



**FREE LOCAL NEWSPAPER**

# BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY OWNED AND EDITED

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

## Celebrating NAIDOC Week at the Health Service and Richardson House **Yaama kuru kuru (hello everyone)**



Local Indigenous Man, Dallas Ervine, who did the 'Welcome to Country' for the ceremony and introduced Gomeroi Elder, Fred McGrady, to Barraba.



Local Indigenous Man, Jeffery O'Leary spoke about the coming together of all Australians and gave a gift presentation to Cathy Stein, Health Service Manager.



Gomeroi Elder, Fred McGrady, from Moree with his wife and granddaughter. Fred conducted the Smoking Ceremony and explained to the guests the significance of the ceremony.



**Yaama birralii**  
(hello children)



Lighting the fire for the Smoking Ceremony

## Lions Officers for 2022-23 – President, Ron Bridges



Despite the cold weather, an enjoyable night was had at the Annual Lions Changeover on Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> June. Ron Bridges took on the President's position for another year and other members continued in their positions. Ron stated in his report that despite the past year being pretty quiet, activities are beginning to happen again and hopefully the Christmas Tree will be happening again. Significant donations have been made to assist the flood victims to the Lismore Lions Club and the Lions Flood Appeal.



The Barraba Potters and Craft Guild will be hold street stalls on **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July from 9am.** Cakes, slices, biscuits, plants, vegetables, small items of arts/craft and much more will be available for purchase.



### BARRABA MEN'S SHED

The Executive Committee of the Barraba Men's Shed wish to advise all members that the AGM will be held on Friday 8 July at 10am, being held at the Shed in Clifton Lane.



### Westpac Helicopter

Around 3:30 p.m. on Sunday the Westpac Rescue Helicopter was tasked by New South Wales Ambulance on a medical retrieval to Bingara Hospital to transfer a 77 year old male to Tamworth Rural Referral Hospital suffering a medical condition requiring specialist treatment.

The patient was be stabilised by the Helicopter Critical Care Medical Team prior to airlifting him to Tamworth.



Cobbadah Flowers  
Marnie Crowley  
0267822045  
0429878788





**Welcome to  
Barraba RSL  
and Recreation Club**

**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 \$1,600

**SATURDAY: 10AM-**  
**SUNDAY: 10AM-5.30PM**  
ANGLERS CLUB RAFFLES 1PM  
MEMBERSHIP DRAW \$1,300

**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**



## History Notes

This week seems to have been all about the main street history with every moment spent reading what has already been written, and searching for the relevant information in the Barraba town file. Hopefully I am near the end but there is quite a lot to go before the project is finished.

These very cold frosty mornings are not a good sign for the markets in a couple of weeks but we will have them if it is at all possible, hopefully everyone will be over their health problems by then. Watch for the signs to go up if we are in business.

During the week I have been wondering what to use in history notes this week and then I heard a radio program about the Black Friars School – there will be some readers that have heard of it but most readers will not know anything about it!

In the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century there were a few country schools scattered across the countryside but the population was so scattered that it was not possible for all children to attend school.

The Blackfriars School provided lessons by mail. Most children were enrolled at the age of six years and were often supervised by a parent, usually their mother. A book with the week's lessons arrived by mail each week and the child had to do each day's lesson and then at the end of the week post the book back to Sydney for comment and corrections. There were three exercise books – one being corrected, one in the post and one at the pupil's home and the earliest correspondence pupil that I know of was one of my father's cousins who started in the 1920's – there is a book of hers in the Historical Society collection.

In our case, being the eldest, I started first and my brother began three years later and I remember being set up out on the veranda to work through the days exercises with my brother supposedly doing his drawing while our young sister was under the table causing trouble. That was when our mother realized that she couldn't do the housework as well as supervise the schooling! She had to have someone doing the housework while she supervised the schooling all the time!

Thankfully the Cobbadah School re-opened soon after that and we rode our horses three miles, across the paddocks, to school each day. When we reached high school standard we went to boarding school in Sydney. There must surely be other people in our town who grew up on correspondence school, we would love to hear about it or perhaps your parent's old school still exists.



### Position Vacant

A part time position exists for a Travel Support Officer for school children with special needs - before and after school. Applicants will need to submit to a 'working with children' check. Phone: 6760 9084



## Mouth-watering preparations begin for Taste Tamworth



After an interrupted couple of years, the much-loved and delicious Taste Tamworth Festival returns in September this year.

The festival will be made up of six signature events:

**Friday 9 September** – A Taste of Sunset – Kitty Crawford Estate, Piallamore

**Sunday 11 September** – Long Lunch – The Pavillion Function Centre, Nemingha

**Friday 16 September** – Laneway Pop Up – Fitzroy Street, Tamworth

**Saturday 17 September** – High Tea in the Gardens – Tamworth Botanic Gardens

**Saturday 17 September** – Kids High Tea in the Gardens – Tamworth Botanic Gardens

**Sunday 18 September** – Taste in the Park – Bicentennial Park, Tamworth

Expressions of interest are now open for stallholders at Taste in the Park, the largest event of the festival and a drawcard for visitors. Tamworth Regional Council's Event Officer, Melanie Jenkins said this is an event that foodies want to be involved in.

"For Taste in the Park, we're expecting to get a wide range of quality applications from food, wine and beer producers from across the region and beyond. We will do our best to support local, but we also include travelling stallholders to increase the variety and

diversity of options for visitors. This is a premium event that people want to be involved in and has previously drawn crowds of thousands to enjoy a great day in Bicentennial Park."

Expressions of interest are now open, close at 5pm on 1 September, 2022. Stallholders can apply online at: [www.tastetamworth.com.au](http://www.tastetamworth.com.au)

Caterers have been approached directly for the other scheduled events during the festival. Tickets and more details on the program of events will be advertised closer to the event. Taste Tamworth will make up a busy schedule of events in Spring, with the inaugural National Thunder Rally and Fiesta La Peel also taking place. The festival will take place in September in 2022 before returning to its usual Autumn schedule in 2023.



We are aware of a hoax call circulating pretending to be Council and chastising the community member for recycling issues.



This is not us, and won't ever be us in regards to recycling. If Council was to review or look in someone's recycling bins and they were doing the wrong thing, we would issue a letter through our waste contractor or from Council directly.

## Tamworth Regional Gallery celebrates Aboriginal women with the opening of two exhibitions

**WHERE:** Tamworth Regional Gallery, 466 Peel Street, Tamworth



### New Stitches

New Stitches is curated by regional Aboriginal Curator Lyniece Keogh, and showcases artworks by contemporary artists Adrienne Doig and Joan Ross, and regional Aboriginal artist Adele Chapman-Burgess. This exhibition features traditional and contemporary art practices and mediums as a narrative to the legacy of collections in regional galleries for local, national and international audiences.

### Yinaar – A creative exploration of Aboriginal Women's Practices

Presented by 2 Rivers in partnership with Arts North West, *Yinaar* (Kamilaroi for woman) is a creative exploration of Aboriginal women's practices in the New England North West. Five Aboriginal artists (Adele Chapman-Burgess, Avril Chapman, Vicky Duncan, Tania Hartigan, Tess Reading) have responded to, and been inspired by, five key areas – healing, food and medicine, kinship and responsibilities, gali (water) and language.

Learn more about what's happening at Tamworth Regional Gallery at

[www.tamworthregionalgallery.com.au](http://www.tamworthregionalgallery.com.au)



## **MORE THAN \$149 MILLION TO REDUCE COSTS FOR REGIONAL PATIENTS**

Communities across the Tamworth electorate will benefit from an expansion of the Isolated Patients Travel and Accommodation Assistance Scheme (IPTAAS), with the NSW Government investing an additional \$149.5 million as part of the 2022-23 NSW Budget.

Member for Tamworth, Kevin Anderson welcomed the funding boost which will see more people in the Tamworth electorate being eligible for subsidised travel and accommodation if they need to travel to receive specialist care.

"We understand travel and accommodation can be expensive and we're committed to doing what we can to ease the financial pressure on patients," Mr Anderson said.

For the first time, the scheme will be expanded with patients seeking non-commercial clinical trials, high risk foot clinics, highly specialised publicly funded dental health clinics and ophthalmologists to be eligible for assistance.

The subsidy for people requiring accommodation will be almost doubled, while the NSW Government will also nearly double the private vehicle subsidy rate from 22 cents to 40 cents per kilometre for patients who have to travel more than 100 kilometres for care.

Treasurer Matt Kean said the boost will put NSW well ahead of other states with how comprehensive and generous its patient travel subsidy scheme is.

"This funding will see our overall investment in IPTAAS tripled over the next four years, with the NSW Government leading the way to assist

rural and regional patients in getting the help and support they need," Mr Kean said.

1603 people in the Tamworth electorate were supported last year under the IPTAAS scheme.

## **BUDGET DELIVERS \$449M FOR TAMWORTH ELECTORATE**

The 2022/23 budget has delivered more than \$449.5 million for the Tamworth electorate with key funding being delivered to keep the ball rolling on major infrastructure projects and build a brighter future for the people of the Tamworth Electorate.

Member for Tamworth Kevin Anderson said "The budget confirms that this government's focus and investment in the Tamworth Electorate. We have several major projects that have been driving investment and confidence in Tamworth and it's great to see funding continuing to flow.

Significant highlights for the 2022/23 budget include:

- **BETTER BANKSIA PROJECT**
- **\$53M GUNNEDAH HOSPITAL**
- **GOONOO GOONOO ROAD**
- **DUNGOWAN PROJECT**
- **SOCIAL HOUSING**
- **ABORIGINAL HOUSING**
- **ROADS AND BRIDGES**
- **RANGARI ROAD**
- **UNE TAMWORTH**
- **RFS AREA COMMAND CENTRE**
- **TAFE NSW SHARED SERVICES CENTRE**
- **TAMWORTH AMBULANCE STATION**
- **WALCHA SKATE PARK**

## **\$14.6 MILLION TO EXPAND BANKSIA MENTAL HEALTH UNIT**

Children and adolescents will have increased access to mental health support in Tamworth under a \$14.6 million expansion of the new Banksia Mental Health Unit.

Member for Tamworth Kevin Anderson said the funding boost will support additional floor capacity as part of the new Banksia Mental Health Unit to be constructed at Tamworth Hospital, with four dedicated child and adolescent beds for young people, as well as accommodation for child and adolescent community mental health teams.

"The community have been calling for the inclusion of child and adolescent beds in the new Banksia Mental Health Unit. I am extremely pleased to announce that we have responded to those calls and will be expanding the new unit so more children and adolescents who are experiencing an acute mental health episode can receive care in a clinically safe environment closer to home," Mr Anderson said.

Minister for Regional Health and Mental Health Bronnie Taylor said "We know there has been a large increase in the prevalence of mental disorders in children and adolescents both in Australia and internationally, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic," Mrs. Taylor said.

"The NSW Government is investing in a range of support services, including in acute mental health inpatient units like Banksia Mental Health Unit. This will ensure we can continue to meet the community's mental health needs now and into the future."

The new Banksia Mental Health Unit is being constructed as part of the NSW Government's \$700 million Statewide Mental Health Infrastructure Program.



## **YOUR SHORTCUT TO... HOW WE'RE KEEPING THE LIGHTS ON**

One of the biggest news stories in Oz is what's happening with our energy system after a raft of issues has smashed the supply and demand for electricity. It's a discussion that's packed with technical jargon and detail, so in this Squiz Shortcut, we break down:

- how our power grid works;
- what's happened to bring it to a crisis point;
- and what can be done.



### **Let's start with the basics - how is our electricity made?**

It depends on the energy source, but the trick is having an energy source like coal, gas, hydropower or wind to turn a turbine so that it spins magnets surrounded by copper wire, to get the flow of electrons across atoms, which in turn generates electricity.

### **Sounds like magic...**

Yes - it does seem like some sort of sorcery... But how a power plant operates depends on the energy source. Coal and gas work in a similar way - they are burned to heat water, which creates steam and turns the turbine.

### **What about renewables?**

Hydropower and wind operate by using water and wind sources to turn the turbine.

### **And solar?**

That involves the capture of radiation from the sun and its turned into electricity using semi-conductors right at the site. That's why if you have solar panels on your roof you can feed your surplus power straight into the grid.

### **Okay, we've generated the power - where does it go from there?**

The National Electricity Market interconnects the 5 eastern and southern states - so that's Queensland, NSW, Victoria, Tassie, South Oz and the ACT - and that delivers around 80% of all electricity in Australia.

### **What about Western Oz and the Northern Territory?**

They're not connected to the National Electricity Market because of the distance and have their own electricity systems and regulatory arrangements.

### **How is power shuttled around the country?**

After electricity is generated at these power plants, it then travels along the power lines and wires that we see all around us.

### **And how do greenhouse gas emissions tie into all this?**

According to the latest stats from the 2020/21 financial year, 65% of our electricity generation is fueled by coal. The next biggest sources were wind and solar with about 10% each, followed by hydro with more than 7%. In that year, gas-fired electricity production accounted for about 6.5%.

### **So, all up, how much of our electricity comes from fossil fuels?**

About three-quarters, with a quarter coming from renewable sources. But the renewable sector is growing thanks to a boom in solar installation. Solar is now the largest source of renewable energy in Oz, with one in 4 Aussie homes having solar panels installed. That's the highest uptake in the world.

### **But the sun isn't out all the time...**

No - nighttime and cloud coverage limits how much solar power can be generated. That's the gist of the debate about shoring up 'dispatchable' power - electricity that can be generated rain, hail or shine. In our system that's the power that comes from burning coal and gas.

### **Is it possible to have dispatchable renewable power?**

That's where batteries come into it... But batteries need to have much more capacity to get to a point where renewable energy can replace that created by coal and gas.

### **Gotcha. So, what's this latest crisis about?**

Last week, the Australian Energy Market Operator - or AEMO for short - suspended the spot wholesale market in the National Electricity Market for the first time in our country's history. AEMO is an independent government organisation that monitors most of the nation's electricity consumption and the power generators' supply across the system.

### **How did we get to this crisis point?**

There are a lot of factors here... But essentially, Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the fallout across global energy markets has sent coal and gas prices skyrocketing. That's because Russia is a major gas producer and it exports a lot of it into Europe, so

Western sanctions on Russia have seen increased demand for alternative supplies of gas.

**If gas doesn't contribute much to our electricity supply, why has the shortage from Russia had such a big impact on energy prices here?**

Because when one energy source is impacted it has a trickle-on effect on other sources. Long story short, our electricity generators have had to fork out more to buy both coal and gas.

**But doesn't Oz supply a lot of coal and gas to the world market?**

Yep, around 85% of our produced energy commodities - coal and gas - are exported. That's seen call for a 'reservation policy' to be implemented in the eastern states, which would see a certain amount held here in Australia for our domestic purposes.

**So, that would apply to both coal and gas?**

Just gas. Our energy generators can usually get their hands on enough coal - they just have to pay the global price for it. But it's important to note that there has been a bit of a coal shortage of late because of the floods in eastern Australia.

**So, what's the issue with our gas supply?**

Well, it's not unusual for there to not be enough for local electricity generators to buy, because producers lock in big contracts to ship it off to international markets. Western Oz is the exception - it has a reservation policy where 15% of the gas produced for export must be provided to local consumers - and that's kept gas prices low there.

**Aside from the Ukraine war, what else is contributing to our energy crisis?**

Another thing that's been talked about is the state of Australia's coal-fired power plants. Large parts of Australia's current fleet were offline for maintenance last week, with about 30% of the supply knocked out.

**What's the problem?**

Our coal-fired power plants are old. They're owned by companies, and there's not a lot of enthusiasm for spending more money on maintaining or improving these assets because it's clear that phasing out coal is going to be a thing in the coming years.

**Because of climate change?**

Yep - the burning of fossil fuels to produce electricity contributes about a third of Australia's total carbon emissions, and to meet our commitments to emissions reductions, our power plants will be phased out over time.

**So, back to AEMO - what led to it intervening in the market?**

Electricity generators are obligated to supply power when it's needed, and what happened last week was that AEMO suspended the market and forced energy companies to

pump out more power. And AEMO was a bit sceptical about why so many of those plants had taken themselves offline...

**Why was that?**

The regulator thought some companies were saying they were closed for maintenance when they actually didn't want to be online because the price of coal is so high and their profits were being squeezed.

**What did energy companies say about that?**

They have denied that claim, and the government said it will provide the companies with compensation if they are operating at a loss. It's also worth noting extreme weather events like the recent floods have also affected some power plants. On top of that, a cold snap and households turning up their heaters saw the National Electricity Market hit a crisis point.

**So, AEMO suspended the spot market... What happened after that?**

Since then, there have been meetings and guidelines have been drawn up for things to go back to normal. AEMO reckons there's just a small risk of the same conditions re-emerging in the short term. So, it's now started to wind back its intervention in the market.

**But the issues aren't over?**

Not at all. AEMO says it's still directing generators to pump power into the network and that there will continue to be challenges with managing the supply and demand for electricity in our biggest population centres.

**How will that affect prices?**

Well, in the first 3 months of 2022, the wholesale price of electricity went up by 141% compared to the same quarter last year - and it has only continued to rise due to all those issues we've mentioned.

**Apart from the production of the electricity itself, what else are we paying for?**

Electricity wholesale prices make up just a third of the total price consumers pay. The rest of it comes down to getting the electricity from the generator to our homes and businesses. There are network costs (including maintaining the lines, poles and other infrastructure) that make up 45% of the cost. There's also the cost of meeting renewable energy target obligations (10%), and retail costs, including things like managing billing and customer service (10%). And of course, the retailers want to make some money out of it - they pocket about 3%.

**So, maintaining the infrastructure takes up a pretty hefty chunk...**

It does, and it's another thing that's talked about as an issue in our electricity grid. The problem is that the

network is old. And not only that, the experts say building new transmission lines is critical if Australia is to meet its net-zero emissions target by 2050 commitment.

**You're going to have to explain that...**

It's due to inefficient power transmission and distribution - it's a bit like a leaky pipe if you were transporting water. If the infrastructure isn't good, it means additional electricity has to be generated to compensate for losses.

**So, is the plan to build better infrastructure?**

Yep, and the new Labor government has promised to create a \$20 billion fund to offer low-cost loans to develop new transmission lines. It's a policy former PM Scott Morrison said will push energy prices higher in the short term, but AEMO says it will pay off into the future.

**Ok, give it to me straight. Are we all about to be hit with bigger power bills?**

A lot of us will. But there are 2 things to note: first, the regulator caps the price of some of our most expensive power plans. They say prices will go up by up to 20% depending on where you live in those eastern and southeastern states.

**And the second?**

One bit of advice floating around right now is to ensure your energy provider is also a power generator. That's because they should be in a stronger position to ride out the ups and downs of the wholesale electricity market.

**And we should probably also turn the lights off when we're not using them...**

Good point. It's harder these days because we have so many appliances that are on standby all the time, but reducing our energy consumption can't hurt.

**St Laurence's Barraba**

Sunday service at 10.00am

Woodsreef: 2nd Sundays 11.30am

Bereen: 4th Sundays 11.30am

**Uniting Church Notices**

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July

Service 8.45am

**CATHOLIC CHURCH NOTES**

Barraba—1st & 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday, 5pm Saturday evening

2nd 3rd & 4th Sunday 9am

Upper Horton 3rd Sunday 11am

Weekday Mass Wednesday 10am

**Recent Anniversaries**

- the signing of the Magna Carta (1215)
- France surrendering to Nazi Germany, which occupied Paris (1940)
- the formation of the Salvation Army in London (1880)
- the opening of the first rollercoaster - Coney Island, New York (1884)
- Russia's Valentina Tereshkova becoming the first woman in space (1963)
- Charles Goodyear obtaining his first rubber patent (1837)
- the Statue of Liberty arriving in New York aboard French ship Isere (1885)
- the last public guillotining in France (1939)
- the Battle of Waterloo, which saw Napoleon defeated by Britain (1815)
- Amelia Earhart becoming the first woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean (1928)
- the UN Commission on Human Rights adopting the International Declaration of Human Rights (1948)
- the British Royal Family renouncing its German names and titles and adopting the name of Windsor (1917)
- Queen Victoria ascending the British throne at 18yo following the death of her uncle King William IV (1837)
- Samuel Morse patenting his telegraph (1840)
- the first Victoria Cross won during the Crimean War (1854)
- Galileo Galilei being forced to recant his view that the Earth orbits the Sun by the Pope (1633)
- Nazi Germany invading the Soviet Union during WWII (1941)
- the first contraceptive pill is made available for purchase in the US (1960)
- the UK's Brexit referendum (2016)
- Ash Barty winning the Birmingham title, becoming women's world #1 (2019)
- Julia Gillard becoming Australia's 27th Prime Minister (2010)
- women being allowed to drive for the first time in Saudi Arabia after the ban was lifted (2018)
- the start of the Korean War (1950)
- the first use of the rainbow flag as a symbol of gay pride at a march in San Francisco (1978)
- the invention of the toothbrush in China using boar bristles (1498)
- the signing of the UN Charter (1945)
- Kevin Rudd rolling Julia Gillard to become PM for the second time (2013)



## Everyone loves Bandit from Bluey – but is he a lovable larrikin, or just a bad dad?

*David Burton, Lecturer, Theatre, University of Southern Queensland*

*Kate Cantrell, Lecturer in Writing, Editing, and Publishing, University of Southern Queensland*



### **Bandit Heeler is a hero.**

The cartoon father of Bluey and her younger sister Bingo, Bandit is the much-loved dad dog at the heart of Australia's favourite four-legged family. He balances the drudgery of housework with the creative escapades of his daughters, repurposing everyday objects and actions for imaginative play and engagement.

Awarded a Father of the Year award in 2019 and widely cited as the model of modern fatherhood, Bandit's engaged presence in his daughters' lives has been hailed as a watershed moment in children's television.

In a break from TV's "bad dad" trope, Bandit has been worshipped as a "dad-idol", even inspiring a Facebook group of 14,000 dedicated dads who identify as Bluey superfans.

Child psychologists have explained how Bandit inspired their approach to pretend play and improvisation. A new article published in *The Journal of Paediatrics and Child Health* lays out "what Bluey can teach us about parenting and grandparenting". But there is a darker side to this lovable character.

Bandit never strays far from the reductive stereotype of the Australian larrikin: the likeable roguish male stuck between childhood and adulthood whose disrespect of authority and rough-and-ready masculinity reflects Australia's emotional attachment to the working-class underdog.

### **A familiar breed of larrikin**

It is difficult to overstate the cultural power of larrikin ideology in Australia.

Generally regarded as a sign of authentic, rugged masculinity and anti-authoritarianism, the figure of the larrikin has been co-opted for car and beer adverts, international tourism, and even conservative politics.

Today, the image of the larrikin has been sanitised for public consumption; however, the history of larrikinism is firmly rooted in Australia's colonial literature.

The original larrikins of the late 19th century were young urban mischief-makers who sometimes ventured into serious violence and crime.

At the turn of the century, these transgressive characters were endowed with hearts of gold in outback drama and literature. In some cases, they were domesticated, as was the case for Dad and Dave from Steele Rudd's *On Our Selection* (1899).

Rudd established the family dynamic that would be replicated in a multitude of Australian dramas, from *Kingswood Country* (1980–84) to *The Castle* (1997) to *Bluey*: energetic and inexhaustible children, a long-suffering sensible wife and a larrikin father who knows how to play to an audience.

From this mythos, we see the birth of Bandit: the underdog who knocks authority, mocks pomposity, and regularly breaks the rules to get what he wants – even resorting to cheating when he can't outsmart or outpace his children.

In one episode, Bandit holds Bluey back from the finish line so he can win an obstacle course. In another, he lauds victory over his younger brother, Stripe, taunting that "big brothers always beat little brothers" – a jibe Bluey imitates when she teases Bingo: "Big sisters always beat little sisters. That's just the way it goes."

Even Bandit's name conjures up the small-time crimes of bushrangers, Australia's revered outlaws who also achieved a type of perverse folk hero status.

### **Bandit the bully**

Undoubtedly, Bandit's larrikinism contributes to his likeability: he is an entertaining and engaged father who is heavily involved in his children's lives.

Occasionally, however, we catch a glimpse of Bandit's darker side, with his playful teasing of his young daughters sometimes devolving into bullying.

In one episode, Bandit agrees to open Bingo's ice block before repeatedly licking her frozen sweet in front of her. Afterwards, Bandit apologises to his daughter for being "a bit mean".

While the show itself restrains judgement, often it is Bandit's wife Chilli who pulls him into line. When Bandit forgets to pack sunscreen and snacks for a swim at the pool, it is Chilli (the "boring" parent, in Bandit's words) who saves the day.

Yet it is Bandit who is praised for his parenting prowess, while Chilli is figuratively and literally in the background. In fact, the creators of Bluey were recently accused of mother-shaming when they described Chilli as "falling a bit short" due to her status as a working mum.

The universal veneration of Bandit is perplexing since, in situations like at the pool, he comes across as a mildly incompetent caricature, lampooned as an overgrown child in need of regular supervision and training.

Bandit is also surprisingly conservative when it comes to gender values.

Bandit is a "traditional" man who wishes to be viewed as the head of the Heeler household. When he reluctantly submits to wearing make-up, he is subsequently mocked by his mates for doing so. He censors himself from engaging in full imaginative play when under the gaze of other men. He teases his wife on the pains of pregnancy and labour.

Taken individually, most of these moments are punchlines. But over the course of three series, Bluey creates a complex portrait of Australia's favourite dad. Bandit is present and playful, but he is still a larrikin at heart. His continued popularity, despite his personal shortcomings, only speaks to the stereotype's strength in contemporary Australian life.



## Pork Neck with Red Wine & Potatoes

From the Free Range Butcher

This recipe is a 4-day process, but trust us, it's worth it! The pork needs to soak in red wine

3 days prior to cooking it, to tenderise the meat and allow it to absorb an intense red wine flavour. Serves 6-8  
Prep: 30 mins (over 4 days), Soaking: (3 nights), Cooking: 1 hr 30 mins

### Ingredients:

- Day 1** 1 1/2 kg pork neck
- 1 tsp salt
  - 2 tbs coriander seeds, roughly crushed
  - 2 tbs ground coriander
- Day 2** 2 cups dry red wine
- Day 3** 1/2 cup red wine
- Day 4** 12 baby chat potatoes (or alternative)
- Salt, to taste
  - 1 tbs fennel seeds
  - 1/2 cup olive oil
  - 1 cup water

### Method:

#### Day 1

1. Dice your pork in 2x2cm cubes. Place into a large bowl.
2. Season with salt, coriander seeds, ground coriander and mix to combine.
3. Cover and place in the fridge overnight.

#### Day 2

1. Remove pork bowl from the fridge. Pour in red wine and mix to combine.
2. Cover and place in fridge overnight.

#### Day 3

1. Remove bowl from the fridge. Pour in red wine and mix to combine.
2. Cover and place in fridge overnight.

#### Day 4

1. Wash and score potatoes. Fill half of a large oven tray with your potatoes.
2. Remove the soaked pork from the fridge and add on the other half of the oven tray.
3. Sprinkle potatoes and pork with salt, fennel seeds, olive oil and water.
4. Cover with baking paper and foil and cook in the oven on 180°C (fan-forced) for 1 hr.
5. Remove the cover and cook for a further 30 mins to colour.



## Rugby Union

Bingara turned on the cool conditions for the late games under lights for the Barraba/Gwydir team against Narrabri last Saturday in both girls and boys games.

In the girl's game, Narrabri again asserted their strength, as they have a larger number of players than the smaller clubs, and they are above the girls on the Table. They were expected to be the stronger but coach, Jack McCarthy, was very pleased with the girls' effort as they never gave up. The final score saw Narrabri the winner with 57-5.

Player's Player Gemma McDouall

3. Kia Newell
2. Nat Philpott
1. Brianna Mack & Isabel Butler

The school boys game on Friday in the under 16's saw Inverell run out winners 55-15 with the temperature well down. There will be no 14's Girls or 16's Boys games during the school holidays.

On July 2nd, with games against Gunnedah, the Club will be having the Ladies Day, which proves very popular with the female players and followers. So, ladies, come out for the day. In the Men's game, in very cold conditions, Narrabri dominated the early part of the game to build a reasonable lead at half-time. The second half Barraba/Gwydir seemed to win the session but failed to add enough points with a try being scored by Josh Austin which was disallowed on the Touch Judge's report. The team suffered a number of bad injuries during the match with shoulder and ankles, which may have occurred because of the colder temperature in the night-time game. Reports say the game was a good spectacle to watch even though the score 24-7 does not indicate that.

Player's Player Will Robinson, who leads by example

3. Josh Robinson
2. Josh Austin
1. Harry Brown & Mark O'Neill

There will be a Committee meeting on Thursday night at 5.30pm to discuss the arrangements for Gunnedah and Ladies Day.



## Golf

Amanda Koopman played some of her best golf in a while to card a plus 5 to win Ian and Brenda McColl's Bisque Par trophy in what was a very close finish on Sunday. Mandy finished just one point ahead of 5 golfers including Lyn Groth plus 4, Sam Faint plus 4, Kerrie Smith plus 4, Dave McMurtrie plus 4 and Campbell Tonkin also plus 4. Peter Simpson also claimed a ball with plus 3.

NTPs went to Bill Simpson on both the 6th and 18th whilst Mandy Koopman claimed one on the 12th. Seems Bill "Gator" Simpson is finding the dam water a bit cold in winter so is reverting to winning weekly NTPs.

In single match play results Campbell Tonkin defeated Bill Simpson 4 and 3.

Next week we will play a stroke event for a trophy donated by Kerrie Smith. and the week after is an Individual Versus Par for Daniel Anderson's

Barraba pool will be closed this week (Tuesday-Thursday) and again for the week of 19-21<sup>st</sup>



**What's a golfer's favorite letter?**

**Tee!**

**Why did the golfer wear two pairs of pants?**

**In case, he got a hole in one!**

**Why was the tiny ghost asked to join the football team?**

**They needed a little team spirit.**

**How do football players deal with their problems?**

**They tackle them head on.**





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## Barraba 6 day Forecast from the Bureau of Meteorology

**Wednesday 29 June**

**Summary** Min -2 Max 17  
**Morning frost, part cloudy**  
Chance of any rain: 5%



**Thursday 30 June**

**Summary** Min 3 Max 17  
**Cloudy**  
Chance of rain: 20%



**Friday 1 July**

**Summary** Min 2 Max 16  
**Possible shower**  
Chance of any rain: 4%



**Saturday 2 July**

**Summary** Min 4 Max 17  
**Shower or 2**  
Chance of any rain: 50%



**Sunday 3 July**

**Summary** Min 5 Max 17  
**Shower or 2**  
Chance of rain: 60%



**Monday 4 July**

**Summary** Min 5 Max 17  
**Shower or 2**  
Chance of any rain: 70%



### **Regional Dam Levels from Water NSW**

Chaffey 100.1%  
Copeton 99.5%  
Keepit 99.7%  
Split Rock 73.3%

## BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

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