

# BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

**COMMUNITY OWNED AND EDITED** 

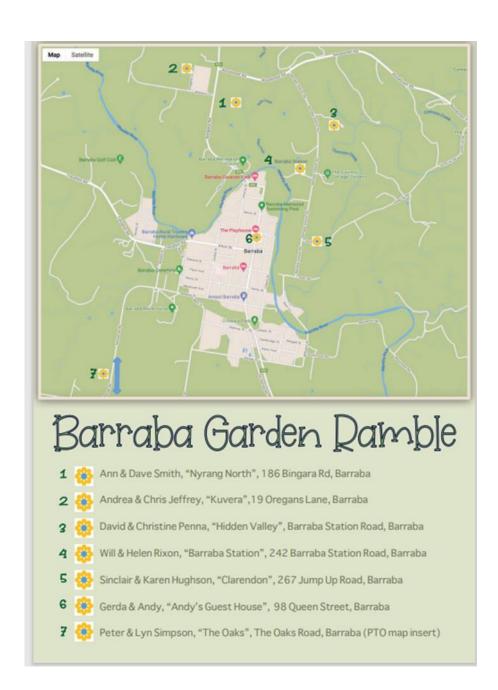
Wednesday 25th October 2023

# Barraba Garden Ramble

The Barraba Cancer Patients Fund Raising Group's Garden Ramble will be held on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November. There will be 7 gardens participating plus added attractions at some of the gardens. Chris Jefferys will have his wonderful model railway on display and there will be pop up stalls, a display of the Barraba Shutterbugs photography and morning/afternoon tea available at Dave and Ann Smith's.

The BCPFRG are very grateful to these gardeners for doing all the work involved to open their gardens during this extremely dry time and hope many people will come along, enjoy the day and reward the gardeners for their efforts. All participating gardens will be identified by balloons at their entrances.

All funds raised on the day will be distributed to organisations specialising in the care of cancer patients or involved in cancer research.



Pictures from the Auto Fest last weekend on page 12



#### Women's Health Service

#### Who can use our services?

Our services are available to all women and women of all ages. Women from the following groups are encouraged to make an appointment.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

Culturally and linguistically Diverse Backgrounds

Refugees

Economically and socially

disadvantaged

Older women

Young mothers

Homeless women

Mental health issues

Physical/intellectual disabilities

Drug and alcohol issues

Same sex attracted

Transgender

Women experiencing relationship

violence

#### Women's Health Nurse Services

Cervical screening
Breast checks/education
Contraceptive information
Intrauterine device removal/checks
Pregnancy testing and counselling
Menstrual information
6 week postnatal check

o week postnatai che

Fertility awareness

Sexually transmissible infection

information and checks

Dietary and nutritional awareness

and referral

Preventative health advice

Book now at the Barraba Health Service 67822500 for Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November or Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December

Let's use it or lose it ladies





Scan for more information



#### Barraba Garden Ramble

**Barraba Cancer Patients Fund Raising Group Inc.** 

Open Garden Ramble

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November 10am – 4pm

Entry \$5/per garden or an all gardens ticket \$25

Entry tickets and garden maps available at each garden

# <u>Proposed rates increase – Public Meeting</u> Barraba 18 October.

The Theatre at the Playhouse Hotel was packed and overflowing — about one hundred and twenty people gathered to hear a presentation from Tamworth Regional Council outlining why our rates needed to rise by 36.3% over the next 2 years.

The Mayor, the General Manager, and other senior staff from Tamworth Regional Council were present. Janine McKenzie of Morrison Low Consultants, a Sydney based firm of local government experts, very professionally presented the case for the rates rise. Accompanied by tables, graphs and comparative charts, she outlined the case showing that Council's essential expenditure had for some time exceeded their total income; if Council did not increase income, they would have to reduce services, or go broke. The only possible solution to increase income was to raise rates.



Not far into this presentation (it went on for about half an hour) it was clear the local residents present were getting restless and losing interest. There are probably two reasons. Firstly, the presentation was too technical, the scope too broad and long, a presentation more suitable for senior managers and business people, not local residents and ratepayers. Secondly, the presentation spoke about income and expenditure for the whole of the Tamworth Regional Council area. The Barraba area has less than 5% of TRC's population; the presentation should have, at least in part, spoken about some of the Council improvements over the last 12 months and those services in Barraba which would be affected by lack of revenue. The one "local" topic that was discussed, road expenditure, was only for the broad northern (Barraba-Manilla) area. A very large amount was spent, but a comparison with road expenditure in Tamworth urban area per head of population is fairly meaningless, given that our area is crisscrossed with thousands of kilometres of rural roads.



After statements from the Mayor and the General Manager, the meeting was opened to questions. That part of the meeting didn't go well; some people left part way through and when the Mayor closed the meeting many of the locals left feeling dissatisfied with important questions unanswered. Many of the questions from the floor were about matters, while important to individuals, did not come under the Council's control, such as health services, transport, and other cost of living increases. These questions took time and weren't able to be answered (or answered poorly) by Council Officers. That meant unfortunately other residents who had prepared very relevant questions were unable to have their questions addressed.

Canvassing the views of locals after the meeting, perhaps the general feeling of dissatisfaction could have been avoided if Councillors and senior staff had been better prepared and spent some time focussed on Barraba issues rather than all Tamworth city issues and planned Tamworth expenditure. It may be useful if some channel to keep in touch and being aware of the particular issues that are of importance to the residents of Barraba was available. Could an occasional Council Meeting be held in Barraba, where local residents could meet and question their representatives in a more formal format?

If you wish to make further comments to Tamworth Regional Council you can do so via;

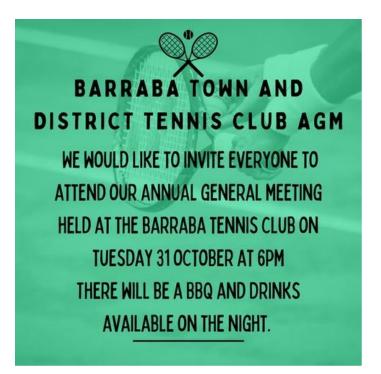
<u>Special Rate Variation proposal | Tamworth Regional Council</u> (nsw.gov.au)

Letter – General Manager, PO Box 555 Tamworth NSW 2340 Email – <a href="mailto:trc@tamworth.nsw.gov.au">trc@tamworth.nsw.gov.au</a>

Phone – Customer service 02 6767 5555

Or direct to IPART - Independent Pricing and Regulatory

Tribunal https://www.ipart.nsw.gov.au



#### What's On At The Pub

The Beautiful weather has returned and so have SUNDAY LUNCHES 12 til 2.00 pm
Book if you can 67821023

**Dinner: Closed** 





#### BARRABA RSL & RECREATIONAL CLUB LTD

Phone 67821379

For the information of members and guests.

#### THIS WEEK

#### FRIDAY 27th October

MEAT RAFFLES

1st Draw 6.45pm

2nd Draw 7.30pm

MEMBERSHIP DRAW \$1700

#### SUNDAY 29th October

ANGLER CLUB RAFFLES FROM 1PM MEMBERSHIP DRAW 1 DRAW \$1000

#### MELBOURNE CUP LUNCHEON

**TUESDAY 7TH NOV** 

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL BY FRIDAY 3RD NOV

#### **BISTRO HOURS**

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MONDAY: CLOSED TUESDAY: CLOSED

WEDNESDAY: 12PM-2.00PM
THURS/FRI/SAT: LUNCH 12-2PM

DINNER FROM 6PM

SUNDAY: 12-2PM

Advertise in Barraba Community News and reach 750 households in our local area.

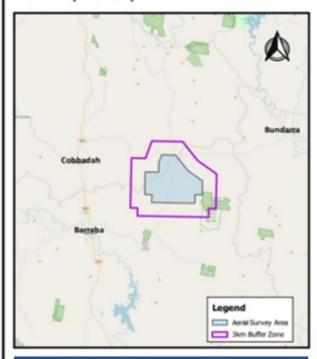
Contact news@barrabacommunitynews.org.au for the best advertising rates in the region

# GREAT DIRT

ACN 670 840 301

Great Dirt Resources Ltd manages Exploration Licence 9527 in the New England region situated near Barraba.

We will be undertaking an airborne helicopter survey over this tenement commencing on the 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023 for 4-6 days and we will be reaching out to the landholders impacted by the survey directly.



#### **FIND OUT MORE**

Please contact Nerida Watson for further information relating to the airborne survey activities: **Mobile**: 0426 993 985

Email: nerida@communityengagement.com.au

The Playhouse Hotel 2.30 pm SUN 29 OCT DOUBLE BILL: DRACULA and DRACULA'S DAUGHTER

(PG, 140 mins) \$10

Dracula (1931) and its 1936 sequel Dracula's Daughter. Notable horror classics will be introduced by A. Sharp. Interval with afternoon tea.



#### History Notes

Another big weekend for Barraba with success for a number of organizations - congratulations to the organizers of the motor show- those at the museum markets enjoyed all the different vehicles passing by and there were lots of people around the town.

The book market sold a number of books but there were still lots to be put away afterwards - there are two boxes of readers digest condensed books in perfect order which have not attracted any interest while the well read paperbacks are always attracting interest! The books will be out at the markets in November.

Last weekend we had visitors interested in the settlers of the Boomi Creek and the small settlers along the upper Manilla river. The river settlers were mostly of German descent including Mell, Michell, Garske, and Mason and our visitors spent a couple of days exploring the district, finding places that they had visited when they attended a re-union organized by Charles Mason many years ago.

Residents will have noticed the renovations to Andy's Backpackers building. This building appears in our short list for building applications 1929-1939. The application to build a brick shop with weatherboard residence attached was lodged on 11<sup>th</sup> April, 1930, by George Hardy whose address was also Queen Street. Checking the only map we have the block was the northern block of three originally owned by J. Matthews.

The builder of the shop was J.P.Pinfold, Warrah Street, Hamilton, who quoted 1550 Pounds for the building and 17 p9unds ten shillings for a fence for the job. The Sofis family went into the building- their first cafe - and when they moved across the street the building was used by a number of businesses including Hayes Accountancy in the 1980's, before Andy's Backpackers moved in a few decades ago.

Also in the list of applications to build is a hall to be added to the Masonic Hall in May 1931. This would be the wooden building used by the senior citizens at the back of the Masonic Hall.

There are a few more 1930's buildings on this list which are of interest and I am sure the earlier council books would also be of great interest but they are now stored in Newcastle - almost impossible for local research.



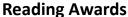
Students are currently completing assessments called PAT. This stands for Progressive Achievement Tests and is conducted in reading and numeracy. We can then compare growth over a period of time, usually 12 months, though we choose to test twice per year. The diagnostic tests are designed by the Australian Council for Educational Research. This data is used to determine next steps in teaching and learning. Even though we only started this week we have had one student climb 33 points for reading when the average growth is 10. This again is testament to the work of the student and teaching team. Below are some of the children

assessed so far who have achieved some great results. Congratulation on your dedication to your learning journey.



Back row: Alfie, Josh, Parker, Blake, Oliver, Courtney, Stella, Elkie, Chastity Front row: Monty, Dexter, Gus, Preston, Makenna, Angel-Lee, Mason, Ruby, Ava-Jane





100 nights for Max and Dexter 175 nights for Willow 200 nights for Jack



#### Students of the week

**K:** Levi for making outstanding progress in literacy

1/2: Elkie for reading with confidence and enjoying her reading

3/4: Chastity for effort and achievement across all subject

5/6: Hamish for great leadership in the playground

Captains Award: Lucas for great playground behaviour





#### 135th Anniversary – Tamworth Powerstation Museum

#### 9 November @ 2:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Join the celebration of Tamworth as the 'First City of Light' on Thursday the 9th of November for the 135th anniversary of the turning on of the first electric streetlights. On the 9th of November 1888 Tamworth became the first city in the southern hemisphere to have municipally funded electric streetlights. Join us at the Museum as we celebrate this event through a tour of the Museum and the running of our John Fowler under type steam engines (dating back to 1886).



#### **SPORTS FACILITIES GRANTS NOW OPEN**

Member for Tamworth Kevin Anderson has today welcomed the announcement of a government program aimed at boosting female participation in sport. Mr Anderson said that he encourages any local sporting organisations to apply for NSW funding to help build sporting facilities and boost sports participation within the community.

The main purpose of the Level Playing Field Program is to ensure women and girls have equitable access to sport and recreation facilities as well as fostering positive sports participation experiences for women and girls. Level Playing Field Program is open to providers of grassroots sports to fund new and upgraded facilities, and deliver fit-for-purpose amenities, like changerooms and lighting.

"There are many projects throughout the electorate that would certainly benefit from funding under the Level the Playing Field Program and my message to those groups is to apply as soon as possible," Mr Anderson said. "Playing sport improves overall fitness levels, reduces stress, increases confidence and helps make new friends which all lead to building healthier and better communities and I strongly encourage sporting clubs and councils to apply," Applications for the Level Playing Field Program close on 30th November. Details including eligibility criteria and the online available application process, are at https://www.sport.nsw.gov.au/grants/level-the-playingfield-program

#### LABOR FALLS SHORT ON GAMBLE AWARE WEEK

The NSW Opposition is calling on the Labor Government to put forward the full amount it promised for harm minimisation initiatives as the State marks GambleAware Week. The Government claimed it would redirect the \$100 million fine imposed on Star Casino by the NSW Independent Casino Commission towards the cause, but so far only \$41.5m has been received.

Shadow Minister for Gaming Kevin Anderson said problem gambling is continuing to escalate and the Government needs to match that with adequate funding. "What we have seen here is the Labor Government falling short of its promise," Mr Anderson said. "It is imperative that the Government focuses on harm minimisation measures and programs that increase awareness around the different types of gambling and the risks associated with them. On GambleAware Week it is also important to make sure that people know there is help out there and where to find those support services when they need them. More work needs to be done in so many areas including prevention, education, and early intervention, support and imposing greater restrictions on gambling advertising," Mr Anderson said. "Staff training also needs to be a key focus for those involved in providing online wagering services or with the capacity to influence. The Government needs to firstly put forward the full \$100m it promised for harm minimisation initiatives and then start making problem gambling a priority."

GambleAware week runs from 16th to 22nd October. Counsellors are available for free, confidential advice and support, call GambleAware on 1800 858 858 24/7.

# Probing the Agriculture Minister over drought conditions

With the prospect of prolonged dry conditions looming large across the region, I used State Parliament this week to question Agriculture Minister Tara Moriarty about what plans she has to support primary producers and rural communities through drought this summer. I pressed the Minister by asking when the government would officially recognise that rural and regional NSW was already in the grip of drought, which would only worsen and spread as the warm dry weather intensified. Conditions are bad, they will only get worse, and some areas are already in drought, yet we haven't heard a peep from the Minister, nor any official mention of the word 'drought' from the government, let alone any indications of support on the way. The Minister needs to be honest and upfront about the reality of the situation on the land and the grim outlook for the summer. This is a minimum requirement of her holding the office she does.

We are already seeing echoes of the previous drought, with raging bushfires across the region and a long, hot and dry summer predicted. Farmers and rural communities deserve to hear from the Agriculture Minister and to know what the government is planning to help, if anything at all. Drought and bushfires will almost certainly be the biggest challenges our region will face over the coming months, and we are entitled to some answers. I also moved a motion in Parliament only last week calling for the government to initiate drought support measures. Farmers want some reassurance from their state government that they will be supported if severe drought returns. During the last drought, the government provided transport subsidies which allowed farmers to claim back some of the costs associated with the transport of fodder, as well as water infrastructure rebates.

#### Regional Seniors Travel Card petition tabled in Parliament

I tabled a 10,000-plus signature petition in Parliament this week, calling for the government reverse its recent decision and reinstate the popular \$250 NSW Regional Seniors Travel Card.

The petition will now trigger a debate on the floor of the Legislative Assembly next month when Parliament resumes. I thank the community for putting pen to paper to call on the government, which effectively axed the program in its first Budget last month, to continue the vital card. In last month's State Budget the government took the axe to the Seniors

Travel Card — a heartless decision which will negatively impact more than 12,000 seniors in the Northern Tablelands and more than \$1 million across country NSW. We cannot afford to sit idle and allow this card to be taken so coldly off some of our community's most vulnerable people, especially in the midst of a cost-of-living crisis. We must take the fight up to the government and with the tabling of this petition, we'll get the chance to do this on the floor of Parliament next month.

Since 2020, the Regional Seniors Travel Card had helped more than one million eligible seniors living in rural and regional NSW with cost-of-living expenses by providing \$250 to spend on petrol, taxis or public transport to help get them to appointments, do the weekly grocery shop or take that special trip to visit family and friends. Cardholders have written to me about how the card has become an essential part of their budgets, allowing them to see grandchildren and family and paying for necessary travel to appointments when not many options for public transport are available. The positive response to the petition, not just in our region but right across our state has been overwhelming. People of all ages have taken the time to show their support for our seniors and this This petition, backed with the signatures of more than 10,000 locals, sends a powerful message to the government and I hope they listen and act next month.



#### **Golf Notes**

With the dry conditions and a bit of run, the scores were pretty hot last

Friday evening. No-one was hotter though than the young fellas from "Next Gen" with Cooper Chapman 26 and Finn Allan 25 giving the handicapper fair pain in the tummy. No doubt he will need to make some changes. Their team mate Dusty Hiscock came in with 21 points as well. Others to win a ball were Trevor Hill with 22, Nick Sweeney, Helen Kelly and groom to be Kieren Darlington 21 and Tom Mellor, Craig Ruttley, Ian Cabot, Amanda Koopman, Rob Sweeney and "Wouldbe's" Liam Johnston all with 20.

In the teams comp "Next Gen" are off to flying and have 91 points followed by "Over The Hill" consisting of Helen And Dave Kelly and newcomers Tim and Patti Crowley with 78. There are 10 teams all in the seventies but clearly we all have plenty of work to chase down the leaders. There was a great round-up of 5 Holers with Marnie Crowley considered most deserving of a ball.

We all wish Kieren and Maddie Lott all the best for their future together.

#### **Barraba Uniting Church Notices**

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October – NO SERVICE IN BARRABA.

A combined service with Manilla at 10.30am.

This will be an outdoor service at Manilla Weir.

Please bring a foldup chair and your own lunch. All Welcome.

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November – Service times at Barraba resume

8.45am for all services

# ANGLICAN CHURCH TIMES St Laurence's Barraba

Sunday service at 10.00am
Woodsreef 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month at 11.30am

#### **Snippets from St Laurence's**

I have been thinking about bell ringing this week, remembering the days of the half-hour warning bell, then the ten minute warning. I can't remember whether in my youth I lived near a church where the bells rang for the last two minutes before the service or whether that idea comes from my reading. All that was brought on by the decision of Parish Council not to move to an earlier service for summer: our service time remains at 10am.

This Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> October, lay people and clergy from all over the diocese will be gathering in our Youth Centre to catch up on the administrative requirements of keeping our churches operational.

The Youth Group for secondary age young people meets in the Youth Centre on Friday nights during term time. From  $10^{th}$  to  $12^{th}$  November there will be a Youth Muster in Tamworth. I have happy memories of one in Bingara a few years ago – well, I had turned 18.

On Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December there will be a Gingerbread Cookie Decorating event for the under 12s and on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December there will be Gingerbread House Decorating for ages 12+. More details closer to the dates.

This week, think of these words from John's Gospel, chapter 3, verse 16: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

Beth

#### **CATHOLIC CHURCH TIMES**

Barraba 1st Saturday evening Mass 5pm 2nd 3rd 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday 9am Upper Horton 11am on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Weekday Mass Wednesday 10am

# BARRABA SPORTSGROUND COMMITTEE AGM NOTICE THE BARRABA SPORTSGROUND COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO INVITE EVERYONE TO THEIR AGM ON TUESDAY 14 NOVEMBER AT 5:30PM AT THE BARRABA PUB

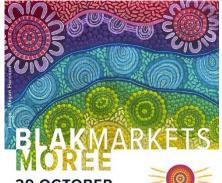


The Barraba Rugby Club would like to invite everyone to attend their AGM.

Date - 12 November 2023 Time - 2pm Where - Barraba Rugby Club

Come along to support our club and see how you can help out in the 2024 season

# A weekend of celebration of Aboriginal culture in Moree



29 OCTOBER
Jellicoe Park

### The Blak Markets

will be running for the first time in Moree on Sunday 29 October at the Aboriginal Sculpture walk at Jellicoe Park,

More information

https://fb.me/e/1t7ol8K2j

#### \$16 million for Crown reserve improvements

Applications are now open for \$16 million in NSW Government funding to maintain and improve Crown land reserves for the use of communities across the state, with \$14 million in grants and \$2 million in loans on offer.

Applications for the Crown Reserves Improvement Fund (CRIF) are open from 16 October to 17 November 2023 through Crown Lands in the Department of Planning and Environment. Eligible applicants include all Crown land managers including local councils, community organisations, and user groups that are licensed to use Crown reserves across NSW, as well as commons and also showgrounds on freehold land.

CRIF grants and loans support projects that can deliver social, cultural, environmental or economic benefits to local communities. They help maintain and upgrade reserves and facilities on them so residents can use and enjoy them, and also protect areas of important environmental land. Grants also support weed and pest management projects to ensure we have healthy public reserves that help protect native plants and animals from invasive species.

The 2023-24 CRIF round will focus on projects that have positive community impacts by:

- Maintaining or increasing public access, amenity and use of a reserve.
- Supporting social cohesion and participation in community life.
- Enabling people with accessibility requirements or living with a disability to be included.
- Delivering a service or infrastructure to enable Aboriginal people to access, care for or protect and manage land.
- Conserving heritage values and/or natural values of a reserve.
- · Creating employment or business opportunities.

For further information and to apply visit reservemanager.crownland.nsw.gov.au/funding/crif

#### Minister for Lands and Property Steve Kamper said:

"Crown reserves support communities by protecting the environment and providing open spaces and facilities for parks, ovals, walking, cycling, camping and other sports and recreation activities, to keep communities healthy and happy. They also provide land for community organisations and assets like showgrounds, public halls, scouts and girl guide groups, surf life saving clubs, racecourses and more. These grants will help ensure local community land continues to prosper into the future."



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#### BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY OWNED AND EDITED

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Barraba main street businesses

**SHOP LOCALLY – in 1967** (continued from last week)

Part 3: Services for the farm

Do you need a windmill repaired in 2023? How long since you there were regular sales at the Barraba saleyards?

# McKID & CO.

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Did you know that a piranha can devour a small child down to the bone in less than 30 seconds?

Anyways, I lost my job at the aquarium today.

Just mentioned to the missus that I've always had a bit of a thing for Beyoncé.

"Whatever floats your boat." she said.

"No," I said. "That's buoyancy."

# Thanks to Shaun and the team for another successful Auto Fest and great Fireworks display



Beautifully restored T-model Ford



Tim and Wendy Endacott's Valiant ute



Geoff Barker's 1969 Ford Mustang







