

BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY OWNED AND EDITED

Wednesday 13th March 2024

New England Regional Forum of the United Hospital Auxiliaries to be held in Barraba on March 18th



The Barraba Branch of the United Hospital Auxiliaries is hosting the New England Regional forum at the Playhouse Hotel on Monday March 18th. Almost fifty members from the region's twenty-one branches will be welcomed to the one day forum. A highlight will be the presentation by State President Sally Cronberger of life membership of the United Hospital Auxiliaries of NSW to Ellen Eather from Boggabri. There is also an interesting presentation planned about the Westpac Rescue Helicopter service.

Julie Williams





About 11:30am, Saturday 9
March, the Westpac Rescue
Helicopter was tasked by
NSW Ambulance on an
urgent inter-hospital transfer
from Barraba Hospital to

Tamworth Hospital. A woman in her 60s, suffering a serious medical condition, was stabilised by hospital staff and the helicopter's critical care medical team before being airlifted to Tamworth.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

As a member of the Barraba community I think it is time to knowledge the dedication, service and expertise of our local Paramedics and in particular to the leadership of Will Rixon. Many decisions, and life saving situations happened during the absence of a local doctor thank you Will and staff.

Personally, I know of several life saving situations so I want to say thank you in appreciation for your care and response to medical situations.

Thank you

Lesley Grigg

Welcome back Dr Hein.

The community is very grateful for your return to Barraba and we look forward to a long, happy and healthier future with you back in town.



Richardson House Aged Care Barraba

Lifestyle/Recreation Officer

Part time/full time - negotiable

We are currently seeking a highly motivated, bubbly, vibrant and personable Lifestyle/Recreation Officer for our facility starting mid April 2024 with a generous orientation period.

Days and hours are negotiable and we are also willing to consider job share for the right people.

We are looking for someone who;

- Would enjoy working with older people to help motivate them to maintain emotional and physical wellbeing.
- Can think outside the box when organizing stimulating and fun group and individual
 activities.
- Is able to work individually and as part of a team, with strong communication and time management skills.
- Has basic computer skills and is willing to learn new systems required for documentation.

If you would love to work with older people and believe that leisure and lifestyle is more than Bingo and a DVD then this role could be for you.

For further information about the role, please contact Joanna Bridges on 02 67821 563.

Applications addressing the selection criteria are to be sent to the Facility Manager, Joanna Bridges joanna.bridges@richardsonhouse.com.au or mailed to PO Box 185, BARRABA NSW 2347

Applications Close 28th March 2024



BARRABA RSL & RECREATIONAL CLUB LTD

Phone 67821379

For the information of members and guests.

THIS WEEK

THURSDAY 14th March

Bingo from 6pm

FRIDAY 15th March

MEAT RAFFLES

1st Draw 6.45pm

2nd Draw 7.30pm

MEMBERSHIP DRAW \$1300

Sunday 17th March

Angler Club raffles from 1pm Membership Draw \$2000

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

CLUB CLOSED EASTER MONDAY

BISTRO HOURS

Phone 0427330808

DINE IN OR TAKEAWAY

DAILY BLACKBOARD SPECIALS AVAILABLE

ALSO PIZZAS MADE TO ORDER

MONDAY/TUESDAY: CLOSED

WEDNESDAY: 12PM-2.00PM

THURS/FRI/SAT: LUNCH 12-2PM

DINNER FROM 6PM

SUNDAY: 12-2PM

2024 BARRABA SHOW RAFFLE WINNERS

1st Lyn Forbes

2nd Jenny Bucknell

3rd Ben Layton

4th Bill Hannaford

5th Jane Harris

7th Abby

8th Judy Sautchuk

Thank you for everyone's support.

Barraba Community News Wednesday 13th 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



March 21 World Down Syndrome Day

A day to celebrate the lives of those born Down Syndrome. A day to wear your most colourful socks and when you're asked why it becomes an opportunity to start a conversation about the wonderful loving caring people born Down syndrome. So please if you can put on your odd socks and start the conversation on March 21.

I would like to continue to tell some of our story. The story of my beautiful brother Guy. Many of you already know that Guy passed away almost 6 years ago aged 52. Our family made a very hard decision to donate Guys organs because he loved to help people. What better way to continue to help someone even after he had passed than to give the gift of life.

Guy could only donate his kidneys, his other organs had worked hard to give him his 52 years and were not suitable to donate.

I have written on 3 occasions to his kidney recipients and had until recently only had correspondence from left kidney recipient. Last week our family was lucky enough to receive letters from both left and right kidney recipients and I can not tell you how happy this news has made our family and how proud we are of Guy for giving wonderful healthy lives to these two people and their families.

Making the decision to give Guys organs was so hard but now hearing the stories of these people who share my brother's DNA, people we will never meet, has made it all so very worthwhile.

Right kidney recipient is from what we know is a mother of 2 children, wife and small business owner. She has written two times now and has told us that she had already had a kidney from her mother at a young age and Guy's kidney was her second. She was almost about to start dialysis when they got the call to say they had a match for her. Her first letter spoke of their happiness at a chance at normal life while realising our heartbreak at losing a loved one.

Her second card reads

Dear Donor family,

Firstly, my apologies that it's been a while. Who would have thought a pandemic would throw a spanner in the way we live now!

Thank you for following up and checking in on me, yes, I am well and taking very good care of the gift I received from your Son / brother and uncle xo

I really love hearing about his generosity and love of family and music. We definitely have a lot in common.

I really hope that your Mum is feeling much better at the time of this letter and give thanks every day that you are all well.

With much love, respect and gratitude.

Have a happy and healthy 2024.

Right kidney recipient, from what I can assume, is a young father and husband. The first correspondence we have received from right kidney reads

Hi there,

Thank you for the time to write and sharing with us about your brother and your family.

You are all in our thoughts. Hoping you had a lovely Christmas and wishing you a happy New Year.

You will be glad to know all is doing well health wise here

Sending love from our family to yours.

XXOC

A note accompanying the card from his wife reads....

Hello family of donor,

I am writing as the wife of the recipient of your family member's kidney.

Please know that you have all been in our thoughts and we apologise for not writing sooner.

We have taken pen to paper multiple times but it is very difficult to find the right words to express not only for our gratitude but our thoughts with you for your loss.

We realise it must have been a difficult decision for you all to make.

Receiving the transplant changed the lives not only of my husband but our whole family.

Within months of receiving the kidney we were pregnant with our second child, a gift we didn't think possible for us too.

Not long after he was born we made the decision to make the most of life, so we purchased a caravan and set off on a trip around Australia.

The boys are now 8 and 4 and just like their father, love everything outdoors - like fishing, swimming, skating, camping etc.

We have settled in a small town in Queensland for the last month so the boys can find some more routine in school and kinder.

We remember every day that none of our lifestyle would be possible if it was not for your family.

Somehow these letters of gratitude have made losing Guy and the hard decisions to donate his organs a very rewarding and humbling experience. To realise how his death has changed the lives of two families is the most wonderful feeling.



We will never stop missing him or forget the lessons he taught us just by being Down Syndrome....just being him. We loved him very much.

So, on March 21 put on your brightest socks and start talking about Down syndrome it also keeps

Guys memory alive.

His loving sister Rhonda Phillips



In Memorial

15-3-21
Robyn Power
Loved partner of Doug
Hatch
Loved mother of Gina and
Yvette
R.I.P.

BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

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Barraba main street businesses



History Notes

Our first markets for 2024 are safely over. There were a good

number of stalls selling interesting items and a number of people going home with a wide assortment of goods, particularly plants. The next markets are after Easter and just before Mother's Day when the weather should be cooler.

The town clock puzzle has been solved - the official opening was at Remembrance Day in 1924 so we have a while to plan for the day. There is a photo showing a huge crowd gathered around the clock and effectively blocking all four street entrances - something we may find difficult to re-enact!!

As promised here are the rules for shop assistants in 1854

The store must be opened promptly at 6 a.m. and remain open until 9 p.m. Monday to Saturday the year around.

The store must be a swept, counters, base shelves and show cases dusted; lamps trimmed, filled and chimneys cleaned, and pens made; doors and windows opened; a pail of water and a scuttle of coal must be brought in by each clerk, before breakfast if there is time to do so, and attend to customers who call. Stores must not be opened on the Sabbath day unless absolutely necessary and then only for a few brief minutes. Any employee who is in the habit of smoking Spanish cigars, getting shaved at a barber's shop, going to dances and other such places of amusement, will most surely give his employer reason to be suspicious of his integrity and all-round honesty. Each employee must pay not less than one guinea per year to the church and must attend Sunday School every Sunday. Men employees are given one evening a week for courting purposes, and two if they go to prayer meeting regularly. After 14 hours of work in the store the leisure time must be spent in reading good literature.

Well there it is - perhaps we are glad to live in the 21st century where we work shorter hours and are ad lib to decide if we play sport, mow the lawn or decide to do any one of hundreds of other hobbies - even research a bit of local history!

The sorting and filing continues at the Museum and I have actually finished one family that was dumped into a folder with two others - it covers a large number of people through about 5 generations. The original husband lost his wife in mid-life and was apparently so upset that he went back to his home, burnt it to the ground and left the district: - eight children were left to fend for themselves with no home to live in while mourning their mother.

VERY HIGH STANDARD OF PHOTOGRAPHY AT 2024 BARRABA SHOW

An increased number of entries made an impressive display in the Photography Section at this year's Barraba Show. The quality of the photography was high, making the competition tough.

Local, Rhonda Phillips, was the judge this year. Though not a professional photographer, Rhonda has a good appreciation of photography through her late brother, Guy Derrick's photography. I felt a change of tact with the judge was refreshing; having someone choosing the winning images based on visual appeal, the feeling and mood portrayed and "just because it stands out" rather than judging on all the rules of photography as a professional judge would do. My aim was to see more amateur photography enthusiasts and newcomers win a prize, as incentive to come back next year.

Rhonda commented that the standard of the entries was very high and that the job of judging them was harder than she expected it was going to be.

The school section had a "make over" for the 2024 show. It is now called Young Hot Shots and the junior entrants have been given a number of subject classes, similar to the Open Section. The major sponsor of the junior section, Janene Randall, offered more prize money to encourage juniors. Thank you, Janene for your generous and continued support.

Patti Crowley won the Grand Champion Photo and Most Successful Exhibitor.



Champion Colour Photo was won by **Jasmine Griffiths** and the Champion B&W was won by **Alyse Steiger**, both being novices to the Photography Section.

A B&W image by **Akira Kanno**, had everyone talking and was a deserving Champion School (Young Hot Shot) Photo. It was a standout entry and showed qualities that would be expected of a much older entrant.



Akira's younger sister, Annabel Kanno, was the Most Successful School (Young Hot Shots) exhibitor this year.

Thank you to all exhibitors who contributed to our competition this year and helped to create a worthy display for show visitors. Congratulations to all the place winners. Due to the number of entries we are now receiving and our limited board space; the maximum photo size will be changed to 8"x10" for the 2025 Show. The minimum size will remain at 5"x7" and 6"x8" will still be an option. Exhibitors will still be able to enter a maximum of 10 photographs.

Thank you to our generous sponsors; Caremore Pharmacy Barraba, Wentworth Travel, Guy Derrick Memorial, Manilla Express Digital Print Kiosk, Rocky Glen Ag, Chloe Renee Photography, Sandra Allen (Polkadot Coffee Shop), Paula McIver Photography, Janene Randall, Jennylyn King, Daisy Groth Memorial, Mandy Cabot, Andy's Guest House, Gerda Gamper, Jenny Farrar, Barraba Potters & Craft Guild, Brent J AgSpray and Barraba Veterinary Services Pty Ltd.

Thank you also to our judge; Rhonda Phillips. New sponsors are always welcome. If you'd like to become a sponsor of the Photography Section at the 2025 Show, please contact Brenda McColl on 6783 3199.

Words and Images: Brenda McColl (Chief Stewards – Photography Section)

<u>Wool Section – Barraba Show Report by Ian McColl</u>

It was pleasing to receive 39 fleeces in the Wool Section this year. The wool was of a very high standard, congratulations to all of the exhibitors. We thank Mr Bruce Toms from Fox & Lillie Rural, who travelled from Stanthorpe, to judge the fleeces.



The GRAND CHAMPION Fleece of the show was won by Adette Grazing, who also won the CHAMPION OPEN CLASS FLEECE and HIGHEST POINT SCORE awards.

CHAMPION MERINO FLEECE, Barraba & District went to PARAWAY PASTORAL who also won the HIGHEST COMMERCIAL VALUE FLEECE.

MOST SUCCESSFUL BARRABA EXHIBITOR was won by A.C. Smith & Co and CHAMPION HOGGET FLEECE went to DAN HARRIS CHAMPION SHORT WOOL went to BROOKLYN LANDS and ENCOURAGMENT AWARDS went to APPLEDORE PASTORAL and COBRABALL

The Wool Section owes a special thanks to Bevan Benson, Roger Bomford and Brenda McColl for their help and assistance over the Show weekend and also to ZAC & JOCK MALLISE for organising most of the fleeces – thanks guys

Many thanks to the exhibitors who donated show fleeces to the Barraba PA&H Society – AC Smith & Co, Rocky Glen Ag, Doonba Pastoral, Brooklyn Lands, Addette Grazing, Firmin Allen, Appledore Pastoral, Cobraball, Dan Harris, Paraway Pastoral, Andrew Sewell and Wyralla Grazing. 26 fleeces in total. Thanks, also, to our generous sponsors – Taminda Wool Trading, Schute Bell Badgery Lumby, Rocky Glen Ag, JPM Contracting, Barraba Sports shear and woolhandling, IT & N Spencer Memorial, Stock & Crop, Barraba PA & H Association Inc. and Appledore Pastoral Co.

2024 BARRABA SHOW SPORTS SHEAR COMPETITION

The Brian Simpson Memorial – Cleanest Local Shearer

Brian was a true born and bred Barraba boy who loved his home town. He was a shearer for most of his life, following the sheds and shearing around NSW and Queensland in the 60's, then in New Zealand for six months. After settling down in Barraba in the mid 70's he mainly shore in and around the Barraba district.

Brian was a good clean shearer and many times he helped teach young shed hands the art of shearing so they could have more options when looking for work. The mates you make and the atmosphere in a shearing shed is a fantastic experience that stays with you for all your life.

The proud winner from 2024 Sports Shear competition for Barraba's Cleanest Local Shearer was **Zac Mallise**.

Brian would be so proud of the Mallise boys in the way they are promoting the Shearing and Wool industry and their hometown of Barraba. A huge Thank You to all the committee and helpers in making the competition the success that it is.

Pictured is Jenny Simpson presenting the perpetual trophy to Zac Mallise.



Photo courtesy of Katie Sweeney

Claypan Happenings at the Barraba Show.

Barraba Potters and Craft Guild members joined forces with a bit of outside help this year to successfully cater on Saturday and Sunday at the Barraba Show.

Some last minute, unexpected, misfortunes saw catering organiser, Bronwyn Clinch short of canteen helpers. The call went out and partners of members (Michael Clinch and Vicki Simpson), and several non-members came forward to offer their help – the benefits of a small town and community minded people.



Annette Brittain & Vicki Simpson hard at work in the kitchen

Bronwyn, on behalf of the Guild, would like to offer a big thank you to all of those wonderful people who donated food and put their hand up to help in the canteen over the weekend. A special thanks to Vicki Simpson for her help in the canteen. Many sandwiches, salads and sweet treat plates were prepared to feed hungry show goers.



Feeding the crowd

Bacon and egg brekkie rolls, prepared by Michael Clinch and Mandy Cabot on both days, were a big hit. Thanks to Michael and Mandy for fronting up at 6:30am to cook and serve breakfast.

The extreme heat on Show weekend saw a huge demand for bottled water.

Despite the original concerns about enough help and food, the weekend was a huge success for the Guild.

Photo credits: Brenda McColl



2024 Tamworth Regional Heritage Award nominations and Festival dates announced

The biennial Tamworth Heritage Awards are set to take place on Friday 19 April, 2024, with nominations now open. Individuals, organisations, and companies are invited to submit their nominations by 5 pm, Thursday 21 March, 2024.

The Tamworth Regional Heritage Awards celebrate and recognise outstanding contributions to heritage preservation and promotion within the region. The biennial awards cover diverse categories, reflecting the multifaceted heritage tapestry of Tamworth. The categories include:

Warren Newman Memorial for Contribution to Heritage within the Region

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

Adaptive Reuse

Building Conservation

Heritage Resources, Tourism, Education, and Interpretation and Publication

Sympathetic Development

Councillor Helen Tickle, Chairperson of the Tamworth Regional Heritage Working Group, emphasised the importance of the Heritage Awards in showcasing the rich heritage of the region. "These awards play a special role in preserving Tamworth's heritage and recognise those who are striving to share pieces of heritage with the community".

The Awards ceremony taking place at the Tamworth Regional Gallery will also launch the start of the 2024 Tamworth Regional Heritage Festival. The festival itself will run for ten days until Sunday 28 April, and will feature a host of events across the region to celebrate the many facets of our heritage. There will also be daily exhibitions open across numerous facilities during the Festival.

Nominations can be made online by visiting www.tamworth.nsw.gov.au and further information regarding events can be found here www.tamworthheritagefestival.com.au

Funding to plant new trees will green our future

Funding from the Australian Government will be used to further green Tamworth's CBD, with works to prepare the CBD for 18 trees plantings in winter to start next month. The plantings are an initiative of Tamworth's Urban Street Tree Management Plan that was developed with the assistance of the Urban Street Tree Advisory Group. Heat mapping undertaken in September 2022 revealed the need for more trees to reduce the elevated temperatures recorded in Tamworth's CBD compared to residential areas.

Urban Street Tree Advisory Group chair, Councillor Helen Tickle, said planting the new trees is an important step in greening our region's future. "It's important that we, as Tamworth Regional Council, plan ahead and try reduce temperatures in Tamworth's main shopping area," she said. "Greening our streets will increase shade, amenity, reduce urban heat and improve air quality – benefitting current and future users of our CBD."

Trees will be planted along Brisbane Street and White Street, between Marius Street and Kable Avenue in winter of 2024. As a result of using a specialised system to contain roots, the number of parking spaces impacted has been minimised to a reduction of twelve spaces in White Street and six in Brisbane Street. Cr Tickle said there has been extensive planning of where the new trees will go.

"Planting the right trees in the right place at the right time is vital. These locations were deliberately chosen because they optimise the positive visual and heat-reducing effects while minimising the reduction of parking spaces," she said. "Importantly, the funding provided by the Australian Government will allow Council to use a special planter system that will not impact underground services beneath our roads."

This project will be made possible through \$500,000 in funding from the Australian Government through the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program. The LRCI Program supports local councils to deliver priority local road and community infrastructure projects across the nation, supporting jobs and delivering benefits to local communities.

For more information, visit our CBD Tree Planting page on our website:

www.tamworth.nsw.gov.au/cbdtreeplanting







21 February 2024

The Editor Northern Daily Leader 27 Bourke Street

Tamworth NSW 2340

Via email: Mail.ndl@fairfaxmedia.com.au

Proposed Sale of Council Car Park Kable Avenue and Ray Walsh House

The Tamworth Regional Residents and Ratepayers Association Inc (TRRRA) is a non-profit association whose charter is to represent to Tamworth Regional Council (TRC) and other government bodies on behalf of TRC residents on matters that affect their interests by any person, organisation, or government body.

The below comments are made as a matter of public interest to assist the Tamworth Regional Council in its decision making.

It was reported that Ray Walsh House (RWH) would have \$2 million spent on removal of all the internal walls and floor coverings in TRC business papers. TRC in their media release of 26 February said that \$1 million had been spent on this task.

The public was informed that stage two will involve removing the ceiling, stripping out asbestos containing vermiculite and then reinsulating the building at an estimated cost of \$10 million estimated by NSW Public Works. Some experienced local builders express scepticism at this estimate.

TRC has now committed to do nothing about Ray Walsh House until the next election. Is that an adequate answer?

TRC needs to provide all of the unredacted documents related to the asbestos issues to the TRC Councillors and to the public.

It appears that none of the Councillors, at least at a formal level, have been notified of any discussions or proposals about the future of RWH.

The Councillors need to be much more active in holding the TRC bureaucracy to account.

Yours sincerely

Tamworth Regional Residents and Ratepayers Association

Cc Tamworth Regional Council Councillors Tamworth Regional Council

PET Scan for Tamworth



I know many in our community have been waiting for a PET (Positron Emission Tomography) Scanner to help with their health needs in Tamworth. PET scans are a highly specialised and complex form of nuclear medicine imaging modality, used to detect cancers, as well as to assess brain or heart related conditions. Patients and advocates have been calling for the introduction of the service in Tamworth because it means accessing treatment and diagnostics closer to home.

I've been pushing for the government to provide an updated timeline for delivery of the new service so I could let local patients know exactly when they'll be able to put an end to the pain of having to travel to Newcastle to access treatment. I can now let the community know that I have received updated timelines for the delivery of the service:

- The tender for the building works required to house the scanner closed on 4 March this year
- Construction is anticipated to begin in late March and will be complete in June. This includes construction of lead lined walls and a lab for handing the radioactive isotopes required for the scanner
- New equipment expected to arrive at Tamworth Hospital in June
- Tamworth Hospital intend to start scanning patients in July

I know many in our community were looking forward to being able to access the service sooner and will be disappointed to learn of another delay, however I thank the Minister for being up front and honest with our community. I'll continue to work to ensure the government stays on track and honours the commitment to deliver this service for the benefit of patients and their families across the northwest.

LOCAL GP WINS NSW ABORIGINAL WOMAN OF THE YEAR

A passionate local doctor and successful business owner has been recognised as the NSW Aboriginal Woman of the Year as part of the 2024 Women of the Year awards ceremony this morning. The NSW Aboriginal Woman of the Year award recognises a role model who promotes economic, cultural and/or social opportunities for Aboriginal people in NSW.

Member for Tamworth Kevin Anderson said Dr Sullivan's recognition with the Aboriginal Woman of the Year award is a proud moment for the Tamworth community. "Dr Sullivan is a committed, highly skilled doctor who shows the utmost level of care to her many patients," Mr Anderson said. "As a business owner, she's a ground breaker, owning the first indigenous privately owned and managed GP practice in NSW. Her business, My GP continues to go from strength to strength, with plans to expand further to include nurses, allied health professionals, pharmacy, and a neurodivergent clinic. Her professional achievements are balanced with her personal life as a busy wife and mother. Her message of showing courage and determination in the face of adversity is an inspiring one and I sincerely congratulate her on taking home this award."

The NSW Women of the Year Awards recognises the women and girls whose determination, bravery, skill, and passion has inspired their communities and others to achieve great things. The NSW Woman of the Year Awards was held at the International Convention Centre, Sydney this morning. To view the live stream of the event, visit https://www.nsw.gov.au/awards-and-events/nsw-women-of-year-awards

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 <u>news@barrabacommunitynews.org.au</u> or drop into the Community College on the corner of Alice and Fitzroy Sts.

BARRABA UNITING CHURCH NOTICES

Sunday 17th 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

Snippets from St Laurence's

The whole congregation is rejoicing in the safe arrival of our newest member, Andrew Hearne. There is an old adage that every new-born child brings the message that God has not yet completely despaired of the world. In these days of such unrelenting bad news we need that ray of hope; need the assurance that "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. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him." (John, chapter 3, verses 16 and 17).

Please remember that March is time to return BCA boxes to Lee for counting and passing on. She would like to get this all settled before Easter, so please get your box in ASAP. As we think of Bush Church Aid, did you know that we are linked as supporters of Laurie and Bec Carleton on Norfolk Island? Please keep them in your prayers.

There is a working bee this Saturday, 16th March, starting from 8am and the youth event, the Barraba Bash, will be on Saturday 23rd.

Services at St Laurence's on Good Friday and on Easter Day will both be at 10am. Do join us.

Beth

My son wanted to know what it was like to be a parent.

So, I woke him at 2am to tell him my sock came off.





Rod Bonner

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



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or visit entertainmentvenues.com.au

Honey Mustard Pulled Pork

From the Free Range Butcher

This pulled pork dish is great all year round. Using your slow cooker in Summer is a great way to have dinner ready when you get home without heating up the house. You can cook your favourite protein eg pulled pork and serve it with a salad, rice or classic style on a burger with coleslaw.



Ingredients:

- 1kg Pork Neck
- 1/4 cup honey
- 1/2 cup BBQ sauce
- 2 tbsp wholegrain mustard
- Burger buns
- Coleslaw

Method:

- Plug your slow cooker in to warm up whilst you gather your ingredients. The warm base will help melt the honey and make it easier to stir your marinade/sauce.
- 2. Add your honey, BBQ sauce and mustard to your slow cooker and stir to combine.
- 3. Place your pork neck into the slow cooker and turn to coat with sauce mixture.
- 4. Cook on low for 6 to 8 hours.
- Once cooked, shred your pork neck in the slow cooker. This allows the pork to soak up all the juices and flavour.
- Slice open your bun, spread with butter or avocado and top with pulled pork, coleslaw and some BBQ sauce.
- 7. Enjoy

From The Conversation

When should you start? How much should you give? How to make sure pocket money teaches your kids financial skills.

Robyn McCormack, Marketing and Finance Academic, Bond University

Giving kids pocket money can be a really challenging decision for families. It raises questions about when to start it, how much to give and whether it should be tied to chores.

As a finance researcher and parent, it's also important to view pocket money as an educational opportunity. You can use it to teach children how to make informed financial decisions, set meaningful goals and develop responsible spending habits. Here's how you can approach it.

When should you start?

There is no one "right age" but you could reasonably consider pocket money when children start school and begin learning to add and subtract. This means your child will be old enough to start grasping concepts like saving and spending. As your child grows, you can move on from basic arithmetic and tailor your discussions to what your child is learning in maths.



Pocket money can teach your child how to spend and how to save. Annie Spratt/Unsplash, CC BY

How much should it be?

How much you give will depend on your family situation and finances.

A useful starting point is working out what the pocket money will be used for. Is it simply to give your child a bit of autonomy over spending (for example, buying an ice block from the canteen)? Is it to try to save for something special? Or is it to be used for all entertainment, clothes and on-trend desires like fancy water bottles?

A long-held rule of thumb is giving \$1 per week relating to your child's age (so \$5 for a five-year-old). But of course, amounts tying pocket money to a child's raw age may not work with today's economic conditions. Three years ago, \$10 bought a lot more than it does today. Of course, you will also need to consider pocket money within the context of your wider household budget. Down the track, there's nothing wrong with talking to your child about adjusting their pocket money if your household budget needs changing.

Cash or direct debit?

When your child is little, giving them pocket money in cash is a good way to help them start to understand money. It's something they can see and hold in their hands. As they get older and the amounts get larger, direct debits will become more convenient and can teach them about handling their money online.

Since getting your hands-on cash is difficult these days, when they're young you can also give your kids pocket money electronically but give them monopoly money or a similar representative of what they have earned. You can then progress to a spreadsheet as they get older.

What about tying it to chores?

Many parents like to provide pocket money in exchange for chores as they feel it might instil a work ethic in their kids and the idea you don't get money for nothing. If you are tying pocket money to chores, be very clear about what will be done for what money and when chores need to be reviewed. Follow-through is important for this structure to be effective, so if they don't do the work, they don't get paid. You can also give them bonuses for jobs that are particularly well done. Personally, I find this process to be more work for parents than it's worth. I prefer the children to simply help around the house because it's a core family value rather than tying it to finances.



If pocket money is tied to chores, make sure they actually do the chores. Kampus Production, CC BY

The bigger picture

However, you structure pocket money in your family, it's important to consider it an opportunity to learn about finances.

You might start with simple discussions around "do I have enough money to buy this packet of textas and that toy car?" or "how many weeks until I can afford that book?". Then as your child develops, you can introduce concepts such as cash flow, interest rates and banking products.

For example, cash flow lessons can start with talking about the importance of spending less than you earn.

Teaching kids about goals

Pocket money is also a fantastic way to help kids learn how to save. Help them set a realistic goal to save up for something that matters to them. A pair of sneakers they want or a particular video game is likely to be more achievable than a new bike. This will help motivate and challenge your child, without overwhelming them.

As your child gets older, you can introduce more sophisticated notions of saving and funds.

For example, when my child started high school we talked about setting up an emergency fund. As she was going to catch buses, we worked out the fund should be \$50 (based on missing the bus and needing a taxi home). This became her new "baseline" before spending on non-essential items such as food from the school canteen.

Barefoot Investor author Scott Pape recommends starting with physical buckets with "splurge" for every day little things, "save" for big goals, "give" for acts of kindness and "grow" for investing.



Encourage your child to save for something significant but realistic. Adrian Dorobantu/ Pexels, CC BY

Shopping skills

Once your child has their own money to spend, a trip to the shops takes on a whole new significance.

Smart shopping is not just about comparing prices or where to find the best bargains. It is also learning what is worth spending your money on and when.

You can talk to your child about what they value and their emotional responses around buying decisions. For example, "how long was it before the excitement of your new T-shirt wore off?" Or "Did you feel differently when you spent your money on going to that movie (an experience) versus that box of Lego (a tangible product)?"

There are lots of things to consider (and no perfect formula) when it comes to pocket money. But if it means you can integrate financial skills into everyday life, it's a fantastic investment in your kids' education.





RECENT ANNIVERSARIES

Yellowstone becoming the world's 1st national park (1872) Henri Becquerel's discovery of radioactivity (1896) colour television transmissions beginning in Australia (1975)

the birthday of Dr Seuss (1904)

the release of The Sound of Music (1965)

the 2nd Battle of Vinegar Hill (aka Castle Hill rebellion) in NSW, when Irish convicts led the colony's only significant convict uprising (1804)

the publication of the song 'Happy Birthday To You' by Claydon Sunny (1924)

birthday for instant noodle inventor Momofuku Ando (1910)

the death of Soviet leader Joseph Stalin (1953)

British PM Winston Churchill's famous 'Iron Curtain' speech (1946)

the ratification of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) (1970)

Bob Hawke becoming PM (1983)

the first modern trampoline being patented (1945)

Alexander Graham Bell receiving a patent for the telephone (1876)

the invention of Monopoly (1933)

an earthquake and tsunami in Japan that triggered the 2ndworst nuclear accident in history at Fukushima nuclear plant (2011)

the Foundation Stone being laid in Canberra (1913)

Have your say about our cultural life!

Tamworth Regional Council invites you to be part of the Cultural Plan development by sharing your ideas before 15 March 2024 through the online survey.

We want to raise the region's profile as an emerging and progressive destination to live, do business and visit.

Community workshops have been held across the region during February and we are now in the final days of consultation.

Next steps include drafting the Tamworth Regional Cultural Plan 2024-2029 and placing the document on public exhibition mid-2024 before being presented at a Council meeting for adoption.

Have your say or learn more before Friday at www.haveyoursay.tamworth.nsw.gov.au/culturalplan



