



BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

FREE LOCAL NEWSPAPER

COMMUNITY OWNED AND EDITED

Wednesday 23rd March 2022



Across the Desk from the Principal Patrick Sullivan

It has been a busy term and I hope everyone is staying safe and well. We have had several students and staff that have been unwell with Covid.

Regular school attendance is essential to assist students to maximise their potential, and students are required to attend school each day it is open unless they are unwell.

The health and wellbeing of our students and staff remain our priority and there are several COVID-smart measures designed to help keep our school open and our students learning in the classroom. These measures have been developed in partnership with NSW Health to help minimise transmissions at school. If you have any concerns about your child returning to school don't hesitate to contact us for support and advice as we are here to help.

Check-in Assessment and Naplan Readiness Test

Years 4, 6 and 8 will complete their check-in assessments for numeracy and literacy in the coming weeks. The assessment will give us an excellent baseline of the student's needs and allow for targeted planning throughout the year.

Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will complete a NAPLAN readiness test on Thursday, 24 March. With the NAPLAN tests being online in Weeks 3 and 4 Term 2, the readiness test allows the students and the school to become familiar with how the test operates and the online environment.

Year 4-6 Leadership Camp

Year 4-6 are heading to Lake Keepit for their leadership Camp next week. The three-day camp will see the students complete several challenges and participate in unique activities. I wish all the students a great camp and look forward to having dinner on Tuesday night with them.

Milkshakes with the Principal

The best part of my week is rewarding the winners of the Class Bullseye competition each week with a milkshake or spider. Congratulations to last week's winners.



Pictured above L-R: Oscar Cabot, Riley Phillips, Mr Sullivan, Hayley McIlrick and Leo Lawlor.

New Roof

The school has been lucky enough to have the roof replaced in F-block at the secondary. The block has been out of action for most of this term and the special ed class has just moved back in this week.

The subsequent major works to be carried out will be a new fence for the secondary site. Work should commence in April and have a similar system as the primary for entrance into the school.

Farewell

Finally, I would like to say a big thank you to Fiona Hagan, who has been teaching our support class for the last nine months. Fiona and her two lovely children are heading back to Japan. They will be missed as they have become a valued part of our school community and we wish them well.

Brain Teaser - What can you only hold in your right hand but never in your left hand?

Secondary PBL Challenge

During PBL lessons students in year groups will be competing against the other years to win themselves and their classmates a prize.

This challenge was a Balloon tower.

The year groups challenge was to make the tallest freestanding tower they can using only the balloons and tape.

Mr Melville



Flood

Water washes the day away,
The wave the colour of dying hay.
Birds erupt from falling trees,
Busier then honeybees.
Brown, thick blankets cover the land,
full of mud, dirt and sand.
Houses ripped from their foundations,
Earth ridding of man's creations.
Roars of waves and booms of thunder fills the evening air,
Deafening crashes and cries of fear proves it doesn't care.
Lounges and lamps flow by in the wave,
Common objects now unable to be saved.
Colours ripped from the skies above,
Turning into a large, grey dove.
Green trees being swept forests being chewed at each day.
Houses gone and cars swept,
To the sea is where they left.
Rain falls heavier as the wave gets worse,
All this water is now a curse.
Every tree and weed and stick,
Swept away by the wave that's sick.
Rivers overflowing and joining the rush,
Just makes people feel more crushed.
Now the wave has gone far away,
More people returning every day.
Pieces of houses are scattered around,
Some buildings can't even be found.
Decay cleared by helpers near,
People who lived here no longer feel fear.
Towns build to heal the damage,
Man clearing Earth's wreckage.
After hours of aching pain,
And flooding caused by pouring rain,
Bright blue water shimmers under the sun,
Now there was no need to run. **by Cassidy Graves**



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

THIS WEEK:

THURSDAY: 11AM-

MULTISCREEN DRAW-SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

FRIDAY: 11AM-

MEAT/VEG RAFFLES 6PM

EXTRA DRAW AFTER EACH RAFFLE FOR A BONUS PRIZE

MEMBERSHIP DRAW \$1600

SATURDAY: 10AM-

SUNDAY: 10AM-5.30PM

ANGLERS CLUB RAFFLES 1PM

MEMBERSHIP DRAW \$1500

MONDAY: CLOSED

TUESDAY: 11AM-5.30PM

BINGO 11AM

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

DINE AND DISCOVER VOUCHERS ACCEPTED

COVID-19 VACCINATION CLINIC

Tamworth Hospital Vaccinations

Main Entrance, Tamworth Hospital

Clinics open Wednesdays & Saturdays only

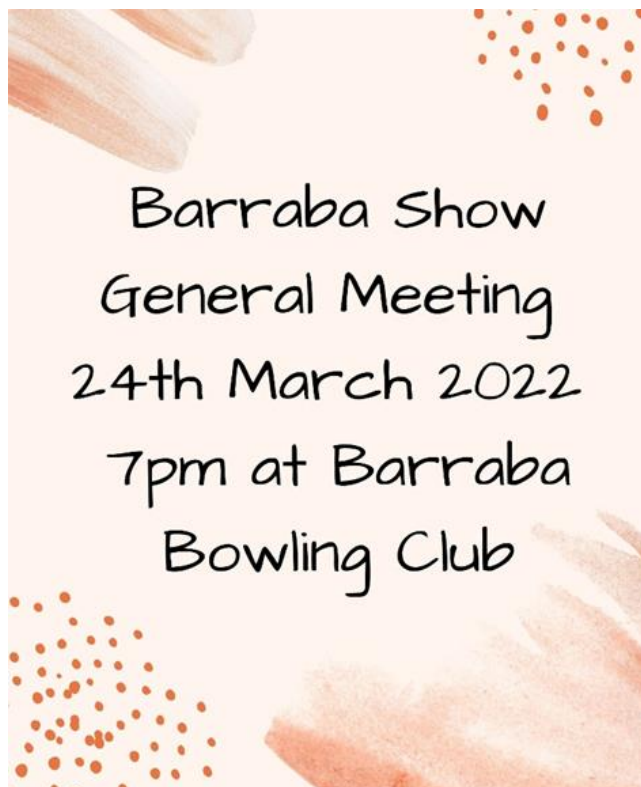
Book [on line](#) & open for walk ins

Closed over Easter Weekend and Public Holidays

Pfizer Adults 12yrs + Booster 16yrs+	Pfizer Children 5-11 yrs	Moderna Adults 18yrs + Booster 18yrs+
Wednesday morning 9am – 11.15am Saturday mornings 9am – 11.15am	Wednesday afternoons 1.00–3.15pm (final Wednesday Kids clinic 27/4/22) Saturday afternoons 1.00pm – 3.15pm <u>9/4/22</u> <u>all day Kids</u> <u>Clinic</u> Closed over Easter Weekend and Public Holidays	Wednesday morning 9am – 11.15am final Moderna clinic 30/3/22 Closed over Easter Weekend and Public Holidays

Phone 1800 881 568

If no answer, leave a message and we will return your call



Barraba Community News Wednesday 23rd March 2022

ABCRA AFFILIATED - 'HELMETS CAN SAVE LIVES' - ABCRA iCOMPETE

BINGARA SHOW SOCIETY STOCKMAN'S CHALLENGE

2ND & 3RD APRIL 2022
BINGARA SHOWGROUNDS

Peaceland Horse Floats & Goosenecks \$1,000 Open Challenge	\$70
(over 6yr old horses) Dry work, Wet Work, Time Trail	
Jackpot Classic Challenge	\$70
(4/5yr old horses) Dry work, Wet Work, Time Trail	
Jackpot Futurity Challenge	\$35
(2/3yr old horses) Hack, Dry Work, Utility	
Jackpot Rookie Challenge	\$70
(Over 17yrs & who have not won a similar or major challenge) Dry work, Wet Work, Time Trail	
Jackpot Hack Challenge	\$35
(open to any horse/rider 17yrs & over - no cattle phase) Hack, Dry Work, Utility Winner receives a set of spur straps kindly donated by Gainey Saddle & Co	
B & B Marshall's Haulage \$500 U/17 Challenge	\$30
Dry work, Wet Work, Time Trail Winner receives a saddle pad kindly donated by B & B Marshall's Haulage	
Circle L Australia \$500 U/13 Challenge	\$30
Dry work, Wet Work, Time Trail	

CHARITY AUCTION IN SUPPORT OF THE WESTPAC RESCUE HELICOPTER

Entries via ABCRA iCompete open Monday 14th March 10am and close 5pm Friday the 18th March 2022.
Events paid out 1st to 6th place overall. Committee not GST registered. All prize money paid is GST inc where applicable. Entries must be paid for no later than Friday the 25th March. Failure to notify of scratching's 72 hours prior to commencement of the program, will forfeit entry fee. Entry fee includes \$15 stock levy, \$2.50 first aid levy and \$1.10 cattle fund levy. Canteen & bar available. Camping available with limited power. Shower and toilets available. The committee reserves the right to change or alter the program. Open to any breed of horse. Horse's age will be classified from the 1st August. For age restricted horse events please bring proof of age (registration paper or vet certificate). All competitors must compete in a two-piece snaffle bit that is no thinner than 9.5mm against the cheek.

Enquires: Bec Edwards 0417 257 725 Email: bingarachallenge@hotmail.com

CIRCLE L **HYGAIN** **MEYER** **WESTPAC** **ABCRA**



Shae Mallise has been selected to represent our diocese in Diocesan Touch Football, to be held in Tamworth on 1 April 2022. Congratulation on your selection Shae and best of luck, we're very proud of your efforts.

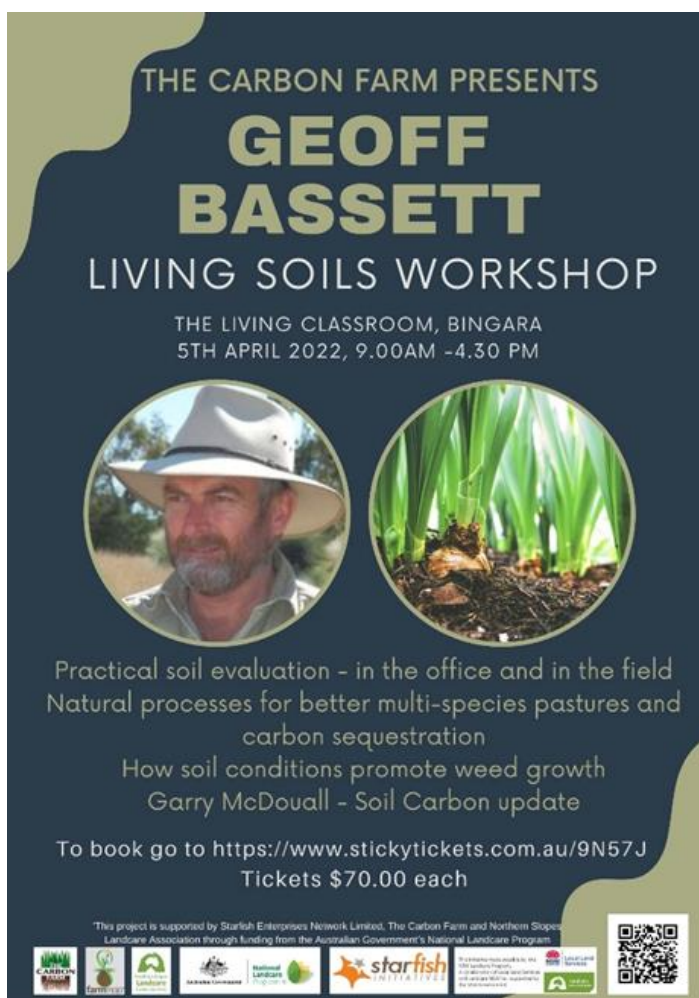


Our Parent Information Night was a great success with many families coming to our school on Tuesday evening to gain a better understanding of class goals and expectations, as well as networking with other families over a bbq.

We celebrated St Joseph's Day at our Friday mass, which was led by our 2/3 class and held in our front garden, alongside the statue of St Joseph. It was a beautiful service and we were very blessed to be able to enjoy the occasion outside.



Ruby, Chastity, Grace, Myla, Ava & Oliver all enjoying the evening at school!



Letter to the Editor

Hi could you print this for me?.. as Upper Horton residents might be interested in the fact their local member can't be bothered to send stuff to us. Thank you

Lynda Rainger

Amore Hill

Trevallyn rd

Upper Horton

From: ElectorateOffice NorthernTablelands

<ElectorateOffice.NorthernTablelands@parliament.nsw.gov.au>

Date: 15/3/22 12:53 (GMT+10:00)

To: 'lyndarainger14' <lyndarainger14@gmail.com>

Subject: RE: Survey

Thanks Lynda

Yes, I thought you would feel this way and I certainly will pass on your comments to Adam for him to read, **as we always do.**

As staff, not Adam, administer the distribution of communications, I am responding to your query in the first instance.

Australia Post offers the unaddressed mail service -

For instance – newsletters are sent as ‘unaddressed mail - electorate’ so as to secure the most cost-effective price (we distribute around 40,000 newsletters)

Direct mail out – addressed letters – are also often sent for different reasons as a bulk mail and will be delivered directly to the addressee.

Your postal address (‘Amore Hill’ 5468 Trevallyn Road, Upper Horton 2347) won’t receive any **unaddressed** mail through Australia Post as your unaddressed mail comes from Barraba LPO. To include that postcode in our delivery area – would require newsletters for all addresses in 2347.

However, as the newsletter sent recently and which I have mailed to you directly – is the first unaddressed mail this office has sent since December 2018 - you haven’t been missing out on information from Adam Marshall for that reason.

But you are correct in that the exclusion from the delivery list by Australia Post is discriminatory and certainly not what Adam wants.

So how to avoid this and ensure all constituents receive the same material?

I’ve checked the database we use based on the electoral roll, and can see that we do miss about 80 households at the 2347 postcode using Australia Post’s unaddressed mail service.

I have saved the list of each address and we will send directly in an envelope, copies of the newsletters to each household using that list.

It is not an issue in other areas as we capture all constituents along our boundaries through postcodes apart from a few rural properties along the Uralla/Bendemeer border.

There will be a secondary unaddressed mail out in the next few weeks and we will repeat that exercise, so you will also receive a copy of that publication.

I also note you subscribe to Adam’s weekly report – so you will receive timely information from Adam via that source.

Again, I will share your email and my response above with Adam of course. As this relates to an administrative issue undertaken by staff on behalf of Adam, he would refer this back to me to answer in any case.

If Adam has anything further to add – then he will be back in touch.

Regards, Lisa

From: lyndarainger14 <lyndarainger14@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, 15 March 2022 12:02 PM

To: ElectorateOffice NorthernTablelands

<ElectorateOffice.NorthernTablelands@parliament.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Survey

Thank you for that information .. that would explain why we have not been receiving information from Adam Marshall .. but the question now arises does this apply to many residents in his electorate? & why we are not receiving what others are? It seems a bit discriminatory!

Regards

Lynda Rainger

PS please make sure Adam sees this email & looks into this matter.

From: ElectorateOffice NorthernTablelands

<ElectorateOffice.NorthernTablelands@parliament.nsw.gov.au>

Date: 15/3/22 11:46 (GMT+10:00)

To: 'lyndarainger14' <lyndarainger14@gmail.com>

Subject: RE: Survey

Hi Lynda

Just further to that – depending where your mail comes from (which LPO) you may not receive the brochure as it could fall out of the unaddressed mail electorate capture offered by Aus Post.

I’ll pop one in the post addressed to you to ensure you get a copy.

Regards, Lisa Williams

From: ElectorateOffice NorthernTablelands
<ElectorateOffice.NorthernTablelands@parliament.nsw.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 15 March 2022 11:40 AM

To: 'lyndarainger14' <lyndarainger14@gmail.com>

Subject: RE: Survey

Good morning Lynda,

Yes they have but Adam has also launched the survey onto his website in addition to those posted out.

So perhaps if you've not received yours in the post yet, feel free to head to Adam's website: <https://www.adammarshall.com.au/> where you'll see a pop up for the Community Survey.

I hope this is helpful to you.

Kind regards,

Lauren.

From: lyndarainger14 <lyndarainger14@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, 15 March 2022 11:39 AM

To: ElectorateOffice NorthernTablelands

<ElectorateOffice.NorthernTablelands@parliament.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: Survey

In the weekly report from Adam Marshall MP from 4th March it was stated we would receive a brochure & survey in the mailbox .. have these been sent yet?

Lynda Rainger

Amore Hill

Trevallyn rd

Upper Horton

Garage Sale

20 Arndell St Upper Horton

Books, records, CDs, movies, clothes, shoes, jewellery and more.

After 9am on Saturday or Sunday is best or phone

0267827210



History Notes

This week has been another busy one with lots of interesting things happening and more to come. This week we have a street stall just to keep us on our toes.

The countryside seems to be opening up with more visitors to town and I had Dubbo Turner and his daughter, on the doorstep during the week.

Dubbo grew up on Tycolah living in Tycolah Cottage for much of his childhood in the 1940's. Dubbo was the person chasing a copy of "Bakers Dozen" and this time we have found one with thanks to Pam.

Dubbo's daughter, Sharon, is also looking for history- she wants to find a write-up for Gwen Bell when she died in June, 1967. If anyone has a cutting or the actual Barraba Chronicle published in June or July, 1967, please let the museum know as we could copy it for her.

While tidying up some old paper cuttings this week I have found a piece on the 'Quart Pot'. Almost every bush worker, drover, camper etc had a quart pot in the early 20th century but where have they gone?

The person who wrote the article in 1974 wrote that you could buy a quart pot in Goodooga and she bought one while she was there. In years gone by there would be quart pots hanging in clusters in stores in western NSW - I wonder if you could find one these days and if you did would anyone under about seventy years old know what to do with it?

Drovers, bush workers and landowners out on their horses would take the quart pot along with the saddle bag and when lunchtime came, water was collected from the creek in the quart pot and placed on a small fire to boil. The owner would then get his lunch and some tea leaves and perhaps sugar out of his tucker bag while he waited for the pot to boil. When the pot boiled, the tea leaves were thrown in and lunch was ready.

Quart pots came in various shapes, were slightly smaller at the top than the bottom, a wire handle was attached to the side to help with removal from the fire and of course there was a fitted top, also with a wire handle to drink the tea from and also to serve as a lid if one had to carry water for lunch.

I think there is one in the museum and I still have my father's Quart Pot. It is still black on the outside from the fire and still has handles and the lid.



The Barraba Bash will be a huge, one-day, combined youth event on the **26th of March, 2022** at **Barraba Anglican Church**. On the day we will see that **Jesus** is worth trusting in, & why we should **live for him now & forever**. It's going to be a great day of fun, fellowship & learning, as young people from the North-West respond to God's saving grace in Jesus.

Date: Saturday the 26th of March

Time: The day will kick off at 10:30am and we'll be finished by 3:30pm

Cost: The whole day only costs \$20. This covers the cost of lunch and the conference.

What do I need to bring? Bring your bible, a pen, a water bottle & clothes that you can play outdoor games in. All the normal stuff you'd take to youth group.

How do I register? Registration can happen on the day. Just turn up.

Enquiries. Call on 6782 1037.

Barraba Anglican Parish
St Laurence's Barraba: Sunday service at 9.00am
Woodsreef: 2nd Sundays 11.30am
Bereen: 4th Sundays 6.00pm

Uniting Church Notice

Sunday 27TH March 2022.
The service is at 10.45am

CATHOLIC CHURCH NOTES

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

Ecological Burn Notice

Please be advised that Whitehaven Coal will be undertaking Burn Preparation and a cool season Ecological Burn on the properties "Wirradale" and "Willeroi" between 15 March 2022 and 29 April 2022. For further information, please contact Whitehaven Biodiversity on 0488 407 000.



Queen Street Café
82a Queen St. Barraba
Ph 0267822106

Dine in or takeaway.
Open 7 days



Always wanted to learn how to Candlewick?

Starting Thursday 21st April 10am to 1pm.

Everything you need for the 1st day will be supplied.

\$10 for members, \$15 for non-members

Phone Bronwyn 0447165008 to confirm your place in the group.

We're live on the web
Now you can get the local news updated more frequently by going to

www.barrabacommunitynews.org.au

Telescope Viewings at Tamworth Regional Astronomy Club



Victoria Park, Top End of Piper Street Tamworth.

March 24 @ 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm. \$5.00

The Tamworth Regional Astronomy Club Inc (TRAC) will be conducting a public viewing night weekly.

This will be a weekly event (weather permitting)

Entry fee is \$5.00 per Adult, payable upon entry.

Bring your family & friends from 5.00pm to the Astronomy and Science Centre, located in Victoria Park, at the top end of Piper Street, Tamworth.

If you have any questions, please connect with us via email: tracthestars@gmail.com or call 0458 772 747

Note: Remember to dress warmly as the evenings can cool.



Heritage Festival dates announced and nominations now open for coveted Heritage Awards

The annual Heritage Festival will take place from Friday 22 April to 1 May, 2022. Nominations are now open for the biennial Tamworth Regional Heritage Awards and will be open until 4pm, Wednesday 6 April, 2022.

The award categories include:

- Warren Newman Memorial for Contribution to Heritage within the Region
- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

- Adaptive Reuse
- Building Conservation
- Heritage Resources and Publication
- Heritage Tourism, Education and Interpretation
- New Systematic Development

Council encourages nominations for the awards at:

<https://www.tamworth.nsw.gov.au/about/forms/2022-tamworth-regional-heritage-awards-nomination-form>

Trial for new food scrap recycling service

A group of 250 households in Tamworth are being asked to help their community navigate its way forward with recycling by taking part in a Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) trial.

Tamworth Regional Council Manager Waste and Resource Recovery, Morne Hattingh, today announced the trial will start early in April and explained how it is an important part towards meeting NSW Government waste diversion targets and establishing the Tamworth Organics Recycling facility on an approved site at Gidley.

“FOGO is a kerbside collection service that allows food scraps to be added to the green lid garden waste bin so it can be processed and recycled,” he said.

“Council has committed to introducing the service for 20,000 homes in Tamworth, Barraba, Manilla, Nundle and Kootingal at the end of next year once the Organics Recycling Facility is up and running but first we need a trial to fully understand how to run the service most effectively here.

A trial is the only way to get a true indication of the amount of organics we can expect to see diverted from the red lid bin to the green lid bin.”

Householders will have the chance to attend an information session to find out more before choosing whether to get involved. Those residents who decide to

go ahead will be given information packs with more detail about the trial including what can and can't be put into the food organics collection.

The biggest change for households during the trial will be a move to a fortnightly collection for their red lid bin instead of weekly.

“The strong expectation is that the need for a weekly red bin collection will be eliminated because food scraps – which may account for 10 to 15 percent of household waste – will be able to go in the green lid bin,” Mr Hattingh said.

“FOGO is all about reducing the amount of waste going to landfill and increasing recycling volumes.”

Council expects to call for tenders for construction of the Tamworth Organics Facility in late May. The build is expected to take about nine months with the facility scheduled to start operating in July 2024.



NEW YOUTH SUPPORT SERVICE OPENS IN TAMWORTH

Children and young people living in Tamworth who have suicidal thoughts, have self-harmed or attempted suicide will now have access to community-based, non-clinical support, with the opening of the NSW Government's new Youth Aftercare service.

Member for Tamworth Kevin Anderson said the new service is part of an innovative trial by the NSW and Commonwealth Governments to reduce the leading cause of deaths among young people.

“The innovative service will involve rapid follow-up, continuity of care and establishing a genuine, compassionate connection with the young person using the service,” Mr Anderson said.

“The days and weeks after a young person leaves hospital is a crucial time in their recovery and this new service will support them to answer the all-important questions of: *‘Why am I feeling this way? What makes me feel safe? What can I do differently to feel more resilient?’*”

We know that if we can provide immediate support after a suicide attempt, we can reduce the likelihood of a further attempt.”

The model of care known is ‘Aftercare’, which is non-clinical, practical and geared towards addressing the social factors contributing to suicidal patterns of behaviour using child and youth-friendly approaches. It is led by non-for-profit New Horizons and the youth aftercare pilot is called i.am.

Children, young people, parents or carers are welcome to get in touch to find out more: visit:

<https://iam.liveshere.org.au/>

Telephone 1300 426 4373 email iam@newhorizons.org.au

If you, or someone you know, is thinking about suicide or experiencing a personal crisis or distress, please seek help immediately by calling Triple Zero or one of these services: Lifeline **13 11 14** | Kids Helpline **1800 55 1800** | Suicide Call Back Service **1300 659 467** | NSW Mental Health Line **1800 011 511**.

NATIONAL THUNDER MOTORCYCLE RALLY SET TO ROLL INTO TAMWORTH

Thousands of motorcycle enthusiasts will make the pilgrimage to Tamworth in October 2022 for Australia's first national motorcycle rally featuring all makes and models thanks to support from the NSW Government's Regional Events Acceleration Fund.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW Paul Toole said the rally would be a family friendly event attracting thousands of motorcycle

enthusiasts from right across NSW and from interstate over four days.

"This will be the first National Thunder Motorcycle rally, and it is sure to be a great event for the people of Tamworth and surrounds with organised rides set to spread the economic benefit of the event right across the region," Mr Toole said.

"The event is the first and only National Motorcycle Rally for all brands of motorcycles and is a full four days of family friendly fun that is planned to be held annually in Tamworth over the long weekend in October."

Member for Tamworth, Kevin Anderson MP said "The national event is expected to draw around 1,500 motorcycles to Tamworth, but it's not all about the bikes, we'll also have over 24 hours of live music, trade sites, equine shows and vintage cars and bikes on display to make for a great day out for the family," For further information go to: nsw.gov.au/REAFund



AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT FUNDING TO MAKE FIVE PRIORITY PROJECTS IN NEW ENGLAND A REALITY

The Liberal and Nationals Government is investing almost \$850,000 in priority projects across New England supporting local jobs, businesses and the resilience of local economies to help communities bounce back from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Made possible under the third phase of the Australian Government's \$2.5 billion Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) program, projects to be delivered by Tamworth Regional Council and Gwydir Shire Council include:

- \$490,000 for the construction of amenities at the Bingara Riverside Caravan Park.
- \$110,000 to upgrade amenities at the Upper Horton Sports Club.
- \$180,000 for the Bingara Footpath Program, to install a 2m wide footpath at Cunningham St to Junction St.

Deputy Prime Minister and Member for New England, Barnaby Joyce said the funding reflects the Gwydir Shire Council's top priorities and will ensure the needs of our local communities are met.

"With the challenges presented by COVID-19, bushfires, floods and other events, the past couple of years have been tough for communities, businesses and local councils," the Deputy Prime Minister said.

"That's why we have moved quickly to approve funding for five projects across New England, paving the way for shovels to hit the dirt to make them a reality.

This will provide a vital boost for our local communities, backing local jobs and economic growth while delivering lasting upgrades that will benefit residents for years to come.

We also get councils to use local businesses and workforces to deliver these projects as much as possible, ensuring this stimulus flows directly into the hands of hard-working Aussies, their families, their businesses and their communities.

I look forward to seeing more projects get underway and supporting jobs and communities at this critical time."

For more information on the \$2.5 billion LRCI program, including the allocations for the \$1 billion third phase, visit <https://investment.infrastructure.gov.au/local-roads-and-community-infrastructure/>.

More money in Pensioners pockets

More than 41,000 residents in New England will benefit from a boost to their social security payments from 20 March to help them keep up with the changes in the cost of living.

Age Pension, Disability Support Pension and Carer Payment rates will increase by \$20.10 a fortnight for singles to \$987.60 and by \$30.20 a fortnight for couples combined to \$1,488.80.

In addition, asset test limits have been increased which will allow more senior Australians to access a part pension. For example, the asset limit for a single homeowner has been boosted by \$6,750 to \$599,750 and for a homeowner couple by \$10,000 to \$901,500.

Deputy Prime Minister and Member for New England, Barnaby Joyce, said "These indexed social security payments will help thousands of residents in New England keep up with the cost of living. Putting money in the hands of those who need it the most, in turn sustaining local business, helping New England thrive."

More than 5 million pensioners and other payment recipients also received an additional \$2,000 in Economic Support Payments throughout the pandemic.

Pensioners in New England will see a 2.1 per cent increase to their payments – the largest increase since 2013.

The fortnightly maximum rate of Rent Assistance will also increase to \$145.80 for single recipients with no children, \$171.50 for families with up to two children and \$193.62 for families with three or more children.

Full details of new rates and thresholds are available at www.dss.gov.au/about-the-department/benefits-payments/previous-indexation-rates

For full details about the Tamworth Regional Council, Kevin Anderson and Barnaby Joyce news articles go to;
www.barrabacommunitynews.org.au

NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR 2022 PRIME MINISTER'S VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AWARDS

The search is on for Australia's top veteran employers and employees, with nominations now open for the 2022 Prime Minister's Veterans' Employment Awards.

Prime Minister Scott Morrison said the awards recognise veterans for their contribution to the nation after their military service, as well as the businesses that support them.

"Our Defence men and women receive world-class training, are disciplined, loyal and resilient – they are adept at problem-solving, working in teams and leading," the Prime Minister said.

Deputy Prime Minister and Member for New England, Barnaby Joyce, said "The New England community can be proud of the support we provide for our former defence personnel and their families, who bring critical knowledge and skills with them and contribute to our local economy.

I encourage members of our community to nominate for these awards, which not only recognise businesses that are doing their best to support our local veterans and their partners, but also individuals who have made significant contributions to the civilian workforce."

The annual awards are part of the Prime Minister's Veterans' Employment Program which brings together a range of resources and initiatives to support veteran and veteran partner job-seekers and employers.

Nominations for the 2022 Awards are open now and close on 31 March 2022. For more information on the Awards and to nominate, visit the Prime Minister's Veterans' Employment Program website:
www.veteranemployment.gov.au.



Lic No. 306630C

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Gasfitter and Handyman
Lic No. L8791
Text is best 0447 052 140
plumberdrainer@gmail.com

Regional Dam Levels from Water NSW



Chaffey 100.0%

Copeton 92.6%

Keepit 98.9%

Split Rock 70.5%

Barraba 7 day Forecast from the Bureau of Meteorology



Wednesday 23 Mar

Summary Max 32

Partly cloudy

Chance of any rain: 30%



Thursday 24 Mar

Summary Min 15 Max 29

Showers, possible storm

Chance of rain: 90%



Friday 25 Mar

Summary Min 13 Max 25

Showers, possible storm

Chance of any rain: 80%



Saturday 26 Mar

Summary Min 12 Max 25

Shower or two

Chance of any rain: 60%



Sunday 27 Mar

Summary Min 11 Max 25

Shower or two

Chance of rain: 60%



Monday 28 Mar

Summary Min 10 Max 26

Shower or two

Chance of any rain: 50%



Tuesday 29 Mar

Summary Min 11 Max 27

Partly cloudy

Chance of any rain: 30%

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Cnr. Alice and Fitzroy St Barraba

Contacts: Bronwyn 0447165008

Office: 02 67821662

Email

news@barrabacommunitynews.org.au

Touch Football Trials

After a rigorous school trial, 5 of our students recently attended the Touch Football Trials in Tamworth. Kade Spence, Cody Simpson, Rory Chapman, Leo Lawlor and Macey Cabot put in a great effort on the day and were put through drills and match play. Leo and Macey were selected and will go on to the Regional Trials. Well done to all students who trialed at school and at the Zone Trials.

Thank you to the parents who provided transport for the students. We look forward to the up and coming sporting trials and our students giving it their best shot.

Mrs King



The Barraba Netball Association

annual AGM will be held on Wednesday 6.4.22, 6pm at the Bowling Club. All major positions have been filled, however the opportunity is there if you are interested in taking on a position. We will be discussing future competition structures and junior netball among other things. If we do not have a quorum on Wednesday we will move the AGM to Friday 8.4.22 before the netball grand final takes place.

Hope to see you all there.



Rifle Club

Once again, the conditions for shooting were excellent with not much wind around the range on Saturday.

The scores were extremely close between everyone, with Brendan, Andrew & Darren all shooting possibles in the 100m and Darren also shooting a possible in Centrefire.

Casey is still giving the boys a run for their money shooting a 98 in the 100m and our newest and youngest shooter Noah, is shooting pretty good as well for just his second time at the range. Garry, Dallas, and Ron also weren't far behind the others with scores in the middle to high 90's. It was good to see a good roll up for the handguns on Sunday, hope they enjoyed the morning shoot.

Unlimited 100m

B. McIlrick 100.8, 99.8, 99.6 = 298.22

D. McIlrick 93, 82, 91.2 = 266.2

AA Grade 100m

A. White 100.3, 99.5, 97.3 = 296.11

D. Dewson 100.3, 100.4, 96.3 = 296.10

R. Bridges 96.3, 98.2, 96.2 = 290.7

G. Urquhart 97.3, 96.4, 91.1 = 284.1

A Grade 100m

C. Wells 98.2, 97.4, 96.2 = 291.8

B. Grade 100m

N. Hull 91.3, 93.2, 86.1 = 270.6

Unlimited 50m

B. McIlrick 99.6, 98.3, 95.5 = 292.14

D. McIlrick 84.1, 87.1, 88.3 = 259.5

AA Grade 50m

A. White 96.1, 98.8, 99.4 = 293.13

G. Urquhart 93.2, 95.2, 95.2 = 283.6

R. Bridges 97.2, 93.2, 91 = 281.4

D. Dewson 88, 96.3, 91 = 275.3

A Grade 50m

C. Wells 88, 81, 93.5 = 262.5

B. Grade 50m

N. Hull 58, 56, 56 = 170

Centrefire

D. Dewson 99.2, 98.8, 100.5

A. White 87, 87, 90 = 264

D. McIlrick 78, 93.1, 90.2 = 261.3



Golf Notes

Twenty four players hit off in beautiful autumn weather to open the 2022 Barraba Golf program on Sunday. Playing an individual stableford for Hamilton Trotters trophy Josh Austin proved too strong carding a very good 41 points to finish 4 points ahead of runner up Lyn Simpson on 37 points.

Balls went to Sam Faint 36, Paul Grigg 35, Mike Artis 35, Tom Mellor 33 and Ian Cabot 33 points. NTPs went to Graham Bowman on the 12th and Josh Austin on 18th.

Josh's tee shot into the 18th provided some entertainment for members on the clubhouse verandah as it ran past the edge of the hole.

Great to see Steve Ward having a hit this week.

Next week we play a 4BBB Stableford for the John and Toni Waugh and Firmen Allan Trophy. The following Sunday April 3rd is an Individual Bisque Par for Ian and Brenda McColls trophy. In other golfing news last week Walcha held the 83rd New England Ladies tournament where Stacey Etheridge won the overall two day Division 2 Championship whilst Amanda Koopman won the Division 1 Scratch on Day 1 and finished overall Division 1 Net Runner Up.

Libby Etheridge won a Division 3 Nearest the Pin on Day 2.

Public Notice

I am trying to locate the dog trainer who has reasonably recently relocated to Barraba, believe her name may be Michelle. Could you contact me on 0421 919 789 Greg.



Carol Sparks: Greens candidate for New England Federal election

I pay my respects to the Ngunnawal People, the traditional owners of the land upon which I live and work and their Elders past, present and emerging and to all First Nations People.

Carol Sparks has been announced as the Greens' candidate for the seat of New England. She has been involved in politics since 2014 when she was campaign manager for a Greens' Party candidate at the NSW State Election. She stood for council in 2016/17 where she was elected Deputy Mayor and in 2018 she was elected as the first female Mayor of Glen Innes Severn Council.

Now she is running at the federal level. "With the loss of lives, homes, our beloved native animals and pristine environment I'm ready to take this fight to the federal level. After experiencing the destruction brought about by the bushfires, I am even more driven to demand the government take action on Climate Change as there is no time to procrastinate".

Carol has always had an interest in the environment, social justice and grass roots democracy. "I have been lucky to see the beauty of our country. I have my husband to support me and 2 children, their partners, 3 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild and I want them to have the opportunity to experience the wonders of our magnificent country as I have. That is why I want to fight to preserve our precious ecosystems, native forests and wildlife; so that future generations can live to enjoy our land, our beaches and their lives.

Carol is a passionate voice for the community, our First Nations people, young people, the aged, and the environment. She has extensive knowledge about the inner workings of the health system. "As a registered nurse with over 50 years experience, I have witnessed the stresses and pressures that our public health system has come under. I have seen firsthand the impacts that funding cuts have both on health professionals and patients. That is why I will fight to make billionaires and big corporations pay their fair share, so we can adequately fund our public health system and extend Medicare to cover dental care and mental health services. We are in crisis in rural health care and we need our government to provide adequate support to our suffering communities".

Carol has been a volunteer firefighter for over 20 years and is a member of the Wyalaliba community which was recently devastated by the bush fires, where lives, land, homes and the school were lost, along with 85% of the animals and habitat. "Before this catastrophic event, I successfully put a motion to Council, to declare a "Climate Emergency" and for the General Manager to prepare a climate action plan. Now we are witnessing disastrous floods, further evidence that the Climate Emergency is here and that we must take action immediately, so let's get on with it. That is why I, as your Greens' Candidate for New England, will fight for emissions reductions of Net Zero by 2035, because 2050 is far too late."

Carol is fighting to ensure that all the New England community is given a voice and will seek to bring women into the decision-making processes of the community, given the lack of women leaders in the area. "By putting the Greens in the balance of power, we can hold the next government to account and ensure that our voices are heard and all our communities represented and looked after."

Photo credit: Tony Grant Carol Sparks in Glen Innes

Contacts: email greens.ne@gmail.com