



FREE LOCAL NEWSPAPER

BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY OWNED AND EDITED

Wednesday 1st December 2021

Invitation

Are you interested in helping design future town signage and entrances?

We are seeking invested community members to take part in our focus groups

- **Barraba, Tuesday 7 Dec:**
5.30pm – 6.30pm

Can't come in person but want to be involved?
Attend a workshop via Zoom on Thursday 9 December at
12pm – 1pm or 7.30pm – 8.30pm

Tamworth
REGIONAL COUNCIL

www.tamworth.nsw.gov.au | Tamworth Regional Council,
PO Box 555, 437 Peel Street, Tamworth, NSW, 2340

Register please







Barraba Central School

World's Biggest Debate

We were very excited to be a part of the World's Biggest Debating Challenge on Tuesday 9 November 2021. Sienna Hain and Jasmine Coombes were amazing representatives for our School Debating Teams, arguing for and against the never-ending topic that "Kids should not have homework".

It was the first time running a debate in this manner and it was a great opportunity to compete against other schools from all around that state using the online ZOOM platform.

Congratulations on your amazing effort girls and thank you to the Debating team for the fantastic support with planning and rebuttals. Well done!



L-R: Sienna Hain and Jasmine Coombes



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 WILL RESUME ON THE
7th JANUARY 2022**

THURSDAY: 11AM-

MULTISCREEN DRAW-THIS WEEK \$15,200

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



CLEARING SALE

"TABLE TOP" Barraba

A/C JJ & CE Hartley (Property Sold)

Saturday 4th December 2021

Commencing 11am

INCLUDING: McCormack MB.85HP Tractor (2007 mod) with folks, hay spikes, bucket, 2545 hrs - 1986 Isuzu SBR T/Top 6 tonne truck. Reg PVV508 - Cattle crate to fit 5.5x2.5 - 1985 Landcruiser unreg - John Shearer 17 tyne Scarifier - Yeamans 9 tyne chisel plow - 5' 3PL Slasher - 3PL single tyne Ripper - MF 3PL Grader Blade - MF Post hole Digger - 3PL Super Spreader - Lincoln tractor pack welder generator - Single reel quick spray - Small fiberglass tank - Molasses tank - 18' Boom spray - 7 large square bale hay feeders - 4 round bale feeders - 4 rubber belting feed troughs - Grain feed out bin for ute - 2 Grain bins - 2x Grain feeder, 1x5 tonne 1x2 tonne - 6 cattle yard gates - Ute crate - 4 Rolls rubber belting - Saw bench - Qty Brown built shelving lockers - Wire cable, Qty netting, Droppers & steel posts - Ling lock - 2 Calf Cradles - Cattle crush - Large tarp, 8m Augar - Weld max SWF Mig welder - 14 lths 4" Gal pipe - 15 lths 6x2 qty steel - 1 tonne chain block - Electric meat saw - Welding table - Butchering equip - Round steel wool table - Wooden wool table - Delta Hyd Wool Press - Oscar spray race - Sunbeam o/h shearing stand - Lamb marking cradle - Rega Jetting pump - 15' Pongrass boat 50HP Mercury Motor - Quantity old railway line - 4 Bay 21' High x 30' wide x 80' long shed frame - Plus lots more, too numerous to mention.

A/C Other Vendors: New Holland 658 Round baler has baled 37,000 bales - Husqvarna YTH2042 Ride on lawn mower - Kids Yamaha 110 Motor bike - Bale head - Cattle yard gates and steel - Ford Tip Truck Perkins motor. New starter motor, rebuilt brake cylinder, has grain & gravel bin - Polaris Hawkeye 2x4 Quad Bike

Covid rules will apply

Cash or approved cheque at sale, Number system will apply plus GST

Light luncheon available by Barraba Lions Club

Direction - 10km from Barraba on Bingara Rd. Turn at

Bowen Stud Sign and follow Sale signs for about 10 kms

Further particulars contact selling agent Pollock & Cummins Pty Ltd Barraba & Gunnedah 6742 1008

Leon Cummins 0428 821 661

Vendor John Hartley 0458 489 210



Queen Street Café

82a Queen St. Barraba

Ph 0267822106

Dine in or takeaway.

Open 7 days



Girl's Day Out

Saturday 4th December 9am - 2pm

Bring a friend & have a day of discount shopping, lucky door prizes, food & fun.

Participating businesses: Polkadot, Universal Catering Equipment, Frocks & Locks, Babes in the Bush, Barraba Pharmacy, A Little Twisted, Tiny 2Toddler, Cobbadah Flowers, Rita Mae, Liberty Foodcare, Playhouse Hotel, Claypan, Jenny Botha.



Across the Desk from the Relieving Principal Kirsty Ebzery

The school celebrated a Remembrance Day ceremony across both sites on 11 November 2021. It was unfortunate due to COVID-19 restrictions that we were unable to invite guests to attend this event. The school honoured and remembered our service members' achievements, courage and their dedication to country and line of duty and to say thank you for their sacrifices by organising a commemorative garden composing a Lone Pine which is a direct descendant of a pine cone collected from a Turkish trench by an Australian soldier following the battle of Lone Pine at Gallipoli in August 1915. The garden was constructed by Shane Maloney, Luke Davis and Sam Maloney. To accompany the Lone Pine garden, the school worked with Justin Fox from Fox in the Woods Timber and Phillip Pitt from New England Engraving to erect a Remembrance Day bench and plaque. To the many who were involved in the planning and organising of this wonderful tribute for our past and present service members we thank you and congratulate you on your amazing efforts and contribution to school. It was wonderful to witness staff and students commemorate and honour all who have served Australia in times of war.

NSW COVID-19 UPDATE

Sunday 28 November 2021

94.5%

first dose in
16+ NSW population

92.4%

second dose in
16+ NSW population

54,150

tests in last 24 hours

81.3%

first dose in
12-15 NSW population

76.5%

second dose in
12-15 NSW population

185

total new cases

165

in hospital

24

in ICU

0

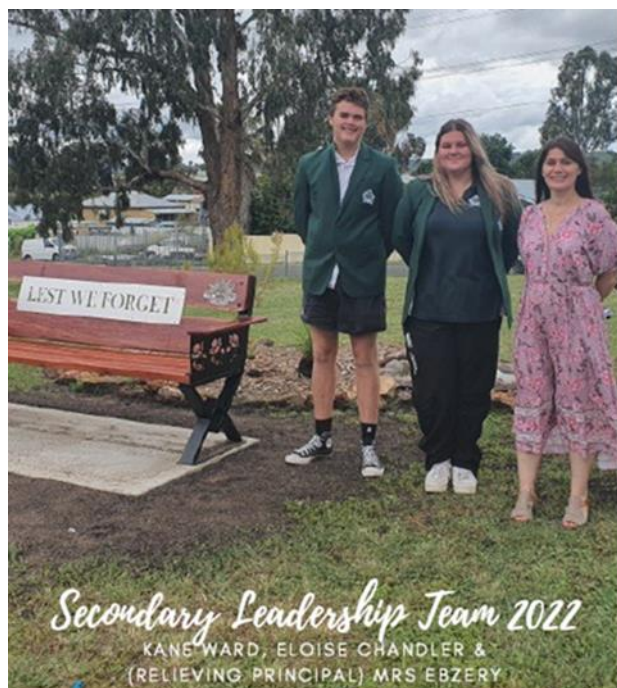
deaths



Primary Leadership Team - Curtis Rixon and Sienna Hain



Cobbadah Flowers
Marnie Crowley
0267822045
0429878788



Secondary Leadership Team 2022 - Kane Ward, Eloise Chandler and Kirsty Ebzery (Relieving Principal)

Both primary and secondary staff are busily organising end of year events such as Presentation Day, student fun days and graduation dinners. The primary will be coordinating a Fun day – slime run on Tuesday 14 December for the students; I suspect students will thoroughly enjoy being slimed. The secondary will be coordinating a Fun Day afternoon at Barraba Pool on Friday 10 December. Students are reminded to slip slop slap (Slip on a shirt, Slop on sunscreen and Slap on a hat). The infants and primary Presentation Day will be held on Monday 13 December at 9:30am on the primary site under the cola. The secondary Presentation Day will be held on the same day at 11:30am at the secondary site. We ask all our families to follow the guidelines as stated by the COVID-19 public health orders. Information regarding parent attendance at the Presentation Day event will be distributed via our social media platforms and written communication as the date approaches.

Week 8 saw disruption to staff and students on the secondary site; the deluge of rainfall created a situation involving flooding to the main electrical board; shutting down power, communications and the internet. To ensure the safety of staff and students, a decision was made to make the school non-operational for one day on Tuesday 23 November 2021 until power and communications could be restored to both sites. Secondary students were relocated to the primary site on Wednesday 24 November. With the electricians and plumbers working tirelessly the secondary site was able to return to normal operations on Thursday 25

November. I appreciate parent/carers patience and cooperation with this matter and I'd like to thank all the staff and students for your flexibility and adaptation to the extraordinary circumstances as I know how difficult it can be to coordinate such a change in routine with minimal notice. You are all exceptional and proactive in how you all managed this situation.

On 16 and 17 November, 11 students from years 9 and 10 completed the General Induction Training in Construction (known as the White Card). Students receive qualifications enabling them to work on a construction site, opening opportunities in the future so they can partake in work placement or work experience as well as learning valuable knowledge and skills in maintaining Work Health & Safety that applies to all workplaces.

Students from years 3, 5, 7 & 9 completed the school readiness test (SRT) in preparation for NAPLAN Online in 2022. SRT was an opportunity for schools to set up and run simulated tests to become familiar with the online assessment platform and reflect on areas that may need to be addressed ahead of moving online in 2022.

An Information Package and Book pack will be provided to all Year 6 students who are transitioning into year 7 at BCS in week 10 this term. Mrs Lowe has been busy organising the Year 6 Graduation Dinner for Thursday 9 December 2021 commencing at 5:30pm at the Barraba Bowling Club. The invitation is extended to Year 6 students and their parents only. All students will need to be accompanied by one parent/carers each of whom will need to provide proof of double vaccination. I wish Year 6 a memorable graduation night dinner and wish them the very best for their transition to Year 7 and Secondary education.

Year 5 will be participating in future leader's meetings with myself on Wednesday 1 December in preparation for the Leadership speeches on Thursday 2 December. The expectations for future leaders is the ability to uphold the school values of safe respectful learners. Students demonstrate this by being a positive role model in the school, following the school rules, showing a willingness to assist students and staff, wearing the full school uniform and attending meetings as required. Good luck to those who are wishing to be considered for the role of school captains in Year 6 for 2022.

Peter and Scott (Rusted Tin - Contemporary Aboriginal Artist) will be returning to BCS on Wednesday 15 December 2021 to complete the mural on the secondary and primary sites. Peter returned to BCS on Wednesday and Thursday of week 6 to work with students to start the mural on the secondary

site. This was a wonderful opportunity for all students to be immersed in aboriginal culture, art, and education.

There has been a change of date for the Year 12 Graduation Dinner. It will be held on Wednesday 15 December 2021 at The Playhouse Hotel in Barraba. This change in date coincides with the possible easing of COVID-19 Public Health orders restrictions. The event will commence with photos in the courtyard at 6:30pm. Invitations have been sent on the 25 November via post and email. Please RSVP by Wednesday 1 December 2021. We look forward to celebrating the conclusion of year 12's secondary education, their achievements and completion of the HSC exams. We are so proud of you and we wish you all the best for your future endeavours.

'Success doesn't come from what you do occasionally, it comes from what you do consistently.' – a quote by Marie Foleo

Kirsty Ebzery Relieving Principal



PREPOLL VOTING CENTRES

Barraba – Tamworth Regional Council

Council Office, Queen St Barraba.

Bingara – Gwydir Shire Council.

Roxy foyer, Bingara.

ELECTION DAY VOTING SATURDAY 4 DECEMBER 2021

TAMWORTH REGIONAL COUNCIL

BARRABA: Barraba Bicentennial Centre

Bridge Street, Barraba

Saturday, 4 December 2021 8.00am - 6.00pm

GWYDIR SHIRE COUNCIL

UPPER HORTON: Upper Horton Hall

Cobbadah Street, Upper Horton

Saturday, 4 December 2021 8.00am - 6.00pm

BINGARA: Roxy Theatre

74 Maitland St Bingara

Saturday, 4 December 2021 8.00am - 6.00pm

Barraba Show Girl 2021

If you are a young lady aged between 15 to 17 years or 18 to 24 years, please contact Kelly Brown or Bindy Abell to enter into the 2021 Barraba Showgirl competition.

The Showgirl Competition aims to find a young female between 18-24 years of age to be an 'Ambassador for Barraba' and the agricultural show movement. The winning Showgirl of each local Show Society is selected by a panel of three judges and remains Showgirl until the next year's Show. Her role involves many official and informal duties locally such as public speaking throughout the year and presenting prizes for winners at the Barraba Show.

The competition is not a beauty pageant. Entrants are judged on personality, confidence, ambition and life goals, general knowledge, rural knowledge, community involvement, presentation and speech.

Entrants will be special guests at the Barraba Show Weekend 4th - 6th March 2022 and the winner will represent the Barraba Show Society and the Barraba District at the Zone 4 judging on the 19th February 2022 in Wee Waa.

If you are interested, please contact Kelly Brown or Bindy Abell for more information.



History Notes

The historical society has been rather quiet this week – no new enquiries. We remind those members who have not paid their membership for 2021/22 to please do so.

As most members would know we were proposing to have a Christmas gathering over a finger food lunch on 22nd December. This date has proved to be impossible for a number of people and so it has been decided to try for the 15th December, a couple of days before the markets - please let us know – Carol or Margaret – your thoughts on this date.

There is usually someone at the museum on Friday morning so if the gate is open there will be someone in the Dean Room – mostly deep in the old newspapers.

The Gulf Creek file has revealed a little more about the Oldham family as they are listed there in 1897 – William, his third wife MaryAnn, and youngest daughter, Elizabeth, are listed on a petition. It is also noted that he had an account at the local store in 1904, so the hunt is on to find the Gulf Creek Store Account Book which is in the collection somewhere.

Also while checking the Gulf Creek records there is the story about an athletic carnival. A 100 yard dash was won by Charles Mallise and a shorter race was won by Vera Mallise. There was also a “throwing down the wicket” competition, broom throwing and a children’s potato race. It must have been quite a fun day.



In Memoriam

James Oscar Rodger

4.12.1927 – 5.12.2020

You live on in the hearts of those you left behind and will remain a part of our lives forever.
Loved and remembered every day.

Bev, David, Phillip, Michael,
Layne, Brandon, Reggae
and Lachie.

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

Sunday 8.30am for 8.45am start
All welcome

Barraba Anglican Parish

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

Snippets from St Laurence’s

As we approach the holiday season please remember that Youth Freed is still meeting on Friday evenings at 7.30pm and that there is a service at St Laurence’s each Sunday morning even when there is a service elsewhere later in the day.

On Sunday 19th December a Christmas service will be held at Woodsreef at 11.30am and at Bereen at 6pm. On Christmas Eve there will be carols at the Youth Centre from 5pm (followed by a sausage sizzle, pancakes and craft activities) and the “midnight” service will begin at 11pm. On Christmas Day there will be a service at 9am and on Boxing Day the service will be at 9am.

The church office will be closed from Christmas Day till 16th January. CMS Summer School is on at Mt Tambourine from 7th to 12th and the Scotts Head Youth Camp is also on again.

Meanwhile, we have a working bee on Saturday, 11th December, and Parish Council meet after service on 12th. Where has the year gone?

This week, remember these words from John’s Gospel, chapter 3, verses 16 and 17: “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.”

Catch up with past History Notes, previous editions of Barraba Community News and other news and sport items you may have missed by going to:

www.barrabacommunitynews.org.au

A Spring Garden with Shirley Simmons



Tamworth Regional Council Election

About the Candidates

About the Issues for Barraba

On Friday 19th November 'News' emailed the following four questions to all TRC candidates requesting responses by Friday 26th November for inclusion in this week's *Barraba Community News*.

- 1) Looking at TRC region, as a whole, what do you consider are the 3 most important priorities?
- 2) If someone mentions "Barraba" what are the 3 things you immediately associate with our town and district?
- 3) Since you nominated for Council, how many times have you visited Barraba?
- 4) Based on your knowledge of Barraba, what are the 3 things you think TRC should prioritise to improve the services and amenity of our town?

The following candidates did not respond by the time we went to publication; BURKE Bede, TICKLE Helen, BETTS Phil, WEBB Russell, THOMAS Marjolijn, SUTHERLAND Marc, IMPEY Charles, RINDO Sergio, LAWLER Michael, HUGHES Laura.

The responses from those candidates who did reply are printed, in alphabetical order, over the following pages.

A representative of the 'Grouped Labor Candidates' sent a response on behalf of the Group. In addition, 2 of the Labor Candidates sent an individual response which has been printed under their name.

Several candidates send additional information which has been included in this edition of 'News'.

A representative of *News* attended the 'Meet the Candidates' Forum' on Wednesday 24th November. The report of the meeting follows;

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS – "Meet the Candidates" Forum

Last Wednesday evening the Barraba Bowling Club was the venue for a "Meet the Candidates" Forum. There are nineteen hopeful candidates who have nominated for the nine member Tamworth Regional Council – elections are being held this Saturday 4 December. Voting is compulsory – so who are our prospective Councillors?

Every candidate present spoke for three minutes, and then each was invited to answer two questions drawn from a hat. The written questions had come from local Barraba residents. The format was the same as happened a few days previously in Tamworth and devised by Bryan O'Connor, the

Executive Director of the Tamworth Business Chamber. Barraba's Forum was very ably chaired by Trent Hartwig of "About Barraba", who kept everyone to the strict timetable, and kept everyone on message. After the formal proceedings, there was ample opportunity for local residents to meet the candidates over a drink or dinner, and discuss policies and local issues.

The evening was a great success. Of the nineteen candidates for Council (listed in last week's "Barraba Community News"), fifteen were there at the Barraba Bowling Club, forcefully putting their case for our vote. There were more than thirty local residents in the auditorium; discussions with the hopefuls went well into the night.

A common theme in the presentations was how to represent the concerns of the small communities like Barraba, against the larger, louder concerns of the majority in Tamworth. Suggestions such as sometimes holding the regular fortnightly council meeting in the smaller centres, and of increasing staff and the functions of the local office (including employing local based staff) were put. Towards the end of the formal proceedings, there seemed to be some consensus reached among the candidates that the most effective way to communicate Barraba community needs to the Council would be by re-establishing the 335 Committees. A 335 Committee, chaired by an elected Councillor, with a majority of local residents, should meet on a fixed regular basis, and formally report back to Council Meetings.

Water security for Barraba was an important theme. Current Councillors assured local residents that the current allocation was set in concrete, but there were questions of supply if a pipeline was built between Tamworth, the Namoi river, and Split Rock Dam. There were also questions of priority of supply if the community was successful in attracting some large scale industry (such as a poultry farm). Who has priority for the limited supply?

Amongst the candidates there were some fresh faces. The youngest candidate, Marc Sutherland, a Tamworth Aboriginal man, who works with young people. Chris Buckman, who works in the disability field, and has a disability himself. Marjolijn Thomas, who was born overseas, but has been in Tamworth for three decades and established a family and business here.

More information about the candidates can be found in this newspaper, and on the NSW Electoral Commission Website.

INDIVIDUAL CANDIDATE RESPONSES FOLLOW

Chris Buckman

Good morning and thank you for your questions I appreciate the opportunity to provide my views

1) *Looking at TRC region, as a whole, what do you consider are the 3 most important priorities?*

1. To deliver transparency in the decision making processes and to drive engagement with all of the residents.

2. Ensure water security and the cost of water is maintained at an acceptable level with oversight and lobbying provided by council to ensure our needs are met

2) *If someone mentions "Barraba" what are the 3 things you immediately associate with our town and district?*

1 the pool

2 the painted silos and its tourism value

3 a strong community spirit

3) *Since you nominated for Council, how many times have you visited Barraba?*

4 times

4) *Based on your knowledge of Barraba, what are the 3 things you think TRC should prioritise to improve the services and amenity of our town?*

1 bring the crown Jewel your pool back up to its former gold standard

2 re introduce the 355 committee structure to ensure the views of the community are properly considered

3. Work with the community to drive economic growth to provide jobs and deliver support to develop low cost housing options.

Thanks for getting in touch If I am elected on December 4 I will be committing to deliver to all residents of the TRC region and I look forward to continuing to visit the Barraba region regularly

Kind Regards

Chris Buckman

Judy Coates

1. *Looking at TRC region, as a whole, what do you consider are the 3 most important priorities?*

• First: sustainability of our natural environment and resources (includes water)

• Second: ensuring housing availability is enabled through efficient and timely, compliant development with appropriate zoning.

• Third: continuing the development of sporting, recreation, arts and cultural facilities and events, as part of attracting and retaining services to the region.

• The planning, development and successful execution of major projects in Tamworth is an integral part of maintaining the prosperity of the entire region. It is the hub not just for

the TRC, but also for the greater New England-North West region.

• We need to bring tourists, visitors and potential residents to the region AND then ensure we promote our small towns and villages by highlighting what they have to offer.

2. *If someone mentions "Barraba" what are the 3 things you immediately associate with our town and district?*

• Leafy main street – shady parking! They soften the landscape, creating a welcoming feel.

• Silos and wall art. Can't wait to see more of these. I am hoping that the proposed new one in the "Mall" area will have the exposure it deserves, as it will be partially covered by the beautiful big tree that sits in the space. Some thought needs to go into how both can coexist.

• Friendly, helpful people selling great product; be it clothing, arts and crafts, food, meals, accommodation, etc.

• Barraba Playhouse (sorry that makes 4) and the events it offers.

• It doesn't matter what it is that brings visitors to the town, so long as they come. The other attractions that are there will mean it becomes a destination, benefiting all.

3. *Since you nominated for Council, how many times have you visited Barraba?*

• I have visited Barraba on 2 occasions since nominating for Council on November 3.

The first was on Tuesday 9th November and the second on Wednesday 17th November. On each of these occasions I met with different members of the community to discuss what was happening for them and their community.

• Interestingly I was very pleased when I attended the "Meet the Candidates" on Wednesday 24/11 most of the questions that were asked of the candidates were very similar to the topics I had discussed with residents during my visits. This made me extremely happy in that I felt my communications (Look, Listen, Learn) had been successful.

4. *Based on your knowledge of Barraba, what are the 3 things you think TRC should prioritise to improve the services and amenity of our town?*

• The common theme that arose from my interaction was that Barraba people feel like they are "at the end of the line". Many acknowledge that although amalgamation (many years ago) was "painful" in that they lost their autonomy, they realised that it was necessary from an economic perspective and for their survival as a community.

• Some of those that I spoke with stated they are also aware that they are considered "whingers", but explained that they felt they weren't being heard and therefore kept asking. They added that in their opinion some of the basic services had declined since the amalgamation. And although it was a "saviour" it was associated with many sacrifices.

- What are the 3 things that TRC should prioritise? a) Improved communication. I suggested and discussed that smaller communities could “adopt a councillor” (or vice versa). And I am aware that there have been 355 committees and CDC in the past, and a council representative would attend as needed. The aim would be to provide a conduit to council on issues not being heard, acknowledged or addressed, after the normal channels were exhausted. b) Aesthetics and impact on tourists: Main street beautification, entry to the village, revitalising and maintaining green spaces to name just a few. The community may be in a better position to identify these. c) Heritage preservation. This could also have an impact on the above. i.e. identifying key points of interest that could be restored, developed and promoted.

Labor ticket – 5 Candidates

QU1. *Looking at TRC region, as a whole, what do you consider are the 3 most important priorities?*

1. Equality for everyone across the whole region – the people and towns outside of Tamworth need a Voice in Council. Labor will listen and be the Voice. Labor will establish better channels, advocating for the 355 Committee to be reinstated to give Barraba residents a Voice on Council. Labor would advocate introducing a regular virtual forum to hear your views to engage with a wider audience.
2. Environmental sustainability for the TRC region
 - ✓ Water Security and Management for residential, commercial and industrial development
 - ✓ Managing and reducing Carbon Emissions with targets for 2030
 - ✓ Ensuring Green Spaces and Recreation areas are appropriate and well maintained
3. Economic Growth for the Region – cohesive strategies to attract professionals, business and tourism for the whole region as well as prioritising road safety, upgrades and main street beautification, reducing red tap in development applications, and looking at incentives to attract business development.

QU2. *If someone mentions “Barraba” what are the 3 things you immediately associate with our town and district?*

- ✓ A rural community rich in country values, culture and innovation.
- ✓ The Playhouse Hotel – great hospitality, drama & art scene

- ✓ The silos and events, e.g. the Barraba Show, Frost Over Barraba

QU3. *Since you nominated for Council, how many times have you visited Barraba?*

- ✓ Regularly for work
- ✓ Regularly visiting schools and local businesses enjoying Barraba’s accommodation & venues
- ✓ Public Forum on Wed 24th November 2021

QU4. *Based on your knowledge of Barraba, what are the 3 things you think TRC should prioritise to improve the services and amenity of our town?*

- ✓ Giving the residents of Barraba a voice at Council – bring back the 355 Committees
- ✓ Safeguarding water security for Barraba. As water security is a major issue for the whole region, Labor would advocate a working committee be established to engage all stakeholders, address climate change, involve experts and scientists and come up with a Strategic Water Plan for TRC.
- ✓ Examination of the provision of services in Barraba, with accountability and transparency in TRC decision making.

Stephen Maher

1. *Looking at TRC region, as a whole, what do you consider are the 3 most important priorities?*

- a. This encompasses implementation and resolving the vexed issue of a secure water supply for Tamworth;
- b. Implementation of Blueprint 100 essentially ensuring infrastructure is in the right place; and
- c. establishment of the Tamworth UNE campus, completion of the Glen Artney (Tamworth Global Gateway) and Intermodal Hub Developments now that the funding is irrevocably committed.

2. *If someone mentions “Barraba” what are the 3 things you immediately associate with our town and district?*

- a. Production of agricultural produce, cattle, sheep and wool with a strong history of superior beef and wool production;
- b. Growing reputation as a tourist destination art work on the silos and for the natural attractions and adventure opportunities like Mount Kaputar National Park, Rocky Creek Glacial Area, Horton Falls National Park, Sawn Rocks, Split Rock Dam and Glenriddle Reserve. Also there is recreation vehicle friendly camping sites and bushwalking, fishing, bird watching, camping, fossicking or water sports.
- c. A history of Arts and culture such as Frost over Barraba.

3. *Since you nominated for Council, how many times have you visited Barraba?*

I have not visited Barraba since I nominated for Council on 2 November 2021. I have made extremely few visits anywhere since March 2020 when COVID 19 commenced.

4. *Based on your knowledge of Barraba, what are the 3 things you think TRC should prioritise to improve the services and amenity of our town?*

It is my view that I do not have sufficient knowledge of Barraba to have a good understanding of what the community priorities should be.

It is suggested that this should come out of consultation with the community.

Also I suggest that in conjunction with the Tamworth Blueprint 100, there needs to be a blueprint for each town, including Barraba, so that essential infrastructure and community services can be identified, together with identification what economic development programs might be established to grow local industry.

Reading through the thematic history of Barraba it seems some villages around Barraba have disappeared over the previous century, such places as Woodsreef, Crowe Mountain and Upper Horton.

If there were community support for such a proposal, I suggest that your community should promulgate such an initiative to the newly elected Councillors.

Jim Maxwell

(1). # Rural Road resheeting.

#Development that creates Employment across the whole Region.

#Promoting Tourist.

(2).# A Community that helps themselves.eg. Silo Painting and Murals.

A Town which has Pride in itself.

An area rich in History and Magnificent Countryside.

(3) 4 or 5 times as I deal at Barraba Rural Traders and also at Phil Kruit Law, I also attended the Remembrance Service.

(4).# Promote Tourism in the District eg. Horton Falls, Glen Riddle Reserve Camping.

Promote the History of the District eg. Crow Mountain Gold Mining History.

#Work with the Business Group to Promote and encourage Business opportunities to create more Employment for Barraba.

Thanks for the opportunity to put some of My ideas to the Community.

Regards Jim Maxwell.

Denise McHugh

Looking at TRC region, as a whole, what do you consider are the 3 most important priorities?

- Equitable provision of services and amenities
- Water security and environmental sustainability
- Attracting health and education professionals to the region

If someone mentions "Barraba" what are the 3 things you immediately associate with our town and district?

- Frost Over Barraba
- The silo
- Barraba 'Rams' Rugby

Since you nominated for Council, how many times have you visited Barraba?

- Twice for work

Based on your knowledge of Barraba, what are the 3 things you think TRC should prioritise to improve the services and amenity of our town?

- Main street beautification
- Council services translating into council jobs in Barraba
- Real sponsorship of Barraba events

Cheers

Denise McHugh

Steve Mears

QU1 *Looking at TRC region, as a whole, what do you consider are the 3 most important priorities?*

1. Water Security for all residents and towns in the region.
2. Transparency and accountability in decision making.
3. Provision of first-rate services and amenities.

QU2 *If someone mentions "Barraba" what are the 3 things you immediately associate with our town and district?*

1. The Playhouse Hotel had a great drama & art scene, incredible service, training room facilities, food and accommodation. The Conference Centre is the best in the region. I have hosted and attended many training days, school staff recognition dinners and events over the last few years. Andrew has created a first class oasis in the heart of Barraba.

I always enjoy my trips to Barraba. Thank you.

2. The Cenotaph in the main street.

3. The Barraba Hotel a very well-run family business where I have mingled with the friendly patrons and appreciated the comfortable accommodation & food.

I can't stop at 3 as there are so many people and places I enjoy in Barraba. The Barraba Motel owner's young 10 year old daughter – is the best up-seller in the business - got the chips, chocolates and ----- to prove it.

The Commercial Kitchen supply shop is a wonderful enterprise.

The Caravan Park manager is an incredible character.

One of my most favourite recollections are the 2 - 3 gentlemen sitting on the green street bench wishing everyone G'day & generally chat about the weather, and other issues about the town.

QU3. *Since you nominated for Council, how many times have you visited Barraba?*

- ✓ I'm a regular visitor often seeing familiar faces and meetings with Union Member Janine Randall, Schools Admin Manager. Barraba Cafes have fantastic coffee, great fish and chips and the best Caramel Slices this side of the Black Stump.
- ✓ Three times recently visiting the wonderful Central School
- ✓ The Election Public Forum on Wednesday evening.

QU4. *Based on your knowledge of Barraba, what are the 3 things you think TRC should prioritise to improve the services and amenity of our town?*

- ✓ Water. Water security is top of the list.
- ✓ Fairness across the regions. Bringing the CHANGE Council needs for your voice to be heard.
- ✓ Help and support businesses to value add by upgrading the main street, utilising resources within the town for jobs in Barraba and promote online channels and new initiatives to boost the economy.

Brooke Southwell

1. *Looking at TRC region, as a whole, what do you consider are the 3 most important priorities?*

The three most important priorities include:

- Improved stakeholder engagement
- Improved communications
- Improved transparency within Government

2. *If someone mentions "Barraba" what are the 3 things you immediately associate with our town and district?*

- Great people
- Great hospitality
- Community spirit

3. *Since you nominated for Council, how many times have you visited Barraba?*

Only once, however prior to being nominated, I have visited about 4 times a year.

4. *Based on your knowledge of Barraba, what are the 3 things you think TRC should prioritise to improve the services and amenity of our town?*

After attending the Barraba Candidate information session on Wednesday, I would like to see the following:

- Improved engagement with Barraba residents
- Additional funding for parks and gardens in Barraba
- Better communication to Barraba residents

Kind regards

Brooke Southwell

Ray Tait

The following is my response to your four questions:

Looking at TRC region, as a whole, what do you consider are the 3 most important priorities?

1) Water security in all towns and villages within the Tamworth Regional Council area not only Tamworth. The people that control of our water supply have total control of all development in that area. I don't believe that the current Council has sufficiently represented the ratepayers on this issue.

There is currently no programmed maintenance on our rural road network and there needs to be to restore the network to a satisfactory standard whilst waiting for a sealing programme for the high volume usage.

Crime prevention is also a high priority for the whole of the LGA. During my previous term on Council I was successful in chasing funding for CCTV to be installed in the CBD of Tamworth. This resulted in an 80% decrease in anti-social behaviour and eventually a decrease in insurance premiums in the CBD. I would like to see this project extended to every community in the LGA, with a need.

If someone mentions "Barraba" what are the 3 things you immediately associate with our town and district?

2) Woods Reef Mine is the first thing that comes to mind. I am a firm believer that in every negative there is a positive you just have to find it. With regards Woods Reef mine I believe that it is a case of remediate the area or find another appropriate use, for far too long the issue has been ignored in the hope that it will go away, not good enough.

The resolve of the people of Barraba in obtaining the pipeline from Split Rock Dam to secure the future water supply for the town.

The small businesses drive to improve the economy of Barraba, such as the Playhouse and Arts and Craft store. This should be enhanced and promoted by Council.

Since you nominated for Council, how many times have you visited Barraba?

3) I have been to Barraba once since nominating for Council however I have a sound understanding of the Barraba Community from my years supervising the operations of Barraba Ambulance Station.

Based on your knowledge of Barraba, what are the 3 things you think TRC should prioritise to improve the services and amenity of our town?

4) The first thing that comes to mind is the economic drivers such as enhancing small business by positive support and mentoring where needed of residents that are prepared to open a small business.

The second thing is to improve the amenity of residents and visitors to the town by increasing and or improving such areas as the main street scape, parks and gardens and sporting and social clubs within the town.

The third thing is that Covid 19 has shown just what our elderly experience normally which is social isolation. Therefore, what I would love to see is greater availability for the elderly to be able to be transported to larger or adjacent towns for more chance to socially interact with friends and family, medical appointments etc.

I hope that this gives you some idea what I believe in and want to see happen not only in Barraba but the whole LGA. If you require any clarification, please feel free to ring me on 0428659599

Cheers

Ray

LETTER TO THE EDITOR



I thought I might send you a copy of my speech from last night at the community forum.... might be of interest to you.

Cheers

Denise McHugh

I am Denise McHugh. I first moved to Tamworth after my parents, Geoff and Peg Carr, had bought the Kootingal Hotel back in the 70s. I have three children, Kieran and Libby who are both teachers and Caitlin who is a property analyst with Westpac, who interestingly won a Dean's award for her analysis of the impact of coal mining on the Liverpool Plains. Kieran was captain of Tamworth Magpies and we have spent many an afternoon travelling to Barraba to watch the Magpies play the Rams. Barraba has a fine rugby tradition, and I was a huge fan of Bill McKid back in the day.

I currently work for the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) and have been involved in education as a teacher and consultant in the government, catholic and independent systems for over 30 years. I am an executive member of the NSW/ACT Independent Education Union and an executive member of the NSW ALP Education Committee. As you might be able to tell, Education is my passion. And I am passionate about getting things done.

I want to talk about Barraba.....

Let's start with a few facts: Tell me if I am wrong....

Barraba Shire Council was amalgamated into the Tamworth Regional Council in 2004. The economic and social impact of that amalgamation has been negative for Barraba.

The closure of the Barraba Shire Council, with the subsequent loss of local employment opportunities and reduced expenditure in local businesses, has created economic stagnation.

In addition, the social impact of forced amalgamation has created a community which is comparatively disadvantaged compared to the Tamworth region.

The loss of local leadership, together with the lack of avenues for participation by Barraba residents, has seen widespread disillusionment with local government in the Barraba community.

Tell me if I am wrong!

The Tamworth Regional Council has not become a significant contributor to the Barraba community in terms of economic development and promotion of the town. For example, the 2017 agricultural show in Barraba was sponsored by the Gwydir Shire Council—and not the Tamworth Regional Council—surely testimony to disinterest. If myself, and the Labor team, are voted in you can rest assured that Tamworth Regional Council will be the major sponsor of the Barraba Show from now on!

Effective local government is essential to the economic and social success of any small local community in a regional area. This requires that the council be involved with the local community and allow local leadership to guide the process of involvement. The current Council has seriously dropped the ball in this regard! My team will reinstate the 355 Committees.

I haven't got all the answers, but it's not good enough saying that Barraba is a town too far, it's not good enough saying that Barraba doesn't matter! And that is what has happened under the current Council.

I want you to tell me what could be done by Council to make Barraba an **even** better place to live and work. I want to ensure that your voice and your issues are raised at Council. I want to be your advocate. It might be Tamworth Regional Council, but it's not all about Tamworth!

VOTE 1 MARK RODDA

GROUP A

☐ MEARS Stephen
LABOR

☐ MCHUGH Denise
LABOR

☐ RINDO Sergio
LABOR

☐ LAWLER Michael
LABOR

☐ HUGHES Laura
LABOR

☐ BURKE Bede

☐ COATES Judy

☐ TICKLE Helen
INDEPENDENT

☐ BETTS Phil
INDEPENDENT

☐ MAXWELL Jim
INDEPENDENT

☐ WEBB Russell
INDEPENDENT

VOTE 1

1 RODDA Mark
INDEPENDENT

☐ TAIT Ray
INDEPENDENT

☐ THOMAS Marjolijn
INDEPENDENT

☐ MAHER Stephen
INDEPENDENT

☐ BUCKMAN Chris

☐ SOUTHWELL Brooke
INDEPENDENT

☐ SUTHERLAND Marc
INDEPENDENT

☐ IMPEY Charles
INDEPENDENT

On 4th December put Mark RODDA to work for you by voting **1**
And at least four other candidates according to your preference to make your vote count.

VOTE 1 MARK RODDA

YOUR VOICE on Tamworth Regional Council

Printed by Edwards Printing Solutions, 13 Lockhead Street, Tamworth NSW 2340

Tamworth Regional Council Elections
Saturday 4th December 2021

For further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.
 Mobile: 0448 750 302 • Email: markroddeb4trot@yahoo.com • Mark Rodda for Tamworth Regional Council
 Authorised by Mark Rodda, 35 Kathleen Street, South Tamworth 2340

VOTE 1 MARK RODDA

“It has been both an honour and a pleasure to serve you as a councillor of Tamworth Regional Council since 2016, giving me the opportunity to address the concerns and issues that impact on our community.

My wonderful wife Julie and I have six kids, Claudia, Sterling, Elliott, Ivy, Felix and Nelson ranging in age from 17 down to 7. We love and are all involved in our vibrant local community, my family providing continuing support for my work as a Councillor.

I understand the cost of living pressures and as a ratepayer require full and clear evidence of the need for any increase in rates, posts and charges levied by Council.

Our community has faced many challenges in recent years, including the Covid -19 pandemic, water security and management. I will continue to strive to obtain transparency and accountability of water security to ensure our region can reach sustainability into the future.

I will continue to stand firm against ingrained political loyalties and prejudices. Fearlessly independent with no vested interests in business or professional organisations I will continue to assess issues on their merits.

As a passionate, dedicated and caring community representative I humbly ask you to support my work for our community by voting 1 Mark Rodda on Saturday 4th December 2021.

”

I do not and will not favour one section of our Council area over another and always will stand up for the fine people of the Tamworth Regional Council local government area, respecting your voice.

MY EXPERIENCE, VISION & ACHIEVEMENTS:

- ✓ Locally born and bred, is friendly, approachable and helpful. Believes in freedom and democratic principles.
- ✓ Understands the cost-of-living pressures we all face and will carefully consider rate increases and other council charges. Opposes the proposed local business tax for events.
- ✓ Will fight for genuine water security for our region including better management of our region's water storages and water recycling initiatives.
- ✓ Favours a better bulk raw water deal from the NSW Government and Water NSW.
- ✓ Possesses no vested interests, is independent and dedicated to serve all ratepayers.
- ✓ Increased transparency and accountability for our Council, to increase the level of trust and belief in Local Government.
- ✓ Not afraid to voice my opinion and am a long-time vocal and passionate advocate for a better deal for the region.
- ✓ Dedicated community and sporting group volunteer and committee member and understands the health benefits of community sport.

Mark with his family, Elliott, Claudia, Ivy, Felix, Nelson, Sterling and wife Julie.

- ✓ Supports the needs and concerns of the smaller communities and ongoing investment in them.
- ✓ Wants better long-term planning and cutting red tape for development approvals with a level playing field for all developers and builders.
- ✓ Planning for a second access to Calala and the duplication of Goonoo Goonoo Road from Calala Lane roundabout and other traffic hot spots such as the Vera street roundabout.
- ✓ Increased tertiary education opportunities for our residents.
- ✓ Cooling our environs with more street trees and productive green space. Restore pride in our region's appearance. Environmentally sustainable design planning for new homes and subdivisions.
- ✓ Advocate to attract more health and allied health professionals to regional centres and restore full pathology services to Tamworth.
- ✓ Continue advocating for a new Banksia Acute Mental Health Unit to cater for all age groups.
- ✓ Limit outsourcing of work to external contractors for work able to be completed by existing council employees or local contractors.
- ✓ Protect the heritage and environment of our smaller villages such as Nundle from detrimental developments.
- ✓ Promote the tourist potential and heritage of our city, towns and villages.
- ✓ Back-to-basics approach for Council providing secure, affordable water supplies, road upgrades, foot-paths, parks and gardens, street lighting and tree plantings.
- ✓ Planning and construction for a new Tamworth Aquatic Centre.
- ✓ Additional passenger aircraft service to drive down the cost of travel for our residents, general aviation and flight training facilities at Tamworth.
- ✓ Enhance inclusivity for our diverse Community.

Please turn over for important voting information



New Way Ahead for Ag Workforce

- AgUP grants to support initiatives to develop and retain agricultural workers
- Industry invited to bring forward initiatives that meet their labour needs
- Program aims to improve sustainability of our primary industries workforce.

A round of grant funding will be offered to industry to develop projects and initiatives to support the growth, retention, and sustainability of the agricultural workforce.

More information on the AgUP Grants Program is available at www.awe.gov.au/agriculture-land/farm-food-drought/agricultural-workforce or at www.communitygrants.gov.au/grant s.

Supporting Local Government in New England

Local governments in New England have received their second 2021-22 quarterly payment through the Federal Government's Financial Assistance Grant program.

Deputy Prime Minister and Member for New England, Barnaby Joyce said the funding is untied, allowing councils to spend the grant according to their own local priorities.

- Tamworth Regional Council - \$1,427,032
- Gwydir Shire Council - \$647,133

For more information, visit <https://www.regional.gov.au/local/assistance/index.aspx>

Disaster Assistance for Parts of New England After Severe Weather and Flooding

Disaster assistance is now available to help local councils, residents, primary producers, small businesses, and charities recover from the severe weather event and flooding that occurred across Upper Hunter and Gwydir Local Government Areas from Tuesday 9 November 2021.

Assistance is being provided through the jointly funded Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).

For information on personal hardship and distress assistance, contact Service NSW on 13 77 88.

To apply for a concessional loan or grant, contact the NSW Rural Assistance Authority on 1800 678 593 or visit www.raa.nsw.gov.au

Information on disaster assistance can be found on the Australian Government's Disaster Assist website at www.disasterassist.gov.au

New Era for Infrastructure Australia

The Government has made a number of new appointments to the Board of Infrastructure Australia as it embarks on a new era.

In the coming weeks, the Government will also issue a revised Statement of Expectations (SoE) to guide the future direction of the key advisory body.

The Government has appointed Cr Colin Murray as the new Chair of the Board, bringing a fresh perspective to the helm of Infrastructure Australia. Infrastructure Australia is Australia's independent infrastructure advisor, providing research and advice to governments, industry and the community on the infrastructure investments and reforms that will benefit all Australians.



COMMUNITY INVITED TO HELP SHAPE FUTURE OF NEW ENGLAND NORTH WEST

Communities across the New England and North West now have the opportunity to provide feedback on the NSW Government's draft plan for the region.

The plan provides a strategic blueprint for the future of housing, investment and the region's natural resources, including the growing agricultural sector, and the community now has an opportunity to provide feedback.

Member for Tamworth Kevin Anderson welcomed the opportunity for the community to provide feedback and learn more about the plan.

"Our region is growing and will continue to do so over the next 20 years, backed by targeted Government investment, growing business and industry, and an agricultural sector set to thrive thanks to the recently announced Namoi Regional Jobs Precinct," Mr Anderson said.

To read the draft plan and have your say by Friday, 18 February 2022 visit www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/newenglandnorthwest2041

If you would like to read the full reports from Barnaby Joyce and/or Kevin Anderson go to;

www.barrabacommunitynews.org.au

Twilight Golf

With very wet conditions under foot and no run on the course Bill Servin (6666) was still able to score 22 points to claim Friday's chook. Runner up on 21 was Amanda Koopman (AKA) followed by Adam Russell (Hackers) 20, Sam Faint (Geriatrics) 20, Peter Simpson (Golf Creek) 20, Chris Sweeney (Bogey Men) 20, Dan Lott (Lotta Pign) 19, Criag Ruttley (Lotta Pign) 19, Phil Denyer (Yea Nah) 19, Andrew Lovegrove (Manilla Boys) 19 and Campbell Tonkin (Yellowstone Fever) 19.

On the overall Team Leaderboard Yellowstone Fever have increased their lead to 12 points from Geriatrics closely followed by Lotta Pign.

Yellowstone Fever 237

Geriatrics 225

Lotta Pign 224

Hackers 222

Golf Creek 218

6666 218

Burglars 214

Bogey Men 214

Manilla Boys 207

Sand 207

Fine Winers 204

Unreliables 201

Vintage 201

AKA 196

Butchers 195

Wouldbe Champions 179

Worm Burners 176

New and Old 165

Yeah Nah 103

Karen York won the meat tray this week.

Also in early December we have a few players participating in The Longest Day Golf Challenge to raise money for the Cancer Council. The challenge is to successfully complete a chosen number of holes from dawn to dusk and raise funds for Cancer Council's research, prevention, and support services.

If you would like to sponsor some of the guys I'm sure it would be most appreciated.

Barraba Golf Club Presentation night is on 11th December 2021 at the Commercial Hotel 6.30pm for 7pm. Please RSVP Amanda Koopman asap if you are coming as we have to book numbers.

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Barraba 7 day Forecast from the Bureau of Meteorology



Wednesday 1 Dec

Summary Max 25

Showers possible storm

Chance of rain: 80%



Thursday 2 Dec

Summary Min 14 Max 28

Partly cloudy

Chance of any rain: 20%



Friday 3 Dec

Summary Min 14 Max 31

Sunny

Chance of any rain: 20%



Saturday 4 Dec

Summary Min 15 Max 29

Shower or two

Chance of rain: 60%



Sunday 5 Dec

Summary Min 16 Max 26

Shower or two

Chance of any rain: 60%



Monday 6 Dec

Summary Min 13 Max 26

Shower or two

Chance of any rain: 60%



Tuesday 7 Dec

Summary Min 15 Max 25

Shower or two

Chance of any rain: 70%

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