



# BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY OWNED AND EDITED

**FREE LOCAL NEWSPAPER**

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Ruby Mae Day**  
**18.03.2025**

**How Can you Help Us Celebrate**

- Throw Ruby a party
- Wear Purple and make a donation
- Plant some flowers in her memory
- Hold a morning tea and raise some funds
- Dance like she is cheering you on
- Participate in a random act of kindness
- Come up with your own fun/creative way to celebrate her birthday and raise some funds

All money raised goes directly to children's hospitals/wards, education and retrieval care packs!  
 for more info visit [www.rubymaeswish.com.au](http://www.rubymaeswish.com.au)

See page 5 for more information about Ruby Mae Wish

## Public Notice

Council is seeking community feedback on the proposed removal of the Reduction in Water Consumption Charges Policy, as agreed at the Tamworth Regional Council Ordinary Council Meeting, 11 February 2025.

The proposed policy removal would make property owners responsible for costs associated with an internal leak, including the cost of lost potable water as reflected on their water rates notice.

Provide your feedback online at [www.haveyoursay.tamworth.nsw.gov.au](http://www.haveyoursay.tamworth.nsw.gov.au) or email [trc@tamworth.nsw.gov.au](mailto:trc@tamworth.nsw.gov.au).

Feedback is open until 17 March 2025.



**The Vic**

- \* Imported and craft beer
- \* Wine and cocktails.
- \* Finger food available
- \* Wednesday to Sunday
- \* 11am to 9pm

Cnr Queen and Alice Streets  
 Barraba Phone 02 67825375



**See pages 6 and 12 for some of the events at the Barraba Show Friday 7<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March**



**BARRABA RSL &  
RECREATIONAL CLUB LTD**

Phone 67821379  
For the information of  
members and guests.

**THIS WEEK**

**FRIDAY 28th FEBRUARY**

Meat Raffles, tickets on sale from 5.30pm.  
MEMBERSHIP DRAW \$1100

**SUNDAY 2nd MARCH**

AIRCOOLED ASSEMBLY RAFFLES

**Raffles on sale from 12pm, drawn 1.30pm**

MEMBERSHIP DRAW \$1800

**ATTENTION MEMBERS & GUESTS.**

**FROM THE 24<sup>TH</sup> FEB-28<sup>TH</sup> FEB OUR CLUB WILL BE  
UNDERGOING REPAIRS. DURING THIS TIME THERE WILL BE  
MINOR DISRUPTION. WE APOLOGIZE FOR ANY  
INCONVENIENCE THIS MAY CAUSE.**

**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**



**Students of the week for  
week 4**



*Piper*



*Rupert*



*Captains award - Bede*




## Barraba Pharmacy & Newsagency

Covid-19 Vaccinations now available in store! No bookings required

BE COVIDSAFE

# WALK-IN COVID-19 VACCINATION NOW AVAILABLE

Ask our Pharmacist for more information.



### Mobility Scooters for Sale.

Are you thinking of buying some form of mobility scooter? Why pay retail price? Come around to Dave's at 17 Henry St Barraba and pay wholesale. I am importing Scooters direct from China prices start from as little \$1700.

Details of scooter: it's lightweight, folds up for transport, it has a strong night light, warning buzzer, extra child seat, powerful three speed motor, large rear basket and front basket, also reverse gear, 25 to 40-kilometre range, six hr battery recharge. Come and test one. Home most days, just ask for Dave.



## Richardson House

*Invites you to attend our*

### Fashion Parade

Featuring fashion from Opportunity Knocks and a selection of vintage wedding gowns Rhonda Sutherland's collection (including some gowns worn by Barraba brides)

**1:30pm Saturday 29th March 2025**  
**Barraba Bowling Club**  
**Cost: \$10 (afternoon tea included)**  
*Raffle and Lucky Door Prizes*

*All proceeds to assist Richardson House purchase a much needed lifter for Residents*

Tickets available from:  
Saunders Fruit and Veg  
Opportunity Knocks  
or at the door

**Sponsored by**  
Opportunity Knocks  
Barraba Bowling Club Ladies



### Sunday 2 March is Clean Up Australia Day

Can't make it on the day? You can register to hold a Clean Up Event any day of the year through Clean Up Australia 🌳 You can register as an individual, community group, business, or school. Once registered you'll receive a Clean Up Kit with bags, gloves, and promotional materials, just be sure to allow 10 working days for delivery!

LET'S CLEAN UP 2025

# AUSTRALIA



JOIN OUR **BIGGEST EVER CLEAN UP**

CLEANUP.ORG.AU

Clean Up 

CELEBRATING 35 YEARS



## History Notes

Before beginning this week's notes I had a call from a Bundarra reader who remembers a family member remarking that when the Bundarra bridge was finished there was just a little gap of one inch at one end - not bad for a bridge that was made in England, pulled to pieces and shipped to Australia. Divided into two bridges before the Bundarra part was carried up the Moonbis and erected at Bundarra with one very small gap:- full credit to Mr Royce and his team of bridge builders.

This week I have continued to read Henry Williams' diary after he arrived in Australia. As mentioned before, he walked up the Hunter Valley with Mr Walker's bullock team and driver and on to the Peel valley and the Moonbi range. After getting safely up the mountains the team rested at a nearby station for a few days before proceeding on to Aberfoil.

Walking along with the bullock team in the next days he remarked on seeing a brown snake and lots of different birds, emus and ducks. Unfortunately, he liked to shoot the birds he saw which would be bad practice these days.

One evening he took his gun and walked off to shoot some ducks - he didn't find any ducks and then got lost trying to get back to where the team was camped. In his effort to get back to camp he stumbled into an aboriginal camp. He quickly withdrew from there when he noticed the large collection of spears, tomahawks and boomerangs in the camp.

Leaving the corroboree, he walked quietly away and soon came across a bullock resting nearby. He planned to stay with the bullock in the hope he might lead him back to his camp - he was disappointed when the bullock saw him and took off. Henry wandered around in the bush until finally the sun came up and he found the camp. He wrote in his diary that this adventure would not be repeated!!

Six weeks after leaving Sydney, Henry Williams arrived at Mr Walker's station and began his station job looking after the stores. It seems that was only part of his job as he was soon doing the gardening, sheep washing and then working in the woolshed. He remarked on the 5<sup>th</sup> December that he celebrated his birthday without a single letter or good wish.

The diary goes on to describe the beautiful parrots - cockatoos, rosellas, and lorries - sadly he had to shoot them when he saw them! He also shot numerous ducks.

After a year at Aberfoil he left to work at Kangaroo Hills for Mr Dangar. At both places he complained about the insects

being a nuisance - wood scorpions in his bed, fleas and even spiders bothered him.

Settling in at Kangaroo Hills he found he was storeman as well as helping with jobs such as boiling down sheep, setting baits for dingoes and filling in where needed. On the 18<sup>th</sup> June, 1851, he was called to a woman in labour but refused to go. He wrote in his diary "I utterly detest these cases" a fact that he carried on through his whole life. While working as Barraba's doctor in the mid 1800s, he always sent his wife to do such jobs!

While at Kangaroo Hills Henry did some exploring in the area -he found some waterfalls and a small amount of gold without getting lost in the bush. Finally, on 30<sup>th</sup> May, 1852, Henry left Kangaroo Hills and travelled south with a wagon load of wool. This was another long and almost disastrous journey. The weather was wet for most of the way, the bullocks wandered away from the camp most nights, the rivers were flooded and very difficult to cross and then at the top of the Moonbi Range the dray capsized!! The two men spent the next night camped out in the frost before rolling the bales of wool down the mountain and with a little help reloaded the dray and reached Neminga at dark with no food or water.

Thinking that the worst of their trip was over Henry and the bullock driver applied to a nearby station for food without luck. They slept under the dray without any food and the next morning another dray arrived and fed them breakfast. On arrival in Tamworth Mr Levy supplied them with tea and sugar-there was neither flour nor meat available in the town. As it was still raining heavily they crossed the Peel River but the dray soon bogged and the men put in another night lying on the wet ground in the rain.

This was the story for the next few weeks until they finally reached the Hunter Valley.

I shall conclude this lengthy tale at a future date - Henry still had a few battles before he finally settled in Barraba in the 1850's.

### BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

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Cnr. Alice and Fitzroy St Barraba

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## Ruby Mae Day – March 18<sup>th</sup>

On March 18<sup>th</sup> 2025, Ruby would have been celebrating her 7<sup>th</sup> Birthday with her parents (Nick and Kim), sister (Holly) and brother (Barney). We will forever wonder

what presents she would have asked for, which friends she would have invited to her party, what sort of cake she would have blown the 7 candles from and what her birthday wish would have been... all the endless unknowns have forged the path for **Ruby Mae's Wish**, which is the charity that was created in her honor. If we are unable to celebrate with Ruby, we are going to celebrate hard for her.

The idea of Ruby Mae Day came from a Facebook comment from a follower that "Ruby Mae Day" was a day this particular lady wore her purple shirt purchased via the website ([www.rubymaeswish.com.au](http://www.rubymaeswish.com.au)), we loved the idea instantly and thought that there was no other day more fitting to hold an annual Ruby Mae Day other than her birthday – March 18. Thanks to a Facebook comment March 18 has been declared RUBY MAE DAY forever more and has become something we could have never imagined!

The support from friends, family, businesses, communities, workplace morning tea rooms, schools, individuals, strangers and more last year was indescribable. We were non-stop hearing and receiving messages from across Australia about what people had planned for the day. We were beyond blown away by the support of our local and surrounding communities who literally covered their towns in purple and got behind Ruby Mae Day! The community's kindness, generosity, support and passion are what helps keep us going. It means the world to us that Ruby touched so many lives and this is shown by the amount of support this kind and caring girl's dreams have on so many people.

We would love for as many individuals, groups, schools, businesses and communities to wear purple or a splash of purple in support of **Ruby Mae's Wish**. We have attached a save the date brochure with some ideas on how to get involved and would love to hear any suggestions or ideas you have for the day! No amount is too big or small and 100% of each dollar raised goes directly to helping children's hospitals and the parents and/or carers whose child has been retrieved for urgent medical attention.

Maybe this day could look like; asking the kids to wear a splash of purple in support and giving a gold coin donation or baking some purple cupcakes, throwing a staff party and donating your coffee money for a day? Or it could be as simple as doing a random act of kindness in Ruby's memory.

We will continue to keep Ruby's spirit alive and would love if you could help grow our purple army.



### About Ruby Mae's Wish

**Ruby Mae's Wish** is a charity that has been created by Ruby's parents after her unexpected passing in April 2022 (forever 4).

The charity has been established as a way for Ruby's spirit to live on through helping Children's Hospitals by purchasing essential and often life-saving medical equipment for sick and injured kids that visit Paediatric Wards, Neonatal Units, Maternity and emergency departments in hospitals across Australia (so far we have donated over \$18,900 in medical equipment), funded vital education days for Drs and Nurses (next one planned for Mid 2025) and provide Care Packages to Townsville Hospital, John Hunter Hospital, Sydney Children's Hospital and Tamworth Hospital for parents and/or carers who have had a child unexpectedly retrieved for medical care. To date we have donated 250 Care Packages to parents and/or carers. Our aim is to get the Care Packs Australia wide.

We are motivated to honour our beautiful daughter's memory through **Ruby Mae's Wish** by giving back to the health care system that tried everything they could to help Ruby when she needed it the most. It is important to us to help other children and families that might find themselves in hospital for whatever the reasons.

Our family are unfortunately not strangers to the hospital system with all 3 of our children needing treatment and operations from a very young age due to a hereditary disease (Hirschsprungs). We are from a small country town in NSW (Barraba) and we also aim to help create awareness around the resources that are and can be available to regional and remote areas, as we have seen firsthand what donated equipment means to the doctors and nurses treating the children and also what the right equipment can mean for the treatment for the children and their families.

As Ruby always told everyone that she wanted to be a doctor (or a mermaid), the direction of the charity was an easy choice to help keep Ruby's dreams live on. Whether you live in the country or the city every life matters and with your support (no matter big or small – every bit counts) we will work towards continuing to provide equipment and resources to help sick kids. 100% of the funds raised through **Ruby Mae's Wish** goes directly to children's hospitals and helping the families of sick and/or injured children.

## IT'S LOCAL SHOW SEASON!

**Tamworth Show** – Friday 28 February and Saturday 1 March

**BARRABA SHOW** – Friday to Sunday, 7 – 9 March

**Manilla Show** – Friday to Sunday 14 – 16 March

**Bingara Show** – Saturday and Sunday, 22 and 23 March

## 2025 BARRABA SHOW

Friday 7 March to Sunday 9 March

### BARRABA SHOW – Important entry information

*Please note the following closing times:*

**STUD CATTLE** Entries close Friday 21st February All entries to cattle secretary: [mctswalker@bigpond.com](mailto:mctswalker@bigpond.com) Tammy Walker PH: 0429 310 479 or 02 6782 7378 Entry form on website: [www.barrabashow.com.au/forms](http://www.barrabashow.com.au/forms) Please send in completed waiver form, with entries.

**DRESSAGE** Entry Cut off Wednesday 26th February.

**POULTRY** Entries close Friday 28th February. All entries to the Show Secretary, Carmen Bennett.

**WOOL** Fleeces can be left at the Show Office during the show week or at the Wool Pavilion by 2:30pm on Thursday 6th March.

**HORSES** Entries are taken on the day under the marquee in the Horse Section.

**ALL PAVILION ENTRIES** Delivered to the Secretary's Office at the Showground between 10am - 4pm on Weekdays, from Monday 3rd March to Thursday 6th

**OR** to the Showground Pavilion on Friday 7th March, 8am – 10am.

### EXCEPT:

**PHOTOGRAPHY** Entries close 3:30 pm on Tuesday 4th March at the Show Office

**CUT FLOWERS** Luncheon Pavilion from 2pm – 4:30pm, on Friday 7th March.

**GARDEN PRODUCE** Luncheon Pavilion from 2pm- 4pm, on Friday 7th March.



## SPORTS SHEAR AND WOOLHANDLING

### COMPETITION

Saturday 8 March and Sunday 9 March – start 7.30 am both days

**DOUBLE POINT WEEKEND**

BARRABA SPORTS SHEAR & WOOLHANDLING COMPETITION

# MARCH 8 & 9

ALL GRADES SHEARING AND WOOLHANDLING PLUS OPEN BLADES EVENT

PRE-NOMINATIONS ARE ESSENTIAL - THERE WILL BE NO SPOTS AVAILABLE ON THE DAY

PLEASE NOMINATE VIA THE ATTACHED LINK  
NOMINATIONS CLOSE 1ST MARCH

MARCH 8TH & 9TH  
BARRABA SHOWGROUNDS  
7:30AM START BOTH SATURDAY & SUNDAY  
BAR, CANTEN & CAMPING FACILITIES AVAILABLE

The Barraba district has a long history as a premier wool growing area -the local Show has always supported the Wool industry. The 2023 Barraba Show marked a significant milestone with the inaugural Sports Shear and Wool Handling Competition. The event unfolded as a resounding success, drawing more than 80 competitors eager to prove their mettle in both the Wool Handling and Shearing components. The competition was bigger and more exciting in 2024; we can almost guarantee that this year will be even better! The agility and skill inherent in the shearing and wool handling craft guarantees an exciting and awesome entertainment.

This ground-breaking competition not only served as a platform for local talent but also attracted some of the finest shearers and wool handlers from far and wide. Against the backdrop of Barraba's agricultural tapestry, these experts displayed their prowess, deftly shearing and processing premium Merino sheep wool with precision and speed. With thanks to the RASF Foundation Grant, a purpose-built facility emerged to host this thrilling spectacle, a testament to the Barraba community's commitment to advancing the

skills of shearers and wool handlers. Constructed specifically for the Sports Shear and Wool Handling Competition, the facility also stands as a beacon for ongoing training, ensuring that the artistry of shearing and wool handling continues to thrive beyond the exhilarating moments of the annual Barraba Show. This competition not only celebrated the rich heritage of wool production but also heralded a new era of recognition for the unsung heroes behind the fleece, turning the spotlight on the mastery of those who transform raw wool into a work of art.

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From The Conversation

## **NACC belatedly to investigate whether six Robodebt referrals engaged in 'corrupt conduct'**

*Michelle Grattan, Professorial Fellow, University of Canberra*

The National Anti-Corruption Commission will finally investigate whether six people referred to it by the royal commission into Robodebt engaged in corrupt conduct.

This follows an independent reconsideration by former High Court judge Geoffrey Nettle, who examined the NACC's original decision not to pursue the referrals.

That decision was highly controversial, bringing a plethora of complaints, and sharp criticism of NACC chief Paul Brereton.

The NACC's inspector, Gail Furness, found Brereton had not adequately excused himself when the matter was considered. Brereton had delegated the decision-making because he knew one of the people referred professionally, but the inspector found he was still involved in the process.

In its Tuesday statement the NACC said: "The purpose of the investigation is to determine whether or not any of the 6 referred persons engaged in corrupt conduct".

The names of those referred to the NACC – contained in a sealed section of the royal commission report – were not made public. The sealed section has not been released.

The NACC statement said: "Consistent with its usual practice, the Commission does not publish reasons for commencing an investigation, as doing so may prejudice the investigations, disclose information which the Commission is required by law to keep confidential, compromise investigative pathways and/or unfairly impact reputations and rights of individuals to impartial adjudication."

The NACC stressed its arrangements would ensure the investigation was "impartial and fair". Brereton and those deputy commissioners involved in the original decision not to investigate the referrals won't be part of the investigation.

Robodebt used a flawed system of income averaging to determine debts. The scheme, later found to be illegal, raised \$1.76 billion from hundreds of thousands of welfare recipients. But many of the debts were wrong, and eventually the money had to be repaid.

In its findings, the royal commission targeted multiple public officials including ministers who had overseen the scheme (one of them Scott Morrison who as social services minister had been an initiator of it) and public servants.

A number of the bureaucrats who'd been involved with the scheme, including two who had been departmental heads, were later found to have breached the public service code of conduct.

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### **BARRABA UNITING CHURCH NOTICES**

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2025 at Barraba

8:45am for all services.

All Welcome.

### **ANGLICAN CHURCH TIMES**

**St Laurence's Barraba**

Sunday service at 10.00am

2nd Sunday of every month, 11:30am at Woodsreef

### **CATHOLIC CHURCH TIMES**

Barraba 1st Sunday of the month, Saturday evening

Mass 6pm

All other Sundays 9am

### **WORLD DAY of PRAYER 2025. The Cook Islands**

When: Friday 7th March at 10 a.m.

Where: St. John's Church, cnr of Savoy and Fitzroy Streets.

All denominations most welcome to come and participate.

### **World Day of Prayer 2025**

This year, St. John's Catholic Church will host this gathering, which, as usual, is held on the first Friday in March.

The focus this year is on the Cook Islands, a series of small volcanic islands, scattered over 2 million square kilometres of the Pacific Ocean. Only 12 of these islands are inhabited.

This will be a wonderful opportunity for the men and women of all denominations to gather together in faith and fellowship, to learn more about Christianity in this particular area of our world.

At the conclusion of the service, all are welcome to enjoy morning tea in the hall.

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**See It Live & See It Local**  
**Upcoming Events in Tamworth**

**5 Lesbians Eating a Quiche**

This is the first 'In the Raw' play reading for 2025, presented by You'll Miss the Tide Productions. Set in 1956, The Susan B. Anthony Society for the Sisters of Gertrude Stein are having their annual quiche breakfast. As the assembled "widows" await the announcement of the society's prize-winning quiche, the atomic bomb sirens sound! Has the Communist threat come to pass? How will the "widows" respond as their idyllic town and lifestyle faces attacks?

**Cosentino**

Australia's world-renowned entertainer and International Magician of the Year, Cosentino, is returning to perform his brand new, 90 minute live show 'Decennium'.

Cosentino is now recognised as Australia's most successful magician and has spent the last four years touring to packed houses and rave reviews around the world, while his prime-time TV specials have now been seen by over 100 million people across the globe.

**Nurse Georgie Carroll**

Comedian Nurse Georgie Carroll is back on the road with her hilarious, award-winning stand-up comedy show. She's appeared on Britain's Got Talent and was the winner of 'Best Comedy Show' at the Adelaide Fringe Festival.

**Logans Gold**

Written and directed by Bill Gleeson OAM, this 'Made in Tamworth' production by Tamworth Dramatic Society is one not to be missed. Outback drinking mates from the Royal Hotel in Logans Tank have to come up with a plan quickly to save their old pub from closing down. Can they get tourists back by suggesting that Logans Gold, Australia's most famous strain of marijuana, is being grown there and is readily available? On March 14, at the Gala Opening Night, funds will be raised for Can Assist Tamworth.

**Duets**

Duets by Peter Quilter is a gloriously funny examination of the chaotic world of love, relationships and why the grass is never greener. This play reading by You'll Miss The Tide Productions is broken into four short plays, with four sets of characters and four crucial moments.

**The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show**

One of the most-read and famous children's books of all time, The Very Hungry Caterpillar will come to life on stage in a masterful theatrical experience for the whole family. Created by Jonathan Rockefeller, the production features a menagerie of over 75 magical puppets, including the star of the show – The Very Hungry Caterpillar – and an Australian cast.

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From The Conversation

## **Schools need parent permission to put students' photos on social media. 3 questions to ask before you say yes.**

*Karley Beckman, Senior Lecturer in Digital Technologies for Learning, University of Wollongong*

*Tiffani Apps, Senior Lecturer in Digital Technologies for Learning, University of Wollongong*

If you are a parent of a school student, you may have received a form seeking permission to use your child's image on school social media accounts.

It's very common for schools to share photos of smiling students on platforms such as Facebook and Instagram. This may be to celebrate the start of term, student achievements, or performances and events at the school.

Schools need permission from parents to publish or disclose students' personal information, including photos and videos, on any online platform.

But research suggests families can lack support and information to provide fully informed consent.

### **Why do schools post photos online?**

Our recent study showed one of main reasons schools post on social media is they believe it is what parents want. This is part of marketing their school as a positive place to learn.

But some parents take a more cautious approach to social media and don't necessarily want photos of their children made public online.

There is significant community concern about children's online privacy and their digital footprint or the information trail about them.

Last month, the Australian Federal Police warned parents about sharing images of their children online, especially back-to-school photos. It recommended parents blur or obscure the logo of the child's school. Police also noted how background features can identify a school or child's location.

*The AFP has seen non-explicit pictures of children and young people become the target of highly sexualised and inappropriate comments or role play.*

The risks also go beyond other people identifying your child online. Photos of children shared online can be used to train AI models or create deepfakes that are increasingly being used in cases of cyber bullying and cyber abuse.



### **What are the rules in Australia?**

The Australian Privacy Act and related Australian Privacy Principles, say consent to share personal information should be current, clearly explained and specific.

This is why schools need to ask parents at the start of each year, but how they do this will depend on the state education department or individual school.

Here are three questions to consider before you sign.

#### **1. What is the school asking you for?**

While approaches vary, it is common for schools to ask for several types of permission in one bundle.

For example, they may ask if they can use photos and videos of your child in the school newsletter, school website, annual report, online learning platforms, traditional news media as well as social media.

So, the locations where your child's information and photo may be shared are quite different in terms of privacy and your child's digital footprint.

For example, this could involve a photo of your child doing a class activity shared on a secure education app, or a video of your child on a public Facebook page.

Parents have the right to consent and/or decline the use of their children's information for specific purposes. If you can't do this on the form, you can contact the school.

#### **2. What does the school post?**

Before providing or declining consent, you may want to take a closer look at the kinds of posts the school shares. This includes:

- the quantity of information shared (number of photos or videos shared, and how often)
- strategies used to protect children's privacy (no names or locations, or photos in which children are not clearly identifiable or faces are obscured)
- the purpose of the posts (can you see the value and benefit of sharing information?).

Think about whether the school's approach fits with your family's approach to social media and what you share.



### 3. How does your child feel?

Research shows children as young as eight are developing an understanding of the risks of sharing personal information online.

Understanding how your child feels about their school's social media is important in making an informed decision about consent. It also helps teach them about making decisions about their digital footprint.

You could ask your child:

- are they aware of the school social media sites?
- how does having their photo taken, or not, at school make them feel?
- are they asked when their photo is taken, and are they told where it will be used or shared?

These forms can seem routine or presented as if it's not a big deal. But if you have any questions or concerns you should talk to your school. Schools can help you with more information and can also forward feedback to education departments. This is particularly important as we navigate the changing nature of social media and the potential impacts on children.

### 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](mailto:news@barrabacommunitynews.org.au) or drop into the Community College on the corner of Alice and Fitzroy Sts.

From the Gwydir SC Website events page -

**Mason Daley  
COD CLASSIC**

Starts  
Noon 14 March  
through to  
Noon 16 March  
2025

**MULTIPLE CATEGORIES** including those for children and lady anglers.

**GREAT PRIZES** with the major prize being for the **LARGEST COD** caught over the period.

Fishing area is on the Gwydir River below Copeton Dam to the Tareelaro Weir. Catch and release only.  
The Fishing Comp will conclude with a Presentation and Social Event at the Gravesend Recreation Ground on Sunday at Noon.

**GRAVESEND FISHING CLUB**

Online registrations are invited from 14 February. Watch for details on our Gravesend Fishing Club Facebook Page.

From Gwydir SC Facebook page -

**G W Y D I R  
SHIRE COUNCIL**

**Pool Lifeguard Course**

Bingara Swimming Pool

Saturday 8 March and Sunday 9 March 2025

Participants will learn the following skills:  
Aquatic Supervision | Risk Management | Rescue & Emergency Techniques | First Aid & Advanced Resuscitation | Oxygen Resuscitation | Defibrillator Operation | Incident Investigation & Reporting

Trainer: Jeff Moss

For further information on the 2 day course, please contact Clarissa Barwick on 0429 290 100.

Free For Gwydir Shire Residents!  
Limited Spaces!  
16 Yrs +

**WE'RE LIVE ON THE WEB. GO TO  
[WWW.BARRABACOMMUNITYNEWS.ORG.AU](http://WWW.BARRABACOMMUNITYNEWS.ORG.AU) TO GET THE LATEST NEWS.**

Thank you, Lyn Forbes



## Mustard Pickles

- 1 kg onions, chopped
- 1kg green tomatoes, chopped
- 1kg mixed vegetable, chopped, cucumber, zucchini, capsicum, cauliflower etc
- 2lt white vinegar
- 2kg white sugar
- 200gm mustard
- 60gm turmeric
- ½ teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1 cup plain flour

Cover the vegetables with 1 cup salt and water in a non-metal container and stand overnight.

Next day place in a boiler and bring to the boil, simmer until vegetables are tender.

Strain off brine, cover vegetables with vinegar and sugar. Bring to the boil and add dry ingredients which have been mixed to a paste with water and a little extra vinegar.

Boil 3 minutes, being careful that the mixture doesn't stick to the pan.

Bottle and seal while hot.



## Tomato Relish

- 2kg ripe tomatoes
- 1kg onions

Skin tomatoes, chop onions and place in a non-metal container and sprinkle with ½ cup of salt. Stand overnight.

Next day strain off brine, place tomatoes and onions in a boiler with 1kg of white sugar and 1 Lt of brown vinegar. Bring to the boil and boil until thick and pulpy.

Mix ½ cup of plain flour, 1 tablespoon of mustard, 1 tablespoon of curry powder, 1 dessertspoon of turmeric and a good pinch of cayenne pepper to a smooth paste with water and a little extra vinegar. Add this to the mixture and bring to the boil for 5 minutes, stirring to ensure it doesn't catch on the bottom of the pan.



## NATIONALS PLAN TO TACKLE CRIME – ITS TIME FOR CHANGE

The NSW Nationals are continuing the push for strong and immediate reform to help tackle the youth crime crisis affecting our regions.

Member for Tamworth Kevin Anderson said he has been calling on the Minns Labor Government to do more following an escalation of serious crime in the region. “Serious and brazen incidents of crime have been deeply disturbing for our communities,” Mr Anderson said. “Violent home invasions, car thefts, and serious assaults have left many in our community feeling unsafe in their homes, and it’s concerning that many of these crimes have been committed by repeat offenders.”

Mr Anderson said the Nationals plan to introduce legislation following strong advocacy from the community through the *Time for Change!* E-petition. “Our community has sent a strong message to government that they want change, with the *Time for Change* petition started by Phebe Furneaux passing 12,000 signatures today,” Mr Anderson added. “Residents across regional NSW are deeply concerned about crime. I spoke about our community’s petition at a rally in Kempsey where more than 500 residents were calling for change. Our communities expect tougher laws and consequences for actions, which is why the NSW Nationals will be moving legislation to get tougher on crime.”

The NSW Nationals plan is to address the legislative issues and stop repeat serious youth offenders from holding regional communities to ransom. It will include changes to the bail act to stop courts granting bail to serious repeat offenders, changes to Doli incapax, and amending the crimes sentencing procedure act to give more consideration to the harm that is caused to the victim.

“We are keeping the pressure on the Minns Labor Government, calling on them to listen to our communities, and to do more,” Mr Anderson said.



# SHOW VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you have some time to volunteer at the show in March?

Comment on this post or email [barrabapah@hotmail.com](mailto:barrabapah@hotmail.com)

**BARRABA SHOW**  
**UNDER 18 PET AND DOG SHOW**  
 9th March at 10:30am  
 Entries from 9:30am behind the grandstand  
 \$1 per entry

**BARRABA SHOW**  
**YARD DOG TRIALS**  
 8th - 9th March 2025  
 OPEN, NOVICE and MAIDEN  
 Entries by 1st MARCH  
 Entries: Adam 0427833110

# 2025 BARRABA SHOW

You are invited!

RODEO | SPORTS SHEAR | CATTLE

WOOL | LIVE MUSIC | HORSES

CIRCUS FUN | POULTRY | CAMPDRAFT

YARD DOGS | PAVILLION | WOOL HANDLING | PET SHOW

FRIDAY-SUNDAY - 7, 8 & 9 MARCH, 2025  
GATES OPEN 6AM  
Barraba Showgrounds