



FREE LOCAL NEWSPAPER

BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY OWNED AND EDITED

Wednesday 27th October 2021



GOFUNDME FUND FOR THE TWINS – HELP SANDRA HELP THEM.

At home, on a quiet Barraba Sunday afternoon, Sandra Collins saw and heard (it's a bit hard not to

hear) the Rescue Helicopter. "Someone has been seriously injured in a horse accident," a neighbour told her. She later learnt that Nicole, who she had never met, had died. It was a tragedy; Nicole was a single parent of seventeen year old twins. Their father had died a few years ago.

Sandra, who moved to Barraba twelve months ago, wondered how she could help these two young local people. She learnt that though they had no close relatives in Barraba who could support them, they wished to stay in this community where they had ties – and apprenticeships. Talking to others, Sandra realised the twins definitely needed financial support – but how? The suggestion of a "GoFundMe" campaign was floated – Sandra thought "I can do that" and so she worked through the process of setting up an on-line appeal to raise \$25,000 to be placed in a trust fund to give financial support to the twins for the next three years.

Sandra Collins is not a long term Barraba resident, but she is already making a significant contribution. Apart from the very large "GoFundMe" campaign, she is involved in Neighbourhood Watch, and other community organisations. She told us it was by a happy chance she came to live in Barraba; having spent much of her life in North-Western NSW, she retired to the Central Coast. A few years ago, she came north to visit a friend at Kelvin (near Gunnedah). They travelled over to Barraba to see the Silos Art – Sandra, having a look around Barraba, thought : "This is a much nicer place to retire", found a suitable home to buy, and moved here!

The twins' Trust Fund now stands at a little over \$20,000, administered by three local Trustees. They have already paid some bills; there will be many more needing to be paid to help the twins get a good start in life. Sandra would really like to reach the \$25,000 target.

You can simply donate by putting <https://gofund.me/53430bc1> in your internet browser. If you don't have internet access, ask a friend who has and it is easy to make a donation.

Make a donation today, and ensure these young Barraba people get the support they need.

BARRABA COVID VACCINATION CLINIC

The Royal Flying Doctor Service/Aboriginal Medical Service COVID Clinic last Friday was very well patronised. Well done Barraba!



AGM NOTICE

The Annual General Meeting of the Barraba P A & H Association (Show Committee) will be held at 7 pm on THURSDAY 4 NOVEMBER 2021 at the Barraba Bowling Club. General Meeting will follow. All Welcome.



POSITION VACANT
Marketing &
Livestock
Administration
Officer

At Hart Rural Agencies you can explore the many roles and activities of an industry leader in Australian agribusiness, and enjoy the benefits of a fun and flexible working environment. We have a vacancy for the role of Marketing & Livestock Administration Officer at our Barraba branch.

We are seeking a highly motivated individual to join our team who has proven administration skills, good interpersonal skills, confidence in dealing with clients and suppliers both in-store and by telephone, excellent organisational and computer skills, and the ability to work well within a team environment and without direct supervision.

ABOUT THE ROLE

The successful candidate will be responsible for:

- All marketing & advertising activities of the company in print, digital and events, covering all facets of the business including real estate, livestock, agronomy, rural merchandise and more
- Creating and maintaining an image of technical expertise for the business through promotional events, field days, information days/nights, newsletters, brochures, newspaper and radio advertising
- Sponsorship activities of the company
- Regular website maintenance, social media management and content creation
- Coordinating all livestock sales & purchases paperwork including all administration duties through our own internal systems, as well as current external programs
- Reception & ad hoc duties as required

Applicants should be able to demonstrate:

- The ability to work autonomously and also within a team environment
- Current administration qualifications
- Be well presented, have good computer & communication skills
- Time management & organisational abilities
- Knowledge of the agricultural industry is advantageous but not essential

A competitive salary will be negotiated with the successful applicant.

Enquiries & applications (including references) can be emailed to: barraba@cbhart.com.au or mailed to:

Hart Rural Agencies

Attn: Tracy Walker

PO Box 100

135 Queen Street

Barraba NSW 2347

For more information contact Tracy Walker on 02 6782 1006.

Applications close 5pm on Friday 29th October 2021.



Richardson House

Board Members Wanted

Richardson House has provided Aged Care for the elderly of our community, and employment opportunities for the people of Barraba since 1983.

We need motivated and caring individuals to join our Board to ensure that we can continue to do so for many years to come.

If you are passionate about our elderly receiving exceptional care within their own community, please forward your expression of interest to Phil Kruit admin@pjklaw.com.au by Monday 8th Nov 2021.

Our AGM will be held on Tuesday 16th November 2021 at 5pm



Health
Hunter New England
Local Health District

BARRABA
COVID-19
VACCINATION
CLINIC

Barraba Hospital

Walk in Pfizer Vaccinations

Thursday 28th October 10am to 3:30pm

Monday 22nd November 10am to 3:30pm

- Open to those aged 12 years and over (including 60 years and over)
- Children aged 12 to 15 years MUST be accompanied by a parent/guardian aged over 18 years
- Wear a mask and bring your Medicare Card and ID (licence, student ID)
- First and second doses welcome. If 2nd dose, please have proof of first vaccination

Contact: Barraba Hospital Phone: 67 822500



BARRABA RSL & RECREATIONAL CLUB LTD

Phone: 67821379

For the information of members and guests

WE ARE A COVID-19 SAFE CLUB

ALL NSW HEALTH REGULATIONS APPLY

ALL MEMBERS AND GUESTS MUST SHOW PROOF OF

DOUBLE VACCINATION UPON ENTRY

THIS WEEK:

ALL MEMBERSHIP DRAWS ARE SUSPENDED UNTIL AT

LEAST THE 1ST DECEMBER

THURSDAY: 11AM-

ANGLERS CLUB RAFFLES

MULTISCREEN DRAW-THIS WEEK \$11,700

FRIDAY: 11AM-

MEAT/FRUIT/VEG RAFFLES 6PM

SATURDAY: 10AM-

SUNDAY: 10AM-5.30PM

ANGLERS CLUB RAFFLES 1PM-3PM

MONDAY: CLOSED

TUESDAY: 11AM-5.30PM

BINGO 11.30AM

WEDNESDAY: 11AM-5.30PM

HAPPY HOUR: 11am-1pm Wed & Fri

BISTRO HOURS

Phone 0427330808

CLOSED MON/TUES/WED

THURS/FRI/SAT: LUNCH 12-2PM

DINNER 6-8.00PM

SUNDAY: LUNCH 12-2PM

TAKE-AWAY MEALS STILL AVAILABLE TO THE

UNVAXED

PLEASE RING ORDER THROUGH AND PICK UP AT SIDE DOOR

OF CLUB

DINE AND DISCOVER VOUCHERS ACCEPTED

Spring in Lyn Simpson's Garden



'ALPHA' - AUCTION FRIDAY 12TH NOV 2021



'ALPHA' IO SPLIT ROCK DAM ROAD, UPPER MANILLA

AUCTION

- Alpha is approx. 100 acres located at Upper Manilla, less than 15kms from Manilla
- 150Meg Manilla River WAL, 234Meg Well water licence, 110m lateral pivot irrigator watering 32 Ac, currently 1/2 under established lucerne
- 300m Centre Pivot irrigator watering 35 Acres. Currently into fallow
- Comfortable 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home, with office and screened sunroom with fantastic views across the valley
- 375,000lt Rhino water tank, 24m x 18m 3 bay machinery or hay shed, steel cattle yards, with calf cradle, crush and loading ramp
- Auction to be held 11am Friday 12th Nov 2021 at Manilla Services Club, if not sold prior

Contact: Jacob Hawley 0428 624 493

Christopher Atkinson 0499 851 911

40.18 Ha / 100 Ac

3  2  4 



**WALK WITH SOUNDTRAILS AND
UNEARTH THE SIGNIFICANT
STORIES OF THE LANDSCAPE,
CULTURE AND HISTORY OF NEW
ENGLAND HIGH COUNTRY'S
NATIONAL PARKS.**

The New England High Country (NEHC) tourism group continue to strengthen the destination's nature-based tourism offering with the launch of four new nature Soundtrails in the region's national parks.

Soundtrails are an immersive audio experience delivered through the Soundtrails mobile app, utilising GPS tracking technology to trigger stories on location, connecting listeners emotionally and physically to a place through storytelling.

Deputy Prime Minister and Member for New England, Barnaby Joyce said the four new Soundtrails were made possible thanks to \$230,680 funding from the Regional Tourism Bushfire Recovery Grants, which also include a marketing campaign to promote NEHC Soundtrail experiences and raise awareness of the region.

"These Soundtrails will not only bring visitors to New England, but also provide economic stimulus for our local shops, cafés, pubs and hotels."

Locals and visitors can now experience the four new Soundtrails, including the Wollomombi Falls Soundtrail near Armidale and the Apsley Falls Soundtrail near Walcha, both in Oxley Wild Rivers National Park, along with the Coombadjha Walk Soundtrail in Washpool National Park east of Glen Innes and the Bald Rock National Park Soundtrail north-east of Tenterfield. To listen to the new national park Soundtrails simply download the Soundtrails app to your smart device (available from the App Store or Google Play), select the Soundtrail you would like to experience, once on location follow the map trail in the app and GPS will track your device, triggering stories as you walk along the trail.

The stories can be listened to remotely by selecting the shaded areas on the map.

Walcha Council Tourism Manager, Susie Crawford said, "These national park Soundtrails capture and preserve the unique local stories, and historical, geographical and cultural significance of four of our region's popular nature trails and provide an opportunity to educate listeners in an interactive, modern way.

They offer a 'Ranger in your Pocket' experience; hearing stories from scientists, elders, rangers and artists providing a greater point of interest for the visitor.

We are excited for regional travel to open up so we can welcome visitors across Australia back to our region and they can visit these incredible locations and experience Soundtrails in person," Ms Crawford said.

Find out more about Soundtrails, visit the NEHC Website:

<https://www.newenglandhighcountry.com.au/our-stories/soundtrails>



University of New England on Track to Deliver Tamworth Campus

Member for Tamworth Kevin Anderson has welcomed news that the University of New England (UNE) is progressing plans to establish a new campus in Tamworth with confirmation that UNE can assign Commonwealth funding received under the Job Ready Graduates Package reform to support this important project.

Mr Anderson said \$26.6 million from the NSW Government's Growing Local Economies fund has been committed to the project and the green light given following a \$10 million Commonwealth-supported commitment from UNE to the new campus.

"I am thrilled that this project has progressed to this stage and next steps can now begin towards delivering a university campus for Tamworth. Our city needs a vibrant new campus with multi-purpose facilities to support teaching, research and collaboration," Mr Anderson said.

"The construction of the campus will create new jobs in our region and once built, will educate a workforce and drive innovation in sectors critical to the future growth and prosperity of Tamworth and wider region."

"The campus will be designed to accommodate tailored higher education opportunities to benefit our community and students will have the opportunity to be taught locally while participating and learning on the job."

Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW Paul Toole said the NSW Government is committed to boosting regional NSW with transformative infrastructure like the UNE Tamworth campus.

"The new campus will mean Tamworth residents can study close to home and continue to live and work in their community, keeping their skills in the local workforce and ensuring they don't have to travel for hours to study," Mr Toole said.

"We are continuing to work with communities to invest record amounts of money into infrastructure and services, so more people can realise the potential of our regions, and the UNE Tamworth campus is a prime example of that."

I commend the collaborative approach adopted by UNE, the NSW and Commonwealth Governments and Tamworth Regional Council to progress this important project."

The \$500 million Growing Local Economies Fund is part of the NSW Government's commitment to the delivery of infrastructure projects that improve the economic growth and productivity of the state under Restart NSW.

Growing Local Economies is one of the programs in the \$2 billion Regional Growth Fund, which is delivering the economic, infrastructure and lifestyle improvements that make regional NSW a great place to live, work and play. For more information, visit: www.nsw.gov.au/regionalgrowth



Visit the Fuller Gallery and browse for that unique gift for someone special or get in early and start your Christmas shopping.

We're live on the web
Now you can get the local news updated more frequently by going to
www.barrabacommunitynews.org.au

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I am making you aware that I will be again nominating for a position on Tamworth Regional Council. Together we have achieved a lot and there is still more to be done.

I believe it is important that we have representation out of Tamworth. I have endeavoured to represent not only the smaller communities, but the whole Region. Again I will be asking for your support, and thanking everyone that has supported me for the last five years.

Regards Jim Maxwell.



Catherine Bennett Chair in Epidemiology, Deakin University

Australia's international borders to reopen from November. It's one big step towards living with COVID

"Australia will be ready for takeoff very soon" said Prime Minister Scott Morrison as he [announced](#) the ban on international travel will be lifted some time next month.

Returning Australian citizens and permanent residents will be able to quarantine at home for seven days if fully vaccinated with a TGA-approved vaccine.

The recognised vaccines include those already approved for use in Australia by Pfizer, AstraZeneca, Moderna and Johnson and Johnson/Janssen, as well as Sinovac and Covishield (Covishield is AstraZeneca's vaccine made in India).

Unvaccinated returnees will still need to enter managed hotel quarantine for 14 days until Australia moves beyond Phase C of the National Plan.

Those who can't be vaccinated, including young children and those with a medical exemption, will be counted as vaccinated for travel.

Arrival caps will also be abolished for fully vaccinated returnees.

Today's announcement is one big step towards allowing vaccinated Australians to return home soon, as we move to a future that somewhat resembles pre-COVID life.

Is seven days enough?

Home quarantine trials in South Australia and New South Wales will answer this question.

Authorities will be testing returnees and the proportion of those who are COVID-positive, as well as when they test positive, will inform decision-making. This will also be monitored on an ongoing basis once we open up and can be adjusted if it turns out a higher than acceptable number of travellers test positive between day seven and fourteen.

Currently, [NSW data](#) tell us less than half of 1% of returnees in hotel quarantine are testing positive. The NSW Surveillance report from August 21 shows only 4% of those positive cases were in fully vaccinated.

The low percentage of returnees who are positive will matter less anyway as Australia progressively moves towards "living with COVID" with a background rate of the virus in the community.

We know fully vaccinated people can still get infected, but at [much lower rates](#). There's also mounting [evidence](#) suggesting their infectious period is shorter than unvaccinated people, so they're less likely to pass the virus on. Importantly, there's now a better than 70% reduction in

risk of having a serious infection requiring hospitalisation in all of the vaccines the [TGA has recognised](#) for international arrivals.



How will we ensure people stay home?

South Australia is currently trialling an app that uses geo-tagged facial recognition software to ensure people stay home during quarantine.

If this app proves successful it might be rolled out across Australia.

It might also include supports for other aspects of compliance, like prompts to get tested, a checklist of symptoms and other ways to check in with returnees.

Random checks by police or ADF personnel have proven home quarantine and isolation have high levels of compliance. Something similar could also be brought in at some point if there were compliance concerns.

One thing that's more difficult to monitor is whether other people come into the house of a person meant to be isolating. The risk of transmission to the visitor is much higher than if the returnee ventured out. But this is the same risk we currently have with isolating close contacts locally.

Ultimately the system will need to rely, in part, on trust. We know Australians are generally very compliant, and many people will be desperate to travel again and reunite with family and friends. The majority will be likely to comply with the requirements to facilitate keeping travel open.

The system will be safe enough — and that's all we need going forward.

What about other household members?

One question yet to be answered is whether everyone else in the house has to quarantine if housing a returned traveller.

With the risk of a fully vaccinated returnee being positive very low, so too is the risk to the household. If they do return a positive test on one of their test days, their household members may also be required to quarantine. [Rapid Antigen Tests](#) might be useful for early detection of infection in these cases.

Another question is whether we will still have offshore screening, [requiring](#) a negative test prior to departure for Australia?

The finer details will emerge and probably change over time as we collect data and manage changing risks. We'll probably start conservatively and then gradually open things up more and more as we learn which components of risk mitigation are proportionate.

Which states will go first?

International travel will open to states and territories gradually [as they reach 80%](#) of over-16s fully vaccinated. So we won't have to wait until all jurisdictions have individually hit the threshold.

Based on vaccination uptake rates, the ACT and NSW will likely be the first to open, followed by Victoria.

Tasmania is still tracking well but other states are lagging behind. Queensland and Western Australia will probably be the last to open their borders.

This is broadly in line with the national plan, but is coming probably a month or two earlier than looked possible in June. Vaccination rates, particularly in NSW, Victoria and the ACT, have been spurred on by significant COVID outbreaks. States are also assessing the distribution of vaccine coverage to ensure there are no parts of the community left behind by the time of opening.

What about travel bubbles?

The Prime Minister flagged potential bubble arrangements with countries like New Zealand where there'd be no quarantine requirements. The list of such countries will likely change over time, depending on circulating variants and country risk profiles.

We're probably heading in the direction of eventually not requiring quarantine for returnees at all, only testing. For now, it's clear we're moving towards a system that manages risks rather than operating with zero risk tolerance.

Will contact tracers be able to cope?

As fully vaccinated people contribute less to transmission and are at less risk of severe COVID-19 symptoms, all states and territories will progressively shift the risk settings that underpin contact tracing. We have used comprehensive contact tracing, casting the epidemiological net wide to ensure not one contact of a case who might have contracted the virus was missed.

The chance of someone being positive drops away the more casual the exposure. Once you no longer have to be fearful of missing even just one case, we can make the net smaller and just trace the people at highest risk.

We might reach a stage where even close contacts just have to get a test, without having to quarantine.

This shift brings with it some risk of cases to the community, but we're likely to have an ongoing, even if low, level of cases in the community. A low rate of introduction across international borders will not materially add to that. It's about managing risk and being much more selective about identifying who's at risk in a highly vaccinated population.

What about new variants from overseas?

Watching what variants are circulating will be a priority and some border rules changes might be needed if new risks are identified. For example, stricter arrangements for people arriving from "high-risk" areas where a particularly worrisome variant has emerged.

The system can be adapted for changing risks. There might be more transmissible variants which emerge, but we also might start using next-generation COVID vaccines which are a better fit for variants and precautions can be dialled down. Being highly vaccinated allows Australia to move away from the ultra-conservative ways we've had to manage the pandemic previously, and allows us to start reopening to the world.

PHIL DENYER
MECHANICAL REPAIRS
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JOEY'S NEWS

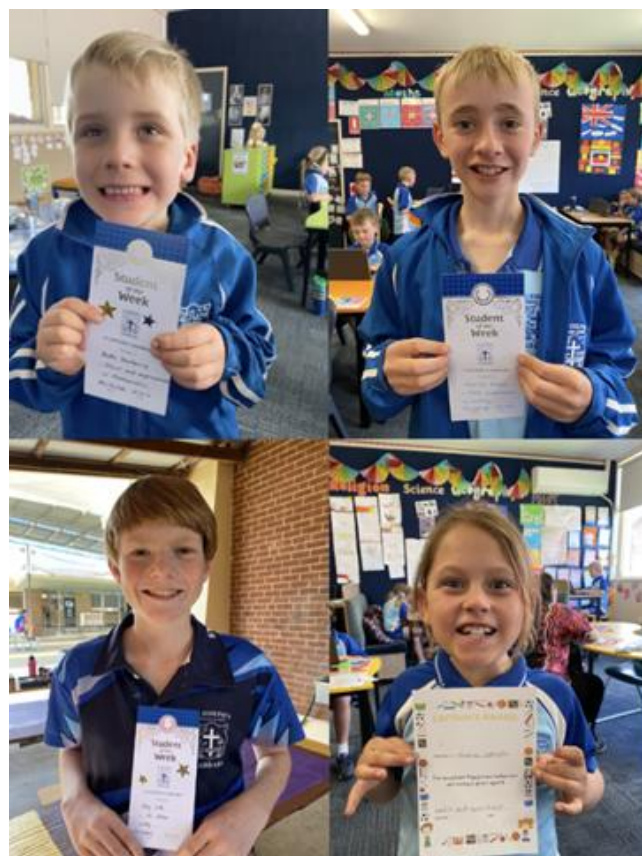
Recently our school community has participated in a survey about life and learning at St Joseph's. Parents, students and staff each completed their own questionnaire. The survey results help us identify goals for improvement. Shortly we will develop our Annual Improvement Plan to guide the school in 2022.

The Year 5/6 class have been working diligently on their production, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. Unfortunately, restrictions mean we are unable to take students to The Playhouse Hotel theatre for rehearsals and performances. We have rescheduled the performance to happen at school on 10 and 11 November. School staff will video the production for the students' families. The younger classes and staff will be the live audience. The students have been working exceptionally hard on bringing their performance together as well as working on sets and props. Thank you to Mrs Shani Marshall who is directing and producing the production, and to Mrs Justine Harris, Mrs Bec Russell and Miss Eleisha Outridge for their assistance with creating props and practising dance routines.



Making props: Becky Lott, Mrs Justine Harris and Alessia Bowman

Congratulations to Josh Anderson who made his First Holy Communion at St John's last weekend. Congratulations also, to the Students of the Week. Well done to Blake Newberry of K/1 for effort and improvement in Mathematics, Hamish Mason in Year 2/3/4 for great improvement in writing and to Henry Groth in Year 5/6 for his creative writing. Congratulations also to Christina Eddington for receiving the Captains' Award.



Clockwise from top left: Blake, Hamish, Henry, Christina

CATHOLIC CHURCH NOTES

Barraba – 1st & 5th Sunday 6pm
2nd 3rd & 4th Sunday 9am.
Upper Horton – 3rd Sunday – 11am.
Weekday Mass – Wednesday - 10am.

Uniting Church Notices

There are no services this Sunday in Barraba

Barraba Anglican Parish

St Laurence's Barraba: Sunday service at 9.00am
Woodsreef: 2nd Sundays at 11.30am
Bereen: 4th Sundays at 6.00pm
Youth Group at Youth Centre: Friday 7.30-9.30pm



History Notes

Well so much for last week's advertisement for the street stall – it has now been

cancelled due to Covid regulations. We will have another attempt next year.

There has been much discussion about the markets at the meeting and the November Markets will not be taking place, once again due to Covid regulations – there could be a lot of visitors and it is difficult to check for double vaccinations on our outdoor site. At present there may be Markets on 4th and again on 18th December when the double vaccination will not be as crucial.

The annual meeting went off well and several memberships were paid. The society managed to post a small profit which is pleasing considering all the disruptions in the last eighteen months. Hopefully the rest of the members will re-join shortly and that the museum will be able to move back to the usual opening times on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

Finally the Bowling Club history has been sent to Jack Thompson's daughter although the actual date of the opening in 1959 has not been found – it was between January and June – possibly early in the year as the official party wore their blazers for the actual opening and from then on they are in short sleeves in the photos of the luncheon that obviously followed.

An old newspaper dated March, 1941, printed the following verse –

*"A delivery that is perfect, is incense to the soul,
Gives Grace to every moment, and joy to every bowl
Now, why reproach? His bowl was bad,
Besides, 'tis premature to curse,
Your own may be a dash sight worse."*

Wise words, for any sport these days.

Members have run out of ideas to find a reference to Lt Col. Bernard Russell French, an English army man, who stayed at Mayvale in the late 1950's. He would have been an elderly gentleman possibly with a connection to the Wilson family but there has not been any reference to him anywhere. Please let the society know if you have any reference to him. Another query re the Brodbeck family is still outstanding – does anyone know where the portraits of the original Brodbeck couple are? – we have a descendant who would like to know that the portraits are safe with a family member of even in another museum. This old couple were grandparents to a lot of children – I think it was 74! There are a lot of descendants around.

Various past Barraba citizens contact us with old photos and information and at present we are in contact with Grahame Barwick who grew up here and worked in the Bank before moving away – he has already sent Carol an interesting photo with all the people named which is a bonus.

Tamworth Hospital Vaccination Clinic

Dean Street, Tamworth

Walk-in Pfizer appointments

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

9am to 12pm and 1.30pm to 3.30pm

Saturday

9am to 1pm

Open to those aged 12 years and over

Children aged 15 years and younger must be accompanied by a parent/guardian aged over 18 years

Walk-in Astra Zeneca appointments (18 years and over)

Wednesday

9am to 12pm and 1.30pm to 3.30pm

Wear a mask and bring your Medicare card and ID (licence, student ID)
If able, pre-register via <http://nswhvam.health.nsw.gov.au/vam>



Travelling between Greater Sydney and Regional NSW will be permitted from 1 November



BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY OWNED AND EDITED

Published by Community College Northern Inland Inc.

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Printed on site at the Community College. Free publication by email or collection from local Barraba main street businesses.



Golf Notes

Dimity McMurtrie (SAND) carded an excellent 25 points to claim this week's twilight competition. Dimity finished 2 points ahead of Chris Sweeney (Bogey Men) and Josh Austin (Burglars) both 23 with Daniel Etheridge (Yea Nah) 21, Gary Allen (6666) 21, Chris Oxford (Burglars) 20, Campbell Bond (Burglars) 20, Ben Spencer (Yellowstone Fever) 20, Adam Scanlon (Bogey Men) 19, Trent Hartwig (Unreliables) 19, Will Sedgwick (Yellowstone Fever) 19 and Ed Lockrey (Manilla Boys) 19.

In the overall Teams Leaderboard Yellowstone Fever have opened up an early 6 point lead with both Bogey Men and Burglars recording good 2 card scores this week. The Manilla Boys are just sitting off the pace with Lotapign both on 74. Good to see all four players of the Burglars carding good rounds this week.

Team Leaderboard

Yellowstone Fever 83
Burglars 77
Bogey Men 75
Manilla Boys 74
Lotapign 74
Hackers 73
6666 73
Sand 73
Unreliables 72
Geriatrics 71
Golf Creek 71
Yeah Nah 70
Wouldbe Champions 67
Fine Winners 66
Butchers 64
Vintage 64
Worm Burners 62
New and Old 57
AKA 54

In other golf news a good contingent of players travelled to Walcha over

the weekend with Kerrie Smith and Tom Mellor picking up a runner up prize on Saturday in the Walcha Open Mixed Foursomes whilst Josh Austin won the C Grade long drive in Sunday's Walcha Open. A big thankyou to Walcha where the hospitality always makes for an enjoyable day of golf and the course a credit to all involved.

Rifle Club

On Saturday there was a good roll up for both morning and afternoon events. Centrefire had six shooters attend and there was eight for the Benchrest.

The weather was kind to us as there was only a slight breeze but, as usual for this time of year inside the shed was rather hot.

Scores were again up in the 90's for most shooters which is good to see. Congratulations to Brendan and Darren who once again shot possibles, with Brendan shooting two in the 100m and Darren one in the 100m and in Centrefire.

Andrew and John were close with both shooting 99's and Casey not far behind with a 98. Garry, Ron and Dallas were all up there in the high 90's as well.

We have added a couple of shoots to our calendar to cover those missed in lockdown, they will be on the 13th & 20th of November and Handguns will be 14th & 21st November.

Also our next meeting will be held at the range on the 6th November and will be our last one for 2021. Just a reminder that subs are now overdue and an Audit will be done mid-November and all members must be financial. Also just a reminder that you must be double vaccinated to enter the range as per NSW Health.

Unlimited 50m

B. McIlrick 100.5, 97.3, 96.5 = 293.13
D. McIlrick 96.3, 90.3, 87.1 = 237.7

AA Grade 50m

D. Dewson 90.1, 97.2, 94 = 281.3
G. Urquhart 81, 9.3, 94.4 = 265.8
R. Bridges 73, 82.1, 86.3 = 241.4

A Grade 50m

A. White 97.3, 96.1, 93.4 = 286.8
C. Wells 82, 86.4, 85.1 = 253.5

B. Grade 50m

J. Moloney 99.3, 87, 91 = 277.3

Unlimited 100m

B. McIlrick 100.3, 97.5, 100.4 = 297.12
D. McIlrick 95.3, 94.1, 83 = 262.4

AA Grade 50m

D. Dewson 100.3, 99.3, 98.2 = 297.8
R. Bridges 96.5, 93, 94.3 = 283.8
G. Urquhart 97.2, 88, 90.2 = 275.4

A Grade 50m

A. White 97.3, 98.4, 99.4 = 294.11
C. Wells 92.1, 98.6, 89.1 = 279.8

B. Grade 50m

J. Moloney 93.1, 95.2, 92.3 = 280.6

Centrefire

D. Dewson 97.3, 100.6, 97.5 = 294.14
B. McIlrick 93.2, 97.4 96.2 = 286.8
D. McIlrick 93, 93.2, 89.2 = 275.4
M. Conway 78, 87, 74 = 239
J. Moloney 76, 84, 73 = 233

Regional Dam Levels from Water NSW

Chaffey 100.4%

Copeton 85.8%

Keepit 99.7%

Split Rock 46.2%



YOUR SHORTCUT TO... THE JAPANESE IMPERIAL FAMILY'S WOMEN PROBLEM

In Japan, a royal wedding scheduled for next week has caused quite the stir. The Emperor's niece is marrying a commoner, which means she's out of the family. It's highlighted the challenge the Imperial Family have because only men can inherit the throne, and they are running out of them. So in this Squiz Shortcuts, we take you through:

- the history behind the oldest continuous hereditary monarchy in the world;
 - how the Imperial House of Japan works;
 - and the background to Princess Mako's wedding that has put the family in the spotlight once again.
- Let's kick this off - we're all over the British royals. But Japan's royals - not so much...**

So let's get our terms right: the Imperial House of Japan is also referred to as the Imperial Family. It recognises 126 monarchs, from Emperor Jimmu who kicked things off in 660 BC and that continues up to the current emperor, Naruhito.

That's one impressive family tree. So how did Emperor Jimmu come to found the Imperial dynasty?

As with these things, there's a fair bit of legend attached... Jimmu is the ruling family of Japan's link to the divine ancestors. He is said to have been a descendant of the sun goddess Amaterasu, and he married a descendant of the storm god Susanoo. Emperor Jimmu is credited with battling local warlords to bring order to the land.

That's a lot of history...

And Japan is the only modern nation to still refer to the head of its royal family as 'Emperor' - locally he is

called Tennō, or "heavenly sovereign," which is a nod to the notion that he is descended from gods.

You say 'he'...

Yep, so unlike other hereditary monarchies around the world, women can not inherit the throne. The Emperor's unmarried legitimate daughters and unmarried legitimate granddaughters are excluded when they marry because that can only occur outside the Imperial Family.

So not a lot has changed in... forever?

That's not true. A lot changed with Japan's defeat against the Allies in WWII. Emperor Hirohito was on the throne at the time, and how involved he was in formulating Japan's expansionist policies is a matter of debate. But under the country's new constitution drafted by the US after the war, Japan became a constitutional monarchy.

Which means...

Power was given to the people, and the emperor's powers were severely curtailed.

How did that change things?

He became a national figurehead, and Emperor Hirohito began to make public appearances and the family permitted the publication of pictures and stories about their personal lives. That was something that hadn't been done before.

Also breaking with tradition was Hirohito's son Crown Prince Akihito marrying a commoner...

Yep, that was in 1959. He became Emperor in 1989 after Hirohito died. Akihito and his wife Shōda Michiko had 3 children, including Crown Prince Naruhito. He was born 1960.

What happened to Akihito?

He abdicated in 2019. That was another thing that hadn't been done before - before then, death was the only way out.

So Naruhito's now the top guy?

Naruhito is the emperor, his wife Masako is the Empress, and they have a daughter Aiko, who is 19yo.

But Princess Aiko can't inherit the throne, right?

Right. And the debate about the future of the family has heated up in recent times as yet another princess is set to leave the family to marry a commoner.

Who dat?

Princess Mako. She's the eldest daughter of Naruhito's brother, Crown Prince Fumihito, who is first in line to the throne should something happen to Naruhito.

Who is she marrying?

A commoner, her longtime boyfriend Kei Komuro. And there have been years of controversy over their relationship...

Gimme the goss...

The crux of the drama centres around Komuro's mother's financial problems - she had reportedly taken a loan from her ex-fiancé and not paid him back. So Komuro was sort of painted like a bit of a gold digger by the media. That's been hard to shake, and it has seen their wedding significantly delayed.

Mud sticks, eh?

It sure does. The couple is looking to move to the US once they are married, where Komuro works as a lawyer. All of that has led to them being dubbed the 'Harry and Meghan of Japan'.

But the wedding's on track to go ahead?

Yep, and on Tuesday next week (26 October), it's all systems go. That will see Princess Mako give up her royal status, like the women before her.

Do they give her a farewell present?

She is entitled to a dowry worth 150 million yen (about AU\$1.5 million), but reports say Princess Mako will forgo it - royal watchers reckon she

has given it up to put that issue about money to bed.

So who is next in line to inherit the throne?

As we mentioned, it's Naruhito's brother, Crown Prince Fumihito. Then it's Fumihito's 14yo son Hisahito. After that, it's Naruhito's 85yo uncle.

That's not much of a business model...

No. And to zoom out a bit: there are 18 members of the Imperial Family, 7 are aged under 40yo, and just one is male.

So why not change the rules to allow women to become ruling empress?

That's one of the questions that has bubbled to the surface with Princess Mako's wedding.

What's the other question?

Whether to allow males born to women from the Imperial Family to inherit the throne. That would mean women are permitted to remain in the household after marrying "commoners".

Got you. So how are those sorts of things considered?

A panel of experts was recently appointed by the government, and they will hold "careful discussions" on a range of options.

And isn't Japan heading to a general election at the end of the month?

It is, so this debate is in the churn of all that. But it could be a popular one for political leaders to embrace with polling showing support for change. In a recent poll, 87% were broadly supportive of a reigning empress, while 80% said males from the family's maternal line should be allowed to become emperor.

So, you never know...

You never know, but it's a lot of history to cast off...



Nominations opened for candidates running in the 2021 Local Government Election on **Monday 25 October, 2021** and close on **Wednesday 3 November, 2021**. The ballot paper draw will be on **Thursday 4 November 2021** and be conducted by the returning officer.



The mobile NSW Breast-Screen will be in Barraba from the 11 to 17 November.
Book now 132050

Barraba 7 day Forecast from the Bureau of Meteorology

Wednesday 27 Oct 

Summary Max 29

Mostly sunny

Chance of rain: 0%

Thursday 28 Oct 

Summary Min 11 Max 32

Showers, possible storm

Chance of any rain: 50%

Friday 29 Oct 

Summary Min 17 Max 26

Showers, possible storm

Chance of any rain: 80%

Saturday 30 Oct 

Summary Min 13 Max 27

Showers, possible storm

Chance of rain: 60%

Sunday 31 Oct 

Summary Min 7 Max 24

Mostly sunny

Chance of any rain: 20%

Monday 1 Nov 

Summary Min 7 Max 27

Mostly sunny

Chance of any rain: 20%

Tuesday 2 Nov 

Summary Min 8 Max 27

Partly cloudy

Chance of any rain: 30%