# Guyra Gazette

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www.guvragazette.com.au

# Is our Lagoon at risk?



Friends of the Mother of Ducks Lagoon (Photo by Donna Davidson)

**Above I to r:** James Lenehan, Ian and Jerissa Saunders, Rob Lenehan, Belinda Lenehan, David Saunders, Gordon Youman, Reaghan Woods, Dennis Saunders, Joy Saunders, Georgia Smith, Neil Saunders, Daria Hadley, Laurie Smith, Kylie Woods, Hamish Woods, Aimee Lenehan, Mitchell Woods, Rebecca Smith

A concerned group of Guyra residents fear that the town is propping up the Costa Group expansion and that the long term future of the community, local agriculture and international water birds is at risk.

Ongoing drought conditions mean that both Guyra and Armidale remain on level 5 water restrictions and Armidale Regional Council (ARC) has recently developed a network of bores tapping the groundwater on the Northern Tablelands.

Questions are now being

asked about the number of bores sunk in Guyra and how this water will be used.

The Costa Group are expanding their hydroponic glasshouse operations despite ongoing drought, telling shareholders that tomato production continues to grow, although this has led to "an increase in water demand and the need to source alternative water solutions".

Local resident and farmer Rebecca Smith wants to know how these "alternative water solutions" are being developed and how monitoring of impact is being undertaken:

"Questions to Armidale Regional Council about the potential impact of these new bores on the long-term water security of our region are deferred to a report that they will not publicly release," Rebecca said.

"We feel the response so far has been inadequate and many of our questions remain unanswered.

"Have we reached capacity on the Northern Tablelands for water intensive industries? Is this the right place to expand water intensive industry if the community is already on Level 5 restrictions?"

"We may need this ground-water for our community's future survival," Rebecca said.

"I fear that predictions for a hotter and drier climate are not being adequately considered."

The Friends of Mother of Ducks Lagoon are lodging concerns with the Natural Resource Access Regulator (NRAR).

Continued page 3>>>>

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# Water sustainability number one for Costa Group

Michael Engeman, General Manager, Costa Tomatoes has responded to concerns raised by residents over water security and said that the drought has reinforced the importance for Costa to become even more efficient in their water use.

The \$67 million expansion of its tomato glasshouse operation was announced in 2018, with a further 10 hectares of glasshouse currently under construction on its site to the north of Guyra.

"As an Australian agricultural business Costa rates water as our number one sustainability issue and we have absolutely no interest in depriving the local community of their water needs, especially given many of them work in our glasshouses," Mr Engeman said. "To suggest otherwise is simply wrong."

"Our New England Highway site is already water self-sufficient meaning we don't use any town water on our crops," he said.

"The new glasshouse we are constructing at that site which will create an additional 160 jobs and between 60 to 80 local construction jobs, will build on this self-sufficiency.

"This includes increased water capture capacity on the site in order to decrease any reliance on bores and reduce the risk of not having adequate water supply in any future drought conditions."

Mr Engeman also said that Costa will continue to increase their recycling and reuse of water.

"Over the last 12 months we have doubled our recycled drain water storage capacity at our Elm Street site," he said.

"This is expected to save up to 140 megalitres of drain water per annum and increase Costa's drain water recycling rate from 70% to 100%."



Michael Engeman, General Manager, Costa Tomatoes

# Sam to head Angus Australia

Guyra beef producer Sam White has been declared the 46th President of Angus Australia, following a meeting of the Board of Directors held via teleconference on May 28th.

Sam owns and runs family-based farming business, Bald Blair Angus, with his wife Kirsty and two sons, Abbott and Arthur. He is the third generation of Whites to run Bald Blair Angus.

The family operates a seedstock and commercial Angus herd, as well as crossbred sheep, run on Bald Blair and other properties east of Guyra.

The White family has run Angus cattle on their properties for well over 100 years. The Bald Blair herd was first recorded in 1908, with Angus cattle part of the family's business since the late 1880's. The family have been members of the Angus Society over the last 101 years as one of the original founding members, and have been involved in the Angus Society throughout that time.

Sam has been an active member of a number of Angus Australia Board committees and consultative committees, assisting in advisory roles. He resonates with the trials and tribulations of his fellow members with regards to the issues



Guyra's Sam White is the new President of Angus Australia

faced by producers in recent years.

"2018 and 2019 have been unforgettable in terms of drought and impact on family businesses," he said. "The Angus breed remains, it has weathered the tough times, not only now but in the past as well.

"Angus cattle and their progeny were sort after during the tough times, and now as it turns, they remain well sort after also; the Angus Premium continues. They are truly a resilient breed."

In looking forward to his upcoming term as president of Angus Australia, Sam said he recognises what is facing the Angus breed going forth, as well as the strength it provides producers.

"Now more than ever our businesses will be impacted by droughts (as they have always been), by International trade disputes, pandemics (COVID 19), by uncertainties which we have no control over; there is no better breed than Angus to have as part of a grazing business model, because of their ability to be able to target a large range of markets, both domestically and internationally."

# Stock theft

The Rural Crime Prevention team are currently investigating the theft of three 2nd cross Suffolk ewe lambs and one 2nd cross Suffolk wether lamb, missing from a property on the Baldersleigh Road west of Guyra.

The ewe lambs have gone missing between the end of April and 1st of June 2020 and the wether lamb has gone missing between the 9th and 10th of June 2020.

The sheep had been freshly crutched and where shorn in January 2020. They had an ear mark of a slit out of the end and out of the bottom of the offside ear. The wether also had a green coloured NLIS tag fitted with the PIC number NJ020093 on it.

Investigators from the Rural Crime Prevention team at Inverell are keen to speak with any person who may be able to assist with any information in relation to the missing sheep or any person or vehicles which have been sighted acting suspiciously in or around the Baldersleigh Road at Guyra.

Police are urging anyone with information in relation to this incident to call Rural Crime Prevention Team - Inverell 67220530/31 or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or use the Crime Stoppers online reporting page.

# \$66,270 grant secured for Showground

Repairs to its grandstands, an upgraded main arena fence and fresh coat of paint will ensure Guyra Showground wins a blue ribbon for presentation come the 2021 Guyra Show.

Northern Tablelands MP Adam Marshall has announced a \$66,270 State Government grant for a range of projects which will make the showground more secure, accessible and safe.

The secretary's office and canteen will receive a fresh lick of paint inside and out, while the grandstands will also be painted and any broken boards and panels replaced. The cattle shed will be made look more professional and easier to maintain with a concrete floor to be put down over the existing earthen floor.

Mr Marshall said that the Guyra Show Committee has always been an organisation which can make \$1 go a long way and congratulated them for the list of projects it put for



Member for Northern Tablelands Adam Marshall, left and Guyra Show Society President Richard Post take a seat on the Guyra Showground grandstands, which will be upgraded as part of a grant from the NSW Government.

ward for funding under the State Government's COVID-19 Showgrounds Stimulus Package."

Guyra Show Society Presi-

dent Richard Post said the Showground was a prominent landmark in the community and deserves to be well maintained and look its best. "Like most show societies, we always have a list of projects longer than your arm quoted and ready to go for when funding becomes available," Richard said. "Over the next three to four months a variety of local contractors and services will be employed on these projects, with the committee keen to share the work around and see as many tradies as possible benefit from the stimulus.

"Already, as part of this program, we have lined up the Guyra Men's Shed to build a new set of display units which will be used to show cakes in the pavilion.

"I want to thank Adam and Armidale Regional Council for their support in getting these important projects delivered.

"Having these works funded by the government will ease financial pressure on our committee and ensure the community continues to have a facility which meets its needs now and into the future."

# Administrator called in

Following weeks of speculation and ongoing disagreements between councillors, Armidale Regional Council has been suspended.

Minister for Local Government Shelley Hancock made the decision to suspend the council after carefully considering its submission in response to a notice of intention issued on May 19.

The suspension follows serious concerns about the council's ability to function properly and effectively following a breakdown of relationships between councillors and key council officers.

Local government veteran Viv May PSM has been appointed as administrator for a period of three months.

Mr May has nearly 50 years' experience in the NSW local government sector. He has previously been administrator of the suspended Auburn City Council and the new Cumberland Council in 2016, and

served as a general manager of Mosman Council.

The interim administrator will perform the functions of the mayor and councillors for three months. The administrator's salary will be the same as the fees paid to the suspended councillors.

Member for Northern Tablelands Adam Marshall welcomed the announcement and said it was the right decision in helping address the dysfunction within Council's leadership.

"While this is a sad day for the Armidale Regional Council it is a much needed and positive step towards addressing the deep organisational and management issues which have plagued this term of council," Mr Marshall said.

"Rebuilding the relationship between ARC and the rate-payers will take time, however I believe the appointment is the first step in once again creating that trust. Mr May has scheduled an Extraordinary Council for Thursday June 18th where he will detail his role as Interim Administrator

He will also outline how he proposes to deal confidentially with all persons who may wish to raise matters or issues relating to the Council's suspension.

Mr May issued a statement saying that residents may be assured that he will do his best to independently serve in an honest, open and transparent way ensuring all community voices are heard.

He also confirmed he has had professional relationships with both suspended Councillor and former administrator Ian Tiley and the CEO Ms Susan Law.

While the suspension of the mayor and councillors is initially for three months, if necessary, that period can be extended a further three months (six months in total).

#### >>> from page 1

They fear that bore extraction will come at a great cost to the water security of the region, agricultural productivity and the Endangered Ecological Community at the Mother of Ducks lagoon.

The group say they have received a geological report that highlights the possible risks to the region's water security. They say their report says: "There are no miracle sources of water connected to Guyra's aquifer. Our rainfall recharge rate might be as little as one per cent. This demonstrates that, if you care about the future, the Guyra fractured basalt aquifer is not a huge resource waiting to be exploited."

They are now calling on Armidale Regional Council to suspend all works in advance of regulatory approval, release the hydrogeologist report and conduct a transparent investigation of groundwater recharge and sustainable use.

### What's HOT

**NEIGHBOURS** showing kindness to neighbours who are down.

**SPECTACULAR** Sunsets

WINTER RAIN and the promise of more to come

**GUYRA CROSSWORD** is back this week

**SNOW** a possibilityfor next Monday



#### What's NOT

**SUPER SPUDS** season not going ahead due to pandemic

**GOLFERS** hitting it out on the golf course

# **QUOTE** of the week

Regardless of your past, your future is a clean slate

Bureau of Meteorology



#### WATCH

Guyra MPS

Date Day Min Max Rain

9	Tues	3.6	12.5	0
10	Wed	7.2	14.3	0
11	Thurs	5.7	14.9	15.0
13	Fri	4.2	15.5	0
14	Sat	4.4	15.9	0
15	Sun	8.2	14.1	6

Rain this week 36mm
June rainfall 42.6mm
Rainfall YTD 514.4mm
Rainfall last YTD 182.4mm

Mon -0.9 15.9 15

454mm

Information supplied by Jeff Martin, Observer for Bureau of Meteorology

Ave. rain to June

## NSW Farmers branch meets online

The Guyra branch of the NSW Farmers recently held their AGM via a Goto Meeting internet link up. It was well attended with people having the luxury of logging in and attending the meeting whilst staying at home to comply with COVID 19 rules.

The incoming executive are President Callan Schaefer, Vice President Jenni Jackson, Secretary Bill O'Halloran and Treasurer Sally White.

NSW Farmers President James Jackson was in attendance and gave an update on what the association has been up to. COVID 19 rules meant the head office was shut down but all staff continued working from home and embraced Goto Meeting technology.

Drought is still high on their agenda and state government has been forthcoming in allocating a further \$116m to continue drought subsidy support. NSWF is lobbying hard to have the Koala SEPP reversed. Members are advised to check the status of their properties

Bushfire assistance has been



Callan Schaefer will serve another term as President of NSW Farmers Guyra branch

another agenda item for lobbying with the politicians and government has allocated \$209m to a fencing program on affected properties. NSW Farmers continues discussions with NSW government over the use of cattle grazing in national parks at times, to help reduce fuel loads.

NSW Farmers has been working hard on ensuring the international trade impacts of the Corona Virus pandemic are mitigated as much as possible for

agriculture products.

Motions for conference were discussed and the following have been sent in for Annual Conference

- 1. Retail telecommunications companies be structurally separated from transmission infrastructure owners.
- 2. Roaming be mandated on all wireless telecommunications infrastructure
- 3. DPIE Water Department be sufficiently resourced to service requests in a timely manner for water resource plans and water access licence applications
- 4. The beneficiaries of biosecurity contribute on a pro-rata basis to the cost of biosecurity services, including importers, processors and traders.
- 5. Wool Producers Australia to not be the oversight authority for AWI.
- 6. That Zilmax (zilpaterol hydrochloride) or any other beta agonist not be registered in Australia for use in cattle.

It is still uncertain as to when or if a face to face annual conference will be held due to Covid19

# From the archives - Former MUIOOF Hall

The Manchester Unity of Oddfellows first started in 1902 with forty members. In February 1907 tenders were called for the Oddfellows Hall at Guyra and on March 21st, 1907 the tender of Mr J Spinks at £198 was accepted for the erection of the Hall. The building was to be centrally situated (opposite the Public School) and as it would be fitted with a stage and all necesarrangement entertainment, they hoped it would prove to be a profitable Investment for the local Oddfellows Lodge beside being a great public convenience.

The Guyra Argus May 30th, 1907 reported that the erection of the Oddfellows Hall was well in hand; the walls and roof are finished but the flooring was delayed for the want of timber. The opening of the new Oddfellows hall was held on Saturday 15th June, 1907.

In early October 1911 considerable improvements were being undertaken at the Oddfellows Hall. A brick founda-



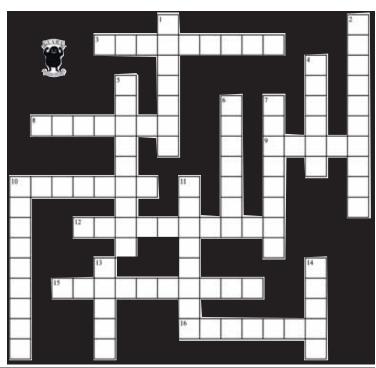
tion was being put down and it was intended to lay a new floor of tallow wood. The old flooring was to be used to line up to eight feet. A four-foot stage was to be erected at the front door and a ticket office was also to be completed. A grand Ball was planned to re-open the hall and four years later, another Grand Ball was held on 28th May to mark the opening of further improvements and to raise fund for the National Belgium Relief Fund.

A new MUIOOF hall was opened on May 14th, 1930. It replaced the old hall that had

served the organisation for the past 28 years. P.G Master Brother Morgan Stephens, who assisted the establishment of the Guyra Lodge, attended the function and Grand master Brother G.A Jones was asked to perform the official opening. The Main hall measured 58 feet by 40 feet and the Lodge Room 14 feet by 40 feet. The contractor was E.D. Moore of Tamworth. The ceremony was attended by a large representative gathering of citizens and nine district lodge were represented.

# Rural Market Report

#### **SUDOKU - Easy** 3 5 6 1 4 5 3 1 6 4 2 9 6 1 4 9 5 6 4 5 8 1 3 4 2 6 9 8 1 5 9 2 3 5



#### **CROSSWORD CLUES**

#### <u>Across</u>

- 3. Parish name also a street
- 8. Home of Red Llons
- 9. Picture theatre name at time of closure
- 10. Federal member for New England
- 12. Surname of recently re-

tired fire captain

- 15. Street Guyra shares with the Monoply board (4,6)
- 16. Anglican Church (2,4) Down
- 1. Family who owned department store closed 1990s
- 2. Tubbamurra Church
- 4. What is a Guyra Blue?
- 5. Foundation President of Bowling Club (surname)
- 6. Mountain vineyard near Tingha
- 7. What does the L in GALA stand for?
- 10. A frog, a street and a creek
- Garage which stood where Dasha's Hardware is
- 13. Street name shared with former butchery
- 14. Happens when temps drop below zero

**HINT: Local knowledge** 

## Guyra Sheep & lamb Sale

June 10th - There was a yarding of 5880 at last week's Guyra Sheep & Lamb Sale. There were increases in both the sheep and lamb offerings with 4,440 lambs and 1,440 sheep penned.

The quality of the lambs was up with the best of the season. Lambs to suit restockers were limited in supply. The majority of the offering

were well finished heavy and extra heavy weights.

The usual processors were in attendance, however restocker activity was reduced to local competition only. Market trends were cheaper through most lamb categories.

The lightest lambs to restockers remained firm, while the better

quality lambs were slightly cheaper. Well finished lambs to process saw the heavy and extra heavy weights show the largest correction. Those under 22kg estimated dressed were least affected showing only modest falls.

There were limited supply of woolly Merino sheep as the majority of producers chose to shear the

longer skins. Condition was fair to good. Weaker demand from processors resulted in cheaper trends for the well finished sheep.

Restocker demand increased for Merino wethers with those returning to paddocks selling to a dearer trend, with quality also improving. Heavy rams sold to cheaper trends.

#### Armidale Cattle Sale

June 11th - Numbers remained steady at 900 with young cattle and cows well supplied. There were a few well finished grown heifers, very few heavy grown steers.

The quality of the offering was mostly good with limited numbers of secondary cattle penned. There were quite a few well finished lots with processors well catered for.

There was increased processor competition, mostly domestic. There was a greater presence of restocker and feedlot buyers. There was strong demand from restockers for lightweight cattle, the vealer steers experiencing strong gains.

The heavier weights showing little

change in trend. The heifer portion followed a similar trend. Medium and heavyweight yearling steers to feed saw little but quality and breed related price change.

Lightweight yearling heifers to restockers sold to cheaper trends. Medium and heavy weights up to 25c/kg dearer in places, some of that was quality. Well finished grown heifers to processors saw little but quality related price change. Breed was a factor in some very strong sale of heifers to restockers.

There was little change in the cow market with a good supply of heavyweights. The best of the heavy bulls remained firm.

#### Weekly Wool Sales

June 12th - After posting its first back to back weekly rise for the calendar year the market was unable to maintain the upward momentum this week

Most of the past fortnights increases were given back with demand not being able to keep up with the additional quantity on offer this week. Most of the individual micron indicators lost around 30 cents with the Crossbred types the only sector of the market to manage a small gain.

19,146 bales were sold nationally for the week with a passed in rate of 12.1%. Major buyers included Lempriere, Endeavour and Techwool. With the Western region not having a sale scheduled again for next week the national offering drops back to an expected 16,800 bales.

The offering continues to be dominated by lower yielding, lower style types impacting on exporter's abilities to average these through orders. The limited selection of better style types being offered have been in solid demand and these were least impacted by this week's fall.

With only two weeks to go in the current selling season the number of first hand bales offered for auction nationally is down 18.5% or almost 277,000 bales...

#### **MEALS ON WHEELS**

18 June Lesley Credland 19 June Ann Williams

22 June New England Mutual Staff

23 June Pam Hart 24 June Guyra CWA

#### **CHURCH SERVICES**

St. Mary of the Angels Catholic Church -Guyra:

Mass 6pm Saturday Contact: 6779 1667

St. Columba's Presbyterian Church: 9am Sunday followed by morning tea

The Chapel:

66 Llangothin Street Sunday Service: 10am

Contact: Linden Pollard 0412 531 883

#### **FOOD PANTRY**

**Food Pantry at The Chapel** 

1st, 3rd & 5th Friday of the month. 10am - 12pm and 1pm - 2.30pm.

#### **GARAGE SALE**

SUNDAY, MONDAY & TUESDAY 28th, 29th & 30th June at Llangothlin on the Highway. Furniture, household goods, bric-a-brac. Not before 9am.

#### **MEETINGS**

**GUYRA GOLF LADIES** AGM will now be held on July 15th - all welcome.

#### **FIREWOOD**

MIXED FIREWOOD. Ute or bogey trailer loads available. Call 0429 302 600

#### RAFFLE RESULTS

**BALD BLAIR SCHOOL Committee** 100 Club: 1st Ben Stone, 2nd Meg Simpson, 3rd Kate Moffatt. Thanks to all who supported us.

#### **PUBLIC NOTICES**

JIGSAW PUZZLE EXCHANGE now operating at Burgess Garage. Bring in your puzzles to exchange for new ones.

#### WHERE'S SUPER SPUD

Find Super Spud! This week you need to look for Super Spud. He appears three times. There are no prizes just put your detective hats on tear your hair out looking for him!

#### **DEATH NOTICE**

#### **HAMMOND**; GAY CHRISTINA 10th June 2020

Of O'Donnell Ave, Guyra.

Dearly loved wife of Ray. Loving mother and mother-In-law of Gerard, Ray (jnr) & Kristy, Margot, Anthony, Josie and loved grandmother of their families.

Loved daughter of the late Thyra & Jack Stanley.

Loving sister of Angela, Robyn, Helen, Peter, Michael, Timothy, Catheryn, Richard and fond aunt of their families.

Aged 76 Years



Piddington's AFDA

6772 2288

#### **WILSON**; MARCIA MAY (Nee Moore) Aged 102 Years

Passed away peacefully on her birthday, 29th May 2020.

Adored and loved wife of Wallace (returned AIF, dec'd). Loving mother of Robyn Suzanne (dec'd), Maryanne. Loved mother-in-law of Douglas, Glen and Leith.

Much loved grandmother of Sheila, Dougal, Eliza, Angus, Stuart, Oskar, Tim, Emma, Somer, Beau and greatgrandmother of 17 great-grandchildren.

Marcia's funeral service was held on Thursday, 4th June 2020 at 2pm at Eco Memorial Park, Stapylton, Qld.

#### **GUYRA VINNIES CONFERENCE**

**GUYRA VINNIES CONFERENCE, Care** & Support have a new mobile number for clients to contact us.

Mobile: 0467 591 020 Shop number; 6779 2133.

email: guyraconf@vinnies.org.au We are open each Wednesday only, from 2pm to 4 pm. Clients can ring or email or drop in on Wednesdays.

Note: We are now re-open for face to face interviews.

#### **CLAIM THE DATE**

SUNDAY, 8th NOVEMBER: Guyra Cup (note postponement from 19th April).

#### **CLAIM THE DATE**

For your event or function Phone: 6779 2132

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**



#### **TRADES & SERVICES**



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# **Gazette's Celebrity Footy Tipping**













Soley, Vu and the Gazette top-scored with 14 points which puts Soley well in the lead on 57 points.

Dragging the chain a bit are B&L and the Gazette in 2nd place on 53 points, followed by Sue and Vu on 49. In the Wooden Spoon position is Ben on 45.

The surprise of the week surely must be that the Dragons actually won a game!

For our Locals, Hazel, the Red Devils, GG and the Red V achieved the top score of 14 points. This now puts GG at the top of the Locals Leaderboard on 55 points with Hazel joining Eel-be-Right in 2nd place on 53.

From the Desk redeemed himself this week, scoring 12 points to be in equal 3rd place with Chris, Bulldog and the Terrible Twosome on 51.

A whole host of Locals are in the middle of the field all on 47 points so there should be some sorting out this week.

axation













Sue's Tips **Broncos** Rabbits Storm **Dragons** Cowboys Roosters

Sea Eagles

**Sharks** 



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6779 1276 or 0419 606 103

Score: 49



Eels Raiders

Sharks

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p: 6779 1267

Score: 57

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#### B-&-L's Tips

Knights Rabbits Storm **Dragons** Cowboys Roosters Raiders Sharks



#### **Fourways Service Centre**

Maxxis Tyres & other leading brands Mechanical repairs Log book servicing Rego inspections



87-89 Bradley Street 6779 1284

Score: 53

#### Ben's Tips Knights

Rabbitohs Storm **Titans Tigers** 

Roosters Raiders Sharks



This week's specials Navel Oranges - \$3.50 kg Beef Porterhouse Steak \$16 ka Whole Chickens - \$3 kg

94 Bradley Street, Guyra

6779 1555

Score: 45

#### **Gazette's Tips**

Knights Rabbits Storm **Dragons Tigers** Eels Raiders

Sharks



Your local newspaper

#### Contact us on:

news@gala.org.au advertising@gala.org.au

6779 2132

Score: 53

#### Vu's Tips

Knights Rabbits Storm **Dragons** West Tigers

Eels Raiders **Sharks** 



Get your Flu shot before the Flu gets you! Available at **Guyra Pharmacy** NOW

106 Bradley Street, Guyra 6779 1192

**Pharmacist Advice** 



Score: 49

# **Gazette Footy Tipping**

GG	55	The 3 Bunnies	47
Eel-be-Right	53	Elva Brazier	47
Hazel	53	Red Devils	47
Chris Morley	51	The Red V	47
Bulldog	51	Rock 3	43
Terrible Twosome	51	WKAD	35
From the Desk	51	Famous Five	35
Sarbear	47	Old Chook	35
Jy Starr	47	Dason	27
Nightwatchman	47		

#### Locals Entry Form - Round 7

Tips must be submitted by 4.00pm on Wednesday, 24th June

Name:			
Phone:			
	Panthers	VS	Rabbits
	Storm	VS	Warriors
	Roosters	VS	Dragons
	Cowboys	VS	Knights
	Broncos	VS	Titans
	Eels	VS	Raiders
	Sea Eagles	VS	Sharks
	Bulldogs	VS	Tigers

# Group 19 call it quits on season 2020

A massive effort to get the Super Spuds back on the paddock this year was no match for a global pandemic in the end.

Group 19 announced the cancellation of the senior rugby league season on Monday after a majority of clubs voted against participating in 2020.

With uncertainty about allowing crowds into games and subsequent financial pressures, along with concerns for players' welfare and the difficulties around meeting health regulations, the decision was made not to go ahead.

It is a disappointing situation for the Spuds because this season had promised so much.

The club had an under 18s squad for the first time in many years, women's leaguetag player numbers were up and the men's side was starting to see better numbers at training.

It will now have to put all of its energy into 2021 and ensuring the coaches, players, sponsors and supporters who committed to helping out this year will be able to return bigger and better next year.

#### Vets Golf

We finally got back to competition golf last week. For the moment we are hitting off at 11 o'clock and playing under the COVID restricted rules.

Seven golfers played an individual stableford with the winner Len Stanley scoring 36. Runner up with 34 was Robert Moore.

The nearest the pins were Len Stanley on the 7th and Wal Chapman on the 18th. It was great to see Robert play with us and also we welcomed a new member, Adrian Seward.

The final of the NEVGA 4 ball competition that was to be played at Guyra in August has been cancelled and the completion of the Pennants is still up in the air with no decision yet whether to abandon the last two games or reschedule them sometime later in the year.

A Vet

#### Ladies' Golf

Last week the ladies played a Stableford with Shona Mulligan winning Jenni Jackson's trophy on 34 points. Wendy George was the runner up with 31 points.

Nearest the Pin Winners were Vicki Reeves on the 9th hole and Belinda Lenehan on the 10th and 18th holes.

This week we are playing a Stroke and Putting Competition along with a Golf NSW Medal Round.

Next week is the Canadian Foursomes Associate's Cup sponsored by "Juneils Cafe". The starter is Karen Oehlers.

Please note that the ladies AGM will now be held on July 15th.

Birdie

# New England Community College Corner

New England Community College(GALA) have successfully recommenced face to face training courses with new regulations in place in Guyra, Armidale and Glen Innes. Check the website <a href="https://www.gala.org.au">https://www.gala.org.au</a> for upcoming courses such as First Aid, RSA, RCG and Food Safety Supervisor.

# Are we still offering Certificate Courses?

Yes. We have quite a few certificate courses on offer—Certificate 1 in Information, digital media and Technology; Certificate 11 in Business and Certificate III in Business just to mention a few. We have had some interest in the blended learn-

ing for these, which means working through the course a unit at a time from home with support available from their trainer.

# Can anyone come in and use a computer at GALA?

We have available for public use a computer with internet available. First 30 minutes are free internet then a minimal cost of \$2 for the next 30 minutes. GALA printing rates apply to anything that is printed.

# Is our refurbished training room available for hire?

It certainly is. Check with us for special hire rates, availability of a smart board and any extras that may be required.

# Do you have a JP available?

We have two JP's in the office to help you. They are available to certify documents that have been photocopied.

# Courses in Guyra June & July 2020

Chemical Course Chemical Refresher First Aid WHS White Card RMS Traffic Control postponed TBA postponed TBA

12<sup>th</sup> July 22<sup>nd</sup> July 23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> July

## New England Community College



RTO 90145

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www.gala.org.au



If you need access to a computer, you will find one available for public use in the foyer at GALA. Staff can assist if necessary