Wednesday December 18, 2024

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Bigger, brighter, better fireworks

The clock is ticking down to the end of the year for the traditional New Years Eve Fireworks that will light up the skies across all major cities and towns across Australia. Guyra is no exception with "Pyro Priest" Father Anthony (Holysmoke/Crackers) displaying his amazing artwork in the sky.

As you await the final hours of the year, everyone is invited to bring a chair or rug and to celebrate New Year's Eve and welcome the many visitors from neighboring towns coming together at the Guyra Recreation Grounds.

The gates will open at 5.30pm, with a jumping castle, food vendors and stalls. Terra Firma will be playing from 6pm until 10.30pm.

Holysmoke promises that this New Year's Eve will be bigger, and of course brighter, than last year. Along with the great entertainment he is planning some beautiful colourful pyrotechnics to light up not just the Guyra skyline, but the faces and hearts of young and old. The fireworks are set to go off at 9nm

While the entertainment will be at the recreation grounds, this year the display will be fired from within the Showground. It will be visible from the Recreation



grounds as well as the show ground.

"We have been working hard to provide a variety of amazing colors and special aerial effects this year," Holysmoke said.

"It is always a huge challenge to provide something different each year that will delight our local community and accommodate the needs and requests of everyone. "The ongoing support and requests from the community over 20 years have helped to continue maintaining some of the old traditional fireworks that the crowds love to see."

"The focus of the night is to bring everyone, families, lonely and disadvantaged together, especially during these difficult times in caring, celebrating and looking after each other.

"The hard-working licensed pyro's who give up their time to make this New Year's Eve display in Guyra possible as well as special thanks to the many sponsors and in particular the Guyra Progress Association for encouraging everyone to come together as a community.

"The reward for the night's entertainment well done is when the noise of the crowd's applause is louder than the explosives."

Holysmoke said that as a dog owner who respects the environment, the biggest challenge is to source products that give more colourful effects and less noise.

"Due to the nature of fireworks, it is important that residents also make an effort to take care of their pets on New Years Eve or when authorized fireworks display occur, he said.

"New Years Eve is a time once a year where we can support each other, put behind us the challenges we've faced and lets all celebrate what makes our town a great place to live."

"Let us make an extra effort this year to care for each other and wish each other a happy new year ahead!"

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

1st prize: 1220mm Toolbox 2nd prize: 2 burner BBQ

3rd prize: HOME Shirt & Umbrella

4th prize: Umbrella

Dasha, Tania & staff wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We thank you for shopping locally and for your support during 2024



Dasha's Hardware & Building Supplies



CLOSED

Wednesday & Thursday 25th & 26th December

 $\begin{array}{lll} \text{Friday} & 27^{\text{th}} \; \text{December} & 7.00_{\text{am}} - \; 5.00_{\text{pm}} \\ \text{Saturday} & 28^{\text{th}} \; \text{December} & 7.00_{\text{am}} - \; 12.00_{\text{pm}} \end{array}$

Sunday 29th December **CLOSED**

Wednesday 1st January CLOSED

61 Ollera Street, Guyra Phone: 6779 2444



Report commissioned into Guyra's water supply

Guyra's water quality was the subject of a notice of motion put forward by Cr Eli Imad at the December meeting of Armidale Regional Council (ARC) held on December 11th.

The motion, which was seconded by Cr Dorothy Robinson, called for Council to commission a report into Guyra water quality, supply and the distribution network. The motion was passed unanimously.

Speaking to the motion, Cr Imad said that the water quality in Guyra was a very contentious issue during the election, with questions still being asked about what is being done.

Cr Imad called for the report in hope of providing transparency to the community in Guyra and Councillors alike on the current state of the water system and the quality of water being delivered.

Cr Imad said he is confident that publishing the findings will provide peace of mind to the residents about 'what is happening, why we are having the problem and what is council going to do next.' He is also calling for a quarterly report to publish the findings of the water testing carried out.

The report will rely on the existing testing results sampled from across the network and tested by independent laboratories and submitted to health authorities. It will be compiled by ARC staff and reviewed by others

The report will include a summary of the data collected

and testing results, recording any notable findings or trends from the results, evaluating the status of the overall infrastructure of the water network and assessment of the tested potable water quality against the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines

It is hoped that recommendations from the report will provide essential next steps and guidelines to ensure Guyra's water treatment meets the highest quality standards.

Cr Imad said that ARC is committed in ensuring the residents are receiving potable water that meets the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines and he is grateful for the support of his colleagues on Council.





Guyra Central's year ends on a high note



Guyra Central School Year 6 **Back I to r:** Kiarnie Shersby, Rose Gordon, Ryan Vidler, Fletcher Gardner, Braxton Hutton, Samuel Torrens, Willson McElroy, Sherkaya Munro-Davies, Mackenzie Tooth, Lacey O'Hara, Ivy MacDiarmid, **Front:** Kayne Brennan, Flyn Byers, Noah Gilvear, Kade Burnett, Charlotte Auld, Jessica Fletcher, Taearliegh Torrens, Tessa Roberson, Izabella McLeod, Lucas Charlesworth-Bardsley, Lachlan Ellis-Colley, Lincoln Rowe

Guyra Central School has concluded the 2024 academic year on a high note by inviting families to join in celebrations honouring the dedication and hard work exhibited by our students.

Our official Presentation Day took place on Thursday December 12th where we welcomed our 2024 Year 12 students back to celebrate with the rest of our student body and receive special awards.

Trisha Mae Varley and Jada Alefosio were both recipients of the University of New England Award for Academic Excellence and Max Raper received the University of Newcastle Award for Academic Excellence. Trisha Mae Varley was also honored as the 'Dux for 2024' at Guyra Central School.

A heartfelt thank you to Guyra Central School P&C, as well as the businesses and organisations that support our Presentation Day each year. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Our remarkable Transition students are officially prepared to enter Kindergarten in 2025.

To commemorate this signifi-

cant milestone, Guyra Central School hosted a Transition Graduation Ceremony, inviting parents and caregivers to join in the celebration.

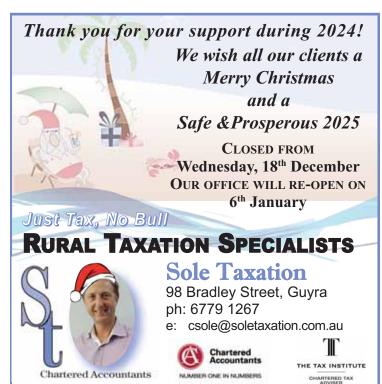
Year 6 students were honoured during our 'Primary Celebration Day' in recognition of their successful completion of primary education. Students from Guyra Central School and neighbouring schools have participated in several transition days this year to prepare for their secondary education.

As an institution, it is truly grat-

ifying to accompany these remarkable students on their educational journey from kindergarten through Year 12.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our families for their unwavering support throughout 2024. On behalf of all the staff at Guyra Central School, we wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. We eagerly anticipate welcoming all of our students and families for another exceptional year in 2025.

Tim Lloyd Relieving Principal





What's HOT

Merry Christmas to all our readers. We are taking a break and will be back with our first edition on January 15th.

New Year's Eve Fireworks don't forget to look out for your pets!!

Lamb and Potato Festival is just around the corner spread the word and enjoy the food and entertainment on offer

What's NOT

Vandalising Christmas light displays

JOKE of the week

What's red and white and falls down chimneys?

Bureau of Meteorology

Weather

WATCH

Guyra MPS

	_			
Date	Day	Min	Max	Rair
10	Tues	15.7	24.1	0
11	Wed	11.0	24.7	0
12	Thurs	11.4	26.3	0
13	Fri	13.4	26.7	0
14	Sat	12.3	29.2	0
15	Sun	13.4	30.1	0
16	Mon	14.0	27.3	0

Rain this week 0mm
Dec. rainfall 38.8mm
Rainfall YTD 809.4mm
Rainfall last YTD 724.6mm
Ave. rain to Dec. 904.0mm

Information supplied by Jeff Martin, Observer for Bureau of Meteorology

'God, I don't get it ... I don't get You ...'

Ever felt like that? Asked God that? I have.

Facing another heartbreaking drought ... Standing at an open grave ... Stunned at the specialist results ... a phone call that changes everything ...

Mary and Joseph must have asked those questions. A week's travel to Bethlehem. And Mary was 9 months. A donkey for Mary? The Bible doesn't say. No room in the inn. And no one took them in. A midwife? The Bible doesn't say. Birth in a warm stable? The Bible doesn't say that either. Outside then?

An ordinary birth? With pain us blokes don't understand? Yes. Blood and ... skip the details. It wasn't like most paintings.

But when it was all over, Jesus was lovingly wrapped in swaddling clothes and cradled in a feed trough, a manger.

And I can imagine, then, Mary resting, exhausted. And Joseph asking: 'God, I don't get it ... You said to Mary and Me that this baby was special, God's Son. God, I don't get You!

But ... just then some wildeyed shepherds burst in, talking about a light and an angel, and choir of angels ...

And perhaps then Joseph and Mary began to realise that God's ways are not our ways. But they are the best ways. In time they came to know and trust God, as we can, this Christmas.

May you know, whatever your doubts and questions, God's presence and blessing this Christmas.

Rev. Andrew Campbell St. Columba's Presbyterian Church

From "For us", to With us"

One simple thought. Until that first Christmas people had a thought that God was for us, but after Christmas they knew it was more than that – God is actually with us.

Isaiah 9:6

"And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

The Christmas season reminds us of God's promises: as Wonder-

ful Counselor, he is close to those who are hurting and comforts us in our trials. As Mighty God, he provides for us and will never fail us. As Everlasting Father, he is with us always and will finish the work he started in us. As Prince of Peace, he gives us rest and carries our burdens.

You may have a wonderful relationship with your father, you may have lost your father, or he was never really there for you. BUT...we have an Everlasting Father who will never leave us, never.

Do you need God's peace this Christmas? The angels announced that Jesus came to bring peace—He came to bring people close to God and to each other again. The only way that any one of us can experience true peace is through Jesus.

We don't want to end the year without asking you if you personally know this Prince of Peace. This is not about religion, it's about relationship. Jesus is Lord and He Loves you. There is hope!

We invite you to experience a peaceful and hopeful Christmas with us for lunch on Christmas Day at 12.30pm. There's always room for you at the table. May the love of Christ fill your hearts and homes this Christmas.

Pastors Linden & Kerrie The Chapel

What Child is This?

So, this is Christmas, and what have we done? Another Year over and a New one just begun.

At a time when marketing is at is fullest convincing us to spend money to not only celebrate the season, but to prove our love to others

This is an opportune time to remember as we celebrate Christmas, to delve into its true essence. The birth of Jesus Christ whereby God proved his Love for Us.

Over two thousand years ago, in the little town of Bethlehem that overlooks Jerusalem, a baby boy was born in a stable and was laid in a manger. This child, Jesus, brought a message of love, hope, and salvation to the world.

Shepherds and wise men alike came to honor the newborn King, recognizing the significance of His arrival, while many remained unaware of the glorious entry of God into humanity.

Be like the Wise Men and honor the King of Kings by seeking out why God would humble himself as a babe in a manger and ask yourself this question, Oh, Little Town of Bethlehem where is the babe in a Manger 'now'?

Christmas Service 25 December 10am.

Pastors Jeff & Sharon Ritchie Guyra Church of Freedom –

The Best Gift of All

None of us like bad gifts, do we? But life is full of them. Some are inappropriate, some we don't like, and some don't last.

Really good gifts are the best. This is what Christmas is about: God giving us the most wonderful gift. Jesus talks about this gift in John 3:16: "For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him will not perish but have eternal life."

In this passage, Jesus perfectly summarises Christmas by reminding us that God loves us. Despite how we feel about life, God's love for us remains steadfast. Even though He's holy and we're sinful, God still loves us!

But, you may have noticed, it's easy to say you love someone. It's a different thing to prove it with action. But God is a god of action, which means He sent His son to us as a demonstration of His love.

That is why Christmas is so good. When Jesus comes to Earth as a child, it shows us that God loves us, hasn't abandoned us, and isn't left alone in a world full of misery. Then, later in his life, Jesus proves that he loves us as well by going to the cross to pay for our sins.

Christmas is a reminder that God loves us. He sent his son into the world to express his love and allow us to believe in him and gain eternal life.

If you'd like to know more, join us at Guyra Anglican Church at 5 pm on Christmas Eve, 9 am on Christmas Day, or 9 am on any Sunday during the year.

Rev. Tim Stevens Guyra Anglican Church

Bald Blair Public School Celebration of Learning

Bald Blair Public School recognised their end of year achievements with a Celebration of Learning held on Thursday December 5th. The celebration was attended by over 120 guests, including the students, staff and their extended families.

Awards were presented for English, mathematics, science, music and sport. Awards were also presented for Citizenship and Academic Excellence. Following the formal assembly, the students changed into their costumes for the whole school production of 'Shrek'.

The celebration was a huge success with the Bald Blair students showcasing their many talents. The main characters of Shrek, Donkey, Dragon and Princess Fiona were played by Taharn Masuk-Purvis, Alby McKemey and Claudia Evans, with Katie Campion and Jaylee



Burns sharing the role of Fiona. On behalf of Bald Blair Public School, I would like to wish everyone a very happy and safe Christmas season. We look forward to welcoming our students back to school on the 6th of February 2025.

Ros Edwards Principal



Left:
Academic Excellence Awards
went to Sadie MacDougall,
Claudia Evans and Taharn
Masuk-Purvis

Above: The award for Citizenship went to Katie Campion



Community Noticeboard

Meals on Wheels

Dec 19	Bea Velthuis
Dec 20	L & R Skinner
Dec 23	Steve Norris
Dec 24	Narelle Leven
Dec 25	Christmas Day (No del.)
Dec 26	Sue Adams
Dec 27	Steve Adams
Dec 30	Bea Velthuis
Dec 31	Warwick Leven
Jan 1	Wendy Lockyer
Jan 2	Heather Marchant
Jan 3	L & R Skinner
Jan 6	Narelle Leven
Jan 7	Warwick Leven
Jan 8	Kath Barry-Leven
Jan 9	Jim Betts
Jan 10	Golf Ladies
Jan 13	Lions Club
Jan 14	Regional Aus. Bank
Jan15	Wendy Laidlaw

Church Notices

St. Mary of the Angels Catholic Church Mass 6pm Saturday from September 7th, 9am Sunday. Weekday Mass Monday – Friday 9am. Contact: 6779 1036

St. James' Anglican Church
9am Sunday, followed by morning
tea. Doors open from 8:30am. All
welcome! Contact Rev. Tim
Stevens 6779 1111

<u>St. Columba's Presbyterian Church</u> 9am Sunday followed by morning tea. <u>Contact:</u> 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

<u>Uniting Church:</u> 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: Dan McGinty 0409 399 270



Guyra Library

School Holiday Program January 2025

Date	Activity	Booking
Wed 8th	Children's bingo — win chocolate prizes! 10:30 - 11:30am.	Booking required
Thurs 9th	Virtual reality – ages 10+ years, with parental permission. 10:15am - 4:30pm.	Booking required
Tues 14th	Movie morning – 'Despicable Me 4' (PG, 94 min) 10.30am Popcorn and water supplied. Children under school age MUST be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult.	Booking required
Wed 15th	Sand art - create your own sand art work. 10:30 - 11:30am & 2:30 - 3:30pm.	Booking required
Thurs 16th	Reptiles on the go – come along and you could meet live Australian reptiles, including Pythons, crocodiles, frogs, turtles monitor and lizards. 1:30pm	Booking required
Tues 21st	Spheros fun – race your sphero around our maze or create your own artwork! 10:30am - 12pm & 2:30 - 4pm	Booking required
Thurs 23rd	Virtual reality – ages 10+ years, with parental permission. 10:15am - 4:30pm.	Booking required
Fri 24th	Lego car challenge – build a vehicle and see how far it can race! 10:30 - 11:30am & 2:30 - 3:30pm	Booking required
Tues 28th	Giant games on the lawn - bring along the family and join in the fun, challenge each other to a game or two! 10:30am - 1:30pm	No bookings - weather permitting!
Weds 29th	Salt paint artworks – create a unique salt paint artwork - ages 8+years (younger children MUST be accompanied by an adult to assist) 10:30 - 11:30am & 2:30 - 3:30pm	Booking required

Activities held at Guyra LT Starr Memorial Library - 158 Bradley St, Guyra Ph: 6770 7123





St Mary of the Angels **Presentation night**



On Thursday December 12th, St Mary of the Angels had their end of Year Presentation Evening.

We would like to say thank you to everyone who attended our presentation to join us in celebrating the success of our students across the 2024 school year. A special thank you goes out to all of our sponsors and special

Congratulations to our major



award recipients for 2024. We look forward to 2025 where we will continue in sharing many more learning experiences with all of our students, families and the Guyra community.

From all of the Skilled Helpful Adults at St Mary of the Angels, we hope you have a Holy, blessed and safe holiday season.

> **Principal** Zoe Nugent



Pictured I to r: Hugo Sisson, George Hope and Catherine Furphy

- DUX Catherine Furphy
- Science & Technology Award - Darcy Sisson
- · ADIG Mathematics Award
 - Ricky-Jay Foster
- · Pastoral Care Award Isabella Haves
- Sportsperson Award Hugo Sisson, Hugo also received a Half Blue Award.
- Social Justice Award & Living Well, Learning Well Award - Kirby Nugent
 - ARC Citizenship Award -George Hope
 - Molly McKervey Creative Arts - Lewis Robinson
 - Cath Lockyer Literacy Award - Indi Roberts



Contact my office: Ph: 02 6772 5552 **Armidale NSW 2365**

Find me online:

brendanmoylanmp

@: northerntablelands@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Water rate hike

Water NSW and the Water Administration Ministerial Corporation recently submitted a pricing proposal to IPART which would potentially see a rise in costs of more than 200 per cent over the next five years.

I am very concerned about the proposed increases as they will greatly affect farmers, irrigators, graziers, councils, and all bulk water users which in turn will affect the rest of the community.

In August, NSW Premier Chris Minns wrote to IPART on behalf of Sydney residents amid concerns of the rising cost of the capital's water prices. If it is good enough for Sydney water users to have their cost-of-living pressures considered by the Premier, then regional and rural water users should also be shown the same level of support.

I filed a Notice of Motion in Parliament which called upon the State Labor Government to intervene to ensure water prices remain fair and equitable.

Seniors diaries

Don't forget the popular LegalAid Seniors Diaries have arrived and are ready for collection. Please contact the Armidale or Moree Electorate Office to organise a copy. There's a limit of two per household.

Christmas message

As the year draws to a close, we're offered a chance to stop and reflect on all we've achieved together.

While we take this time to celebrate, let's not forget those who are working through the holidays. A sincere thank you to our emergency services personnel-police, firefighters, ambulance officers, nurses, doctors, and SES volunteers—whose dedication and hard work keep us safe year-round.

If your Christmas shopping isn't yet done, I encourage you to support local businesses. Small businesses are the backbone of our region, and the holiday season is a wonderful opportunity to



help them thrive.

This year has been particularly busy for the Northern Tablelands electorate, and I am deeply honoured to represent such vibrant communities. Since becoming your local MP, it's been my privilege to advocate for our voices to be

On behalf of my family—Catherine, Lucy, Rory, and Milly—I wish you all a joyful, peaceful Christmas and a New Year filled with prosperity and happi-

Guyra Lamb and Potato Festival Duty Roster (Gazebo) 2025

Wednesday January 15th
Tenterden Bushfire Brigade
Guyra Cricket Club
Thursday January 16th
Guyra CWA
Guyra Bowling Club
Friday January 17th
Tenterden Hall Committee
Can Assist

Tenterden Hall Committee
Can Assist
Saturday January 18th
Guyra Show Society
Guyra Lions Club
Sunday January 19th
Seven Day Adventist Church
Guyra Junior League
Monday January 20th
Veterans Golf
TBC /Polocrosse

Tuesday January 21st
Ben Lomond Hall Committee
Women's Catholic League
Wednesday January 22nd
Guyra Central School P&C
Guyra Rotary Club
Thursday January 23rd
Guyra Bike Riders / TBC
Friday January 24th
Pathfinders
Guyra Memorial Hall

Saturday January 25th Guyra Show Society Guyra Gun Club Sunday January 26th Golf Ladies Guyra Pony Club

EACH COMMUNITY
GROUP NEEDS TO
PROVIDE A MINIMUM OF
10 WORKERS PER SHIFT
FIRST SHIFT:
7.30AM – 2.15PM
SECOND SHIFT:
1.45PM-8.30PM

Guyra Lamb and Potato Festival Duty Roster (Nightwatch 2025

Tuesday January 14th
Pony Club
Wednesday January 15th
Guyra Catholic Church
Thursday January 16th
Guyra Rural Bushfire Brigade
Friday January 17th
Guyra SES
Saturday January 18th
Guyra VRA
Sunday January 19th
Guyra Gun Club
Monday January 20th
Tenterden Bushfire Brigade
Tuesday January 21st

Guyra VRA
Wednesday January 22nd
Seven Day Adventist Church
Thursday January 23rd
Guyra Pistol Club
Friday January 24th
Guyra SES
Saturday January 25th
Guyra Soccer Club
NIGHT WATCH
REQUIRES A MINIMUM OF
TWO ADULTS PER SHIFT.
SHIFTS CAN BE SHARED.
COMMENCES:
8.30PM-6.30AM



9 AM - 12 NOON, 1ST SATURDAY OF MONTH

Come join in the fun!
Swap, Buy or Sell
your produce
plants seedlings
eggs...
preserves

Jan 4th 2025

summer seedlings
vegetables,
garden plants

Guyra Neighbourhood Centre 160 Bradley Street Guyra
Ph: 6779 1635 M:0461 266 523

Alcohol-related crashes on regional roads are almost twice as likely to end in death or serious injury.

Say "Yeah...NAH" to drink driving.





New electric vehicles added to council fleet

Armidale Regional Council (ARC) is taking a significant step towards sustainability by reducing its carbon footprint through the addition of several electric vehicles to its fleet.

Council has recently taken delivery of two new Hyundai Kona electric cars and has put to work an electric forklift at its water plant and a zero-turn lawnmower at the airport.

This initiative not only supports the Council's commitment to environmental stewardship but also sets a strong example of how transitioning to cleaner, greener transportation can help create a more sustainable future for the community.

As part of its Renewable Energy Action Plan (REAP) commitments Council is looking to reduce its carbon footprint wherever possible.

"When we were discussing policies for the REAP, one area that was pinpointed for potential improvement was Council's fleet," said Mayor Sam Coupland.

"By integrating electric cars,



Lachlan Hogg, manager plant, fleet and depots at ARC said the new all electric additions were performing well and impressing staff who were operating them.

lawnmowers, and forklifts into our fleet, we are not only taking significant strides toward meeting our sustainability goals but also making a lasting impact on reducing emissions at a local level.

"Electric vehicles not only deliver exceptional performance with smooth acceleration and quiet operation, but they also offer longterm cost savings, reduced emissions, and a cleaner, more sustainable future for our communities."

Lachlan Hogg, manager plant, fleet and depots at ARC said the new all electric additions were performing well and impressing staff who were operating them.

"We have a 60-inch zero-turn electric lawn mower that has been operating out at the airport and it far outperforms any previous version of lawnmowers we have had," said Mr Hogg.

"The two fully electric Hyundai Konas will be rolled out as fleet/pool cars in the near future as soon as staff training has been completed.

"They are incredibly quiet and smooth to drive and they can travel around 480 kilometres on one charge. We are installing two new chargers underneath Council in Rusden Street that will be able to charge two cars simultaneously.

"Council is taking a step in the right direction with the introduction of the new electric cars, mower and forklift.

"Climate change is real and we need to push forward with positive changes in regard to reducing our carbon footprint and the plan is to introduce more electric vehicles into Council's fleet in the near future."





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SUDOKU - Hard

Creel, 26. Neon, 27. Inch egant, 21. Music, 22. Abbey, 24. card, 13. Ask, 15. Scent, 17. Amy, 19. El-Logo, 5. Total, 6. Freak, 9. Frost, 10. Dis-Down: 1. Tabloid, 2. Mason, 3. Rage, 4. Slab, 29, Zeta, 30, Crayon, 31. Hamlet. 21. Myna, 23, Niche, 25. Bandit, 28, Oasis, 16. Darts, 18. Choke, 20. Tease, Time, 9, Fedora, 11. Owner, 12. Leak 14, Across: 1. Temper, 4. Let-Off, 7. Base, 5.

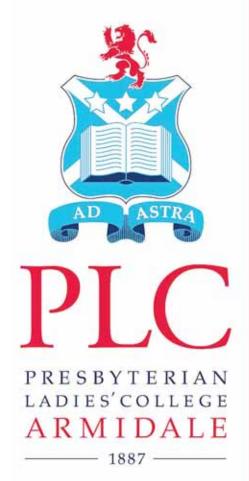
Black Mountain Public School K-2 Farm to Family



K-2 students have been learning how plants and animals can be used as food or materials for clothing and shelter. They have explored a range of foods from different cultures and discussed what plants and animals they come from. To conclude our unit Farm to Family K-2

made ham and cheese scrolls and puffy dogs. They identified where the products came from and how they were made. A delicious way to finish a unit of work on food and where it comes from.

> Mrs Justine Eddy Relieving Principal







Division 3 Champion Suzanne Towells and Leanne Sweeney

Ladies' Golf

Last week the Ladies played a 4BBBAM game sponsored by Anita Murray. The winners were Pip White and Debbie Burey with 50 points. Runners up were Jenny Rogers and Vicki Reeves. Nearest the pin winners were Debbie Burey on the 7th hole. Pip White on the 18th hole.

Also last week the ladies had their Presentation dinner. A big thank you to our Major Sponsors: Leanne Sweeney, Guyra Welding Works, Carmicheal Wool Brokers, Nutrien Ag Solutions, Juneils, Dick Burey Country Kitchens and New England Autos. It was also lovely to have our Life members Kath and Meg attend the dinner.

This week is a Stroke, Vicki Reeves is the starter.

Finally, thanks to Guyra Lady Golfers. Guyra Lady Golfers = Outstanding, Amazing, Excellent Team Work"

Merry Xmas to all!

Birdie



Above: Club Champion Wendy George and Leanne Sweeney **Below:** Life members Kath Varley and Meg Simpson







111 Bradley Street, Guyra Phone: 6779 2550 Email: tania@cctax.com.au

CLOSED from 4.30pm December 19, re-opening January 13





Midweek golf

Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year to all the midweek players. Thank you for supporting this competition for the last three months and look forward to enjoying your golf in 2025.

A couple of big scores this week for Randy Mulligan and David Wilson with 26 points. Great team effort. Also getting back into the groove of it was Trent Mendes with 26 points. Lots of 24 points for the week – Scott Mendes, Tyson Burey, Annabelle Lenehan, Natalie Mendes, Les Perrott and Stephen Brazier.

Team score of the week went to Bushwackers with 100 points. Congratulations. Next best score went to Double A Arons with 93 points, then we had Sultans of Swing 88, Big Nuts 84, Full House 81, Hit and Hope 79, Green Grass 75, Baldersleigh Bashers 73. Most of the other teams were in the 60's.

We start back on 13th January 2025. "The only thing a golfer needs is more daylight"

Middy

ACROSS:

- 1. Anneal (6)
- 4. Lucky escape (3-3)
- 7. Military post (4)
- 8. Period (4)
- 9. Man's hat (6)
- 11. Proprietor (5)
- 12. Security breach (4)
- 14. Fertile desert spot (5)
- 16. Pub game (5)
- 18. Strangle (5)
- 20. Torment (5)
- 21. Indian starling (4)
- 23. Vocation (5)
- 25. Brigand (6)
- 28. Flat rock (4)
- 29. Sixth Greek letter (4)
- 30. Wax pencil (6)
- 31. Small village (6)

DOWN

- 1. Small-format newspaper (7)
- 2. Perry____, TV lawyer (5)
- 3. Anger (4)
- 4. Trademark (4)
- 5. Sum (5)
- 6. Abnormal (5)

9. David ___ TV presenter/host (5)

10. Reject (7)

16

- 13. Enquire (3)
- 15. Smell (5)
- 17. Girl's name (3)
- 19. Stylish (7)

- 21. The Sound of _____, film (5)
- 22. Monastic building (5)
- 24. Fisherman's basket (5)
- 26. Inert gas (4)

QUICK CROSSWORD

20

26

27. Small measure (4)

Answers page 10

Rural Market Reports

Guyra Sheep and Lamb

December 10th - There was a total yarding of 3000 head with 1400 lambs and 1600 mutton on offer at the last sale of the year in Guyra.

The best of the old season lambs made from \$230 to \$250 and the best of the new season lambs best made \$235. The majority of new season restocker lambs made from \$90 to 140.

Crossbred ewes topped at 130, with the majority of the medium to light ewes making from \$65 to \$85 depending on condition. The best of the merino ewes made from \$65 to \$75.

This was the last Guyra Sheep & Lamb sale for 2024. The first Sheep & Lamb Sale for the new year will be Tuesday January 14th.

Armidale Cattle Sale

December 12th – Total yarding 500, down 750 on the previous sale. A very mixed quality penning to wind up sales for the year. Included in the number were 72 bulls and 100 plain condition light weight young cattle. Those young cattle were sold on a dollars per head basis and not included in this report. They did however sell extremely well.

There was a reduced field of processors operating however a very active group of restocker orders competed strongly. With a break in sales and paddocks full of feed the market for young cattle returning to the paddock was strong with most categories selling to dearer trends. The mixed quality nature of the offering did contribute to some negative price change.

Grown steers and heifers to process sold on a firm to slightly cheaper trend while those to feedlots met strong competition and saw improvement in places. There was a slightly cheaper trend in the cow market. Bulls also sold to cheaper trends as processors wind down in preparation for the Christmas/ New year period.

Average \$1366.11 per head and 307.2 c/kg. (Open Auction Averaging \$709.46)

Next sale is Thursday January
16th

Weekly Wool Market

December 13th - Once again, the wool market remained relatively stable. The Northern region indicator lost 5 cents on the first day of sales and a further 3 cents on the final day. Like last week the losses were almost entirely restricted to the 18 micron and finer types. Gains were recorded for the Crossbreds and the Merino carding indicator.

Creating some hope for next

week's final sale before a three week recess was the Fremantle market which produced the best gains selling after the Eastern seaboard market had closed on Wednesday.

34,762 bales were sold nationally for the week with a passed in rate of 8.9%. Major buyers included Tianyu, Techwool and Fox & Lillie. AWI released an update of the expected national wool production for the 2024/25 season. The 6% decrease forecast in the August update and been changed to a 12% decrease.

All states except NSW & Qld are predicting double digit production declines. To put this into context a 12% decrease would equate to around 210,000 fewer bales or roughly 6 selling weeks based on current weekly offerings. It will be interesting to see how the trade responds to this update.



Ph: 6779 2132

Guyra Gazette 2025 Rain Chart

Property:



Date	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	Date	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Date
1							1							1
2							2							2
3							3							3
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28							28							28
29							29							29
30							30							30
31							31							31
Total for Month														
Days Rained														
Cumu	lative													



New England Community College

New England Community College Inc (NECC) offers a diverse range of certificate courses, general interest courses, computer training and literacy and numeracy tuition in the New England area. We have offices in Guyra, Armidale and Glen Innes.

For work or pleasure, for income or leisure, NECC is your local Registered Training Organisation. Our certificate courses are nationally recognised qualifications.

Check our website - www.gala.org.au - for courses being held at Guyra, Armidale and Glen Innes.

136 Bradley Street, Guyra E: admin@gala.org.au www.gala.org.au





POSITIONS VACANT

Part-time Gardener

Guyra Bowling & Recreation Club Contact David Wilcox: 0429 017 169

Are you a school leaver looking for work?

Call Nick on 0425 151 825 Shiralee Motel

WORKING DOGS FOR SALE

3 F & 2 M BLACK & TAN kelpie puppies. Available on 19.12.24. Vaccinated, wormed and will be Working Kelpie Council registered. Guaranteed workers. M 0402 099 736 for more information.

RAFFLE RESULTS

NEW ENGLAND WIGS & HEADWEAR 1st D Hodson, 2nd J Cozens, 3rd J Howatson. Thanks to all who supported

HOSPITAL AUXILIARY raffle won by Terry Saunders. Thanks for everyone's support. We always need new members. If interested in joining our small but enthusiastic workers please call Gail 67791702

CLAIM THE DATE

EVERY WEDNESDAY

OPEN MIC 6.30pm at the Australian Poetry Hall of Fame

15 JANUARY TO 26 JANUARY 2025 **GUYRA LAMB & POTATO FESTIVAL**

Check out the market stalls, enjoy a roast lamb meal, family friendly event

SATURDAY 1st FEBRUARY 2025

MAWARRA CLEARING SALE.

Property has been sold. Commencing at 10am. For more information, contact Mark Atkin 0455 310 657

SATURDAY, 8th FEBRUARY 2025

Whisperhead, Stitch Finger, Cosmic Crumb live in concert @Australian Poetry Hall of Fame presented by GlenFest Events & wwrozradio.com Enquiries 0421 544 047

21st & 22nd FEBRUARY 2025

GUYRA SHOW - Featuring Prime Lamb Show & Sale Friday 21st and Bull Ride

WEDNESDAY, 26 FEBRUARY 2025

SAVE & GROW GUYRA Ratepavers Inc. Annual General Meeting 6pm Guyra Bowling and Recreation Club

FRIDAY, 28th FEBRUARY 2025

Gwyn Ashton Mojo Soul Solo Aus Tour @ Australian Poetry Hall of Fame Tickets:

https://www.trybooking.com/CXOBM

IN MEMORIAM

CECIL EDWARD WILSON 13.12.2023

We miss you in so many ways, We miss the things you used to say, And when old times we do recall. It's then we miss you most of all. Loving wife Enid, Warren, Bobby, Bradley and Leslie

RETURN THANKS

Doug ELLIS

Passed away 27 November 2024

Doreen & family would like to extend their sincere thanks for your kindness, condolences, food, cards and support we received after the passing of Doug.

A special thank you to Dr Jey and the staff at the surgery plus the amazing staff that cared for Doug in his final days at the Guyra Hospital.

The 'Five Gun Salute' at the Guyra Gun Club was seen as a fitting farewell by all. And the personal support provided by Piddingtons during this sad time was greatly appreciated.

Everyone's kindness and support will always be remembered.

From Doreen and family

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

CATHOLIC CHURCH MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve — 6pm Christmas Day — 9am

CHURCH OF FREEDOM

Christmas Day — 10am

St. JAMES ANGLICAN CHURCH

Christmas Eve — 5pm

Christmas Day — 9am St. BARTHOLOMEW'S, OLLERA

Unfortunately, there will be no service at Ollera this year.



Your invitation to Christmas services ...

GUYRA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHRISTMAS DAY Wednesday, 25th December 9.00am

with morning tea to follow

Rev. Andrew (& Anne) Campbell 0447 724 536



CHRISTMAS CLOSURES

Food Pantry at The Chapel 66 Llangothlin Street, Guyra OPEN this FRIDAY 9am-12pm

Contact: 0455 232 073

This is our last Food Pantry for this year.

We will re-open on Friday, 24th January 2025



Christmas/New Year Closures

Care & Support:

Closed 18th December to 5th February

Vinnies Shop:

Closed 20th December to 21st January

Vinnies Assist – 13 18 12 Ring for financial assistance.

TRADES & SERVICES







both small & large

- Residential
- Commerial
- Town & Rural

John Crawford Electrical

Call us on: 0428 241 532

Or contact us on: https://johncrawfordelectrical.com



Public Exhibitions

Old Courthouse Courtyard and Walkway Concept Plans

- Closes 12 January, 2024

Draft Community Plan 2025-2034

- Closes 10 February, 2024

Search 'Your Say Armidale' to submit

Council closures over the holiday break!

Please note the following closures over the holiday break for Council services and facilities. All garbage collection services will operate as normal during the break.

Guyra Civic Admin Building and the Guyra Library

 Closed from 21 December 2024 to reopen Monday 6 January 2025.

Guyra Waste facility

- Closed 25 December for Christmas Day
- Closed 1 January for New Year's Day
- Open 26 December for boxing day (9am - 4:45pm)

Guyra pool

- Closed 25 December for Christmas Day
- Closed 26 December for Boxing Day
- Open 1 January for New Year's Day (10am - 6pm)

Council's 24 hours services will also be available during the holiday break.





School holiday activities 2025

The Guyra Library has an exciting range of school activities over the summer holidays break! Keep the kids entertained from Wednesday 8 January to Wednesday 29 January with a host of activities including Children's Bingo, Virtual Reality,

Movie morning, Sand art, Reptiles on the go, Spheros fun, Giant games on the lawn, and Salt paint artworks. All information is available on the Council website, just search 'School Holidays'. To book, simply call the Guyra Library on 6770 7123 or drop in to 158 Bradley Street, Guyra to find out more.

Gift boxes, wrappers, and rubbish for upcoming holiday season

Please remember to recycle your gift boxes and wrappers whenever possible. This helps reduce waste and contributes to a more sustainable community.



Adopt don't shop for pets this festive season

Christmas is almost upon us and Armidale Regional Council (ARC) is asking potential pet owners who are considering welcoming a new furry family member into their home to 'adopt not shop' this holiday season. The 'adopt not shop' message is particularly relevant at Christmas time with people often welcoming a new pet into their families or giving a cat or dog as a gift to a loved one. ARC is encouraging prospective pet

owners to visit the Armidale Animal Companion Shelter and meet the numerous cats and dogs who are patiently waiting for their forever homes Along with the 'adopt not shop' message, pet owners are reminded of the three easy steps of responsible pet ownership – microchipping, desexing and registering their pet. The Armidale Animal Companion Shelter Opening Hours are:

- Monday to Friday: 9am-11am & 2:30pm - 5:30pm,
- Saturdays: 9am-10am. The shelter is closed Sunday and public holidays.



GUYR

1300 136 833

18/12/2024

Cr. Eli Imad wishes everyone a Merry Christmas & a happy New Year.

Please have a safe holiday and drive carefully if you are travelling. I look forward to working for the region in 2025.

You can contact me at: eimad@armidale.nsw.gov.au







Festive whole chickens 8.00~kgRoast Pork \$10.00 kg Blueberries, per punnet 3.00 ea Red Plums 8.90 kg6.50 ea Peters Ice Cream, 4Litre Coca Cola 30x375ml

Prawns, meats, pantry items & more at great prices at your local IGA

The Management & staff thank everyone for your support during 2024. Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all our customers! **Christmas Trading Times**

We will be **CLOSED** only on:

Christmas Day, Boxing Day & New Year's Day **OPEN** as normal all other days



94 Bradley Street, Guyra

Phone: 6779 1555

Cricket

In the second round of the T20 competition Guyra 2nds came out on top in their game against Hillgrove. Guyra won the toss and decided that bowling was the best option, a decision which proved a winner.

Hillgrove made 7/114 off their 20 overs. Wicket takers were Brendan Landsborough 1/28, Tahmani Landsborough 1/22, Heath Dowsett 2/16. Emory Levy 1/7 and Kylan Levy-Cutmore 2/17.

In reply, Guyra got off to a shaky start to be 2/12 before Charlie White (50 n.o.) and Kylan Levy-Cutmore (44) came together to put on 83 for the third wicket. Guyra finished on 3/118 and are the only team to get a second win in the competition.

In other games Easts Green 6/110 defeated Walcha/Uralla 7/107 and Easts Yellow 1/174 defeated City/UNE 8/162.

In the third grade game Guyra's only win for the day was the toss. Batting first only Craig Lockyer (29) and Steve McElroy (11) got to double figures in the team's total of 9/65.

In reply City/UNE also found the going tough, but managed to get the win in the final over finishing with 5/66. Wickets were taken by Tommy Mitchell 2/8, Cooper Brennan 1/15, Colin Connors 1/11 and Tom Lockyer 1/9.

The competition will take a break over Christmas with the final two games set down for January 11th and 18th. Guyra will be hoping for a spot in the grand final which will be played on January 25th.

Vets Golf

Last Tuesday we had our appreciation day for all vets that supported our various district events throughout the year. We also had our presetations and celebrated Christmas with lunch.

It was a two person Ambrose and it was won by Belinda Lenehan and Robert Moore. Runners up went to Ian Taylor and Dave Bearup. Robert and Belinda, Custard and Wendy along with Jenny and Paul all won NTPs.

I didn't write down all the recipients of the presentations for the year but congratulations to you all. Worthy of mention though is Wally Chapman who took out the very prestigious club person of the year award. We all know what a tremendous job Wal does for Vets golf in all aspects. A very worthy winner.

Merry Christmas everyone. See you in the new year.

Drake

Sunday Golf

On Saturday this weekend the men play the women in the annual Matchplay Comp.

Then on Sunday is an individual stroke event for the Monthly Mug.

We are also down to the last 8 in the Mens Matchplay and games are to be completed by 19th January.

Games are Steve Kliendienst v Neil Paine, Mick Purvis v Adam Brennan, Steve Wilson v Tyson Burey and Ian Taylor v Scott Mendes.

Also don't forget the Boxing Day Ambrose which is always a great event so grab a partner and come along. MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY GOLFING.

More sport pages 11,12

Take-away **Specials**

Beef Burgers \$9,99

Barra Fish (per piece) \$9,99

Whiskey Maple **Chicken Wings** (6 pieces) \$12.00

Bangers & Mash \$19.00

Dinner Specials

\$19 Mon. **Snitty night** \$17 Tues. Curry night (any curry) Wed. **Ribs & Wings** \$24 Thurs. Chicken Parma \$21 \$24 Steak night 300g Thone Fri. Sat. Seafood - grilled Bara \$24 **Grilled Salmon** \$25 \$19 Sun. Roast of the Day

Tuesday & Wednesday

- Kids' dinner meals FREE.
 - Happy Hour 5-6pm!
 - Schooners \$4



Whole Menu available to takeaway

Friday night Meat Raffles Supporting local community

groups



122 Bradley **Street** 6779 1005