



Guyra Gazette

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Wednesday August 20, 2025

World Cup success for Fletch

Guyra shooting talent Fletcher Richardson delivered a great performance at the 2025 World Universal Trench Championships held in Rome, Italy from July 31st to August 3rd.

Competing as part of the Junior Australian Team alongside teammates Cam Ford and Lucas Furlan, Richardson contributed to the squad's silver medal win. The team competed over four days in fairly warm weather and sometimes overcast conditions against a strong international field that included 17 nations and over 300 competitors.

Individually, Richardson placed 4th overall in the junior division with a score of 186/200, narrowly missing the podium. His performance also saw him finish 45th overall in the Open category.

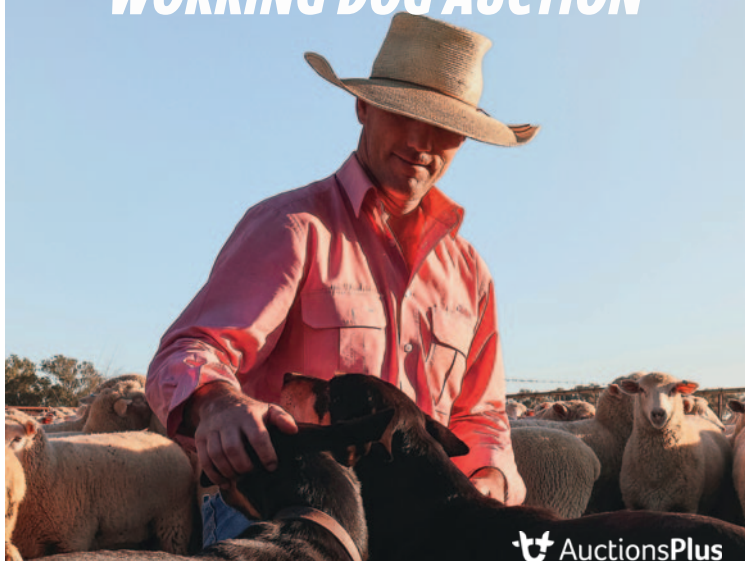
Notably, Richardson achieved a new personal best during the championship — a milestone in his shooting career that signals continued improvement and dedication.

Fletcher would like to thank all of his supporters who contributed to his success and helped him to achieve these results.



Elders

TOP OF THE RANGE WORKING DOG AUCTION



AuctionsPlus

SATURDAY 23 AUGUST FROM 1PM | GUYRA SHOWGROUNDS

20 high quality lots from reputable trainers

Demos on site from 9am on sale day

Coffee and refreshments available

Myles Williams | Elders Guyra 0438 804 454

23rd RIDE FOR THE CHOPPER

50
YEARS



TEAM GUYRA SHEEP AND LAMB DRIVE



**TUESDAY AUGUST 26TH, 2025 | 9AM START
GUYRA SALEYARDS**

Those wishing to donate a sheep or lamb
contact Wayne Jenkyn (Elders) 0428 293 556
or your preferred agent

100% of funds going straight to the
Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service



FOR MORE INFORMATION
SCAN THE QR CODE



Opening Soon
in 91 Bradley Street Guyra

STOCKandSTATION
NSW

Class 1 Lic.No. 20101002

All rural sales fee @1.8%
Free videography and photography

*Terms and Conditions apply**

Call: 0450 431 536



FREE men's health checks!
at Guyra



Wed 27 Aug 9.30am – 4.15pm at Bradley Street, Car Park, GUYRA
and Thu 28 Aug 9.30am – 4.15pm
Opposite Nincoola Street on Bradley Street, GUYRA

It doesn't seem to matter how old they are ...most blokes in country NSW don't pay much attention to their health - 'she'll be right!'... But treatable high blood pressure and diabetes often go unnoticed until it's too late... If you don't remember when you last had a checkup... It's time!

Get checked ... see mherV ... its a gift!



Free health checks at the Men's Health Education Rural Van include:

* Blood pressure just to check the heart isn't too stressed. * Blood sugar levels ... just a pin-prick in the finger, to make sure there's no type two diabetes ... which is manageable even if there is. * Cholesterol ... just to see if levels are high and need attention.

Sponsored by:



Students Decode the Universe



Sadie MacDougall, Alannah Jackson, Noah Chapman, Cruz Little, Willow Cruickshank, Banjo McFarlane and Jack Campion with their project on Thomas Edison.

As part of National Science Week 2025, students at Bald Blair Public School embraced the theme "Decoding the Universe: Exploring the Unknown with Nature's Hidden Language" through a week filled with hands-on learning, creativity, and exploration.

The week kicked off with a whole-school Science Day, where students worked in teams on fun and challenging activities. They researched famous scientists and inventors, communicated using light and Morse code, built sun dials to tell time using the sun's movement, and competed in a marshmallow-and-toothpick tower challenge that tested their engineering and teamwork skills.

On Wednesday, students joined a live webinar with author and illustrator Matt Cosgrove and the Museum of Australian Democracy. Highlights included a reading of *Alpacas in Space*, a live alpaca drawing tutorial, and a Q&A session where students asked Matt about his stories and creative process.

Thursday saw students head off on an excursion to Thalgarrah, rounding out an exciting week of science and discovery.

This week of activities truly captured the spirit of National Science Week — inspiring curiosity and encouraging students to explore the wonders of the universe around them.



Bald Blair students at Thalgarrah Environmental Education Centre

Permanent memorial for long forgotten graves

Two long-forgotten graves on a property near Falconer have now been permanently marked, thanks to the dedication of Doug and Rhonda Ferris, with assistance from Dave Richardson.

The graves, located on East Tara — a property owned by Kerry and Bernard Makings — were known to only a few locals until recent efforts brought them into the light. The site was once part of a much larger holding known as Tara.

Doug Ferris, who now lives on West Tara — the site of the former village of Falconer — first learned of the graves when he moved to the area. Long-time residents Harry and Rita Williams pointed out the location and shared its history.

“When I first stood at the site with Harry Williams, we both agreed — if we didn’t do something to mark these graves, they would be lost forever,” said Doug. “They deserved to be remembered, the spot marked, and not forgotten.”

The graves date back to the 1860s and belong to two children of Thomas and Anna Morson Rae: Anna Morson Rae, who died on January 4, 1863, aged just four days, and Emma Marie Rae, who passed away in May 1866 at six weeks old, reportedly from whooping cough.

Information about the children and their family was sourced from the Guyra and District Historical Society Journal ‘A Monumental Achievement’. Further information about the family can be found in the Armidale and District Historical Society Newsletter (October 2022).

Thomas Rae was a Scotsman and he married Anna Morson Buckland in Armidale in 1861. He was the owner/licensee of the Falconer Hotel, 7.8kms north-east of Guyra in the Sandon Goldfields.

In 1874 the Armidale Express, describing the



Doug Ferris erected the granite slab as a permanent memorial for Anna and Emma Rae
Photo Dave Richardson

goldfields settlements stated ‘Mr Thomas Rae remains the sole resident of all he surveys from his own windows at Falconer’. Thomas died in February 1882 aged 67.

Guyra and Falconer were proclaimed as villages in 1885, but as the 1884 extension of the railway went through Guyra, the settlement at Falconer lost significance and Guyra grew. At the end of 1882 Mrs Anna Rae sold her household goods and the de-licensed hotel was auctioned as a 14 roomed house.

All that they left behind were two tiny graves

which may well have been lost to history. The only reminder of where the children lay were two small indentations, marked only by sticks.

Now, a granite headstone has been installed at the site as a lasting tribute. A marble plaque, engraved with the children’s names and dates has been inset into the stone.

This heartfelt act of remembrance ensures the Rae children are no longer forgotten — their resting place now marked with care and dignity, and their story woven back into the history of Falconer.

Ride for the Chopper Sheep and Lamb Drive

Next Tuesday, August 26th, the Local Ride for the Chopper fund raisers will host a Sheep and Lamb Drive in support of the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service (WRHS). All funds raised from livestock donations will go 100% directly to the Service.

If you’d like to contribute by donating a sheep or lambs, please contact Wayne Jenkyn (Elders) – 0428 293 556 or speak with your preferred livestock agent.

Your support will help ensure the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service remains free of charge to anyone in need, continuing to deliver critical care across our region when it’s needed most.

For nearly 50 years, the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service (WRHS) has provided a critical lifeline to communities across Northern NSW. From its first mission in 1975 to the state-of-the-art service it is today, the WRHS ensures that no one in our region is ever more than a call away from lifesaving care—no matter how remote their location.

Operating five AW139 helicopters from



Donate a lamb by contacting Elders or your preferred agent. (File photo)

bases in Belmont, Tamworth, and Lismore, the service provides rapid-response aeromedical support, including pre-hospital emergency care, inter-hospital transfers, and search and rescue missions. Each flight carries a dedicated team: a pilot, aircrew officer, NSW Health critical care doctor, and NSW Ambu-

lance critical care paramedic. In complex cases, this team may be further supported by specialist nurses.

This world-class service is made possible through a unique partnership—funded jointly by the NSW Government, Westpac, sponsors, local businesses, and most importantly, the community. As a registered charity, the WRHS relies heavily on fundraising to maintain its high standards, invest in training and technology, and expand the services that keep our towns safe.

Locally, the WRHS Tamworth Base is celebrating 25 years of operations in August. Since opening in 2000, the base has played a vital role in the New England North West region, delivering thousands of critical missions. Every dollar raised in this area stays local—supporting the helicopters, crews, and medical teams who serve our region every day.

That’s why events like the Guyra Lamb Sale matter so deeply. Together, let’s keep the chopper flying.

What's HOT

Daffodils blooming so spring must be nearly here!!

Coldest morning of the year on Monday at **-4.3C**

Last chance to apply for ARC Community Small Grants which close Friday Aug. 22nd

What's NOT

Holding an AGM on Father's Day - who will attend?

Return & Earn (one glass machine) damaged overnight 12/13 August - will be closed until repaired. Please report damage to 1800 290 691

JOKE of the week

I put vodka in the lawn mower because petrol was too expensive.
Now the grass is half cut

Bureau of Meteorology

Weather

WATCH

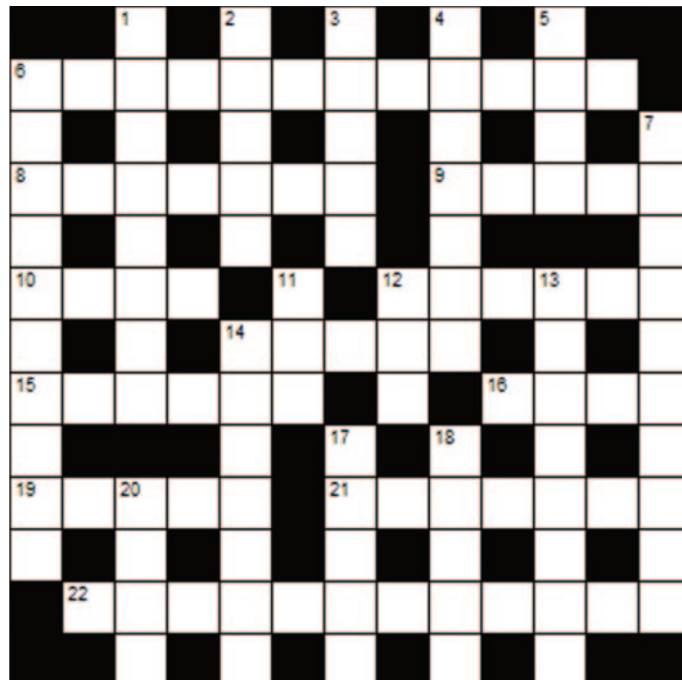
Guyra MPS

Date	Day	Min	Max	Rain
12	Tues	0.3	12.8	0
13	Wed	-0.4	12.4	0
14	Thurs	1.8	11.1	0
15	Fri	-0.6	13.6	0
16	Sat	0.8	11.8	0
17	Sun	-2.6	8.5	2.4
18	Mon	-4.3	10.2	0

Rain this week	2.4mm
Aug. rainfall	55.2mm
Rainfall YTD	731.8mm
Rainfall last YTD	549.8mm
Ave. rain YTD	563.3mm

Information supplied by Jeff Martin,
Observer for Bureau of Meteorology

QUICK CROSSWORD



Across: 6. Praise-worthy, 8. Epitome, 9. Manly, 10. Ally, 12. Acquit, 14. Prose, 15. Ignore, 16. Ode, 19. Unfit, 21. Embargo, 22. Discourteous.
Down: 1. Papillon, 2. Aston, 3. Sweet, 4. Grimace, 5. Chin, 6. Precarious, 7. Mysterious, 11. Ore, Ash, 13. Underdog, 14. Protect, 17. Venus, 18. Abate, 20. Fall

ACROSS

6. Highly commendable (12)
8. Poe time [anag] (7)
9. Virile (5)
10. Friend (4)
12. Exonerate (6)
14. Non-verse writing (5)
15. Disregard (6)
16. German river (4)
19. Out of condition (5)
21. Trade ban (7)
22. Impolite (12)

DOWN

1. Film about an escape from Devil's Island (8)
2. Prestigious car, ____ Martin (5)
3. Sugary (5)
4. Expressions of pain (7)
5. Lower jaw (4)
6. Unsafe (10)
7. Enigmatic (10)
11. Mineral deposit (3)
12. Tree (3)
13. Least-favoured contestant (8)
14. Safeguard (7)
17. Goddess of love (5)
18. Subside (5)
20. Be unsuccessful (4)

SUDOKU - Medium

3				5			7
2	4	5					
	6		4				
	2		7	8			
			1				
				3		9	2
7		2	5				8
			3				
9					4	2	6

6	3	2	4	7	8	1	9	6
5	6	7	1	2	3	4	8	9
8	4	1	9	6	5	2	3	7
2	1	6	5	3	9	8	7	4
3	7	8	2	4	1	9	6	5
4	9	6	8	7	3	2	1	5
9	2	5	3	4	1	7	6	8
1	8	3	7	6	9	5	4	2
7	6	4	8	5	2	9	3	1

Meals on Wheels

Aug 21	Bec Broughton
Aug 22	Heather Marchant
Aug 25	Peter Thomas
Aug 26	James Parker
Aug 27	ARC

Street Stalls

Aug 21,22,23	Rotary
Aug 28	Hosp. Auxiliary
Aug 29, 30	Freemasons

Service Clubs

LIONS CLUB dinner meetings 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month at Guyra Bowling Club, 7pm. Ph: Geoff Reeves 6779 1257

ROTARY CLUB dinner meetings 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month 6pm for 6.30pm at Guyra Cafe
Ph: Hans Hietbrink 0402 044 891

Church Notices

St. Mary of the Angels Catholic Church Vigil Mass 5pm (during winter) Saturday 9am Sunday. Week-day 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 **Anglican Chaplain:** Rev. Daniel Hayes (0428 828 852)

St. Columba's Presbyterian Church
9am Sunday followed by morning tea. Ben Lomond, 2pm October 5th
Contact: Rev. Andrew Campbell 0447 724 536

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

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

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

Council News

Council Meetings

Our next scheduled council meeting is 27 August 2025.

All meetings will be held at 4pm in the Armidale Council Chambers unless stated otherwise. The public is welcome to watch live streaming over YouTube, via the link included below, or attend in person.

Current Vacancies

Enterprise Risk Management Co-ordinator - Closes 24 August.

Senior Strategic Planner - Closes 24 August.

Casual Swimming Pool Job Register - Closes 1 March.

Casual Waste Attendant Job Register - Closes 21 December.

Discover toys, games, and costumes at Guyra Library

Did you know that Guyra Library offers a fantastic collection of toys and games available for borrowing? Our interactive and educational toy collection is designed for children aged 0–5 and is available to borrow for up to three weeks with your free library membership. These toys are perfect for playtime at home and support early learning and development. We also



Water management starts here

Council has officially launched the ARC Water Customer Portal, a free online tool designed to help residents monitor their water usage, detect leaks early, and avoid unexpected bills. The portal offers real-time access to water consumption data, allowing users to track usage patterns and receive alerts if irregular activity is detected. It's a simple yet powerful way to

support water conservation and reduce waste across the region. Key benefits of the portal include early leak detection and 24/7 access to water usage data. The ARC Water Customer Portal is free, easy to use, and available now. Residents are encouraged to sign up and take an active role in managing their household water use. To register, visit: <https://arcwater.armidale.nsw.gov.au>

have a delightful selection of dress-up costumes — just in time for Book Week! If you're looking to match a costume with a book, our team is happy to help you find the perfect pairing. And for those chilly winter days, why not challenge the family to a board game? Our popular games can be borrowed for a day or up to three weeks, offering fun for all ages. Visit Guyra Library to explore, borrow, and enjoy — there's something for everyone!

Last chance to apply for community small grants

If you've been dreaming up a project that could make a difference in your town, village, or neighbourhood then now's the time to act! Council's community grants are open, but only until this Friday. Whether it's a local event, a creative initiative, or a practical upgrade, there's funding available to help bring your idea to life: Community Small Grants (up to \$2000), Community Support Grants (\$2000 to \$5000), Village Grants (up to \$3500). It's quick to apply, and past projects have made a real impact, so why not yours? Apply now via the Council website. Search Community Small Grants.

Weed alert | Sticky florestina

Armidale Regional Council has been notified by the Local Lands Services (LLS) and Biosecurity Queensland that Sticky florestina may be entering parts of the Armidale region via livestock transport. All parts of the plant are considered toxic and unpalatable to grazing animals. Sticky florestina produces hundreds of sticky seeds which are easily spread by stock, native animals, vehicles, machinery and people. Its seeds are also believed to be dispersed down waterways. Prevention: Identify and treat any new infestations promptly before seed can be set. Prevent seed spread by minimising contact with seeding plants. Be sure to brush down clothing, empty boots, clean down vehicles, machinery and equipment before leaving infested areas.



Vision to restore Little Boy Lost landmark

Standing for more than a century, the Abbey Green Church is one of Tubbamurra's most significant historic landmarks and forever linked to the famous Little Boy Lost story. The church has fallen into disrepair, but a new push is underway to save it and bring it back to life.

Councillor Eli Imad has met with the building's owners, the Wyatt family, and secured agreement on a framework to begin the restoration journey. A senior strategic planner from Armidale Regional Council has inspected the site and confirmed the church can be restored, opening the door for a community-led revival.

"I'm grateful to the Wyatt family for their cooperation and willingness to see this vision take shape," Cr Imad said.

"Abbey Green is the last remaining public building in Tubbamurra. Preserving historic structures like this is vital. We need passionate locals to step forward so we can begin the journey



of restoring it for future generations — it would be an asset for the whole region."

The proposed plan includes restoring the building in line with heritage values, revitalising the grounds, and adding interpretive signage to share its rich history — including its Little Boy Lost connection.

Cr Imad hopes the restored church will serve as a tourist drawcard, a unique wedding

venue, and even host special prayer services.

Funding will be sought through community events, grants, donations, and in-kind support from local tradespeople.

Residents interested in being part of the restoration committee — to help steer planning and fundraising — are encouraged to contact Councillor Imad as soon as possible.

Your Water Management Starts Here

Armidale Regional Council has launched the ARC Water Customer Portal, a free tool that helps you stay informed, reduce waste, and avoid surprise bills. It's simple, effective, and built for our community.

Why It Matters

- Catch leaks early: Get alerts if something's not right.
- Track your usage: Accessible anytime.

- Support sustainability: Every drop saved helps our region thrive.

This isn't just about saving water—it's about building a smarter, more resilient future for Guyra.

Signing up means peace of mind for your household and a step forward for our community.

It's free. It's easy. It's ready for you. Sign up today. Let's manage water better—together.

Website: <https://arcwater.armidale.nsw.gov.au/>

What's Happening at the Guyra Neighbourhood Centre

Spring is upon us...

Produce Swap

With spring comes lots of action in the garden, we are starting our seedling planting now. We have our first Produce Swap on the 6th Sept. in the GNC Community Garden, and we are calling for any producers with produce to swap or sell to get in touch. We provide a table and spot for you to set up.

Breakfast and Coffee bar

We are continuing our new Breakfast and Coffee bar; everyone is welcome to participate. Any time we are open this is on offer. Toast, cereal, porridge, and Tea & Coffee (at no cost). We thank the other Guyra services that are so generously support this initiative.

Coming Soon to GNC

Permaculture Workshops 15th, 22nd & 29th Nov. 2025 provided by Highland Permaculture. The program components are the Cool

Climate Permaculture Workshops, the Small School Excursion sessions and the Working Bee Framework for GNC community Garden. More information will be available shortly.

Services Australia (Centrelink)

Ben from Services Australia will be outreaching to Guyra through GNC. His next visits will be on Monday 18 August and Monday 22 September... watch this space for more dates.

Donations for Dignity Bags

GNC is asking for donations for toiletries and or bags for Females, Males, Families, teenagers and Mums with bubs items such as toothpaste, toothbrush, hairbrush or comb, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, pads or tampons, body wash, shaving cream, tissues and nappies. Donations can be dropped off at the Neighbourhood Centre Mon to Thurs 9am to 2pm.



RAMHP Support Skills

RAMHP Support Skills is a free, four-hour course developed and delivered by the Rural Adversity Mental Health Program (RAMHP) for workplaces, community groups and community members about mental health and how to help someone you are worried about.

RAMHP Support Skills develops the knowledge and confidence of participants to identify and approach people they suspect are struggling with their mental wellbeing or are at risk of suicide. A structured framework is provided for guidance to assist with raising concerns, how to support and connect a person to help. The training also covers how to look after one's own wellbeing with a focus on self-care and seeking support.

Content covered

- Wellbeing. What it is and its connection to mental health
- The difference between mental health and mental illness
- Stress, what it is, its impact on mental and physical health
- Managing stress
- Mental Illness: signs and symptoms
- How to assist someone by having a mental health conversation using a structured guide
- Suicide information and talking about suicide
- Where to find help: specific to your locality including virtual and phone services
- Self-care fundamentals and building a self-care plan

GNC Board Room Friday 29 August 9.30am – 1.30pm

(Lunch will be provided and a gold coin donation will be appreciated).
Book your space - office@guyranc.org.au or manager@guyranc.org.au



www.ramhp.com.au



160 Bradley St Guyra NSW 2365
Ph: 02 67791635 Mob: 0477 441 457

OPEN Monday -Thursday
9am - 2pm (Closed Friday)

Free health checks next week

"Saving local lives" is the objective of the Rotary Men's Health Education Rural Van (mherv) which thanks to the Rotary Club of Guyra is coming to our local area.

mherv is operated by the Rotary Club of Warners Bay in collaboration with local NSW Rotary clubs and other local community organisations.

The mherv Project has been operating for over 6 years travelling regional and rural NSW offering free health checkups to people who haven't seen the inside of a doctor's room since they don't remember when! In that time, blood pressure, blood sugar and cholesterol levels may have reached seriously high levels and there are no symptoms... until it's too late and a heart attack or stroke strikes!

The program is focussed on men because unlike the womenfolk, they are not good at caring for their own health!... But nobody is turned away.

The service is offered in a relaxed, confidential and informal



The van will be in Guyra on Wednesday and Thursday next week

setting. The mherv Registered nurse conducts the tests and discusses any health concerns seated in the privacy of the van.

mherv screenings have saved many lives and improved health outcomes for many men and women throughout NSW.

You're invited to take the oppor-

tunity to have a quick, free health check. Just ten minutes invested with mherv can save your life or the life of someone you love.

The mherv van will be in the Bradley Street carpark next Wednesday August 27th and Thursday August 28th from 9.30am to 4.15pm.

Vets Golf

The snow was the next level. Very pretty and very deep. Unfortunately though it has caused havoc with heaps of damage and our golf course, along with most other golf courses in our district, have been forced to close.

Whilst most are now up and running again it seems it will be quite some time before Guyra dries out enough and the dangerous trees tidied up enough for us to get back to playing.

Our vets are still playing though and last week a group of eight of us travelled to Glen Innes for a game. The vets up there made us very welcome and invited us back anytime we want. Col Walls was the best from Guyra with Jon Cumming coming in second. We will try and play somewhere every week until Guyra is open, so if you want a game just let Wal or I know and we will get it organised. Tim Murray from Armidale has said we are very welcome down there anytime.

Next Tuesday the 26th we are off to Inverell for their open day.

Drake



Snowstorm

The recent storms across the Northern Tablelands saw thousands of residents across the electorate without power for days. This meant people were without water, lost perishables and businesses couldn't trade.

I have written to Minister for Recovery Janelle Saffin requesting the Northern Tablelands be declared a disaster zone. Armidale Regional Council have now submitted the required paperwork for the council area to be declared a natural disaster and the declaration should come through this week.

With the snowstorms, I would also like to commend the community spirit. There were plenty of stories of people checking on their neighbours, offering up their homes, delivering goods and clearing roads.

Well done to the whole community.

NSW Farmers' Annual Conference

I attended the NSW Farmers' Annual Conference in Sydney last month which saw farmers, industry leaders and politicians come together to discuss issues facing the industry.

These included the future of farming, artificial intelligence, a first farm buyer's scheme, renewable energy concerns, animal activism, privacy, waste transfers, mobile coverage, funding for feral pig

control, pest and weed control, insurance costs, and the next generation of agriculture.

REZ inquiry

Renewable Energy Zones (REZ) were in focus when the Upper House brought their Parliamentary Inquiry to Armidale two weeks ago. Local mayors, local planning officers, landholders, academics, and community members had the chance to raise their concerns about the New England Renewable Energy Zone.

Our community has clearly and methodically identified shortcomings with the roll out of the REZ and witnesses raised those during the inquiry. No one said they were against renewables, but it is clear the NSW Government has so far failed to properly address fundamental issues such as water security, housing availability, roads and infrastructure, waste and recycling management, current infrastructure, and workforce availability.

Since becoming the local member 12 months ago, I have constantly said that the current planning laws in NSW are outdated and do not achieve fairness for regional communities dealing with large scale renewable projects.

Witnesses also identified the flawed planning process and the failure of the NSW Government to take their feedback into consideration.

Contact my office:

Ph: 02 6772 5552

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Armidale NSW 2365

@: northerntablelands@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Find me online:

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Authorised by
Brendan Moylan,
Member for
Northern Tablelands,
Funded using parliamentary
entitlements, August 2025



It is great to see progress being made on the Guyra Scout Hall

The NSW Government now needs to stop overlooking them and start addressing them.

Crackdown on illegal vapes & tobacco

Our regional communities have been calling for change on the sale of illegal vapes and tobacco for months and now the Government is finally acting. They have decided to introduce tougher laws.

This comes after the NSW Opposition announced they would introduce a Bill in Parliament to make NSW the hardest place in Australia to sell the dangerous products. These illegal shops run by criminals have moved into empty shops in our towns and have made these addictive, destructive and harmful products readily available, particularly for young people.

New England District Exercise descends on Bundarra this weekend

The quiet rural town of Bundarra will come alive on Saturday, August 23rd, as it plays host to the New England District Exercise, a coordinated training event involving local RFS Volunteers.

This planned exercise will allow RFS members to practice core skills designed to test the readiness and response capabilities of multiple crews from within the New England Zone.

The focus will be on enhancing team coordination and communication in a relaxed community setting, with some fun activities included to encourage participation and camaraderie.

Also present will be the New England First Aid instructors and Community Engagement specialists to demonstrate First Aid techniques and provide information to the community around fire preparedness and information on how to join the RFS.

Inspector Matthew McKean, Acting New England District Manager, said,

“Bundarra has been selected to host the exercise with the aim of boosting membership for the local Brigade. Like most brigades across the District, they need additional members to support immediate response to incidents. Exercises like this are vital for

improving preparedness, teamwork, honing skills and ensuring that crews can operate seamlessly together when a real emergency occurs.”

Residents can expect to see an increased emergency service presence in the area throughout the day, including multiple RFS appliances and members. Organisers stress that these activities are controlled training simulations and are designed to enhance the capability and community profile of the RFS.

The community is encouraged to observe and even participate where invited, with information stalls, first aid demonstrations, and preparedness resources available opposite the Bundarra Caravan Park in Court Street, Bundarra from 10:00am on Saturday.

“This is not just a test for responders — it’s an opportunity for residents to understand their level of risk and look at ways this could be reduced. We want to make the Bundarra community as prepared as it can be, not only for fire but for all types of emergencies,” added Inspector McKean.

The exercise is scheduled to conclude by 1:00 PM, with a debrief involving all participating agencies and community stakeholders.

Introducing New Koala Conservation Officer: Thaw Ni Ni Zaw

Southern New England Landcare is thrilled to welcome Thaw Ni Ni Zaw as the new Koala Conservation Officer for the Northern Tablelands.

Originally from the dry zone near Mandalay, Myanmar, Thaw Ni brings a wealth of knowledge in agriculture, environmental science, and community-based conservation.

“I’ve always been passionate about biodiversity and working closely with communities,” says Thaw Ni. “This role is a perfect fit for my background in agricultural and environmental science, and my experience engaging with farmers and local groups.”

Thaw Ni holds a Bachelor of Agriculture and a Master of Horticulture from Yezin Agricultural University. Her postgraduate research focused on traditional wild vegetable use among remote ethnic communities in Myanmar.

Since 2016, she has worked on international agricultural research projects led by the University of New England and funded by ACIAR, including roles as Research Associate and Project Coordinator. Her work in Myanmar and Indonesia has spanned rural livelihoods, gender analysis, farming systems, and participatory extension.

Awarded an Australia Awards Scholarship in 2023, Thaw Ni recently completed a Master of Envi-




ronmental Science and Management at UNE. Her thesis explored the cultural significance of Indigenous plants in the Gwydir Wetlands.

Thaw Ni is no stranger to Landcare, having volunteered with Southern New England Landcare for the past year on koala conservation fieldwork. She also contributes to the N.C.W. Beadle Herbarium, honing her skills in plant identification and ecological monitoring.

Now based in Armidale and applying for permanent residency, Thaw Ni is eager to support local landholders and communities in protecting koalas.

“I love the small-town feel, the nature, and the national parks,” she says. “Landcare is such a respected organisation, and I’m proud to be part of it.”



Gazette Footy Tipping

Locals Entry Form - Round 26

Tips must be submitted by 4.00pm on **Wednesday 27th August**

Name:

Phone:

Winter Wombat	237	Birdie	211	<div>Bye: Rabbits</div>	Bulldogs	vs	Panthers
KingGJBW	235	Timmy the Tiger	211		Warriors	vs	Eels
Dip Stick	229	Wayno	209		Storm	vs	Roosters
BigRus	227	DJFlake69	209		Raiders	vs	Tigers
The Panther	225	Rabidohs	209		Dragons	vs	Sea Eagles
Fingerlicking good	223	Bulldog	207		Cowboys	vs	Broncos
DJ	223	Flip	205		Sharks	vs	Knights
3PPP	219	Scary Bear	195		Dolphins	vs	Titans
Iggman	219	Bundles	195				
Crazy Cat Lady	217	Unbetables	193				
Mocak	215	Happy Gilmore	191				
The King	213	Farmer Joe	191				
The Third Player	211	Luigi	185				



Gazette's Celebrity Footy Tipping

The battle of our Celebrities is heating up as our tipping competition rolls into the pointy end of the season! Mal is still flying high at the top of the ladder with a commanding 231 points. But hot on his heels is a three-way tie between Kim from Kimmy's Kitchen, Councillor Eli, and Robert our local Butcher – all sitting snugly on 223 points and eyeing off that top spot.

Not far behind, Sue the savvy real estate agent is holding steady on 217, while the friendly crew at Fourways and Vu our Pharmacist are locked together on 211. Rounding out the

field is Soley, our ever-reliable local Accountant, on 199, still crunching the numbers and hoping for a late-season surge. With only a handful of rounds left, every tip counts.

Our Locals Leaderboard has had a change at the top with Winter Wombat reclaiming the top spot, leading KingGJBW by just 2 points, 237-235.

Dip Stick is holding onto 3rd place on 229 points, just in front of BigRus on 227, with The Panther another 2 points behind on 225. A bad week of 6 points could make a big difference and the Wooden Spoon still has a few contenders.

Sue's Tips

Dragons
Raiders
Storm
Dolphins
Warriors
Roosters
Broncos
Tigers



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Score: 217

Soley's Tips

Rabbits
Raiders
Bulldogs
Sea Eagles
Warriors
Eels
Broncos
Tigers



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Score: 199

MCLS' Tips

Dragons
Panthers
Storm
Dolphins
Warriors
Roosters
Broncos
Tigers



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Score: 211

Vu's Tips

Dragons
Raiders
Storms
Dolphins
Titans
Roosters
Broncos
Tigers



Guyra Pharmacy Trading Hours

Mon-Fri 8am - 5.30pm
Saturday 9am - 12pm
Closed on
Sunday & Public Holidays

106 Bradley Street, Guyra 6779 1192



Score: 211

Robert's Tips

Dragons
Raiders
Storm
Dolphins
Warriors
Roosters
Broncos
Cowboys



Opening Hours:

Monday to Thursday:

8.00am to 5.30pm

Friday: 7.30am to 5.30pm

Saturday: 7.30am to 12pm



105 Bradley Street
6779 1008

Score: 223

Mal's Tips

Rabbits
Panthers
Storm
Dolphins
Warriors
Roosters
Broncos
Tigers



MAL MOFFATT

"Yarana", Guyra

0427 102 630

mal.moff@outlook.com

Score: 231

Kim's Tips

Dragons
Raiders
Bulldogs
Dolphins
Warriors
Roosters
Broncos
Cowboys



OPENING HOURS

Mon, Thurs, Fri:

6.30am - 2pm

Wednesday: 6.30am-5pm

Saturday: 7am - 2pm

Tues & Sun: CLOSED

Kimmy's Kitchen

120A Bradley St.
0486 012 743



Score: 223

Eli's Tips

Dragons
Panthers
Bulldogs
Dolphins
Warriors
Roosters
Broncos
Tigers



Cr Eli Imad

Contact me:

M. 0404 000 075

E. Elmad@armidale.nsw.gov.au

*For strong regional
representation*

Score: 223



Classifieds Trades & Services

FOUND

SET OF KEYS. Found late last week.
Call into Spar to identify and pick up.

MEMBERS WANTED

**New members needed for
Guyra CWA (Day Branch).**
Next meeting is Friday 22nd August
10am at the Uniting Church Hall
Contact: 6779 1216

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Wednesday 3rd September
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Thursday, 4th September
RSA and RCG courses
Tues & Wed 9th & 10th Sept
Bookings essential at
New England
Community College
(RTO#90145)
Phone: 6779 2132
E: admin@gala.org.au

RETURN THANKS

ALEXANDER JAMES "JIM" MARTIN
5th August 2025

We would like to extend our sincere thanks for the kindness, condolences, cards and support we received after the passing of Jim.
A special thank you to the Kolora staff, Dr Jey, Dr Baker and Rev Tim Stevens for your care and compassion. Thank you also to Piddingtons for your personal support.
*Evelyn Martin, Anne & John Chaffey,
Phillip & Bynett Martin, Robert & Leanne Martin and Janette Martin*

DEATH & FUNERAL NOTICE

SWEENEY; BARRY KEITH 'BUD'
16/7/1941 - 16/8/2025
Of 'Bellevue Hill' Guyra

Dearly loved husband of Tiny (dec'd).
Loving father and father-in-law of Graham & Carole, Leanne, and Richie & Linda.

Much loved brother, brother-in-law, uncle, great-uncle and great-great-uncle of his family.

Aged 84 years

Graveside Funeral Service to be held at the Guyra Lawn Cemetery on Friday 22nd August 2025 commencing at 12pm.
By Request no flowers. Donations in lieu to Cancer Council NSW.



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FRIDAY, 31st OCTOBER
6pm **Aussie Bush Dance** and Line Dance Night with Swamp Dawkins tickets:
<https://www.trybooking.com/DDZYT>

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Junior Hockey

It truly was a full schedule of hockey for our juniors this weekend. Round 12 on Saturday saw the Under 8 Geckos play Harlies. They showed continued improvement, especially Emma J who was active in her tackling and passing. Strength from Will N and Isla L secured a well-deserved win!!

The Under 12 Goats and Galahs were both matched against NEGS teams. Once again the wonderful Under 8 Isla L and Evie C stepped up to help out. The biggest takeaway from both these matches was the improvement in our pass-

ing between players especially Lachie R and Freddie P running the ball down the field for the Goats. The Galahs had to defend the fast moving local Austin K again and really took it to him. Playing 6 vs 8 the Galahs created lines of defence and worked on clearing the ball well. A defeat but the margin was closed significantly.

On Sunday a Gala Day was run to recoup the previously cancelled rounds due to weather. The Goats and Galahs joined forces to compete in four full games of hockey over the morning. With only one

sub and quick breaks between games the kids showed a positive let's go attitude. It was wonderful to have the assistance of our skills coach Anthony B on the sidelines as he passionately encouraged and talked the kids through the play. With each half the kids improved dramatically, running the ball from the backs, channelling with their left hand down and slap hits. In the final game against Harlies Zappos with very little left in the tank the kids came out firing. At one point three Guyra players attacked the Harlies goalie which saw them fight back for a 3 all draw. Six games of hockey over the weekend for our Under12s, with my favourite quote "I think I've had enough oranges now"!!

Women's Hockey

Guyra's 2nd Grade Women took on PLC in a fast-paced Sunday match. With PLC's press shutting down their trademark big-hitting game, Guyra adapted with short, sharp passing to move the ball into the attacking circle, earning a penalty corner. They were first on the board, before Belle L added a second with a smart deflection. PLC pushed back hard, but strong saves from Carla T in goals kept them out. Guyra held on for a well-earned 2-1 victory.

It was a big week for the 3rd Grade Women, backing up for two matches in just 48 hours. On Thursday they faced TAS in what became the "battle of Mother vs Daughters." The game was played in great spirit, with plenty of ball movement. A midfield run saw Buntine score, before another team effort doubled the lead. TAS replied with a goal but couldn't find an equaliser, despite Tessa J from TAS sitting on her mother's shoulders in goals as a last-ditch attempt. This time, the mums had the upper hand!

By Saturday, Guyra were back on the field against Flamingoes. Fatigue showed, with the game turning into a scramble at times as they worked hard to contain the Flamingoes' run. Determined until the final whistle, the short turnaround proved too tough, but the team fought bravely to the end.

Men's Hockey

Match report August 3rd - Guyra closed out their season on Sunday under clear winter skies, taking on a red-hot United outfit. For once, the team was blessed with luxury—three substitutes on the bench—and they put them to good use in a hard-fought contest.

Despite their intensity and strong passages of play, Guyra eventually went down 5-2 against a sharp United side.

The highlight of the day—and possibly the goal of the season—came from a brilliant combination between Kenny Clayton and Blake Parker, a moment that had both players and spectators on their feet.

While the result wasn't in their favour, Guyra wrapped up the regular season with pride, passion, and plenty of fight. Finals will kick off on September 7th, and the team is hungry to make their mark.

A massive thank you to all the supporters, sponsors, and players who made this year so special—your backing is what keeps the Shamrocks strong.

Ladies' Golf

With the course still closed a few ladies went up to play at Glen Innes last week.

Tina Skipper had a very impressive game with 66 Nett.

Tina has the best score from both clubs.

Well done Tina!

Leonie Taylor was the runner up.

Nearest the pin winners were

Wendy George, Belinda Lenehan and Leonie Taylor.

It was nice to get a game of golf after a few weeks of wet weather.

Hopefully, our course will be playable again soon.

Birdie

Men's Bowls

Results: R. Cox defeated A. Sparke 31-15, R. Moore / P. Johnson defeated C. Peardon / M. Bourke 24-13, A. Bull / J. Varco defeated R. Walls / W. Reeves 20-14.

Matches for Saturday, 23 August 12:00 PM:

Final – Minor Singles: R. Cox vs R. Mulligan (Marker: A. Sparke)

Major Singles: R. Walls vs C. Stanley (Marker: A. Bull)

More sport page 7 >>>

PUBLIC NOTICE

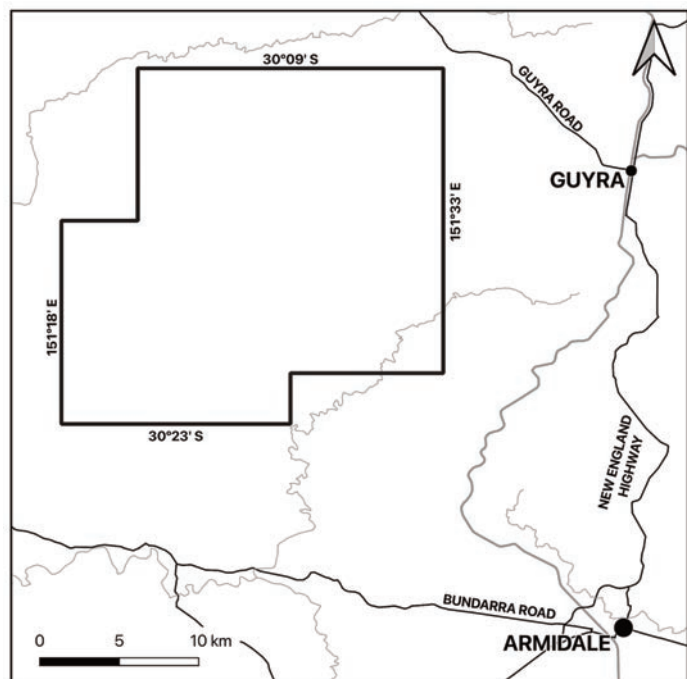
Exploration licence application

Notice is given in accordance with Section 13A of the Mining Act 1992 and clauses 15 and 89K of the Mining Regulation 2016 that exploration licence application number ELA 6938 (Act 1992) for Group 1 (Metallic Minerals) has been lodged with NSW Resources by Magnet Exploration Pty Ltd (ABN 65 623 568 918), over an area of about 180 units (540 square kilometers) which is located about 23 kilometers West North West of the town of Guyra, as described on the plan below.

Information regarding this application can be obtained from EARTH AI, phone number 0450 071 194.

Information regarding landholder's rights is available at <https://regional.nsw.gov.au/landholder-access>.

Please note that exploration including early stage investigation of outcropping rocks, is only permitted once the application is granted and will only be sought in selected parcels where an access arrangement has been agreed to by the relevant landholders.



Footy season over for Spudettes

The senior footy season is over for Guyra after the Spudettes were bumped out of the leaguetag premiership on Saturday when beaten by Moree in the minor semi-final at Uralla.

It was a day in which the Guyra girls created a lot of chances but couldn't convert them into points.

Moree started strongly and raced to a 12-nil lead before Guyra had the first of its near misses when Taneika Dailey had a try from a kick disallowed.

Further clean breaks and attacking sets went the same way as halftime arrived with no change to the score.

Things became much harder early in the second half when the Boomerangs scored twice more to push the lead to 22-nil.

Dailey pulled one back for Guyra when she chased her own kick and touched down.

Guyra then had several other great chances to score but were repelled each time and, instead,



Moree went down the other end and sealed a 28-4 win.

Captain-coach Danielle Sutton was named players' player and earned three club points, while the

other points went to Kiarna Landsborough (2) and Dailey (1).

The next event for the club is presentation night, which will be held at the community hall from

5.30pm on Saturday, September 13.

Tickets are on sale at the Guyra Hotel for \$40 and include a two-course meal and entertainment.

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