.

"We will use these first 10 weeks as a trial. We'll try things out, listen to the kids and make the space suit what they need."

Each session will offer flexible options including quiet study areas and recreational activities.

Students aged 12 to 18 years are welcome to attend these drop-in sessions.

While the sessions will be staffed by Council, the aim of these sessions is to provide a space for independent youth use rather than a formal care service.

For more information about the drop-in sessions, visit [www.forbes.nsw.gov.au](http://www.forbes.nsw.gov.au) or follow @ForbesYOUTHActionTeam for updates.



The Forbes Youth Action Team is welcoming young people to new drop-in afternoons at the Youth and Community Centre from 4pm to 6pm Wednesdays.

PHOTO: Forbes Shire Council

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