



BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

FREE LOCAL NEWSPAPER

COMMUNITY OWNED AND EDITED

Wednesday 25th August 2021

Richardson House Aged Care

Assistant in Nursing (AIN)

**We're
HIRING**



40 hours/fortnight PPT

Richardson House Aged Care is seeking
a suitable person to join their
Care team.

for full job criteria please email

joanna.bridges@richardsonhouse.com.au

Or call 67821 563 option 2.

Applications Close 3 September 2021

Barraba Medical Centre

We would like to remind the community if you are experiencing ANY cold or flu-like symptoms, respiratory illness, fever, ear, nose, throat or chest symptoms, please inform medical staff **BEFORE** presenting to the Medical Centre or the Emergency Dept at Barraba Hospital. Thank you for your vigilance.

We're live on the web from this week.

Now you can get the local news updated more frequently by going to

www.barrabacommunitynews.org.au

Save the address in your favourites and check out the latest news, views and community activities.



FRRR
Foundation for Rural
Regional Renewal

Community News will be delivered to rural roadside mailboxes

As a condition of funding received from the Foundation For Rural and Regional Renewal the college is now able to home deliver the Barraba Community News to rural roadside mail boxes in the Barraba region for one year. This week the post will send out the newsletter to Barraba rural mail boxes as unaddressed mail. This a great opportunity for local people out of town to get their local news. Executive Officer, Alison Heagney, thanks the volunteers to put together the newsletter each week which is then printed, folded and posted by staff at the college. Not everyone has good internet to be able to access emails or the website so this ensures that everyone can see what is happening and hopefully contribute their own news in the future.



Cobbadah Flowers
Marnie Crowley
0267822045
0429878788



Barraba Cancer Patients Fund Raising Group Inc.

DAFFODIL DAY STREET STALL & MORNING TEA

FRIDAY 27th August 2021

Regretfully CANCELLED (Due to COVID-19 Pandemic)
Please refer to the CANCER COUNCIL's Media Release,
and this year show your support of the FLOWER POWER
APPEAL online @ www.daffodilday.com.au

'Beyond the Walls' in Barraba

Barraba Public Art committee are pleased to announce that the latest public art project in Barraba is now complete.

Beyond the Walls, by internationally acclaimed artist Jenny McCracken, is an explosion of colour and nature, featuring local landmark Horton Falls in all its rich and glorious beauty.

Committee member Emily Bowman explains that it is hoped this latest art instalment will encourage visitors to the recently completed silo art mural, which sits on the outskirts of town, to also visit the township.

"The committee's vision is to create inspiring public art that will attract visitors to our beautiful town – people who will walk down our streets, meet the locals, shop in our shops and stay over-night in our pubs, hotels and motels.

Horton Falls are a very popular summertime destination with locals, and they hold fond memories for many. After many years of drought, the falls are once again flowing freely, and this is truly something to celebrate.

Jenny McCracken has perfectly captured this emotion, along with the natural beauty and rich diversity of wildlife in the area."

There are 3D elements to the piece, along with numerous local species of birds and other animals depicted. In total there are 8 animals to be spotted by day.

Extract from Jenny McCracken's Artist Statement:

'Beyond the walls' is an illusory image of breaking through the constructs of civilization to a wonderland of treasured memories and natural beauty. Horton Falls, backdrop of the mural, is a local landmark where generations of Barraba families have enjoyed refreshing afternoons, camping, swimming, picnicking and exploring.

The surrounding bush is a haven for wildlife, birds in particular. Five of the more than a dozen different species of parrots found locally are featured, including the rarest, and one of the most common. The little swift parrot, and the galah are the smallest and largest birds depicted, and a king parrot, a red rumped parrot and an eastern rosella, along with a pacific, or white necked heron all appear to be taking flight.



You can imagine whoops and calls of delight have disturbed the peace, as a figure swings out over the deep pool at the base of the falls.



HART RURAL
AGENCIES

CLEARING SALE

SATURDAY 18TH SEP 2021
10AM START - PROPERTY SOLD

**'PARKWOOD' 32 BENNETTS
LANE, MANILLA**

FOR FULL ITEMS LIST & PHOTOS
SEE HARTRURAL.COM.AU

OUTSIDE VENDORS ENCOURAGED

CONTACT JACOB 0428 624 493
OR CHRIS 0499 851 911

SALE PENDING COVID RESTRICTIONS

Barraba: 6782 1006
Manilla: 6785 1911



Premier's Debating Challenge

This year we had two teams of brave and talented debaters participating in the Premier's Debating Challenge. The competition involves four rounds of debates against other local

schools. For most students this was their first year being involved in debating and I was very impressed by the continued dedication and improvement.

These amazing students competed in debates where they have had only one-hour preparation time after finding out the topic of the debate, before having to stand up and present their arguments and devise quick rebuttals.

Both teams have now completed their four rounds of debating and have done themselves and our school proud. Their commitment, growth and confidence has been outstanding and should be commended.

Barraba Green had 1 round win and 3 round losses. Barraba Gold had 4 round wins and now progress to the Knockout Regional Finals. Their first debate will be against Walcha Central School.

Congratulations to our super star debating teams! We wish you all the best in the finals!

Mrs Lowe Debating Coordinator



Green Team L-R: Cassidy Graves, Hope Payne, Jasmine Coombes & Hannah Woodhouse.



Gold Team L-R: Lilly Groth, Sienna Hain, Chelsea Inwards & Macey Cabot.

Across the Desk from the Relieving Principal Kirsty Ebzery

We are unfortunate to be operating in remote-learning mode. The NSW Premier announced that, in addition to Greater Sydney, stay-at-home rules apply to all schools in regional NSW from 5 pm Saturday 14 August to 12.01 am Sunday 22 August. This has now been extended to the 28 August. This replaced any existing orders in regional NSW. Parents and carers in these LGAs must keep children – across primary and secondary school – at home unless they need to be at school. Schools are open for any child that needs it. As a Level 4 school, while in indoor settings in schools, mask or face coverings are required for all staff, and students in year 7 and above. NESA has announced a number of changes to the 2021 HSC timetables. For more information, refer to HSC exam advice. Currently the Trial HSC Exams will be on hold, we are awaiting clarification from DoE and NESA we will provide additional updates as the current situation evolves. On Mondays after 1pm home learning packs will be available for pick up. Primary home learning packs will be available for collection at the Kindergarten gate, there will also be a box to drop off completed home learning. Secondary town home learning packs will be available for collection at the front door of the secondary office, there will also be a box to drop off completed home learning. Bus home learning packs will be sent out on buses, please meet the driver at your normal bus time.

Due to the COVID-19 Lockdown, the school is operating with minimal staff onsite. This means we have two Teaching staff and one SASS staff member on each site per day. All schools in regional NSW were strongly urged to reduce the staff numbers to an absolute minimum needed to meet the immediate needs of the school. Staff are currently following a weekly staff rotation roster in line with the current COVID-19 stay-at-home orders.

Stage 5 and 6 2022 Subject Selections booklets will be sent home with Monday 23 August Home Learning Packs. Included in this will be individual secondary staff DoE email addresses, please feel free to communicate with individual staff via email if you have any questions in regards to 2022 subject choice/selections. We would appreciate it if you could return your completed Subject Selection Sheet on Monday 30 August with your completed learning pack.

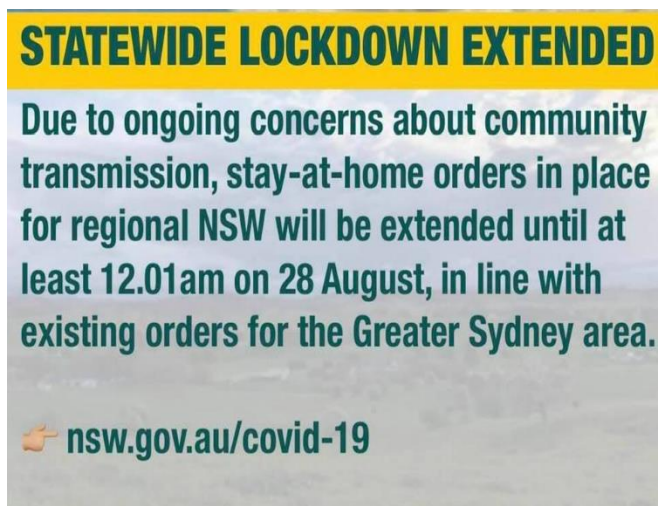
During week 5 lockdown, a Sensory Path was constructed on the secondary site in the hall. It was a physically gruelling task that took 5 hours to complete. But once completed was immensely satisfying giving the sensory path a trial run. Sensory paths give students a chance to spend a few minutes

Continues page 4

of their school day walking, jumping, bouncing and pushing themselves through their distractions. Experts say sensory paths can also help students develop motor skills, including balance, hand-eye coordination and spatial awareness. The benefits aren't only for students dealing with sensory processing issues. Studies show movement stimulates cognitive activity, which means students learn better when they have been active.

Each year since 1945 the CBCA has brought children and books together across Australia through the CBCA Book Week. During this time schools and public libraries spend one glorious week celebrating books and Australian children's authors and illustrators. Classroom teachers, teacher librarians and public libraries create colourful displays, develop activities, run competitions and tell stories relating to a theme to highlight the importance of reading. You will often see parades with students dressed as their favourite book character. This is the 75th year of celebrating Book Week and the theme for 2021 is 'Old Worlds, New Worlds, Other Worlds'. Barraba Central School is celebrating Book Week during week 7, we would like to encourage all primary and secondary students to get their thinking caps on and create a costume of a favourite book character whilst at home in lockdown. Whilst in costume take a photo and email to barraba-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au before Tuesday 24 August for our virtual book parade.

Kirsty Ebzery
Relieving Principal



See the updates for 'Stay at Home' Rules and new QR Codes for people without a smart phone on page 7.



LOCAL ORGANISATIONS AND COUNCILS INVITED TO TAKE PART IN 2022 SENIORS FESTIVAL

Member for Tamworth Kevin Anderson has encouraged local organisations and councils to apply for grant funding for activities for local seniors during the 2022 NSW Seniors Festival.

Mr Anderson said "The \$200,000 NSW Seniors Festival Grants Program supports initiatives that encourage people aged 60 and over to stay healthy, engaged and active.

Local events have been hugely popular and beneficial in the past including the Aussie Bush Bash in Walcha or Gunnedah's Mackellar Care's 2-18 'Enrichment week' which ran exercise classes, run in conjunction with community restaurants to improve physical and mental health."

Local councils, community groups and not-for-profit organisations are among those who can apply for grants of up to \$10,000.

The NSW Seniors Festival is the largest event of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere and has been running for more than 63 years.

Minister for Seniors Natalie Ward said the program reinforces the NSW Government's dedication to older people, outlines in the Ageing Well in NSW: Seniors Strategy 2021-2031

The Seniors Festival will be run from 25 March to 3 April 2022. Applications for grants are now open and close on 30 August.

For more information and to apply, please visit: <https://www.seniorsfestival.nsw.gov.au/events/nsw-seniors-festival-grants>

Please explain???

From Lesley Grigg.

I have a strange phenomenon, while cutting the rhubarb (the only thing growing, so I thought!) I came across this. Maybe someone can explain how the rhubarb became spinach (which used to grow there) actually grew amongst the rhubarb and ended up like this!



History Notes

On the history side of things there has been one request for information which is unusual, especially when so many people are at home.

The poetry section with Beryl's poems reminds me of all the poets in the Barraba district over the years – there was even a special group of people writing poetry and short stories. I wonder who has a copy of the publication of poems and short stories by The Barraba Jiffy Bag Poets, published for the Bi-Centenary Celebrations. There are some food stories in that volume.

Looking further back in poetic history, my great grandfather, John Spencer, has left several poems as well as entries in a few books. The Conquest of New England was written on a sheet of paper with several small drawings for illustration. I include the first of his seven verses.

*Two wily tennis veterans
Went forth to play the game
In this chill month of August
They played for sport, not fame.*

John was of course referring to his sons who played a lot of tennis around the North-West and even ventured to Sydney to play occasionally. I cannot of course finish these notes without referring to Dort Bloomfield, John Spencer's granddaughter who wrote lots of poetry and included some in the Barraba Gazette. No doubt some of our older residents would remember her effort when the new Cattle Shed was built at the Showground – I always enjoy reading it again.

P.S. I have found my copy of the "Cattle Shed" if anyone would like a copy.

Also submitted by the Historical Society are the following 2 poems.

*(From "The Barraba Chronicle",
Thursday, August 20, 1942)
These lines came with the footnote:
"Written at the request of A.I.F. men
who have been left, as the writer is,
in the Middle East."*

A Message to Australia

To guard their country in her hour of need
And see her through the changes of today.
They left their mates. We wished them all "God-speed",
The lucky ones, those men who steamed away.

And now the die is cast we "soldier on",
A little sad at heart, homesick, forlorn;
All longing for the chance to play our part
In fighting for the land where we were born.

But don't we guard her? In the desert sand,
As in the jungle or upon the sea,
We are Australia's sons, and ours the right
To battle for the cause that keeps her free.

So steadfastly we stand, whate'er may come,
To do our job where lies the greatest need.
WE don't decide; we answer to the drum –
God grant that He may steel us for the deed!

"TIP" KELAHER

"Tip" Kelaher will not return from the Middle East; he fell in the Battle of Egypt.

Digger's Lord Prayer

Dear Mr Prime Minister, which art in Canberra.
Curtin be thy name, thy taxation come;
Thy will be done in Perth as it is in Sydney;
Give us this day our deferred pay,
And forgive us our A.W.L.
Lead us not into the Army,
But deliver us from the Japs.
For thine is the Man Power,
The Austerity Loan and the War Loan.
For ever and ever.

What aman

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

For some years we have been receiving the Barraba Community News and have particularly enjoyed the recent poetry entries. We originally subscribed so that we could pass it on to my husband's mother (Zola Robertson, nee Wiggins). Sadly, Zola passed away in November 2020, aged 97.

A little bit about Zola. She was born and raised in Barraba and had one sister, Ruth Jenner. On completion of the Intermediate Certificate at the local school, Zola worked in the Accounts Section of McKenzie's Store. At the age of 18 she decided to move to Sydney where she met George Robertson who had come out from Scotland. There were 2 children from the marriage, Gary and Narelle, both of whom spent time visiting Barraba when they were young as did our children.

Zola never forgot her Barraba roots and on several occasions we took her up to the Barraba Festival which we all enjoyed. Other trips were made to catch up with relatives – Pam Reed is Gary's cousin. Before he passed away, we would also stop at Tamworth to visit Terry Jenner (Ruth's son). Terry worked at the Barraba News for many years.

Zola stayed in her home until 4 months before her death when she moved to Brisbane to be with her daughter. Unfortunately, the Queensland Premier had closed the border to NSW residents so we were unable to get up to see her before she passed away. We were also unable to attend her funeral, although we viewed the chapel service on line. Although we live on the Hawkesbury Shire border we still subscribe to the Barraba News. It

brings back many happy memories of our time up there.

I also write poetry and wondered if you would like to print my offering, made on behalf of my much-missed Mum-in-law, Zola.

As we were unable to say our final good byes, I feel that this is something we can offer, so thank you for printing it.

With kind regards,
Sue Robertson

LOCKDOWN AGAIN

Sue Robertson (With apologies to Banjo Patterson)

There was movement in the 'burbs
'cause the word had got around
That the Delta strain of Covid was about
There was panic in the lab
As we rushed to get the jab
And everyone was stopped from going out

Now as lockdown settled in
And we all got quite depressed
Some thought we'd better stock up on supplies
Pasta, rice and flour
Were the items of the hour
And TOILET PAPER – much to our surprise!

So it's QR codes and masks
And no visits to our friends
And the lockdown is extended week by week
But the polities have no clue
As to what they ought to do
They can't seem to stop the awful Covid creep

There are Covid testing stations
Where you queue up for a test
And they shove a cotton swab right up your nose
If it hasn't reached your brain
Then you won't have felt the pain
But you do not want another one of those!

So as Covid wreaks its havoc
And we all stay safe at home
We can catch up on the things that we must do
It's not all gloom and doom
We'll be vaccinated soon
We won't need to join the Covid testing queue!

Barraba Anglican Church

Please join us on Zoom at 10 am
Sunday when in lockdown:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8176347316>
God bless Daniel Avenell



Queen Street Café
82a Queen St. Barraba
Ph 0267822106

Dine in or takeaway.
Open 7 days

BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

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STAY AT HOME RULES

The Stay at Home Rules as we published last week remain in place until at least 28 August. Visiting other homes is not permitted.

The exercise rules and face mask rules have been tightened; you **MUST** wear a face mask whenever you leave home, unless you are exercising on your own or with one other person.

Reasonable excuse to leave home

A reasonable excuse is if you need to

- obtain food or other goods and services locally
- leave home to go to work if
 - you cannot reasonably [work from home](#) and
 - the business is allowed to be open
- leave home for education if it is not possible to do it at home
- exercise and take outdoor recreation within your local government area or, if you need to cross into another local government area, stay within 5km of your home
- go out for medical or caring reasons, including obtaining a COVID-19 vaccination.

Face masks

In local government areas where the stay at home rules apply, when you leave home you must carry a face mask with you at all times.

You must wear a face mask

- in all indoor areas of non-residential premises or outdoor areas other than a place of residence
- if you are on public transport or in a public transport waiting area
- if you are working in a hospitality venue
- in indoor and outdoor areas of construction sites, except when an exemption applies such as when
 - wearing a face mask creates a safety issue or
 - there is a worksite emergency
- when working in an outdoor area.

Face masks must be worn at indoor or outdoor areas of a fresh food market, and outdoors next to or near food, drink and retail premises including

- queuing outside a cafe or shop to collect take away food or drink
- walking on a street near shop fronts.

Visitors to a residence

Generally, visiting another person is not a reasonable excuse to leave your home.

You must not allow a person to visit your home, except if it is

- for permitted work
- for childcare
- to give effect to arrangements between parents and children under 18 or their siblings
- to assist a person to move places of residence
- to avoid an injury or serious risk of harm
- because of an emergency
- to view or inspect property to lease or purchase it.

Socialising isn't a reasonable excuse to have visitors or leave home unless you live on your own. If you do live on your own, your nominated visitor can visit you.

QR CHECK-IN CARD NOW AVAILABLE



Do you know someone who struggles to use the QR Code check-in with a smartphone?

Service NSW is offering a personalised "check-in card" to anyone who needs one.

The card operates in the same way as a Dine & Discover NSW voucher but is used to check in when entering a shop or business.

You can register for a "check-in card" for yourself or an elderly relative by calling 📞 13 77 88 or going to the Service NSW website www.service.nsw.gov.au

Lockdown - Customer Service Arrangements

In response to customer feedback Council have decided to trial the following arrangements for financial transactions only. Please note all general enquiries can still be made via the phone or email mail@gwydir.nsw.gov.au
Bingara Office - (02) 6724 2000
Warialda Office - (02) 6729 3000

Bingara & Warialda Customer Service Open for payments only

Opened 9:00am to 12:30pm from Tuesday 24 August 2021.
PLEASE NOTE: Bingara Customer Service will now be located from 74 Maitland St Bingara - where the Visitor Information Centre was located.

Service NSW Agencies Open for urgent transactions only

Bingara - Opened Monday 23 August & Thursday 26 August 2021 - 9:00am to 12:30pm
Warialda - Opened Tuesday 24 August, Wednesday 25 August & Friday 27 August 2021 - 9:00am to 12:30pm.
Please Note: All Driver Testing has been postponed or cancelled.



UPPER HORTON, NORTH STAR, COOLATAI AND BOOMI SHARE DROUGHT RELIEF FUNDING

The Australian Government is continuing to back drought-affected communities, with projects across the nation to receive a share of more than \$1 million under the Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal's award-winning Tackling Tough Times Together program.

The Northern Slopes Landcare Association will receive \$16,975 for its delivery of the Rural Women's Catch-up events in drought affected communities of Upper Horton, North Star, Coolatai and Boomi.

Deputy Prime Minister and Member for New England, Barnaby Joyce said the project aims to encourage more local

involvement in the community by delivering a series of workshops in the Gwydir and Moree Plains areas, to help reduce social isolation.

"The Coalition is pleased to support the Foundation's critical work of supporting drought-affected communities, as the regions continue their recovery from the impacts of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and effects of natural disasters," Mr Joyce said.

"The Tackling Tough Times Together program has a range of benefits, including facilitating strong social cohesion, reducing volunteer fatigue and stimulating the local economy, which in-turn create capable communities and skilful leaders within our regions."

"This funding is being delivered directly to grassroots, community-led initiatives to benefit local communities that have been hardest-hit, providing immediate support as we continue to weather the impacts of the pandemic," Mr Joyce said.

"The Australian Government's \$15 million commitment to the Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal's Tackling Tough Times Together Program is already supporting hundreds of projects run by local groups."

Mr Joyce said, "While we've seen good rainfall in some parts of Australia, the impacts of drought are long-term and far-reaching, which is why it is vital the Government continues to back our regions to support a more secure and resilient Australia."

Minister for Agriculture and Northern Australia, David Littleproud said a number of projects would deliver outcomes that boost community identity and sense of place, which is crucial for the wellbeing of Australia's rural and remote communities.

"The Tackling Tough Times Together program is a rolling grants program and I encourage drought-affected communities to apply for the next open round of funding."

More information on the Tackling Tough Times Together program and the latest round of recipients can be found on the Foundation's website at <https://frrr.org.au/TTTT> or by visiting the Australian Government Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications' website at www.regional.gov.au/regional/programs

Barraba Landcare Community Meeting

Wednesday 8th September 2021
Barraba Bowling Club, Queen St.
Barraba NSW 2347
Or Via Zoom. Details next week

Winter Woes

"My throat is sore, comes the plaintive cry,
She fills the kettle, and gives a sigh.
"I don't feel well, I've got a headache,"
"Have we got any medicine I can take?"
She takes him a cup of coffee in bed,
Puts her cooling hand on his fevered head.
"Best stay home today," she says, dispensing a pill,
"I'll phone the office and tell them you're ill".
Breakfast over; the kids run for the bus,
She steels herself for the oncoming fuss.
As she packs the washing-up in the sink,
Comes the first request for a lemon drink.
Then a morning cuppa, some nice thin bread,
Another Asprin for his aching head.
Some soup for lunch, served in a cup,
And the radio to help cheer him up.
"I'm lonely, can't you come give me a hug,"
"Perhaps I could lie on the lounge with a rug!"
"I'm sore from all the coughing and wheezing"
"My nose is stuffy, and I'm tired of sneezing!"
The day has passed and evening arrived,
He's feeling amazed that he has survived.
She tucks him into bed that night,
She is sure that tomorrow he'll be "alright".
Morning; he's feeling almost like a new man,
She smiles as she dresses, and starts to plan,
To catch up on the housework she's had to delay.
She leaves him to shave, feeling in good cheer,
Heads for the kitchen, and then she hears,
The voice through her son's bedroom door,
"Mum, I don't feel well, my throat is sore!"

Marjorie Urquhart 22/7/1997

Benjamin Hales.

Have you heard the story of Benjamin Hales ,
Who came from Northern New South Wales .
He lived in a small country town,
And all who knew him put him down.
He kept to himself, there was no-one he'd trust,
And his family had given him up in disgust.
Then, out of the blue, like a bolt of lightning,
There came some news he found really exciting.
The phone call that came, left him in no doubt,
"I've won Gold Lotto" he said with a shout.
Now, in small country towns, secrets are revealed,
Nothing is hidden, and nothing concealed.
The family all loved him, and kept dropping by,
And "hopeful young things" used to give him the eye.
"Enough is enough" he said with a frown,
He packed up his gear, and got out of town.
He headed for Queensland, his future to seek,
Became one of a thousand migrants, a week.
He stopped when he came to a large seaside town,
Moved into a Unit, and began settling down.
And now he's in business, his fortune increasing,
He's selling used cars, and the public he's fleecing.
Now he is happy, Mr. Businessman Hales,
Content to increase his vehicular sales.
His family won't come near him, the pace is too hot,
He sells them used cars, if they need them or not!!

Marjorie Urquhart 22/10/1995

OTHER WORLDS

As I gaze into the night
At the stars above all shining bright
The planets whirling round in space
In their allotted time and place
I contemplate the beauty of
The sparkling lights in the sky above
Space and matter far away
In their given place they stay
Eternity is in our sight
As we contemplate a star filled night.

Beryl Henshaw 2016



Council's Annual Donation Program now open

Tamworth Regional Council's Annual Donation Program 2021-22 is now open for applications. The program is designed to help small to medium organisations and community groups who do significant work in the community with funding to help their operations.

There is \$61,000 available for the Tamworth region, including the townships of Nundle, Manilla and Barraba.

Councillor Helen Tickle said it is a great program that assist with the operations of essential community groups.

"Receiving a small donation can make a big difference to these organisations and represent a real benefit to the community. Funds can be used to pay for essential maintenance, build a website or pay for supplies and keep small organisations going during what are already difficult times."

In 2020-21 the program provided much needed funds across the region to a range of organisations. Among the successful applications last year were the Nandewar Historical Society Inc. who was successful in its donation application of \$4,997 to install air-conditioning in its museum, the Manilla Men's Shed who used its \$802.14 donation to buy materials for six fire pits, the Lions Club of Barraba received \$5,000 to buy maintenance materials and eight community groups in Tamworth received funding as part of the program.

Applications are invited from not-for-profit organisations, charities, community groups and organisations located within the Tamworth Regional

Council local government area, that provides a service to the Tamworth regional community which may be of a unique nature. Recipients of donations funding in previous years are welcome to reapply. Organisations are eligible for only one donation per financial year, that is 1 July to 30 June.

Successful applicants will be determined by a panel of three Councillors, Cr Helen Tickle, Cr Juanita Wilson and Cr Jim Maxwell.

For more information and to apply, visit the Tamworth Regional Council website:

<https://www.tamworth.nsw.gov.au/about/forms/2021-2022-annual-donations-program-application-form>
Applications must be submitted by 5:00pm on Tuesday, 14 September 2021.



Essential Energy working to strict Covid-19 protocols to ensure network reliability

As stay-at-home orders impact the entire NSW footprint of the electricity distributor, Essential Energy is confirming that as an essential service, all employees are authorised workers and are abiding by comprehensive COVID-19 protocols to ensure community safety.

"To proactively manage our organisational response, we will continue to follow the advice of federal and state government authorities. We are doing our utmost to ensure safe and reliable power supply to our customers in

communities across NSW, especially when so many people are at home," said Amalie Smith, Acting General Manager, Customer and Network Services.

"We want the community to know that where a stay-at-home order is in force, planned outages are reviewed individually to assess the risks for the community, employees, and contractors and electricity reliability. People can view our planned outages page by visiting essentialenergy.com.au/outages. We also send our customers a notification at least four days before a planned outage," said Amalie.

"To maintain safe and reliable power supply, we need to continue key maintenance and building activities, including inspecting the network, underground pits and aboveground pillars, vegetation and streetlighting work. Essential Energy is a business enabler and if we do not risk assess and proceed with this work, then there is an increased risk to the number and duration of unplanned outages. It is critical that risks to supply are minimised, particularly to facilities involved in the response to COVID-19," Amalie said.

Amalie also asked people to consider Essential Energy's employees.

"Please remember our employees are also living in impacted areas and as essential workers, they're all working to provide safe and reliable electricity, while responding to many of the additional pressures affecting the wider community. Our employees have been following strict COVID-19 protocols since the pandemic began, with continual review and adjustment as the situation evolves to minimise the risk of impacting our communities and our employees."



Golf Notes

It took a four-way countback to decide the winner of Rodger Fisher's trophy on Sunday. In what was a great day of golf Lib Thompson, Amanda Koopman, Gary Allen and Sam Faint all finished on 35 points with Lib Thompson declared the winner and Amanda Koopman runner up. Balls went to Amanda Koopman 35, Gary Allan 35, Sam Faint 35, Daniel Anderson 34, Tom Mellor 34, Peter York 33, Paul Grigg 33 and Campbell Tonkin 33 points.

No NTPs were claimed. In singles match play results it took two extra holes before Daniel Anderson claimed victory over Amanda Koopman 1 up on the 20th hole. It was pleasing to see so many players on Sunday. With the course looking so good and the weather perfect it's a great escape for exercise during these Covid times. All social players are very welcome to utilise the course just remember to put your green fees into an envelope in the foyer and follow the Covid rules of two players per group and only one person in each cart.

Next week Sunday 29th August it has been decided we will play a 4 BBB for the Col and Rene Sweeney and Middlemiss trophies. Whilst it is a 4BBB we will still have to play in twos only and keep our partners honest. The following week Sunday 5th September is the compulsory final round of our Club Championships.

In closing it would be remiss not to mention the recent passing of Herb Castledine who was a member of the Barraba Golf Club for many years. I think many of us in the community remember the wonderful Saturday and Sunday nights at the Golf Club of Herb with his guitar and Wendy

Geary on her beloved piano singing song after song into the night. Vale Herb and Wendy they are special memories.



Just a little update of postponed ladies golf days due to Covid. A new date for the N&NWDLG Vets tournament has not been set yet. This event was meant to be played today. Unfortunately, the Manilla open has also been postponed from Sunday 12th September. A new date will be set down at a later date. Great to see we have 4, possibly 5 Barraba lady members entering for the Jewel of the Coast Tournament in November... Fingers xxxxx

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Barraba 7 day Forecast from the Bureau of Meteorology



Wednesday 25 Aug
Summary Max 14
Partly cloudy
Chance of rain: 0%



Thursday 26 Aug
Summary Min -2 Max 16
Frost, Partly cloudy
Chance of any rain: 0%



Friday 27 Aug
Summary Min -1 Max 16
Partly cloudy
Chance of any rain: 5%



Saturday 28 Aug
Summary Min -2 Max 18
Frost, sunny
Chance of rain: 5%



Sunday 29 Aug
Summary Min 1 Max 21
Frost, partly cloudy
Chance of any rain: 20%



Monday 30 Aug
Summary Min 5 Max 22
Partly cloudy
Chance of any rain: 20%



Tuesday 24 Aug
Summary Min 7 Max 24
Partly cloudy
Chance of any rain: 20%

Regional Dam Levels from Water NSW

Chaffey 100.8%
Copeton 73.3%
Keepit 96.0%
Split Rock 39.4%



Celebrating Science & Technology

National Science Week is Australia's annual celebration of science and technology.

Running each year in August, it features more than 1000 events around Australia, including those delivered by universities, schools, research institutions, libraries, museums and science centres.

Over making sour dough bread and pasta during lockdown? Here's a simple (and useful) experiment you can do at home with the kids while they 'stay at home'.

Ricotta Cheese

This recipe makes around 140g. Ricotta is a simple cheese to make and one you can eat with pasta, salad, on toast or add to other recipes like spinach and ricotta rolls

Time required: 20 minutes

Recipe difficulty: Easy

Ingredients

750m full cream milk

35 mL white vinegar or lemon juice

¼ tsp salt

Equipment

Large saucepan

Large bowl

Measuring spoons

Measuring cups

Stove

Spoon

Colander

Muslin cloth/ cheese cloth / new chux cloth

Food thermometer

Method

1. Pour the milk into saucepan, add salt and place over a medium heat.
2. Heat the milk slowly, stirring from time to time.
3. When it is almost at boiling point, (82-85°C) remove from the heat, and add the vinegar or lemon and stir gently.
4. Curds will start to form.
5. Stir for around one minute.
6. Let pan sit for around 10 minutes while the curds form.
7. Line a colander with a large piece of dampened muslin/clean chux and place over a larger bowl (if you wish to keep the whey – the pale yellow/green clear liquid).
8. Gently pour the ricotta into the colander. For safety reasons make sure you don't pour while the liquid is hot.
9. Allow to drain for 10 minutes. If you prefer drier cheese, twist the cheese in the cloth to squeeze out extra liquid.
10. The ricotta is now ready for your next recipe adventure.
11. Store in clean, airtight container for up to seven days.

What's going on?

This is a simple cheese made using an acid (lemon juice/vinegar). This causes the proteins to coagulate and curdle or clump together and make the cheese. The lumps or solids are the curds while the clear, coloured liquid is referred to as whey. "Traditional" ricotta is usually made with whey, not milk. Ricotta is made differently than harder cheeses like cheddar. The ricotta curds are quite soft and weak. They hold more moisture and unlike cheddar cheese, ricotta doesn't melt.

Tips

- When making ricotta never use UHT milk. For best results use full cream milk.
- If your milk doesn't develop curds when you add the acid (vinegar or lemon juice) then you may need to add a little more vinegar/lemon juice.
- If using fresh lemon juice, don't use Meyer lemons they are not acidic enough.
- There are some recipes that suggest also adding cream. Try these for a richer result.

Did you know?

Eating cheese slows tooth decay! When eaten at the end of a meal the cheese can help reduce acid in your mouth which in turn can slow tooth decay