



# BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

FREE LOCAL NEWSPAPER

COMMUNITY OWNED AND EDITED

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2025

## St Joseph's Primary School

### Week 4 Award Recipients




Reading award: Matthew, Alfie, Preston and Hadley



Student of the week: Nevaeh, Lucas and Isobel

COME & TRY Day @ The Fuller Galley, Barraba



27th September, 2025

Pottery: 10am - 3pm  
Bonsai: 10am - 12:30pm  
Felting: 1pm - 3pm

\$10 pp for the day. Bookings & payment essential. Call Patti.  
0459608486

 Barraba Potters and Craft Guild Inc

## BARRABA GOLF CLUB

would like to invite you to our  
**100 Year Anniversary Dinner**  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2025  
6.00pm for 6.30pm start. Cost \$40  
Tickets can be purchased online at  
<https://www.trybooking.com/DEOQB>  
or by using the QR code below or by contacting Amanda  
Koopman on 0429 958 816 or email  
[amanda@stockandcrop.com.au](mailto:amanda@stockandcrop.com.au)  
RSVP by Sunday 15th September 2025 please.





**BARRABA RSL &  
RECREATIONAL CLUB LTD**

Phone 67821379  
For the information of  
members and guests.

**THIS WEEK**

**FRIDAY 29th AUGUST**  
MEAT RAFFLES  
MEMBERSHIP DRAW \$1800

**SATURDAY 30TH AUGUST**  
BINGO STARTS AT 12.30

**SUNDAY 31st AUGUST**  
**FISHING CLUB**  
Raffles on sale from 12pm, drawn 1.30pm  
MEMBERSHIP DRAW \$1000

**BISTRO HOURS**  
Phone 0427330808  
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DAILY BLACKBOARD SPECIALS AVAILABLE  
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MONDAY/TUESDAY/WEDNESDAY: CLOSED  
THURS/FRI/SAT: Lunch 12-2pm. Dinner from 6pm  
SUNDAY: 12-2pm

**A Barraba Reunion**

Last Saturday, Lynne and Doug Heggie returned to Barraba to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary as this is where they met and married. They were joined by Dot Hannaford, Judy Crowley and Jan Boyd, all of whom arrived in Barraba in 1972. There, Judy, Jan and Lynne began their teaching careers, while Dot, who planned to stay for 3 months, worked as a hairdresser and is still here! The four shared a house in Savoy St, and all met their future husbands here.

They and their husbands, Bill, Bill, Roger and Doug enjoyed a wonderful meal at the Barraba RSL Club and spent the afternoon reminiscing. The comment was made that all four couples have been married for 50 years, a remarkable feat in this day and age!



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Form 114 (version4)

Succession Act 2006 s.93, Probate and Administration Act 1898 s 92 and Trustee Act 1925 s 60.

**NOTICE OF INTENDED DISTRIBUTION. ESTATE OF PETER GEORGE HEYWOOD.**

**NSW GRANT MADE 12 AUGUST, 2025.**

Any person having any claim upon the estate of Peter George Heywood, late of Barraba who died on 14 March 2025 must send particulars of the claim to the legal representative for the estate at care of PJK Law, 149 Queen Street, Barraba NSW 2347, ref PJK.MS:2025/1585, within 30 days from the publication of this notice. After that time the legal representative intends to distribute the property in the estate having regards only to the claims of which the legal representative had notice at the time of the distribution.

Form 114 (version4)

Succession Act 2006 s.93, Probate and Administration Act 1898 s 92 and Trustee Act 1925 s 60.

**NOTICE OF INTENDED DISTRIBUTION. ESTATE OF ALBERT HENRY JENNAIR.**

**NSW GRANT MADE 11<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2025.**

Any person having any claim upon the estate of Albert Henry Jennair, late of Barraba who died on 17 December 2024 must send particulars of the claim to the legal representative for the estate at care of PJK Law, 149 Queen Street, Barraba NSW 2347, ref PJK.ms:2025/1551, within 30 days from the publication of this notice. After that time the legal representative intends to distribute the property in the estate having regards only to the claims of which the legal representative had notice at the time of the distribution.



## History Notes

While flicking through some old local government magazines I have found a headline “Bluett 1988 – Barraba Strikes Back”.

Many ‘long term’ residents will remember the closure of the asbestos mine at Woodsreef and the departure of many of the mine workers and their families as they searched for employment elsewhere.

The asbestos mine had been worked and closed several times from about 1920 until the final closure in the early 1980s. While the mine was working, Barraba saw a lot of new houses erected particularly at the southern end of town. There were no empty shops, and the population played sports on improved fields, sent their children to the local schools and took part in local organizations. In fact, Barraba was booming.

Several country roads were sealed, particularly the road to Woodsreef which had become a dust bowl with all the miners going to work in their own vehicles. Apart from the mine housing there were more building and shop improvements in town and roads and bridges in the general shire were upgraded.

Then suddenly the mine closes – after all it was asbestos! Not the sort that causes illness! But it closed just the same. A quarter of Barraba’s population left the town to find work. The schools lost pupils and clubs lost members. Shopkeepers saw a decrease in both their customers and staff.

The council, under the direction of staff such as Grahame Kellett and Shire President, Rupert Richardson, set to work to save Barraba – setting up the Information Centre and finding other businesses such as a clothing factory to set up in town.

Unfortunately, the Council lost further land rates when parts of the area around the southern Manilla River were removed for the Split Rock Dam. They were hard years, but Council came out in front and received the Bluett Award in 1988 for re-developing the area after the closure of the asbestos mine. I wonder where the Bluett Award is now – it should be on display somewhere in Barraba!





## Barraba Potters and Craft Guild

### "Come and Try Day"

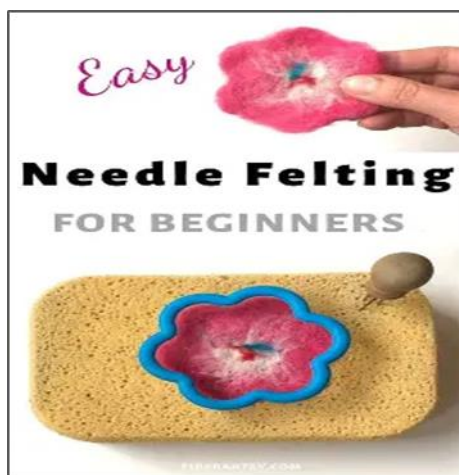
#### Needle Felting

Barraba Potters and Craft Guild are pleased to have special guest instructor Janice Smith from Narrabri attend the "Come and Try Day" on the 27<sup>th</sup> September to demonstrate Needle Felting technique at the Gallery, 74 Queen Street Barraba. From 1pm to 3pm.

Felting is a textile technique that involves matting, condensing and pressing fibres together using heat, moisture and friction.

There are 2 main types of felting:

1. Flat Felting (Wet Felting): Involves using hot water, soap and friction to mat and shrink fibres together. This technique can be used to create a wide range of items such as clothing, hats, scarves, slippers, home décor, placemats, wall hangings, purses and jewellery. The process involves layering fibres, applying soap and hot water and then agitating the fibres to matt them together.
2. Needle felting (Dry felting): Needle felting uses barbed needles to poke and matt fibres together. Often used for creating detailed designs and patterns. Adding embellishments to fabric and making three dimensional sculptures of figures. The barbed needles catch and tangle the fibres, holding them together.



If you would like to try needle felting, this is your chance to have a "crack" at something new or to refresh your technique. All equipment required will be supplied on the

day. The option of purchasing a barb needle felting kit to take home will be available for \$10 on the day.

**Cost for the day is \$10 per person.**

**Bookings and payment requested prior to the day.**

Phone Patti on 0459 608 486 to book in and for more information.

Coffee and tea available, BYO lunch.

Watch our Facebook page for updates at: Barraba Potters and Craft Guild Inc



## Upper Horton Sports Club





## 'A Good News Story'

Our ladies at Sunday Social Sewing were delighted to have Don Jennar and his son David, pop into the Claypan on a cold and wintery day recently.

The ladies made and donated quilts to Garvin House residents a few weeks ago and Don was absolutely thrilled to be able to select his own quilt.

He was so happy to meet the ladies, especially Christine Bennett, who lovingly made his quilt from fabrics donated to the Claypan by local people.

The smiles on their faces expresses their happiness and gratitude.



*Don & David Jennar with Christine Bennett.  
Photos courtesy of Glenys McDonald*

## A 25-Year Legacy of Serving the New England and North West

The Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service is proud to celebrate 25 years of continuous aeromedical operations across the New England North West, with the milestone anniversary of its Tamworth Base to be officially marked on Monday 25 August 2025.

Since its launch in 2000, the Tamworth Base has grown into a vital regional emergency response hub, supporting the communities of the New England North West region,

delivering a world-class aeromedical and search and rescue capability.

"Twenty-five years of lifesaving and life-changing critical care is a wonderful milestone and testament to the strength and generosity of the New England North West community, whose support has been vital from the very beginning," said Mr Steven Underwood, Chief Executive Officer of the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service.

The Service officially launched in August 2000 with a single-engine Bell 407 helicopter, operated from hangar space provided by BAE Systems in Tamworth and from the outset, the Service has been strongly supported by local volunteers and regional business from towns across the region. Notably, the efforts of early champions like local MP Tony Windsor, the late Cliff Marsh, and long-time community liaison Barry Walton were instrumental in establishing the Service.

"Throughout droughts, bushfires, floods and tough economic times, the people of this region have been unwavering in their support of the Service and for that we are humbled and deeply grateful," Mr Underwood said.

In 2007, after the original Bell 407 aircraft was retired, the Service transitioned to twin-engine BK117 helicopters, with further fleet upgrades in 2012.

A major boost for the region occurred in 2017 as part of a statewide integration of services under an initial 10-year contract with NSW Ambulance. Local firm Best Practice Constructions led the build of a modern base to support the arrival of the highly capable AW139 emergency medical services helicopter.

Today, the Tamworth Base is an integral part of the broader health network and, in partnership with NSW Health and NSW Ambulance, we collectively provide critical care to the patient at the point of need across the region.

"This milestone is a moment to reflect on how far we've come - but also allows us the opportunity to look to what we can achieve into the future," Mr Underwood said. "We are committed to the delivery of an aeromedical and search and rescue capability that the community can be proud of and of delivering that lifesaving and life-changing critical care in times of need." Mr Underwood concluded.



## **BARRABA UNITING CHURCH NOTICES**

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August.

This week only no service in Barraba.

Combined Service with Manilla at Manilla 10:30am

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September

Service time changes to 8:45am for next four months. Please note new time.

All Welcome

## **ANGLICAN CHURCH TIMES**

**St Laurence's Barraba**

Sunday service at 10.00am

Woodsreef service 2nd Sunday of each month

## **CATHOLIC CHURCH TIMES**

Barraba 1st Sunday of the month, Saturday evening

Mass 5pm

All other Sundays 9am

## **Golf Notes**

Today we played the final round of our Club Championships where Chris Sweeney carded a 74 final round to win the overall Championship from runner up Kevin Kelaher. The overall Championship Net winner was Luke Smith from his father Neil.

The Ladies Championship went to Mandy Koopman whilst the overall ladies Championship Net winner was Di Etheridge.

Today's final Championship round was for Ian Cabot's trophy and the winner was Kieran Darlington with a net 69 from runner up Tom Mellor net 71. Balls went to Chris Sweeney 72, Dan Lott 72 and Neil Smith also 72. The only NTP went to Bevan Benson on the 3rd.

In matchplay games Neil Smith and Ian Cabot had to go to the 19th hole to get a win over Mandy Koopman and Peter York.

Next Sunday 31st August is an Individual Stableford for Phil Hiscock trophy whilst on Sunday 7th Sept is a 4BBB Aggregate Stableford for Mick Djuric and John Freeman's trophy. Players are encouraged to check the matchplay board and organise their games as soon as possible please.

Barraba is hosting the NSW Sandgreen Championships on the 11th and 12th October. A call out to any members with a golf cart who are not playing that weekend and who are happy to hire it out it would be much appreciated.



## **JOB CUTS A THREAT TO LOCAL COMMUNITY**

The Minns Labor Government's planned public sector job cuts will be devastating to hard-working local families and the economy.

Member for Tamworth Kevin Anderson said the shocking planned cuts to jobs at TAFE, Transport for NSW, and Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) are deeply concerning for local families. "The Minns Labor Government are planning to slash jobs in regional NSW, devastating hard-working locals who now face an uncertain future," Mr Anderson said. "To grow our local economy, the government must invest in regional jobs and economic development, and instead, the government are ripping jobs away from our regions and relocating them in the city. This is unacceptable, unjustifiable, and further evidence that regional NSW is not a priority for Chris Minns and the Labor Government. This announcement comes as a complete shock to local workers and I'm calling on the government to reverse the cuts. The impacts of this decision will be significant, and I am deeply concerned about the uncertainty and worry the government's cuts are having on our community."

Mr Anderson continued "Farmers that rely on the support and expertise of department staff have already raised concerns about the job losses. The cuts to TAFE come at a time where local businesses are frustrated by the lack of courses offered in the region, which is impacting on their ability to attract and train qualified staff. I've been pushing to bring local control back to TAFE New England, with a local boss who has a strong understanding of our community and the needs of local students and businesses. I'm concerned the Labor Government's cuts to jobs at Transport for NSW will derail our local road network, which is already under significant pressure. We are already waiting far too long for major road projects like Goonoo Goonoo Road to start. The Labor Government must urgently come clean about what jobs will be affected and must not cut jobs for hard working people in our region."



## What's On in Tamworth



### 2025 North and North West Showjumping Club World Cup Show 28 August - 31 August

Buckle in for a long weekend of showjumping spectacle at the **2025 North and North West Showjumping Club World Cup Show**, hosted at AELEC in Tamworth. Spanning **four thrilling days** across **three competition arenas**, this premier event brings together more than 220 riders—from rising stars to Australia's elite.

**Main Event Spotlight: World Cup Qualifier Class** – Saturday night, 30 August 2025, 7:00 PM (approx.)

 **Spectator Entry:** Free  **Parking:** Complimentary

With world-class equestrian action, family-friendly vibes, and plenty of edge-of-your-seat moments, this is one event you don't want to miss.



### One Night in Memphis

**6 September @ 7:30 pm, Tamworth Wests  
League Club**

**Cost: \$45. Presley, Orbison & Cash**

"One Night in Memphis" is the show that brings together 3 of the world's greatest and most popular performers Elvis Presley, Roy Orbison and Johnny Cash showcasing the greatest Rock n Roll songs of the early years of the 1950s & 1960s. It has toured all over Australia to sell out performances over the last 3 years. It features three of Australia's and Internationally renowned tribute artists

together with a full 7 piece live band bringing to you over 2 hours of hit after hit from the early Memphis and Sun Records years through to some of their personal biggest songs.

### Roy Orbison – Aaron Mansfield

"Close your eyes and you're listening to Roy Orbison, open your eyes and you're looking at Roy Orbison". Internationally acclaimed as one of the best vocal replicas to Roy Orbison, Aaron has enjoyed many standing ovations from sell-out crowds both nationally and internationally. "The Closest Tribute To The Big 'O', Anywhere On The Planet"

### Elvis Presley – Anthony Fenech

Anthony is originally from Sydney NSW and pays an exciting tribute to Elvis Presley that captures the essence of the early Sun & Memphis era. Considered to be one of the Top 50's era Elvis Tribute acts in the country, Anthony has earned himself multiple accolades and awards recently and is a much sought-after act to appear on various cruise ships and theatre stages. Anthony's tribute to the King is packed with youthful raw energy and charisma. His dynamic show will take you back to an era of the 1950s when Elvis first exploded on the scene and changed the face of popular music forever.

### Johnny Cash – Matt Birse

Matt encompasses the true spirit of Cash on stage. His look will amaze you, his voice will astound you and his stage presence is pure Cash. The outfits and his versatile vocals channel the essence of Johnny Cash. Singing all your favourite songs and more. Matt is "The Man in Black".

This Show is a must on your Entertainment calendar and one not to be missed.



## PARKING IN TAMWORTH

You asked, we listened!

As part of the Tamworth Regional Parking Strategy, we are installing 32 compliant disabled parking spaces in the Tamworth CBD.

Work will begin on the accessible spaces located on Peel Street, between Darling and Roderick Streets, later this week and is expected to take approximately six weeks to complete, weather permitting.

The construction works will aim to improve accessibility in the CBD and include installing new pram ramps, gutter bridges and signs to enable safe access to the footpath from vehicles.

### RECENT ANNIVERSARIES

- Berlin being divided as East Germany sealed off the border between the city's eastern and western sectors in order to halt the flight of refugees (1961)
- the premiere of South Park (1997)
- the deaths of Florence Nightingale (1910)
- the first Rugby Test Match between New Zealand's All Blacks and Australia's Wallabies (1903)
- the Taliban taking control of Afghanistan after the capture of capital Kabul (2021)
- Korea being divided into North and South Korea along the 38th parallel (1945)
- the disappearance of baby Azaria Chamberlain (1980)
- Soviet satellite Korabl-Sputnik 2 carrying 2 dogs, 2 rats, 40 mice, one rabbit and fruit flies into orbit (1960)
- the founding of Hobart (1842)
- the adoption of the first Geneva Convention by 12 nations, which established the standards of international law for humanitarian treatment in war (1864)
- the World Wide Web being opened to the public (1991)
- the eruption of Mount Vesuvius, burying Pompeii and Herculaneum and killing 15,000 (79)
- the invention of the potato chip by chef George Crum in New York, according to popular legend (1853)
- Amelia Earhart becoming the first woman to fly nonstop across the US (1932)
- Englishwoman Alicia Thornton becoming the first female jockey (1804)
- the liberation of Paris by Allied forces after 4 years of Nazi occupation (1944)
- the release of the first package of pre-cooked instant noodles by Momofuku Ando (1958)

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## What's on in Manilla



### Manilla Bushman's Carnival Annual Campdraft

**5 September - 7 September**

Save the date! The Manilla Bushman's Carnival Annual Campdraft is set for 5th–7th September, 2025. Come along for an action-packed weekend of campdrafting as we proudly reveal our brand new camp, backyards, and surface.

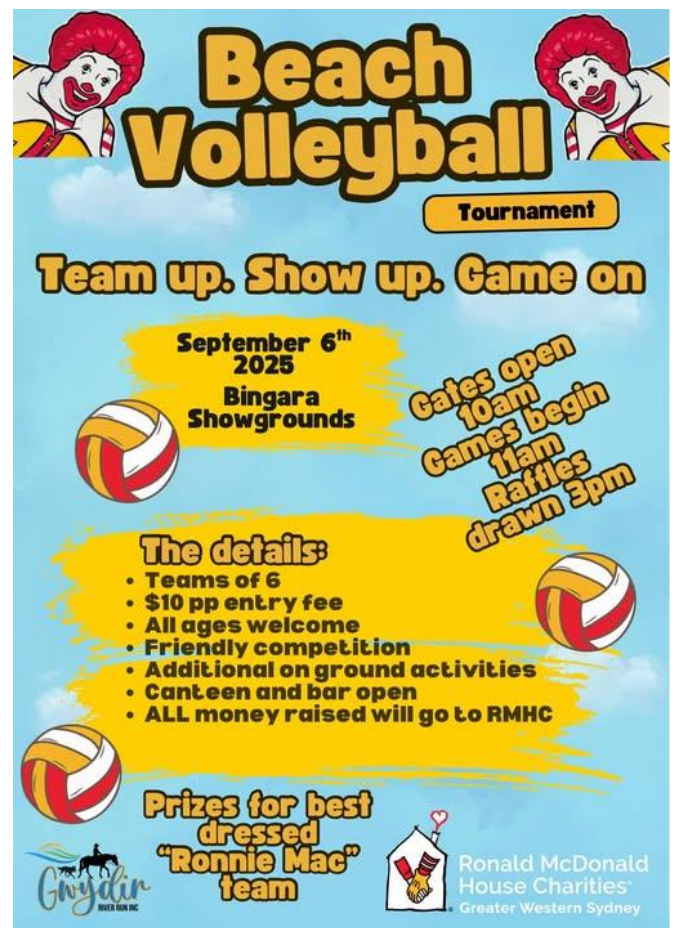
## What's on in Gwydir

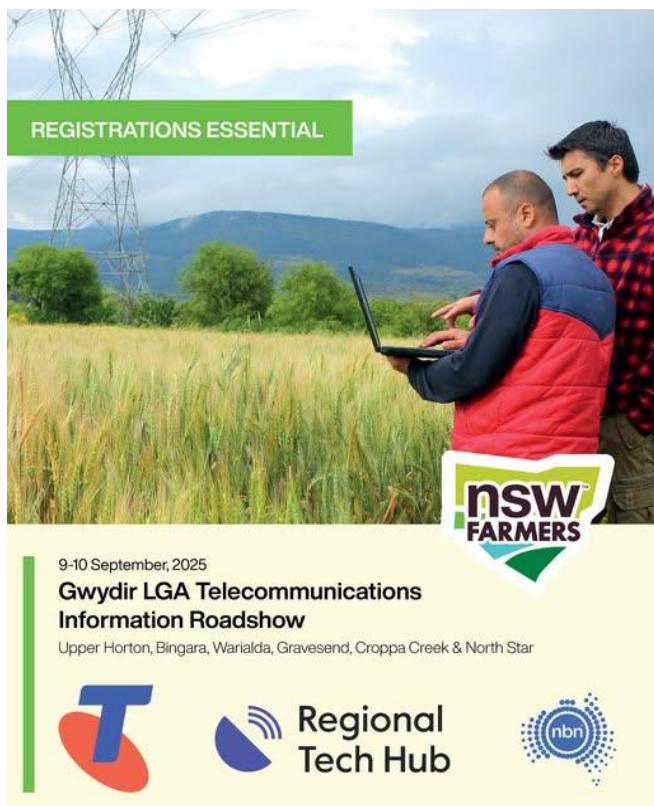


### Come along to the Honey Festival in Warialda!

Preparations are in full swing and the organising committee would be thrilled if you would be a part of this wonderful community event. If you would like to have a stall at the festival, please visit the following link to download the form: <https://visitgwydir.com.au/honey-festival/>

Applications close Wednesday 3 September 2025. Hope to see you there!





NSW Farmers invites members and the wider community to the Gwydir LGA Telecommunications Information Roadshow. These Information Sessions will take place at Upper Horton, Bingara, Wyallda, Gravesend, Croppa Creek, and North Star.

-  Tuesday 9 September
  -  Upper Horton Hall – 10am
  -  Roxy Theatre, Bingara – 2pm
  -  Wyallda Golf & Bowling Club – 6pm
-  Wednesday 10 September
  -  Gravesend Community Hall – 9am
  -  Croppa Creek Hall – 1pm
  -  North Star Hall – 4pm

Telecommunications have been raised as a major issue to me as your Regional Services Manager at several Branch meetings and events. As a result, NSW Farmers is teaming up with the Gwydir Shire Council and inviting The Regional Tech Hub, Telstra and NBN to visit various locations throughout the Gwydir Shire to share information and share possible solutions to telecommunications issues. I strongly ask you to consider attending an information session near you. I don't promise you will get all the answers you are looking for but this is a rare opportunity to have all these groups in the same room and in the Gwydir Shire. Please invite friends, neighbours and family.

RSVPS are essential.

Guest speakers:

Ian George & Michael Marom – Telstra

David Crough - NBN

Jennifer Medway - Regional Tech Hub

Cr Tiffany Galvin - Mayor Gwydir Shire Council

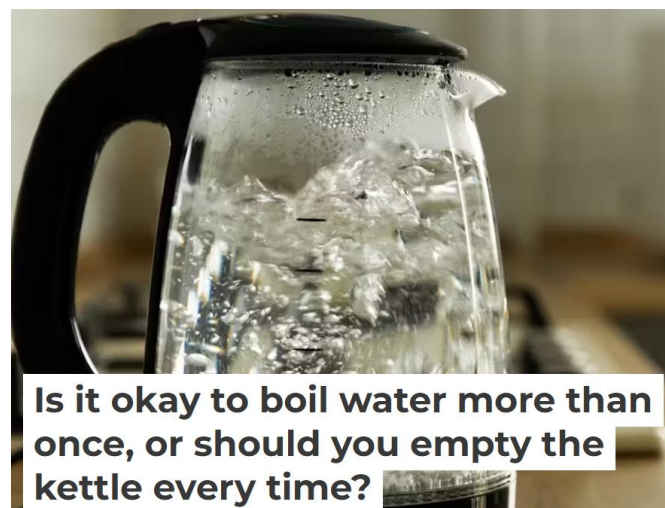
Mick Collins - Regional Services Manager - NSW Farmers

For further information please contact:

Mick Collins – Regional Services Manager

0439 958 163 | [collinsm@nswfarmers.org.au](mailto:collinsm@nswfarmers.org.au)

From The Conversation



*Faisal Hai, Professor and Head of School of Civil, Mining, Environmental and Architectural Engineering, University of Wollongong*

The kettle is a household staple practically everywhere – how else would we make our hot drinks?

But is it okay to re-boil water that's already in the kettle from last time? While bringing water to a boil disinfects it, you may have heard that boiling water more than once will somehow make the water harmful and therefore you should empty the kettle each time.

Such claims are often accompanied by the argument that re-boiled water leads to the accumulation of allegedly hazardous substances including metals such as arsenic, or salts such as nitrates and fluoride. This isn't true. To understand why, let's look at what is in our tap water and what really happens when we boil it.

### What's in our tap water?

Let's take the example of tap water supplied by Sydney Water, Australia's largest water utility which supplies water to Sydney, the Blue Mountains and the Illawarra region. From the publicly available data for the January to March 2025 quarter for the Illawarra region, these were the average water quality results:



- pH was slightly alkaline
- total dissolved solids were low enough to avoid causing scaling in pipes or appliances
- fluoride content was appropriate to improve dental health, and
- it was “soft” water with a total hardness value below 40mg of calcium carbonate per litre.

The water contained trace amounts of metals such as iron and lead, low enough magnesium levels that it can’t be tasted, and sodium levels substantially lower than those in popular soft drinks. These and all other monitored quality parameters were well within the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines during that period. If you were to make tea with this water, re-boiling would not cause a health problem. Here’s why.

#### **It’s difficult to concentrate such low levels of chemicals**

To concentrate substances in the water, you’d need to evaporate some of the liquid while the chemicals stay behind. Water evaporates at any temperature, but the vast majority of evaporation happens at the boiling point – when water turns into steam. During boiling, some volatile organic compounds might escape into the air, but the amount of the inorganic compounds (such as metals and salts) remains unchanged.

While the concentration of inorganic compounds might increase as drinking water evaporates when boiled, evidence shows it doesn’t happen to such an extent that it would be hazardous. Let’s say you boil one litre of tap water in a kettle in the morning, and your tap water has a fluoride content of 1mg per litre, which is within the limits of Australian guidelines. You make a cup of tea taking 200ml of the boiled water. You then make another cup of tea in the afternoon by re-boiling the remaining water.

On both occasions, if heating was stopped soon after boiling started, the loss of water by evaporation would be small, and the fluoride content in each cup of tea would be similar. But let’s assume that when making the second cup, you let the water keep boiling until 100ml of what’s in the kettle evaporates. Even then, the amount of fluoride you would consume with the second cup (0.23mg) would not be significantly higher than the fluoride you consumed with the first cup of tea (0.20mg).

The same applies to any other minerals or organics the supplied water may have contained. Let’s take lead: the water supplied in the Illawarra region as mentioned above, had a lead concentration of less than 0.0001mg per litre. To reach an unsafe lead concentration (0.01mg per litre, according to Australian guidelines) in a cup of water, you’d

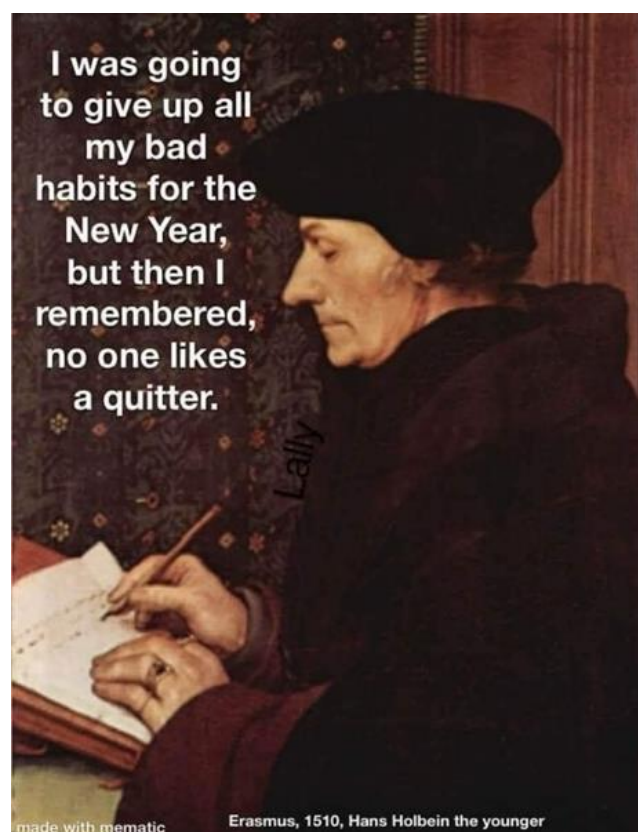
need to boil down roughly 20 litres of tap water to just that cup of 200ml. Practically that is unlikely to happen – most electric kettles are designed to boil briefly before automatically shutting off. As long as the water you’re using is within the guidelines for drinking water, you can’t really concentrate it to harmful levels within your kettle.

#### **But what about taste?**

Whether re-boiled water actually affects the taste of your drinks will depend entirely on the specifics of your local water supply and your personal preferences. The slight change in mineral concentration, or the loss of dissolved oxygen from water during boiling may affect the taste for some people – although there are a lot of other factors that contribute to the taste of your tap water.

The bottom line is that as long as the water in your kettle was originally compliant with guidelines for safe drinking water, it will remain safe and potable even after repeated boiling.

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CAN YOU HELP IDENTIFY THE STUDENTS IN THE 2 PHOTOS BELOW?



*Barraba Central School, Kindergarden class 1947*



*Barraba Central School, 1<sup>st</sup> Class 1949*

Email [news@barrabacommunitynews.org.au](mailto:news@barrabacommunitynews.org.au) if you can help.

Photos supplied by Gene Robinson