



BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

FREE LOCAL NEWSPAPER

COMMUNITY OWNED AND EDITED

Wednesday 20th July 2022

NSW Country Rugby honors for local girl Regan Simpson



Regan has spent many weekends travelling the countryside playing rugby and all this travel has paid off with her gaining selection in the final 23 NSW Country Under 16s Girls representative team.

On the long weekend in June NSW Junior Rugby held the Country and State Championships at various venues across NSW. During the country games selectors for NSW Country were watching games and at the completion of the tournament a Country squad of 28 girls was named. Girls were selected from Central North, Illawarra, Central West, Central Coast, Mid-North Coast and the Hunter. Gaining selection in the squad then required multiple trips to Narrabeen to the Sydney Academy of Sport for training camps and regional games against our city counterparts before the final team was announced. Regan's love for rugby started in 2019 playing for the Barraba Junior Rugby Club. From there she has progressed to High School Rugby, playing for NEGS. Over the years she has been selected in various Central North representative teams in both 15 and 7 a side teams.

Clearly making the NSW Country team is her biggest highlight to date and we wish her all the best as she travels to Bathurst to take on City in late July for the big game.



Richardson House Aged Care Barraba

Assistant in Nursing (AIN) - Casual & Permanent Part Time

We are currently seeking caring and motivated people for Assistant in Nursing/Carer roles here at Richardson House.

Applicants will need to meet the following criteria:

- Certificate III or IV in Individual Support (Aged Care Residential) or equivalent - applications from persons enrolled or willing to enroll in and complete an Individual Support course will be considered and supported
- First Aid Certificate
- Current Police Check (or the ability to obtain)
- Computer Literacy and the willingness to learn our computerised Resident Care System
- Be a team player and be able to understand and comply with written and verbal instructions including policies & procedures
- Knowledge of Workplace Health and Safety requirements
- A commitment to providing exceptional care to the Residents of Richardson House
- Willingness to work a variety of shifts including mornings, afternoons, night and sleepover shifts. Availability for weekend shifts is also required

All applicants are required to have received the COVID-19 Booster (3rd dose) prior to commencement of employment.

Applications addressing the selection criteria are to be sent to the Facility Manager, Joanna Bridges

joanna.bridges@richardsonhouse.com.au or mailed to PO Box 185, BARRABA NSW 2347

Applications Close 29th July 2022



BARRABA RSL & RECREATIONAL CLUB LTD

Phone: 67821379

For the information of members and guests

WE ARE A COVID-19 SAFE CLUB

ALL NSW HEALTH REGULATIONS APPLY

THIS WEEK:

THURSDAY: 11AM-
MULTISCREEN DRAW-SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

FRIDAY: 11AM-
MEAT/VEG RAFFLES 6PM
EXTRA DRAW AFTER EACH RAFFLE FOR A BONUS PRIZE
MEMBERSHIP DRAW \$1,900

SATURDAY: 10AM-
SUNDAY: 10AM-5.30PM
ANGLERS CLUB RAFFLES 1PM
MEMBERSHIP DRAW \$1,600

MONDAY: CLOSED
TUESDAY: 11AM-5.30PM
BINGO 11AM

WEDNESDAY: 11AM-5.30PM
HAPPY HOUR: 11am-1pm Wed & Fri

BISTRO HOURS

Phone 0427330808
CLOSED MON/TUES/WED

THURS/FRI/SAT: LUNCH 12-2PM DINNER 6-8.00PM

SUNDAY: LUNCH 12-2PM



Dear Family and Friends of Richardson House

Some of you may have seen reports in the media recently regarding the NSW Government's decision to relax visitation guidelines for Aged Care. Primarily around the requirement for visitors to have received 2 doses of the COVID-19 Vaccination, and for a limit on the number of visitors per Resident per day.

As cases are continuing to rise around the country, and as one of the few Aged Care Facilities who have managed to remain COVID free during the pandemic, we have made the decision to continue with the current protocols that we have been operating under, and not adopt the new relaxed guidelines that are to be introduced by the NSW Government at this point. Our rules are as follows;

- All visitors are asked to perform a RAT the morning of their visit and provide proof (a photo on a smart phone is sufficient)
- All visitors are to have received 2 doses of the COVID-19 vaccination and are encouraged to have the 3rd dose
- All visitors are encouraged to have received the 2022 influenza vaccination
- Residents are permitted to have 2 adults and 2 children under 12 visit per day
- All visits must take place in the garden or the Resident's room. Common areas remain off limits.
- All visitors MUST wear a mask over their mouth and nose while visiting.
- If there is any risk that you have come in to contact with COVID-19 we ask that you refrain from visiting.
- If you are at all unwell we ask that you refrain from visiting

We are all wishing that this pandemic was over and we could all go back to normal, but unfortunately, we must remain vigilant and do everything that we can to ensure that COVID-19 does not enter Richardson House.

We would also like to remind everyone of the weekend visiting hours of 10am to 12noon and 2pm to 4pm. These have been implemented to take pressure of our staff who operate with reduced numbers on weekends. We appreciate your understanding regarding this. Please note that we are happy to make alternative times with prior arrangement which can be sought on weekdays during office hours (8:30 to 4:30 Monday to Friday).

Our success in keeping COVID-19 out of Richardson House has been a joint effort between our amazing staff, our Residents and their families and friends. Your ongoing support and understanding is, as always, greatly appreciated.

Please share this information with any other family or friends who may be looking to visit Richardson House.

Kind Regards





History Notes

This week seems to have flown past. Thank you to the people who told us where Cohen's shop was – John Cohen had his shop in a building on the southern end of the mall – I had not realised that there were two shops in the mall space. The northern shop was a baker that got burnt out in 1898 and then rebuilt and then later Tony Hungerford and Eric Grills were there before it was removed to make way for the current mall.

The main street book is progressing into quite a volume of information – it will no doubt be read and commented on again before it is finally ready for purchase. Can anyone tell us who Bird & Williams were? I have been checking some old directories and all I have found is George Bird, labourer, and F J Williams, farmer, under Barraba in 1878/9. Bird and Williams was an early store but we don't know anymore apart from a John F Williams who died in 1896 without any information. He does not belong to the C G Williams family.

It is sometime since I have looked at the directories which date back to 1872 when Jessie Cameron, innkeeper, Queen Street, was the only entry apart from two shopkeepers – John Fletcher and Edward Newton.

Three years later Dr Faddy, William Muir, blacksmith, C J Russell, storekeeper, James Salter, innkeeper, Peter Sinclair, pound keeper, were also listed. Five years later (1890) there were seventeen business people listed.

The directories in the early days mostly listed the big property owners rather than those in business. There was one exception in Greville's Directory in 1872 where there are three foolscap pages of names covering the Cobbadah area. Included in this are all the persons living on a property instead of just the owner eg, there are nine Arndell family members at Rocky Creek. Six members of the Crowley family are listed at Dunnee which really should be Cobbadah Station and another six – Bridgers – are listed at the Cobbadah Post Office which is not correct as three were actually at Cobbadah Station at the time.

One of the most interesting parts of this list is the miners at Top Bingara. There were a lot of Chinese and their names – Ah Tin, Ah Tong, Ah Vat, Ah Vee for example, read like a piano lesson and must have tested the postmaster as well as the mining licence inspectors. Not all the Chinese were miners as some were listed as gardeners and shepherds. Ah Vee was actually a butcher and another, See Ah, was a bootmaker, probably doing better than the actual miners on the field.

Hans Kunnen



Husband and father

Ex UNE and economist

Anglican church parishioner

Mentor of refugees

9/11 survivor

Hans Kunnen was born in Scotland to Dutch parents and migrated with his family from England to Australia 50 years ago. Hans taught at the University of New England in the early 1980s and was a tutor in Robb College. In 1984 he joined State Bank NSW and by 2001, Hans was chief economist at Colonial First State, one of Australia's largest fund and superannuation managers.

Hans retired from Colonial First State in 2008 but by 2009 his wife had encouraged him to 'get a job'! He was chief economist at St. George Bank for a few years before attempting to retire again. So far so good, but he still works casually in the finance sector.

Hans is married to Suzanne and they have three adult children. Hans attends Glenhaven Anglican church in Sydney and has been involved in mentoring refugees. He enjoys a good book and collects coins from time to time. He also supports South Sydney in the NRL - having married into that particular tribe!

Barraba Anglican invites you to meet Hans Kunnen

25 July at Youth Centre from 6.30 pm

\$10/head – meal/dessert/drinks included

Bookings from church office in Maude Street,

Phone 6782 1037

Email – office@barrabaanglican.org

Website – barraanglican.org

Letter to the Editor

Cohen's Shop

In regard into where "Cohens Shop" was in the main street of Barraba, the above shop was where our local "Mall" is today. Our family's relative "Hopton-Urquhart" had his own "saddlery and leather" making business in that area, the now "Mall". His shop had a veranda right on the foot path, at the rear of the shop was the residence of Hopton and his wife Grace. Hopton's wife was a Parry. Hopton had his works there for a very long time, he was better known in our area as "Hop". He passed away on 3-10-1945 and is buried in C of E cemetery with a headstone at Barraba. May I state his parents "Hopton the first and his wife Maria" are buried in the very old section of our C of E section. "Hopton the first" died in 1909 and Maria in 1923, she was Maria Hempson. Hopton and Maria are our families' great grandparents.

I do have some of their items in our "SHED OF KNOWLEDGE MUSEUM". Hopton the first's Maria also has a headstone. Urquharts came from "Scotland".

Ronald Hiscock

Ps. Nearly forgot, in same area joining old information building was a business named "J T Roberson" truck and semi-trailer carrying, also selling McCormick tractors and other farm items. Also, a depot for the old "Atlantic" fuels and oils and run the large wheat stacks at our railway yards. The business was managed by Mr Roley Hungerford of Barraba. The truck drivers were Tony Hungerford, Gordon Wallace, Albert Jackson and Ted Jenner. After many long years, the business was bought by well know local, Eric Grills. The Grills family had farms out at Gulf Creek. I could go on further regarding this information, good old Barraba history, those were the days. I love it.



COLLEGE CHAT

www.ccnin.nsw.edu.au

RTO90027



Hi, I am Michelle and I am the new Community College Coordinator for Barraba. You should have received in last week's mail our flyer for Term 3 2022 classes. If you didn't please let us know at the Community College.

Term 3 commences on 18 July and we will be again running our Get Digital Training classes on Thursday mornings from 9:00am to 12:00pm in the Barraba campus training room. The first Get Digital class will be Thursday 21 July 2022.

We are very excited to announce that we will be hosting Helene Hunt's 'The Creative Me with Haggly' workshop series over seven weeks commencing on Tuesday 9 August from 9.00am to 12:00pm at the Barraba campus. Helene will show students how to begin visualising their surroundings and then convert their vision to images on paper. No previous knowledge or experience is required – Helene loves to work with a blank canvas!

I am starting to plan our classes for Term 4 and am keen to hear from our community with suggestions on courses you would be interested in attending.

I can be contacted at the College at 47 Fitzroy Street either in person, by phone (6782 1662 or 1800 952 264) or by email to michellemain@ccni.nsw.edu.au.

Thought for the day: Set yourself an achievable goal and take the first step



Here is an overview of outcomes from Tamworth Regional Council Ordinary Meeting on Tuesday 12th July 2022:

- A packed public gallery at tonight's Ordinary Meeting witnessed Councillors grant development consent for a proposed 999-head feedlot on Pendene Road, Loomberah. After a discussion of about 30 minutes, Councillors supported a report recommending consent subject to 38 conditions designed to mitigate the issues raised in public submissions about the proposed development. These included operational and environmental management, noise management, visual impact, water supply and traffic management. Councillors also voted to amend some conditions listed in the report to enhance the performance of the development and further respond to the community's concerns. Most of the community members who attended tonight's meeting were opposed to the development with three voicing their concerns to Councillors during the public consultation part of the meeting. The Development Application came back before Council tonight following refusal of the development in October last year and the applicant requesting a Section 8.2 Review of the Determination. A report to Council said an independent consultant was engaged to undertake the review and concluded that the application should be determined by the granting of consent. "In this instance, the Council staff recommendation is supported by the independent

review report which recommends that the application be determined by the granting of consent with changes made to the original draft conditions of consent. These changes have been made because the reasons for which the application was initially determined by refusal have been satisfied by further explanation and/or the submission of additional information by the applicant,” the report said.

- Councillors supported a range of road names for the Tamworth Global Gateway Park which use the Australian Aboriginal Kamilaroi language of flora and fauna local to the area. The names – including Bandarr Drive (grey kangaroo), Burruulu Close (fly), Gudu Street (koala) and Dhinawan Street (emu) - have already been supported by the NSW Geographical Names Board. The names were selected and endorsed by a senior Elder and representatives of the Kamilaroi community who are part of the Tamworth Global Gateway Park Aboriginal Road Naming Working Group.
- Council tonight set out its preference for the ownership and operation of the new Dungowan Dam and pipeline should the project proceed. Councillors supported a recommendation for the new Dungowan Dam to be owned and operated by WaterNSW and for the new Dungowan Pipeline to be transferred to Council to own, operate and maintain. They agreed both will be conditional on the pipeline ownership being transferred at no cost to Council and the ownership of the new dam being transferred to WaterNSW as a “contributed asset”. The decision reflects the top priority for Councillors being to further secure our region’s water supply without any huge additional costs being sustained

by the local community. A key issue has always been the cost to Council and its customers as a result of the new dam and how this would be impacted by the ownership and operation model chosen.

- Council will give ongoing annual sponsorship to bring a National Rugby League Premiership game to Tamworth’s Scully Park. Councillors agreed to allocate \$20,000 each year. On August 13 this year, the sponsorship is for the Round 23 game between Wests Tigers and Cronulla Sharks. A report to Council said: “Due to the significance of the game and the exposure it provides for the Tamworth brand, \$20,000 is considered a worthwhile investment as advertising buy into the metropolitan market for a standalone campaign would be cost prohibitive.”

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

Watch the video report at www.facebook.com/TamworthRegionalCouncil

St Laurence’s Barraba
 Sunday service at 10.00am
 Woodsreef: 2nd Sundays
 11.30am

Uniting Church Notices
 Sunday 24th July
 services return to 8.45am

CATHOLIC CHURCH NOTES
 Barraba–1st & 5th Sunday, 5pm
 Saturday evening
 2nd 3rd & 4th Sunday 9am
 Upper Horton 3rd Sunday 11am
 Weekday Mass Wednesday
 10am



APPLY NOW FOR CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Member for Tamworth Kevin Anderson has sounded the horn for local councils and organisations to apply for funding that will support cultural infrastructure projects to benefit audiences and improve access to arts and cultural facilities in the region.

“We are fortunate to live in a community that supports the arts and continues to support local artists,” Mr Anderson said.

“Whether its growing aboriginal arts and culture through great local organisations like 2 Rivers or hosting exhibitions at one of our galleries like Weswall, there is always something to do and see in our region.

This funding is a great opportunity to grow our industry even further with funding targeted towards improving infrastructure.”

Minister for the Arts Ben Franklin said the Minor Works and Equipment Projects Round Two grants, delivered through the Creative Capital program, demonstrate the NSW Government’s commitment to invest in projects that reinforce the State’s position as the leading arts and culture hub in Australia.

“We’re calling for applications for projects that will pay dividends for communities across NSW by developing and upgrading fit-for-purpose cultural facilities such as museums, theatres, performance spaces, galleries and Aboriginal Keeping Places and language centres,” Mr Franklin said.

“Cultural equity is at the heart of the NSW Government’s Creative Capital program and thanks to the \$60 million investment – more projects like this can now realise their ambitions, providing more people with access to world-class arts and

culture, no matter where they live in the state. The people of NSW deserve a rich and diverse cultural offering and this funding will ensure our museums, theatres, performance venues, galleries, libraries and Aboriginal Cultural Centres, Keeping Places and language centres are fit-for-purpose and continue to present quality arts and cultural experiences.”

Applications close on 12 midday, Monday 8 August 2022, download a copy of the guidelines at www.create.nsw.gov.au.

GETTING OUT AND GETTING ACTIVE FOR SPRING HOLIDAY BREAK



Council’s and eligible organisations in the Tamworth Electorate are encouraged to apply for funding to deliver Holiday Break activities for young people during the upcoming spring school holidays.

Member for Tamworth Kevin Anderson said the \$10 million program offers young people in the region aged 12-24 years the opportunity to socialise with their peers, learn something new and have fun.

“The Holiday Break program provides funding for a range of activities that will engage young people, ensuring they have an opportunity to connect with their peers over the Spring School holidays,” Mr Anderson said.

“The funding can be used for a wide range of activities such as a subsidised movie night, a youth concert, a recreational day or any

other activity or event that will get young people out and off the couch the next school holidays, keeping their minds and bodies active.

Funding of up to \$7,000 is available in all of our council areas for councils and eligible not-for-profit organisations who are keen to deliver a great activity or event.”

Minister for the Arts and Regional Youth, Ben Franklin said that for the last three years, the Holiday Break program has provided young people in the regions with the opportunity to have fun and enjoy themselves over the holiday period.

“Holiday Break allows regional youth to overcome barriers to participation by providing free or heavily subsidised holiday activities, alleviating cost of living pressures for young families and ensuring they are given equal opportunities,” Mr Franklin said.

“We want to ensure all regional young people have the opportunity to connect with each other, learn new skills, and enjoy their youth.

If there’s an activity that you’d like to see happen during youth week or the school holidays, I encourage you to reach out to your local council or eligible not-for-profit organisation to turn your idea into a reality.”

Applications are open now until the 29 July 2022. To find out more and for program guidelines, visit www.nsw.gov.au/HolidayBreak.



JOYCE CALLS ON NEW ENGLAND LOCALS TO SIGN FOOT AND MOUTH PETITION

Following the Labor Government’s failure to adequately respond to the

increased Foot and mouth disease outbreak in Indonesia Federal Member for New England, Barnaby Joyce is calling on those in New England to make sure their voices are heard.

You can do this by signing a petition started by a farmer based in regional New South Wales, calling on Minister for Agriculture Murray Watt to increase biosecurity measures to at least these four key points.

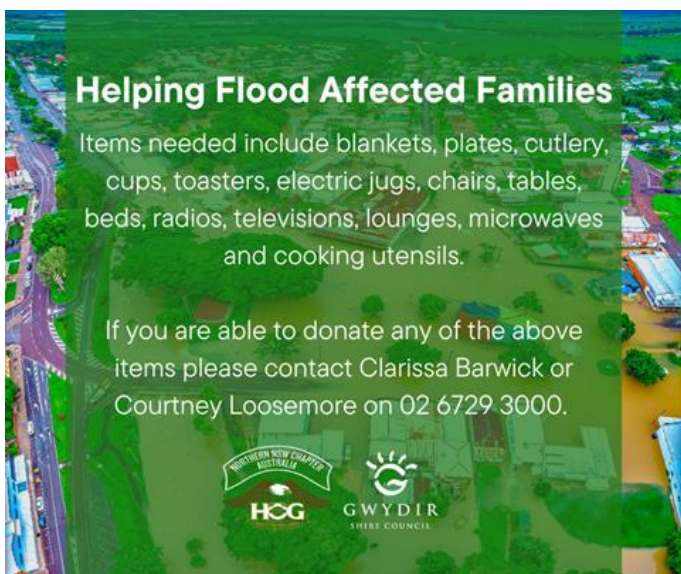
1. Biosecurity detector dogs to be rolled out at all international airports across Australia.
2. Screening and spraying of all check-in and carry-on luggage coming from Indonesia with a non-toxic disinfectant spray.
3. All shoes being brought in from Indonesia via carry-on and check-in luggage and being worn by travellers are to be confiscated and disposed of by incineration.
4. All shoes are to be removed, cleaned of any dry matter, and disinfected by biosecurity staff with virkon prior to entry to Australia.

Member for New England Barnaby Joyce said these are simple, common-sense steps that could be implemented almost instantly.

Mr Joyce said. “The ABARES has predicted \$80 billion could be wiped from the Australian economy if this disease breaks out on our shore, and all the Minister can do is run a social media message from his office on the Gold Coast.

This is an early test of competency for the new Labor government and what we hear thus far is they are more interested in legislation to change the weather than actions to stop what could be one of the greatest economic hits to our economy in a generation,” Mr Joyce said.

You can sign the petition at <https://chnng.it/TGzHtmCp65>



Our families and friends in the Northern Rivers region need our help.

The devastating floods destroyed countless homes, businesses and livelihoods. The impact of these floods is still continuing and people are in urgent need of blankets, plates, cutlery, cups, toasters, electric jugs, chairs, tables, beds, radios, televisions, lounges, microwaves and cooking utensils.

Gwydir Shire Council has teamed up with Northern NSW Chapter of HOG to organise a collection point for the above items to be dropped off and then taken to the Northern Rivers area.

If you have items that you would like to donate, please contact Clarissa Barwick or Courtney Loosemore on 02 6729 3000 for more information.

Please be aware that donated items need to be in working condition and cleaned prior to drop off.

Letter to the Editor

Further along in the trip down memory lane.

In the late 1940's, a group of women on quite isolated properties in the Jerilderie District, got together and formed The Argoon CWA Branch.

Most properties around us were forty-five miles north from Jerilderie, roads in a bad way after 6 years of wear and very few cars about, so driving to town for CWA meetings was really not an option.

We did not have a hall, instead, we took it in turns to have the monthly meetings in each other's homes. At the conclusion of each meeting, the secretary would ask who would like to be hostess for the following month. Someone would put up their hand, as we all took a plate, catering was not a problem.

Argoon took its name from a small settlement on the Griffith Road, all that was there was a small church, no other buildings, with a service once a month.

The inaugural meeting was at Pooginook Station, about eight miles from home. Some other properties, from memory, were Fairly Brange, Peyliona, Stud Park North, Galo Vale, Cooinbil, Wonga and Eleroo (the latter is the home of the Pooginook Merion Stud).

Mostly we travelled 10-20 miles to the meetings, and I think we had about twenty members.

Mum was a skilled knitter and took part in various competitions, run by head office. Our involvement was from about 1947 – 1955, when ill health forced Dad to retire to the south coast.

A footnote to the above, many women could not drive, so often there would be a small group of men lurking in a back shed having a lovely catch up with other men, whom they rarely had a chance to meet. Someone would run down with plates of cakes and cups of tea when it was afternoon tea for the ladies.

King regards Vivienne Mulley

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From The Squiz - YOUR SHORTCUT TO... AUSTRALIA AND OUR PACIFIC FAMILY

Australia and the Pacific Islands used to go together like cossies and sunscreen, but things have become more complicated in recent times. So, PM Anthony Albanese and other Pacific Islands Forum leaders gathered in Fiji to talk last week:

- our connection to the region;
- our role in supporting Pacific Island nations;
- and the future challenges and opportunities for the region.

Let's get our bearings - where are the Pacific Islands?

It's the region in the Pacific Ocean that lies north and east of Australia. The 3 major groups of islands in that region are Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia.

And the nations there are?

There are too many to list here, but the Melanesia region includes 4 independent countries: Fiji, Vanuatu, the Solomon Islands, and Papua New Guinea. Micronesia takes in the Marshall Islands, Kiribati, and the Federated States of Micronesia. And Polynesia is a big one - it takes in more than 1,000 islands including Hawaii, Tonga, Samoa, Tuvalu and the Cook Islands.

How does Oz fit in?

There's a long history of engagement between Australia and the Pacific Islands, but our connection to the region was cemented during WWII.

You'll need to jog my memory...

In December 1941, Japan launched a war against the western Allies and in the following years, Australia and other Allied forces fought them for control of Asia and the Pacific. There were some big and costly battles that we fought alongside the US.

What other countries are involved?

France is another nation with a long history in the Pacific, and the European Union and Japan also like to keep a close eye on things. New Zealand is also heavily involved in the region - we often work together on engagement with Pacific nations.

Right. So what's our job in the Pacific?

Australia has long been recognised as being a leader when it comes to advancing the prospects and priorities of our Pacific Island neighbours. And due to our geography, size, and position as a developed nation, we have a keen interest in supporting their sovereignty, stability, security and prosperity.

How does Oz go about that?

Australia has long been the Pacific's largest development partner, security partner and friend in times of need.

Start at the beginning - how do we help Pacific nations with development?

It essentially means providing aid to nations in the region so they can build infrastructure, strengthen their economies, stabilise their national institutions and help their people through education, employment and health programs.

How much aid are we talking about?

Australia's annual aid budget in recent times has been at about \$4 billion in total - and in the 2020-21 financial year, about \$1.4 billion of that was earmarked for Papua New Guinea and the Pacific.

That's quite a lot...

Sure, but in recent times the discussion has been about how Australia can do more. At the last election, Labor promised to boost aid to the Pacific - they said that there wasn't enough under the last Coalition Government, and that left the door open for Pacific nations to look to other powers for help. **Like China?**

Exactly, and that's where Australia's role as a security partner to the Pacific comes in. Things came to a head earlier in the year when the Solomon Islands decided to sign a security pact with China.

Take me through it...

So long story short, PM Manasseh Sogavare has had a longstanding love-hate relationship with Australia. That's been something we could manage - and we've always been there to help them with policing when there's been unrest, along with funding for development. So, we've been #1 to them for ages.

Until China came into the picture?

Yep. Experts say China has outdone us under President Xi Jinping. It's had a lot of cash to splash around as part of its Belt and Road initiative, and China has identified some strategic benefits to schmoozing with Pacific nations.

What kind of strategic benefits?

Well, one thing that has shaken up Australia and our allies is the suggestion China will build a military base on the Solomon Islands. Beijing has denied that's the case, but Aussie officials say just having China's big naval warships in our neck of the woods is a cause for concern.

What's the big deal?

The Solomon Islands sits smack bang in the middle of a key shipping route, so there are concerns about keeping those trade routes open. And there are issues of espionage and interference - the Solomons are a lot closer to Oz than China is, and that makes it easier for Beijing to keep tabs on us.

Has China been buttering up any other Pacific nations?

It sure has. During the election campaign, China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi embarked on a marathon tour of the

region, visiting 8 countries in 10 days. He proposed a sweeping economic and security deal that didn't end up going ahead, but it gives you an idea of China's approach.

So, Oz has been urged to step up?

Yep, and in recent times there's been talk about doing more to help the Pacific deal with their challenges and make more of their opportunities. The main way those are determined is through the Pacific Islands Forum. Foreign Affairs types call it the PIF.

What's that?

It's the region's premier political and economic policy organisation. It was founded in 1971 and comprises 18 members, including Oz. We contribute about a 3rd of its budget.

What's the PIF's aim?

To support a region of peace, harmony, security, social inclusion and prosperity. And when leaders gather annually, they discuss a big agenda covering economic, security, environmental, social and governance matters.

When is the next PIF meeting?

That's in Fiji between 11-14 July - so next week. PM Anthony Albanese will be attending, and it's the first face-to-face gathering since the 2019 PIF meeting in Tuvalu.

Why would I remember that meeting?

It's where our then PM Scott Morrison clashed with his Pacific counterparts over climate change.

Got you. So, climate change is a big issue in the Pacific?

It sure is, and it's not just an environmental thing - they consider it to be their top security issue. The Albanese Government is a step ahead of its predecessors on that score because they have a bigger short-term emissions reduction target which has been welcomed by PIF members.

Anything else to note about next week's summit?

Yes - this time around, there will be no meetings with partners of the Forum, including the US, China, the European Union, Japan, South Korea, Canada, India, Singapore and the UK.

Why is that?

Reports say that Fiji's PM Frank Bainimarama wanted to ensure that Pacific leaders had "space" to resolve their issues (ahem China...) and decide on their key priorities without having to wrangle powerful outsiders.

That puts Australia in a pretty good position...

It certainly does because we're in the room as a member.



Did you know we...?



Rifle Club

Saturday was another cool and windy day at the range, but the shooters put that behind them and shot some excellent scores. Centrefire had five shooters with John scoring two possibles and Rohan scoring one as well. Congratulations to you both.

In the Benchrest in the afternoon event Casey out shot all the boys by scoring a 300.14 in the 100m, congratulations on that great score Casey. It looks like she won't be staying in A grade next year with scores like that. Andrew scored a possible in the 100m with Brendan scoring one in both 100m and 50m events, congratulations gentlemen, Ron was close scoring a 99.

Unlimited 100m

B. Millrick 100.5, 99.5, 99.6 = 298.16
D. McIlrick 93, 94.1, 92 = 279.1

AA Grade 100m

A. White 100.5, 98.5, 99.4 = 297.14
R. Bridges 97.4, 99.2, 96.2 = 292.8

A Grade 100m

C. Wells 100.5, 100.4, 100.5 = 300.14

Unlimited 50m

B. McIlrick 98.3, 95.3, 100.4 = 293.10
D. McIlrick 95.3, 93.2, 95.1 = 283.6

AA Grade 50m

A. White 97.4, 96.2, 96.5 = 289.11
R. Bridges 97, 86, 86.1 269.1

A Grade 50m

C. Wells 86, 91.1, 86 = 263.1

Centrefire

J. Adams 100.2, 96.3, 100.9 = 296.14
R. Clark 91, 98.5, 100.8 = 289.13
A. White 88.2, 93, 94.2 = 275.4
B. McIlrick 92, 90, 86.1 = 268.1
D. McIlrick 71, 78, 93.1 = 242.1



Rugby Union News

Last week there was some news of the passing of an ex-Barraba Rams player by the name of Ryan Cross. Ryan travelled from Yetman, near the border, each week to play with the team. This was in the '60's when Bill Bucknell and Graham Bowman were running around.

Saturday saw Scone playing Barraba/Gwydir a girls game started the day which was ably refereed by Connor Rogers. The visitors dominated the game, as the locals dropped a lot of the ball allowing Scone to swoop on it and make inroads into Barraba's end and score the points.

The locals dominated the scrum and won several tight heads. The score at half time was 12-14 to Scone after tries to Kiah Newell and Amie Middlemiss and a conversion. In the second half Barraba were penalised numerous times for high tackles which allowed the visitors the opportunity to put further points on the board. There was some good defence at times, but not enough, they cannot run without legs!

Emma scored a good try to make Barraba 17, but Scone with 6 tries won comfortably 33-17. A good chase by Kiah Newell from behind was a standout near the end.

Players	Player	Katie Sweeney
3.	Nat Philpott	
2.	Emma McDouall	
1.	Amie Middlemiss	

In the men's game, Scone were first on the board after 5 minutes for a 5-0 lead. Then Sloan made a good run down the sideline to put

pressure on the visitors close to their line and, from a tap penalty, Will Robertson scored 5-5. After some good runs up the field a scrum near the line saw Barraba awarded a push-over try to half-back Spencer and a score of 10-5 to the home team. Scone came back hard and attacked the Barraba line for some time but strong defence held them out. Barraba found themselves 1 short when Rogers was sin-binned for 10 minutes and a half-time score of 10-5.

There did not seem to be any pressure at the back of the line-out to torment the 5/8th when they won the ball which allowed their backs to get a roll on. Another problem was a front row playing as an outside centre instead of in among the forwards doing some of the hard work.

Preston scored 2 tries and Rogers converted one for a final score 27-12 to Barraba and with other results keeps the Club in the hunt for a top 4 position.

Players	Player	W. Robinson and H. Preston
3.	H. Preston	
2.	N. Sweeney	
1.	J. Sloan	

Barraba/Gwydir travel to Quirindi this weekend and no juniors this Friday as they go to Tamworth. An 'oldies game' is being proposed for August 13th when we play Pirates for a similar day to Ladies Day.





Golf Notes

We had thirty golfers turn out for our foursomes championships last Sunday. In the hotly contested men's event Will Sedgwick and Campbell Tonkin had 77 off the bat to get over Craig Ruttley and Shayne Middlemiss by one shot to claim the Peter York and Allan Yates sponsored Championship. Peter then teamed up with Tim Bucknell to claim the net championship by a half a shot again over Rutts and Shayne. Bad luck guys. Thanks to Kevin Kelaher and Rob Sweeney for sponsoring that event. The women's event was equally close with Lib Thompson and Lyn Groth one shot winners over Lyn and Gail Simpson. Lyn and Gail then went on to win the net event.

Ian McColl played a good shot on the third to claim a NTP, Shayne Middlemiss the 6th and Bill Simpson the twelfth.

This week we play a 4 Ball multiplier for Dave Kelly and Bill McKids trophies.

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HOUSEHOLD TIPS AND TRICKS

Save money by buying the least expensive dishwasher soap, then add a few teaspoons of vinegar to the dishwasher. The vinegar cuts the grease and leaves the dishes spot-free and sparkling.

If you place bay leaves in all your kitchen drawers and in the flour and sugar containers, you will keep any crawling critters away.

Empty ketchup and mustard containers are great for decorating cakes or cookies.

To unclog plugged drain, try using a cup of salt mixed with a cup of baking soda – no liquid. Pour the dry solution into the drain, followed by a pot of boiling water.

Barraba 7 day Forecast from the Bureau of Meteorology

Wednesday 20 July 

Summary Max 17

Partly cloudy

Chance of any rain: 5%

Thursday 21 July 

Summary Min 4 Max 17

Partly cloudy

Chance of rain: 20%

Friday 22 July 

Summary Min 5 Max 17

Partly cloudy

Chance of any rain: 20%

Saturday 23 July 

Summary Min 4 Max 18

Partly cloudy

Chance of any rain: 5%

Sunday 24 July 

Summary Min 3 Max 18

Partly cloudy

Chance of rain: 5%

Monday 25 July 

Summary Min 2 Max 18

Partly cloudy

Chance of any rain: 20%

Tuesday 26 July 

Summary Min 1 Max 19

Possible shower

Chance of any rain: 30%

Regional Dam Levels from Water NSW

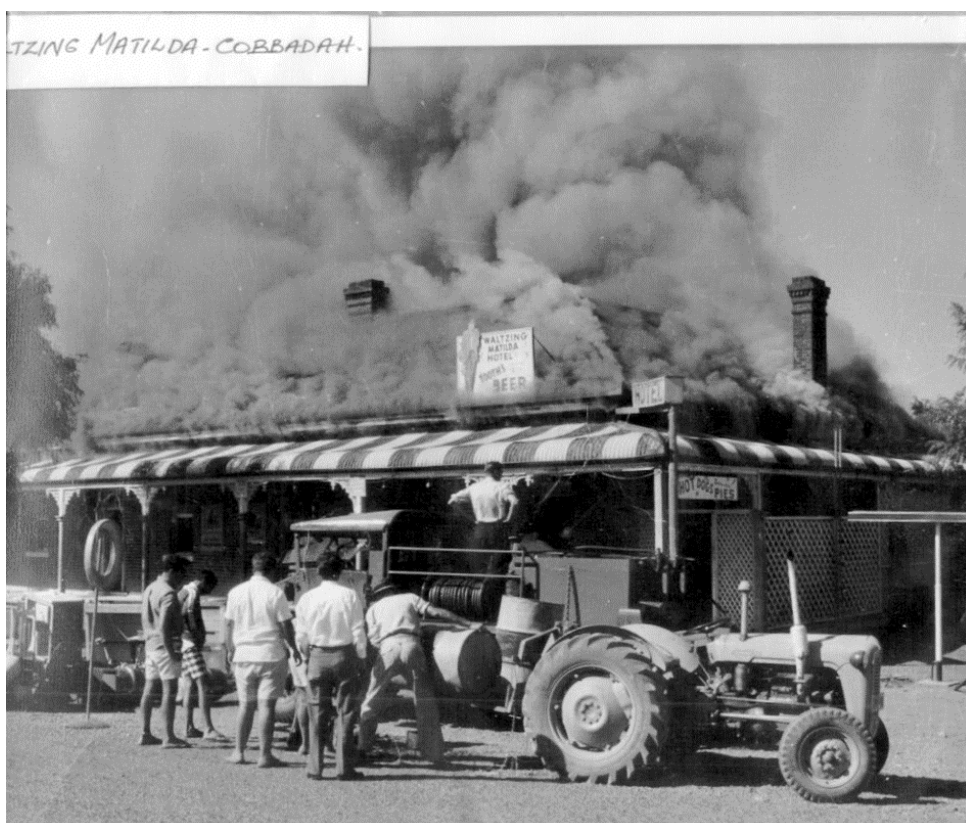
Chaffey 100.2%

Copeton 99.5%

Keepit 97.6%

Split Rock 74.3%

[Thanks again to Brian Coote for the pictures](#)



WHAT YEAR WAS THIS FIRE AT THE COBBADAH PUB?

The Waltzing Matilda Pub at Cobbadah. I don't know if this was the final time this pub burnt but it devastated a fair area of country when it finally expired into history.

My apologies also as I have no record of who loaned me this historic image.



1964 FLOODS BARRABA

Another unrecorded customer photo. This one was labelled bbaflood.jpg I must have displayed this as I have added a script to it of being the Feb 1964 Barraba flood from the railway.

I had put that it was taken from the Station platform but it was clearly taken from the road into the station below the Station-Master's house.

[Photo follow up from last week](#)

I am looking at the **'1967 Barraba Infants'** school photo in last week's paper. In the back row second from the left is my brother Guy Farrar. We only went to Barraba school for one year. My sister Robbie was in 3rd class and I was in 5th. Cheers Mandy Cabot