

# Guyra Gazette

Wednesday December 21, 2022

Circulation 1680

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www.guyragazette.com.au

## Fireworks to bring in 2023

Whenever we think of fireworks and New Year's Eve we recall one of the best known fireworks displays in the world held in and around Sydney Harbour.

Guyra is certainly a long way down the list of New Year's Eve displays, but this year residents will be treated to a spectacular fireworks display of our own.

Although we don't have a harbour, Guyra does have a close connection with a Pyrotechnics Priest known as Holysmoke or as some refer him as Father Crackers.

Many can recall when Fr. Anthony was our parish priest at Saint Mary of the Angels Catholic Church. Although now stationed at Tamworth he will be back in town on New Year's Eve to light up the sky and provide what could be known as "Australia's highest New Year's Eve Fireworks display"!

Everyone is invited to share in the excitement and spectacle of what will be a special event for Guyra. Father Anthony promises to put a smile on the faces of young and old.

"I have been working on this



Father Anthony Koppman (aka Father Crackers) and his Therapy Chaplain Dog "Veena"

display for some time to create a spectacle of colour and unique effects," Fr. Anthony said.

"It has been a tough year for all of us as a community and I look forward to bringing back the joy and happiness that unites us in a spirit of support to each other."

Fr. Anthony's Holysmoke is now in its 21st year providing displays to various community

groups and events throughout our region. For so many it has been a star in the dark sky to light up our communities as we look forward to a brighter new year.

Armidale Regional Council has been extremely supportive of this event which first started in Armidale 12 years ago by Fr. Anthony.

"I went around collecting funds from various businesses so a dis-

play could be provided at no cost to the community where families could celebrate in a safe and enjoyable place to watch the fireworks just like Sydney enjoy," he said.

"Over the years, it has become an event that draws huge crowds and many families look forward as part of their celebrations."

This year Armidale will have the usual 9pm display at Rologas Sports Field and for the first time Guyra will have its very own New Year's Eve display also at 9pm.

An invitation is extended to all the Guyra Community and visitors to gather around the Guyra Recreation Ground (Ted Mulligan Oval) for the 9pm display.

"Let's say goodbye to the end of the year and welcome a new year with the enthusiasm and support of each other that makes Guyra a town we are all proud of.

"Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year Guyra and lets start the year with a happiness and joy."

Fr. Anthony has one last piece of advice - don't forget to care of your pets before coming to watch the display.

### 'SHOP LOCAL' in December and go into our Christmas give-away

- 1<sup>st</sup> prize: ICEZONE 48L Esky (valued at \$236.75)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> prize: LION Rescue Light (valued at \$59.95)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> prize: LION 4PCE Ratchet Tie Straps (valued at \$21.50)
- 4<sup>th</sup> prize: HOME Umbrella (valued at \$17.00)

### Our Christmas trading hours will be:

Closed:

Sun, Mon, Tues 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> December  
Sunday & Monday 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> January  
Normal trading hours on other days.

**Dasha, Tania & staff wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**  
**We thank you for shopping locally and for your support during 2022**

**HOME**  
TIMBER & HARDWARE  
WHERE THE TRADIES GO

**Dasha's Hardware & Building Supplies**

**61 Ollera Street, Guyra**  
**Phone: 6779 2444**



# Costa Tomatoes celebrates end of successful year

Costa Tomatoes is celebrating the end of a successful year with Christmas celebrations for employees. Costa State Manager NSW Vertical Farming, Scot MacDonald, said it had been a successful year and he welcomed the support from the entire team, local businesses and the community.

“We started the year with our expanded glasshouses coming into full production. This means we now have the capacity to produce up to 20 million kilograms of tomatoes per annum,” Mr MacDonald said.

“Our new facilities also include a 2.5 hectare nursery, where we are trialling new varieties to meet the demands of our customers.

“It’s been really exciting seeing this project come to fruition, which has flow-on benefits for the whole region including expenditure on goods and services within the New England region of approximately \$11 million a year.”

Mr MacDonald said a key focus throughout the year was supporting the local community and organisations across the region. This has included support for the Armidale Regional Show, Guyra Show Society, Armidale based social enterprise Back Track, Duval Dam Buster Trail Run and UNE Agriculture Careers Expo. Costa also offered a \$5000 scholarship through UNE.

“We have also continued to provide our healthy tomatoes to numerous organisations and



Samoan workers at Costa cheered on their team at the Rugby League World Cup

schools and have had the opportunity to host a number of local groups for tours of our facility.

“At a broader level, Costa’s tomato and mushroom operations have partnered with Coles to contribute \$200,000 over two years to the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation, which promotes healthy food habits from a young age.”

Mr MacDonald thanked all employees including those from the Pacific Islands.

“It was great to see the excitement in our work-

force as they followed the Samoan team reach the final of the Rugby League World Cup. It was the first time a Pacific Island nation had reached this level.

“We are very grateful for the support of our local community, and in particular want to acknowledge the members of our Costa Tomato Exchange Community Reference Group – Dot Vickery, Rev Andrew Campbell, David Bearup – for their valuable contribution through the year.”

**Creating Capability & Confidence for Community Champions**

*Apply Online Now!*

**Residents of the New England & North West have the opportunity to take part in an exciting new educational program aimed at increasing community leadership capacity!**

Delivered by award winning business leader and trainer, Julia Spicer OAM, this free program has been developed for existing, emerging and future leaders who are working or volunteering in community, business or government roles including sport and recreation, art, culture and community groups.

**Are you passionate and purposeful?**

**Do you want to make a difference in your community?**

**Do you want to build skills in leadership?**

**Want confidence to play a more active role?**

**Interested in being part of a network of regional leaders?**

*Apply online today!*

[bit.ly/CommunityChampions2023](https://bit.ly/CommunityChampions2023) *Scan me!*



**EXTENDED Applications now close 16 January 2023**  
**For more information visit [www.glenrac.org.au/other-opportunities](http://www.glenrac.org.au/other-opportunities) or call GLENRAC on 02 6732 3443**



# Council agrees to purchase Oaky River Dam

Armidale Regional Council (ARC) last week resolved to secure the purchase of the Oaky River Dam, to address the region's underlying water security needs, which emerged as needing urgent attention during the long period of drought.

ARC Mayor Sam Coupland said that water security is the number one issue preventing our region from growing.

"We need to provide a long-term solution to allow the region to sustainably support growth over the next few years," he said.

"The timing is perfect, as Council had identified Oaky River Dam as the preferred water supply option in March this year. This will be wonderful for our whole region."

Armidale Regional Council General Manager, James Roncon, said Council has acted quickly when the option to purchase Oaky River Dam became available and it has been the preferred option to address water security.

"The Hydro-Electric Scheme built in 1956, suffered damage in 2013 and so is no longer active. Whilst it does require work to repair and develop into a water source, is critical infrastructure and will ensure our region is better prepared for any future drought," Mr Roncon said.

"Compared with creating a whole new dam, with Oaky it means the impact on the environment is already known. It's a logical choice to establish as an additional water source,"

Council agreed to the purchase of the dam for \$4.3M which will come out of the funds for the Water Reserve, which is currently \$29.6M. Council will now begin the process of lobbying the State Government and opposition for funding to reinstate the Oaky River Dam wall and construct a pipeline from the dam to the Armidale Water Treatment Plant (WTP), ahead of the program to raise Malpas Dam Spillway.

This aligns with a funding pro-



Councillors visited Oaky River Dam earlier this year

posal currently with Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) for pre-construction works, leading to a tender ready stage which is the next step for the water security project. The acquisition comes after Council set ambitious growth targets of 4,000 jobs over the next ten years as part of a Mayoral Growth and Jobs summit held

in February this year.

Securing the region's water supply, to support the level of growth required, now provides assurance to future developers that we are open for business and our region is an attractive option for those considering a tree change.

## Guyra Art Exhibition

13th to 22nd January 2023

@ the GALA Centre, 136 Bradley Street



Exhibition Open Daily from 10am to 4pm

Painting ~ Sculpture ~ Ceramics ~ Photography

Opening Night

Thursday 12th January @ 5:30pm

Tickets \$10 available @ GALA or phone / text Anne 0413 595 353

Includes drink on arrival & finger food ~ No Door Sales



Hosted by CWA Guyra Evening Branch  
Contact Anne 0413 595 353 or Marni 0401 320 580

## Music Lessons

- Drums
- Beginner Guitar
- Piano
- Bass Guitar



**BOOKINGS: 0459 09 46 43**

**THE GUYRA MUSIC SHOP  
116B BRADLEY STREET**

**OPENING:  
SATURDAY, 7TH JANUARY 2023**

# What's HOT

LOVELY LADIES practicing their dance moves at the playground.

SCHOOL'S OUT - enjoy the holidays and stay safe

POTHLES disappearing! Great to see workers out fixing our roads at last.

JANUARY back to normal with Lamb & Potato Festival a goer

# Plan to visit the Lamb & Potato Festival

After being severely impacted by the COVID pandemic over the last couple of years, the annual Guyra Lamb and Potato Festival will take place from Wednesday January 11th until Monday January 23rd.

These dates are set to coincide with the Tamworth Country Music Festival, capturing traffic on the highway as they travel to and from Tamworth.

All the usual features will be there – great food, coffee, a variety

of over 30 stalls, train rides and local arts and crafts.

On Saturday January 21st the amazing Car Show and Shine will occur in Bradley Street and Antique Machinery will be on display on the New England Highway.

One major aspect of the festival is the live music performances. There will be shows on during each lunchtime from 12 noon until 2pm and each evening from 6pm to 8pm.

A full program of the music events has been provided to help you plan your time at the festival. It is possible that some changes may occur between now and January. These will be communicated if they happen but hopefully the program will go ahead as planned.

The music program has been proudly funded by the NSW State Government in conjunction with Armidale Regional Council. Their support is greatly appreciated.

## Lamb & Potato Festival - Music Program Week One

TIMES	WEDNESDAY JANUARY 11TH	THURSDAY JANUARY 12TH	FRIDAY JANUARY 13TH	SATURDAY JANUARY 14TH	SUNDAY JANUARY 15TH
MORNING 11AM TO 12NOON				BRUCE CLARK	
LUNCH 12 NOON UNTIL 2PM	IAN RUSSELL	ERROL GRAY	BRUCE CLARK	JIM & BARB O'NEILL <small>Guyra Line Dancers 2pm to 3pm</small>	BARNEY ST BAND BELLY DANCERS <small>Church of Freedom Gospel Singers 2pm-3pm</small>
EVENING 6PM UNTIL 8PM	STALL HOLDERS' DINNER 'CROOKED TREE'	BITZ OF BUZZ	PETER DENOVAN	KARAOKE 6PM TO 9PM	CHILLI JAM

## Lamb & Potato Festival - Music Program Week Two

TIMES	MONDAY JANUARY 16TH	TUESDAY JANUARY 17TH	WEDNESDAY JANUARY 18TH	THURSDAY JANUARY 19TH	FRIDAY JANUARY 20TH	SATURDAY JANUARY 21ST	SUNDAY JANUARY 22ND	MONDAY JANUARY 23RD
MORNING 11AM TO 12NOON			RICHARD STANLEY	RICHARD STANLEY		GLEN INNES PIPE BAND	ARMIDALE ELECTRIC STRING ORCHESTRA	
LUNCH 12 NOON UNTIL 2PM	SEAN PLUNKETT	BRUCE CLARK	PETE STANLEY	PETE STANLEY	SEAN PLUNKETT	CROOKED TREE	DUSKY BUZZ	FESTIVAL CLOSES
EVENING 6PM UNTIL 8PM	IAN RUSSELL	CANTE LIBRE	CROOKED TREE	SONG WRITER'S EVENING	LILY AND THE DRUM	TERRA FIRMA 6PM TO 9PM	PETER DENOVAN	

# What's NOT

FROSTS in December. Not much hope of getting veges growing at this rate

## QUOTE of the week

“Christmas is not as much about opening our presents as opening our hearts.”

Janice Maeditere

## Bureau of Meteorology

# Weather

## WATCH

### Guyra MPS

Date	Day	Min	Max	Rain
13	Tues	4.1	21.8	24.0
14	Wed	5.4	18.3	0
15	Thurs	2.0	17.1	0
16	Fri	4.2	19.3	0
17	Sat	3.3	19.9	0
18	Sun	4.0	20.3	0
19	Mon	3.6	18.8	0

Rain this week	24.0mm
December rainfall	27.0mm
Rainfall YTD	1073.4mm
Rainfall last YTD	1168.2mm
Ave. rain to Dec.	908.8mm

Information supplied by Jeff Martin, Observer for Bureau of Meteorology

# Thanks for your support

The Save & Grow Guyra Group wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy, prosperous and hopefully a politically progressive new year.

We would like to thank the community for their increased support of our actions to exercise our democratic right to control our own destiny and return to a Guyra based council.

Since acquiring the Cosy Corner site we have drawn a steady stream of people to sign the support letter required to accompany the submission to State Government to demerge ARC.

We will be reopening the Cosy Corner in the new year along with

the occasional Saturday sausage sizzle in Bradley Street. We have noticed increased numbers of Armidale and district residents interested in our cause, gaining many signatures so we will be lifting our efforts to get more.

It is our intention to conduct a door knock appeal in Armidale and possibly open a shop front for support letter collections.

Anyone interested in assisting would be greatly appreciated. Cosy Corner will be open shortly after Christmas – if the signs are out someone will be there with letters for your signature.

Rob Lenehan

Don't Miss the

**DEADLINE!**

**Advertising:**  
**Bookings & ad copy:**  
**11.00am Mondays**  
advertising@gala.org.au

**News & Editorial:**  
**News stories, letters, community news, what's hot or not, etc.**  
**4.00pm Mondays**  
news@gala.org.au

**Guyra Gazette**  
**Phone: 6779 2132**  
**Talk to a local**



# 2022 Guyra Central School Presentation Day

## Special Awards

- University of New England Award for High Academic Excellence and Outstanding Improvement in all areas of school and Dux of Year 12: Benjamin Stevens
- University of New England Award for High Academic Excellence, the University of Newcastle Award for Academic Excellence, ADF Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award, Armidale Regional Council- Citizenship Award, Secondary and 2nd in Year 12: Millie Roberts
- Armidale Regional Councils Citizenship Award Primary: Bethany
- Excellence in Cultural Pursuits Stage 6 and St Vincent De Paul – Awareness of Social Justice “Walking Beside Someone in Need” 2nd in Year 11: Claire Flynn
- Ruben F Scarf Award is to recognise and honour consistent effort and desire to improve: Joseph Ashman
- Ampol Best All – Rounder Award is presented in recognition of a student’s excellence in academic leadership, sporting and community service activities: Michael Looker
- SBAT Achievement Award: Andrew Pearson



GCS Dux of Year 12  
Benjamin Stevens

- VET Student of the Year: Ashley Donnelly
- UNE Ooralla Aboriginal Centre Awards**
- Early Stage 1, Stage 1 : Valentine Alefosio  
Stage 2: Corey Banfield  
Stage 3 and a School Blue for Cricket and Hockey: Thomas Bull  
Stage 4: Karleah Alefosio  
Stage 5: Georgina-June Griffiths  
Stage 6: Indiana Gosper
- Year 7**  
Dux of Year 7:

- Rose Kliendienst  
2nd in Year 7 and Citizenship Award: Summer Tibbs  
Encouragement Award: Fenix
- Year 8**  
Dux of Year 8 and Excellence in Agriculture Award Stage 4: Piper Kempton  
Dux of Year 8: Adiah Galindo  
2nd in Year 8: Darcey Heagney  
Secondary Sportsman of the year and School blue Tennis and Golf: Harry Purvis  
Encouragement Award: Hayley Clark
- Year 9**  
Dux of Year 9 and Citizenship Award: Annabelle Collins  
2nd in Year 9 and Guyra Lamb & Potato Community & School Award: Jake Tibbs  
Encouragement Award: Riley McLeod  
School blue Cross Country: Jack Soraghan  
School Blue Athletics: Rave Brazier
- Year 10**  
Dux of Year 10: Jada Alefosio  
2nd in Year 10: Trisha Varley  
Encouragement Award: Shahkita Pixton  
Citizenship Award: Braden Daley  
ADF Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award, UNE Spirit of Sport Award, School blue for Opens Touch and Athletics:

- Oscar Atkin  
ADF Future Innovators Award: Max Raper  
Excellence in Agriculture Award Stage 5: Brooke Grills  
Premier’s Sporting Challenge and School blue Athletics: Riley Melmeth  
School blue Opens Touch and Athletics: Archie Dowden  
School Blue Greater Western Rugby League: Cooper Wilson  
School Blue Swimming: Cooper Brennan  
School blue Tennis: Aiden Purvis
- Year 11 Awards**  
Dux of Year 11: Kye Raper  
Encouragement Award: Courtnie Ward  
Citizenship Award: Harris Dullaway  
Ngamilimali Bulanyagai Award: Nioka Levy  
School blue Opens Touch: Brodi Campbell
- Big Picture Awards**  
Big Picture St 4 Dux: Eli Wood  
Big Picture St 5 Dux: Oliver Flynn  
Positive Behaviour for Learning Award (Highest VIVO) Citizenship Award: Ryan Saunders  
Big Picture Stage 6 Dux: Dante Lloyd

*Continued page 8 >>>*

**Guyra Cafe**

Thank you for your support during 2022

*We wish all our customers a very Happy Christmas & a prosperous 2023*

Closed from 24 December  
Re-opening Friday, 6 January

110 Bradley Street  
Guyra  
Phone: 6779 1605

*Dorothy, Leonie, Des, Dave, Jason and all the staff at The GALA Centre, New England Community College and Guyra Gazette*

*would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year*

CLOSED from 22<sup>nd</sup> December  
RE-OPENING: Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January

# Community Noticeboard



## Meals on Wheels

Dec 22 & 23 Wendy Laidlaw  
Dec 26 Kim Shone  
Dec 27 Wendy Laidlaw  
Dec 28 Lyn & Richard Skinner  
Dec 29 Sue Adams  
Dec 30 Steve Adams  
Jan 2 Judy Broad  
Jan 3 Stuart Broad  
Jan 4 Wendy Lockyer  
Jan 5 Heather Marchant  
Jan 6 Lyn & Richard Skinner  
Jan 9 Lions Club  
Jan 10 Debbie Schmidt  
Jan 11 Narelle Leven  
Jan 12 Jim Betts  
Jan 13 Golf Ladies  
Jan 16 RAB Staff  
Jan 17 Wendy Laidlaw  
Jan 18 Steve Norris

## Church Notices

**St. Mary of the Angels Catholic Church** Mass 6pm Saturday and 9am Sunday. Weekday Mass Monday – Friday 9am  
**Contact:** 6779 1036

**St. James' Anglican Church** 9am Sunday. Doors open from 8:30am. We have plenty of space, all welcome! **Contact:** Rev. Tim Stevens 6779 1111

**St. Columba's Presbyterian Church** 9am Sunday followed by morning tea. **Contact:** Rev. Andrew Campbell 0447 724 536

**The Chapel:**  
66 Llangothin Street:  
Sunday Service: 10am  
**Contact:** Pastors Linden & Kerrie Pollard 0455 232 073.

**Seventh-day Adventist Church:**  
Aboomala Street, Sabbath School 10.00am Saturday Divine Service 11.30am Saturday. **Contact:** Minister Luke Reeves 0410 761 320 Church Clerk 6779 1587

**Uniting Church:** 57 Ollera Street:  
Regular Sunday Service: 9.30am  
**Contact:** Di Burey 0428 791 742

**Church of Freedom** (Cnr. Boorolong & Nincoola Sts.) Sunday worship: 10am Prayer meeting: Tuesday 6.30pm Bible discussion: Wednesday 6.30pm Pastors: Jeff & Sharon Ritchie 0421 847 973 Chaplaincy services: Dave Brown 0419 539 372, Dan McGinty 0409 399 270

## A DISTRACTED CHRISTMAS

If you look at Luke's account of Jesus' birth, he only takes 33 words to describe how it all went down. Matthew's gospel is even shorter, taking only 13!

As you keep reading the Gospel accounts, you quickly find appearing angels, shepherds, and gift bringers. But the story is over so fast that it can leave us feeling short-changed. Surely the arrival of a king should be a little more extravagant?

Well, thankfully, the Bible is brief on the details of Jesus' physical arrival into the world because it is far more concerned with telling us what the arrival of this child means for the world. Specifically, the Bible wants us to know how this event changes all of our lives.

Extravagant presents, food, and fun are all features of Christmas, though what they tend to do is distract us from what the season is about: God stepping into our world and walking among us with a plan to save us from ourselves.

Christmas is an annual opportunity to remember that Jesus came to life on earth, ultimately to offer all of us life now and for eternity, which is worth celebrating! That's why the army of angels sang on the hills outside Bethlehem.

On that night, God's promise to save the world was coming true. Heaven could not keep quiet because the saviour had arrived, forgiveness would be made available through his blood, and a new future for anyone that trusted him was now at hand!

This Christmas, will you remain blissfully distracted about what this season is about, or will you come to Jesus and find life? If you'd like to know more, we'd love to see you at St James' at 9 am on Christmas Day or 9 am any Sunday during the year.

**Rev Tim Stevens**  
**St James Anglican Church**

## Missing Peace

Have you ever woken up knowing that no matter what the day brought, you were going to be, ok?

Jesus tells us in John 14: 27 'Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you, not as the world gives do I give to you, let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid' God's peace is available to all of us. We weren't designed to carry the weight of the world, but God can.

How would you describe your

life? Contented or rushed? Exciting or Stressful? Moving forward or Holding back? The Bible, it says that Jesus came to make all things new. What would your life look like if you could start over with a clean slate?

God revealed himself to people through the person of Jesus. Jesus came to earth in a peaceful way as a baby. He came to live life perfectly and died in our place to pay the consequence for our sin. His coming back to life gives us hope of living in peace with God.

This is His gift which truly keeps on giving. It's called salvation. We accept this gift by faith because of God's grace. We can't earn it.

The real message of Christmas is not the physical gifts that we give to each other. Rather it's the true peace we find when we turn our focus to Jesus and His great love for us. Peace isn't a feeling. Peace is a person. This Christmas may you and your loved ones, be found in peace.

If you'd like to celebrate with us on Christmas Eve and experience His peace, we are having Carols at 6pm for the whole family. There will also be lots of goodies to enjoy. Everyone is welcome.

**Pastors Linden & Kerrie Pollard**  
**The Chapel**

## Tiny hands ...

Something nearly all of us do with a tiny baby is to reach out a finger, and the little one usually grasps our finger, astonishingly tightly. It's called the Palmar Grasp Reflex, but it is much more than that name. It's a human to human connection, a moment of joyful welcome and intimacy.

It isn't hard to imagine Joseph and Mary doing that with Jesus. The journey from Nazareth had been hard; and there was no welcome in Bethlehem. Mary's birth pains were like every mother, there was no pretty crib, just a manger.

But imagine Joseph reaching out a work-scarred finger; Mary a petite finger. And both looking in joy and wonder at the Christ child that God had entrusted to them.

Those were the hands of God that flung stars into space; God who touched untouchable lepers; God who embraced children; and God who with a touch healed the blind. Those were the hands of God who reached out and calmed the wind and waves; God who touched a coffin, and a dead man lived again.

And those hands of Jesus were nailed to a Roman cross.

The traditional nativity doesn't have Jesus wrapped in swaddling cloths, as the Bible says. The traditional nativity has Jesus, a baby in a manger, with His hands flung wide open.

Open as they were on the cross; but also open to welcome you and me. Yes, sinners, wretches like us, like me. Forgiven by Jesus, made right with God and ready for heaven.

Christmas is God, in Jesus, by grace, welcoming you and me. Whoever we are. Whatever we've done.

May you have a blessed Christmas and New Year, 2023; reaching out your hand to God who has, in Jesus, reached out to you.

**Rev. Andrew Campbell**  
**St. Columba's Presbyterian Church**

*We wish all our customers  
a very Merry Christmas  
and a  
Happy New Year!*



**Closed from 23<sup>rd</sup> December  
Re-opening 4<sup>th</sup> January**



**120A Bradley St, Guyra  
Phone:  
0467 315 915**



# St Marys Awards

St Mary of the Angels held their presentation evening on Monday the 5th of December. Congratulations to the following students at St Mary of the Angels who received these awards in recognition of their outstanding work and commitment this year.

- 2022 Dux Award - Olive McFarlane
- Ramage Engineering Science Award - Sienna Nguyen
- ADIG Mathematics Award - Olive McFarlane
- Catholic Women's League Pastoral Care Award - Isabella Hayes
- Sportsperson Award - Flynn McFarlane
- U Goose Technology Award - Edward Grills
- Molly McKervy Creative Arts Award - Callie Cameron
- St Vincent de Paul Social Justice Award - Lachlan Cruickshank
- Armidale Regional Council Citizenship Award - Noah Brennan
- Costa Leadership Award - Brianna Marshall
- Costa Junior Leadership Award - Rylan Wilson
- Cath Lockyer Literacy Award - Khloe Martin
- Sharon Wittig All Round Performance Award - Mackenzie Ellem



Olive McFarlane



Isabella Hayes



**Above:** Brianna Marshall and Rylan Wilson  
**Right:** Mackenzie Ellem



*Season's Greetings to all this Christmas from Tania, Robyn & Gemma*

Thank you for your support in 2022 and we look forward to a prosperous 2023



111 Bradley Street, Guyra  
Phone: 6779 2550  
Email: [tania@cctax.com.au](mailto:tania@cctax.com.au)

*CLOSED from December 21, re-opening January 16*

**Ron, Gary, Pat & Ann of**

**JONES  
CRACKNELL  
& STARR**

wish you a  
**fulfilling Christmas  
and a  
Financially Sound  
2023**



Email: [ron@jcs.net.au](mailto:ron@jcs.net.au)  
130 Bradley Street, Guyra • Ph: 6779 1911

**CLOSED FROM:** 5pm December 23. **RE-OPENING:** Tuesday, January 3

*Thank you for your support during 2022!*

*We wish all our clients a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous 2023*

CLOSED FROM 21<sup>st</sup> December, re-opening 23<sup>rd</sup> January

*Just Tax, No Bull*

**RURAL TAXATION SPECIALISTS**



Chartered Accountants



**Sole Taxation**  
98 Bradley Street, Guyra  
ph: 6779 1267  
e: [csole@soletaxation.com.au](mailto:csole@soletaxation.com.au)



Chartered Accountants  
NUMBER ONE IN NUMBERS



THE TAX INSTITUTE  
CHARTERED TAX ADVISER

# 2022 Guyra Central School Presentation Day (cont)

## Early Stage 1 Rainbow

Consistent Academic Achievement ES1, ES1  
Spelling Bee Champion: Lachlan  
Most Improved: Nicholas Hutton  
Most Improved: Jack Sutton  
Citizenship Award: Malakai Pixton  
Citizenship Award: Willow Vickery  
Most Consistent: Anna Fletcher

## Stage 1 Lime

Consistent Academic Achievement Year 1:  
Charles Gordon  
Most Improved: Ivy-Rose Brazier  
Citizenship Award: Frankie  
Most Consistent: Jackson Atkin

## Stage 1 Mint

Consistent Academic Achievement Year 2:  
Elsie Post  
Most Improved: Jaearla Landsborough  
Citizenship Award: Laura Jackson  
Most Consistent: William Stevens  
K-2 Creative Arts Award: Louisa Di Certo  
K-2 Personal Best: Khaysen Thompson

Stage 1 Spelling Bee Champion: Hugh Kliendienst

## Stage 2 Gold

Consistent Academic Achievement Year 4 and  
Stage 2 Spelling Bee Champion: Laney Orford  
Most Improved: LaBron Joyce  
Citizenship Award: Aoife Collins  
Most Consistent: Jaylee Burns

## Stage 2 Olive

Consistent Academic Achievement Year 3: So-  
phie Rumbel  
Most Improved: Jake Artz  
Citizenship Award: Mackenzie Tooth  
Citizenship Award: Braxton Hutton  
Most Consistent: Kiarnie Shersby

## Stage 3 Silver

Consistent Academic Achievement Year 5:  
Thomas Ward  
Most Improved: Max Lockyer  
Most Improved and Stage 3 Spelling Bee  
Champion: Oakley Brazier

Citizenship Award: William Collins  
Most Consistent: Sammy-Rose Dowden  
3-6 Personal Best: Billy Ryan  
Public Speaking Award K-12: Elsa Kliendienst  
School Blue Cross Country: Lincoln Atkin  
Cross Country  
School Blue Athletics: Manatu Ashman

## Stage 3 Indigo

Consistent Academic Achievement Year 6 and  
Dux: Ruthie  
Most Improved and Ngamilimali Bulanyagai  
Award Primary: Kyara Alefosio  
Citizenship Award: Anja McIlwain  
Most Consistent: Nathaniel Morrow  
Sportsperson of the year and a School Blue  
Soccer: Eli McGinty  
UNE Spirit of Sport: Shaqueeta Banfield  
Premier's Sporting Challenge and School Blue  
for Cricket: Peyton Heagney  
School Blue for Athletics and Stage 3 Creative  
Arts award: Anne Ashman

## Ivy West successful in securing Elsa Dixon Traineeship

The Elsa Dixon Aboriginal Employment Grant (EDAEG) adopts several strategies to develop and support Aboriginal people through the creation of training and employment opportunities. Promoting diversity, innovation and service responsiveness in the NSW workforce, the Elsa Dixon Aboriginal Employment Grant subsidises the salary, development and support costs of Aboriginal employees in public service agencies and local government authorities.

Guyra Central School is pleased to announce that Ivy West, who is new to our school, has been awarded a Certificate III in School

Aged Education Support, School-based Apprenticeship and Traineeship (SBA/Ts) for 2023-2024. SBA/Ts are a great way for students like Ivy to set themselves up for the career of their choice, or similar, while completing their final years of schooling.

Ivy is attending Guyra Central School as a Big Picture Student and is looking forward to combining her SBA/T experience and her interest area projects each term.

Ivy chose to apply for the traineeship as it aligned with the subject area that she is passionate about, along with on-the-job training and being paid to follow her interests.

She is looking forward to learning how to become an SLSO, supporting young students inside and outside the classroom. She hopes the traineeship will give her the confidence to work with students in the classroom, especially Indigenous students and help to give them a chance to be themselves and express who they are in a safe school environment. She also hopes that this traineeship will help her to work towards completing a qualification before heading out into the workplace permanently post school. Ivy hopes to one day transfer these skills into becoming an Aboriginal Education Officer (AEO) in schools.



Ivy West

*Janelle & Martha  
of the Guyra Gazette*

*Guyra Gazette*

*would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas  
and a Happy 2023*

A special thanks to all those who have supported the  
Guyra Gazette in our 6th year of publication,  
especially all our advertisers and contributors.

**CLOSED from 21<sup>st</sup> December REOPENING: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January**



# Confidence and leadership program with Julia Spicer

Members of the New England and North West will have the opportunity to take part in an educational program aimed at increasing community leadership capacity.

The Creating Capability and Confidence for Community Champions Round 2 project is a custom designed range of face-to-face and online rural leadership modules delivered by the Glen Innes Natural Resources Advisory Committee (GLENRAC) and award-winning business leader and trainer, Julia Spicer OAM, from Engage and Create Consulting in Goondiwindi. Mrs Spicer has recently been appointed as Queensland's newest Chief Entrepreneur, a role that aims to promote innovation and

entrepreneurship by supporting start-up businesses to thrive.

Valued at \$3000, the fully-funded Creating Capability and Confidence for Community Champions course has been developed for existing, emerging and future leaders who are working or volunteering in community, business or government roles including sport and recreation, art, culture and community groups. People interested in taking part should be passionate about connecting with others, contributing to the region and making a difference in their field.

Modules in the course will be delivered over four months and will include creating a clear vision, values for leadership, good governance, how to lead through



Queensland's new Chief Entrepreneur Julia Spicer to run GLENRAC community confidence and leadership program

ments of leaders, communication, networking and conflict resolution.

At the conclusion of the program, participants will be equipped with the skills, motivation and networks to lead change in their business, community or volunteer group.

Register your interest in the Creating Capability and Confidence for Community Champions program today by registering online at [bit.ly/CommunityChampions2023](http://bit.ly/CommunityChampions2023). For more information visit [www.glenrac.org.au/otheropportunities](http://www.glenrac.org.au/otheropportunities) or contact Karen Bavea on 02 6732 3443 or [karen.bavea@glenrac.org.au](mailto:karen.bavea@glenrac.org.au). Application close date is now 16th January 2023. Course to commence on 6th March 2023.

change, board dynamics, working in a team, decision making skills, time management, legal require-

## Black Mountain Public School Presentations



Tallara and Jamerika Patterson

On Friday, 9th December 2022, we held our Presentation Afternoon at Black Mountain Public School. It was lovely to see parents, carers and special guests celebrate the learning achievements of our students for 2022. Congratulations to the awardees.

The school choir sang, and the 3-6 class band students entertained the audience with a song called "Kitchen Musicians". The afternoon ended with a whole school dance perform-

ance called Artefacts and a visit from Santa. We wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas. Students return to school Tuesday, 31st January 2023.

Citizenship Awards Tallara & Jamerika Patterson Most Improved Tremane Patterson & Sienna Williams

Geography Awards Latai 'Ale & Dustin Turnham Environmental Awards Mikyla Patterson & Una 'Ale

*Mrs Justine Eddy  
Relieving Principal*



Latai 'Ale and Dustin Turnham

**Merry Christmas**  
FROM CT ELECTRIC

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS FOR THEIR SUPPORT THROUGHOUT 2022.  
WISHING YOU A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

WE WILL BE CLOSED FROM  
24TH DECEMBER 2022 - 09TH JANUARY 2023

PLEASE CONTACT US ON [CTELECTRIC1@OUTLOOK.COM](mailto:CTELECTRIC1@OUTLOOK.COM)  
TO BOOK IN NEW ENQUIRIES OR CALL BRAD  
ON 0421 836 781 FOR EMERGENCIES ONLY DURING THIS TIME!

*We wish everyone a Merry Christmas  
and a safe & Happy 2023*

♦ **HAM RAFFLES every Friday 'til Christmas**

♦ **SEAFOOD RAFFLES Christmas Eve**  
♦ **CLOSED 25th, 26th & 27th December**

**Royal Hotel Guyra**

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# Classifieds Trades & Services

## RAFFLE RESULTS

**HOSPITAL AUXILIARY** raffle winners: 1st L Rudd, 2nd J Jarvis. Thanks to all for your support.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**GUYRA ART EXHIBITION** 13th-22nd January @ GALA Centre - Open daily 10am-4pm - Opening Night Thursday 12th January 5:30pm, tickets \$10 from GALA. Contact Anne 0413 595 353 for more information

**GUYRA HISTORICAL MUSEUM** tours available on request. Call 6779 2132 during business hours.

## FOOD PANTRY

**Food Pantry at The Chapel**  
66 Llangothlin Street, Guyra  
*will be returning on Friday*  
**13<sup>th</sup> January 9am - 12pm.**  
Merry Christmas to all from The Team.  
Contact: 0455 232 073

## MEN'S SHED

**Guyra Men's Shed**  
is looking for new members  
*Our shed is open on*  
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday  
8.30am - 12.30pm.  
\$20 joining fee.  
Call John:  
0448 992 547

## POSITIONS VACANT

### FULL TIME POSITION AS A SPLIT ROLE IN PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AND RECEPTION IN GUYRA

This role requires a highly motivated, well presented, energetic, enthusiastic and organised individual. You will have a strong customer service focus and computer skills, and access to your own reliable vehicle.

**For more details please contact:**  
Brittany Velcich on 0403 184 726  
or  
brittany@countrywideproperty.net.au



## CHRISTMAS CLOSING

**Guyra, St Mary of the Angels**  
**VINNIES CONFERENCE - Care & Support.**  
Closed:  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2022.  
Reopening:  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

## BLUEBERRIES

**Blueberries With Altitude**  
Pick your own blueberries  
*By appointment only*  
\$20 kg  
Bring cash and a container  
Open from 1st January  
Contact: **Bonnie & Greg**  
0474 883 502

## LAST EDITION FOR 2022



This is our last edition of the Guyra Gazette for 2022.  
We will be back on 16<sup>th</sup> January for our first edition of 2023 on 18<sup>th</sup> January.  
Thank you to all our advertisers and contributors who make the Gazette a great community newspaper.

## CLAIM THE DATE

**SATURDAY, 24th DECEMBER:**  
Uniting Church Festival of Lessons and Carols, 7pm.  
**WED, 11th - MON, 23rd JANUARY:**  
Lamb & Potato Festival  
**FRI, 13th - SUN, 22nd JANUARY:**  
Art Exhibition at the GALA Centre, 136 Bradley Street. Open daily 10am-4pm. Opening night Thursday, 12th January 5.30pm, tickets \$10 from GALA. For more information contact Anne on 0413 595 353.

**CLAIM THE DATE**  
For your event  
or function  
Phone: **6779 2132**

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES

- **St. Bartholomew's, Ollera Station**  
**Christmas Eve Service, 5.30pm**  
Max Handebo will lead the service.  
Everyone welcome to attend.  
• **Uniting Church**  
**Saturday, 24th December**  
7.00pm Festival of Lessons & Carols  
No service on Christmas Day
- **Guyra Presbyterian Church**  
**Sunday, 25th December**  
9.00am Christmas Service
- **Guyra Anglican Church**  
**Sunday, 25th December**  
9.00am Christmas Service
- **St. Mary of the Angels**  
**Sunday, 25th December**  
9.00am Christmas Service
- **The Chapel**  
**Sunday, 18th December**  
10.00am Christmas Service & lunch  
**Saturday, 24th December**  
6.00pm Christmas Eve Service

## TRADES & SERVICES

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# Solar grant for Guyra Men's Shed



Guyra Men's Shed members has been successful in securing a \$17,765 grant from the State Government to install solar panels on the roof of their shed.

Rising electricity prices are the single greatest threat to the viability of the Men's Shed as every project they work on uses an electrically powered piece of machinery. The new rooftop solar system should offset all their electricity accounts in the future.

The men's shed currently have 20 plus registered and active members however the projects they complete

benefit a much wider section of the community.

Member for Northern Tablelands Adam Marshall made the announcement while visiting the shed. While there he also inspected progress on the new lock up storage area and the refurbishment of the former Guyra SES headquarters. These works are funded by a previous \$234,000 State Government grant.

Mr Marshall congratulated President John Jackson and Councillor Steve Mephram on driving both these important projects forward.

# Lions Christmas raffle

The Guyra Lions Club with the assistance of Harry Kirk of Guyra IGA drew the Christmas raffle on Wednesday December 15th and the winners were MICHELLE VOWLES (first prize) and NANCY PRISK (second prize).

On behalf of the Club I would like to thank the Guyra community for supporting us by purchasing tickets, and to the local business's that donated vouchers.

The business's were KIRK'S IGA, DASHA'S HARDWARE, C.T ELECTRICS, GUYRA PHARMACY and THE GUYRA CAFÉ. Our thanks to all.

Wishing all a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY and HEALTHY NEW YEAR.

Regards and a big thank you from the Guyra Lions Club

*Jim Betts  
President.*



*Vu, Nhu and staff wish everyone a Joy & Love Filled Christmas and a safe & happy New Year! We look forward to being of service to you in 2023.*

**Our Christmas opening hours:**

Saturday	24 December	9.00am – 12.00pm
Christmas Day		CLOSED
Monday	26 December	CLOSED
Tuesday	27 December	CLOSED
Wednesday	28 December	8.00am – 5.30pm
Thursday	29 December	8.00am – 5.30pm
Friday	30 December	8.00am – 5.30pm
Saturday	31 December	9.00am – 12.00pm
New Year's Day		CLOSED
Monday	2 January	CLOSED

Normal opening hours from Tuesday, 3 January

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## Ladies' Golf

Last week the ladies played a Stableford sponsored by Anita Murray. The winner was Pip White with 38 points. Runner up with 37 points was Wendy Jackson. Nearest the pin winners were Donna White on the 7th and 9th holes. Vicki Reeves on the 9th hole.

This week is a single stroke sponsored by Pip White. Next week is a Novelty Game using only 3 clubs.

The Guyra Lady Golfers would like to wish all our friends and sponsors a very Merry Christmas.

*Birdie*

## Vets Golf

What a great day last Tuesday the 13th for our Christmas golf day. Twenty players was a great field of joyful golfers. The front nine was playing great even after 30 mm of rain the previous day. Thank you so much to David Wilcox for sponsoring this even with two great hams. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Col Wall played brilliant golf to

score 38 points and come in a very deserved winner. Just two shots behind was John Prisk to pick up the runner up ham. John also got nearest the pin on the 7th with Phil Devlin and Wendy George both on the 9th. Mick Jackson was our best putter.

After golf we enjoyed a barbecue with some Christmas cheer and our presentations. The big news from our presentations was the awarding of Life membership of the Vets to Dave Bearup. What a great member Dave has been. 28 years I think as our president and a very deserving recipient of this award. Congratulations Dave.

This is it for me in 2022. Merry Christmas and I will see you all back in 2023.

*Drake.*

## Cricket

In the second round of the T20 competition Guyra first grade (3/128) defeated Ex Services (9/127). Charlie White top scored with 56 and also bowled well taking 3/10.

In 2nd grade Guyra (10/120) lost to Easts (6/121). Pete Collins batted well for 43 and Andrew Pearson took 2/14.

In 3rd grade Walcha/Uralla (0/102) defeated Guyra (5/101). Jason Varcoe (39 no) and Simon Brown (21) top scored for Guyra.

## Midweek Golf

Guyra Golfing would like to invite everyone to join our midweek competition in 2023. Golfers, non golfers, juniors, everyone is welcome to join a team.

Teams of 6 need to be in by 13th January 2023 to Guyra Bowling

Club or email to leonie@gala.org.au.

Each member plays 9 holes and the best four scores are counted.

If you would like a nomination form and rules then send an email or collect one from the Club.

Thank you to the Guyra Bowling Club for the t-shirts for all the prize winners for 2021/2022.

We drew the birdie winner on Tuesday night and the winner is Richard Burey. Thank you to Pip and Frank White for sponsoring this event. In total there were 64 birdie entries that went in for the draw. Congratulations Richard. Hope to see you all next year.



## Fresh Food Specials

IGA Leg Ham	\$ 8.50 kg
Blueberries, per punnet	\$ 2.49
Mangoes	\$ 1.99
Yearling Scotch Filet	\$39.95 kg
Pork Steak	\$15.95 kg

## Liquor Specials

Carlton Dry, 2 for	\$96
Great Nthn super crisp 30 pack cans	\$55
Grant Scotch 700mls	\$42
Bundy Rum UP 1ltr	\$56
Galway Pipe 750mls	\$35

## Christmas Trading Hours

Normal hours Wednesday 21st, Thursday 22nd and		
Friday	23 December	7.00am - 6.30pm
Saturday	24 December	7.00am - 4.00pm
Sunday	25 December	Closed
Monday	26 December	Closed
Tuesday	27 December	8.00am - 1.00pm
Wednesday	28 December	7.00am - 6.30pm
Thursday	29 December	7.00am - 6.30pm
Friday	30 December	7.00am - 6.30pm
Saturday	31 December	8.00am - 1.00pm
Sunday	1 January	Closed
Monday	2 January	8.00am - 1.00pm
Tuesday	3 January	7.00am - 6.30pm

The Kirk family and our staff thank everyone for your support during 2022.  
Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year to all our customers!

**KIRKS**  
**IGA**  
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Generous supporters of the Guyra community with our annual Community Chest

## Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all our valued clients from all at

**Schute Bell Eggert & Co**

First sales for 2023:

4<sup>th</sup> January  
Guyra sheep & lamb sale

5<sup>th</sup> January  
Armidale cattle sale



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