



BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

FREE LOCAL NEWSPAPER

COMMUNITY OWNED AND EDITED

Wednesday 3rd April 2024



Welcome to
Barraba RSL
and Recreation Club

BARRABA RSL & RECREATIONAL CLUB LTD

Phone 67821379

For the information of members and guests.

THIS WEEK

THURSDAY 4th April

Bingo from 6pm

FRIDAY 5th April

MEAT RAFFLES

1st Draw 6.45pm

2nd Draw 7.30pm

MEMBERSHIP DRAW \$1600

Sunday 7th April

ANGLER CLUB RAFFLES

Membership Draw \$2000 (3 draws)

BISTRO HOURS

Phone 0427330808

DINE IN OR TAKEAWAY

DAILY BLACKBOARD SPECIALS AVAILABLE

ALSO PIZZAS MADE TO ORDER

MONDAY/TUESDAY/WEDNESDAY: CLOSED

THURS/FRI/SAT: LUNCH 12-2PM

DINNER FROM 6PM

SUNDAY: 12-2PM

Meg Crowley celebrated her 93rd birthday with family and friends at the Playhouse hotel on Saturday lunchtime with a lovely baked dinner cooked by Shelly's Table. She had many well wishes from friends and relatives and great grandchildren who assisted in blowing out the candles.



DRY START TO THE YEAR

Rainfall measured in Alice St for the first three months of 2024:

January: 64 mm

February: 71.5 mm

March: 12.5 mm

Total for three months: **148 mm**

In contrast:

Rainfall measured in Alice St for the first three months of 2023:

January: 73 mm

February: 29 mm

March: 244.5 mm

Total for three months: **346.5 mm**



Barraba Branch of the United Hospital Auxiliaries

General Meeting

Friday 5th April 2024 10.00am at
The Day Centre, Barraba Hospital
Visitors are most welcome.

We raise funds for the hospital to provide additional equipment and services for the benefit of patients' comfort.

COUNCILLOR CATCH UP

Come along for a chat with your Councillors about local issues that matter to you

www.tamworth.nsw.gov.au/connect

Come along and chat to [Councillor Russell Webb Mayor of Tamworth](#), Councillor Helen Tickle & [Councillor Judy Coates](#) about local issues that matter to you!

WHERE: Barraba Historical Museum Markets

WHEN: Saturday 13 April, 10am-11am

This initiative has come from an action in the Tamworth Regional Council Communications Strategy. To provide a dedicated approach to communicating and engaging with the community.

To find out more or when and where the next catch up will be head to <http://tamworth.nsw.gov.au/connect>



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.

BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

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WE NEED YOUR HELP!

TRANSPORT DRIVER
Provide transport to individuals or groups of older persons

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

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

MEALS ON WHEELS DELIVERY
Deliver meals to clients straight to their door

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



The meeting this week was well attended and attracted some good discussions. The April meeting will revert to the usual 3rd Tuesday in the month - just after the markets and at the beginning of the school holidays.

Four times a year the Royal Australian Historical Society publishes a journal which I usually flick through to see if there is anything to interest Barraba. This quarter there are two articles which could be of interest to historians.

The first concerns the name Rusden -the Rev. G. K. Rusden who was descended from a distinguished Cambridge family and arrived in Australia in the 1830's with his wife and ten children to join their eldest son already in Australia. As we know there is/was a property in the mountains to the west of town with this name and the name has been used in some early land ownership.

There is another possible connection as his wife's maiden name was Ann Townsend, another name connected to Barraba history! Perhaps someone has researched the name of Rusden - he was the chaplain at East Maitland for quite a while and lived at Holmwood, East Maitland from the late 1840's until he died in March, 1859. We will be very grateful if anyone can help with some history of our area concerning Rusden and of course Townsend (an Adams descendant married a Townsend!).

The other article concerns the making of beer and the beer company's connection with hotels. Unfortunately, the article only concerns city hotels but it reminded me of a letter written by Blanche Perry to Tooth & Co. Limited in 1975 re the history of beer supplied to the Central Hotel. Her reply pointed out that beer would have been supplied to Barraba during the 1800's mostly in Tasmanian Black-wood or West Australian Sheoak casks. Tooth & Co took over the Central Hotel from Resch's in 1929.

The article in the journal describes the re-building of the city hotels - mostly on a street corner with the bar on the corner. The actual bar had one short side and a round bar leading to a long bar which in this case (Barraba) was parallel to Maude street. There was a door in the side street as well as entry from the hall on the street entrance. It seems the company liked to have similar bars in those days.

If we consider the other Barraba Hotels, the bar was different shape in the Victoria and the Commercial and I suspect the Royal but I am too young to know about that one.

See pages 10 to 12 for historical pictures of Barraba pubs

Ecological Burn Notice

Please be advised that Whitehaven Coal will be undertaking Burn Preparation and a cool season Ecological Burn on the following Biodiversity Properties "Wirradale, Mt Lindesay and Coonor," between 8 April and 31 May 2024. For further information, please contact Whitehaven Biodiversity on call 0488 407 000.



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

Bushfire danger period is ending for NAMOI/GWYDIR on 31ST MARCH 2024

Q- What does this mean for you?
 A- permits are no longer required.
 however, you will need to NOTIFY the NSW RFS and your neighbors at least 24 hours in advance before lightning up.

To find out more, scan the QR code or head to www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/notify

PLEASE USE QR CODE TO NOTIFY US WHEN BURNING

Remember:
 it is YOUR responsibility to check if a total fire ban is in place before you start lightning.
 Heavy penalties apply for the use of fire when there is a total fire ban

Barraba's Tycolah Hereford Stud at the Royal Easter Show



Ben Crowley leads Tycolah Viking T119 – Supreme Hereford Exhibit



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**

**Shelley is serving 'Roast of the Day' for Sunday
lunches. Phone 0488192256 to book a table.**



Relax with family and friends at the annual Nundle Country Picnic & Market Day in the beautiful grounds of the Nundle Woollen Mill from 10am on Sunday, April 14th, 2024.

Enjoy the best of all things local ... market stalls, food, Woollen Mill fashion parade and live music by Nundle singer/songwriter Jeff "Gibbo" Gibson who will bring original rootsy folk from three albums throughout the day plus popular covers.

Preview new season winter fashion in a parade by Nundle Woollen Mill, browse the boutique market stalls, and stroll the village's antiques, art, craft and housewares stores.

Profits from this event will go to Nundle Landcare Group.

Tamworth Regional Council Electric Vehicle Strategy and Policy to drive growth



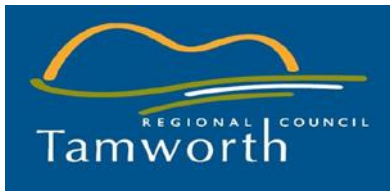
As Australia experiences a remarkable surge in Electric Vehicle (EV) sales, Tamworth Regional Council is leading the charge with its proposed EV Strategy and Policy. This initiative aims to capitalise on the exponential growth of EVs, which have seen a significant increase from 3.8% to 8.4% of all new vehicle sales within just a year, reflecting a remarkable 121% surge.

The proposed EV Strategy and Policy will set out clear guidelines for companies seeking to invest in our region by facilitating the installation of EV chargers. By fostering a supportive environment for EV infrastructure, Tamworth aims to position itself as a frontrunner in sustainable transportation.

"One of the key objectives of the EV Strategy and Policy is to enhance the tourism sector in the region," said Daniel Lawrence, Energy Sustainability Officer at Tamworth Regional Council. "By encouraging the provision of accessible EV chargers near the CBD in order to attract tourists to explore and invest in our retail stores, eateries, and other attractions while they wait for their vehicles to charge."

Importantly, the strategy and policy align closely with Tamworth Regional Council's sustainability objectives outlined in the Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2022-2026. Specifically, they contribute to the goal of enhancing transport energy sustainability, a key focus area of the strategy.

Residents and stakeholders are encouraged to participate in the public consultation process by visiting www.haveyoursay.tamworth.nsw.gov.au/electric-vehicle-strategy-and-policy to provide their feedback on the EV Strategy and EV Public Charging on Public Land policy. The documents will be available for public exhibition from Thursday, March 28, 2024, to Thursday, April 25, 2024.



Here is an overview of outcomes from the Tamworth Regional Council Ordinary Meeting on Tuesday 26th March 2024

- In a step towards enhancing transport energy sustainability and a move expected to benefit the region's tourism sector, Councillors have resolved to place the Electric Vehicle (EV) Strategy and Electric Vehicle Charging on Public Land Policy on public exhibition for a period of 28 days. With these two documents, Council aims to lead the way in setting clear guidelines for companies seeking to invest in our region through the installation of electric vehicle chargers on public land. Benefits of introducing this strategy and policy include assisting the Tamworth Local Government Area connect to the wider EV network, providing guidance around where and under what conditions Council will make available public carparks for EV charging. It also encourages the provision of accessible EV chargers near the CBD to help attract visitors who may explore local stores, eateries, and other attractions while they wait for their vehicles to charge. Public consultation will open on Thursday 28 March 2024 and close 25 April 2024.
- Councillors have agreed to provide a submission to the NSW Productivity Commission to assist with an investigation into alternative funding models for local water utilities. The investigation will focus on reducing risks for local water utilities, taking into account current funding arrangements, minimum service levels, incentives for performance, transition path to alternative funding models leveraging capabilities of State-owned corporations; and pensioner rebates.
- Councillors considered a report which detailed a number of appointments made to community committees across the region and documented some facility improvements made including a light tower installed at Piallamore Recreation Reserve and removal of a stage at Nemingha Hall in preparation for new flooring to be laid.
- Councillors have agreed to submit a number of motions to the 2024 National General Assembly of Local Government. The motions include calling on the Australian Government to start an education campaign including the direct potable reuse of water and another calling on the Australian Government to address the shortfall in Financial Assistance

Grants for Local Government particularly around road funding. Earlier last month, Councillors authorised Mayor Russell Webb, Deputy Mayor Judy Coates, Councillor Phil Betts and Councillor Marc Sutherland to travel to Canberra for the National General Assembly on 2-4 July.

NSW Government seeks young people for advice

Applications are open for the 2025 NSW Youth Advisory Council (YAC). Young people aged 12 – 24 years who are passionate about advocating for issues that affect them are encouraged to apply. Twelve young people from across NSW with diverse life experiences will be recruited for a one-year term to provide advice to the Minister for Youth and the Advocate for Children and Young People.

Minister for Youth, Rose Jackson, affirms the NSW Government's commitment to improving outcomes for young people throughout the state. An essential part of this work is engaging with young advocates who are championing the needs of their community and generation. "We know that listening to people with lived experiences and amplifying their voices is the best way to lead enduring change. "The diverse members of the Youth Advisory Council will provide valuable advice to the NSW Government on matters that directly impact young people, while also sharing their inspiring vision for the future," Minister Jackson said.

Advocate for Children and Young People, Zoë Robinson, said that it is important for young people to have their say on the policies and services that affect them. "We know that we create better solutions when they are informed by young people. Being on the Youth Advisory Council gives young people a real opportunity to work with government to improve the lives of all young people in NSW," Ms Robinson said.

Ms Robinson added, "We live in a diverse state and each and every young person can bring value to the YAC, I encourage everyone aged between 12 and 24 years to visit the ACYP website to find out more about how to apply."

The YAC provides a direct avenue of communication between the children and young people of NSW and the NSW Government. YAC members work together with government and non-government agencies to better understand and work on issues that affect children and young people in NSW.

Applications can be completed online before Sunday 21 April [2025 YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL APPLICATION FORM \(office.com\)](https://www.youthadvisorycouncil.nsw.gov.au/2025-youth-advisory-council-application-form-office.com)



AMA calls for digital black-out on junk food ads

The AMA is calling on the Australian Government to put the health of children ahead of the profits of harmful industries by urging for tougher laws on unhealthy food and drink advertising. AMA President Professor Steve Robson said an online marketing ban would help establish healthy food consumption habits from a young age. "Limiting junk food advertisements and marketing is about nurturing health in our children, providing them with the opportunity to make healthy choices well into adulthood," he said.

In a submission to the Department of Health and Aged Care, the AMA has highlighted the preventive health benefits of a digital black-out on junk food adverts along with heavy restrictions on television advertising, sponsorship, and new promotion and placement rules in the retail sector.

"Eating habits start young, when kids are highly susceptible to marketing ploys," Professor Robson said. "Junk food marketing at the sports field, in the shops, on tv or online gives the wrong message by making unhealthy food feel completely normal."

The AMA submission calls for restrictions on all junk food marketing across media platforms and outlets between 5.30am and 11pm.

The AMA is also urging the government to implement tight restrictions on unhealthy food sponsorship of sports, arts and cultural events. "Children should be able to play sport, watch their favourite sports stars play and go to art and cultural events without being bombarded with marketing for unhealthy food," Professor Robson said. The submission strongly opposes retaining the status quo where industry regulates itself.

"Allowing the processed food and advertising industries to set their own rules does not effectively protect children from exposure to unhealthy food marketing," Professor Robson said. "We need to restrict placement and promotion of unhealthy food within retail environments, and we want a policy to extend beyond traditional media and include parts of our daily lives where children are influenced."

The submission also highlights some of the challenges for government including the affordability of healthy foods. "It is critically important that the Australian Government also introduces policies to increase the affordability and accessibility of healthy foods across Australia," Professor Robson said.

BARRABA UNITING CHURCH NOTICES
Sunday 7th April
Barraba service 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 Touch Football Association

This year the committee decided we would donate to a charity/organisation, and we chose Ruby Mae Wish. The committee have donated \$500 to an amazing cause 🍷

Ruby Mae Wish is an incredible charity run by Nick and Kim Peake in memory of their beautiful daughter Ruby! Ruby always said that she wanted to either become a mermaid or a doctor. All funds donated go to purchasing vital equipment for children hospitals to help doctors and nurses care for sick children.

Nick, Kim, Holly and Barney are so incredibly grateful and appreciate the committee's donation and are overwhelmed by how successful their little charity has been and cannot thank everyone for the donations so far.





Hang up to stop remote access scams, says Bendigo Bank

Bendigo Bank is warning the community about remote access scams in which fraudsters gain access to individuals' computers or devices under false pretences, often resulting in significant financial losses.

Australia-wide, more than \$15 million was reported lost from 8,975 remote access scam reports in 2023, according to ScamWatch.

While recent National Anti Scam Centre data shows reports of these hacking scams are down 10 per cent on the same period last year, the Bank is calling for ongoing vigilance as scammers continue to evolve their tactics.

"Scammers will use every trick in the book with the aim of gaining access to your phone or computer," said Head of Customer Fraud and Scam Protection, Jason Gordon. "Once access is granted, scammers may install malicious software, steal sensitive information, or initiate unauthorised transactions, leaving victims and their bank accounts vulnerable," he said. "If you did not originate the call and you're being asked for information or to enable remote access, hang up!"

Almost half of all remote access scams reported to ScamWatch in 2023 were by phone, but these scams can also be via text, social media or email. Scammers establish trust by claiming to work for your bank, a utility company, delivery service, telecommunication services (such as NBN), or a government agency.

"Criminals are getting adept at carefully constructing often complex communications that convincingly mirror those of the brand they are impersonating," Mr Gordon said. "A recent scam case reported to the Bank detailed an account of a scammer claiming to be from a company the customer was familiar with. To legitimise the call and their alleged credentials, the scammer had created an authentic-looking LinkedIn profile and directed the victim to it in a successful effort to gain trust. This kind of trickery, combined with other tactics like spoofing – when phone calls appear to come from legitimate numbers and SMS messages appear in the same conversation thread as genuine communications – make it extremely difficult for people to detect genuine communications."

Bendigo Bank is committed to educating customers and the wider community to be especially wary of calls, text, emails about online banking in which there is a request to:

- download programs or software that allow screen sharing to be enabled
- reset your password after a recent series of scam attacks
- purchase a new modem to fix your internet connection
- update your account or device with new security features, or
- provide personal details to verify your account activity.

"Remember, we will never call you to ask you to transfer funds, send money or ask for your PIN/Password. We will never ask you to download software or enable remote access to your devices," Mr Gordon said. "If you are speaking to someone claiming to be from Bendigo Bank and you are unsure if the caller is legitimate, hang up and contact us directly on 1300 236 344," Mr Gordon said. "The Bank will never ask for your details, or to transfer money, download software or login via a link sent through email or SMS. Bendigo Bank has removed links from all our SMS messages, so customers who receive an SMS that includes a link should treat that as suspicious."

Mr Gordon's advice to customers who may have fallen victim to a bank impersonation scam is to visit www.bendigobank.com.au/security immediately to report it and get support. Bendigo Bank recommends stopping scammers in their tracks by following ScamWatch's advice:

1. **STOP – Don't give money or personal information to anyone if unsure.**

Scammers will offer to help you or ask you to verify who you are. They will pretend to be from organisations you know and trust like Services Australia, police, government, or a fraud service.

2. **THINK – Ask yourself could the message or call be fake?**

Never click a link in a message. Only contact us, businesses or government using contact information from their official website or through their secure apps. If you're not sure, say no, hang up or delete.

3. **PROTECT – Act quickly if something feels wrong.**

If you notice unusual activity or if a scammer gets your money or information, visit www.bendigobank.com.au/security to report it and get support.



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73 Queen Street,
Barraba NSW 2347

(02) 67 821 107



John Kelly

He came from Upper Horton
And he carved himself a name
One of the greatest horsemen
To pick up the leather reins

He was born to be a champion
And his memories will live on
When stockmen talk of old times
And the things John Kelly done

When he rode bareback bucking broncs
Or clowned at Sydney Shows
And bulldogged the wild buck jumper
At Upper Horton rodeo

His father was a horseman
He learnt his trade at home
He told me once his father
Was the best horseman he'd known

Terry Kelly was a horseman
He sponsored Horton Rodeo
He lived to see his son
Be champion at the Royal Easter Show

Six times gentleman rider
At the biggest show in the land
He thrilled the crowd in Olympic jumps
When he rode Boomerang

John Kelly was a champion
He travelled Australia wide
Jumping horses and camp drafting
His wife Mary by his side

Now he's passed on and left us
His memories still remain
One of the greatest horsemen
To pick up the leather reins.

Vic (Stumpy) Turner



SATURDAY NIGHT TENNIS

The third night of the Barraba Tennis Club Saturday Competition is coming up on 13 April at 6.30 pm.

The first two nights were great fun – you can join in the April comp and enjoy three sets of competitive tennis. You choose a partner, enter as a two person team, nominate your grade (A, B, or C), and see if you can win. There is even a prize for the Best Dressed team – I think it went last month to a very exquisitely dressed pair of fairies! Cost for the night is \$20 for current Tennis Club Members, and that includes a meal after. If you are not a Member, \$10 buys you a Social Membership.

Why not give it a go? If you haven't played for a while, but would like a good night out, here's a chance to have a game on the new courts. Send a message to the Barraba Tennis Club Facebook page, or phone/text Amie 0409 879 093 or Heath 0427 070 374 to book in.



Christmas Tennis coaching camp on the new courts



Orzo Pasta Salad with Tomato, Basil and Feta

From The Free Range Butcher



Ingredients

Vinaigrette:

- 1/4 cup red wine vinegar
- 2 tbsp fresh lemon juice
- 1 tsp honey
- 1/3 cup olive oil

Salad:

- 340g orzo pasta
- 6 cups chicken broth
- 2 cups grape or cherry tomatoes, halved
- 4 spring onions or bunch chives, thinly sliced
- 3 tbsp fresh basil, chopped
- 1 cup baby spinach, coarsely chopped
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 cup feta cheese, crumbled
- ½ cup pine nuts, toasted (heat them in a dry skillet over medium-low heat, tossing often until golden)

Method

- Whisk together the vinegar, lemon juice, honey and oil. Season to taste and set aside.
- Cook the orzo in the chicken broth until tender, stirring often so it doesn't stick. Drain well but do not rinse. Stir in a little dressing so the pasta doesn't stick whilst cooling.
- Add the tomatoes, spring onions, basil and spinach to orzo.
- Pour the vinaigrette over the salad mix and stir to coat. Season with salt and pepper and transfer to serving platter.
- Sprinkle the feta and pine nuts over the top.

Pubs of Barraba

Photos were scanned by Adrian Hagan and posted by Brian Coote to the Museum archives



The Barraba Inn established in the 1860s by James Sinclair.

In a prime position on the SE corner of Queen & Maude Sts. in Barraba this Inn later became Tattersalls Hotel then the Royal Hotel.

After the Royal Hotel was destroyed by arson in 1935 this block stood vacant for several decades until a new Commonwealth Bank was built there.

The building is now the Barraba Post Office.



The Central Hotel as it was after 1908 when it was rebuilt as a two storey hotel to match the Royal Hotel across Queen St.

There was a single storey Court House Hotel on this site by 1880 and this was later called Wilkinson's Hotel.

When it was rebuilt circa 1908 as a 2 story brick building with first floor verandah and ornate cast-iron facade it was renamed the Central Hotel.

The 1st photo is of the hotel as we remember it from the 30's and 40s with 3 entrances to the main bar on the corner of the hotel.



The 2nd. photo is a postcard after 1924 after the construction of the War Memorial Town Clock and motor vehicles beginning to replace the horse teams.



"My Venture Hotel" Upper Horton.

According to Les Etheridge the first man to have the hotel was Otto Rabe who married a Miss Booth, sister to Rose Halloran. Latter Otto Rabe moved from Upper Horton to the Commercial Hotel Barraba

Information from the back of the photograph says that the Hotel was owned by John Gainen and his family and later by Mr Miller after that the O'Brien's owned the Hotel. It provided popular leisure time activities for the community until 1942.



The Commercial Hotel Barraba. One of Barraba's earliest hotels and the only one still functioning as a pub and in it's historic structure.

Originally it was Markham's Hotel and operating as a single story pub in the 1880s. Richard Thame bought this pub in the late 1880s and renamed it the Commercial Hotel. The 2nd. story was added circa 1903 by which time it was the Cobb & Co staging post.

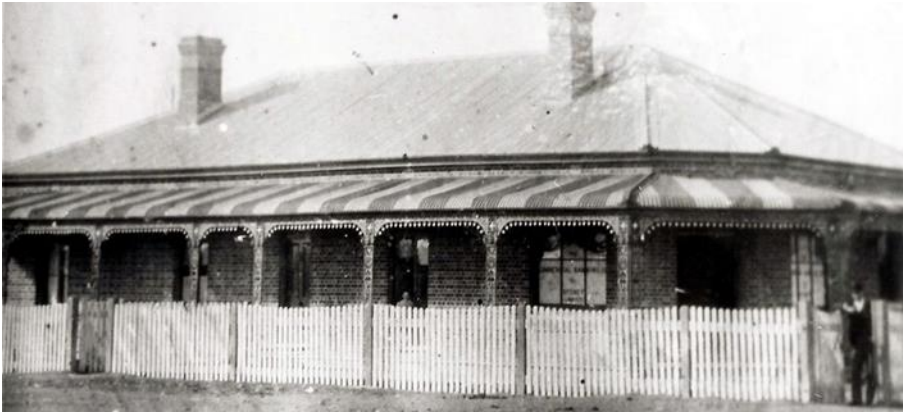
In 1873 Chaffey's Royal Mail coaches from Tamworth stopped at the Stockman's Arms run by Mrs. Cameron & her daughter. There were also coaches operated by the Wilkinson family who owned what became the Central Hotel for some time.

Stagecoach travel in the 1870s was not for the faint of heart.

Photo 1: Percy William's famous photo of the Cobb & Co. Stagecoach heading north in the early 1900s post 1903. Fully laden with bags, driver and 11 passengers.

Photo 2: From about the same period from the Museum files this marvellous photo shows the Commercial Hotel, Dean & Smith, various businesses, the old Bank of NSW and the Royal Hotel on the corner.





The Victoria Hotel Barraba is the youngest of the four major hotels from the 1800s.

1st Photo: The hotel in its original form of 1899. Previously this building was the Commercial Banking Co of Sydney and residence and where the CBC Bank manager Mr. McKay was shot & killed in a robbery in 1894. The building was sold to the bank in 1899 on the construction of the new CBC adjoining the Courthouse.



2nd. Photo: This photo taken after the 2nd storey was added in 1905 gives us an idea of what a quagmire Queen St could be in those days. The roadway was lower than the buildings with no kerb or gutters and wagons did become bogged in the street in wet times.

3rd photo: A marvellous photo taken in 1911 of Barraba's new road-making plant passing the Victoria hotel. This revolutionary plant was pulled by a large steam powered traction engine.



The 4th photo as it was in the 1970s with the long-established kerb and guttering and the domed profile of Queen St. When motor vehicles started rapidly replacing horse drawn ones in the early 1900s it quickly became obvious that new rules were needed. The most important of these was which side of the road vehicles travelled and passed each other. Britain chose the left side for largely historic horse riding preferences apparently and the new rules were set. The police were charged with getting everyone on board these rules with varying degrees of acceptance. One of my favourite stories of this period was told to me by the late Noel Carter.

A well known local identity "Happy Jack" McNeill bought his big wagon and team of draught horses into town from "Back Plain". By the time he got here Jack has worked up a bit of a thirst so as usual he swung his team across the road and pulled up in front of the Vic facing north. A while after this the local Police Sarge came along and demanded who had 'parked' the wrong way. He then marched into the bar of the Vic and confronted Happy Jack. "Mr McNeill, you realise your team is facing the wrong way?" Jack considered this surprising fact for a second before responding "Well blow me down! I drove them in all the way from Back Plain and never noticed that."

