

BARRABA COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY OWNED AND EDITED

Final Barraba Community News for 2024

Thank you to our contributors, advertisers, readers and the volunteers who ensure the '*Barraba Community News*' is published each week.

The next edition will be Wednesday 29th January 2025.

Send any articles, news, pictures and reports to <u>news@barrabacommunitynews.org.au</u>

Have a Merry Christmas and as the holiday season is imminent for most of us, PLEASE drive safely for you, your passengers, your family & friends. Let's not be a statistic this Christmas.

UPPER HORTON RODEO & CAMPDRAFT Monday 30th & Tuesday 31st December 2024 Wednesday 1st January 2025

The Annual Upper Horton Camp draft will commence on Monday the 30th of December 2024 at 1pm with the Gwydir Shire Council Encouragement Camp draft, followed by the Stephen King Memorial Open Camp draft and the start of the Hart Rural Agencies Maiden Camp draft with the first one hundred runs to be completed.

There will also be a Novice and Junior Rodeo held om Monday the 30th of December 2024 commencing in the Rodeo Arena at 4pm with Barrel Races, Steer Rides, and Junior Bull Ride.

Tuesday the 31st of December will commence at 6am with the competition of the Hart Rural Agencies Maiden draft followed by the Cavanagh's Stockmaster Juvenile Draft, The Warren Richards Junior Draft, Pollock & Cummins Open Draft, and the Finals of The Maiden & Open Drafts will complete the day's action in the Camp draft arena.

New Year's Eve celebrations at Upper Horton will commence in the Rodeo arena with an Open Rodeo at 7pm including the following events: \$500.00 Morgan Thoroughbreds Novice Saddle Bronc Ride, F Gaukroger & Sons Inverell Jackpot Novice Bull Ride \$3000.00. Pip Kelly Memorial Saddle Bronc Ride featuring top riders from around the country and Upper

Wednesday 18th December 2024

Horton Horses from Gill Bros Rodeo stock and conclude with the \$500.00 R 2 A Leather Poly Buckjump.

Pippy's Party music will the see in the New Year at the Upper Horton Sports Ground with Canteen, BBQ and bar operating.

New Year's Day will commence at 6am with the Stock & Crop Barraba Jackpot Novice Draft followed by The Jody Turnbull Memorial Ladies Draft sponsored by Elders Tamworth and the Final of the Jackpot Novice draft.

Entry to the Rodeo will be CASH ONLY \$15.00 per adult & \$5.00 per child. There will be no eftpos facilities with cash out available at the gates or on the grounds.

Please come and support the Upper Horton Rodeo and Camp draft and see in the New Year.





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SUNDAY 22 DECEMBER 2024

ON THE GRASS AT BARRABA ANGLICAN CHURCH

BBQ & KIDS ACTIVITIES FROM 5PM CAROLS FROM 6PM

HOSTED BY BARRABA ANGLICAN CHURCH



<u>BARRABA RSL &</u> RECREATIONAL CLUB LTD

Phone 67821379 For the information of members and guests.

THIS WEEK

FRIDAY 20th December

MEAT RAFFLES Tickets on sale from 5.30pm MEMBERSHIP DRAW \$1500

> SATURDAY 21st December Ruby Mae's Movie Night

SUNDAY 22nd December

AIRCOOLED ASSEMBLY RAFFLES

Raffles on sale from 12pm, drawn 1.30pm

MEMBERSHIP DRAW \$1000

Club will be closed Christmas day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day

BISTRO HOURS

Phone 0427330808

DINE IN OR TAKEAWAY DAILY BLACKBOARD SPECIALS AVAILABLE ALSO PIZZAS MADE TO ORDER MONDAY/TUESDAY/WEDNESDAY: CLOSED THURS/FRI/SAT: Lunch 12-2pm. Dinner from 6pm SUNDAY: 12-2pm

Bistro will be closed from 23rd December, reopen 9th January.



Safety first around Christmas lights this season

We all love the colour and spectacle of Christmas lights, so it's important that we connect our festive fun in an electricity-safe way.

With the safety of our communities and our people being Essential Energy's number one priority, here are a few handy tips for power safety in the home.

• Inspect old Christmas lights and electrical wires for any sign of damage or wear and tear before installing.

• Check that all globes are properly fitted and don't use light sets with missing globes, to prevent other conductive items being placed inside the socket.

• Read the light manufacturers' safety and installation instructions and follow these carefully.

• Only purchase lights that meet Australian safety standards.

• Position your Christmas lights away from flammable materials such as curtains and sofas.

• If not LED, do not place lights close to tinsel and flammable decorations as the heat from lights could start a fire if they are left on for a long time.

• When decorating the outside of your house choose lights and light fittings designed for external use.

• Turn off your Christmas tree lights overnight and avoid piggybacking plugs.

• Never attach outdoor Christmas lights or electrical leads to power poles or streetlights. Not only is it dangerous, it's illegal.

• Look up and live. With your outside lights, make sure you are clear of the service main where the electricity connects to your house and avoid installing lights or other decorations near overhead powerlines.

Essential Energy encourages customers to have a safety switch within their meter box and ensure that any electrical work needed around the home is undertaken by a licensed electrician.

If you do feel a shock or tingle when touching a tap, showerhead or any appliance in your home, call Essential Energy straight away on 13 20 80 and stay clear of those appliances until it is safe.

Essential Energy has crews on call over the Christmas period, so please do not hesitate to contact us. For more information, visit the Essential Energy website – Christmas Lights Safety and Shocks and Tingles.

Get involved with Community Committees

Tamworth Regional Council has opportunities for interested locals to give their time and have their voices heard as part of our community committees.

These groups provide strategic advice and support to Council across a wide variety of specialty areas which help shape our community plans.

Expressions of interest are now open to join:

- The Disability Access Working Group
- Tamworth Regional Council Heritage Working Group
- Tamworth Region Arts Advisory Committee
- Tamworth Region Inclusive Culture AdvisoryCommittee
- Tamworth City Centre Working Group

Here is an overview of outcomes from

Tamworth Regional Council Ordinary Meeting

on Tuesday 10th December 2024:

In a move aimed to support families and youth, Councillors

tonight endorsed a Notice of Motion from Councillor Jeff

Budd to trial free access to pools across the region during

this summer. Cr Budd said in his motion that "access to and

cost of access...is a big issue". He advocated that the "social

capital and community engagement" benefits of the

initiative would outweigh any loss of income. The motion

also requested a report be presented to future Council

As the region continues to experience a shortage of childcare

options, Councillors tonight took a step towards helping

meet demand by granting development consent for a new

122-place childcare centre in Moore Creek. The

development consent is subject to a range of conditions that

will go towards alleviating the traffic and noise concerns of

some nearby residents. The scope of works includes the

consolidation of three lots into one and the construction and

landscaping of the facility in Eagle View Estate, Moore Creek.

The proposed centre will operate Monday to Friday, 6:30am

to 6pm and will include seven separate playrooms, various

administration, staff and meeting areas, kitchen and laundry

spaces, as well as two outdoor play areas and a carpark with

meeting after the end of the trial.

25 spaces.

- Tamworth Regional Community Safety Working Group
- Urban Street Tree Advisory Group

with Local Traffic Committee In alignment recommendations, tonight Council voted to approve the proposed signage and line marking plan for the Carthage Street Pavement Rehabilitation project. This includes edge lines, centre lines and barrier lines, a righthand turn lane at the White Street and Carthage Street intersection, a change in parking configuration on the southern side of Carthage Street between Fitzrov Street and White Street (to remove a deviation in the road and improve sight distance for drivers), repositioning of disabled parking bays in front of North West (for easier access) and pedestrian safety Eyes improvements. Council has secured funding for pedestrian safety upgrades through the NSW Government's Road Safety Program.

Councillors tonight agreed to request the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure to amend the Dwelling Density Map associated with Arcadia Estate, Hillvue, in response to a minor boundary adjustment proposed by the developer. The proposed adjustment will result in a minor change to the boundaries of the two major lots that comprise the eastern section of the Arcadia precinct to align with the future residential subdivision layout. The adjustment will only affect the shape of two lots, with the area of both lots remaining unchanged. As a result of this proposed change, the Dwelling Density Map in the Tamworth Regional Local Environmental Plan 2010 (TRLEP 2010) needs to be updated to reflect the new lot boundaries. These changes are administrative only and will have no effect on land use planning controls within the TRLEP 2010.

Council across a wide variety of s. tee Scan the QR code

PFAS test results for Tamworth

Tamworth Regional Council has received the results from recent PFAS (per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances) testing in the local drinking water supply and is pleased to advise that all water systems across the region meet all guideline limits based on the tests conducted, offering assurances to residents.

Council recently participated in a state-wide drinking water PFAS testing program coordinated by NSW Health. In late November 2024, sampling for PFAS was undertaken for Council's six treated water supplies with all results received being below current Australian Drinking Water Guidelines, as well as proposed future limits.

Council understands that the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) is conducting an independent review of the health-based guideline values for PFAS which is expected to be completed in late 2024 early 2025.

The current health-based guideline values for PFAS in the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines are:

- less than 0.07 micrograms per litre for the sum of PFOS and PFHxS (combined)
- less than 0.56 micrograms per litre for PFOA

As per the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines, Tamworth Regional Council undertakes raw water source or catchment risk assessments to consider water quality risks for all of its water supplies in consultation with NSW Health and other NSW Government Agencies. There have been no identified source risks for historical use of PFAS within Council's water catchments.

Director of Water and Waste Bruce Logan said "These are pleasing though not unexpected results, in line with Council's regular monitoring schedule."

Council undertakes annual monitoring of all raw water supply sources in accordance with the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines. All sampling undertaken by Council has not detected any PFAS compounds in any of Council's raw water supplies above current or proposed Australian Drinking Guideline limits. The annual raw water sampling and testing were most recently undertaken in June/July 2024.

More information about water supplies can be found on Council's website or on NSW Health's website available at www.health.nsw.gov.au



History Notes

What a wonderful market the Society had to finish up the year. A big thank

you to those who came to help set up the markets and then put everything away at lunchtime. There are still calendars for sale from the museum on Friday and Saturday mornings.

Next weekend we have visitors coming to research the McKid/Sinclair family on Friday and then on Saturday a Central Hotel descendant looking into the 1940s. I doubt there is anyone here in Barraba who remembers Bill Webster – we will be happy to hear from them especially if they have a late 1940s Barraba Chronicle to show him. The best I could do was find a December 1945 extract which showed Bill Webster as the new management of the Central Hotel, and he was still there in March 1949.

No doubt our readers have or will have to go through a relative's belongings in the future. It is not an easy job but there is sometimes a birthday book or an autograph book. My grandmother's birthday book is also a poetry book with a verse for every day of the year eg to be wroth with one we love, doth work like madness in the brain by Coleridge. This kind of book has sadly died out, but the autograph book followed the birthday book and there are a few samples of these around with a few nice lines of poetry. These little books can give one an idea of her friends and family and for one who knew the person they can be a small memory of a friend, mother or grandmother.

To finish the last notes for 2024 I have come across a couple of Recreation Time magazines, published some 50 years ago by the local printers so everyone had access to the local TV program. There are lots of advertisements in them, but I could not pass the advertisement for the Christmas Tree held on Saturday 23rd December in Maude Street. Santa arrived at 7pm sharp. He brought popcorn, drinks and balloons. There were presents for children up to 11 years and senior citizens.

There were 23 patients in the local hospital – all named which would not be allowed today. The church services were listed including the Salvation Army, Presbyterian, Methodist and Church of England. The Post Office holiday arrangements, the Bowling and Golf Clubs, the Railway Information, Swimming Club results and much more, all in a free magazine. There was even the story of a snake in the bedroom which turned out to be a plastic snake.

This is the last notes for the year. May everyone have a Happy Christmas and New Year and look after your history if it's available.

BARRABA CENTRAL SCHOOLAWARDS NIGHT

Dux of 2023 - Michala Princic



Pictured L-R: Michala Princic and Mr Sullivan (Principal)



Pictured L-R: Hannah Walker and Mr Sullivan (Principal)





Pictured L-R: Mr Greenwood (Secondary Sports Teacher) and Dustin Hiscock.



Pictured L-R: Mr Sullivan (Principal) and the 2025 Primary Leadership Team Hugh Crowley and Lachlan Hands.

SEE PAGES 17 TO 19 FOR A FULL LIST OF STUDENT AWARDS



WESTPAC RESCUE HELICOPTER RAFFLE WINNERS

1ST Bruce McNeil - \$300.00 IGA Voucher 2nd Stacey Sedgwick - \$150.00 Inland Petroleum Voucher 3rd Bill Robb – Ham donated by Barraba Beef THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT MERRY CHRISTMAS



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Trent, Lanie and staff at

Barraba Rural Traders

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your business and support over the past 12 months.

We wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.

Christmas Trading Hours: Closed from 5pm Tuesday 24th December Trading resumes Thursday 2nd January 2025 9am.

Merry Christmas



COMMERCIAL HOTEL



Barraba Cancer Patients Fund Raising Group Inc.

Wishes everybody a very Merry Christmas and Happy New year.

We thank the community for their wonderful support of our fund raising efforts during 2024.



The Barraba Caravan Park

Phone 0435357331, the lady to talk to is Shanon Cameron But if you're going past – don't! barrabacaravanpark.com.au Thanking all guests and friends for their patronage and support in the last 12 months and extend best wishes to all for 2025.



Barraba Pony Club Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year ahead in 2025. New members always welcome at Barraba Pony Club.



Chris, Andrea and staff wishing all friends, family and clients a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

CATERING TO BARRABA AND DISTRICT







Barraba Pharmacy & Newsagency

Merry Christmas and the happiest of New Years from all the staff.

Christmas Trading Hours Tues 24/12/24 – Open, regular trading hours Wed 25/12/24 – CLOSED Thurs 26/12/24 – CLOSED Fri 27/12/24 – Open, regular trading hours Sat 28/12/24 – Open regular trading hours 9am to 12pm Sun 29/12/24 - CLOSED Mon 30/12/24 - Open regular trading hours Tues 31/12/24 – Open regular trading hours Wed 1/1/25 – CLOSED Thurs 2/1/25 – Open regular trading hours Mon 27/1/25 – CLOSED (Australia Day Public Holiday)



We would like to thank the community for their generosity and support this year, wishing everyone a safe and Merry Christmas and happy new year – love Kim & Nick 'Ruby Mae's Wish'



BARRABA MOTORS

Mark, Rachel, Amy and Max wish all customers a Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year and thank them for their patronage during 2024.

We will be closed during the holiday period, reopening on 3rd February 2025.



Wish all our customers a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and thank you for your patronage throughout the year.



Christmas Drinks

Please come and join us for Christmas drinks on Thursday 19th December from 12 midday.

Christmas/New Year closure Last trading day for 2024 Friday 20th Dec 2024. Reopen on Thursday 2nd January 2025.





Phone 67822106 Wish one and all a very Merry Christmas and a Joyous New Year.



Closed on 29th December and 1st January.



Shop 117-119 Queen St - Barraba P. (0)2 6782 1585

Kylie wishes all Universal customers a Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year and thank you for your support.



Closed from 22nd December 12md Reopen on 2nd January 2025



THE CORNER STORE

21 Queen St Barraba 0267821058 Rakesh, Raji, Dinesh, Indu and Leah wish all customers a MERRY CHRISTMAS and PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR and thanks all for your patronage. OPEN Christmas Day and Boxing Day.



Community College Northern Inland Inc.

The team at your local Community College wish you all a Happy and Safe Christmas and all the best in 2025.

The office will be closed from Friday 20th Dec 2024 to Monday 13th Jan 2025.





Phill, Marilou and Romy wish all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

PJK Law will close at 5pm on Friday, 20 December 2024 and reopen at 9am on Monday, 6 January 2025.

149 Queen Street, Barraba NSW 2347 Telephone: (02) 6782 1103 Email: <u>admin@piklaw.com.au</u>

Merlene's

Fine Fibres Studio 86 Queen St Barraba Phone 02 67821838 Merlene and Laurie wish all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year





D.J. Kelly & Co.

Chartered Accountants 122 Queen St Barraba. Phone 67821403



Wish their clients and friends a very Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year. Closed 23rd December to 6th January 2025

BARRABA MEN'S SHED



Members of the Barraba Men's Shed wish all a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year and would like to thank everyone for their support throughout the year.

Shed will be closed from 20th December and open up on the 6th January, the shop however will be open on the 23, 27, 28, 31 Dec and 2 and 4 of Jan then back to normal trading.

BARRABA SHIRE BAND

The Bandmaster and Band Members wish all a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Thank you for your support during 2024. We're always looking for new members.





Christmas Rules:

Don't go into debt with trying to show people how much you love them.

Don't go visit your family if it compromises your mental health.

If someone comments on your weight...eat them.

TJ and WA ENDACOTT PLUMBING

Phone Tim 0428852054 AH 02 67852054 Tim and Wendy wish all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.





Adam Russell phone 02 67821485 Wishing all a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Thank you for your support in 2024.



Closed during the Christmas break.



Members of the Barraba Potters and Craft Guild and Fuller Gallery wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a wonderful, safe and healthy New Year



THE NANDEWAR HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

Wishes you a Merry Christmas and a

Happy New Year Thank you for supporting Barraba's Museum so we can continue to preserve our local history for future generations to come. John, Robyn, Ben, Josh and Kahlee of

Barraba Beef

Wish all customers and friends Peace and Happiness at Christmas and all through 2025



The President and Members of the Barraba Lions Club

Take this opportunity to wish the people of Barraba a happy and prosperous Christmas and New Year and thank all for your generous support in the past.





Supplies

Merry Christmas and thank you for your support throughout 2024. Best wishes for 2025. John and Toni

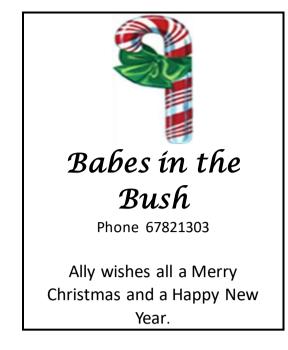


^{Merry} Christmas

Frocks 'N' Locks

107-109 Queen St Barraba Wishing all our clients and friends a happy and healthy Christmas and a prosperous New Year and look forward to continuing to enjoy your company in 2025.

Rhonda, Kelly, Penny and Nicole For trading hours and hair dressing with Rhonda phone 67822111.





Barraba Medical Centre

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year.

Dr Hein and Staff

Closure Dates Barraba Medical Centre

The surgery will be closed from Monday 23rd December to Friday 27th December

Reopening Monday 30th December @ 9.00am If you require scripts for the closure period please phone the surgery to make an appointment.

If you require medical attention please phone 000 for an emergency or present to the Barraba Hospital. Medical Centre Staff



Thank you to everyone who supported and helped to make the **Memorial Clock Centenary and Remembrance Day Service** a resounding success and a very memorable occasion.

Merry Christmas from the Barraba Memorial Clock Centenary Committee Members.



Wishing everyone, friends and guests a very Merry Christmas and a Fabulous

New Year.

Andy and Miro

Andy's Guest House is open right through the holidays.

Very comfortable accommodation, in the heart

of town.

0428 821 880

www.andysguesthouse.com.au



The Vic

- Imported and craft beer
- Wine and cocktails.
- ^k Finger food available
- * Wednesday to Sunday
- * 11am to 9pm



Cnr Queen and Alice Streets Barraba Phone 02 67825375

Closed 25th and 26th Dec, open 27th Dec. Closed 1st January, reopen 2nd Jan 2025



The Barraba branch of the United Hospital Auxiliary would like to thank the Barraba Community and businesses for their support during 2024 and wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a healthy 2025.



Our trading will close on the afternoon of Friday 20th December 2024 and re-open on the morning of Monday 6th January 2025. Phone 02 67 821 107

Rod Bonner

Your local Plumber, Drainer, Gasfitter and Handyman Lic No. L8791 <u>plumberdrainer@gmail.com</u> Text is best 0447 052 140

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A conversation with the Editor The Community News team had a call from Maree Tamburini this week concerned about speeding cars in the 50km town area. Do people need to be told? Really!

ANGLICAN CHURCH TIMES St Laurence's Barraba Sunday service at 10.00am Christmas Services:

St Laurence's:

Sunday 22nd December, 5pm, Carols on the church lawn (including BBQ and kids activities). There will be no service at 10am. Tuesday 24th December, 8pm, Traditional Communion Service. Wednesday 25th December, 9am All ages

Christmas Service.

A special announcement.

Earlier this year my wife and I welcomed our little boy Andy into this world. And when he arrived, we told everyone the good news. We called our friends and family, we told our church, and we put a post on Facebook for those far and wide to know he was here.

2000 years ago, when Jesus was born, his announcement was a little different. Initially it seemed like there was no announcement at all. Mary and Joseph had travelled to Bethlehem, there was no room for them to stay at the inn, and so Jesus is born in obscurity, in a manger, surrounded by animals instead of people.

Which is all the stranger given that Mary had been told that this baby would be a saving king! It doesn't seem like a kingly birth at all.

But even if Mary and Joseph had no one to announce the birth to, that doesn't mean God didn't want to make it known!

In Luke 2:9 as some shepherds are minding their business in a field outside Bethlehem we read: An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

But these angels had not come to strike fear, they had come to bring joy. Luke 2:10-11: But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.

This is the announcement worthy of the king! A whole company of angels praising God and letting people know that this special baby had arrived! It is hard to imagine how spectacular and awe inspiring this would have been. Thousands of angels shining bright with the glory of God – a bit better than a post on social media!

So why this sort of announcement? What is it that the angels are declaring, why are they praising God together?

Firstly, this is news of great joy, for all people. The coming of Jesus is the greatest news that has ever been announced. There is a reason the message of Jesus is called the gospel - which means good news.

Why is that? It is because of who Jesus is. The angels gave the baby Jesus 3 titles. Firstly, saviour, secondly, Christ, and thirdly, the Lord.

Jesus is firstly the saviour of all people. The bible is very clear that every person's greatest need is forgiveness for our sin, forgiveness for the way we've treated God and treated one another. Our sin has meant we are separated from God, it means we all face death and then God's judgement. It means we all need saving.

Well Jesus came to bring that salvation, to bring that forgiveness, to save us from our sin, to save us from our guilt, and ultimately from the judgement of God.

And of course, if we read on in the story, we know that he saves us through his death, where he took the punishment that we deserved on himself.

Secondly it says Jesus is the Christ – and that word means the anointed one, the king. For over 1000 years before this, the Old Testament had talked about how God would send an anointed one who would rule forever, how God would send a king who would fulfil all his promises, the one called the Christ. The angels are saying this is him, this is the one you have been waiting for.

Thirdly the angels say Jesus is the Lord, this is the Son of God, who has come into the world, this is God himself in the flesh.

What an announcement right! This news changes everything, because for those who believe and trust this news, Jesus offers the forgiveness of sins and the hope of eternal life. My prayer this Christmas is that you will truly know the wonderful news and accept Jesus as your saviour and king.

Matthew Hearne, Minister of Barraba Anglican.

CATHOLIC CHURCH TIMES Barraba 1st Sunday of the month, Saturday evening Mass 6pm All other Sundays 9am Mass on Christmas Eve 8.30pm

Fr John Curran

In the field of music arguably 3 of the greatest composers would include *Beethoven* (1770-1827), *Mozart* (1756-1791) and more recently *Leonard Bernstein* (1918-1990). I'd also add the Beatles, but not the song "Imagine" by John *Lennon, who wrote it as an ex Beatle.* Then in the field of Christian theology in our Catholic tradition 2 greatest scholars would include *Thomas Aquinas* (1225-1274), and more recently *Karl Rahner* (1904-1984).

Towards the end of his distinguished career Doctor Rahner was interviewed and was asked this question; "Why does he believe in God?" The interviewer probably was surprised when he simply said; "Because I make sure I keep the habit of praying every day." This great scholar has written enormous books on the nature and the qualities of God, but this is a "different" answer.

As soon as I heard this answer, I realised the important link there is between knowing <u>about</u> someone and then <u>knowing</u> <u>them</u>. We only know people after taking the time to spend quality time with them amidst our busy routines. To know someone is a constant decision in keeping the relationship alive and viable. Like a religious belief if it's not regularly fed and sustained then it can incrementally weaken and be lost.

In the electronic age that we are living in, so many people to their detriment have many *contacts* but very few people who are actually friends.

This is why for any Christian, it's not only saying "I believe in God because there must be someone who made it all" to me, that is not enough, because it's just a philosophical idea. it's empty of relationship. Best real friends meet regularly and spend time together. We need to do that with God; come to church, open the Bible maybe at the Psalms and don't just read it; pray it.

Jesus of Nazareth makes this point; *"I no longer call you servants anymore but friends as I have shared with you all I have learnt from my father."* (John Chapter 15, verse 15) These thoughts were offered to me by *Martin Maunsell and I've added to them.*

A wonderful way to prepare for Christmas is to get to know the Child born for us on Christmas Day.

Greetings from Fr John Curran

BARRABA UNITING CHURCH NOTICES

Sunday 22nd December 2024 at Barraba 10:45am. December 25th Christmas Day - Service at 10am Sunday December 29th – Combined Service with Manilla at Barraba 10:30am followed by a light lunch. All welcome.

From Sunday 5th January time for services will change to 8:45am. Please note new time. All Welcome.

The Barraba Clock

<u>1st Verse</u>

The Barraba clock keeps ticking, Right there in queen street, Seen many, many happy years, Weathered cold and blazing heat,

It was built in 1924,

It's been keeping time since then, And it will keep on keeping time, For those rough and rugged men.

2nd Verse

And forever we'll remember,

Why that clock stands in the street,

And the men that built the Barraba Clock,

And built it Oh so neat,

The returned service men built the clock, In nineteen twenty four,

In memory of the local men, Killed in the first world war.

3rd Verse

They will never forget their fallen ones,

Their names are there to see,

On the clock, there in the main street, Forever they will be, The monument that stands so tall, Above the streets below, And keeps the time for endless folk, And travelers on the go.

<u>4th Verse</u>

The mighty clock that keeps the time, And never ever stops, Without a sound the hands go round, On that Barraba clock, And the hands will keep on turning, Forever and a day, And the Soldiers names there on the clock, Are the ones that passed away,

But the clock is here to do its job,

And its done it all this time,

And forever it will tick away, Until the end of time.

Written by Johnny Grills 22/10/2024 75 Dennison Street, West Tamworth 2340. Ph: 0439289529. I've bin stuck 'ere in Palestine since... well now, 'eaven knows when.

I'm 87 years old next June, I draw me pension then! I've 'ad It up to 'ere wi' sheep, but credit where it's due, Without them soppy ruminants I'd 'ave no tale for you.

Now I'm a British lad by birth, the Romans brought me over. They marched me down from Lancashire to ferry boat at Dover.

They sald: 'There's work abroad for thee, and though tha's not a big 'un, Thee'll make a champion shepherd lad, the first to come from Wigan!'

So that is 'ow I landed up out 'ere in old Judea And 'ow I saw this 'andsome star mysteriously appear. The night were bitter cold, the sheep were piteously bleating.

I wished I'd been a Roman in an 'ouse with central 'eating.

Now star was streaking 'cross the sky, intemp'rately proceeding;

I saw a flash. "Ello,' said I, 'Yon star's been copped for speeding!'

But no, it warn't a camera, cos they 'adn't been invented,

A brighter light 'ad flared and left me shepherd pals demented.

An awesome noise then filled the skies. Bang, bang, bang, bang me 'eart went, It were the angelic SAS — the musical department. Me mates all acted thunderstruck, Immobilised by shock, But I were more concerned

about the welfare of me flock!

'Peace on earth, goodwill to men,' so sang the 'eavenly choir. Yet none of 'em could 'old a tune — they sounded pretty dire. And as for the accompaniment I know I shouldn't carp,

Supplied by Anne Kelly

But trumpeters were even worse than them as played the 'arp!

I thought I'd 'ave to 'ave a word — wi' all that noise and light They might attract them wolves wot chewed up sheep the other night. So, looking up, I caught the eye of an angel singing bass, I bellowed out: 'Now listen, flower, this ain't the time or place!'

'Is thou addressing me, old son?' he spluttered in surprise. 'Dost thou not know the Son of Man In Bethlehem now lies? He's sleeping in a manger where the cattle eat and sup.' I said: 'Thou'd best be quiet then, tha's sure to wake 'Im up.'

'E looked at me Indignant like, but I returned 'is glare, 'Ow very dare you!' he exclaimed, 'Ah'll thank thee not to stare! We're taking shepherds wi' us now...' I said: 'Don't waste tha breath. Can'st thou not see the state they're in? Thee've scared 'em

they're in? Thee've scared 'em 'alf to death.'

But nowt deterred, 'e shouts aloud: 'Get oop, tha blg girl's blouses,'

And every shepherd to a man immediately arouses. So off they went in 'ot pursuit of star of which I've spoken, Intrigued at what this baby's birth could possibly betoken.

'To Bethlehem, to Bethlehem,' they sang, 'Give thanks to God,' But I was sick to death with them — they'd left me on me tod!

They'd not been gone an hour 'afore the wolves commenced their 'owling.

A little after midnight fell, the 'ole darn pack came prowling.

I built up fire as best I could, but 'unger makes 'em bold, I raised me crook as leading wolf were lopin' up t'fold. 'Ey oop, now wolf,' I muttered, tryin' 'ard to show no fear. 'Where would thou like this stick o' mine? On't nose or up the rear?'

'E sized me up with baleful eyes – ah brought me crook down 'ard.

But then 'is mates leapt in from flank and caught me off me guard.

They tore me flesh wi' drooling fangs, I thought me days were done.

Until I 'eard a voice I knew say: 'Summat up, old son?'

'Tha shouldn't mess with wolves tha knows, they're not fit pals for thee.'

I said: 'I'm none too sure of that — they're 'aving me for tea!'

'Away with thee, thou mangy curs,' the angel thundered out.

And off they went at blinding speed, except for one wi' gout.

Yon angel fluttered down to earth and soothed me dreadful pain.

And blood that gushed reet out me wounds just flowed back in again.

'I'm much obliged to thee,' I said, now humbled in my mind.

'No problem, son,' he laughed, 'but did we leave a lamb be'ind?'

'Thou did indeed — that plumpish one that's traipsing round foriorn; I'll come with thee and give

it to yon lad that's just been born.'

So off I went to Bethlehem with lamb upon me back.

I found 'Im in that stable, little better than a shack.

But when I looked at Jesus — 'ere's the strangest thing by far: The lovelight on 'Is little face

were brighter than that star! Paul Weston, Brighton, E. Sussex.



BARRABA CENTRAL **SCHOOL** AWARDS

Award Winners for Presentation Day 2024

Kindergarten Academic Awards

Academic Excellence – Chelsea Evans High Achievement – Memphis Jennar Encouragement Award – Zarhleigh-May Ibrahim

PBL Award - Kyra-Louise Trainor-Milides

Year 1 Academic Awards Academic Excellence – Sophie Starr

High Achievement – Ruby Whelan Encouragement Award – Chase Mitiau

PBL Award – Charlotte-Rose Self Year 2 Academic Awards

Academic Excellence - Ellie Jobson High Achievement – Eddie Hartwig **Encouragement Award – Nathaniel** Chapman

PBL Award – Hayley McIlrick

Year 3 Academic Awards

Academic Excellence – Edward Brewer

High Achievement – Maisen Ruttlev Encouragement Award – Michael Hierzer

PBL Award – Chelsea Hands

Year 4 Academic Awards

Academic Excellence - Joseph Johnson

High Achievement – Annabel Kanno High Achievement – Charlie Denyer Encouragement Award – Noah Lowe PBL Award – Ruby-Lee Jobson

Year 5 Academic Awards

High Achievement – Zane Chapman High Achievement – Declan Watkins-Wilson Encouragement Award – Millah Wilkinson PBL Award – Lachlan Hands

Year 6 Academic Awards

Academic Excellence – William Fitzgerald

High Achievement – Abigail Johnson Encouragement Award – Mylee Groth PBL Award – Laura Russell Year 7 Academic Awards First – Ella-Rose Jobson-Grasnick Most Consistent – Chevenne Peters PBL Award - Shae Mallise Year 8 Academic Awards First – Jasmine Coombes Most Consistent-Lara Thomson PBL Award – Sophie Watkins-Wilson Year 9 Academic Awards First in Class – Lilly Groth Most Consistent – Isabelle Allan PBL Award – Isabelle Aitken Year 10 Academic Awards First in Class – Cody Graves

Most Consistent – Matilda Alderton PBI Award – Amelia Walker

Year 11 Academic Awards

First – Mia Coombes

Most Consistent – Michael Walker PBL Award - Lilly Turner Aurora Academic Achievement Award - Mia Coombes

K-2 Special Awards K-2 Library Award

Awarded for a shown love of books and reading in the Library - Sophie Starr

3-6 Library Award

Awarded for a shown love of books and reading in the Library - Charlie Denver

Young Scientist Award K-2

Awarded to a student who shows dedication and curiosity to the sciences - Alectra Mayo-Storer

Special Category Awards Above and Beyond Award K-6

Awarded to a student who strives for success in all areas of their schooling – Ali Coombes

Excellence Award K-6

Awarded to a student of strong moral character who represents all aspects of Barraba Central School – Holli Thomson Visual Arts Award K-6

Awarded to a student for Creativity & Natural Artistic Flair – William Fitzgerald Young Scientist Award 3-6 Awarded to a student who shows dedication and curiosity to the sciences – Charlie Denver Visual Arts Award 7-12 Awarded to a student who shows passion and dedication to Visual Design – Phoebe Watkin-Wilson Photography Design Award 7-12 Awarded to a student who shows passion and dedication to photography – Brianna Wilson P&C's Award for Excellent **Representation K-6** Awarded to a student who is dedicated to their school and their community – Jock Cabot P&C's Award for Excellent **Representation 7-12** Awarded to a student who is dedicated to their studies and their community – Hannah Walker **Community Citizenship Award 7-12** Awarded to a student who is dedicated to supporting their community - Bella Dipple **Community Citizenship Award 7-12** Awarded to a student who is dedicated to supporting their community – Jack Myers Young Scientist Award 7-12 Awarded to a student who has a passion for science and pursues it with dedication and curiosity - Cody Graves **Agricultural Encouragement Award** 7-12

Awarded to a student who shows passion and enthusiasm for Agriculture - Coben Todd **Agricultural Award for Commitment** 7-12

Awarded to a student who is dedicated to the study of agriculture and its pursuits – Hannah Walker **Public Speaking Award 3-6**

Awarded to a student who has strived for success in public speaking - Ali Coombes Debating Award 3-6 Awarded to a student who has strived for success in debating -Abigail Johnson **Public Speaking Award 7-12** Awarded to a student who has strived for success in public speaking - Jasmine Coombes Consistent Effort in all areas of the Curriculum K-6 – Laura Russell Scholarship for Continuing Education Year 6 to 7 Grace Hierzer The HSIE Award 7-12 Awarded to a student dedicated to humanity subjects - Cody Graves Award for Excellence in English (7-

12)

Awarded to student that has excelled in their study of English and applies its concepts beyond the subject – Jasmine Coombes

Mathematics Excellence Award Awarded to a student who has excelled in their study of mathematics and applies its principles beyond the subject – Mia Coombes

Excellence in Music Award 7-12 Awarded to a student who has shown passion and excellence in music Ella-Rose Jobson-Grasnick 2024 Principal's Leadership Award 7-

12

Awarded to a student who has shown to be competent in all areas of Leadership – Hannah Walker SBAT Award

Awarded to a student who strives for success in their School Based Apprenticeship and Traineeship course – Coben Todd VET Awards Award for hard work, commitment and outstanding effort in their chosen subject - Animal Care - Certificate II - Gemma White - Animal Care - Certificate II - Lilly Turner **Reuben F Scarf Award for**

Commitment 7-12

Awarded to a student who is willing to give their time and energy to do something to enhance the status of Barraba Central School. Not necessarily for the highest achiever but for someone with the desire to improve – Gemma White

Ampol Best All Rounder 7-12

Awarded to a student for Recognition of a student's Excellence in Academic, Leadership, Sporting and Community Service activities – Hannah Walker

Year 5 Improvement Award Awarded to a student for demonstrating personal growth and aspiring to improve in all areas of their schooling - Hugh Crowley

Year 6 Improvement Award Awarded to a student for demonstrating personal growth and aspiring to improve in all areas of their schooling - Akira Kanno

Year 10 Encouragement Award awarded to a student who is most improved – Jackson Erenshaw

Year 12 Encouragement Award

Awarded to a student who is most improved – Chelsea Black

ADF Long Tan Leadership Teamwork Award Year 10

Awarded to the student who demonstrates leadership and teamwork within both the school and the broader local community – Phoebe Watkins-Wilson

ADF Long Tan Leadership Teamwork Award Year 12

Awarded to the student who demonstrates leadership and teamwork within both the school and the broader local community – Hannah Walker

Australian Defence Force - Young Innovators Award Year 10

The Australian Defence Force (ADF) Future Innovators Award has been designed to recognise recipients' science and mathematics abilities while highlighting the value the Navy, Army and Air Force place on STEM skills and STEM career opportunities within Defence – Cody Graves Australian Defence Force - Young Innovators Award Year 12

The Australian Defence Force (ADF) Future Innovators Award has been designed to recognise recipients' science and mathematics abilities while highlighting the value the Navy, Army and Air Force place on STEM skills and STEM career opportunities within Defence – Hannah Walker

Sporting Awards

2024 Most Dedicated Sportsperson of the Year K-6 – Holli Thomson 2024 Most Outstanding Display of Sportsmanship K-6 – Ali Coombes Most Outstanding Sports Team Performance K-6 - Primary Netball Team – Jock Cabot, Zane Chapman, Ali Coombes, Xavier Darlington, Wyatt Gill, Lachlan Hands, Abigail Johnson, Noah Lowe, Holli Thomson and Millah Wilkinson Primary Netball Team Presentation to Mrs Lowe and Mrs Coombes 2024 Most Dedicated Sportsperson of the Year 7-12 – Dustin Hiscock North West Blue Award to Dustin Hiscock

2024 Most Outstanding Display of Sportsmanship 7-12 – Leo Lawlor Most Outstanding Sports Team Performance 7-12 – U15's Netball Team – Isabelle Aitken, Matilda Alderton, Jasmine Coombes. Danah David, Lilly Groth, Shae Mallise, Andrea Riley, Amelia Walker and Sophie Watkins-Wilson State Champions Award Awarded to students who represented Barraba Central School at the State Level – Dustin Hiscock for U15's Rugby League Akira Kanno for State Swimming and Athletics Xavier Darlington for State Rugby Union Holli Thomson for State Netball **First in the Trial HSC for 2024** Hannah Walker

Golf Notes

After winning the chook last week on a countback, Luke Smith put the boot into the handicapper this week and came in with 23 points to be the clear winner. Handicapper has returned fire. Ball winners were Rob Sweeney 22, Bill Simpson and Sam Knight 21, Shayne Middlemiss and Charlie Cordingley 20 and Fermin Allan, Adam Scanlon and Ian Cabot with 19. With one week to go "Next Gen" (Corey Jordan, Cooper Chapman, Jack Myers and Dusty Hiscock) on 269 lead by 6 over "Eagle Hunters" (Luke Smith, Charlie Cordingley, Ryan Austin and Thabiso Msiza). Really good work by the young fellas as they have only won 2 chooks and 2 balls between them - just turn up and good solid scores. Next on 259 is "Stock and Crop" (Richard Pudicomb, Simon Koopman, Neil Smith and Ian Cabot), "Who Gives a Put" (Kevin Smith, Peter Summerell and Kevin Hawkshaw) 255 and "The Bogey Men" (Adam Scanlon, Nick Shapter, Chris Sweeney and Rob Sweeney) and "The Wouldbes" (Liam Johnston, Shayne Middlemiss, Jesse Phillips and Paige Phillips) both on 252. The rest are preparing for next year and working out what went wrong.

Merry Christmas to all and happy golfing.

BAR & FOOD AVAILABLE		HORTON	SPORTS GROUND 2073 OR SHELLY STEIGER - 0428 832 242
UPPER HORTON RODEO		UPPER HORTON CAMPDRAFT	
ENTRIES OPEN VIA ABCRA ICOMPE 3RD DECEMBER	TE:		ENTRIES OPEN VIA CAMPDRAFT CENTRAL: 5TH DECEMBER FOR 24 HRS - PAID BY 13TH DECEMBER
JUNIOR ROOKO-MONDAY: 4PM A NOVICE & OPEN EVENTS (NON-POINTS) - STARTST MONDAY 4PM Jackpot Junior Barrel Race 8-U11 Jackpot Junior Barrel Race 14-U18 Jackpot Junior Steer Ride 8-U11 Jackpot Junior Steer Ride 8-U11 Jackpot Junior Steer Ride 14-U18 S500 The Horton Valley Backjump Jackpot Junior Bull Ride 14-U18 Horton Valley Committee Horse Sthoot Out Featuring Upped TUESDAY 7PM	EF 520 EF 520 EF 520 EF 530 EF 535 EF 560 EF 535	AB: \$70 AB: \$70 AB: \$70 AB: \$70 AB: \$70 AB: \$75 AB: \$75 AB: \$70 AB: \$10 AB: \$10 AB: \$10 AB: \$10 AB: \$10 AB: \$10	SCRATCHINGS AFTER 23/12/2024 WILL FORFEIT ALL ENTRY FEES 7FIRST ROUND RUNS MODAY 1PM 51,000 Gwydir Share Council Encouragent Draft 67 515, 2 han Livet Jackpot Stophen King Memorial Open 4 Open Draft 67 517, 00400 Spit TUESDAY 6AM Jackpot Hart Rural Agencies Midden Draft 67 547, 80x404 a Finai, 80400 Spit 3000 Cawnights Stockhards Javenile 13-UT Praft 67 552, 2 han Livet 5300 The Warren Richards Javiers H13 Draft 67 552, 2 han Livet 52,000 Pollock & Cummins 91, Open Draft 87,000 Pollock & Cummins 91, Open Draft
\$500 Morgan Thoroughbreds Novice Saddle Bronc F Gaukroger & Sons Invereil.Jackpot Novice Bull Ride \$3,000 Pip Kelly Memorial Open Saddle Bronc \$500 R Z A Leather Poly Buckjump	EF: \$60 EF: \$40 EF: \$180 EF: \$60	AB: \$22 AB: \$22 AB: \$88 AB: \$88	WEDNESDAY GAM Jackpot Stock & Crop Barraba Novice Draft EF: 555, Round & Final, KO(HAS Spit S1,000 The: Jody Turubidi Memoral Ladies Draft EF: 635, TRun Limit, 17 Years & Over, Spomored by Elders Tamworth
HELMETS CAN SAVE LIVES Stallions must be collared and yarded. No Gass. No BYO, Dogs must be leas for GST. All privemoney inclusion et GST where applicable. Plad oct 1st to 5 The Committee reserves the right to erbuse any entry or to allor	hed. Committe h. Payouts via the programm	e registered Head Office. e.	Stallions must be colliered and yanded. No Diass, No DYG. Begs must be leasted. Committee registered for All protomony inclusive of GST where applicable. Bidens under the age of 8 must wave a herinet at all all white mountefficurousgement wild does must wave a herinet white Computing. Fair dop the 10th. Psycola Candpath Central. The Committee reserves the right to relice any nonmation for any event or to alle programme. Entry fee includes 50 took levels. Et logithy levels 250 first all evels \$130 centers are not not applied to the server from the server hering the server herin

Beyond Blue GPO BOX 1883 Melbourne VIC 3001

Dear Editor

The festive season can be a joyous time for many people, as they take a wellearned break from work and school and spend time with family and friends. It's a time to rest and reset for the new year.

Yet for others, this time of year can be particularly difficult, and the holidays may not feel "jolly" at all. It can bring additional financial pressures, relationship strain, or pressure to host the perfect Christmas. The season to be merry can also amplify feelings of isolation and loneliness, especially for those who are separated from family or have lost a loved one.

So, as we head into the holiday break, regardless of what you're dealing with, please know that you don't have to face this time alone. The Beyond Blue Support Service is free, confidential, and available around the clock, including on Christmas day. You can call 1300 22 46 36 or chat online to us at www.beyondblue.org.au/get-support.

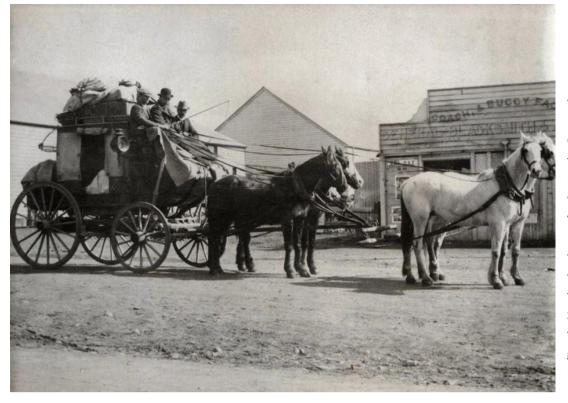
It's really common to put off seeking help because we can't quite find the words to express our needs.

But when you contact us, you don't have to know what to say. Our skilled counsellors will meet you where you're at and guide you towards where you need to be.

And finally, a big thankyou to everyone who has donated to Beyond Blue this year. Our support service is run purely on donations, so your kindness and generosity allow us to always be there when people need us the most.

Georgie Harman CEO of Beyond Blue

The following 2 photos were posted by Brian Coote in 2022



Barraba Coach & Buggy Factory @ 26 Maude St Barraba.

I put this photo in the window for a festival many years ago. Bill Carter one of the Carter family who had come back to Barraba to retire was looking at the various photos one morning and commented what a clear photo it was. I commented that I thought this was in Alice St and he told me no way that it was where my grandfather Coote built his house and had been burnt down years before.

That is Rupert Myers old 'boat-building' shed in the background. This all made complete sense as when we were kids dad ran our milker up there and there were burnt posts, burnt out post-holes, an old bricked well and lots of iron rubbish there.



Barraba Shire Picnic. I have no record of who took this or who loaned it for display or when it was taken. Prior to the mini-skirt anyway.

Not sure exactly where this was taken either. Presumably not far out of town. The small hill in the background is our only clue.