



FREE LOCAL NEWSPAPER

BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY OWNED AND EDITED

Wednesday 5th August 2026

Barraba Senior Citizens' Market Day

9AM - 3PM
Saturday, 15th August
50 Fitzroy St, Barraba

sausage sizzle & cold drinks

homemade cakes, slices, and fudge

tea & coffee

homemade jams and sauces

- crochet gifts
- jewellery
- people pots
- skincare & perfumes
- beautiful homemade arts & crafts decor
- bric-a-brac
- diamond art
- candles
- woodworks
- clothing
- and many more!



Barraba Family Doctor

The surgery will be closed on Thursday 6th August and Friday 7th August and will reopen on Monday 10th August at 9.00am.

Dr Wearne will be here from Monday 10th to Thursday 13th August.

If you require medical attention, please present to the Barraba Hospital or in an emergency call 000.



BARRABA RSL & RECREATIONAL CLUB LTD

Phone 67821379

For the information of members and guests.

THIS WEEK

THURSDAY 6th AUGUST

BINGO

First game starts at 6pm



FRIDAY 7th AUGUST

RUBY MAE RAFFLES

Tickets on sale from 5.30pm

Membership Draw \$1000

SUNDAY 9th AUGUST

ANGLER CLUB RAFFLES

Membership Draw \$1300

BISTRO HOURS

Phone 0427330808

DINE IN OR TAKEAWAY

DAILY BLACKBOARD SPECIALS

PIZZAS MADE TO ORDER

MONDAY/TUESDAY/WEDNESDAY: CLOSED

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

SUNDAY: 12-2PM

BARRABA MUSEUM STREET STALL & COUNCILLOR CATCHUP

WHERE?
MUSEUM GROUNDS

WHEN?
SATURDAY 8th AUGUST 9 am - 11.30 am

HOMEMADE FOOD, COFFEE, HONEY, PLANTS, BOOKS

Letter to the Editor

People who camp at the Lions Park, south of town, often write notes of appreciation and leave them in the donation box.

I'd like to quote from a recent message:

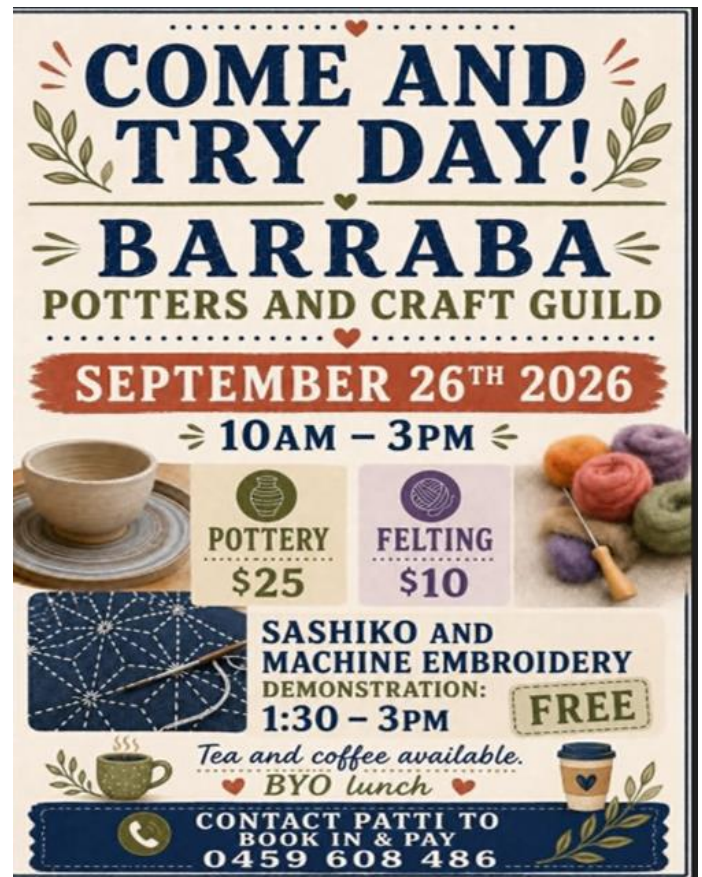
"We noticed what looks like locals are dumping their rubbish in the bins. Monday the bins were emptied and a young woman come by and dumped 2 large bags of rubbish in one bin and a gentleman dumped another large bag in the other. Just letting you know it's not the campers filling the bins up."

The bins at the Lions Park are provided so many people can each dispose of small amounts of rubbish. They are for one or two people to fill with their week's garbage.

If you live in town and pay either rent or rates, go to the Council Office and arrange a garbage service. If you can't have a garbage service, then you will have to pay a fee each week to take your rubbish to the tip.

Yours

Ron Bridges, Lions Club of Barraba



COME AND TRY DAY!

BARRABA
POTTERS AND CRAFT GUILD

SEPTEMBER 26TH 2026

10AM – 3PM

POTTERY \$25

FELTING \$10

SASHIKO AND MACHINE EMBROIDERY DEMONSTRATION: 1:30 – 3PM FREE

Tea and coffee available.
BYO lunch

CONTACT PATTI TO BOOK IN & PAY 0459 608 486

The funeral for the late Troy Ryan

will be held at the Alston Chapel

35 Workshop Lane, Tamworth at 11:00am, Tuesday 11th August 2026.



What's On

Scan me to find out what events are happening in your community this month or to add your event to our free What's On calendar

TAMWORTH REGION
CAPITAL OF COUNTRY



Rodgers's Supermarket

James Oscar Rodger

When my parents and myself bought out Jack Barnes' Groceries, part of the deal was a horse and delivery cart included. Ray McCusker used it to deliver groceries around town for Jack Barnes. But Owen Hagan and myself wanted nothing to do with it. We used Oscar's 35 Ford sedan for deliveries while Owen rode a pushbike around town gathering orders. Later on we had an old Dodge truck to deliver orders. One time brother, Stuart, took the corner at Alice and Fitzroy Street a bit fast and unloaded all the grocery orders there and then! Then we bought a Tempo Matador van for the deliveries. Joe Taylor, the stationmaster's son, would deliver our groceries from the train to our shop. Then he sold the run to Len Rumsby.

We went and collected the biscuits ourselves as all biscuits came in bulk in tins. When you bought biscuits, they were weighed and put in paper bags. All groceries had to be wrapped in brown paper as there were no cardboard cartons in the early days. Monday was the weigh-up day. Any items that came in bulk, such as sugar, dates, currants, mixed fruit, raisins were weighed up and put into paper bags ready for sale. These jobs were done by the girls. For kerosene, shellite, metho, etc. you brought in your container and had it filled. Green groceries were trucked in by Jack Monahan from Newcastle and Boulou Bros from Brisbane. Smallgoods came from Northwest Smallgoods at Inverell. Once a fortnight, I would go to Tamworth and get our egg supply and go and collect any groceries we were short of from Cohens or Wright Heaton's grocery wholesalers.



79 Queen St. This shop was originally Rodgers's Supermarket before they moved further along the street.



95 Queen St. The Golden Bell Café run by Peter Oglos and Leo James which started in approx. mid 1930s. Later became Rodgers Supermarket when they moved from 77/79 Queen St.



The Barraba Potters and Craft Guild News.

Deirdre Burke and Charlotte Nugent from the Tamworth Regional Council Tourism Team called into the Fuller Gallery on Tuesday 28th of July to take photos of craft activities that our members were doing at the Gallery. This visit has allowed them to update their tourism information for Barraba.

Barraba Potters and Craft Guild were fortunate to receive \$1,000.00 from the Tamworth Regional Council - Regional Marketing Support Program for 2026 - 2027. This funding will go towards the promotion of the Warm and Woolly Exhibition to be held on the June Long Weekend in 2027. Thank you to TRC for your support of our event. Further information will be available and how the community might participate in 2027 will be coming soon.

2026 dates for the diary:

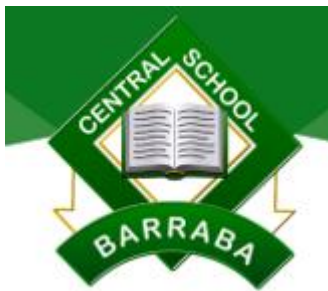
- Bonsai review morning - Sunday 16th August at 10.30am.
- "Come and Try Day" - Saturday 26th September.
- Street Stall - Thursday 1st October.

Congratulations to the Mosaic Group on the completion of the planter pots in the main street. The pot in front of the gallery has pottery tiles along with mosaic tiles. Our potters have done a great done job with them. They look great and reflect aspects of Barraba.

If you are looking for a gift or someone for yourself, pop into the Fuller Gallery for a browse of the amazing array of locally made arts, crafts, pottery, photography and much more. Buying from the Gallery supports our local arts and crafts people. The Gallery is open from 10am to 1.30pm most days of the week.

High Country Music Musta

**Barraba Bowling Club, Sunday 9th August from
12midday**



News from Barraba Central School:

Local Students Shine at Dohne Prime Lamb Schools Competition in Orange

Barraba Central School was first on the mat for showing and judging their sheep, and their hard work paid off. The team secured first place in Group 1, which progressed them to Group 6, competing against winners from other groups.

The wethers stood out for their excellent confirmation, even lines, and overall appearance. Judges also praised the weight gain of the sheep, noting impressive eye muscle areas of 36mm, 32mm, and 32.5mm across the three animals, with a consistent fat measurement of 4mm on each.



After judging, the sheep were shorn, producing fleeces weighing 2.6kg, 2.1kg, and 1.9kg respectively. While the team did not place in the Subjective Finals, they achieved an outstanding top-five ranking out of 25 schools—a remarkable accomplishment. In the Objective section, Barraba Central School took out first place in the Carcase

component of Section 1, marking two first-place finishes in the competition's Section 1.

Mrs. Bennett, their Ag Teacher, described the day with pride, saying, "I am a very proud teacher and ag mum today. Well done, Aggies!"

Secondary Central School Netball Gala Day

Congratulations to our Secondary 16's netball team on their outstanding performance in Inverell at the ! The team won all their games and will now progress to the next stage in Dubbo later this year!



Premier's Debating Challenge – Round 3

Congratulations to our Primary debating team on another fantastic effort in Round 3 of the Premier's Debating Challenge against Warialda.

While Warialda came away with the win, we are incredibly proud of our team's teamwork, clever ideas, confidence and the continued improvement they've shown each round.



NSW OzTag Gala Days

Barraba Central School sent teams from both campuses to the NSW OzTag Gala Days in Tamworth last week.

On Thursday, two secondary teams were entered and they had some tough competition in their respective divisions.

On Friday it was Primary's turn with four primary teams entering the competition. Congratulations to our 5/6 Boys team for winning their division and each receiving a medal for their efforts.

Barraba Central School is proud of all the students for their effort and teamwork. Well done to everyone who took part!



BARRABA UNITING CHURCH NOTICES

Sunday 9th August – 8.45am

Please note new time for the next few months.

All welcome

ANGLICAN CHURCH TIMES

St Laurence's Barraba

Sunday service at 10.00am

Woodsreef 11.30am, 2nd Sunday of each month

CATHOLIC CHURCH TIMES

Barraba 1st Sunday of the month, Saturday evening

Mass 5pm. (Note the time change)

All other Sundays 9am



All Australians are invited to join Ageing Australia and say a massive 'thanks for caring' to our dedicated and compassionate care workforce to mark Aged Care Employee Day on Friday 7 August

Now in its eighth year — this year on Friday 7 August — Aged Care Employee Day is an opportunity to celebrate the people who work tirelessly to ensure the dignity, comfort and wellbeing of older people in Australia. Their care is personal, selfless and often unsung — making a difference in the lives of older Australians every single day.

Aged care, retirement living and seniors housing providers — along with residents, clients, families and loved ones are gearing up to show their appreciation with morning and afternoon teas, celebrations and heartfelt messages of thanks to the dedicated workers who care for their loved ones. Currently there are around 456,000 aged care workers in Australia, with approximately 1.3 million Australians receiving aged care services.

We know how essential our aged care workforce is in helping older Australians to age well. Aged Care Employee Day is an opportunity to recognise the skill, compassion and dedication of the people who make this possible every day.

Find out more about Aged Care Employee Day:
<https://ageingaustralia.asn.au/sector-recognition-programs/aged-care-employee-day/>

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Went around to the Old Barraba Council Chambers, Alice Street entrance, to lodge another Letter in the Barraba Community News, walking down the path and steps was difficult due to tree branches hanging across the path from the side and above. I continued on, this time taking particular notice of the condition of the doors leading into the old Council Meeting Room. The timber laminated surface was peeling badly, Then I remembered, these doors were timber lined externally, and ply (not waterproof) internal when originally fitted.

I investigated further and found out that the doors to this room had to swing out, but on alteration the doors themselves were put back on inside out, not a good look.

I then decided to have a closer look around the building, not a real happy experience. In Fitzroy Street tree branches are hanging low and need trimming, I would say the trees have had their day. The trees and shrubs along Alice Street side, including footpath, are shooting badly at their base, suckers on all trees and shrubs, they could all look good properly maintained and trimmed. The shrub and garden area around the other two sides are sadly neglected.

Standing out, on the right-hand side of the driveway off Alice Street into the Council Chambers car park is the skeleton remains of a large dead tree, is this symbolic.

Back to the plane Trees in Queen Street: The 2 Plane Trees with bunting around them have been there for over 2 months without any action being taken to fix the problem the trees are causing, WOULD THIS HAPPEN IN PEEL STREET TAMWORTH, I think not, the other problems I have mentioned before with damage to the gutter, foot path road parking area WOULD THIS HAPPEN IN PEEL STREET TAMWORTH, I think not.

It is time for Barraba to stand up and request Tamworth Regional Council to treat all their obligations in Barraba as if they were in Tamworth.

There will be 2 Councilors at the Markets this Saturday, "to chat", I would hope more to listen to any concerns we may have in our community, I will be there to voice my concerns regarding the poor state of the trees in Queen Street if you agree please join me.

Yours faithfully
David York.



GRANT TO FUND GRASSROOTS SPORT

Local sports clubs and associations are set to receive a funding boost across the Tamworth electorate, with applications now open for the popular Local Sport Grant Program.

Member for Tamworth Kevin Anderson said applicants can access funding for a range of projects to get more locals participating in sport and recreation activities with grants of between \$2,000 and \$20,000 available. "If you have a project that will boost training for coaches, promote grassroots sport or enhance existing facilities you should apply now.

"Previous rounds saw local sporting groups awarded funding for a range of projects including \$8,000 to the Manilla Bowling Club to upgrade the shades and shelters at the end of their greens, Kootingal-Moonbi Swimming Club received \$3,500 to purchase training equipment and Lake Keepit Soaring Club have received \$9,000 to install solar power, water tanks, radio and weather systems near their runways.

"Sport is in our blood, and the Local Sport Grant Program is one way local clubs can apply for funding to get more people involved. I encourage local clubs and associations to review the guidelines and submit their applications as soon as possible."

Applications are open now and close at 1:00pm Monday, 24 August 2026. More info at: Local Sport Grant Program (LSGP) 2026/27 | NSW Government

POPULAR INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS PROGRAM RE-OPENS

Organisations from across the Tamworth electorate are being encouraged to apply for the NSW Government's popular Infrastructure Grants Program. Member for Tamworth Kevin Anderson said the program had already funded worthy projects from across the region including the Quirindi Silo Art project, shade sails at Tamworth Little Athletics Club, and water tanks at Yarrowich Public Hall and Recreation Reserve.

"The Infrastructure Grants Program invests in the projects that matter for communities in regional NSW," Mr Anderson said. "This is a great opportunity for local organisations to

tap into the program and fund the essential infrastructure projects they've been dreaming of."

Mr Anderson added that Infrastructure Grants can fund construction, alteration, renovation, completion and fit-out of buildings and community infrastructure. "Successful previous applications from across the state include sports grounds, museums, theatres, homeless shelters, and evacuation centres," Mr Anderson added. "They're projects that build the resilience of regional communities, helping them bounce back from natural disasters and ensuring they're well set up for the future."

The current round of funding closes on Monday 17 August. For more details visit Office of Responsible Gambling grants and funding | NSW Government

FREE SENIORS FORUM TO TACKLE SCAMS



Seniors are invited to attend a FREE forum on the 26th of August to give them the tools they need to protect themselves from predatory scammers. Member for Tamworth Kevin Anderson said Council on the Ageing NSW will host the forum at Wests' Diggers Club to support seniors in the local community.

"Older Australians have spent a lifetime building their savings to support their retirement and their families. They shouldn't have to spend their older years worrying about what scams are lurking around the corner," Mr Anderson said. "Predatory scammers prey on trust, kindness and confusion which is why they target older people who could be vulnerable to sophisticated scams. It's so important that people give themselves the knowledge and the tools to

protect themselves. "The Council on the Ageing's Staying Safe from Scams session is a great opportunity to learn the tools you need to protect yourself, and I thank Council on the Ageing NSW and sponsor ANZ for bringing this important forum to Tamworth."

Council of the Ageing NSW CEO Gohar Yazdabadi said older people deserve to feel confident and safe in an increasingly digital world. "Scams are becoming more sophisticated, but knowledge is one of the best forms of protection. Our Staying Safe from Scams sessions provide practical advice to help older people recognise common scams, protect themselves and know what to do if something doesn't feel right," Ms Yazdabadi said. "We encourage older people, their families and carers to come along and learn how to stay one step ahead of scammers."

Registrations are now open for the free forum online at Staying Safe from Scams. People can also contact Council on the Ageing NSW directly on (02) 9286 3860 to register.



Council rates delivered to mailboxes

A total of 30,116 Tamworth Regional Council rates notices – 78 more than last year – have been provided to Australia Post this week for delivery in the coming weeks.

The average increase to the region's residential ratepayers for the 2026-2027 year is between \$11 and \$126. Tamworth Regional Council's total income from rates and charges for 2026-2027 is \$111.783 million.

Council has increased water availability and waste management charges by 3.2% but no increase for sewerage and trade waste service charges. Consumption charges for water use will also increase by 3.2%, 1st tier from \$1.95 to \$2.01. Residential and business ratepayers will pay \$11 more for water availability for the year.

The average Tamworth residential ratepayer will receive a total annual rates bill (including water, sewer and waste services) of \$3,615. This is about \$71 more than last year's total rates bill for the average Tamworth residential ratepayer.

In Barraba and Manilla, the average residential annual rates bill will be around \$53 more than last year, while in Kootingal and Moonbi it will be an increase of around \$48.

Tamworth residential ratepayers will provide a total of \$35.049 million in General Rate income with Barraba accounting for a total of \$568,001, Manilla \$868,083, Kootingal/Moonbi \$717,002 and the other villages in the region \$349,745.

Business rates will return \$10.903 million in income from 1,880 businesses and 3,024 rural properties will return farmland rates of \$9.191 million.

Rates can be paid in full or by instalment. The first rates instalment is due on August 31 2026.

A range of payment options are explained on the back of rates notices. Payments can be made by using Payreq, BPay, by phone or in person at any of Council's Customer Service Centres at Barraba, Manilla, Kootingal, Nundle and Tamworth.

Anyone experiencing difficulty paying their rates is encouraged to contact Council by emailing trc@tamworth.nsw.gov.au or calling our Customer Service team on 1300 733 625 to discuss a special payment arrangement.

Here is an overview of outcomes from the Ordinary Meeting of Tamworth Regional Council held on Tuesday 28th July 2026.

- Tonight, Councillors endorsed the public exhibition of the draft Tamworth Regional Section 7.12 Development Contributions Plan 2026. Development contributions help fund the community infrastructure needed to support growth across the region, including parks, community facilities, local roads and shared paths. Moving to a single LGA wide Section 7.12 Development Contributions framework will provide greater flexibility in infrastructure delivery and works programming, a clearer and more consistent levy structure and reduced administrative complexity. The draft Section 7.12 Development Contributions Plan will be available for public feedback from 9:00am on Thursday, 30 July via Council's Have Your Say page.
- Council has received Voluntary Planning Agreements (VPAs) offers for three proposed renewable energy projects; Bendemeer Solar Farm, Middlebrook Solar Farm and Kingswood Battery Energy Storage System. Councillors tonight agreed to provide in principle agreements to the terms of each of the three VPAs. Formal agreements will now be drafted for each project and will return to Councillors for public exhibition endorsement at a future meeting of Council.

- Councillors also agreed to receive and note a letter of offer for a separate VPA from Marloelle Pty Limited, the Developer of Windmill Hill Residential Estate in Moore Creek. The proposed VPA would dedicate a future parcel of land currently owned by the Developer as a neighbourhood park. It is proposed that the park would be funded and constructed by the Developer in accordance with Council's Open Space Management Guide. That section of land would then be transferred to Council to maintain and would be classified as Community Land.
- Councillors tonight endorsed a series of recommendations regarding Council's waste services, including a decision not to reintroduce a bulky household goods kerbside collection service. The number of free waste vouchers will remain at four for the 2027–28 financial year, with a request for staff to investigate the feasibility of increasing to six vouchers for rural residents. A 500kg limit per voucher will be introduced from quarter three of the current financial year, and the Waste Wagon service will be immediately expanded to three days per week. A trial of a two cubic metre skip bag system to assist Waste Wagon collections will also occur.
- Councillors tonight approved to issue an offer of temporary acceptance of out-of-region residual dry waste from iQRenew Group at the Tamworth Waste Management Facility, for up to 12 months. Deal is subject to iQRenew acceptance of rates, EPA approval and confirmation of waste levy arrangements. The agreement will include a 50% out-of-region surcharge.
- Councillors reviewed several finance reports tonight including the final budget variation report for the 2025/2026 financial year, noting that five of seven accommodation blocks at International Flight Training Tamworth are now fully utilised, with more demand expected next year. Council also noted cash and investment holdings continue to be above the three-month Bank Bill Swap rate of 4.4615%, returning an average of 4.81%.
- Councillors have authorised Council staff to negotiate the terms of a new licence with the Tamworth Classic Fire Engine Club for a parcel of Council-owned land. The land is adjacent to Victoria Park, next to the Tamworth Community Men's Shed, and will allow the club to develop a facility to store and display the club's classic fire engines and associated items.
- In response to a Notice of Motion on 24 March 2026, Councillors were presented with preliminary costs to heat the Kootingal War Memorial Swimming Pool from April to September.
- Tonight, Councillors agreed to authorise the Tamworth Regional Council delegation visit to Sannohe, Japan for the Sister City Protocol signing and adoption.

Councillors also authorised the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and General Manager to visit Singapore Airlines in Singapore to observe the facilities for the trainings of pilots from Tamworth on their return home. The travel will be funded from within Council's current budget. Councillor Sharpham will also attend at his own cost.

- Councillors agreed to subsidise some of the fees associated with hire of Tamworth Regional Council facilities and services for the 2026 PRIDE Inc Fair Day, set to take place on 12 September. Council will commit in-kind support of \$5,000 towards the event and this will be deducted from the General Fund.

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



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2.5kw Mitsubishi Heavy Industries A/C Fully installed - Back to Back \$2270	5 kw Mitsubishi Heavy Industries A/C Fully installed - Back to Back \$2870	7.1kw Mitsubishi Heavy Industries A/C Fully installed - Back to Back \$3350
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RUGBY RECAP | RAMS v GLEN INNES

Saturday saw the Rams Women take on a tough Glen Innes side in a top-of-the-table clash — and if you missed this one, you missed a thriller!

It was one of Barraba's toughest games of the season, with both sides trading momentum throughout the match and the result coming right down to the final play.

The Rams started a little slowly, with most of the opening quarter played between the two 22s. Both sides had periods of attacking dominance, but neither could initially break through. After Glen Innes conceded a penalty just inside Barraba's half, Addison Dixon gained valuable metres with a kick to touch. The forwards then went to work, making huge metres down the sideline before creating space for the backs to shift the ball and send Macey Cabot across for the opening try. Glen looked to respond before the quarter-time whistle, but Barraba's pressure pushed play back into the Glen 22. Unfortunately, a turnover opened the door for Glen, whose pace proved difficult to contain as they broke away for an 80-metre try to level the scores at 5-all.

Barraba kicked off to begin the second quarter, and an early Glen offside allowed the Rams to maintain good field position. Barraba continued to apply pressure and, after five-eighth Jordyn Snape found space close to the line, a quick pop to Ally Smith saw her cross for the Rams' second try. Addison Dixon slotted the conversion to put Barraba ahead 12–5. Glen's speed again caused trouble shortly after, finding a gap in the defensive line before an offload allowed them to level the scores at 12-all. The following few minutes saw some scrappy rugby from both sides, with multiple turnovers, jackals and loose balls. Glen eventually came away with possession and once again used their pace to get around the defensive line, adding another five points and taking a 17–12 lead into halftime.

Barraba came out after halftime determined to regain control. Within the opening three minutes, some strong support play from the backs down the western side earned Barraba a penalty. From there, Emily Kelso powered her way over the line to level the scores at 17-all. Glen continued to use their kicking game to avoid playing deep in their own half, but strong carries from Jemma Johnson and Leilani Tevaga quickly put the Rams back inside Glen's 22. Play continued between the 22s until a brilliant steal at the ruck from Macey Cabot gave Barraba another opportunity. The ball was shifted beautifully through the backline before Kiah Newell crossed in the corner — a fitting try in her 50th game for the Barraba Rams! The try gave Barraba a 22–17 lead heading into the final quarter.

The Rams came out firing in the fourth, shifting the ball beautifully through the hands before a cracking run from Charlie Norton resulted in another seven points and extended Barraba's lead to 29–17. But Glen weren't going away. An unlucky Barraba lineout handed possession back to Glen, who again found space out wide and used their speed to score a converted try, narrowing the margin to 29–24. Barraba continued to apply pressure and spent plenty of time inside Glen territory, but a loose ball from a missed pass was scooped up by Glen, who raced away to score under the posts.

Suddenly, Glen had taken the lead, 31–29. The final bell sounded — **but the game wasn't over**. Glen conceded a penalty inside their own 22, giving the Barraba Women one final opportunity to steal the win. A brilliant run from Ally Smith took the Rams to within five metres of the line. From there, the forwards put their heads down and went to work, picking and driving towards the try line. Then, with the game on the line, Emily Kelso powered over for her second try to secure an incredible 34–31 victory for the Rams! A huge win in a genuine top-of-the-table battle and one that guarantees the Barraba Women a top-two finish and a place in the Major Final on 29 August.

🏈 FINAL SCORE

Barraba Rams 34 – Glen Innes 31

Tries:

Macey Cabot
Ally Smith
Emily Kelso (2)
Kiah Newell
Charlie Norton

Conversions:

Addison Dixon
Charlie Norton

Points:

🏆 3 – Charlie Norton
🏆 2 – Jordyn Snape & Ally Smith
🏆 1 – Jemma Johnson & Kiah Newell

Players' Player: Macey Cabot



🐏 THIS WEEKEND 🐏

This Saturday, 8 August, the Rams travel to Armidale to take on Robb College. Unfortunately, Robb Women are unable to field a side, meaning the Barraba Women will collect the five competition points and enjoy a well-earned weekend off. Those points further strengthen their chances of finishing the regular season as Minor Premiers, with the Women now set for two weekends away from the field.

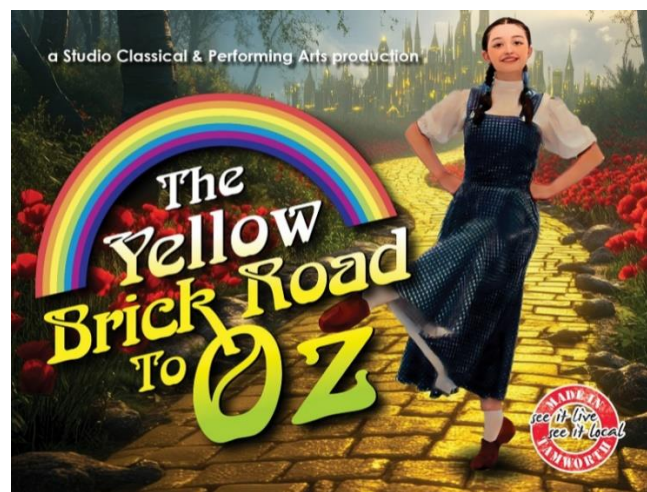
The Men will kick off at 3:15pm at Bellevue Oval, with the match marking an incredible milestone for Luke Smith, who will play his 200th game for the Barraba Rams.

Two hundred games in the green and white is an outstanding achievement, so make sure you make the trip over to Armidale and get behind Luke and the Rams!

Our final home game of the season is Saturday, 22 August, which will also be our annual Sponsors Day. Keep an eye on our page over the coming weeks for more details.

GET KEEN, GREEEN! ❤️🐏

TAMWORTH WHAT'S ON



The Yellow Brick Road to Oz

TRECC, Ringers Rd, Tamworth, 2340 Sat 15 Aug 2026, 04:00 PM

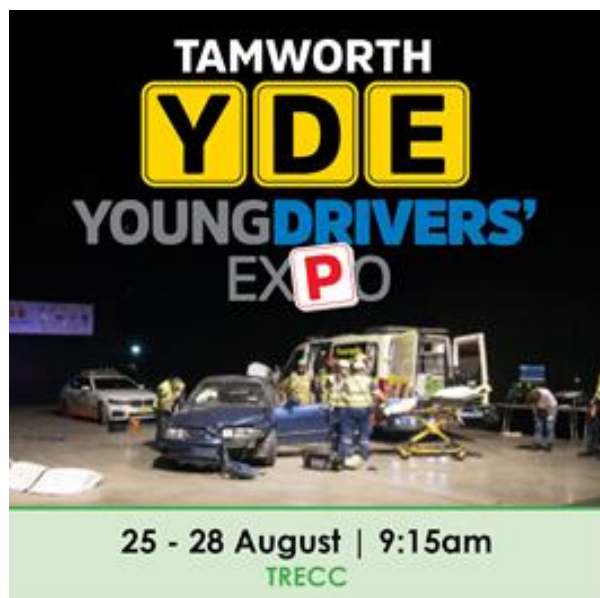
Presented by Tamworth's **The Studio**, *The Yellow Brick Road to Oz* will take you on a magical journey as dancers bring this timeless story to life through the art of dance.

Featuring students from 3-18, the production will showcase jazz, tap, musical theatre, hip hop, contemporary and acrobatic students, weaving together Dorothy's adventure with dazzling choreography, colourful costumes, and heartfelt performances.

Young Drivers Expo 2026

25 - 28 Aug - TRECC

Presented by Tamworth Regional Council



Tamworth Regional Council is happy to be running the Young Drivers Expo again in 2026.

The Tamworth Young Drivers Expo is an invite only expo. High Schools in the region are given the opportunity to participate and invite their Year 11 students and Year 10 students who maybe finishing their school studies at the end of the year to attend. Please contact your school to check if they are attending the expo.

The Tamworth Young Drivers Expo is held at the Tamworth Regional Entertainment and Conference Centre (TRECC) which is an excellent venue to conduct such an event. Given the location and size of the venue, it enables the Expo to conduct a variety of smaller group workshops or provide demonstrations to a large number of students at once.

Tamworth Skywalk Grand Opening Saturday 29 August, 10am-2pm

Join us for the grand opening of the Tamworth Skywalk



A fun filled day for the whole family, be among the first to experience the spectacular Tamworth Skywalk at our grand opening celebration.

Enjoy live, local entertainment, children's activities, and delicious food and refreshments.

Visitors are encouraged to access the event via the lower entry on Endeavour Drive. There will be limited parking available from the upper entry via Scenic Road.

From The Conversation

From flushing our toilets to building new schools, this is why filling in your census form matters

Liz Allen, Demographer, POLIS Centre for Social Policy Research, Australian National University

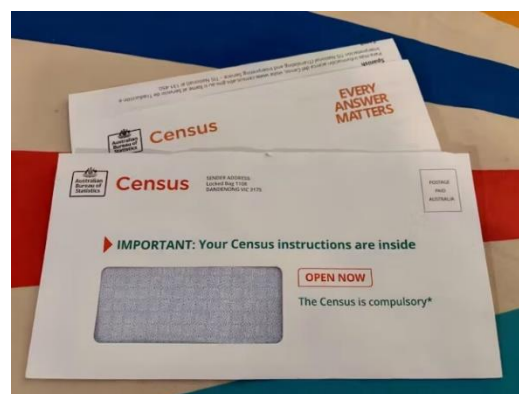
Do you want your toilet to reliably flush, whether you're at home or on holiday anywhere in Australia? Want to help shape decisions on where new schools get built? Or want people experiencing homelessness to get better services than they do now?

Australian households are now starting to receive instructions in their letterboxes, explaining how to complete the 2026 census. The data collected in your census form is crucial for everything from sewage systems to hospitals, schools and more.

Here are ten things you need to know about what's new in the census this year, how much you can be fined if you lie or ignore it, what happens to your data, and how to ask for help.

1. What is the census?

Run every five years by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), the Census of Population and Housing collects a complete survey of who we are, and where and how we live in Australia.



Here's what to look out for in your letterbox.

The census collects information on every person in the country on Tuesday August 11 across 10.8 million households. Homeless people and remote communities are

also carefully surveyed. Importantly, it's not just for Australian citizens: it counts everyone in Australia that night, including international tourists, students and temporary visa holders. The form is published in 27 languages, from Arabic to Vietnamese.

2. What's new this time?

There are 12 changes in the 2026 census: two additional questions, and tweaks to ten long-running topics.

Ancestry has been expanded from two responses to four. Religion, health, transport and employment questions have received minor updates. Gendered language referencing others in the household is now more inclusive.

Wording on the mainstay sex question now reads "sex recorded at birth". And the controversial "number of children ever born" question returns to ten-yearly collection. It will be asked in 2031 instead.

Two new optional questions for over 16-year-olds ask about sexual orientation and gender (though not about intersex traits). These questions join religion as the only voluntary questions on the census.

3. Do I have to do it? And is there a fine if I don't?

The census is compulsory. It only takes about half an hour to complete. If you don't complete it, the ABS will be in touch. But if you repeatedly ignore it, non-completion can attract a fine of A\$364 a day. Deliberately providing false or misleading information risks a fine of up to \$3,640.

4. Why does it matter?

Imagine waking up to use the bathroom only to find the sewage isn't working. The entire neighbourhood can't flush the toilet. Worse, you're settling into your Christmas holiday at the coast and the sewage capacity is maxed; you're one flush away from a caravan park plumbing poonami.

Census data helps make sure there's sufficient infrastructure everywhere. Population data from the census helps inform the location and upgrade needs for wastewater treatment facilities. As an example, Launceston's current major sewer upgrades are based in part on population data from the census. Census data is used in combination with other data, such as water utilities' records of flushing toilets, to build projections for peak holiday populations. This helps us avoid environmental sewage disasters. Testing wastewater, combined with census data, even helps calculate drug use and investigate Australians' health.

School locations and staffing levels are also informed by the census. Teacher numbers give an indication of the education workforce and its location. Population census data, coupled with school census data, enables a stocktake and anticipation of future trends to avoid school enrolment blowouts.

Censuses are personal for me. I wasn't counted in the 1996 census because I was homeless. That's part of why I ended up becoming a demographer – so no one is invisible when it counts. Improvements to counting people experiencing homeless over the past 30 years mean I wouldn't be missed today.

The ABS now uses more comprehensive measures to capture rough sleepers, people in supported homeless accommodation, and couch surfers. The census has helped reveal that someone who is homeless is now most often a couch surfer, rather than on the streets.

5. When is the deadline?

You can complete it as soon as you have the form or login details, if you know where you'll be on census night, Tuesday August 11. If you need to post back a form, do it as soon as possible.

6. Are my answers actually private?

It's expected 85% of forms will be completed online this time, up from (80%) in 2021. Privacy and confidentiality of census information is protected by law. Once received by the ABS, names and addresses are separated from responses. Completed paper forms are destroyed once data is safely recorded.

7. What happens to my online data?

Sophisticated encryption technology is used to ensure the safety of online census information. Just like paper forms, once data is processed, identifying information is kept functionally separate to responses. No data is released that might identify an individual.

8. Is Australia unusual in having a census?

Australia is among only a handful of countries that still conduct a traditional census every five years. The United States and United Kingdom hold their censuses every decade. Many other countries, such as New Zealand, are moving toward alternatives, like using administrative data such as tax data, unemployment and health statistics. Cost and logistics will likely see traditional census-taking in Australia replaced by administrative data alternatives by around 2040.

9. What if I want a paper form?

Paper copies, including separate personal forms, are available by contacting the ABS online, calling 1800 130 250, or collecting one from a census pop-up hub. Reply-paid envelopes are provided for returning paper forms.

10. What if I need help?

Information is available online, by phoning the census hotline on 1800 181 227, or in person at an information session. Help to complete your form, including in languages other than English, is available at fill-in-the-form sessions.