

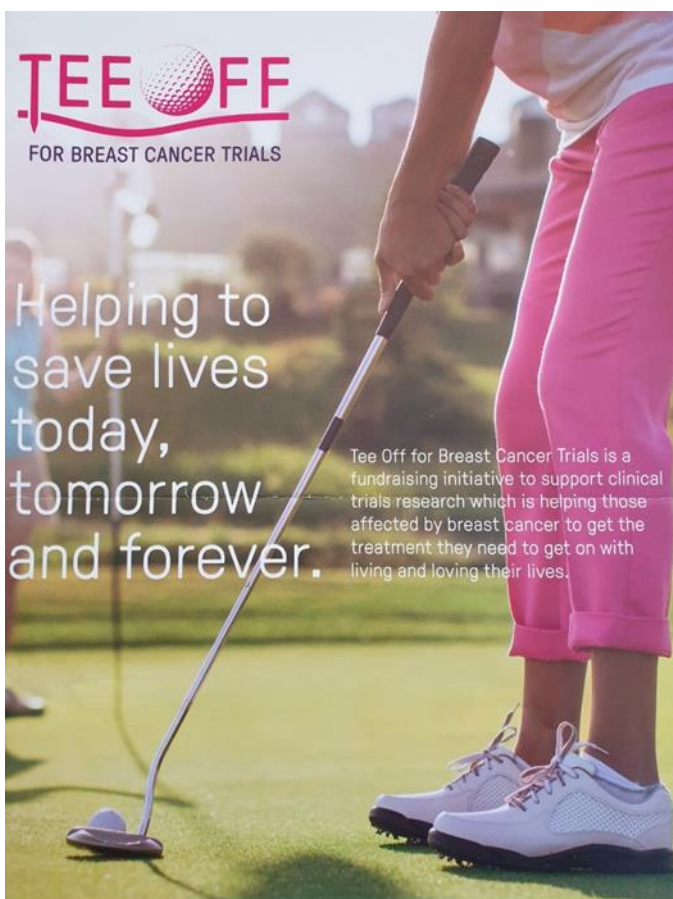


BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

FREE LOCAL NEWSPAPER

COMMUNITY OWNED AND EDITED

Wednesday 10th September 2025



TEE OFF
FOR BREAST CANCER TRIALS

Helping to
save lives
today,
tomorrow
and forever.

Tee Off for Breast Cancer Trials is a fundraising initiative to support clinical trials research which is helping those affected by breast cancer to get the treatment they need to get on with living and loving their lives.

Annual Breast Cancer Day
9 Hole 4 person Ambrose
Sunday 21st Sept. 1.00pm
\$25 pp including Hi Tea.



BARRABA RACES

20th September 2025


Gates open 11am

Admission: \$10 adults

\$5 pensioners and school age children

**Fashions in the Field Prizes, Lions BBQ,
Bar, Jumping Castle, Polkadot Cafe Coffee,
Bookies on site.**

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

f Barraba Potters and Craft Guild Inc



Welcome to the

Barraba Museum Markets

Sat September 13th 8.30-11.30am

Food Stalls, Honey, Plants,

Gifts, Sewing, BBQ, Refreshments, Music.

Local history publications. View our Museum.



St Joseph's Primary School

Week 5 Awards

Emma and Jax



Week 6 Awards

Arley, Fletcher, Myles, Jack and Darcy



BARRABA RSL & RECREATIONAL CLUB LTD

Phone 67821379

For the information of members and guests.

THIS WEEK

FRIDAY 12th SEPTEMBER

MEAT RAFFLES

MEMBERSHIP DRAW \$2000

SATURDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER

BINGO STARTS AT 12.30

SUNDAY 14th SEPTEMBER

ANGLER CLUB RAFFLES

Raffles on sale from 12pm, drawn 1.30pm

MEMBERSHIP DRAW \$1200

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



Barraba High Country Music **Musta**

Sunday 14th Sept 2025. 12 to 4pm.

FREE ENTRY.

Walk-up artists welcome.

Barraba Bowling Club.

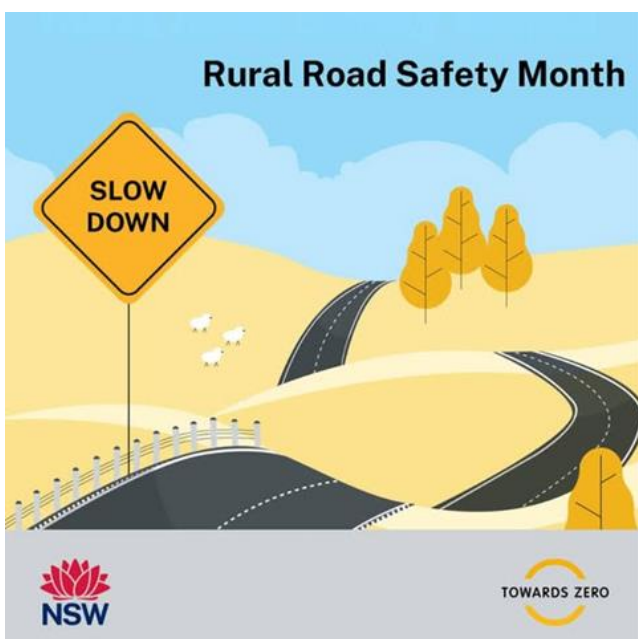
RUBY MAE'S WISH WINS AWARD!



Ruby Mae's Wish was honoured today to receive the NSW Volunteer of the year award - Volunteer Team winner for New England/Northern Inland.

So grateful for this award and all the support we receive from everyone what we do wouldn't be possible without you.

Thank you and Thank you to **The Centre for Volunteering** for your recognition.



Barraba United Hospital Auxiliary Happenings

Barraba United Hospital Auxiliary general meeting was held on the 5th September, at the Barraba Day Centre. Welcome back to returning member Jenny Copelin, it is great to have you back with the Auxiliary. Congratulations to UHA State President Sally Cronberger from Tamworth on being named the 2025 Tamworth Local Women of the Year.

The court yard and quiet room improvements have been completed and look great. These new furnishings and the improved outlook into the courtyard will improve comfort for visitors, whilst visiting family members and friends in the health service. A special and huge thank you to Aaron for his enthusiastic commitment to this project. Your assistance with Hospital Auxiliary activities is very much appreciated by everyone involved.

There was much discussion about the street stall that is to be held next week on the 11th September from 9am. Donations will be greatly appreciated. There will be the usual home cooked items, 100 club and a meat voucher from Barraba Beef as the raffle prize.

Our major fund raisers for this year will be our fashion parade to be held at the Barraba Bowling Club on the 11th October from 1.30pm. Thank you to Rhonda Phillips at Frocks n Locks for her organisation of this afternoon and for providing the fashions. The program for the afternoon will be fun filled, led by our special guest compare Justine Harris. The program for the afternoon will include:

- A scone making demonstration by guest bakers Judy & Gillian
- Pop up trading table by Cobbadah Flowers
- Raffle prizes
- Trivia questions
- Homemade afternoon tea.
- Barraba Nutrition Survey information session presented by Penny Hands for the Deakin and Newcastle Universities
- 100 Club draw
- 2 x \$20 lucky seat prizes.

Admission: \$15 per person (cash only please)

Watch our Facebook page for updates. **UNITED HOSP AUX NSW – Barraba**



Tennis in Barraba – some history

A Book titled *"Country Cracks – The story of NSW country tennis"* by Ron McLean, published in 1984, has this to say *"Two tennis playing families put the quiet little backwater of Barraba, in Northern NSW, on the map in the 1920s. The Spencers and the Williams were typical country players of the time. Despite their isolation from the mainstream of big tennis for most of the year, two of them - Bob Spencer and Guy Williams – reached all but the top rung of the game."* (p 17).

Today a few snippets about **Guy Williams**.



A more recent photo of Guy Williams

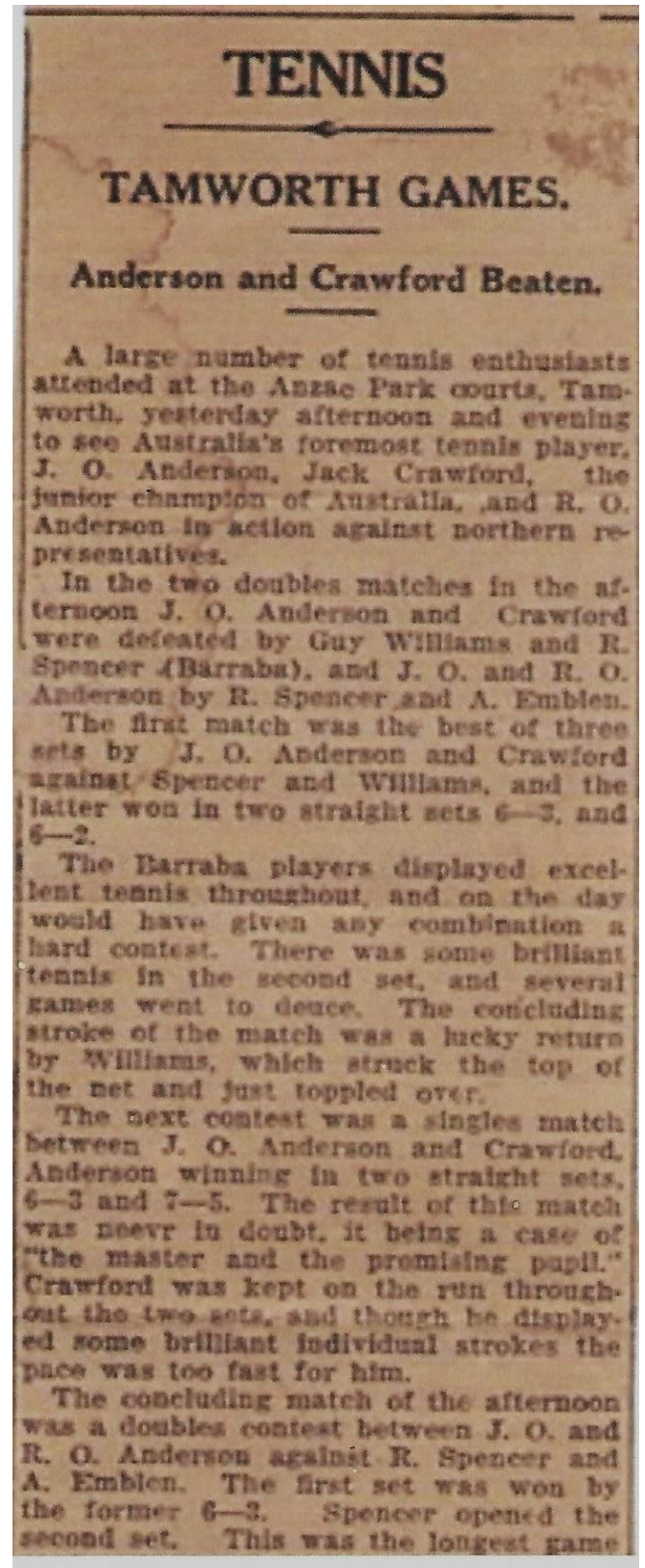
In 2012, Julie Williams recording her family history, spoke to the late Mo Witten, then resident in Richardson House. He had this to say about Guy Williams playing one of the world's best players of the 1920s and 30s:

Guy Williams played tennis against Jack Crawford who had just won at Wimbledon and was at Barraba for an exhibition match. Mo was one of four boys who were given time off school to be ball boys for the match. Guy Williams defeated Crawford, who then hurled his racquet into the net and said "bugger him!" Mo went home and told his mother that "Mr Crawford was not a very nice man."

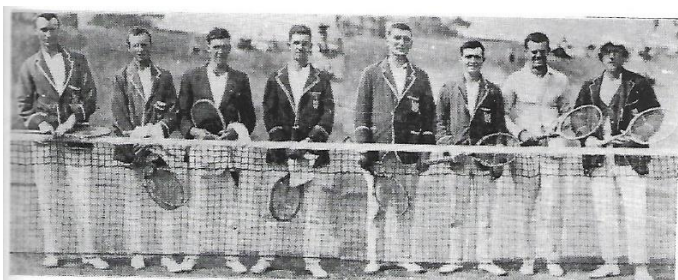
(Julie writes: I researched Jack Crawford's career and he won singles at Wimbledon in 1933, and mixed doubles in

1930. So, for him to have already won at Wimbledon this must have been 1930 because Mo was at TAS in 1930-31. But Crawford was in the Davis Cup team as early as 1928 so it could have been then.)

A Tamworth newspaper report from the same era (date and paper not recorded) tells us of other exploits of Guy Williams and other Barraba players:



**The Barraba Country Week Team (together with Dubbo)
from the 1920s (from "Country Cracks" p15) –**



*L to R: Bob and Cliff Spencer, Geoff and Guy Williams
(Barraba), Wilf Christie, Doug Yeo, Jack Spark and Jack
Chalmers (Dubbo)*

More about tennis in Barraba next week.

Several weeks ago, Margaret Currell, in her usual weekly History Notes, wrote about Barraba Shire Council winning the Bluett Award in 1987. Margaret asked "I wonder where the Bluett Award is now – it should be on display somewhere in Barraba!"



Here it is, hanging in the foyer of the Community College (old Barraba Council Chambers)



Annual General Meeting for the Nandewar Historical Museum to be held

on Tuesday 16th September at the Museum commencing at 10.00. This will be followed by the monthly meeting. Attendance at the meeting welcome.

Mural breathes colour into Manilla's main street

Residents and visitors to Manilla have a new piece of public art to admire with the completion of Jordan Lucky's breathtaking new mural, "On River Time".

The 20-metre-long mural is situated in front of Tamworth Regional Council's Manilla branch and library and is based on the theme of 'Overhead and Underneath'. This artistic concept invites people to take time to look overhead or underneath their feet to appreciate their surroundings and the exact moment in time.



Artist Jordan Lucky, from Newcastle based mural agency Playstate, designed the work following extensive community consultation that identified the desire to respond to the local natural and built environment.

"The iconic platypus glimpsed at dusk or dawn on quiet stretches of the river is a nod to the history of Henry Burrell's ecological studies and a main stay of intrigue and excitement for locals and visitors alike," said Lucky. "The shapes and textures through the artwork embody the flow of river, banks of sand and stone, the endless flow that has shaped the landscape and brought with it the opportunity of life".

With the support of local Indigenous artist Tess Reading, Tamworth Regional Gallery representatives and the Tamworth Region Arts Advisory Committee, the mural was officially declared complete on Friday morning, an exciting achievement for the community of Manilla.

"It is great to see these legacy public artworks coming to life and celebrating the natural world around us," said Director Tamworth Regional Gallery & Museums Bridget Guthrie.

This project has been funded by Tamworth Regional Council and has been implemented as part of the Tamworth Region Public Art Strategy with assistance from the Regional Arts Fund NSW.

Green light for Regional Australia Bank's merger

by **Lia Edwards. New England Times.**

Regional Australia Bank continues its rapid growth, with the latest merger with a Northern Rivers bank getting the green light from regulators.

First announced in October 2024, the proposed merger between Summerland Bank and Regional Australia Bank was approved by APRA, the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority, last week. The final say now rests with members of both banks, who will vote on the proposal at their upcoming AGMs in November.

Regional Australia Bank is the former New England Credit Union that merged with Peel Valley Credit Union, Orana Credit Union, and Hunter Mutual to become Regional Australia Bank, later absorbing the Holiday Coast Credit Union as well. It currently operates 39 branches across the New England, North West, Central West, Riverina, Mid North Coast and Greater Newcastle regions, and head offices in Armidale and Port Macquarie. Summerland Bank – formerly Summerland Credit Union – runs 10 branches across the Northern Rivers in New South Wales and one in South East Queensland.

Both mutual banks are deeply embedded in their local communities, often being the only branch in town and providing crucial support in times of hardship.

Regional Australia Bank CEO David Heine said the merger would allow the two institutions to deliver stronger services and better outcomes for customers without losing the community focus that has defined them. "Our shared values and ambitions are sharpened through the union of two like-minded mutuals. This merger confirms our intent to empower all regional Australians through our customer-owned banking services," said Mr Heine.

Summerland rebuilt its Lismore head office and flagship branch after the 2022 floods, while Regional Australia Bank's Wingham branch was also recently affected by flooding on the Mid North Coast. These experiences, the banks say, have reinforced their commitment to face-to-face banking and the importance of staying connected with local communities.

"Both banks are committed to delivering greater benefits to members and local communities, with an increased ability to invest in infrastructure, compliance, security, as well as new digital capabilities, products and services," said Mr Heine. "We are committed to investing back into our regions, responsibly and sustainably and remain unwavering in our goal."

Summerland Bank CEO John Williams said joining forces would strengthen the ability of both organisations to serve their members and communities. "This merger means we can do more for our members and communities—investing in better infrastructure, security, and services. A merger with Regional Australia Bank allows us to better serve our mission of providing better banking and stronger communities," said Mr Williams.

Members of both banks will be asked to vote on the merger in November. Regional Australia Bank's AGM will take place on 20 November, while Summerland Bank's AGM will be held the day before on 19 November. Members unable to attend in person will be able to vote through a representative or by lodging a proxy form 48 hours before their AGM. Information as well as a survey has already been sent to most customers.

If members endorse the merger, the combined bank will operate 49 branches across regional New South Wales and beyond, employ more than 450 staff, manage over \$5 billion in assets, and serve more than 130,000 members. Importantly, both banks have reaffirmed there will be no branch closures and no staff losses as part of the merger.



Welcome next step in formalising Australia's new Centre for Disease Control

The Australian Medical Association welcomes the introduction of legislation in the federal parliament that will formally create a stand-alone Centre for Disease Control (CDC). The AMA has been the flag bearer in calling for an Australian CDC, which will help ensure we are better prepared for the next pandemic and future health challenges.

AMA President Dr Danielle McMullen said the AMA has led the call for an Australian CDC, publishing its position in 2017. "In our 2017 position statement we called for the immediate establishment of an Australian National Centre for Disease Control, with a national focus on current and emerging communicable disease threats, global health surveillance, health security, epidemiology and research," Dr McMullen said. "The COVID-19 pandemic further highlighted the critical need for a coordinated, expert and independent body in Australia to manage current and emerging disease threats. It's very reassuring to see the legislation that will create this independent body being introduced into parliament and I encourage all parliamentarians to get behind it."

Dr McMullen said the AMA supported the establishment of the Australian CDC as a statutory agency under the Australian Centre for Disease Control Act 2025, and believes its credibility will rest on strong, clinical and scientific expert leadership. "The appointment of a politically neutral, highly qualified Director-General is vital to ensure the CDC becomes Australia's most trusted source of expert advice in public health, including pandemic preparedness and disease prevention," she said. "The AMA continues to advocate for the CDC to be informed by a diverse range of professions, such as clinical medicine, epidemiology, public health, environmental health, occupational and environmental medicine, disaster medicine, veterinary and agricultural science, social sciences, ethics, technology, and communications. The CDC will play a key role in bringing together science with real time monitoring of diseases and must draw on the expertise of coalface clinicians such as general practitioners to ensure practical connectivity across all components of the health system."

Dr McMullen said the AMA was looking forward to working very closely with the CDC on public health issues, including preparedness for the inevitable next pandemic.

Ageing Australia welcomes release of home care packages

Ageing Australia welcomes the Albanese Government's decision to immediately release 20,000 home care packages, after calls from Ageing Australia, older people, and providers, and the consistent support of senators from across the political spectrum.

"We congratulate the Government on heading our calls, with so many Australians waiting for care in their own homes," said Ageing Australia CEO Tom Symondson. "We give our sincere thanks to Senator Anne Ruston and Senator David Pocock and all sides of politics for their dedication championing the needs of older Australians. Providers are ready to act immediately and deliver more packages across Australia. As we heard recently, 98 per cent of members tell us they have the capacity and are ready to go. This is the start of the long road to getting people off wait-lists and getting the care they need."

Nominations open for the 2025 Tamworth Regional Sports Awards



Nominations are now open for the 2025 Tamworth Regional Sports Awards. Each year, these awards honour the outstanding achievements and contributions of individuals, teams, coaches, and organisations who make the Tamworth Region sporting community one of the strongest and most vibrant in New South Wales.

With categories recognising everyone from junior athletes (18 years and under) to senior sports stars, coaches, volunteers, and special achievements, the awards highlight the diversity and depth of talent across our community. Whether it's on the field, behind the scenes, or in emerging disciplines, the Sports Awards are about recognising those who go above and beyond for sport.

“These awards highlight the incredible sporting diversity we have in Tamworth,” said Tamworth Regional Council’s Sports & Recreation Development Officer Richard Willis. “Horse sports continue to thrive thanks to world-class facilities at AELEC, while newer disciplines such as CrossFit are rising in popularity and producing outstanding athletes. Last year, the Cara Hickson Special Achievement Award went to Georgia Pryer for her exceptional CrossFit achievements, proving that we look beyond traditional sports when celebrating excellence.”

Richard also noted that Tamworth’s reputation as a sporting hub continues to grow, thanks to its outstanding facilities and ability to attract major events. “From international tournaments such as the upcoming tennis event to national championships across a range of sports, our region offers athletes the opportunity to compete, grow, and inspire. The Sports Awards ensure we stop and take the time to recognise those achievements locally.”

“Equally important is recognising the coaches and volunteers – the unsung heroes who dedicate countless hours to supporting athletes and keeping clubs strong” Richard added.

Last year’s award winner, Georgia Pryer, reflected on the honour of being recognised. “To win such a prestigious award for a sport that is still new and growing in Australia was an incredible achievement,” she said. Georgia, who competed in gymnastics for 11 years before transitioning into CrossFit, said the sport has given her new challenges. “CrossFit has a little bit of everything, gymnastics, weightlifting, cardio, swimming, running. The higher you go, the more technical it becomes.”

Georgia also had a message for this year’s nominees: “It’s really important to recognise the people who put in the hours and the time for their sport. Whether it’s a coach or an athlete, these awards are a great way to showcase talent and inspire the next generation.”

Nominations are open now and close on Thursday, 23 October 2025. Submit your nomination online via our website www.tamworth.nsw.gov.au/sports-awards today and help us shine a light on the very best of Tamworth sport.

NBN GRANTS PROGRAM

Championing Australia’s regional and remote businesses

Running a business in regional or remote Australia isn’t easy. Isolation, limited reach and tough conditions can all stand in the way.

Yet, out here, challenge breeds creativity. And in the face of adversity, innovation thrives. That’s why we created the

Innovate with nbn® Grants Program with the Regional Australia Institute.

Now in its sixth year, our grants program champions the ideas, resilience and brilliance of regional digital businesses. There’s also \$125,000 in grants up for grabs.

Who can apply?

We’re looking for digital businesses in regional and remote Australia who are:

- making the most of the nbn® network to help enable regional Australians to live, learn and work in a digital society
- challenging the traditional markets in regional Australia
- lifting digital participation and stimulating regional economies
- championing digital adoption for regional and remote communities

Eligibility criteria

Your application will only be eligible if you:

- are connected to the nbn network
- are located in regional Australia
- have an Australian Business Number (ABN)
- have an Australian bank account (corresponding to the ABN)
- apply for one category

What you could win

- We’ll award \$15,000 to one standout business or organisation in each category.
- Plus, one exceptional entry will take home the Innovate with nbn® Champion Award and an additional \$20,000.
- Just remember: you can only apply for one category and need an ABN to be eligible.

7 × \$15,000 grants

- We’ll award \$15,000 to the deserving winners of each of these categories:
- Agriculture
- Arts & Tourism
- Education
- Health
- Indigenous Business
- Sports & Recreation
- Women in Regional Business

Key dates

- Applications close on 12 October 2025.
 - Successful grant recipients will be announced on 11 November 2025.
-

BARRABA UNITING CHURCH NOTICES

Sunday 14th 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

Thank you to Dr McGee and the Dr and all the medical staff here in Barraba.

Lyle J Brett.

Barraba Legacy raffle results

1. \$250.00 fuel voucher at Inland Petroleum Barraba BP. Irene Molloy.
2. \$200.00 meat voucher at Barraba Beef. Gerry Spencer.
3. \$50.00 fruit voucher at Saunders Fruit & Veg Barraba. Nathan Todd

Thank you to everyone for your support.

BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

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BARRABA GOLF CLUB

would like to invite you to our
100 Year Anniversary Dinner

Friday 19th 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

RSVP by Sunday 15th September 2025 please.



Golf Notes



Today we played a 4BBB Aggregate Stableford for Mick Djuric and John Freeman's trophy. The winners with a good score

of 66 points were father and son pairing of Rob and Chris Sweeney. Runners up on 63 points were Rob Sweeney swing pairing with his other son Nick. Rob gets bragging rights over the boys this week. Balls went to Ian Cabot and Neil Smith 60 points along with Liam Johnston and Campbell Tonkin also 60 points. NTPs went to Bevan Benson on the 3rd and Liam Johnston on the 16th. In matchplay games Sam Faint and Paul Grigg defeated Ian Cabot and Neil Smith 3 and 2.

Next Sunday September 14th is an Individual Stableford for Graham Bowmans trophy and on Sunday 21st September is our 4 Person Charity Day for Breast Cancer.

We are holding a working bee on Saturday 13th September at 8am to oil the greens in preparation for our Sandgreen Championships in October. Any help would be much appreciated.

BARRABA CENTRAL SCHOOL



Huge congratulations to our amazing Under 16's Netball team -NSW Central Schools State Champions! Well done team! We are so proud of you!

BINGARA SPORTING CLUB

The bowling greens at the Bingara Sporting Club will soon be receiving some attention thanks to a grant that has been secured from the State Government. Improvements will include new wheelchair access to the greens, lighter more durable seating, new shade structures for bowlers and spectators and repairs to the Bowling Green ditch heads. The Club facilities are maintained entirely by volunteers!

Rules for the cat

The cat is not allowed on the furniture.

Alright, the cat can go on the furniture, but NOT the kitchen counter.

OK, the cat can go on the kitchen counter too, just not when I'm preparing food. Deal?

Fine... The cat can go wherever it wants, whenever it wants, as long as it doesn't swat me in the face at 5:30 in the morning demanding to be fed.

The cat will be fed at 5:30 in the morning.

Australia set to ban 'nudify' apps. How will it work?

Nicola Henry, Professor, Australian Research Council Future Fellow, & Deputy Director, Social Equity Research Centre, RMIT University

The Australian government has announced plans to ban “nudify” tools and hold tech platforms accountable for failing to prevent users from accessing them. This is part of the government’s overall strategy to move towards a “digital duty of care” approach to online safety. This approach places legal responsibility on tech companies to take proactive steps to identify and prevent online harms on their platforms and services.

So, how will the nudify ban happen in practice? And will it be effective?

How are nudify tools being used?

Nudify or “undress” tools are available on app stores and websites. They use artificial intelligence (AI) methods to create realistic but fake sexually explicit images of people. Users can upload a clothed, everyday photo which the tool analyses and then digitally removes the person’s clothing by putting their face onto a nude body (or what the AI “thinks” the person would look like naked). The problem is that nudify tools are easy to use and access. The images they create can also look highly realistic and can cause significant harms, including bullying, harassment, distress, anxiety, reputational damage and self-harm.

These apps – and other AI tools used to generate image-based abuse material – are an increasing problem. In June this year, Australia’s eSafety Commissioner revealed that reports of deepfakes and other digitally altered images of people under 18 have more than doubled in the past 18 months.

In the first half of 2024, 16 nudify websites that were named in a lawsuit issued by the San Francisco City Attorney David Chiu were visited more than 200 million times. In a July 2025 study, 85 nudify websites had a combined average of 18.5 million visitors for the preceding six months. Some 18 of the websites – which rely on tech services such as Google’s sign-on system, or Amazon and Cloudflare’s hosting or content delivery services – made between US\$2.6 million and \$18.4 million in the past six months.

Aren’t nudify tools already illegal?

For adults, sharing (or threatening to share) non-consensual deepfake sexualised images is a criminal offence under most

Australian state, federal and territory laws. But aside from Victoria and New South Wales, it is not currently a criminal offence to create digitally generated intimate images of adults.

For children and adolescents under 18, the situation is slightly different. It’s a criminal offence not only to share child sexual abuse material (including fictional, cartoon or fake images generated using AI), but also to create, access, possess and solicit this material.

Developing, hosting and promoting the use of these tools for creating either adult or child content is not currently illegal in Australia. Last month, independent federal MP Kate Chaney introduced a bill that would make it a criminal offence to download, access, supply or offer access to nudify apps and other tools of which the dominant or sole purpose is the creation of child sexual abuse material. The government has not taken on this bill. It instead wants to focus on placing the onus on technology companies.



Minister for Communications, Anika Wells, said the government will work closely with industry to restrict nudify tools. Mick Tsikas/AAP

How will the nudify ban actually work?

Minister for Communications, Anika Wells, said the government will work closely with industry to figure out the best way to proactively restrict access to nudify tools. At this point, it’s unclear what the time frames are or how the ban will work in practice. It might involve the government “geoblocking” access to nudify sites, or directing the platforms to remove access (including advertising links) to the tools.

It might also involve transparency reporting from platforms on what they’re doing to address the problem, including risk assessments for illegal and harmful activity. But government bans and industry collaboration won’t completely solve the problem.

Users can get around geographic restrictions with VPNs or proxy servers. The tools can also be used “off the radar” via file-sharing platforms, private forums or messaging apps that already host nudify chatbots. Open-source AI models can also be fine-tuned to create new nudify tools.

What are tech companies already doing?

Some tech companies have already taken action against nudify tools.

Discord and Apple have removed nudify apps and developer accounts associated with nudify apps and websites. Meta also bans adult content, including AI-generated nudes. However, Meta came under fire for inadvertently promoting nudify apps through advertisements – even though those ads violate the company’s standards. The company recently filed a lawsuit against Hong Kong nudify company CrushAI, after the company ran more than 87,000 ads across Meta platforms in violation of Meta’s rules on non-consensual intimate imagery.

Tech companies can do much more to mitigate harms from nudify and other deepfake tools. For example, they can ensure guardrails are in place for deepfake generators, remove content more quickly, and ban or suspend user accounts. They can restrict search results and block keywords such as “undress” or “nudify”, issue “nudges” or warnings to people using related search terms, and use watermarking and provenance indicators to identify the origins of images.

They can also work collaboratively together to share signals of suspicious activity (for example, advertising attempts) and share digital hashes (a unique code like a fingerprint) of known image-based abuse or child sexual abuse content with other platforms to prevent recirculation.

Education is also key

Placing the onus on tech companies and ensuring they are held accountable to reduce the harms from nudify tools is important. But it’s not going to stop the problem.

Education must also be a key focus. Young people need comprehensive education on how to critically examine and discuss digital information and content, including digital data privacy, digital rights and respectful digital relationships. Digital literacy and respectful relationships education shouldn’t be based on shame and fear-based messaging but rather on affirmative consent. That means giving young people the skills to recognise and negotiate consent to receive, request and share intimate images, including deepfake images.

We need effective bystander interventions. This means teaching bystanders how to effectively and safely challenge harmful behaviours and how to support victim-survivors of deepfake abuse.

We also need well-resourced online and offline support systems so victim-survivors, perpetrators, bystanders and support persons can get the help they need.



Photo of the Barraba Central School, Edward Street teachers in 1957. Photo from Gene Robinson.