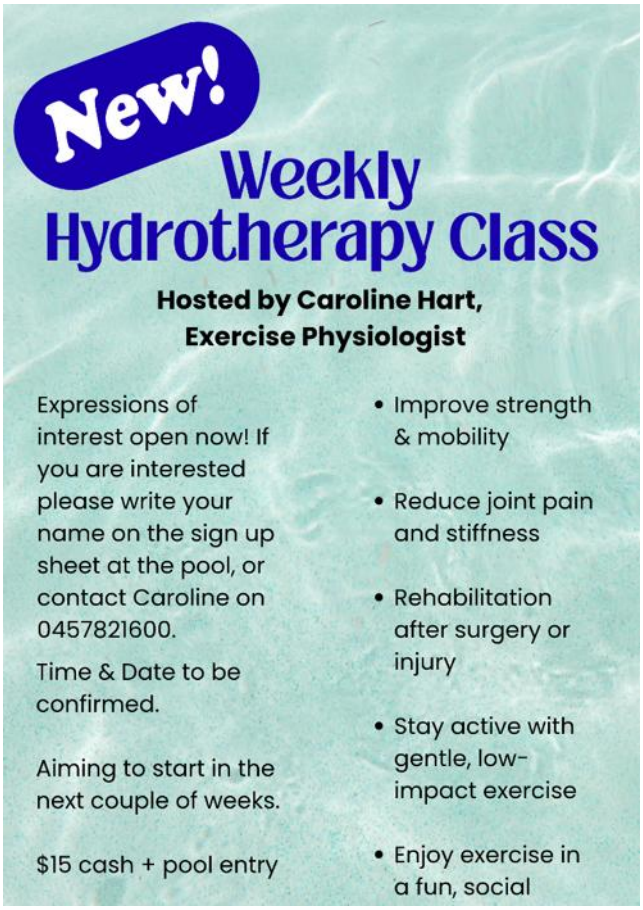


BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY OWNED AND EDITED

FREE LOCAL NEWSPAPER

Wednesday 11th November 2026



Senior Citz Notice

Twilight Christmas Markets.

Saturday 5th December 3pm to 7pm

Book a Stall by 20th Nov. Space is filling fast.

See details on page 5

Call Charlie Lumby 0428 475 719



Giant Garage Sale

312 Range St

Barraba

Next Saturday 14th November 9am to 1pm.

Garden equipment, battery powered chainsaw, secateurs, hedge and edge trimmer, all with extension pole, petrol blower. Various tools incl, angle grinder, ladders wooden and aluminium, trestle tables and platforms, 6m steel roof battens and sundry wood, plastic and metal containers. 2.5kva generator. Holden 16" 4 stud mag wheels.
Household kitchen appliances, cookware, crockery, cutlery, glassware, cookbooks, linen and home décor items.
Computers, audio and video equipment, office furniture and shelving. Spinning wheel, carder and other accessories.

And much much more, Cash only.

Everything must go. Don't miss out.



BARRABA RSL & RECREATIONAL CLUB LTD

Phone 67821379

For the information of members and guests.

THIS WEEK

THURSDAY 12th November

BINGO

First game starts at 6pm

FRIDAY 13th November

MEAT RAFFLES

Tickets on sale from 5.30pm

Membership Draw $1100

SUNDAY 15th November

ANGLERS CLUB RAFFLES

Membership Draw $1400

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

GROWING SUCCESS: FARM BUSINESS PLANNING ESSENTIALS

2 December 2026: A practical farm business planning workshop for primary producers

Take some dedicated time away from the day-to-day to focus on the bigger picture of your farm business. Working alongside other farmers and an experienced farm business coach, you'll step through practical planning tools designed to help you understand your business finances, identify opportunities and build a clear path forward.

What you'll cover

- Setting goals and identifying priorities for your farm business
- Understanding your farm business finances
- Identifying opportunities to improve profitability and resilience
- Building a practical farm business plan
- Tools and resources to support your ongoing planning

What you'll take home

- A clearer picture of where your farm business is heading
- Practical tools and planning frameworks you can use on your own farm
- A farm business plan you can continue to develop and put into action
- Practical next steps to support your business goals

Who should come?

This workshop is for farmers who want to take a more structured approach to managing their business, whether you're looking to grow, consolidate or simply get a clearer picture of where your operation is headed. No prior business planning experience is needed.

Presenter:

Shayne Miller of Strategise Now brings 25 years' experience in operations, sales and marketing across multinationals, mid-sized businesses and small enterprises. She works with business owners to look at the whole picture, combining practical planning with a focus on people and mindset to help businesses navigate change and turn strategy into action.

Key details

- Date: Wednesday 2 December 2026
- Time: 9:00am - 3:00pm
- Location: Tamworth Community Centre, 3 Darling St, Tamworth
- Catering: Morning tea and lunch provided
- Cost: Free to attend. Registration essential as places are limited.

Contact: NSW Farm Business Resilience Program farmbusiness@dpird.nsw.gov.au for further information.

The Farm Business Resilience Program is jointly funded by the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund and the NSW Government.

BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS NEEDS AN EDITOR

From Terry Threlfall

Bronwyn has been the Editor of the *Barraba Community News* since this great little local newspaper started in 2020. The Barraba Community News is printed and distributed on-line and in hard copy weekly by the Community College in Barraba, an education and training organisation, as a community service. A new Editor is needed, because Bronwyn is leaving town early in the new year. Whilst Bronwyn does the editing from home, space is available to work from the College in Alice St. if preferred.

What does the Editor of *Community News* do?

Each Monday, the Editor sits down in front of their laptop (supplied by the Community College); their task is to fill the twelve empty pages with useful and important news and information; useful and important to the people of Barraba and surrounds. The Editor gives first priority to **local** news;

- Reports of local happenings or events featuring local Barraba folk;
- Details of upcoming local events;
- Local interesting photos;
- Local sport fixtures and results;
- Essential information from our local Councils, power company, from our State and Federal Members of Parliament;
- News about our local shops and services, schools and Health Services etc;
- Details of local community groups happenings, meetings, etc;
- Advertisements for local businesses and services;
- And, of course, Letters to the Editor – your say about local things.

Sounds a bit daunting, but most of these reports and details are regularly sent in by the publicity person of the group or organisation, or the information is hunted up by volunteers, (such as myself and Lesley who proofread each week) who assist the Editor. Once the Editor has done this, and there is some space left, he or she may choose to fill the remaining space with general interesting stories or facts, or some light-hearted entertainment. In addition, some information is gathered from websites and social media.

And those sources particularly lead us to the Editor's most important task; **to Edit.**

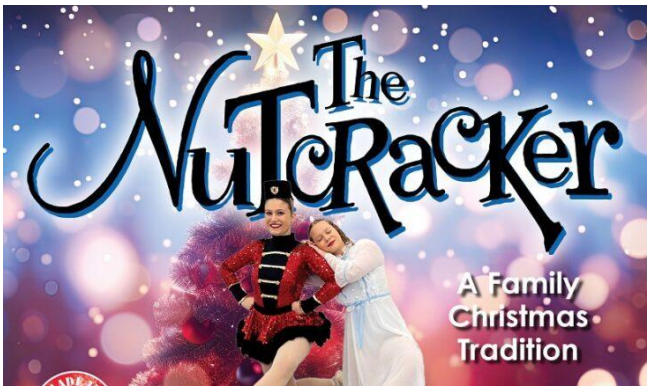
Editing the *Community News*

The Editor's most important task is to make sure that all the information that is published each week is true and accurate. It is to make sure that the source of the information is clearly identified and that the times and dates of events are correct. Any opinion about any topic is labelled as such; the author of that opinion is clearly identified. The Editor makes sure that nothing is published that could be libellous. A topic may be controversial, but the Editor makes sure that the reporting is balanced, and there is the opportunity for the "other side" to put their case. BCN doesn't have to be as it's always been. There is the opportunity to enhance the style and character, to make it your own.

This is where a proper edited newspaper distinguishes itself from the mass of social media available these days. All kinds of information, stories, news is published over the internet, on Facebook, etc. These sources are not edited – an item may be true and accurate, but it is often just someone's opinion, or completely made up, or worse, planted there to deceive or defraud you.

With the *Barraba Community News*, you can be sure that what you are reading is a true and accurate service to our community.

If you're interested phone Bronwyn for a chat 0447 165 008. Feedback from the local community is always positive and appreciative of the team effort that goes in each week.



SATURDAY 28 NOVEMBER 4pm. SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER 4pm. Capitol Theatre Tamworth

A family Christmas Tradition

Students from The Studio Classical & Performing Arts will impress you with their discipline, technique and artistry. Come and start your Christmas festivities with a beautiful production of The Nutcracker, performed by students ranging from ages of 3 – adult. The production will be led by students studying in the Part-Time Training Program at The Studio. Make this Christmas one to remember and join The Studio family as they present this much loved Christmas tradition!

DIRECTED BY Kristi Cini

Presented by The Studio & Classical and Performing Arts as part of Season 2026 presented by VW Commercial Vehicles.

Congratulations Alice!

Alice Thorne, nee Fleming, was honoured to receive a State Life Membership with the United Hospital Auxiliary of NSW Inc at the 2026 State Conference.

Alice is a born and breed Barraba girl who grew up and spent her childhood and school years here in Barraba. She started her nursing career as a casual at Barraba Hospital and worked here for a while.

Alice now lives with her family in Collarenebri and works at their local hospital as a very dedicated nurse. She works tirelessly for her local hospital auxiliary and has been involved for 27 years. She also regularly supports our Barraba Hospital Auxiliary fundraising efforts.



Pictured are: Alice Thorne with her State Life Membership Badge and Certificate with the Governor of NSW, Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC and her husband Dennis Wilson who are both UHA of NSW Co-patrons.

Alice's Mum, Mary Fleming was heavily involved in many volunteer organisations in Barraba including our Hospital Auxiliary, she always had such great ideas for raising funds for us to purchase medical equipment and patient comfort items for our local hospital.

Alice has definitely taken after her Mum in her dedication to her volunteer work and looking after others. She is an incredible asset to her town and to every organisation that she is involved in.



Alice's Mum, Mary Fleming taken at a Hospital Auxiliary event many years ago.

Congratulations Alice, we are very proud of you, as are all your family and friends.

Barraba Hospital Auxiliary Happenings

Lib Croll, Joan McCarthy and Jenny Simpson recently attended the UHA State Conference in Wollongong. They found the 2 days very informative and the resolution that the Barraba Branch put forward was passed. There are 161 branches in NSW who have donated a total of $21,987,768.00 in the past 5 years to hospitals in the state for the purchase of equipment.

Barraba was presented with 2 certificates of merit:
1. $500.00 net per Member and
2. Over $20,000 net for 2025-2026.





Our street stall on the 5th November once again was very well supported by both the community and UHA Members. **Thank you to everyone who donated items for sale.** A total of $804.70 was raised, to go towards items for our Health Service. Robyn Freeman was the lucky winner of the fruit tray.



At our recent meeting we welcomed Jodie Dodds as a new member. Welcome Jodie and we hope you enjoy your time as a member of our group.

Dates for the diary:

3.12.26 - Garvin House Christmas mini market at 10am in the Day Centre.

3.12.26 - General meeting and Christmas lunch at the Bowling Club at 12.30pm

9.5.27 - Save the date for our Mother's Day Walk and breakfast.

We are sad to say farewell to Lee Jackson who has been a UHA member for many years, supporting the Barraba Group to raise funds for the Barraba Health Service. Our sympathies to Lee's Family at this very sad time.

Patti Crowley, Publicity Officer.

Senior Citz News

We would like to thank everybody who attended the Melbourne Cup Day at the Senior Citz Hall. A great day was had by all.

Just a reminder that our Twilight Christmas Market is on Saturday 5th December, starting at 3pm to 7pm.

Anyone requiring a stall could you please come to the Senior Citz Hall on a Wednesday between 10am and 2pm or Friday between 10am and 1pm or contact Charlie Lumby 0428 475 719 as stalls are filling fast. You have until 20th Nov to make a booking. Stall holders who are members pay $5, non-members $10.

We expect Barraba Fire Brigade to attend, for the children, if they don't get a call-out.

Santa will be making an appearance, with lolly bags for the children.

We will have lots of stalls, plenty of ideas for Christmas presents and we will be selling Christmas raffle tickets with prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd. It is a fantastic raffle. There will be a sausage sizzle, cold drinks and Sandra's Coffee Cart.

Best wishes to Jackie and Iris, hope they are recovering and to those who are not feeling well.

Sec. Charlie Lumby



Can anyone name any of the school children in this photo? 2nd Class, 1951 – Pat Mercer is the teacher

Remembrance Day

Remembering men from our local community who helped protect our country during the war.



Back: Cliff Spencer, Burt Crowley, Gordon Williams, Thomas Faint, J. Hall
Centre: Harold Spencer, Roy Capel, F. Ditzell, Alan Turnbull, Clive Crowley
Front: Herbert Mclean, Norman (Mick) King



Back: Tom Garrett, Les Spencer, Dick Busby
Front: Ken Capel, Clive Capel, Rupert Richardson, Athol Wearne, Len Richardson

Extract from a newspaper:

When American planes dropped the atomic bomb on the Japanese city, Hiroshima on August 6, 1945, and on Nagasaki three days later, World War II was as good as over. The end to hostilities meant a lot to Col Abra, of Barraba, a prisoner of war of the Japanese in Celarang, Barrack Square, one of the infamous Changi prison camp compounds.

NATIONAL RECYCLING WEEK

Join the Cycle – 9th to 15th of November 2026

Since 1996, we've been helping Aussies recycle by sharing knowledge, education, events and inspiring stories. Over the past 30 years, the recycling rate in Australia has gone from 7% and just 1.5 million total tonnes recycled to over 60% and 43 million tonnes of materials recycled. Per person, that's recycling just 80kg of material yearly in 1996, to now about 1,700kg! Join the Cycle in 2026 and keep reducing, reusing, repurposing, recycling and more at home and as part of your community.



BARRABA UNITING CHURCH NOTICES

Sunday 15th November – 10.45am
Please note new time for the next few months.
All welcome

CATHOLIC CHURCH TIMES

Barraba 1st Sunday of the month, Saturday evening Mass 6pm. All other Sundays 9am.

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

BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS
COMMUNITY OWNED AND EDITED

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Cnr. Alice and Fitzroy St Barraba

Contacts: Bronwyn 0447 165 008 or

Office: 67821662

Email news@barrabacommunitynews.org.au

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Barraba RLFC Looks Ahead to an Exciting 2027 Season

Barraba Rugby League Football Club is looking ahead to another big year in 2027, following a successful return to the field in 2026, with a new committee appointed, coaching positions being filled and preparations already underway for the upcoming season.

The club would like to sincerely thank its outgoing committee for their time, effort and dedication. Much of the work involved in running a football club happens behind the scenes, and the contribution of those who give their time to support the players, teams and wider club community is greatly appreciated.

The newly appointed 2027 executive committee will be led by President Tim Coombes, with Steve Ward as Vice President. Jacob Hawley and Brit Starr will share the Secretary role, while Alison Ward takes on the roles of Treasurer and Public Officer.

Ash Lowe will serve as Registrar and Publicity Officer, with Vicki Irvine and Karen Derrick overseeing the canteen and Katie Fisher taking on the role of Merchandise Coordinator.

The Club congratulates all those appointed and looks forward to working together to continue building on the momentum established during its first year back in 2026.

2027 Coaching Staff Announced

The Club is also pleased to announce several coaching appointments for the 2027 season, with three positions already filled.

Jayse Starr will take on the First Grade coaching role, Jock Mallise will lead the Reserve Grade side, and Adam Russell has been appointed Ladies League Tag coach.

The Club congratulates Jayse, Jock and Adam on their appointments and looks forward to having them lead their respective teams into the new season.

Expressions of Interest remain open for the Women's Tackle and Under 18s coaching positions, with applications to be submitted to barraba.rlfc@gmail.com closing on **27 November 2026**.

The club welcomes interested applicants and we encourage anyone keen to be involved, whether as a coach or in a supporting team role, to get in touch.

Major Sponsorship Opportunities for 2027

Barraba RLFC is also calling on local businesses and organisations interested in becoming the Club's **Major Sponsor for 2027**.

Sponsorship plays an important role in supporting the Club, helping provide opportunities for local players and ensuring the continued growth of rugby league in Barraba.

Businesses interested in being part of the Bulldogs' journey are encouraged to submit an expression of interest. Applications for the Major Sponsorship position close **27 November 2026** and can be emailed to barraba.rlfc@gmail.com.

The club would also like to acknowledge and thank its current and past sponsors for their ongoing support and commitment to local sport.

Bulldogs Christmas Party – Save the Date

Before the focus turns fully to the 2027 season, the Club invites players, families, supporters, sponsors and the wider community to come together for its Christmas Party.

The event will be held on **Saturday, 19 December 2026, from 4pm at the Barraba Bowling Club**.

Everyone is welcome to come along, enjoy an afternoon together and celebrate another year of Barraba Rugby League. It will also be a great opportunity to catch up with familiar faces, meet new members and start building excitement for the season ahead.

Following a strong first year back, with three grades taking the field, the club is keen to continue growing in 2027, providing opportunities for local players and bringing the community together through rugby league.

Barraba RLFC encourages anyone interested in playing, volunteering, coaching, sponsoring or simply getting involved to reach out.









A breakfast meeting that's worth getting out of bed for!

Join us for coffee, breakfast and the latest pasture research from industry experts. From methane grazing and liming economics to seasonal outlooks, dieback findings and practical decision-making tools, this session is packed with information to help you get more from your pastures.

7.30 am - 10.30 am, Thursday 12 November at the Tamworth Agricultural Institute. Don't miss this opportunity to get practical takeaways for your farm and connect with other producers. Breakfast and morning tea will be provided.

Learn more and register for this free NSW Government event at **https://bit.ly/4itScF3**

This event is supported by NSW Government's North West Local Land Services, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development and Pastures and Grazing NSW.

RECENT ANNIVERSARIES

- the first recorded performance of William Shakespeare's play Othello (1604)
- the first use of the Motion Picture Association film rating system G, M, R, X (1968)
- China announcing the end of their one-child policy after 35 years (2015)
- the English Parliament passing the Act of Supremacy, which saw Henry VIII become Head of the Church of England (1534)
- Michelle Payne becoming the first female jockey to win the Melbourne Cup (2015)
- archaeologist Howard Carter discovering the tomb of Tutankhamun in Egypt (1922)
- James Ritty patenting the first cash register, to combat stealing by bartenders in his saloon in Dayton, Ohio (1879)
- the death of composer Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1893)
- Australia voting against a proposal to become a republic (1999)
- The birthday of astronomer Edmond Halley (1656)
- German physicist Wilhelm Röntgen producing and detecting X-rays for the first time (1895)
- the landmark Harvester Decision, which became the basis of Australia's national minimum wage system (1907)
- Michelangelo completing the painting of The Last Judgement in the Sistine Chapel (1541)

From The Conversation

From ‘gentle’ and ‘graceful’ to the ‘cane toad of the sky’: how Australia turned on the common myna.



Mynas now attract loathing. They’re often caught in traps in an effort to keep numbers down. Tara Malhotra/Getty

Simon Farley, Lecturer in History, The University of Melbourne

The common myna is sometimes referred to as “Australia’s most hated bird”. Originally from South and Central Asia, the introduced species from the starling family is abundant, raucous and bold.

Mynas thrive just about everywhere they’ve been introduced, from Taiwan to Mauritius to Florida. In 2000, they made the list of the 100 worst invasive species worldwide compiled by the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

This year, Queensland communities are trying to eradicate these introduced birds. But the same story has been written many times. In 2012, Canberra residents launched their own grassroots efforts to keep myna populations down. In 2004, an ABC article titled “Myna fightback” called for war on the bird.

Mynas – and humans’ efforts to monitor, trap and kill them – make for easy headlines. But there’s a cycle. People notice mynas are in abundance. Community organisations distribute traps. Bounties are offered. Myna numbers appear to decrease. But then people get complacent and the bird bounces back.

We don’t know if myna numbers are actually soaring in Queensland, or whether people are simply noticing them more. But my research suggests introduced birds come under more scrutiny at times of anxiety about national identity. Earlier panics over the “immigrant bird” (the red-whiskered bulbul) made it explicit.

It’s too soon to say if similar dynamics are playing out for mynas. But it does raise a question. Is it time to acknowledge mynas are here to stay?

From admiration to loathing

I’m a fifth-generation settler Australian. But the ancestors of the mynas in my suburb were probably here before mine were. They’ve been in Victoria since 1862. In Queensland, they were introduced around Ingham and Townsville in 1883 in the hope they would control locusts and other insects (not unlike the later cane toad).

Attitudes towards mynas have shifted greatly over their 164 year presence in Australia. Though the bird’s ability to eat or damage fruit crops was recognised as early as 1868, its value as an insect eater seemed to balance this out.

Around the turn of the 20th century, birdwatching became a well-organised and popular Australian hobby. The “birdos” of this era often praised the myna.

An anonymous 1886 writer in Sydney’s Globe newspaper described mynas as “dear, gentle, sprightly, and highly amusing”. In 1906, naturalist Charles Barrett described Melbourne’s mynas as “extremely spruce and graceful”.

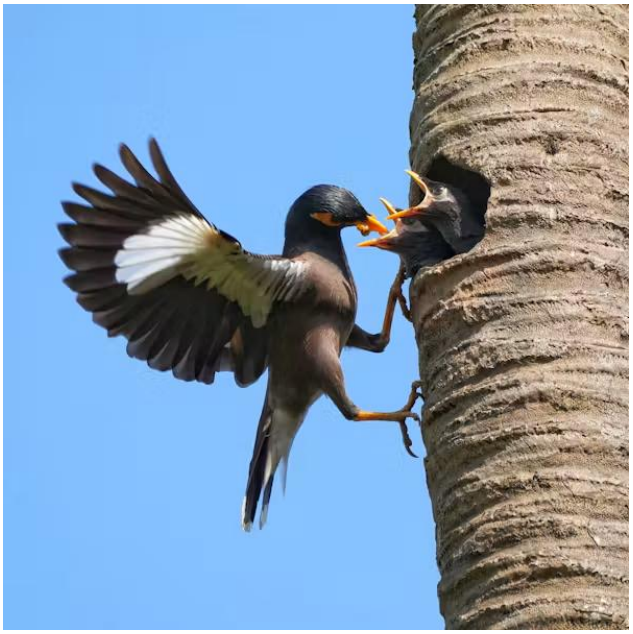
Even as late as 1971, Alec Chisholm – perhaps Australia’s most revered birdwatcher – wrote in the Sydney Morning Herald:

> *Obviously, then, this bird from India is now part of the Australian landscape. And it is not, I suggest, an objectionable feature. It does no economic damage, and its assured strutting, combined with its hearty chatter as it forages for insects and scraps in streets and parklands causes it to be regarded as an entertainer.*

In North Queensland, mynas were accepted much as they were in Melbourne and Sydney. In 1949, an amateur naturalist from the region declared the myna “may be foreign in origin – but he’s Aussie here”.

It was only in the 1970s that public opinion noticeably turned. Hatred for the myna became entrenched in the 1980s and 1990s as part of a broader backlash against what were increasingly called “invasive” species.

The “cheerful” and “dapper” bird was gone. Now it was “bold, arrogant […] and fiercely aggressive”.



Brought to Australia to eat insects, myna birds were long admired. Aneesh Bhaskaran/Pexels, CC BY-NC-ND

Some language bordered on crudely xenophobic. In 1988, a piece in the Canberra Times described a stand of old, native trees as:

> *housing commission flats for mynahs, with an occasional crimson and eastern rosella occurring in a neighbourhood swamped and dominated and altered by the migrants, a metaphor for the worst fears of those opposed to "Asian" migration.*

A 1990 piece by the same author described mynas as "invaders" and "foreign bullies".

Despite the shift in public opinion, it wasn't until the late 1990s that peer-reviewed research began being published on the effect mynas had on native wildlife.

Researchers found mynas could outcompete native parrots for scarce breeding space. The most high-profile research called mynas "flying cane toads" and the "common thugs of the bird world".

Here's the thing. The common myna has certainly expanded its range and numbers over the decades. But the bird hadn't changed. It looked and behaved the same as it did in the 1860s or the 1940s. What changed was public attitudes, which transformed it from a friendly creature into something malevolent and repulsive.

Here to stay?

Hatred of mynas is now the norm in Australia. But these birds are likely here to stay, no matter how we feel about them. Where trapping programs are common, mynas live in smaller groups and spend more time hiding. The sense trapping is reducing their numbers might be an illusion. Sometimes, in some places, we might be able to eradicate the common myna – but not everywhere.

Even if we do successfully bring myna numbers down, that will not resolve all our ecological issues. Efforts to reduce their numbers by trapping can create a gap which can be filled by the noisy miner. While this bird is a native honeyeater, it can also drive more vulnerable species away from dwindling habitat. There's a risk of swapping one "problem" species for another.

As an environmental historian, I worry many people who are passionate about native wildlife are wasting their energy and talents fighting an unwinnable war. But I can also understand the desire to cull mynas.

Humans grow attached to the places we live. We tend not to like it when our places change around us – even when change comes in the form of a bird. Of course, some ecological changes do represent a crisis – but not all. Sometimes, the best response is to sit back, observe and hope for a new equilibrium to emerge.

Richardson House
Aged Care Barraba

AGM Notice

The AGM of Barraba and District Retirement Homes Association Inc will be held on Tuesday 17th November 2026 5pm at the Barraba Day Centre

New Board Members Welcome

If you are keen to see Richardson House continue providing exceptional care to the elders of the Barraba Community and would like to find out further information about becoming a Board Member please contact Bronwyn Clinch on 0447 165 008.

QUEEN ST BARRABA 29 OCTOBER 2026

What a spectacular sight! The roses are in full bloom and other spring flowers, and their pots add contrasting colours.

Thank you, Tamworth Regional Council outdoor staff and Barraba Mosaic Art Group, for your great work!



Outside The Playhouse Hotel



Outside IGA



Corner Maude/Queen St



Corner Alice/Queen St western side



Corner Alice/Queen St eastern side



Corner Alice/Queen St eastern side