



BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

FREE LOCAL NEWSPAPER

COMMUNITY OWNED AND EDITED

Wednesday 6th March 2024

Richardson House Fundraising Easter Raffle 2024!!



Tickets: \$3 each

or 4 for \$10

Tickets available please see Richardson House, Barraba Pharmacy, Barraba Beef or Saunders Fruit and Veggie Shop.

The winner will be announced on our Facebook Page and will also be contacted by phone, on Thursday 28th March.

If you wish to see the prize, you are very welcome to visit us at Richardson House.

Thank you all for your wonderful support.

Happy Easter from the Management, Residents and Staff.



Senior Citizens Notes

Hi Everyone,

Our delayed meeting on Friday was quite well attended, but it would be great if a few more members could attend.

Top of the list of business, is the information session by Seniors Advocate, Julie Tremayne. Please everyone, if you have any questions or might be seeking particular information to help solve a problem, maybe this is your opportunity to get help. The time and place are Senior Citz Hall, 50 Fitzroy Street at 10am Friday 15th March. I must stress that this morning is open to all general public. A warm welcome is extended to all of the community. Morning tea will also be provided.

Bingo is well attended – players please note – no Bingo on Friday 15th but will be conducted on Thursday 14th March, this will only be for that one week.

Members and supporters, we have a street stall on Friday 10th May. I know that day seems a long way ahead, but time flies. Our Easter Comp is up and going. A lovely array of goodies is up for grabs. This will be drawn on the Friday before Easter.

Our trip to Dubbo, later in the year is on for certain. I will have more details when I have had a yarn to our friendly bus driver. This trip will be no more than a week. So, folks if you are thinking of taking a short break away, this may be what you need.

This is all the news for now. To those folks on the sick list, a wish for a speedy recovery. Till next time, stay well and take care.

Cheers

Judy Brady



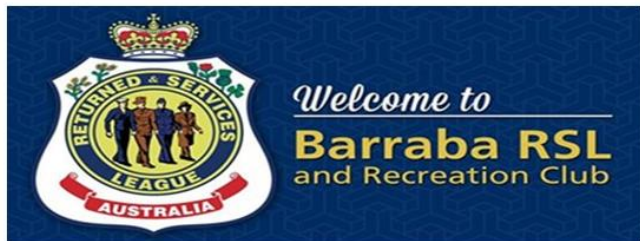
Welcome to
Barraba RSL
and Recreation Club

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Of the Barraba RSL & Recreational Club Ltd

To be held Sunday 10th March 2024 @ 11am

@ the clubhouse



BARRABA RSL & RECREATIONAL CLUB LTD

Phone 67821379

For the information of members and guests.

THIS WEEK

THURSDAY 7th March

Bingo from 6pm

FRIDAY 8th March

MEAT RAFFLES

1st Draw 6.45pm

2nd Draw 7.30pm

MEMBERSHIP DRAW \$1200

Sunday 10th March

CLUB AGM STARTING 11AM

Angler Club raffles from 1pm

Membership Draw \$1900

HAPPENING SOON

FRIDAY 15th and SUNDAY 17th MARCH Raffles

Fundraising for Ruby Mae's Wish

Please wear something purple

FRIDAY 29TH March Easter Raffles

SUNDAY 31ST March **No raffles**

BISTRO HOURS

Phone 0427330808

DINE IN OR TAKEAWAY

DAILY BLACKBOARD SPECIALS AVAILABLE

ALSO PIZZAS MADE TO ORDER

MONDAY: CLOSED

TUESDAY: CLOSED

WEDNESDAY: 12PM-2.00PM

THURS/FRI/SAT: LUNCH 12-2PM

DINNER FROM 6PM

SUNDAY: 12-2PM



Phone: 0459 192 265

Email: admin@barrabaveterinaryservice.com

219 Mulwarree Rd, Barraba 2347

Mon to Fri 8:30am – 5.30pm

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.

**FLAPPER & GANGSTER
POSTPONED**

APOLOGIES
**We have to reschedule our
planned Gatsby night.**
A new date is forthcoming!!

*Funny Money Casino.
Speakeasy Bar
Martinis and Gin Cocktails
Dance The Charleston From 8.30 pm
Dress Gatsby style!
Entry is FREE*

Commercial Hotel
136 Queen Street Barraba 67821023

**See pages 11 to 14 for reports, results and pictures
from the 2024 Barraba Show**

Well, show weekend is over and it certainly looks to have been successful in spite of Tamworth trying to steal our space. The Show has had its spot at this time of year for most of its 120 year history, while the Tamworth show was always the week before the Sydney Royal Show began. In the days before big trucks and sealed roads the Show Cattle travelled to Sydney by train from the Tamworth Show and incidentally returned by train to Barraba about two weeks later.

This week I have been trying to sort out several family history documents all stored in one album - letters, family trees, and of course, attempts to write the history of one family on one page - a very time consuming problem which needs to be done now that we have filing cabinets. Hopefully finding these families will soon be easier. The shelves have been re-organized and all the boxes are being labeled so finding someone's family tree should be a lot easier. The clean-up has found the tablecloths for the market stall with the exception of the big damask one which walked away some time ago!

The markets are on this weekend so come along and have a chat, inspect the stalls and have a cup of coffee. There will be two lots of plants as well as the usual goods for sale. Read the advertisement for more info.

Members, the meeting this month has to be postponed to the 4th Tuesday due to lack of numbers available-too many appointments and holidays!

The talking continues about the opening the town clock in 1924- still no sign of the paper clipping which I am sure exists. Some people suggest that the clock was opened on Anzac Day but the post card that my grandmother had, was, I thought dated November, 1924. There is no plaque anywhere on the clock as Trixie Garland searched everywhere around the clock and failed to find anything. The plaque recently placed in the garden outside The Playhouse is the only record of the opening of the clock and I am not sure of its origin.

Checking through the miscellaneous file I have come across the list of rules for shop assistants in 1854. I am sure we have shared the rules for teachers in 1872 but this is on another level! More next week.

The local markets return for 2024 on March 9th at 8.30 a.m. There will be plants, cakes, honey, sewing, gift cards, timber/glassware, books and of course tea/coffee and the barbeque. The museum will be open and we love visitors.



Barraba Markets 9 March 2024



At The Playhouse Hotel

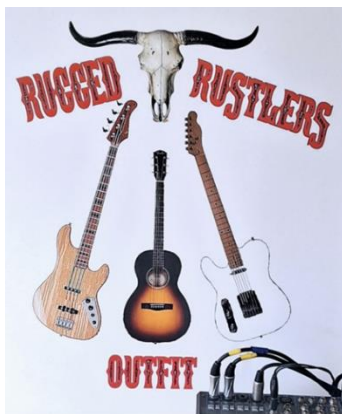
Open Saturday and Sunday

8am to 2pm

**Breakfast, morning tea, brunch
and lunch**

To book or enquire please phone

Shelley on 0488192256



**Barraba High
Country Music
Musta
Sunday 10th Mar
2024. 1pm start.
FREE ENTRY
Walk-up artists
welcome**

Barraba Bowling Club

2024 Centenary MG National Meeting 30 March



The MG Car Club of Sydney is hosting the 2024 Centenary MG National Meeting in Tamworth & Gunnedah over the Easter weekend with **up to 200 vintage MGs participating in the event.**

The general public is invited to view these magnificent cars at the Concours d'Elegance to be held on **Saturday 30th March at Cross Park, Gipps Street, Tamworth.** The day event will commence at **9am** with judging of the cars.

- On Easter Sunday 31st March, a motorkhana will be held at Gunnedah Airport.
- On Easter Monday there is a speed event at Oakburn Park Raceway Tamworth.



CONSTRUCTION BEGINS ON NEW MENTAL HEALTH UNIT

Construction on a new Mental Health Unit for Tamworth will begin in just a few short weeks with fencing, bunting and scaffolding now on site at the Tamworth Hospital. Member for Tamworth Kevin Anderson has welcomed the arrival of workers on site who will begin preparing the site for construction.

"Building a new mental health unit for Tamworth has been at the top of the priority list, and it's great to see that work is about to begin on the facility that we so desperately need," Mr Anderson said. "This will be a world class facility that includes 37 beds, including those for children and adolescents and for seniors which means every part of our community will have access to acute mental health services when they need them. This is so important for children and adolescents who will be able to access help closer to home and ends the practice of sending kids to Newcastle's NEXUS facility. The facility will provide welcoming, comfortable, safe and supportive facilities, while also expanding the services available in our area, meaning more people will be able to access help closer to home. Congratulations to the Tamworth Mental Health Carers Support Group who have been instrumental in the campaign to build a better Banksia. Their advice and advocacy have been invaluable."

Construction on the multi-million dollar facility is expected to take 18 months to complete and is expected to be open in 2025. For more information, visit: <https://hneinfra.health.nsw.gov.au/projects/tamworth-mental-health-unit>



Mr Anderson visited the site with Minister for Mental Health Rose Jackson and Banksia staff last year



Proposed New Veterans' reforms: Government confirms it will add a year long delay

- Labor announces year long delay for veteran's reforms with start date pushed back from 2025 to 2026
- Labor's draft Bill threatens to create four categories of veterans' entitlements instead of one
- Labor's draft new laws already 2 months overdue from Royal Commission's deadline.

Despite the very first recommendation of the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide stipulating that reforms to veterans' entitlements should commence "no later than 1 July 2025", the Federal Labor Government has today confirmed it will drag the timeframe out for another year to 1 July 2026. Former Deputy Prime Minister and Shadow Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Hon. Barnaby Joyce MP, also warned today's release of draft reforms risked creating four categories of veterans' entitlements, when the purpose of the reforms was to consolidate entitlements into one streamlined and harmonised process.

"The Royal Commission made it clear that the new draft Veterans' Entitlements, Treatment and Support (Simplification and Harmonisation) Bill should have been ready for consultation on 22 December last year. The government failed, and it has been released today more than two months late," Mr Joyce said. He said the first recommendation also stipulated that if the new laws were passed by Parliament then the "Government should ensure that, by no later than 1 July 2025, the new legislation has fully commenced and is fully operational. Today we find the Labor Government won't deliver on that timeframe either. Instead, the Minister has announced a further year long delay saying "it is proposed that the new model for veterans' compensation commences on 1 July 2026. That's one year later than the very first recommendation of the Royal Commission. If Labor can't deliver on the first recommendation, what hope is there of Labor delivering on the others?" Mr Joyce asked.

He said the delays were a direct result of Prime Minister Albanese's decision to dump the Minister for Veterans' Affairs from Cabinet. "One would presume that the Ministers lack of ability to get this on to the legislative agenda is because he is not in Cabinet. When a Minister is not in Cabinet their legislation goes to the back of the

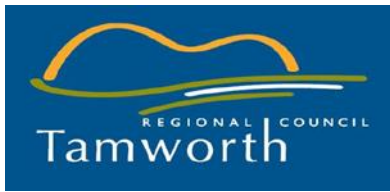
queue," he said. Mr Joyce said the discussion paper attached to the draft new laws included many wishy-washy phrases such as veterans would be "potentially eligible for increased" payments or that they "may now become eligible" for entitlements. "They're not the sort of words that indicate clear, concise and simplified criteria," he said. "When people enlist they don't say to themselves 'I may be required to go overseas but I will only consider that order'. The same people who are now veterans, are probably not very tolerant of words that mean nothing when it comes to concrete delivery of outcomes," he said.

Mr Joyce said veterans' entitlements had become a confusing mess over the decades with entitlements and compensation often determined by different rates and on different eligibility criteria. The three Acts are the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004 (MRCA); the Rehabilitation and Compensation (Defence Related Claims) Act 1988 (DRCA); and the Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986 (VEA).

"While the Coalition welcomes the government's proposals to harmonise and improve some of those entitlements, for example in areas such as funeral allowances and improved disablement entitlements, the government is not proposing to harmonise all entitlements across the three Acts. It is simply cherry-picking what will be harmonised," he said. "We will have veterans covered by the old MRCA; and then veterans covered by the old DRCA; and then veterans covered by the old VEA; and then a new category of veterans covered by the new MRCA. That's not a simplified and harmonised outcome. When you combine three Acts you should be able to not differentiate between the benefits. Otherwise, you will merely get the previous three Acts with one new name."

Mr Joyce said submissions on the draft new laws would close in late April and urged veteran organisations to insist the government sticks to the Royal Commission's timeframes.





Council meeting update

Here is an overview of outcomes from Tamworth Regional Council's Ordinary Meeting Tuesday 27 February, 2024.

As the first step of the broader comprehensive review of the *Tamworth Regional Local Environmental Plan 2010 (TRLEP 2010)*, Councillors have supported a recommendation for a planning proposal to be prepared and submitted next month to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure requesting a Gateway Determination. A 36-page report tabled at the meeting revealed Council's review of the TRLEP 2010 is a direct action out of the Tamworth Regional Blueprint 100 strategy and will be undertaken in phases. The report said that as part of the first phase review of the TRLEP 2010, planning studies have been completed along with property owner engagement and an EOI process inviting property owners to identify potential changes to the TRLEP 2010. The first phase review will include:

- Heritage Items including the addition of King George V Avenue Memorial English Oaks and the Manilla railway underbridge at Upper Manilla over Borah Creek;
- Creation of new Heritage Conservation Areas including a new Darling Street Civic Precinct;
- Changes to the floor space ratio and subdivision provisions and applying design excellence controls for properties in the Bridge Street Precinct which aim to encourage urban renewal in the area;
- Review of land use permissibility within existing land use zones;
- Amendment to existing clauses and proposed new clauses;
- Adoption of eco-tourism and dwellings affected by natural disaster clauses;
- Expressions of Interest; and
- Housekeeping such as mapping anomalies.

It is anticipated the public exhibition will take place in June 2024, subject to the conditions of the Gateway Determination.

To offer greater support and flexibility to customers with changing and difficult circumstances, Councillors adopted updates to a number of financial policies. The draft Pensioner Policy, Debt Recovery Policy and Hardship Policy

were placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days from 13 December. The updated policies will come into effect immediately.

Safety and improved access for locals lead 14 recommendations made by the Tamworth Local Traffic Committee when they met in early February. Councillors considered and agreed with the committee's recommendations including improvements to be made to improve traffic visibility and safety at Timbumburi School through new Give Way signs, painted median and associated line marking on both Kia Ora Lane approaches with the New England Highway, Timbumburi. To support access to local business, changes to parking on Darling Street in Tamworth were also approved. Two, 15-minute parking spaces will replace an all-day parking zone outside of Fords Butchery on Darling Street, to provide customer parking options on the busy corner.

Another bronze statue could be coming to Tamworth, this time recognising musician Roger Knox and his contribution to the Tamworth Country Music Festival. Councillors supported a move by the Tamworth Region Arts Advisory Committee and Tamworth Region Inclusive Culture Advisory Committee to recognise the Gomeroi song man through art. It is proposed the new statue would be installed in Peel Street alongside other greats of the industry including Slim Dusty and Joy McKean, Smokey Dawson and John Williamson and is dependent on external fundraising.

IPART seeks feedback on Special Variation application

Today the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) has opened its public consultation about applications from Tamworth Regional Council and eight others across NSW which are seeking a Special Rate Variation.

All applications are published on the IPART website www.ipart.nsw.gov.au along with information about how it assesses applications. There is a five-minute survey to provide feedback. The IPART consultation is open for 20 days. Decisions about applications are expected to be published on the IPART website by May 2024.

Council lodged an application earlier this month for a permanent Special Rate Variation of 36.3% over two years. The application comprises a variation of 18.5 per cent from July 1, 2024-25 (including the set rate peg of 4.9%) and 15% in 2025-26 (including the forecast 2.5% rate peg).

Council has a range of information about the proposed Special Rate Variation

at www.haveyoursay.tamworth.nsw.gov.au/srv



Do you have bulky waste you need to get rid of and no way to get it to the tip? Book the Waste Wagon!

Here's what you need to know:

👍 It costs just \$25, and you'll need to use one of your free Waste Vouchers.

👍 Bookings and payments can be made online at www.tamworth.nsw.gov.au/wastewagon

👍 This service is available to all residential property owners and tenants in the Tamworth Regional Council area who already have a kerbside bin collection service.

👍 There is a 50% discount available for residents with a government issued pension or disability card, to access this rate you just need to visit one of our Customer Service Offices to verify your eligibility.

👍 Terms and Conditions apply including size limits per pick up.

Find out more information at

<http://tamworth.nsw.gov.au/wastewagon>

Bingara & Warialda

It's time for a Chemical CleanOut

You can drop off for free:



Bingara

Your next local event:

🕒 Friday 15 March 2024, 8:30 - 11:30am

📍 Bingara Waste Facility
Narrabri Road,
Bingara

Warialda

Your next local event:

🕒 Friday 15 March 2024, 1:30 - 4:30pm

📍 Warialda Waste Facility
Rubbish Depot Road,
Warialda

🌐 www.cleanout.com.au

Only household quantities accepted (20L or 20kg).



Rifle Club

Well it's that time of the year again and the range is back up and running. This is the third week of shooting; we have only had a handful of shooters at the range for the last couple of shoots but, the publicity officer has been a bit slack with her notes.

Last Saturday we had five shooters brave the heat and humidity out there. The scores were rather close with Andrew shooting the first possible of the year. Brendan and Casey weren't far behind him with 99's and 98's. Dallas and Ron weren't out of it either.

Unlimited 50m

A. White 97.4, 95.5, 98.5 = 290.14

B. McIlrick 99.5, 93.1, 94.3 = 286.9

AA Grade 50m

D. McIlrick 92, 95, 95.5 = 282.5

C. White 78, 89.1, 96.3 = 263.4

R. Bridges 87, 83, 90 = 260

Unlimited 100m

A. White 100.6, 98.3, 97.1 = 295.10

B. McIlrick 99.2, 99.1, 95.3 = 293.6

AA Grade 100m

C. White 98.4, 97, 97.1 = 292.5

D. McIlrick 94.1, 94.1, 93.1 = 281.3

R. Bridges 59, 78, 99.1 = 26.1

Centrefire

D. McIlrick 92.1, 92.2, 91 = 275.3

On the 17th February we had our Presentation Night at the range. We had a lovely meal, which everyone enjoyed and the desserts were to die for thanks to Kylie, it was all very delicious. Thanks again Kylie.

Winners for 2023

Unlimited

1st 50/100m & Bull Aggregate B. McIlrick

2nd 50/100m D. McIlrick

AA Grade 50

1st & Bull Aggregate A. White

2nd D. Dewson

3rd R. Bridges

AA Grade 100m

1st D. Dewson

2nd & Bull Aggregate A. White

3rd R. Bridges

A Grade

1st 50/100m & Bull Aggregate N. Hull

Centrefire

1st & Bull Aggregate N. Hull

2nd D. McIlrick

Ranbuild Centrefire Point score D. McIlrick

Club Point score B. McIlrick

Handguns

Single handed

1st C. Jeffery

2nd J. Doble

3rd I. Mclver

Highest Individual Pointscore C. Jeffery

Teeing off in Tamworth: Senior Amateur set for country music capital



Defending Champions Nadene Gole and Andrew Tharle will compete in the 2024 NSW Senior Amateur at Tamworth and Longyard Golf Clubs next week

Reigning NSW Senior Amateur Champions Andrew Tharle of Royal Canberra and Nadene Gole of Victoria will defend their crowns when the 2024 NSW Men's and Women's Senior Amateur Golf Championships begin at Tamworth and Longyard Golf Clubs next week.

Tharle and Gole headline a 270-strong field of competitors that boasts several state and national champions at Senior and Mid-Amateur levels; Monash County Club's Jacqui Morgan, a seven-time winner of this event, Port Macquarie's David Bagust (winner in 2020 and 2022), and three-time Australian Senior Amateur champ Sue Wooster from Victoria (2018, 2019 and 2022).

Locals hoping to add the NSW Senior Amateur crown to their resume include local David Hamilton, the current Tamworth club champion who plays off a formidable plus three handicap, former PGA member Anthony Painter, and Longyard's Matthew Thomas, who will be in the mix.

The week will kick off with the 18-hole Men's and Women's NSW Foursomes on Monday, March 4th, with 54-hole NSW Senior Championships starting Tuesday, March 5th and running until Thursday, March 7th.

The final round on Thursday at Tamworth Golf Club will be a seeded affair, with the leaders expected to tee off at around 12.30 pm.

Golf NSW is thrilled to partner with Tamworth Regional Council to bring the time-honoured Championships to the city, with competitors from across the continent descending on Australia's country music capital for the four-day event.

Tamworth Region Mayor Russell Webb said the tournament, the first of three major Golf NSW Championships heading to the area, was a win for the local economy.

"I'm very excited to welcome Golf NSW and their competitors to our region for this multi-day event. This three-year sponsorship agreement, until 2026, will be a substantial boost to our city's economy, benefiting both local businesses and tourism. It will also put Tamworth firmly on the map for golf enthusiasts and visitors alike".

Golf NSW Chief Operating Officer Mr Graeme Phillipson said the Senior Amateur Championships always attracted a strong field, and this year's field of almost 270 players will be a massive boost for the local economy.

"With COVID now firmly in the community's rear-view mirror, participant numbers are at their highest for several years.

The NSW Senior Amateur Championship is the highlight of the golfing year for those over 50, and combining the men's and women's titles into one event will be a boon for the region.

The interest we receive for this event is growing. We have competitors from every state in Australia, and come Thursday, I'm sure we will have two very worthy champions," he added.



"That silly dog spends HOURS chasing that little ball!"

BARRABA UNITING CHURCH NOTICES

Sunday 3rd March Barraba all services return to
10:45am
All Welcome

ANGLICAN CHURCH TIMES

St Laurence's Barraba

Sunday service at 10.00am
Woodsreef 2nd Sunday of the month at 11.30am

CATHOLIC CHURCH TIMES

Barraba 1st Saturday evening Mass 6pm
2nd 3rd 4th and 5th Sunday 9am
Upper Horton 11am on the 3rd Sunday
Weekday Mass Wednesday 10am

BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY OWNED AND EDITED

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Message from the Editor

At *Barraba Community News* we welcome local
news and stories from our community members
about activities, events and news of interest to
the Barraba community.

Share your news, views and what you or your local
organisation is doing.

Advertise in *News* at a competitive cost and reach
750 households in our area who receive a free
copy each week.

Contact news@barrabacommunitynews.org.au
or drop into the Community College on the corner
of Alice and Fitzroy Sts.



73 Queen Street,
Barraba NSW 2347

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The Snowy Baker Show

IT was in the year 1960 in The Town of Mungindi
That the P & A they held Their show the season it
was dry

The sideshows were a rolling in and coming in the
lead

Was old Jack and Dally Baker and The Snowy River
show

IT was 25 To 1 next day and the big top rigged up
high

That old Snowy Took The microphone and began
his showman cry

The lead American Brahma Bull I'll back for 50
pounds

To Throw that bloke Buck Timmins the Mayor of
Boomi town

For The name and fame of The Timmins was
known throughout the land

Old Snowy said I'll back the bull with fifty in his
hand

Buck said I'll get Dillah Young up here to hold the
dough

Ok said Snowy Baker, Buck Timmins rides This
show

There's a bloke called Stumpy Turner who likes to
try his hand

He said where's that bloke now, get him up here
on the stand

He said if you want a ride we'll give you a whirl
You can earn yourself a cash prize if you ride old
Goldy Girl

Buck stepped down on the Brahma bull but must
have spurred too late

When he picked himself up off the ground said he
got caught on the gate

Buck then turned to the showman then he did
accuse

Then to Snowy Baker he started to abuse
He said I did not get a fair go I got pulled off on the
gate

I'll ride that' bull tomorrow with the help of my
own mates

I'll get John Kelly and Allen Jones to swing the
shute gate wide

Ok said Snowy Baker tomorrow Buck you take the
ride

Next day a big line up of rough riders took the
stand

One of these was Johnny Roberts a rider from
Queensland

He came from Goondiwindi to ride what he did
not care

They arranged a side wager for him to ride on a
fields mare

Buck stepped down on the Brahma bull 3 seconds
he was through

Turner bucked off Hells Angel when the crupper
she went through

Roberts rode the local horse proved he still can
ride them now

And the local Kelly Duncan bucked off the Friesian
cow

And so, we left the stamp we'll be back you know

Next year we'll be up on the stand

At The Snowy Baker Show

Vic (Stumpy) Turner

2024 Barraba Show window winners

Winner TRC office



Highly commended: Opportunity Knocks Op Shop

Runners up: Fuller Gallery & Post Office.



A HUGE thank you to all of the businesses that did a display to promote and support our local show. It is a great way to advertise the show to both Barraba residents and visitors to our town. Thank you to our judges, coming to a final decision was very difficult for them. Congratulations to everyone.

Barraba show highlights

FRIDAY NIGHT AT THE SHOW – The inaugural Motorbike Barrel Race



SIXBAR COMPETITION – SATURDAY AFTERNOON

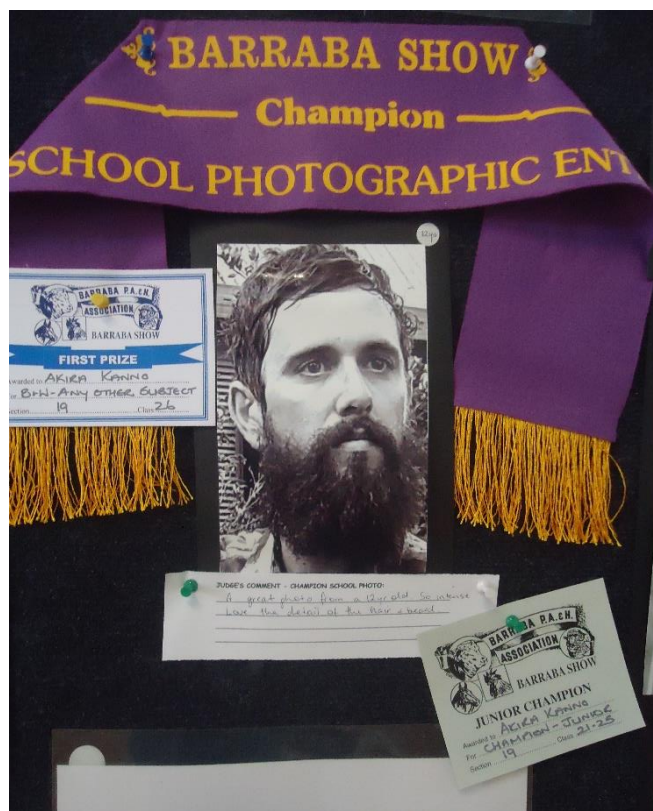
Another great competition – it rained, but that didn't dampen the enthusiasm of the horses or the riders!



Round the Pavilions on Friday Evening



Patti Crowley, Grand Champion photo



Akina Kanno, Junior Champion photo



Alyse Steiger, Champion black and white print



Flowers on Display

THE PET SHOW – final event of the 2024 Barraba Show

It was perfect conditions on Sunday afternoon for the annual Pet Show. A great variety of dogs, large and small turned out, as well as a rabbit and some chickens. A big thanks to our judge, once again local Vet Rebecca, who did a great job. Thanks also to our MC, Bill Croll, Stewards Terry Threlfall and Meredyth Bell, and particularly our long-term sponsor of the novelty events, Meg Crowley. Our other regular sponsors, IGA Barraba, Barraba RSL and Recreational Club, and the H W Atkinson Memorial made sure that there were lots of prizes and ribbons for the many winners in all the different classes.



Secondary School art display



Champion Cut Flowers - Margie Francis' Rose



The Champion of the Show (RSL prize) was **Boy Bunny** with Lucy Cordingly

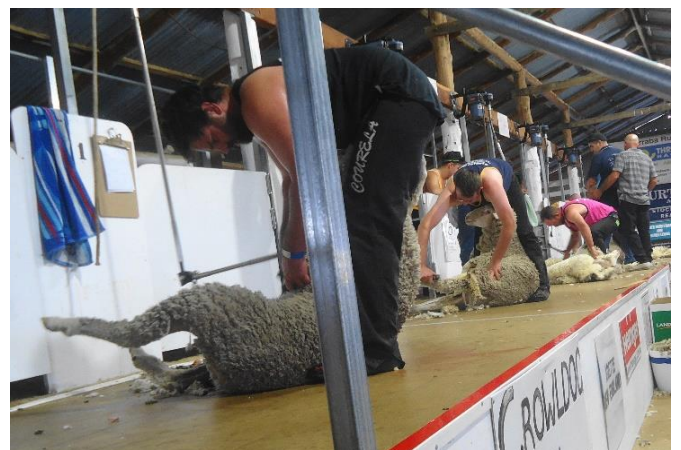
Runner Up (RSL prize) was **Hoover** with Haley McIlrick



The Pet Show will be back next year, bigger and better, thanks to the expertise and support of the Barraba Veterinary Service – see you there!

**BARRABA SHOW 2024 – Sports
Shear/Woolhandling competition a really
entertaining event.**

For two full days a large crowd was on the edge of their seats watching the continuous fast action as the best shearers and woolhandlers in northern NSW battled for the competition's top honours and points. "The competition was an outstanding success," Chief Steward Jock Mallise said. Record entries (58 Shearers, 42 Woolhandlers), good quality sheep, high quality facilities and excellent organisation of the day meant a wonderful two days entertainment and a great addition to our local Show. Some photos of Saturday's action -



Engaging with IPART about special variation applications for 2024-25

23 October 2023

IPART assesses special variations (SV) applications made by councils. We assess SV applications against criteria set by the NSW Office of Local Government (OLG) (see below). Your submission can help us better understand whether a council's application meets OLG's criteria.

This fact sheet can help you better understand what we can and cannot consider as part of our assessment. This will help your submission to be more effective.

1 What is a special variation?

Each year, we set the percentage amount each council may increase its general income for a financial year. This is called the **rate peg**. For most councils, general income is the total income the council receives from ordinary and some (but not all) special rates.

If elected councillors resolve that a council needs more income, a council can apply to IPART for an SV to increase its general income by more than the rate peg.

1.1 How do we assess a special variation application?

We assess councils' applications against the OLG's criteria. These are set out in OLG's guidelines [here](#).

The OLG criteria require councils to:

- demonstrate the need for the additional income
- provide evidence that the community is aware of the need for and extent of a rate rise
- establish that the impact on affected ratepayers is reasonable
- exhibit, approve and adopt relevant planning documents
- explain and quantify the council's productivity improvements and cost containment strategies.

We may also consider anything else we consider relevant.

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4.3 Misconception: If the community doesn't support the SV, it can't be approved

In the past, ratepayers have written to us noting that the lack of community support for an SV should mean that an SV application should not be approved. Community support is not required for us to approve an SV application.

To demonstrate it has met the OLG criterion about community awareness, the council must show IPART that the community is **aware** of the need and extent of a proposed rate rise. Our assessment considers the effectiveness of the council's consultation with ratepayers, rather than whether most ratepayers support the proposed SV.

In the past, community submissions have brought to our attention deficiencies in a council's consultation materials that have contributed to council applications being declined, or approved for a lesser percentage than applied for, based on whether the community is aware of the proposed rate rise. For instance, the council may have applied for a higher increase than they informed the community about, meaning the community was likely not aware of the increase that was applied for.

5 Who to contact for more information

If you have any questions about the **SV assessment process**, please reach out to Jisoo Mok via jisoo.mok@ipart.nsw.gov.au or on 02 9019 1955.

For queries about **your individual rates**, please contact your council. You may also find relevant information about this on:

- OLG's website: [Rates, Charges and Pensioner Concession](#)
- NSW Ombudsman's website: [Having trouble with your rates and charges?](#)

If you have enquiries regarding **your land valuation**, please contact your council or the NSW Valuer-General [here](#).

You may also find IPART's **local government FAQ page** helpful (see [here](#)).

IPART information sent to Barraba Community News by Daphne Mandell-Hayes, Tamworth