



BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

FREE LOCAL NEWSPAPER

COMMUNITY OWNED AND EDITED

Wednesday 10th August 2022

**RURAL
WOMEN'S
CATCH-UP**

UPPER HORTON
FRIDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER 2022, 10.00AM
UPPER HORTON SPORTING CLUB

JOIN US FOR A FREE DELICIOUS MORNING TEA FROM 10AM
 2 SHORT PRESENTATIONS & PLENTY OF TIME FOR A CHAT

TOPIC - HEALTHY GARDENS - AMBER HALL

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL FOR CATERING - GO TO WWW.STICKYTICKETS.COM.AU OR
 SCAN THE QR CODE**

**FURTHER QUERIES CONTACT SHELLEY ON 6724 2052,
 OR EMAIL ADMIN@NSLA.NET.AU**

This initiative made possible by the NSW Landcare Program. A collaboration of Local Land Services and Landcare NSW Inc. supported by the NSW Government.

ABOUT BARRABA AGM.

Location: Barraba Bowling Club
Date: Wed 24th August
Time: 6pm
General meeting to follow

NOTICE OF AGM

Please be advised that the AGM of The Barraba Showground Management Committee will be held at the Barraba Bowling Club on Thursday 18th August starting at 6.00 P.M.

ALL WELCOME
DON ROBERTS SECRETARY

Barraba Civilian & Military Rifle Club AGM

Saturday 27th August 2022
11.30am @ Rifle Range



Barraba Branch of the United Hospital Auxiliaries AGM

Friday 19th August 2022 10.00am
at The Claypan

*All Executive positions will be open!
New members are most welcome!!*

We Fundraise for the hospital to provide additional equipment and services for the benefit of patients comfort.



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 \$2,000 3 draws

SATURDAY: 10AM-
SUNDAY: 10AM-5.30PM
ANGLERS CLUB RAFFLES 1PM
MEMBERSHIP DRAW \$1,900

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

Vietnam War Veterans Remembered

On Thursday 18th August 6.30pm, there will be a 1-hour documentary on Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War, primarily The Battle of Long Tan. This documentary has interviews with 7 of the Aussie Veterans who fought in the battle, as well as nurses and medics of the day of the battle.

This will be followed at 7.45pm by the 2020 movie 'Danger Close', based on The Battle of Long Tan, in the theatre at Andrew's Playhouse Hotel, Queen Street, clock corner, Barraba. Free for both shows. There will also be a Vietnam War Military display in the 3 shopfronts opposite the NAB bank on Queen street, from Sat 6th August till Sat 27th August.

Enquiries:

Playhouse Hotel, Andrew 67821109

Military Display, Steve 0476 912 650



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Published by Community College Northern Inland Inc.

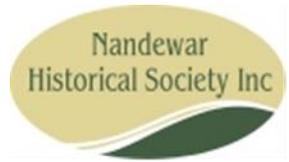
Cnr. Alice and Fitzroy St Barraba

Contacts: Bronwyn 0447165008

Office: 02 67821662

Email news@barrabacommunitynews.org.au

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History Notes

This is the week before the markets return. We have missed a couple due to illness, cold weather, school holidays etc. so let us make this a good one with lots of people, stalls and a social day to meet up with people. The advertisement is displayed for your information.

The continuous run of visitors continues and information via the internet is keeping us busy as well. Last Thursday we had a visit from a couple from Armidale trying to trace an ancestor who worked as a mechanic in Barraba for a few years. Sadly, we could not find him in any records, so I now appeal to Barraba residents to help us out.

Les Hardman was evidently keen on motorbikes, and we think he may have worked at Clifton's Garage in the early 1920's as G.R. White may not have opened as early as that. His wife, Gladys, was a daughter of Richard Thomas Heywood and she grew up in Manilla – her father died in Manilla.

The Hardman family lived in Orchard Lane for the few years they were in Barraba, possibly in a house on a corner of the lane. Two daughters were born in Barraba, and it is thought they were baptised into the Methodist Church. The visitor actually found the name of one of them, Betty Jean, on the memorial board outside the Post Office.

Orchard Lane is only a short street and I thought we should be able to work out who was living there in 1920. Two of the houses were used as a maternity home, Dr Spencer and Mr Ryan owned

Continued page 4

Seed Conservation Training & Research Workshops

In partnership with the Northern Slopes Landcare Association, Royal Botanic Gardens & Domain Trust (RBG&DT) staff will share their expertise in seed conservation at a series of workshops. Over the past three years, RBG&DT staff have undertaken research on the seed germination requirements of key plant species from Threatened Ecological Communities in the North West Slopes region.

In each workshop, participants will learn about seed collecting strategies such as provenances, recent advances in genetic sampling and testing, how to collect seeds and process collections, and understand seed storage behaviour and germination strategies. Accompanying the theory will be a hands-on activity on collecting equipment and materials, and seed quality testing of different species. No prior knowledge is required!

Local speakers to also feature include
 Moree - Pippa Jones - Beneficials in Brigalow, supported by Local Land Services with funding from the Australian government.
 Narrabri - Sydney Uni - Monitoring the Landscape with Sensors in the field.
 Jo Skewes, NSLA, Invasive Cacti Update.
 Gunnedah Urban Landcare project update

FREE ENTRY, LUNCH PROVIDED
 TO BOOK GO TO WWW.STICKYTICKETS.COM.AU, SCAN A QR CODE OR PHONE NORTHERN SLOPES LANDCARE ON 6724 2052

These workshops are funded by the NSW Government through a partnership between the Saving our Species program and the Environmental Trust

TEMPORARY CLOSURE – MEDICAL CENTRE

MedCIRC Barraba will be closed until Tuesday 16th August 2022 at 9.00am.

For medical attention, please phone Barraba Hospital on 67822500 or Ambulance on 000.



Continued from page 3

houses on the Fitzroy Street end of the lane and C.B. Leard lived on the western end of the lane which only leaves one or two older homes there – we know the Baker family lived there as well. If anyone can help out, please let me know.

Our President is very busy trying to get the Main Street book together so that it can be proofread by a few members before a final printing, and we seem to be receiving orders for our publications from everywhere. The calendar plans are progressing and hopefully will be on exhibition at the September markets, so everyone is busy.

Recently we have had another request for the whereabouts of the grave of Mary Ann Natty who died in 1925 and a James Natty who died in 1909. This is a big family, and it is rather sad that accurate records have not been kept – over in the north-west corner is really not good enough for any descendant. I am always hopeful that someone has some accurate records.



Nandewar Historical Society Markets

Saturday 13th August 2022

8.30am to 12noon

Pottery, plants, books, honey,
Coffee and cake

**2 black male pups to give
away
Kelpie/Border Collie cross
Bred to work sheep and
cattle**

Phone 0429 821 258

Northern Slopes Landcare and The Carbon Farm present

SOIL HEALTH & YOUR WEALTH

2 DAY COURSE WITH GRAEME SAIT

“DISCOVER THE FASCINATING RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN MINERALS, MICROBES AND HUMUS. THIS UNDERSTANDING CAN PROVE A GAME CHANGER IN TERMS OF BOTH PROFITABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY”



SOIL HEALTH AND NUTRITION WITH INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED SOIL SPECIALIST GRAEME SAIT. LEARN ABOUT THE LATEST IN MICROBIOLOGY AND NITROGEN MANAGEMENT FROM ONE OF THE WORLD'S LEADING PROFESSIONALS, AND GET THE MOST OUT OF THE GROUND.

PRELUDE TO THE PULSE OF THE EARTH FESTIVAL, BINGARA, BEGINNING 2ND SEPTEMBER

THE LIVING CLASSROOM, BINGARA, 1ST & 2ND SEPTEMBER, 2022. 9.30AM-5PM \$260/PP, SMOKO & LUNCH INCLUDED
10% DISCOUNT FOR NSLA MEMBERS

**To book go to
www.stickytickets.com.au**



Further enquiries contact Northern Slopes Landcare, on 6724 2052



Recent Anniversaries

- the invention of Champagne by Dom Pérignon (1693)
- the arrest of Anne Frank following a tip-off (1944)
- the birthday first man on the moon Neil Armstrong (1930)
- Humphrey Gilbert claiming Newfoundland for Britain - the first English colony in North America and the beginning of the British Empire (1583)
- the HMS Roebuck, captained by William Dampier, lands at Shark Bay, WA, on the first British scientific expedition to Australia (1699)
- the US dropping an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan (1945)
- the World Wide Web becoming publicly available (1991)
- the invention of Corn Flakes by William Kellogg (1898)
- the US, USSR, Britain and France signing the Treaty of London, which set down procedures for the Nuremberg war trials of Nazi leaders (1945)
- the formation of the Assoc. of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) (1967)



**Arts North
West Micro
Grants Ready
to Roll**

New England North West creatives are set to benefit directly from Arts North West, with the announcement of another round of Arts North West's Micro Grants opening in early August.

The first round of Micro Grants was announced in April 2020 and saw a range of artists and arts projects boosted during the COVID-19 pandemic, including musicians, textile artists, visual artists, performing artists and more. Since then, the fund has expended around \$25,000 directly to New England North West creatives.

"Announcing the opening of the Micro Grants Funding round is one of my first tasks as the new Executive Director of Arts North West" said Arts North West Executive Director Lauren Mackley.

Designed to support the continuation of locally-determined community arts and cultural practice in uncertain times, this funding aims to be as flexible as possible. Projects can be outcome-focused or be designed around skills development or capacity-building.

"The main reasons why this fund is so well prescribed, is the simple application and the quick turnaround, something you do not get when applying to other funds. Applications open first week of August and closing on 5 September, and each applicant can apply for up to \$1000. Successful applicants will be notified on 19 September. Previous unsuccessful applicants are encouraged to reapply." Concluded Ms Mackley.

To apply visit the Arts North West website www.artsnw.com.au or contact the Arts North West office for more information (02) 6732 4988.



Fire and Rescue NSW respond to more than 1100 home fires each winter. A fire can take hold in just three minutes, yet it only takes seconds to prevent one. Already this winter, preventable fire fatalities have almost tripled. The majority of fatal fires occur in living areas and bedrooms.



A few minutes of planning can save years of regret.

- Did you know that you can't smell smoke in your sleep? A working smoke alarm is the only thing that will provide you with an early warning to escape
- Fires are dark and disorientating. Have and practice a Home Fire Escape Plan and keep keys in locks
- Keep everything at least a metre from the heater
- If you are under the influence of alcohol, medication or drugs take extra fire safety precautions
- Never smoke in bed and ensure cigarettes are completely extinguished in a deep tray

Need further assistance?

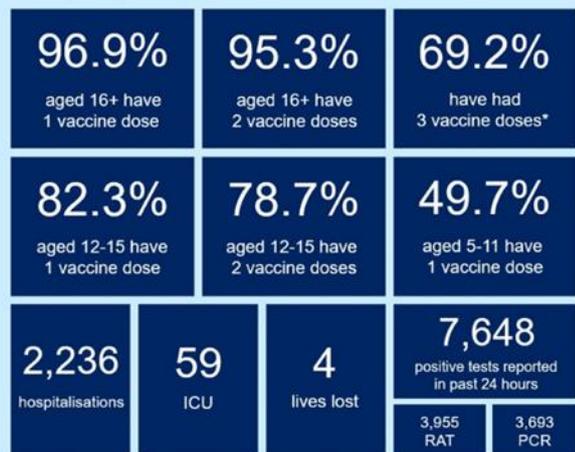
You can register yourself or a loved one for a free safety visit online at fire.nsw.gov.au/visits or by contacting your local station.



NSW COVID-19 update



Monday 8 August 2022



*Includes both immunocompromised people who have received a 3rd dose and all eligible people who have received a booster

Brian Coote published photos



Another pic from the Historic Society archives. This is labelled as Peel St Tamworth but it is clearly Queen St. Barraba from just south of the Town Clock.

The old Bank of NSW on the left, the Royal Hotel centre and Allams Building on the right. Whatever I love this photo as it gives you a fair idea of how tough things could be when you could bog a dray in the middle of the main street.



Barraba Central Year 1A 1954.

Rear: Teacher: Beth Smith, Tom Rumsby, Jim Grant, Don Cambridge, Guy Mason, Arthur Jobson, Robert Campbell, Harvey White.

2nd Row: Frank Darlington, Dallas Ervine, Les Berry, Margaret McCall, Marlene Northey, Kath Urquhart, Don Edwards, Martin Bielfeld, Barry Corcoran.

Front Row: Mary Turner, Colleen Russell, Helen Grant, Betsy Baldock, Julie Saunders, Jacqui Darlington, Lola Brodbeck, Roslyn Barwick, June Conway.

Barraba Central School Year 1A in 1954. (Notes from Brian Coote added when he first published this photo)

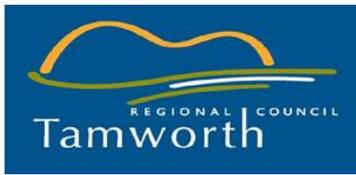
A good clear photo from Tom Rumsby with all the names supplied by Tom.

Some pretty distinguished people in that photo.

I posted this on the Barraba Barraba Page for Tom 6 years ago. For those with family connections who don't have this photo please save it while you can.

NOW WITH ONE CORRECTED NAME:

Ray Jobson told me the boy 3rd from the right end on the rear row was actually his older brother Arthur not himself as previously listed. Thanks Ray.



New way to access waste vouchers

Tamworth Regional Council is changing the way residents can access their free quarterly Waste Vouchers.

Each voucher entitles a household to the free disposal of up to two cubic metres – or a standard box trailer load – of waste at a Council landfill.

Tamworth Regional Council Manager Waste Recovery, Morne Hattingh said that Council will launch a new seamless self-service platform later this year, but in the meantime the waste vouchers can be accessed through an easy-to-complete online form on Council's website.

"Once the form is completed and property detail has been verified, a voucher will be emailed to the resident who applied for it," he said.

"Residents who do not have use of a computer are asked to call our customer service team on 6767 5555 and a staff member will help them with the process. It will allow residents to access their voucher at a time when it is needed rather than having to wait for it to arrive in the mail."

Each voucher includes a QR code which is unique to each property. Householders with a smart device may choose not to print their voucher because the QR code can be scanned at Council's landfills when shown on the screen.

Mr Hattingh said Council is making the change as part of a transition to a new self-serve online platform by the end of this year, which will result in more convenient access to vouchers for residents.

"The new online form is an interim measure for the next few months and we ask that the community be understanding and bear with it until the more seamless process is launched," he said.

More information about waste vouchers and the new online form can be found at

www.tamworth.nsw.gov.au/waste-vouchers

TRC Council meeting update - 26 July 2022

Councillors unanimously endorsed a Notice of Motion from Councillor Marc Sutherland requesting that Tamworth Regional Council commit the necessary resources to develop a comprehensive Closing the Gap Strategy and Implementation Plan that aligns with the National Strategy to overcome inequality between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. All Councillors spoke in support of the motion, and the importance of improving outcomes for members of the Indigenous community living in the Tamworth region. Tamworth is currently one of only two towns where activated Place Based arrangements are being coordinated by a Coalition of Aboriginal Peak Organisations, providing an opportunity for Council to develop the strategy in partnership with Tamworth's local Indigenous community. Councillors agreed to prioritise the five Priority Reforms in the National Agreement developed in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people nationally.

Councillors tonight agreed to hand over ownership of the new road and bridge constructed in Manilla as part of the Namoi River Crossing Project to the NSW Government. This decision to approve the gazettal as the new alignment for State Road MR63 follows a Memorandum of Understanding

established between Council and Transport for NSW in 2019 prior to the construction of the new Namoi River Crossing bridge and associated roadworks. As part of this agreement, sections of the original MR63 will convert to Local Roads subject to agreement for compensation for Council. Compensation will be paid to Council for the acquisition of the sections of the original MR63, based on amount equivalent to 10 years of maintenance costs for those assets.

A fee waiver for the NSW Touch Association Junior State Cup Northern Conference was supported by Councillors under Council's Sports Event Subsidisation Policy. The event, which has been held at Port Macquarie for the past four years, will to be held in February 2023 at the Plain Street and Riverside sporting complexes. The sporting event is expected to attract over 5000 visitors to Tamworth from over 75 different areas across NSW, and will bring a total economic benefit of \$3.4 million to the local economy.

Council has resolved to start the required process towards selling properties by public auction where rates have not been paid for more than five years. This will enable Council to recover outstanding rates and charges which currently total \$706,779.32. Council will follow a lengthy process, as set out in the Local Government Act 1993, which will mean the properties are unlikely to go under the hammer until late 2022. The process provides owners with further opportunities to prevent property sales. It was determined that any owner wishing to avoid the proposed sale must pay 50% of the overdue amount and enter into a payment arrangement before the date fixed for sale of their property. Council previously under took this process back in 2018.



REGION'S ENTREPRENEURS GIVEN LICENCE TO INNOVATE

Entrepreneurs in new and emerging industries in regional NSW will be supported to grow their business, revenues, raise funds and create local jobs, thanks to the NSW Government's new \$2 million Accelerating Regional Innovation Fund.

Member for Tamworth Kevin Anderson said our region boasted a glut of innovative entrepreneurial minds and this fund would better support them in growing new and emerging industries based out of the Tamworth electorate. "When you scratch the surface and look at some of the work that goes on in industrial estates right across our region, you'll find some of the Nation's leading innovators, driving progress in advanced manufacturing, food processing, renewable energy and gas, primary industries and more," Mr Anderson said.

"I am always amazed at the work that goes on in businesses like Apollo Engineering, Thomas Foods, Obieco Industries, Many Fabrications and Engineering, to name a few. This fund is about supporting the innovative ideas of our industry leaders and I look forward to the fund delivering on the aspirations of our entrepreneurs."

The Accelerating Regional Innovation Fund will provide grants of between \$300,000 and \$700,000 to accelerator and incubator programs in regional NSW, Newcastle and Wollongong that support regional entrepreneurs and start-ups in emerging sectors and future industries.

Applications opened on 4 August 2022 and close on 30 September 2022 at 2pm.

For further information about the Accelerating Regional Innovation Fund, including program guidelines and eligibility criteria, go to: www.nsw.gov.au/ARIF

HAVE YOUR SAY TO IMPROVE TAMWORTH BUS SERVICES

Commuters who have constant grievances with the local bus services in Tamworth will now have the ear of the NSW Government as community consultation to improve public transport in the area commences today.

Member for Tamworth Kevin Anderson said the consultation marked the next phase of the NSW Government's 16 Regional Cities program to deliver better public transport outcomes across the regions.

Mr Anderson said "This is the Tamworth community's chance to help Transport for NSW identify gaps and opportunities around how bus services operate, and plan service improvements to better meet people's needs. Feedback from customers will inform any improvements to the local Tamworth network, delivering on our vision to help make public transport a first-choice option for people living in the regions. Improvements could include changes to existing journeys in Tamworth, new trip possibilities and offer better connectivity to key destinations, such as hospitals, TAFE and university."

The 16 Regional Cities consultation period for Tamworth runs from Monday 1 August until Friday 9 September. Feedback can be provided by visiting yoursay.transport.nsw.gov.au/betterbusnetworktamworth calling 1800 717 528 · emailing RegionalCitiesProgram@transport.nsw.gov.au

writing to Transport for NSW, 16 Regional Cities Program – Tamworth,

PO Box K659, HAYMARKET NSW 1240
For more information, visit: www.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/programs/16-regional-cities-services-improvement-program.

LIGHTING THE STREETS ACROSS TAMWORTH ELECTORATE

Driving at night will soon get a whole lot easier across the Tamworth Electorate with substantial NSW Government funding provided to all four councils to enable them to install and maintain street lighting.

Member for Tamworth Kevin Anderson said the funding provided under the Traffic Route Lighting Subsidy Scheme would make it easier for motorists to navigate the streets at night and improve road safety once the sun sets. "We all know how difficult it can be to drive through busy residential areas at night, particularly if there isn't adequate street lighting to light up potential hazards," Mr Anderson said. "This scheme compensates our councils for operational costs associated with street lighting, which keeps the lights on and the streets safer."

Full details of funding provided to each council is as follows:

- Tamworth Regional Council - \$170,000
- Gunnedah Shire Council - \$21,000
- Walcha Council - \$11,000
- Liverpool Plains Shire Council - \$40,000

The Traffic Route Lighting Subsidy Scheme will help cover capital costs for new and improved street lighting, maintenance work, network distribution and energy consumption costs. Councils can receive a subsidy of up to 50 per cent of the Australian Energy Regulator's approved pricing to assist in rolling out a better level of lighting than otherwise provided on state, regional and designated roads.



In Memoriam

Remembered with Love

Christine Frances Wakeling (nee Dunshea) – Passed away in 2015

Linda May Dunshea – Passed away in 2005

John (Jack) Andrew Dunshea – Passed away in 1999

CATHOLIC CHURCH NOTES

Barraba–1st & 5th Sunday, 5pm
Saturday evening
2nd 3rd & 4th Sunday 9am
Upper Horton 3rd Sunday 11am
Weekday Mass Wednesday 10am

Uniting Church Notice

Sunday 14th August
Service at 8.45am
ALL WELCOME

St Laurence’s Barraba

Sunday service at 10.00am
Woodsreef: 2nd Sundays 11.30am

Handy Hints

Mice can’t stand the smell of fresh peppermint – so plant it around your house or put some oil of peppermint on a piece of cloth and place it in locations you suspect the mice may be visiting.

For a quick ant kill, mix 2 cups of borax with one cup of sugar in a jar. Punch holes in the lid and sprinkle around the outside of your house.

Another way to get rid of ants is to pour Ivory Liquid Soap around where they are. This apparently is the only soap that works.

Your friendly local professional

Rod Bonner

Your local Plumber, Drainer, Gasfitter and Handyman
Lic No. L8791
Text is best 0447 052 140

PHIL DENYER

MECHANICAL REPAIRS

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Lic No. 306630C

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 - Drainer
 - Gasfitter
 - Polywelder
 - Roof Welder
- Ph0408117358

wardsplumbing@bigpond.com

Barraba 7 day Forecast from the Bureau of Meteorology

Wednesday 10 Aug 

Summary Max 18
Morning frost sunny
Chance of any rain: 0%

Thursday 11 Aug 

Summary Min 1 Max 19
Cloudy
Chance of rain: 5%

Friday 12 Aug 

Summary Min 5 Max 15
Showers
Chance of any rain: 95%

Saturday 13 Aug 

Summary Min 7 Max 17
Showers
Chance of any rain: 90%

Sunday 14 Aug 

Summary Min 3 Max 16
Shower or two
Chance of rain: 60%

Monday 15 Aug 

Summary Min 2 Max 15
Possible shower
Chance of any rain: 40%

Tuesday 16 Aug 

Summary Min 1 Max 15
Mostly sunny
Chance of any rain: 30%

Regional Dam Levels from Water NSW

Chaffey 101.3%
Copeton 99.5%
Keepit 100.4%
Split Rock 76.4%

Memorial commemorates 80th anniversary of the sinking of HMAS Canberra

From the Australian War Memorial Canberra



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

043116

Tuesday marks the 80th anniversary of the sinking of HMAS Canberra (I). In the darkness of the early hours of 9 August 1942, the Australian heavy cruiser was sunk, having been severely damaged off Guadalcanal (Solomon Islands) in a surprise attack by a powerful Japanese naval force.

“Eighty years on from her sinking, it’s important we commemorate HMAS Canberra, the 73 crew members who lost their lives off Savo Island, the 11 who initially survived but would later die as a result of the attack, and those who survived to return home,” Australian War Memorial Director Matt Anderson said.

Tuesday’s Last Post Ceremony, held at the Australian War Memorial, will commemorate the 80th anniversary of the sinking of HMAS Canberra and tell the story of Electrical Artificer 1st Class Ernest Harrison, who was killed in action aboard Canberra.

Ernest Harrison’s name is listed on the Roll of Honour at the Australian War Memorial, alongside 83 of his fellow shipmates who also died as a result of the Battle of Savo Island.

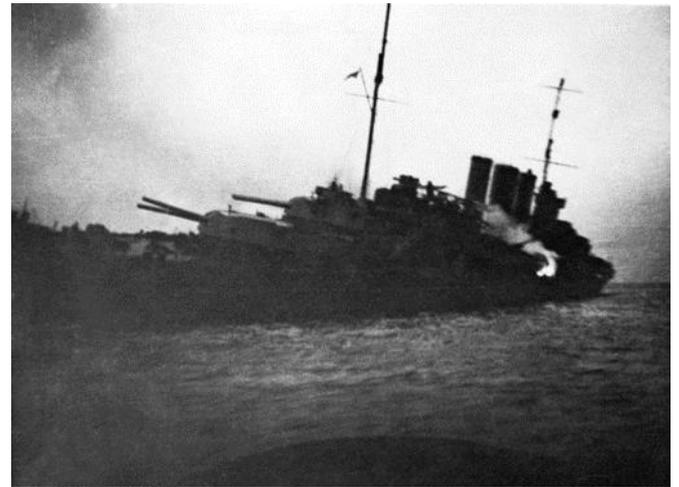
“As long as we remember those who died in the service of our country, and in the defence of our freedoms, they did not die in vain. It’s important for the families of those who lost their lives on HMAS Canberra 80 years ago today, especially for the family and loved ones of Ernest Harrison and, that we pause to commemorate this action and to keep their memories alive,” Mr Anderson said.

HMAS Canberra was one of two 10,000-ton County Class heavy cruisers ordered by the Australian government in 1924. The cruiser was commissioned on 9 July 1928 and spent much of her career carrying out escort and patrol duties.

In June 1942 Canberra joined Taskforce 44, a group of warships from the US Navy and the Royal Australian Navy. In the early hours of 9 August, Canberra was patrolling between Savo Island and the northwestern tip of Guadalcanal, in company with US Navy ships, when flares suddenly lit up the darkness.

Canberra was seconds away from opening fire, once an aiming point could be established in the dark, when she was hit with a torrent of shellfire from the Japanese.

Within moments of the enemy opening fire, the Australian cruiser abruptly lost all power, leaving her unable to fire even one shot in her own defence. As the lead ship, Canberra received the full force of the Japanese barrage and was hit 24 times in less than two minutes.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

137295

Canberra was eventually ordered to be abandoned and sunk if she could not steam by 6.30am. Once all the survivors had been evacuated, USS Selfridge fired 263 5-inch shells and four torpedoes into Canberra, although even then she refused to sink. Eventually a torpedo fired by USS Ellet administered the final blow. Canberra sank at about 8am on 9 August 1942 in an action that became known as the Battle of Savo Island.

From The Conversation

Should we be worried about our pet cats and dogs getting COVID?

Hassan Vally, Associate Professor, Epidemiology, Deakin University

The SARS-CoV-2 virus, which causes COVID, originated from bats and then, probably after passing through an intermediary host, gained the ability to infect humans.

Many new viruses that emerge in this way, like SARS-CoV-2, maintain the ability to infect both animals and humans.

It's well documented the SARS-CoV-2 virus infects a number of different animals. Cases of COVID have been recorded in animals as different as hamsters, ferrets, lions, tigers, mink and non-human primates.

However, the question that concerns many of us in our cosy domesticated worlds, is what sort of threat does the virus pose to cats and dogs, the animals we have the closest relationship with?

Can cats and dogs get COVID?

Yes, cats and dogs can get COVID.

Both cats and dogs have been found to have been infected with the virus. A number of studies that involved the testing of domestic pets have confirmed the presence of these infections.

One of the more interesting suggestions from a pre-print study (one that is yet to be reviewed by other scientists), is that cats and dogs were less susceptible to the BA.1 Omicron variant compared to previous variants.

It was speculated the mutations in this variant which we know made it more transmissible in humans may have made it less able to bind to cellular receptors in cats and dogs.

Who gives it to whom?

Although it's theoretically possible for COVID to be transmitted in any direction – that is, from humans to cats and dogs, from cats and dogs to humans, and from these pets to each other – the current belief is the virus is primarily transmitted from humans to these pets.

There are a number of possible explanations for why transmission generally occurs in this direction.

However, the most likely explanation is that these animals, when infected, generate much lower viral loads than humans and they may shed the virus for only a short time, which makes them less likely to transmit the virus onwards.

How common is it in pets?

The question of how common COVID is in animals generally, and in domestic pets, is one being actively explored.

In terms of how common it is in cats and dogs, there are methodological challenges to answering this question in large studies. Try taking a nasal swab from your cat and see how this works out!

Despite the practical obstacles, a study published in June suggests these infections may be more common than initially thought. The researchers studied the blood samples of 59 dogs and 48 cats in Ontario, Canada, which lived with people who'd tested positive to COVID.

They found 52% of the cats, and 41% of the dogs, had antibodies targeted to SARS-CoV-2, suggesting they'd been previously infected with the coronavirus. Cats were more likely than dogs to have contracted COVID in this study, but the authors note there's a lot of variability in the studies looking into the prevalence of infection in animals.

How severe is it in pets?

When a cat or dog gets COVID symptoms, they get pretty much the same symptoms as humans.

They generally don't feel well and the symptoms they experience include coughing and sneezing, lethargy and loss of appetite.

But the good news is, available data suggests most of the time infection results in either no symptoms or very mild disease. And the duration of their symptoms, if they get them, may be very short.

Although it's possible for a pet to get more severe symptoms, this seems to be uncommon.

So, what should we make of this?

The strong message from what we know so far is that we humans pose much more of a threat to our cats and dogs than they pose to us when it comes to COVID.

Therefore, if you get infected it's probably sensible to limit contact with your pets, particularly while you're at your most infectious. Just like you probably do anyway, you should treat your pet as you would any other member of your family when you're ill and do everything you can to reduce the likelihood of infecting them.

Trying to get your pet to wear a mask, however, is definitely a step too far...

The good news is that even if you were to give your pet COVID, chances are they will either get no symptoms or only mild symptoms. And even if they do experience more severe illness, the evidence suggests they will bounce back quickly.

Of course, if you do suspect your pet has COVID and you are unsure about what to do, you should seek professional advice.



You know that indestructible black box that is used on airplanes? Why don't they make the whole plane out of that stuff??



Golf Notes

New member Keith Akers showed on Sunday he is settling in well with a great score of 44 points to claim Dave Mc Murtries trophy. Keith finished 4 points ahead of runner up Dave Kelly 40 with balls going to Craig Rutley 39, Kev Kelaher 37, Graham Bowman 36 and Tom Mellor also 36 points. Kev Kelaher picked up NTPs on the 3rd and 12th.

In match play results this week Sam Faint and Paul Grigg proved too strong for Peter and Mike Artis 5 and 3.

This Sunday we will play a 2 Person Ambrose for the Turning Heads Beauty Salon trophy. The following Sunday 21st is the 4th and final round of our Club Championships for Ian Cabot's trophy.

This Tuesday the Barraba Golf Club looks forward to hosting 30 visiting golfers from Gloucester who are playing a number of courses around the North West.

A heads up to all our golfers with either electric or petrol carts. If we get enough interest we are planning to hold a "cart service" day where a qualified mechanic will service your cart for an agreed fee. If you are interested please contact me so we can progress the idea if there is enough interest.



Rugby Report

Barraba/Gwydir travelled to Inverell on the weekend to play the home team in wet conditions and from a poor start from the kick-off allowed Inverell to open the score. The team

seemed to take some time to get started from then on.

From then the Barraba forwards took control of the play for the majority of the game which gave the backs plenty of ball to run in a number of tries. One by Makenzie Austin standing out as one of the highlights, while the two tries to A. Crouch and one under the black dot by N. Sweeney. Barraba let Inverell in for a late try for a final score of 31-17 in Barraba's favour.

Players Player was shared 3 ways which shows the effort by all players. They were M. Austin, H. Spencer and T. Tabuso in his first game this season.

3. A. Crouch
2. W. Robinson
1. M. Austin

This weekend we play Pirates at home in two grades, Men's and Ladies games. There is no 'oldies' game.

The girls travelled to Tamworth to play Scone and lost a close game 22-27. They then helped Gunnedah in a game against Pirates.

Players Player K. Gillogoly

3. K. Gillogoly
2. H. Mallise
1. B. Middlemiss and N. Philpott

See all the supporters for the 'Old Boys' day for the last home game for the season, as we are away to Walcha in the last round before the semi-finals.

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

Easy-for-Kids Chocolate Muffins

A great way to get the kids baking over the holidays, these chocolate muffins are easy and delicious. I know, I am a kid myself! Fun to decorate with butter icing, grated chocolate and candied cherries.



Prep: 30 mins **Cook:** 15 mins

Total: 45 mins **Servings:** 6

Ingredients

- ½ cup butter
- ½ cup superfine sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup self-rising flour
- 2 teaspoons cocoa powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda

Directions

Step 1 Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease 6 cups in a muffin pan.

Step 2 Cream together butter and sugar in a mixing bowl. Mix in eggs. Add flour, cocoa powder, and baking soda and blend thoroughly. Spoon batter into muffin cups.

Step 3 Bake 15 to 20 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean. Cool and decorate.