



BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY OWNED AND EDITED

FREE LOCAL NEWSPAPER

Wednesday 18th March 2026



HISTORY NOTES by Margaret Currell

Anyone who has read Carol's "History of Country Schools" (*Barraba Community News* 28 January) will have enjoyed the stories of our schools of another era! These notes may add some information as I attended Cobbabah School for one year before being sent to boarding school in Sydney. I can tell you it is a big jump from Correspondence School to a small school to a boarding school with 600 pupils!

As settlers and miners settled in the Barraba district there was soon a need for education for the families of these men. To get a school in an area, several parents had to gather ages of available children, their distance from home to the school and how they were able to travel. The parents were also responsible for a suitable building for the school and accommodation for the teacher. The teacher often ended up boarding with one of his pupil's family.

Usually someone supplied the building – a room in a home, or had a building erected – just a teaching room with a veranda on one side. Some perhaps had a fireplace for warmth in winter and no doubt the windows on one or both sides supplied some comfort in summer. The toilets were the "long drop" – all very well if there were no snakes about!!

These small country schools were one teacher from Kindergarten to at least 6th class. The school was one teaching room for all pupils. The long desks were five pupils sitting on one side on a long form – no biros mostly just pencils or pens with nibs dipped into an inkwell in a hole in the desk.

Some teachers were strict with their pupils and kept them in the classroom at playtime or lunchtime. There was also the cane for those, especially the boys, who misbehaved.

The pupils had lunch and playlunch prepared by their family and after school at 3.30pm they were dismissed to be picked

up by their parents, walked home, or caught their pony and rode 3 or 4 miles to their home. I remember two boys who rode some four miles to school each day – their steeds were hard to catch but they usually passed us at a full gallop on their way home through the paddocks!

Readers of Carol Faint's "History of Country Schools" (*Barraba Community News* 28 January 2026) may have some stories to tell so please don't be shy – we were young once – tell us about your bush education so we can celebrate Barraba's small schools towards the end of the year – September for example!

Additional Notes from Lesley Grigg

Many thanks to people who responded through Facebook regarding their connections to small schools in Barraba.

Sue Hancock commented that her dad, Cyril Hancock, was a Barraba resident from 1932. He had grown up in Bundarra and his headmaster suggested he become a bush teacher. There were former pupils of his living in Woods Reef.

Meg Blomfield said that she knew there was a school room at Kyooma. It was basically a shed with a blackboard. The pupils, as well as the Spencers from Kyooma, included the Crowleys from Calamondah, the Williams's from Anglecamp, and station hands' children, Noelene Haynes from Kyooma Cottage.

Peter Crowley remembered his mother, Val Crowley, telling stories of her and her three brothers riding 14 miles to school at Tarpoly,

Greg Urquhart said his grandfather, Joseph, grew up near Cobbadah and would have attended school at Cobbadah.

Lynette Edmonds McGuckin went to Weemeelah small school. Jenny Vere went to Gulf Creek for a short time.

We would love to hear from you if you attended a small school in our area plus stories relating to your school days or your family's stories. Email your interest to either carolyn.faint@gmail.com or paullesley.g1@bigpond.com or write to The Editor, Barraba Community News.



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For the information of members
and guests.

THIS WEEK

THURSDAY 19th March

BINGO

First game starts at 6pm

FRIDAY 20th March

MEAT RAFFLES

Tickets on sale from 5.30pm

Membership Draw \$1200

SUNDAY 22nd March

Angler Club Raffles

Raffles on sale 12pm, drawn 1.30pm.

Membership Draw \$2000 (2 draws)

BISTRO HOURS

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DAILY BLACKBOARD SPECIALS

PIZZAS MADE TO ORDER

MONDAY/TUESDAY/WEDNESDAY: CLOSED

THURS/FRI/SAT: LUNCH 12-2PM DINNER FROM 6PM

SUNDAY: 12-2PM

**Barraba Potters and Craft Guild members do
well at the 2026 Manilla Show.**

Congratulations to Rosemary Orchard who is the very first recipient of the Jane Martin Memorial Trophy for the Most Successful Open Pavilion Exhibition. Rosemary's name will be the 1st on the perpetual trophy.

Congratulations also to Sharon O'Dell on her champion needle work article and then awarded the Best piece of work in the pavilion at the Manilla Show.



Letters to the Editor

At *Barraba Community News* we welcome 'Letters to the Editor' expressing your opinion on any topic.

It is important to ensure the opinions expressed are not discriminatory or offensive. The Editor reserves the right to use judgement to edit or decline to print should a letter not meet editorial standards.

Advertise in Barraba Community News and reach 750 households in our local area.

Contact news@barrabacommunitynews.org.au for the best advertising rates in the region

The Hon. Barnaby Joyce MP. Member for New England
2026 Volunteer Grants \$1000 to \$5000
Expressions of Interest Open

The Australian Government Volunteer Grants Program provides funding for organisations that increase participation in volunteering and focus on the inclusion of vulnerable people. The Volunteer Grants program is an initiative established to support local volunteers, ensuring they can continue their valuable work in the community safely and appropriately.

“I always say there are three types of people in this world, the ones that throw rubbish out a car window, those that complain about those that throw rubbish out the car window and there are those that pick it up. This program supports those special people in our community that pick it up,” Mr Joyce said. “Whether it’s volunteering with the local CWA, helping in the canteen at the local ag show, reading to the elderly at the nursing home, or responding to fires with the State Emergency Service, our volunteers play an important role in our communities. These grants can help pay for equipment at your junior sports club or for promotional items that increase participation to volunteer, as well as reimburse fuel costs and expenses associated with transport, training and accreditation,” Mr Joyce said.

“For further information regarding the Volunteer Grants Program please reach out to my Office 02 6761 3080 or download the expressions of interest form from my website at www.barnabyjoyce.com.au .

Please note Expressions of Interest close Friday 27 March 2026.

About the grant program.

The Volunteer Grants Program (the Program) supports the work of community organisations that rely on volunteers by removing barriers to volunteering and promoting awareness of volunteering opportunities. The Program aligns with the objectives of the National Strategy for Volunteering 2023-2034 in particular the objectives to focus on the volunteer experience (1.1); make volunteering inclusive and accessible (1.2); and recognise the inherent value of volunteering (2.3). Annual funding of \$10 million for the Program is held within Program 2.1.6: Volunteering and Community Connectedness in Outcome 2. The funding for this opportunity will be available in the 2026–27 financial year.

The objectives of the program are to:

- ♣ help not-for-profit community organisations to support the efforts of Australia’s volunteers
- ♣ encourage, support and increase participation in volunteering.

The intended outcome of the program is to:

- ♣ strengthen community functioning by supporting and increasing participation in volunteering.



Last call for local ideas: Essential Grants applications closing soon.

Funding of up to \$15,000 available for community led projects across regional, rural and remote New South Wales.

Charities, community groups and not-for-profit organisations delivering community-led projects across Essential Energy’s network area are encouraged to submit their applications for the 2026 Essential Grants program before the end of March.

The program is offering grants of up to \$15,000 to help eligible organisations bring their initiatives to life and deliver real benefits for people, communities and the environment.

Essential Energy’s Head of Sustainability, Sophie Cruickshank, says the program is designed to support regional, rural and remote organisations across Essential Energy’s footprint, like Repurposing for Resilience, who are already leading positive change in their communities. “We know there are many community-led organisations across our footprint doing incredible work in sustainability and resilience. These grants are about giving local groups the support they need to turn strong ideas into real, on-the-ground outcomes - whether that’s improving sustainability, supporting the energy transition, or strengthening community resilience.,” Sophie says.

With a total funding pool of \$150,000 for FY26, the program supports projects aligned to two key themes: energy transition, and sustainability and climate adaptation.

“These focus areas are about helping organisations use energy in smarter, cleaner ways and supporting initiatives that protect the environment and prepare for future challenges. We encourage eligible community groups to apply before applications close,” Sophie says.

Applications close 31 March at 5pm AEDT. For more information and to apply, visit: essentialenergy.com.au/EssentialGrants

World Down Syndrome Day

March 21

A day to celebrate the lives of those with an extra chromosome.

Wear your odd and colourful socks to create awareness.

As many of you know, Guy, whose photo takes pride of place in the window of Frocks n Locks, was my little brother. He is missed greatly by our family, never forgotten, and always appreciated for the lessons he taught us about struggles, determination, and love. People with disabilities and their families face so many challenges every day, and each one makes them stronger.

For this World Down Syndrome Day, I thought it would be an opportunity to provide insight into what it was like to ensure Guy got the best possible opportunity to learn how to navigate his way in the world.

My parents, Ron and Carol Derrick, always did their very best to give Guy those opportunities, like learning to swim and ride a horse.

When Guy was not quite five, he went away to the Special School in Tamworth. This provided another challenge for Mum as she decided she needed to learn to drive so she could get him to and from school. Sometimes he was collected by Mr. Hancock, who was the local butcher in '71. He would cry when he left, but Mr. Hancock would drive around the block, and as he went past the house again, he would be smiling and waving. He was delivered to school and was collected on Fridays after staying all week at the group home. This was a heart-wrenching time for both Guy and my parents, and he stayed at the school in Tamworth for around 11 years. Once the licence was obtained, trips to Tamworth on Mondays and Fridays became the norm unless there was a willing friend or family member to help out.

Guy is a delight to have in the class he is enthusiastic - co-operative and affectionate, enjoys most activities generally and above all is a real little boy! Enjoying a rough and tumble occasionally, playing football etc. He knows our routine well and he plays especially well with Kay although he likes the older boys company.

Guy likes to help as giving out the lunches and he is very reliable when sent on a message, which makes him feel very important.

He enjoys water play especially bathing the baby (which is "Ricky") and painting. He also loves chalk and crayon drawing and is eager to use scissors.

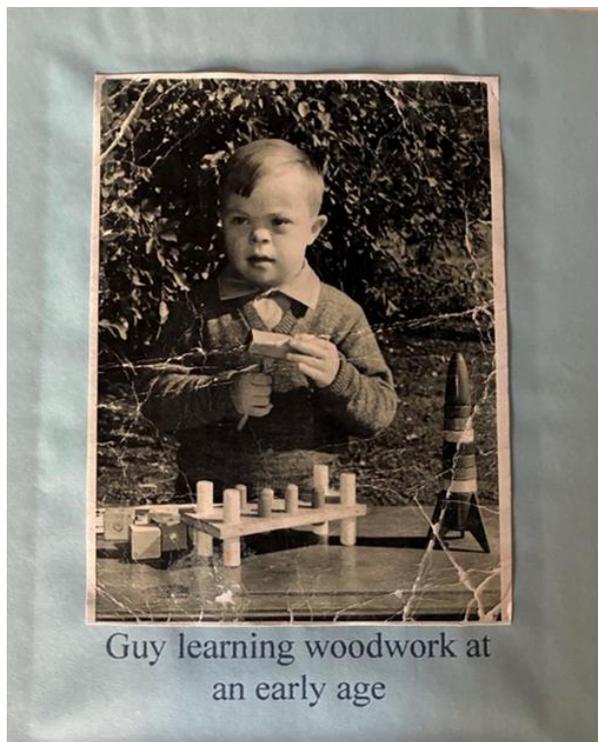
Guy's speech is greatly improved and he remembers our finger plays + songs well as "Every body do this" etc.

Guy's potential is very good as he is socially very competent although extremely shy as with the School Dr + tester. He has a good general knowledge and awareness of his body position + direction.

I will be sorry to lose Guy out of my class next year when he goes into Transition.

Miss Kerry Swain

A delightful child!
M. Riley - Principal



Guy learning woodwork at an early age

Mum's sister, Ellen, became House Mum at the group home during some of this time, which made it a bit easier on us as we felt he was with family. What an amazing gesture to support Guy and our family from my Aunt.

It is worth mentioning Guy is one of six, so that was just another hurdle my parents faced, making sure that the rest of the children also received what was needed for their schooling and everyday lives.

Guy, except for missing his family, did very well at school. When he left school, he attended Day Centre, which was at the BARRABA Hospital, and he was lucky enough to travel with the Day Centre group on many fabulous trips with the support of Roseanne Badham, Marie Groth, and Sue Russell. Later, he was lucky enough to become among the first members of Tangara, and his bond with Sue, Peter Salter and Fiona McGowan formed. He learned many more skills from his years with them, such as photography and woodworking. Fiona was amazing and taught him to sign his name and how to handle his money.

There are so many people who loved and supported Guy. It is very true the saying, "It takes a village to raise a child."

Sadly, still expectant parents are pressured to terminate babies with Down Syndrome. For my parents, the pressure was to leave Guy in an institution and forget they had him. Like he was some unimaginable burden. Instead, they decided to give him every opportunity to be the best person he could be, to live his best life, which he undoubtedly did. He was involved in our community and lived for his BARRABA Rugby Union football club.

Our family is forever thankful for the village that helped raise Guy John Derrick. We are so lucky to have had

SCHOOL REPORT

Childs name :- Guy Derrick
 Class Kindergarten
 Date Term 3 December '71

SOCIAL PARTICIPATION	
1	Minimum Response - Expression of awareness (smiles)
2	Responds to facial expression, looks eye eye
3	Plays in company with others but does not co-operate with others
4	Responds to rewards of gestures that is a clap or tokens or verbal praise
4	Can participate in a group
COMMUNICATION	
1	Makes throaty noises - cries (coos) mmmr sss sounds
2	Uses two word combinations (other than mum munel) eg shut door etc
3	Uses names of familiar objects
4	Able to tell a story - relate experiences in a coherent way
EMOTIONAL MATURITY	
1	Easy and friendly
2	Quite demonstrative and demanding
3	Shows ANGER - Justifiably or frequently
4	Avoids affectionate relationships
SELF HELP AND GENERAL INDEPENDENCE	
EATING	
1	Sucks food - chews biscuits
2	Eats unaided hard foods eg Apples
3	Can hold own cup
4	Can pour and drink without spilling
TOILET	
1	Frequent accidents
2	Occasional accidents
3	Reliable when reminded
4	Completely independent
DRESSING	
1	Completely dependent
2	Shows interest, tries to help
3	Attempts to undress - can take shoes & socks off
4	Can dress but needs help with fastenings
WASHING	
1	Dependent
2	Little effort
3	Tries to help - uses washer
4	Can dry self - independent
MOTOR DEVELOPMENT (LARGE MUSCLE)	
1	IMMOBILE
2	MOBILE - crawls - walks with aid needs exercise
3	PUSHES and PULLS - blocks
4	Ease with walking - running, hopping, skipping
AGILITY	
1	Tries to reach objects but over shoots
2	Aligns 2 or more cubes or blocks
3	Jumps with both feet off step without support
4	Stands on one foot for short periods
HANDWORK	
1	Transfers things from hand to hand
2	Enjoys - painting - chalk/crayon drawing unaided
3	Can string large beads
4	Can make constructive use of playdoh building blocks
Guy is also good at picture shape matching	
COMMENTS	
peg sequencing and he enjoys dough water play	
since turn over ---	

him to teach us empathy, compassion, love, and life with disabilities. As a matter of interest, I have included his kindergarten report card. The photo is also from his school days. And a sample of his signature. So please celebrate with me on the 21st of March. Pop on your socks and think of Guy if you had the pleasure of knowing him.

Rhonda Phillips



BARRABA COMMUNITY BENEFITS FROM CARDIAC MONITOR

The Barraba Health Service, and therefore the Barraba community; will be better off thanks to the installation of a new state of the art cardiac monitor in the local emergency department. Thanks to the generosity of present and past members of the Barraba community, the Barraba Branch of the United Hospital Auxiliaries of NSW Inc was able to fund this potentially lifesaving piece of equipment. It has the capacity to monitor a patient's vital signs more accurately and efficiently, enabling nursing staff to attend to other patients while it keeps them updated about how the patient is travelling.



Hunter New England Health RN, Keira Meany, shows Barraba Hospital Auxiliary members Lib Croll, Julie Williams and Clare Taylor how the cardiac monitor works.



Kim Peake, Health Service Manager with the new cardiac monitor.

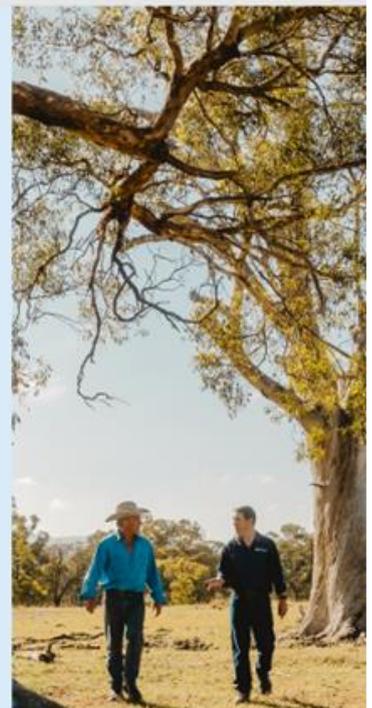
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Seasons of New England Expo returns with expanded two-day celebration

by Penelope Shaw. *New England Times*

The much-loved Seasons of New England Expo is set to return this year bigger than ever, with organisers expanding the event to a full two-day program celebrating the region's makers, producers, and artisans.

Held in Uralla, the annual expo has become one of the New England's most popular regional events, drawing visitors from across the region and beyond to explore locally made products, food, art, and handmade goods. This year's event will run across two identical days, Saturday 28 March and Sunday 29 March 2026, from 9am to 4.30pm, allowing more time for visitors to experience everything on offer.

Founder and organiser Tara Toomey said the decision to expand the expo was made after testing a second day last year and listening carefully to feedback from stallholders and visitors. "This is the first time we've actually done two full days," she said. "Last year we added a second day in a very last-minute sort of way, and it proved it was a worthwhile strategy. So, we've adopted it and refined things after listening to stallholders and patrons. We've decided to do two identical days in terms of opening and closing times, and we have around 140 stalls altogether."

Interest from local businesses has been strong, with many choosing to participate across the entire weekend. The result is a diverse showcase of the New England's creative and agricultural talent, with visitors able to meet the makers behind the products, from handcrafted homewares and artisan foods to skincare, art, and textiles.

For Ms Toomey, the heart of the event has always been about celebrating people who make what they sell and strengthening connections between producers and the community. That sense of connection is something visitors have come to value, particularly when it comes to food and personal products.

"People really appreciate that they're standing across from the person who grew the lavender, farmed the herbs, or made the skincare, and they can ask questions," Ms Toomey said. "If someone is willing to stand there and say, 'Yes, I made this', there's a trust that's built that just doesn't exist when you're buying something off a shelf with a lot of numbers on the back of a packet."

Alongside the stalls, the expo will feature live local music, food vendors, and family-friendly activities across both days. One highlight is the free kids' art tent, which has long been a favourite with families. This year, the experience will be

expanded with support from the New England Girls' School, whose staff will help run creative workshops for children. The event also continues its commitment to sustainability, with a zero-waste approach and free water refill stations available for visitors. Beyond the daytime expo, organisers have introduced a special Expo Eve Dining Experience to kick off the weekend's celebrations. The unique event will take place on the Friday evening before the expo and feature a live-fire feast prepared by internationally experienced French chef Charly Pretet from Terra Firma Dining, known for his dramatic open-flame cooking style.



French chef Charly Pretet will prepare an exquisite meal under the stars at the Expo Eve Dinner. Image from the Seasons of New England website.

Set at the stunning Rock Abbey Gardens, the evening will combine local produce, live music, and outdoor dining under the stars. "We've always done something to start the weekend, but this year we've really gone all out," Ms Toomey said. "He's an incredible international chef and his whole concept is cooking over fire. What we loved was the way he showcases regional producers wherever he goes, and he really loved the idea of coming here."

The event is already attracting strong interest from visitors travelling to the region. "A lot of our regular visitors from places like Sydney, Newcastle, and Brisbane have said they'd love a really 'bush' dining experience out of town," Ms Toomey said. "This is part of our response to that request, and they've been some of the early people booking tickets."

While the dining event is a new addition, the expo's core focus remains firmly on supporting local producers and helping people discover the value of handmade and locally crafted products. "People are looking for things that are made well and made to last," Ms Toomey said. "They're looking for quality – something like a chopping board or a wooden spoon that isn't going to need replacing in five minutes. They're waiting for the expo because they know they can find those things here."

For more information about the event, or to secure one of the few remaining tickets for the Expo Eve Dinner, visit the Season of New England website.



Here is an overview of outcomes from the Ordinary Meeting of Tamworth Regional Council held on 10th March 2026.

- A Notice of Motion from Councillor Brooke was moved acknowledging the social and affordable housing issues Nationwide and in the Tamworth region. Councillors recognised the commendable work already being conducted by Tamworth Regional Council in line with Priority 3 of the Tamworth Regional Housing Strategy and called for an essential workshop on the current issues so further options and actions can be identified.
- Councillors tonight resolved to reverse an earlier decision to refuse a Subdivision Development Application for Mayne Drive, Westdale, after the applicant addressed previous concerns relating to legal vehicular access. The application was approved subject to revised conditions permitting an onsite sewer option.
- Councillors resolved to request the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure to amend the *Tamworth Regional Local Environmental Plan 2010 (TRLEP 2010)* to correct a mapping error in the NSW Planning Portal Digital Environmental Planning Instrument Viewer. The mapping error relates to the layer which identifies the lands where secondary dwellings are permissible with consent. The amendment is administrative only and ensures the digital mapping aligns with the provisions of the *TRLEP 2010*, with no changes to boundaries or planning provisions.
- Councillors supported a request to vary the regulation under Section 82 of the Local Government Act to allow a Manufactured Homes Estate comprising 218 dwellings along Browns Lane to be constructed on-site, as opposed to off-site otherwise required by the Act. The variation will also require concurrence from the Departmental Chief Executive under the Local Government Act before works can commence.
- Council has agreed to adopt the updated guide titled the Open Space Management Guide, February 2026. The Open Space Management Guide (OSMG), originally adopted in 2020, is a strategic document designed to steer the distribution, embellishment and level of service of all open space owned or managed by Tamworth Regional Council and

set designed conditions for new developments. The OSMG was updated in late 2025 to ensure its alignment with evolving community expectations and Council's operational capabilities.

- As the Barraba Rugby League Football Club prepare to return to the field of play in the Group 19 competition for 2026, Council has given approval for staff to negotiate a three-year licence agreement between Council and the club for the Barraba Recreation Ground.
- The Tamworth Youth Centre (The Youthie) will soon welcome a new service provider after Councillors endorsed a proposal for more services to run at the centre. The Birrelee Multifunctional Aboriginal Children's Service will offer programs including structured activities, early intervention and community-led youth development for local young people working alongside families and Elders at The Youthie. Councillors welcomed Birrelee's vision, noting the alignment with the Tamworth Youth Strategy.
- To support biosecurity best practice in our community, Councillors agreed to increase the operational budget for Council's biosecurity unit. An additional \$149,000 from the General Fund will enable a more proactive, cross-directorate approach ensuring Council can meet its responsibilities under the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015.
- Councillors tonight received and noted the Tamworth Youth Strategy – Progress Report. The report is an opportunity to highlight key achievements and partnerships to date. Councillors commended the Tamworth Regional Youth Council as they played a significant leadership role in influencing Council policy and future direction, delivering five major events in 2025 as well as the opportunity to meet with Advocate for Children and Young People, Zoe Robinson.

For more information, see the full reports at www.tamworth.nsw.gov.au/business-papers



Help shape the future of the Central Northern Regional Libraries!

The CNRL Strategic Plan is due to be renewed and we're looking for input from community members to help shape the future of the

network.

If you'd like to share your thoughts and ideas on the future of these important community assets, please complete this survey haveyoursay.tamworth.nsw.gov.au/cnrl-strategic-plan before 5pm Monday 30 March.

CATHOLIC CHURCH TIMES

Barraba 1st Sunday of the month, Saturday evening
Mass 6pm. All other Sundays 9am
Holy Week Schedule: Palm/Passion Sunday, Saturday
evening 28 March 6.00pm, Holy Thursday Mass 2 April,
5.30pm, Good Friday 3 April, Stations of The Cross
12.30pm, Easter Vigil Mass Saturday 4 April 5.00pm.

BARRABA UNITING CHURCH NOTICES

Sunday 22nd March 2026
Time 10.45am
Please note new time till the end of April.
All welcome

ANGLICAN CHURCH TIMES

St Laurence's Barraba
Sunday service at 10.00am
Woodsreef 11.30am, 2nd Sunday of each month



In Memorial

15-3-21

Robyn Power

**Loved partner of Doug
Hatch**

**Loved mother of Gina and
Yvette**

R.I.P.

BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY OWNED AND EDITED

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Contacts: Bronwyn 0447 165 008 or Office: 67821662

Email news@barrabacommunitynews.org.au

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Thank You

Robert Irwin 25-4-1961 – 25-2-2026

We wish to say 'Thank you' to the nursing staff at Barraba
Hospital, as well as Dr. Heinrich Strydom, Jon Gourlay, from
Tamworth Palliative Care, William Rixon and Kaitlyn from
Barraba Ambulance for their kindness, care and attention
given to our brother, Robert Irwin (Robbie).

We would also like to thank Reverend Matthew Hearne,
Fletcher Funerals, the Barraba Bowling Club ladies, Barraba
IGA, John Freeman, Lynette Taylor and others too
numerous to mention.

Your support, care and attention is very much appreciated
and will never be forgotten.

Suzanne Fletcher (nee Irwin) and Dianne Irwin

June Akers

22nd May, 1932 – 9th March, 2026
Aged 93 Years

Cherished wife of Allan (dec'd).
Beloved mother and mother-in-law of Robert & Lynne,
Sue & Col (dec'd), Jim & Laurel, Wayne & Caryn,
Geoff (dec'd) & Kerry, Chris & Myra and Cheryl & Peter.
Beloved "Nan", "Nan Nan", "Granny Nanny" of 16 grandchildren,
23 great grandchildren and 5 great great grandchildren.
A friend to all who knew her.

The family and friends of the late Mrs. June Akers are
warmly invited to attend her Funeral Service to be held in
St. Laurence's Anglican Church, Maude Street, Barraba
commencing at 10.30am, Thursday 19th March, 2026.
Following the service the cortege will proceed to the
Barraba Cemetery, Memorial Drive, Barraba.

Donations may be made to St. Laurence's Anglican Church, Barraba.
A donation box will be available at the Church.

Sharon Hamilton Funerals





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Motorbike Barrel Race – Results are In!

This year marked the third Motorbike Barrel Race at the Barraba Show, and it was very popular again with 34 riders, 10 up on last year! Riders come from all over including Bundara, Warialda and Moree. We saw more female competitors this year which was excellent to see! Some entries were from people who come with family for the Campcraft and others who were there to compete in the Junior Rodeo – so many enjoying multiple events as part of the fun at the Barraba Show.

Winners took away a bag full of goodies along with their show ribbons. Prizes were donated by Campbells Fuel Inverell, Eagle Powersports, Western Rangers Motorcycles, Repco Tamworth and Kensell Tamworth



Mini's (Class 1/7-12 years)

continuing to be the largest class with 17 riders. Winners were 1st Angus Crowley, 2nd Jed Latham, 3rd Jack Shadbolt.



Encouragement Award – Caspian Eddington who showed great flair. The Tweens (Class 2 13-17) winners were 1st Dusty Gleeson, 2nd Dakota Graham and 3rd Jock Cabot.



Overs (Class 3 18+) grew to 9 riders this year. Winners were 1st Hayden Moore, 2nd Charlie Cordingley and 3rd Mark Dempsey.



The Clapped Out Ag (Class 4) section saw antics including spills and thrills from Will Rixon who won the event as well as the mystery Dinosaur.

Entries come in thick and fast and we thank all of those who pre-entered as it makes it far more manageable to get things underway on-time.

We look forward to seeing you competing, watching and cheering the event on again next year. Seeing parents ride with their kids, sibling ride and families cheering them on – that is what really makes this event such a special part of the show for us – Phil & Ally Denyer

Pavilion results Barraba Show 2026

Section 15 Farm and Garden

Most Successful Exhibitor Denise Brodbeck

Most Successful Junior Exhibitor Barraba Central School

Section 17 Cooking

Champion Classes 1-17 Gillian Unwin - chocolate cake

Most Successful Exhibitor Classes 1-17 Anna McMurtrie

Champion School Section Emma Shadbolt

Most Successful Exhibitor School Section Annabel Kanno

Comments: Thank you to all our cooks for the fabulous number of entries. We are truly grateful. The standard was very high and the judge deliberated often. Congratulations to Gillian Unwin and Emma Shadbolt as our champions.

Section 18 Jams and Preserves

Champion Exhibitor – Sweet Una Ballard

Champion Exhibitor – Savoury Alison Guest

Comments: Jams and Preserves were well supported in 2026. Strong competition across the board in both sweet and savoury classes. There were some interesting and tasty ingredients, with different combinations that produced delicious outcomes. Thank you to all of the entrants, your entries made for challenging judging.

Section 19 Photography

Champion Black & White Print Chris Mannweiler

Champion Colour Print Paula McIver

Most Successful Exhibitor Colour or B&W Chris Mannweiler

Champion School Photograph Charlie Denyer

Most Successful School Exhibitor Charlie Denyer

Grand Champion Photo Charlie Denyer

Comments: Lots of entries; the judge had her work cut out. Outstanding photos all round.

Section 20 Handcrafts

Champion Exhibitor Liam & Gus Johnston

Most Successful Exhibitor Mandy Cabot

Comments: As always, I have been impressed by the wide variety of talent expressed in so many different ways. It always makes me happy to see the continuation of older traditions and crafts alongside the emergence of new and exciting ways of expressing creativity.

Section 20A Handcrafts - school

Champion Exhibitor Jessica Woodhouse

Champion Lego Exhibitor Alfie Abel

Most Successful Exhibitor Elkie Whyte

Comments: Such a colourful and interesting display of handcrafts and lego to judge, with a varied interpretation of the Rivers and Creeks theme.



Section 21 Art

Champion Exhibitor Michael Simpson

Comments: A colourful display of artworks by Barraba local artists. The Rivers and Creeks theme inspired lots of artworks with yabbies' and fish and creeks through a zoo being some of the imaginative features.

Section 22 Pottery

Champion Exhibitor Suzanne Tanner

Junior Champion Rupert Capel

Comments: Some wonderful pottery creations were entered this year. A hand-built crow took out the major prize with the junior winner, a dinosaur.

Section 23 Collectors Corner

Champion Exhibitor Travis Hiscock

Comments: Judge was very impressed with the standard of entries. Champion was very hard to pick. People have such wonderful collections.

Section 24 Needlework

Champion Piece of needlework Beverly Davis

Most Successful Exhibitor Wendy Woodhouse

Comments: Beautiful display and range of styles and techniques. Take care to remove loose threads etc. Use a clean iron when pressing-clean after using on visafix.

Section 25 Knitting and Crochet

Champion Knitted Article Penny Blomfield

Champion Crochet Article Jennifer Copelin

Most Successful Exhibitor Chris Glasheen, Penny Blomfield

Comments: A big thank you to all the wonderful entries in the Knitting and Crochet section of the 2026 Show. Amazingly enough, we had joint winners of the most successful exhibitor's prize: Penny Blomfield and Chris Glasheen. The high quality of the entries made judging so difficult. The Champion crochet work was a very fine price of craftsmanship. The champion knitting entry, a knitted shawl, was an amazing cornucopia of design and colour.

Colouring In Competition

Pre-school

- 1st Emma K
- 2nd Matilda M
- 3rd Harlow L
- HCS Harvey W, Holy P, Wilfred C

Kinder/Year 1

- 1st Rose Kelly, St Josephs
- 2nd James Macintosh, St Josephs
- 3rd Eli Knight, St Josephs
- HCS Harry Towers, Emma Shadbolt, Archie Bennett, (St Josephs)

Years 2/3/4

- 1st Emily Jones, St Josephs
- 2nd Miller Walker, St Josephs
- 3rd Monty Capel, St Josephs
- HCS Jack Shadbolt, Sophie Jones, Elkie Whyte

Years 5/6

- 1st Charlie, BCS
- 2nd Piper, St Josephs
- 3rd Hayley McIlrick, BCS
- HCS Cooper Hartwig, St Josephs, Chelsea Hands, BCS

Barraba Show General Photos

