



BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

FREE LOCAL NEWSPAPER

COMMUNITY OWNED AND EDITED

Wednesday 10th May 2023



Richardson House fundraising project

Recently the Fundraising Committee at Richardson House has been discussing further upgrades to the grounds around the facility. This committee operates as a subcommittee of the Board and comprises two staff members, two community representatives, the Resident Representative, a Board member and Jo Bridges as the Facility Manager.

The Fundraising Committee has had recent discussions to set some priorities about what needs to be purchased to improve the comfort for residents. Lots of ideas were discussed and many of these have been completed from the existing fundraising account. But a high cost priority, which is a request from the Manager, is for landscaping of the 2 courtyard areas between the 3 residential wings.

We are very aware of the daily use of the Sensory Garden between Richardson House and Garvin House by our residents and the pleasure they get from both social and gardening activities in the area. Creating 2 more safe and pleasant green areas between the residential wings will greatly improve the outlook from the majority of the rooms, provide additional quiet private areas for both residents and their guests and improve the amenity of the areas. Neither of these areas are currently used due to inappropriate access and the inability for residents to move safely around. Providing shade, seating, paved areas and new plantings can make these areas very pleasant and enjoyable for residents.

We recognise this isn't a quick project and will take time to raise the estimated \$40000 necessary to cover the costs but if we don't start now, when? Any financial donation received to make our residents and their guests more comfortable is greatly appreciated.

If you are able to donate, even just a few dollars will assist, please call 67821563 and talk to Jo or Helen in the office. They will happily give you a receipt and all donations over \$2 are tax deductible.



BARRABA RSL & RECREATIONAL CLUB LTD

Phone 67821379

For the information of member's and guests.

HAPPENING SOON

FRIDAY 12TH MAY:

MOTHER'S DAY RAFFLES
PLUS MEAT & VEGIE TRAYS

SUNDAY 14TH MAY:

MOTHER'S DAY LUNCHEON
\$25.00 PP ROAST & DESSERT
(BOOKINGS PREFERRED)

BISTRO HOURS

Phone 0427303808

DINE IN OR TAKEAWAY

DAILY BLACKBOARD SPECIALS AVAILABLE
ALSO PIZZA'S MADE TO ORDER

MONDAY: CLOSED

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Closed from 1-2pm

After Hours service available for emergencies only.

Offering veterinary services within the Barraba district for small and large animals in clinic or on farm.

Cat & Dog Boarding available for short or long-term stays.

Barraba Catholic Women's Organisation

Thank you to everyone who patronised our street stall

Prize winners were Ben Freeman, Tracy Thompson
and Val McCusker

Thank you all.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!



TRANSPORT DRIVER

Provide transport to individuals or groups of older persons



COMPANION INDIVIDUAL

Spend one on one time with a GoCo client in their home or out in the community



COMPANION GROUP

Deliver fun activities to our clients such as bingo or mystery tours!!



MEALS ON WHEELS DELIVERY

Deliver meals to clients straight to their door

GET IN TOUCH AND START VOLUNTEERING TODAY! 6740 2240 OR SEE JODY AT OUR QUEEN ST OFFICE



BAKER, GEOFFREY THOMAS

Late of Barraba, passed peacefully 2nd of May 2023

Aged 86yrs

Loving husband to Rita

Loved Father of Leonie (Dec'd), Kim and Shane

Adored grandfather and great grandfather to their children.

Funeral will be held on Friday 12th May 2023.

At 11:00 am, St John's Catholic Church, Barraba

Thence for burial at Barraba Lawn Cemetery.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

On Saturday Julie and I flew free from Tamworth to the Sunshine Coast and back on Bonza Airlines. We were among the many local community members invited to "try out" the new airline, now flying two routes twice weekly from Tamworth; Tamworth-Melbourne and Tamworth-Sunshine Coast.

It was a very smooth, comfortable flight; the planes are new and quite spacious. The advertised fares are much, much cheaper than equivalent flight on Qantas or Virgin. We should support this new service in our local area.



Terry Threlfall

NOTICE

36 Edward Street, Barraba is NOT For Sale.
Apologies for this misunderstanding, any further questions please call Julia 0427 821 423.



COLLEGE CHAT

www.ccn.nsw.edu.au

RTO90027



Do you work in a Club or Pub?

RESPONSIBLE SERVICE OF ALCOHOL

SITHFAB021 Provide responsible service of alcohol

Date: Monday 29 May @ Barraba Community College, Fitzroy St, Barraba

Time: 9am-4pm

Cost: \$245

Enrol online at Short Course Details (ccn.nsw.edu.au) or call us on 6782 1662.

Issuing registered training organisation: Joblink Plus Limited, trading as Australian Training Plus (ATPlus) - RTO ID No. 91434, will be delivering, assessing and issuing Statements of Attainment to students assessed as competent in the units per course requirements.

Barraba Community College - Right where you need us!



This week marks 3 years since Barraba Community News started.

We need to thank the volunteers who ensure we go from a blank page to completed publication each week. Thank you to the people who send us the information, pictures, reports and advertising each week. The advertising just covers the cost of printing and mailing from the Community College.

And thanks to our readers who frequently let us know how much they appreciate receiving 'News' each Wednesday.

VALE BILL BRIGHT (1946-2023)



Musica Viva Australia

Musica Viva Australia regrets to announce the death of renowned Australian harpsichord maker, William 'Bill' Bright, aged 77, at home in Barraba NSW on 1 May.

Bill's beautiful instruments were heard regularly on Australian stages, particularly in eastern Australia. Both MVA and the Australian Chamber Orchestra own and tour Bright harpsichords, and a 'mint' instrument is held by the Powerhouse Museum in Sydney. There are numerous Bright harpsichords in private and professional hands, including overseas. The national significance of his work was also recognised through a 'Keating' Creative Fellowship.



Bill's adventurous life included farming and a stint on an oil rig outside Scotland, as well as mingling with some of the great names of the 'early music' revival in the 1970s and 80s. He honed his craft in Germany with Rainer Schütze before

returning to his birthplace, Barraba, where he lived in 'The Nuthouse' with pets including the late lamented peacock, Willie, whose quills were sometimes used in the harpsichords. His instruments often featured local Australian landscapes, frequently painted by his friend and neighbour the late Rupert Richardson.

Bill's rural life contrasted with the delicacy, refinement and extreme attention to detail for which he was celebrated, creating immaculate copies of fine European instruments, with delightful Australian details. His working practices were not as detailed and orderly as his output suggested – his surroundings were usually chaotic, and commissioners were sometimes frustrated by delays. But he said, 'I'm building it to last 400 years, so what's a year or two?'

Bill will be buried privately in Barraba on Friday 12 May, followed by a celebration at his workshop at 3pm. He leaves many grieving friends and musical colleagues.



History Notes

This week is market week – probably a cooler day than we have had for a while. We have moved the time a little later, to allow the frost to melt, and are hoping to see a good crowd to enjoy the stalls, barbeque and the museum. Two enquiries this week one looking for family members and the other aged homesteads. The latter contacted me through the week being interested in preserving the older country homes around the district. I do not really understand just what he has in mind so we will have to wait until he returns in a couple of weeks. It seems that his vision is for the Horton District.

The other enquirer is looking for descendants of Irwin Smith. Irwin Smith was tragically killed in 1954 when he was hit by a hockey ball during a match. From a notice in the relevant newspaper we know that he left a wife, four children and an elderly mother to mourn his loss.

Unfortunately, I do not know of any descendants living here but I have been able to find that he was a son of James Sidney and Sarah Phoebe Smith. Sarah was a daughter of William and Mary Ann Douglas (Reading) and her mother was still alive when Irwin died in 1954.

If there are any descendants of Jim, Henry, Neil or Anne Smith living here now please let us know so we can advise the enquirer. Finally, for this week, apologies for short notes, I hope to get back to some more time next week.



Barraba Museum Markets

Saturday 13th May 9am to Midday

Make or buy gifts for Mothers' Day! Variety of stalls,
Barbeque, Museum visits. Local history.



Barraba Branch of the United Hospital Auxiliaries of NSW

STREET STALL to be held on Thursday 11th May 2023 starting at 9am near the Barraba Pharmacy in Queen Street. Raffles, plants and home baked goodies. We raise funds to purchase equipment to help our hospital.

At our meeting on 5th May the Barraba Branch of the United Hospital Auxiliaries of NSW drew the raffle for a beautiful, crocheted baby's shawl and cot cover, made and donated by Julie Southwell last year. Our happy winner was Helen Stein, who said she never usually wins anything! Many thanks to Julie and to everyone who supported this raffle.

Julie Williams (Secretary)

BARRABA UNITING CHURCH NOTICES

Sunday 4TH May 2023

Service time 10.45am.

Please note new time for next 4 months

All welcome

FROM PASSOVER TO PENTECOST

'When the day of Pentecost came they were all together in one place' Acts Ch 2 v 1.

What is this "day Pentecost" and who are "they" that were all together in one place."

The day of Pentecost was an important day for the Hebrew people. It was An Annual Festival – the second of three great ANNUAL FESTIVALS and it completed the harvest of later grain. (I.e. the end of the Harvest) "They" were Jesus disciples.

Pentecost was 50 days after the "Passover", the Festival that brought to remembrance", for the Jews their deliverance from slavery in Egypt. That time when the angel of death seeing the blood of a lamb on the door

posts passed over the home and did not bring death to the first born of Hebrews, Cecil be de Mille's extravaganza - "THE TEN COMMANDMENTS" showed graphically how God's "blood protection saved His chosen people".

When Jesus died at the time of Passover His blood was shed so He became the Passover Lamb for those who place their trust in Him, the ONE whose blood it was!

He died on the first Good Friday and on the Sunday rose from the dead. For 40 days He appeared to His disciples and special followers, particularly women, giving instructions and directions.

Then before ascending into heaven He directed them to wait in Jerusalem saying "in a few days you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit" and ". You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you" (Acts Chapter 1) Ten days later it happened. (That is 50 days after Jesus Resurrection).

"When the day of Pentecost came they were all together in one place". There was the sound of rushing wind and tongues like fire rested upon each one.

Now blessed and baptised by the Holy Spirit, these once timid followers of Jesus, went out with power to spread the Good News of Jesus.

Keith Green was a great contemporary Christian song writer who on 28th July 1982 along with 11 others died when the plane (a Cessna 414) they had leased from Last Days Ministries, crashed. Keith was only 28 years old. He and his wife Melody were Jews who were converted to Christianity and became vibrant Christians through the power of God's Holy Spirit.

The same Holy Spirit that came upon those disciples at that blest Pentecost – You may read about it in Acts Chapter 2 of your Bible.

One of Melody's songs contains these words.

"There is a Redeemer,
Jesus, God's own son.
Precious lamb of God Messiah
Holy One.
Thank you oh my Father,
For giving us your Son
And leaving your Spirit
'till the work on earth is done."

When people to-day celebrate Pentecost, they are celebrating that time when God came in power in the Person of His Holy Spirit.

Melody's song says, "leaving your Spirit 'till the work on earth is done"

The Holy Spirit continues His work.

When the work, the work of God on earth is done' it will be the culmination of the Ministry of God's

Holy Spirit on earth and see the return of Jesus Christ.

Written and researched by John Barwick of Manilla Uniting Church

CATHOLIC CHURCH TIMES

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

ANGLICAN CHURCH TIMES

St Laurence's Barraba
Sunday service at 10.00am
Woodsreef 2nd Sunday of the month at
11.30am



Celebrity Paul West to launch the region's first network for small landholders and hobby farmers

Celebrity food grower Paul West, who rose to fame hosting SBS's River Cottage Australia, is headed to Tamworth to launch the region's Small Farms & Lifestyle Blocks Network in an effort to connect small landholders and help with their land management goals.

On Friday 2 June at The Longyard Hotel in Tamworth, all small landholders from lifestyle blocks and hobby farms across the North West are invited to attend a long lunch feast from 12pm – 4pm.

Paul, originally from Murrurundi in NSW, now works as a broadcaster for the ABC travelling to regional Australia for Backroads and talking science for Catalyst, and is a passionate advocate of growing food in backyards.

"I can't wait to launch the Small Farms & Lifestyle Blocks Network this June and help local landholders and residents fast-track their food growing and land management knowledge," Paul said.

"I was lucky that I was taught early about growing our own food, but not everyone gets that experience. Local Land Services are launching this network so like-minded people can connect as they try to improve their land, production capacity and environment. It's a fantastic initiative."

At the launch, attendees will enjoy a long lunch while provided with resources about best practice on their land, the latest research and informative speaker sessions from:

Rural butcher Dale Goodwin from Dale's Downtown Meats in Uralla, will deliver a "Know Your Brisket" session detailing the best way to get the most out of a brisket and many more BBQ hints and tips.

- North West Local Land Services Small Farms Network Officer Margo Weekes, will provide key details to keep you in the loop with all you need to know on your lifestyle block or hobby farm.
- Celebrity food grower Paul West, will deliver a session on boosting opportunities for self-sustainability and ways to maximise production on your block.

Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased online here: smallfarmslonglunch.eventbrite.com.au Tickets include a long lunch feast of brisket and meats with salads and sides, an afternoon tea of charcuterie meat and cheese boards and soft drinks.

The Small Farms & Lifestyle Blocks Network, an initiative of NSW Local Land Services, is aimed at landholders whose primary source of income is not farming, but who is a land manager and stock animal owner.

Local Land Services' Small Farms Network Officer Margo Weekes said small farms and lifestyle properties play an important role in managing a state-wide healthy natural environment.

"Our smaller lifestyle blocks are so incredibly important and we want to support those landholders. Many small properties have all the risks that larger properties need to manage such as livestock, invasive species, weeds native vegetation, emergency preparedness, dams and more."

"At the Small Farms & Lifestyle Blocks Network launch my team and I will be there to talk to you about; making your small farm more productive and profitable; managing weeds and pests; preparing for emergencies; how to recognise diseases in livestock; new technologies; improving soil... and so much more."

Local Land Services is a regional-focused NSW Government agency delivering quality customer services to farmers, landholders and the wider community.

Local Land Services help people make better decisions about the land they manage and connect them with groups, information, support, and funding to improve agricultural productivity and better manage natural resources.

Fifth annual Beef Producers Forum shaping up to be best yet

Measuring and improving grazing systems is the focus of the 5th annual North West Beef Producers Forum running in Gunnedah on 24 May.

Now in its fifth year, the beef forum is sponsored by Meat and Livestock Australia and has become a flagship event of the North West Local Land Services, said North

West Local Land Services Livestock Officer, Naomi Hobson.

"We first started the forum in 2017 and it has been incredibly well supported by local beef producers and industry each year since," Ms Hobson said.

"We know farmers have limited time to get off farm and attend workshop events. By running a full day event and incorporating the industry trade fair into the day, we can provide great value for farmers to invest in a day out. You'll be able to attend and hear about the latest research, new technology and tools, network with other producers, and enjoy a good feed while you're there!"

The event is looking at practical tools to boost productivity, as well as getting outside the farm gate and looking at a broader industry perspective.

"Alastair Rayner will be presenting on the CIBO Labs Feed Monitoring Database now available through MyMLA," Ms Hobson said.

"Edwina Warby from Black Box Co will also give a run down on their user-friendly data management tool that allows producers to easily compile and utilise their on-farm data and data from other sources like MSA. We will also be showcasing the livestock and ag-tech research trails that the North West LLS Ag team have been working on across the region, plus a whole lot more."

RSVP is essential, with early bird discounts available on ticket purchases.

Find out more and save your seat at <https://www.trybooking.com/CGQNZ>



Northern Slopes Landcare Association and the North West Regional Agricultural Landcare facilitator (RALF) invite you to join us for this informative workshop. Learn how to use weeds to help diagnose soil issues, and how they can help us better understand our soil health, and how to transition your soil to its ultimate health and productivity. We will take a close look at a range of weeds, both in the classroom and in the paddock, to increase our understanding of the messages they are sending us in relation to of soil health.

We will delve into how to take a soil test and various the methods of helping diagnose your soils and we'll start you on the journey of developing a holistic soil health restoration action plan.

A bit about our presenter:

Kim Deans loves working with innovative farmers who are disillusioned with the high input, industrial farming model to tailor a unique strategy for reinventing their agricultural business.

The reinvention process has been a recurring theme of Kim's 30 year career in agriculture and she has worked closely with hundreds of farming businesses through processes of change. Alongside her work with farmers Kim and husband Angus have been implementing methods now known as "regenerative" agriculture on their property in NSW over the past 17 years.

Morning Tea and Lunch provided



The poster features three images of different weeds at the top. Below them is the title "Weeds as Indicators of Soil Health - Kim Deans" in large yellow text. The date and time "Wed 24th May 2023 9.30-3.30pm" are in white. The location "at The Living Classroom, Bingara" is in yellow. A green box on the left contains the text "BOOK NOW \$60/head", "NSLA members 1/2 price", and "RSVP by 19th May" with a QR code. To the right, white text says "LEARN what weeds are telling US START a holistic soil restoration action plan for your place GET DIRTY with soil test demos and techniques". At the bottom, a phone icon and number "0438 353 682" are shown, along with logos for the Australian Government's Smart Farms Initiative, Local Land Services, and Landcare NSW.



Budget in the black but "financial challenge" looms

A modest cash surplus is revealed in a report Tamworth Regional Councillors will consider next Tuesday night, but Mayor Russell Webb wants the community to understand that there is a "serious financial challenge" looming in the future.

The report recommends Councillors agree to the public exhibition of the draft Our Annual Plan and Budget 2023-24 documents which set out the services and projects Tamworth Regional Council will deliver in the coming year. The documents show the Council proposes to spend \$249,708,004 across its general, water and sewerage funds in 2023-24 with a total income of \$189,602,881 and delivering

\$87,771,960 in capital works to improve local facilities and infrastructure.

Currently there is a \$429,325 cash surplus for the general fund, however that surplus is fast depleting due to pressures from the increasing cost of doing business and the NSW Government's continued practice of cost shifting. For example, the announcement this week that subsidising the Emergency Services Levy will not continue.

The draft plan includes a 3.7 per cent increase to rates revenue (as approved by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal for all NSW Local Government Areas) as well as an increase of 8 per cent to both the water availability (connection) charge and the water consumption (usage) charge and an overall 6 per cent increase to waste charges.

"The high inflation we are experiencing in the Australian economy unfortunately means costs are increasing for all households and businesses – and Council is no different," said Councillor Webb.

"We have made appropriate use of savings to sustain us in the face of some considerable challenges - our worst drought on record, extreme bushfires, the COVID-19 pandemic and more recently repeated major storm events and subsequent flooding.

Now in the coming financial year we have a budgeted cash surplus of \$429,325, but there will be a further depletion of our savings and we will be taking out loans to be able to deliver some projects for our community. And, over the next few years our cash reserves will be in decline."

Councillor Webb said Council has limited options to increase revenue to address the widening gap between its income level and the growing costs of delivering essential services and infrastructure.

"For us to meet our financial challenges and deliver on our community's expectations, it will be necessary for Council and the community to work together and re-evaluate what we do and how we do it," Cr Webb said. "This is a serious financial challenge and it is critical that we explore all options available, including the feasibility of seeking a special rate variation to increase our rate income above the fixed cap amount. This is a path most of our neighbouring Councils have already started down but we have been able to hold off on through our long track record of strong financial management.

We will be starting a conversation with our community in the new financial year framed by three options about our operations: how we will maintain, how we will grow or how we manage a decline."



TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CHANGE

Gwydir Shire Council has commenced the replacement of a small timber bridge on Gulf Creek Road, approximately 12km from Fossickers

Way. This project aims to replace the current timber structure with reinforced concrete box culverts to allow continued heavy vehicle access into the future.

The project is expected to be finalised by Friday 30 June 2023, with the dismantling of the current structure scheduled for Tuesday 9 May 2023.

To accommodate the construction works, a side track has been constructed to facilitate the movement of local traffic. For the duration of works, the side track will be limited to vehicles less than 6 tonnes.

During the works, a heavy vehicle detour will be in place via Woodburn Emello Road and MacIntyre Road.

Council kindly requests all road users adhere to traffic control instructions and signage for public safety during this period.

All queries regarding this project should be directed to Council's Engineering Projects Coordinator, Leenita Gharwade on 0404 751 641.

Thank you for your cooperation.

The NWTC presents: The Jungle Books 13/05/2023 - 14/05/2023

"The Jungle Books" is an adaptation of the famous stories by Rudyard Kipling. Local playwright Rick Hutton has written the two-act play using some of Kipling's stories.



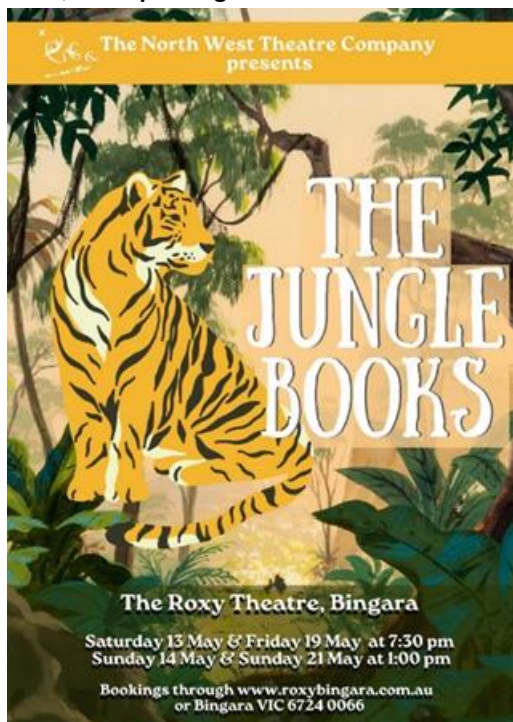
Mowgli the man-cub wanders into the jungle in the Seeoni Hills in India. There he is welcomed by a family of wolves and is admitted into the pack. The tiger Shere Khan is on his trail and wants to have Mowgli

for dinner.

Baloo the bear, Bagheera the black panther, Akela the wolf pack leader and some of the other animals accept Mowgli but some are his enemy.

Our play tells the story through to the final confrontation between Mowgli and Shere Khan.

DATES: Evening: Saturday May 13th, 2023 and Matinee: Sunday May 14th 2023
 Evening: Friday May 19th, 2023, and Matinee: Sunday May 21st, 2023.
TIME: Evening 7.30 pm – Matinees 1.00 pm
TICKET PRICE/CONTRIBUTION: Adult ticket \$25.00 pp, Concession ticket \$15.00 pp, Family ticket (2 adults and 2 children) \$60.00 per family – 4 people only, Single Child \$10.00 per single child.



Bingara Show Society

The Bingara Show Society presents the 92nd Bingara Show to be held on **Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st of May**. Come and visit the Gem on the Gwydir and make a weekend of this beautiful part of NSW.

The Bingara Show really incorporates all things Agriculture, with the usual packed out Poultry Shed, Beef Cattle, Sheep and Wool judging, one of the best Equestrian and Showjumping competitions in the North West, the overflowing Pavilion and the Campdraft running over the two days. Bingara Show will also play host to the Showman's Guild with some amazing rides and amusements fresh from Warialda Show. The Bingara Show will be hosting Noah's Racing Pigs, Woodchop Competiiton, Face Painting and the action packed extreme motorcross by the infamous Aussie FMX. Full Bar and Canteen facilities will be available throughout the weekend with entertainment until late.



Golf Notes Friday 5th May

On Friday Barraba played host to 48 players in the Central North Veterans Golf Open.

In Division 1 the winner was Terry Lovegrove (Manilla) 39 points, runner up on a countback was Gary Turner (Manilla) 36 points and third was Tony Gray (Tamworth) 36 points).

In Division 2 the winner was Mike Artis (Barraba) 40 points, runner up on a countback was David York (Barraba) 36 points and third was Ken Cronin (Quirindi) 36 points.

In Division 3 the winner was Michelle Court (Manilla) 40 points from runner up Lib Thompson (Barraba) 39 points and third was Paul Grigg (Barraba) 38 points.

The overall Burke Shield winners (team of 3 players) were Manilla comprising Terry Lovegrove, Gary Turner and Dale Dodson.

NTPs went to Dan Daly (Tamworth) on the 6th and Campbell Tonkin (Barraba) on the 12th.

The overall Central North Veterans Scratch Championship winner for 2023 was Kevin Kelaher (Barraba) whilst the Central North Veterans Net Championship winner for 2023 was Mike Artis (Barraba).

Golf Notes Saturday 6th May

Di Etheridge and Mike Artis combined well to win the 2023 Mixed Open Fourball on Saturday 6th May with 45 points on a countback. It was their massive 26 points on the back nine that allowed them to just win from Kerri Smith and Ian Cabot. The winners said whilst they combined well there was a bit of cousin luck at times which made the day fun and a bit more special. There were three pairings on 43 points who included Josh Austin and Bev Muller (Tam), Craig Rutley and Cath Pyne (Tam) and also Liam Johnston and Lib Thompson.

In the Scratch event the brother and sister pairing of Peter York and Mandy Koopman were the winners on 33 two shots ahead of Craig Rutley and Cath Pyne (Tam).

NTPs went to Lyn Simpson on the 6th and Maxine Townsend (Tam) on the 3rd and 12th.

Special thankyou to our visitors who travelled to Barraba for the day.

During the presentation President Will Sedgwick and players raised their glass in memory of the passing of member Nan Bowman.

Golf Notes Sunday 7th May

One hundred and six players from across the region contested the Barraba Open 4BBB Versus Par sponsored by DJ Kelly and Co and Stock and Crop on Sunday. The

overall scratch winners were J Henry and S Cooper (Gunnedah) who finished the day with a good scratch score of 3 under. Runners up in the scratch were T Dries and H Dries (Gunnedah) who finished at even par.

P Gregory and T Gregory (Bundarra) took out the net event with a very good plus 11 on a countback from L Dries and A Dutton (Gunnedah). The local pairing of Dan Lott and Jesse Phillips picked up the 1-9 net with plus 6 whilst E LeMessuner and D McLean (Uralla) won the 10-18 net with plus 7.

NTPs went to

3rd - A Conners (Uralla)

6th - S Cooper (Gunnedah)

12th - T Dries (Gunnedah)

16th - D McLean (Uralla)

18th - A Dutton (Gunnedah)

The longest drive

A Grade - C Redmond (Singleton)

B Grade - A Dutton (Gunnedah)

C Grade - P Norbury (Walcha)

President Will Sedgwick thanked everyone for coming and acknowledged the great work of our local volunteers who presented the course and facilities in such great order. He thanked the ladies for the delicious lamb shank lunch that was well received by all the players.



Rugby Report

The Barraba Rams were home to last season's top teams in the second grade and women's rugby, so were expecting

top opposition and that was the story of the day.

Pirates put pressure on Barraba to have the men's game on first which caught a lot of supporters off guard as they missed all, or some, of a hard game.

First points went to the Rams after a penalty to Clarke after Pirates kicked the ball dead and Barraba started to play from half way into Pirates territory where the penalty occurred for a 3-0 lead.

Pirates had 2 chances to kick a penalty but took the scrum instead and were held out by some stout defence. Staines was injured and replaced by J. Mallise.

In the 15 minute mark a very good backline move from inside their half saw Sloane finish off the play with a try in the corner for an 8-0 lead.

Pirates put some pressure on the Rams and again set a scrum and this paid off with a try and conversion 8-7 to Rams. With 10 minutes left Barraba again ran the ball

from their half with good hands for Pfingst to score near the post for a converted try 15-7 Rams.

Pirates hit back with a similar result for a halftime score, Barraba 15, Pirates 14 and a very even game. A highlight of the half was the lineout work by Barraba with K Ward featuring strongly.

The second half saw a couple of changes in the forwards with Z Mallise and J McCarthy on for periods which improved the scrum. But the team gave away silly penalties which eventually saw Pirates take a tap and score and convert for a 15-21 lead. They started to show some good backline work which resulted in a try wide out for a 15-26 lead.

The referee, on being asked about the number of penalties said that he thought the new laws, taking short cuts and not being fit enough, hence making silly mistakes were the main reason. He also stated that the first half was much better football than the 1st grade game he did last week.

My stars on the day was Thabiso for his solid runs which made ground every time, Ward for his consistent line out work, W Robinson his usual lead by example, McKenna and Pfingst in the backs.

Players Player Thabiso

3. Osin McKenna

2. Josh Sloan

1. Lane Clarke

The Women's game saw a 10-a-side game with the Pirates girls very slick and much too fast for the locals but Kiah Newell chased well, and on several occasions ran down and stopped certain tries.

Players Player Kiah Newell

3. Kiah Newell

2. Amie Middlemiss

1. Katie Sweeney

This coming Sunday 14th the Barraba Juniors Carnival will be held, one of the biggest in the north from under 8's to under 16's. Something to see.

Next Saturday games.

Gunnedah v Barraba / Narrabri v Quirindi / Pirates v Inverell / Walcha v Moree / Scone bye

BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY OWNED AND EDITED

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Contact news@barrabacommunitynews.org.au for the best advertising rates in the region

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Lamb, Feta, Pea and Mint Salad

From The Free Range Butcher



Protein and salad work all year round. Whether it's a late dinner during daylight saving or a warm Autumn night. Lamb steaks with this salad are perfect. Depending on how many people you are serving will depend on what cut you decide on. Use rump steaks for 3 people or a butterflied leg of lamb if you have 4 or more.

Ingredients:

- Lamb rump steaks, backstrap or butterflied leg of lamb
- Olive oil
- Salt and pepper
- 2 -3 cups of rocket
- 1 cup of peas, fresh or frozen (greens beans or snow peas will also work)
- 1/2 cup mint leaves, torn or chopped
- 300g feta, cubed
- 1/2 red onion, thinly sliced
- Juice of 1 lemon

Method:

- Coat the lamb with olive oil, season and brown on both sides on a barbecue or in a hot frying pan.
- Rest meat for a few minutes while you make the salad.
- Cook the peas in boiling, salted water for 5 minutes or until just tender. Drain.
- Toss the rocket, peas, mint, feta and onion together, season and dress with olive oil and lemon juice.
- To serve: Slice the lamb and arrange with the salad.

Albanese government launches war on vaping, declaring it the 'number-one behavioural issue in high schools'

Michelle Grattan, Professorial Fellow, University of Canberra

The federal government is declaring war on vaping, announcing measures to stamp out its recreational use – especially among the young – including by stronger legislation and enforcement action. In a tough message delivered last week, Health Minister Mark Butler declared: “Vaping has become the number one behavioural issue in high schools. And it’s becoming widespread in primary schools.”

The government will work with the states and territories to clamp down on the increasing black market in vaping, including to stop the illegal import of non-prescription vapes. The minimum quality standards for prescription vapes will be increased, with restrictions on flavours and colours. Prescription vapes will have to come in “pharmacy-like packaging” (following the example of plain packaging for cigarettes). The permissible nicotine concentrations and volumes will be reduced, and single-use, disposable vapes will be banned.

The governments will work with other jurisdictions to shut down the sale of vapes, ending sales at convenience stores and other retailers. But it will also make it easier for people to get a prescription for legitimate therapeutic use. Next week’s budget will provide \$234 million to address smoking and vaping.

Butler warns the gains made in the fight against smoking “could be undone by a new threat to public health. Vaping was sold to governments and communities around the world as a therapeutic product to help long-term smokers quit,” Butler says. “It was not sold as a recreational product - especially not one for our kids. But that is what it has become: the biggest loophole in Australian history. One in six teenagers aged 14-17 has vaped. One in four people aged 18-24 has vaped. By contrast, only one in 70 people my age has vaped. And when more than a thousand teenagers aged 15 to 17 were asked where they could get vapes, four out of five of them said they found it easy or somewhat easy to buy them in retail stores. This is a product targeted at our kids, sold alongside lollies and chocolate bars,” Butler says.

“Over the past 12 months, Victoria’s poisons hotline has taken 50 calls about children under four becoming sick from ingesting or using a vape.”

Butler says that just as with smoking, “Big Tobacco has taken another addictive product, wrapped it in shiny packaging and added flavours to create a new generation of nicotine addicts. Vapers are three times as likely to take up smoking, which explains why under 25s are the only cohort in the community currently recording an increase in smoking rates. “This must end,” Butler says.

The budget money includes \$63 million for a public health campaign to discourage people taking up smoking and vaping and encourage quitting. Some \$30 million will be put into support programs to help people quit, and into education and training for health professionals.

Another \$140 million will go to the Tackling Indigenous Smoking program, including widening it to tackle vaping.

Internet problems persist for telco consumers, TIO results steady against previous quarter

The Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman’s (TIO) Quarter Three Complaints Report shows residential consumers and small businesses made 17,777 complaints about phone and internet services between January and March this year. While complaints have remained steady compared to the previous quarter, the results show an almost 19 per cent decrease against the same period last year.

Problems with internet services increased 8.5 per cent compared to the previous quarter. Internet complaints about having trouble getting connected to the NBN network, and experiencing problems with service quality once connected, increased 13 per cent. Complaints about having intermittent service or drop-outs increased 32 per cent across NBN and non-NBN networks compared to the previous quarter. There were also significant increases in complaints about failure to cancel a service, slow data speeds, and billing for services and devices.

With current cost-of-living pressures facing consumers, the TIO has highlighted trends in complaints about financial hardship and will continue to do so in future quarterly reports. This period, 433 complaints were made by consumers experiencing financial hardship, mostly about problems with a mobile service.

Other key points include:

- Mobile continued to be the most complained about service type, making up 47.5 per cent of all complaints.
- Mobile complaints about misleading conduct increased 12.8 per cent compared to the previous quarter, and 34.9 per cent compared to the previous year.
- Landline complaints increased 7 per cent.
- Complaints about Optus decreased 17 per cent. Optus, iiNet and TPG were the only telcos to see decreases in complaints. All other top ten telcos increased.
- Complaints about Southern Phone increased 83.1 per cent, from a low volume of complaints.

