



BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

FREE LOCAL NEWSPAPER

COMMUNITY OWNED AND EDITED

Wednesday 30th November 2022

Lions Christmas



The Lions Christmas Tree celebration returns in 2022 for the first time in a couple of years due to Covid19 restrictions. Whilst we weren't able to host the event the past 2 years due to restrictions introduced, the Lions Club of Barraba had still managed to host their annual guessing competition and deliver toys to the children in town via the schools. Now with events able to be held, the Lions club is glad to be back at Rotary park this Christmas Eve to keep the annual tradition going.

The event will start from 5.00pm, with the usual suspects will be in attendance with St Joseph's hosting a drinks stall, Rotary managing the BBQ and the Rugby club will be running their chocolate wheel around the grounds.

Santa will be arriving courtesy of the Barraba Fire Brigade at approx. 6pm and handing out presents from 7.00pm. Afterwards, the winners from the 100 club and the guessing competition will be drawn with \$2000 total prize for 1st, 2nd and 3rd up for grabs plus vouchers kindly donated from various businesses in town.



Barraba Branch of the United Hospital Auxiliaries

General Meeting

Friday 2nd December 2022 10.00am at The Claypan

**Then Lunch at the Commercial Hotel at 12noon.
Friends and family are invited.**

RSVP: Julie Williams on 0412603831

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 \$1,400

SATURDAY: 10AM-

SUNDAY: 10AM-5.30PM

ANGLERS CLUB RAFFLES 1PM

MEMBERSHIP DRAW \$1,700

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

COURTESY CAR NOW AVAILABLE



History Notes

Wonderful markets this week with plenty of stall, music, and food – the change in date confused some patrons – one even arrived after smelling the barbeque! The next market will be in three weeks' time and will be an evening event, beginning late in the afternoon for three or four hours. The next market will be the last chance to buy a calendar unless you contact Margaret or Julie.

This has been a hectic week with visitors and research taking up most of the week – something that is likely to happen for the next three weeks or so. We are very happy to see visitors and talk history if you wish to call in. A Christmas lunch for members is being planned to finish up the year – bring your friend and a plate.

We have been donated a book of cricket in the 1950's which I think came originally from Barraba. It is full of cuttings from the local and Tamworth newspapers and has been put together by about three different people. It came to us from the Currell family but has quite a few cuttings about the ambulance in Barraba and other snippets of Barraba history including three obituaries. Those who have purchased calendars will know about Percy Williams and his is one of the obituaries – the first time most have seen this piece of history.



Barraba Potters and Craft Guild Inc

Meeting on Friday 9th December 10am followed by a share plate lunch to celebrate Christmas and a successful 2022.

New members are always welcome to join, for the craft and the company. There is something on most days so you're sure to find an activity to suit your interest.

If you're passing, drop into the Gallery and browse for Christmas gifts. The Gallery is chock full of gift ideas.



June Jennar

9/10/1938 - 23/11/2022

84yrs

Loving wife of Don

Loving mother of David, Ian, Deon and their families

Relatives and friends of the late June Jennar are respectfully informed that her funeral will be a graveside service at the Barraba Cemetery commencing at 11am on Thursday 1st December.



St Joseph's Primary School

Our AGM of the Schools Advisory council will be held at 5pm on Thursday 1st

December in the school library. We have received several nominations from the community to join the SAC in 2023 which has been very gratifying. The essential role of our SAC is to provide advice and support to the Principal and Parish Priest.

The Diocese recently held touch football trials in Tamworth. Shae Mallise and Zara Kelly were selected for the possibles / probables match and from this Shae was selected in the Diocesan team to compete in Parkes in 2023. We congratulate Shae on this selection, a wonderful achievement!

We have started our intensive swimming program. With summer upon us, this becomes a critical program for schools. We are fortunate to have trained instructors to conduct this program and we would like to thank the pool for allowing us access and time to support this initiative.

With the end of the school year fast approaching there is still much to plan for and action such as student reports, end of school Mass, Year 6 farewell, Presentation day and planning for the implementation of the new K-2 English and Mathematics syllabus. The Bishop of Armidale will also be visiting the school on Monday 5th December which will be a significant event for us. School Presentation day will be held on 13th December at the Bowling Club, commencing at 1pm and we look forward to welcoming all of our families.

Mr Simon Fleming
Principal



St. Joseph's School Barraba Staff circa 1987.

From the left: Pauline Lynch, Sr Roch, Dale Smith (Cain), Lynn Forbes (Saunders), Kerry Carter (McNeill) (Admin) and Sr Cecilia.

My thanks to Kerry Carter and my wife for these names. Posted by Brian Coote



UNE and Arts North West First Nations exhibition and musical performances coming to Tamworth during County Music Festival in 2023

'Ngaarr, Wandabaa, Thanbarran - Strong Spirit Connection'

The University of New England, Arts North West, and The Tamworth Youthie are thrilled to present a showcase of the incredible homegrown talent of the New England North West First Nations community, during Tamworth's Country Music Festival in January 2023.

The partnership presents the exhibition 'Ngaarr, Wandabaa, Thanbarran' meaning Strong Spirit Connection in the language of Gamilaraay, a morning of cultural creativity from Gomeroi Country.

The exhibition will present top-tier works from some of the New England North West's extraordinary First Nations visual artists, and performers, with an opportunity to meet exhibiting artists during the exhibition.

EOIs to participate in the exhibition are currently open to all first Nations' visual artists within the Arts North West service area. Please visit the Arts North West website www.artsnw.com.au for more information.

UNE, Arts North West, and the Tamworth Youthie extend a warm invitation to join them for the opening of 'Ngaarr, Wandabaa, Thanbarran' from 10.00am on the 16th of January at the Tamworth Youthie as an invite only event. If you would like to attend the event, please contact office@artsnw.com.au or phone 0493 3156 463.

Accompanying the exhibition opening will be the spirited talents of local First Nations creatives Uncle Roger Knox, Buddy Knox, the Gomeroi Dance Academy, and Uncle Len Waters presenting the Welcome to Country for all of community to enjoy. This event has been supported through the Australian Government's Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support program, The University of New England, Arts North West, and The Tamworth Youthie through the Tamworth Regional Council.

Council meeting update

Here is an overview of outcomes from the **Tuesday 22 November 2022**

Ordinary Meeting:

➤ Tonight, Councillors agreed to join Local Government NSW and the Country Mayors Association of NSW in calling for the NSW and Australian Governments to declare a Statewide Road Emergency. Tamworth Region Mayor Russell Webb sought support for the move through a Mayoral Minute which detailed the “unprecedented and unrelenting series of natural disasters” the Tamworth region has experienced in the last 12 months and the impact it has had on the local road network. Cr Webb wrote how the region’s roads as well as the road networks across the state are vital infrastructure and have sustained disastrous damage. The Councillors this evening endorsed the Mayoral Minute to support our peak bodies in their declaration of Statewide Road Emergency and for the Mayor, to write to the Prime Minister of Australia Anthony Albanese and the NSW Premier Dominic Perrottet requesting immediate action.

➤ Also considered and endorsed by the Councillors to be placed on Public Exhibition this evening was the Draft Tamworth Regional Council Entrance Strategy. As a growing region and as part of future planning in line with the Blueprint 100 Strategy, the entrances into the Tamworth Local Government Area are important and should create a sense of arrival. The report says that through an audit of existing entrance signage in the region, it was evident that the existing signage is inconsistent, dated, or non-existent with our main entries dominated by fast food chain billboards and an assortment of signs. This strategy will, overtime, ensure our entrances feature signage, flora corridors with well-designed landscape




Hey Barraba, are you interested in helping shape plans for future town signage and entrances?

In a move towards enhancing the appearance and strengthening the region's identity, Tamworth Regional Council has developed an entrance strategy which is now on public exhibition.

Take a look at the draft strategy or provide feedback before 21 December at www.haveyoursay.tamworth.nsw.gov.au/entrance-strategy




Scan me



“We aim to have two new aquatic facilities in Tamworth city to meet one strategic goal – to provide for future aquatic needs of the whole community”

Tamworth Region Mayor Russell Webb



"We aim to have two new aquatic facilities in Tamworth city to meet one strategic goal - to provide for future aquatic needs of the whole community" - Tamworth Region Mayor Russell Webb.

Find out more about the plans for the two new facilities, here:

<https://haveyoursay.tamworth.nsw.gov.au/tamworth-aquatics...>

areas, and public art. This will result in the opportunity to build community pride and a vibrant entrance for residents, tourists and potential investors. This draft strategy will be on public exhibition for 28 days and the community are encouraged to review and provide feedback through MyTRC Online Community.

➤ The Councillors received an update this evening on the progress of previously approved properties identified for Sale of Land for Unpaid Rates and Charges. Council is permitted under the Local Government Act to sell property and recover outstanding rates and charges which have remained unpaid for more than five years. At a Council Meeting on 26 July 2022 there were originally 39 properties with outstanding rates of more than 5 years, 12 property owners have now paid their debt or arranged a payment plan with Council. The remaining 27 properties in the Tamworth, Barraba and Manilla areas still have the opportunity to contact Council to discuss payment arrangements. Failing this, Councillors have this evening adopted auction dates in March 2023.

➤ Councillors this evening supported the recommendation that a submission should be made on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Dungowan Dam and Pipeline Project that is available for public comment. It was agreed that the submissions will reiterate Council's position that the ownership and operation of Dungowan Dam should be by WaterNSW, provided the ownership of the dam is transferred as a contributed asset, and the new Dungowan Pipeline to be transferred to Council to own, operate and maintain. Also, to be included in Council's submission will be the ongoing importance of water security to the region, the barrier to fish passage, decommissioning of the old dam and recommending that further investigation

is required on, a destratification system in the new dam, the potential economic impacts to the community and several other key issues. Following this, final decision on the environmental approval by the NSW Government is not expected until the end of 2023. It is important to note, funding for the project remains unresolved.

For more information, see the full reports at

www.tamworth.nsw.gov.au/business-papers

Watch the video report at

www.facebook.com/TamworthRegionalCouncil



POTHOLE FUNDING DELIVERED TO LOCAL COUNCILS

Councils in the Tamworth electorate will soon start receiving their share of funding for urgent pothole repairs, under the NSW Government's \$50 million Fixing Local Roads Pothole Repair Round. Member for Tamworth Kevin Anderson said this funding would go straight to the bank accounts of local councils, helping to ease the short-term pressure to our road network in the wake of unprecedented wet weather.

"We know that the record wet weather of the past few months has had a significant impact on the state of our local and regional road networks," Mr Anderson said. "That's why, we're stepping in to ease the financial burden on our councils, by providing funding now to help them fix the potholes while the wet weather continues. This funding is in addition to funds like the Fixing

Country Roads, Fixing Country Bridges and Fixing Country Roads programs."

Minister for Regional Transport and Roads Sam Faraway said all 94 regional councils that applied for funding had been approved for grants.

"From December, councils across regional NSW will receive their share of \$50 million to repair pothole-ravaged local and regional roads," Mr Faraway said. "This additional support will help councils to repair their most damaged roads, improving safety and reducing wear and tear on vehicles. The NSW Liberal and Nationals Government is backing our councils with this dedicated pothole repair funding which is the first of its kind in NSW."

Under the Government's Fixing Local Roads Pothole Repair Round, Councils receive funding based on the size of their road network:

- Tamworth Regional Council - \$1,111,429.74
- Gunnedah Shire Council - \$504,644.34
- Walcha Council - \$314,554.94
- Liverpool Plains Shire Council - \$511,186

The NSW road network is more than 180,000 kilometres long, with local councils currently responsible for maintaining well in excess 85 per cent of it, including regional and local roads.



Among the things that are so simple even a child can operate them are parents.



Applications have been extended for the 2023 Australia Day awards!!

This is a great way to recognise individuals and groups who have made a positive difference in our local communities.

Awards are open Tamworth, Nundle, Manilla and Barraba and will close on Friday 2 December.

For more information or to make a nomination, visit www.tamworth.nsw.gov.au/australiaday

Barraba library

We want to hear from you about what extra library programs you would like to see available at the Barraba and Manilla libraries.

Due to very low visitor numbers on the weekend, these libraries will no longer open on Saturdays, but will have extended opening hours on weekdays instead, meaning the libraries can run additional programs.

Saturday 26 November 2022 will be the last weekend where the two libraries open.

This change will lead to later opening hours on one weekday at each library – Barraba on Wednesday and Manilla on Thursday. It also means we will have more staffing capacity on weekdays and will be able to offer additional programs at each library.

Currently, both libraries open Monday to Friday from 8.30am to noon and 1pm to 4.00pm.

You can give feedback on the Tamworth Regional Council Website.



🍷 🌲 CALLING ALL STALL HOLDERS! 🌲 🍷

Come and join us at this years Warialda Christmas Carnival.

Saturday 10 December 2022 | 5pm - 9pm | Warialda Recreation Ground

To download a stall holder application please visit

<https://www.gwydir.nsw.gov.au/.../Warialda-Christmas...>

From Adam Marshall's Facebook page

GWYDIR SHIRE - \$75,000 Primary Producer Grants available.



👤 💧 🌱
\$75,000
PRIMARY
PRODUCER
FLOOD
GRANTS
NOW
AVAILABLE
👤 💧 🌱

Good news!!

Primary producers in the Glen Innes Severn, Gwydir, Moree Plains, Uralla and Walcha local government areas who suffered damage from recent floods, from 14 September onwards, can now claim a \$75,000 special disaster grant.

For more information and to apply, call the NSW Rural Assistance Authority on 1800 678 593 or visit www.raa.nsw.gov.au

Watching Casablanca on its 80th anniversary, we remain in awe of its simplicity – and profound depth.

Ben McCann, Associate Professor of French Studies, University of Adelaide



In November 1942, a romantic drama directed by a Hungarian immigrant and starring an ex-naval officer and an obscure Swedish actress was released. The film began shooting without a finished script. Many at Warner Brothers Studios thought the film would quickly disappear into obscurity.

It would end up winning three Academy Awards (for best picture, director Michael Curtiz, and screenplay), starred the iconic pair Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman alongside a host of recognisable supporting players, featured a lush score and evocative set design, and contained endlessly quotable lines. Its reputation grows and grows. *Casablanca* has become one of Hollywood's most beloved films.

A film of vivid moments

Casablanca is a heady mix of romance, cynicism, thrills and danger. Based on an unproduced play, *Everybody Comes to Rick's*, the film mainly takes place in a night-club run by Bogart in the Moroccan city during the second world war. Rick's Café is where desperate refugees try to get hold of illegal exit visas to America. Complications – with Nazi officials and officious French bureaucrats – ensue.

One night, Rick's old flame Ilsa (Bergman) turns up with her resistance leader husband in search of safe passage to the States. Cue the famous line:

Of all the gin joints, in all the towns, in all the world, she walks into mine.

It is full of vivid moments: Bogart and Bergman drinking champagne in Paris, Sydney Greenstreet in a fez, Peter

Lorre trying to escape, Dooley Wilson sitting at the piano and singing THAT song.



Its production was fast-tracked to take advantage of the recent Allied invasion of North Africa. *Casablanca* was originally scheduled for an early 1943 release, but Warner Brothers capitalised on the resounding success of the US-led invasion, which in turn boosted box office receipts.

Casablanca would go into wide release on January 23 1943, to coincide with the Casablanca Conference, a strategic meeting between Winston Churchill and Franklin D. Roosevelt.

A political allegory

Casablanca's clearest theme is that neutrality – whether in war or in love – is difficult to maintain.

At the outset, Rick is staunchly apolitical: he is jaded, unmoved by the refugee crisis unfolding around him. But we also learn Rick has been involved in political causes, supporting losing sides against the Fascists in Spain and Ethiopia. The film traces that ambivalence through Bogart's masterful performance. His cynicism gradually softens once Ilsa turns up, and his animosity to the Nazi chief Strasser grows.

This political about-face comes to a head in one of the greatest scenes in Hollywood cinema: the singing of *La Marseillaise* at Rick's Café in full defiance of the Nazi officers belting out a German anthem. It is a deeply patriotic and uplifting scene, and reminds us of cinema's power to engage us, move us and make us cheer.

It also turns the night-club into a microcosm for the war, with its multinational clientele and the competing strands of partisanship, neutrality, aggression and political commitment. For an America wary of entering the European theatre, scenes like this reminded audiences of the need to fight injustice, intolerance and belligerence.

Remembering Ingrid Bergman

It is worth dwelling on Ingrid Bergman's luminescent performance. She plays the role of a woman who never displays where her romantic allegiances lie. Should she leave with Lazslo to America, or should she go back to Rick, and rekindle a love affair that ended abruptly in Paris?

The ambiguity in Bergman's performance is due in large part to both a script that was constantly being rewritten and Curtiz's indecision on how the film should end. But it is also a reminder of Bergman's greatness.

The critic Roger Ebert once noted:

[Bergman] doesn't simply gaze at [a man's] eyes, as so many actresses do, their thoughts on the next line of dialogue. She peers into the eyes, searching for meaning and clues, and when she is in a close two-shot with an actor, watch the way her own eyes reflect the most minute changes in his expression.

Her scenes with Bogart exemplify this approach. Many film historians argue Casablanca's greatness is due to its "invisible" style: there are no flashy camera movements, or ostentatious cuts, or "look at me" acting.

French film critic André Bazin once famously attributed the success of Hollywood studio films to "the genius of the system".

Films like Casablanca succeeded because they were made within a thriving ecosystem that placed storytelling, creative expertise, and cast and crew competence at the heart of its artistic practice. And Casablanca's script remains unbeatable. It's worth remembering the lines of dialogue that have stayed with us ever since: "Here's looking at you, kid"; "This is the beginning of a beautiful friendship"; "We'll always have Paris"; and "Round up the usual suspects".

Casablanca's afterlife

Casablanca's legacy is long-lasting. Today, it ranks third on the American Film Institute's 100 best movies of the last 100 years, and it is one of the most referenced films of all time. Scholars love the film for its Freudian intertexts, while others see the title casa blanca – "white house" in Spanish – as a symbol for American foreign policy.

The Italian novelist Umberto Eco wrote Casablanca was "not just one film. It is many films [...] it is a phenomenon worthy of awe". Watched today, we remain in awe of its simplicity, but also of its profound depth.

From The Conversation

Should I give my teen alcohol? Just a sip, the whole can, or none at all?

Alexandra Aiken, Adjunct Associate Lecturer, UNSW Sydney

Amy Peacock, Senior Research Fellow, UNSW Sydney

Philip Clare, Biostatistician, University of Sydney

Wing See Yuen, Research fellow, UNSW Sydney

You're at a barbecue and the adults are enjoying a few drinks. Everyone is relaxed and having a great time. One of your friends has just given their teen a beer. Next thing you know, your 15-year-old is asking for one too. You don't really want them drinking alcohol yet, but they'll probably try it sooner or later. You'd rather they get it from you than somewhere else. But you're also worried about what trying alcohol now might lead to in the future.

What do you do?

The results of our study show that not offering your teen alcohol is best. But if you do, a sip is less risky down the track than giving your teen a whole bottle or can.

Parents play a key role

Fewer teens are drinking alcohol than in previous generations. Nevertheless, alcohol is still one of the biggest contributors to death and illness in young people, including via injuries, accidents and suicide. Parents play a key role in providing teens with the tools to make healthy life choices. They're also one of the main sources of alcohol for teenagers. In fact, many parents give their teens alcohol thinking it's the safest way to introduce it.

No alcohol is best. But is that realistic?

We set out to understand common patterns of alcohol supply from parents and peers, and whether some patterns increased the chance of binge drinking, alcohol-related harms, and problem drinking as young adults. So, we surveyed the same group of young Australians every year from when they were 13 to 19 years old. We found not providing adolescents any alcohol is the least-risky option in terms of preventing later binge drinking, alcohol-related harms (for example, accidents, blackouts, fights) and problem drinking. Young people who were not supplied alcohol, or only supplied minimal amounts under the age of 18, had the lowest risk of binge drinking, experiencing alcohol-related harms, and reporting symptoms of

alcohol abuse, dependence and alcohol use disorder in early adulthood.



This aligns with previous research that not allowing any alcohol before the age of 18 is the best way to reduce the chance adolescents will binge drink and develop physical, psychological, or social problems due to alcohol. It also aligns with the current Australian alcohol guidelines. However, this is sometimes unrealistic as adolescence can be a time of experimentation. Parents can also feel pressure to supply alcohol to their teen if other parents they know are doing so.

What other options are there?

We found young people who received whole drinks from their parents earlier in adolescence (aged 14-16) and/or were mainly supplied by their peers drank more heavily during adolescence. They were also much more likely to binge drink, report symptoms of problem drinking and experience alcohol-related harms in early adulthood. Earlier parental supply and supply from peers have previously been linked with greater alcohol consumption and alcohol-related problems (with the risk increasing for each year earlier supply occurs). Earlier escalation of heavy drinking comes with an increased risk of a range of negative outcomes, including those related to physical and mental health, school or work, and social problems.



Sitting in the middle of the risk continuum were young people who received sips only from their parents in early to mid-adolescence (14-16 years), and were then supplied whole drinks from around age 17 by their parents, and to a lesser extent, their peers. These young people were more likely to binge drink or experience alcohol-related harms compared to those not supplied alcohol at all. But they were less likely than teens who received whole drinks during early-mid adolescence and/or who were mostly supplied by peers. Regardless of the intent, any supply may normalise and signify approval or permissiveness of alcohol use to adolescents. While it is safest to not supply alcohol in adolescence, if parents do, providing sips only in early to mid-adolescence, and delaying supply of whole drinks for as long as possible is likely to result in less harm than earlier supply of whole drinks, or allowing supply from peers.

Tips for parents

- Here are some tips for parents of teens to help their child make healthy life choices about alcohol:
- ideally, do not supply alcohol to anyone under 18; waiting as long as possible to start drinking alcohol is safer
- if you are providing sips, do so under supervision, for example, at home
- know who your teen's friends are; if they go out make sure you know where they will be and who they will be with; if they will be home late, they should check in with a parent or caregiver. This monitoring reduces the chance of your teen being in an unsafe environment and their friends supplying them with alcohol
- establish some alcohol-specific rules (for instance, no alcohol from friends, only allowed to drink if a parent or caregiver is there to supervise)
- limit access to alcohol at home (for instance, keep alcohol in locked cupboards, don't keep too many drinks in the fridge)
- model positive alcohol behaviours (for instance, eating before and while drinking, and sticking to the recommended number of drinks per day or week)
- understand the alcohol secondary supply laws in your state or territory. These relate to the laws about supplying alcohol for people under 18.



Golf Notes

David York must have drunk from the fountain this week and won the chicken with 25 points. In all, a big scoring week with Tim Coombes, 23, young Finn Allen 22 and Craig Ruttle, Shayne Middlemiss, Sam Faint, Peter Simpson and Peter York all scoring 21 points to win balls. There were another 7 players that scored 20 points and just missed. Rutts also won the meat.

The best team of the week was "Vintage" with Des Kelaher putting his 19 points with Davo's 25 and scoring 44 with competition leaders, the "Hackers" close behind with 43. "Hackers" comprising of Tom Mellor, Lincoln Brown, Tim Coombes and Adam Russell hold a 10-point lead and are proving hard to contain with the team firing on all 4 cylinders.



NSW Sand Green Championships

The NSW Sand Green Championships were held at Werris Creek last weekend. Four Barraba girls, Stacey, Lyn G, Lib T, and Di E took on the Creek. The course played hard with no run, however Stacey Etheridge was able to conquer it with 2 lovely rounds of 94. Stacey took out the Division 2 Scratch Winner with 188 with local Jann Moore, unable to catch Stacey and carded a 190. Stacey also won the net over 36 holes, however you are only able to win one event! Day 1 Lib Thompson took out her 1st Sand green win, the 18 hole Net on day one. Thank-you to the small committee of Werris Creek ladies for the beautiful slices and lovely fresh sandwiches. Well done also to our adopted player Zoe from Coonabarabran who came 8th in the scratch of Division 1.

CHARITY GOLF DAY

THREE PERSON AMBROSE
Sunday Dec 4th
9.30 for 10am tee off

WHERE
Barraba Golf Club
 Tervallyn Road, Barraba

Drinks cart will be available

In partnership with

Cancer Council

ALL AGES EVENT

AUCTION ON THE DAY
 Fire pit / BBQ – donated by Mick Johnson
 Signed Raiders jersey – donated by the Etheridge family
 +and much more

ENTRY
 \$25pp includes green fees and lunch

RAFFLE ON THE DAY

BENEFITING
 Shirox Rally team
"ON THE CLOCK"
 raising awareness and funds for the Cancer Council

FACEBOOK EVENT



St Laurence's Barraba
Sunday service at 9.00am
Woodsreef: 2nd Sundays 11am
Bereen: Friday 2nd December at 10am

Uniting Church Notice
Sunday 4th December
Service at 10.45am
ALL WELCOME

CATHOLIC CHURCH NOTES
Barraba 1st & 5th Sunday, 6pm Saturday evening
2nd 3rd & 4th Sunday 9am
Upper Horton 3rd Sunday 11am
Weekday Mass Wednesday 10am

BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY OWNED AND EDITED

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**Christmas is just around the
corner and the last edition of
Barraba Community News for
2022 will be Thursday 15th
December. (yes, Thursday for
that week only)**

**If you would like to include a Christmas message
to your customers, clients or members please
email it to
news@barrabacommunitynews.org.au
or phone Bronwyn on 0447165008 to discuss.**

**We'll be back mid-January 2023 after the *News*
team has a break.**

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local professional**



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area.**

Contact

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region.**



A Flood Disaster

The National News reported at 4.20pm on Thursday 13 October 2022 the Victorian SES had issued an Evacuation Order for the whole of Rochester, a small town of about 3000 people in Northern Victoria. The Campaspe River was predicted to peak at record levels the following afternoon; this would flood the entire town and cut it off by road and rail in all directions.

My older sister Judy lives in Rochester; in fact, she and her husband John (who died in 2004) had lived there, since the late 1970s, in the same house. Judy bought up her two children there, and taught for over twenty years at the local Catholic primary school. In short, the interrelated families and community groups of Rochester has been her home and her community for most of her adult life.

A lot of the older people had ignored the evacuation order on Thursday; but by Friday morning, as the water crept up her street, Judy sensibly took the advice of Police, and moved to an Evacuation Centre in nearby Echuca. Just in time – on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning those who stayed were being rescued by boat as the whole town was flooded - one elderly man died in his backyard. Reports at the time suggested that only a few of the thousand or so houses in Rochester didn't flood; all the businesses in the main street were flooded.

What a disaster! With a need to rebuild most of the infrastructure, businesses, and the homes, it will take a minimum of one to two years to return to anything like "normal", if that ever can be achieved. On a personal level, the nagging question to confront Judy's family who wanted to help their sister, mother, grandmother – how can we really help someone who is eighty-four, just recovered from life-saving heart surgery, in a total state of shock, homeless, totally disoriented, who has lost everything? Yes, she had good insurance cover, and assets she could use to immediately replace essential personal things. Yes, Judy has four siblings, two children, six grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren, but none of them are close by, being scattered throughout Victoria, NSW, and South Australia. She has to this point been totally independent and self-sufficient.

I went to Rochester about two weeks after the flood – I stayed for eight days. As there was no accommodation to be had, I drove down in a Motorhome I hired locally from Peter Woodhouse at the Barraba Motel – a good move. The journey there was a nightmare, as many of the roads in southern NSW had been cut (and cut up) by floods (and it was all happening as I drove). I arrived after three days, for a trip that usually takes a day and a half.

Emergency workers plus the local Fire Brigade, had been through the house and removed the rotting carpets and any fresh contents of the fridge etc. Four other (younger, stronger) family members arrived five days after me, equipped with a truck full of tools and cleaning and packing materials. In three days they filled four industrial skips with ruined furniture, white goods, clothes, bedding and other household things. They then cleaned and packed up and put in storage forty plus boxes of other salvageable items (eg wooden furniture, crockery, paintings etc) filling a large storage shed. The house is now ready for the tradesmen to rebuild – it may be several years. We helped Judy to acquire and move into a temporary home, a comfortable caravan in a local (unlikely to be flooded) caravan park, so she could stay in her community.

When I draw breath, perhaps we can learn something. When you go into the disaster, you can't help but be drawn into the awfulness, feel the helplessness, experience the trauma. The overwhelming urge (apart from being overwhelmed) is to try and do something, quickly, ease some of the pain. It makes me feel better to get stuck into cleaning that up, get rid of that mess, get that out of sight.

That urge, that approach may not help the real victims.

When I arrived in Rochester, I couldn't achieve much physically on my own. So, I just poked around with Judy, through the chaos of the house and yard, so she could say "where's that gone?", "why didn't they take that old bed?", "Ah, there's my earring box!", "we can toss out that pile of old magazines", and similar discoveries, without pressure, and absorbing what had happened. Then we could sit down in the Motorhome I came in, have a cup of tea, and talk about the whole disaster, and other things. By the time the clean up family group arrived with, by necessity, a very tight program to achieve order out of chaos, Judy was in a bit better place to make some decisions that had to be made.

Perhaps the lesson is, wherever possible, give the disaster victims space, move at their pace, and even if it seems agonisingly slow, let them make the decisions.

Terry Threlfall

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