



Guyra Gazette

Circulation 1650 P: 6779 2132 E: news@gala.org.au, advertising@gala.org.au www.guyragazette.com.au

Wednesday November 5, 2025

Leadership celebrated at annual lunch



School leaders from Bald Blair, Ben Lomond, Black Mountain, Chandler, and Guyra Central met with Member Brendan Moylan MP on Monday

Local Students Celebrate Leadership at Annual Leader's Lunch

Students from across the Snow Gums Learning Alliance and the Highlands Community of Schools came together on Monday to mark the annual Leader's Lunch, a cherished event that has been a highlight on local school calendars for 15 years.

The special occasion brought together school leaders from Bald Blair, Ben Lomond, Black Mountain,

Chandler, and Guyra, celebrating a year of dedication and leadership. Joining the students for lunch were Mr Ian Reeves and Mr Matt Hobbs, Directors of Educational Leadership for the Northern Tablelands and Armidale areas, who shared their insights.

Adding to the celebration, Mr Brendan Moylan, Member for the Northern Tablelands, addressed the students, providing his perspective on leadership and encouraging the stu-

dents on their journeys.

Principals and teachers from each school accompanied the student leaders, offering support and engaging in meaningful conversations about leadership experiences and growth.

Bald Blair Public School Principal Ros Edwards said the Leader's Lunch continues to be an inspiring yearly tradition that nurtures leadership skills and fosters community among young leaders in the region.

Guyra Central School Principal

Tim Lloyd it was a fantastic opportunity to connect with student leaders from surrounding schools.

"A special thank you to Brendan Moylan for inviting us and sharing his insightful thoughts on leadership," Mr Lloyd said. "His words inspired our students to embrace their roles with confidence and purpose."

"Events like these are invaluable in helping our young leaders grow, collaborate, and make a positive impact in our community."



Questions about energy infrastructure near you?

Drop by for a chat and find out how the Energy & Water Ombudsman NSW (EWON) can help with your enquiries and dispute resolution.

INVERGOWRIE 19 Nov 2025, 3–6.30pm
Invergowrie General Store, 171 Invergowrie Rd

WALCHA 20 Nov 2025, 8–11.30am
Walcha Vet Supplies, 6 Aberbaldie Rd

GUYRA 20 Nov 2025, 3–6.30pm
Guyra Scout Hall, 18 Nincoola St

Can't make it? Free call us on 1800 246 545 or visit ewon.com.au

EWON doesn't represent consumers, government or industry.

✓ Free ✓ Fair ✓ Independent



Energy & Water
Ombudsman NSW

First novel for local author - 'The Girls of Redgum Bay'

Every budding author dreams of holding a physical copy of their own work in their hands. For local author Jypsi Bennett, that dream has been realised and last week she held an official launch for her self-published debut novel 'The Girls of Redgum Bay'.

For Jypsi, the book is the culmination of a lifelong love of storytelling. From an early age she was always interested in writing, but 'just decided I wanted to get it out into the world'.

With a degree in Criminology and a passion for understanding human behaviour, Jypsi said she was motivated by frustration at how often real and fictional crime stories centre on offenders rather than victims.

"It bothers me that so much focus goes onto the perpetrators of violence rather than survivors," she explained. "I wanted to write something that glazes over the killer and instead highlights those who survive."

The story has been a work in progress since 2018, completed while she juggled writing around her other commitments.

"I wrote around my kids, when they were asleep or at school," she said. "I also discovered this year that I have ADHD, so when I found the energy, I'd use it to

write."

"The adage of 'write what you know' is absolutely true. My characters are a combination of people I know and experiences I've had. It's the best way to make them seem authentic."

While none of the book's events directly reference real people, there are nods to well-known Australian crimes that true-crime fans may recognise. Writing, she admits, wasn't always easy.

"The hardest parts were the everyday scenes that fill the space between big plot points," she said. "And at first, I tried too hard to avoid clichés, but once I let go of that and just wrote freely, it all flowed better."

Self-publishing *The Girls of Redgum Bay* gave her creative control over the final product.

"It was stressful learning all the tricks," she said, "but it meant I could work at my own pace."

The book explores domestic violence, both overt and subtle, and its ripple effects.

"I hope readers take away the lasting impact of DV, but also that they feel free to stop reading if the theme is too heavy."

Looking ahead, she plans to continue writing in the Australian crime and paranormal suspense genre.



"Now that I've published one book, I feel confident to keep going," she said. "To anyone starting out, my advice is don't compare yourself to others. Talk to people, learn from them, and remember: anything is better

than nothing."

Copies of the book are now available for purchase from Kimmy's Kitchen and the Post Office in Guyra. You can also purchase a digital or paperback version online at [amazon.com.au](https://www.amazon.com.au).

Police chase ends in crash near Black Mountain

A man has faced court after allegedly crashing head-on into another vehicle while attempting to escape police last week. The accident occurred on the New England Highway near Black Mountain on Wednesday October 29th, during a police pursuit.

The Northern Daily Leader reported that police officers patrolling the New England Highway near Armidale attempted to stop a white Holden Commodore sedan that was headed north just after 4pm. When the vehicle failed to stop, officers attached to the New England Police District initiated a pursuit towards Black Mountain.

Police attempted to deploy road spikes on two occasions

but were unsuccessful and shortly after, the Holden lost control and crashed head-on into another vehicle travelling southbound, while attempting to overtake a B-double truck.

Police said a 44-year-old man who was behind the wheel of the Holden was arrested at the scene and failed a roadside breath test. He was taken to Armidale Police Station where he underwent a breath analysis which police will allege returned a low-range PCA reading.

The driver of the oncoming vehicle suffered minor facial injuries in the crash. He was treated on scene by Ambulance paramedics and transported to Armidale Hospital for emer-

gency treatment. The highway was shut for a number of hours between Guyra and Black Mountain following the incident.

Police claim that the 44-year-old from Riverstone in Sydney had no licence at the time. His case was listed in the regional bail court in Sydney on Thursday morning where he was ordered to be taken to hospital for a specialist medical assessment.

The driver is facing charges of police pursuit while driving dangerously; driving with a cancelled licence; driving furiously in a vehicle and cause bodily harm; low-range drink driving; and driver consume alcohol while driving.

Westpac Helicopter called in for injured woman

Around 4pm, on Sunday November 2nd, a Westpac Rescue Helicopter was tasked by NSW Ambulance to a person crushed against a fence by a horse on a property west of Guyra.

A woman in her 60s was treated by NSW Ambulance paramedics and the helicopter's critical care medical team for pelvic injuries before being transported to Tamworth Base Hospital.

Thundercloud to take the stage at Bush Poetry Championships

Guyra poet James Warren, also known as Thundercloud, is set to compete against the nation's best at the prestigious Australian Bush Poetry Performance Championship. The competition, run by the Australian Bush Poets Association (ABPA), will be held in Bathurst on November 8th and 9th.

Thundercloud operates the Australian Poetry Hall of Fame based in Guyra and is a familiar and passionate voice in the Australian poetry scene. His participation at the championships highlights his critical role as a custodian of Australia's rich literary heritage.

The Championship is a demanding test of performance skill and versatility. To qualify, Thundercloud must present four distinct poems: one written by a traditional bush poet, one from a modern author, and two of his own original works, one exploring a serious theme and the other funny. This requirement ensures a balanced showcase of both interpretive skill and original creative talent.

"Stepping onto that stage is an honour, especially representing the spirit of the Australian Poetry Hall of Fame," James 'Thundercloud' Warren said.

"Bush poetry is about storytelling, making people laugh, making them reflect, and carrying on the tradition of our great poets.

"I'm looking forward to sharing both my own stories and those of the legends who came before me."

His performance at the championships will include his rendition of "Australian Remounts" by Mollie McNutt, a powerful traditional poem that evokes the spirit and history of the Australian landscape and its connection to our past. The poem (below) is about the horses gathered up and taken to serve in the First World War.

The competition promises high-calibre performances and fierce competition. The community is encouraged to wish Thundercloud the best of luck as he competes to bring the national performance title to the Guyra.



James 'Thundercloud' Warren will compete in Bathurst this weekend

Seasonal update brings together landholders and industry experts

The Guyra Landcare Network hosted a well-attended Seasonal Update on October 23rd, bringing together local landholders and industry specialists for an afternoon of practical advice and shared experience.

Guest speakers included Perry Newman (Northern Tablelands Local Land Services Biosecurity Officer), Dr. Leisa Brown (Guyra District Veterinary Services), Natalie Mendes (NSW DPI Pasture Systems Researcher), and Marijke Hartman (NT LLS Sustainable Agriculture Officer). Local landholder Bill Perrottet also shared his experience managing Chilean Needle Grass.

Perry Newman opened with a discussion on feral animal management, stressing that coordinated efforts between neighbours and an integrated approach are most effective.

"Often working with your neighbours to coordinate management events is more effective," he said. "Free tools such as baits, traps and training are available through LLS."

Perry urged producers to plan baiting programs ahead of vulnerable times like calving or lambing.

"You don't need lots of baits, you just need to know where to put them," he added.

Dr. Leisa Brown focused on livestock health, warning of the risks of brucellosis in humans and dogs from feral pigs.



Above l to r: Bill Perrottet, Ruichard Post, Jessira Saunders, Leisa Brown, Nat Mendes, Marijke Hartman, and Jaimi-Lee Edwards

"Do not feed your dogs feral pig meat," she cautioned, adding that infection can occur from urine splash. She also discussed grass tetany diagnosis and prevention, the use of 5-in-1 and 7-in-1 vaccines, and advised testing for worm burdens before drenching to reduce costs and resistance. Watering cattle yards, she noted, can help prevent pink eye outbreaks.

Natalie Mendes shared valuable insights on temperate pasture species and grazing management. She encouraged producers to balance grazing pressure with rest and recovery periods, match stocking

rates to available feed, and monitor pastures regularly to maintain productivity and resilience.

Marijke Hartman addressed pasture dieback, a condition now moving into northern NSW, with the nearest confirmed site near Legume. It affects tropical grasses in warm, moist conditions, showing yellow or purple leaf discolouration before grass death. Mealy bugs are often present, though research continues into the cause. Suspected cases should be reported to Local Land Services.

Local producer Bill Perrottet described his approach to Chilean

Needle Grass, using brassica crops and selective herbicides to reduce seed set and maintain productivity.

The day concluded with a panel discussion featuring Richard Post, Jaimi-lee Edwards (Southern Queensland Northern NSW Drought Hub), and Jessira Saunders (Meat & Livestock Australia), covering drought preparedness, benchmarking, and livestock insurance.

The event strengthened connections across the district, supported by Elders Guyra, Nutrien Guyra, Grazag, Guyra Rural Services, and Southern New England Landcare.

What's HOT

Guyra Cup is on this Sunday - enjoy a day at the track

Music and a cuppa at the Museum on Sunday morning

Permaculture workshops coming up at the Neighbourhood Centre

CWA (day branch) still going and looking for new members!!

JOKE of the week

What's the difference between weather and climate?
You can't weather a tree, but you can climate.

Bureau of Meteorology

Weather

WATCH

Guyra MPS

Date	Day	Min	Max	Rain
28	Tues	6.5	11.9	2.0
29	Wed	5.8	15.2	28.0
30	Thurs	7.3	20.8	0
31	Fri	6.7	22.7	0
1	Sat	11.8	24.2	0
2	Sun	11.8	26.8	4.0
3	Mon	13.7		10.0

Rain this week	44mm
Oct rainfall	52.0mm
Rainfall YTD	871.0mm
Rainfall last YTD	664.2mm
Ave. rain YTD	798.6mm

Information supplied by Jeff Martin,
Observer for Bureau of Meteorology

CWA 2025 President's Report

It is annual meeting time again for Guyra CWA and a report on the year's activities.

We gave donations to all the local schools for their 2024 prize giving functions and supported CWA of NSW with donations for medical research into pancreatic cancer, Royal Far West Children's Home, and other CWA projects.

James Warren was our worthy nomination for Guyra's citizen of the year in the Australia Day Awards.

We worked a shift at the Lamb and Potato Festival with a lot of

help from the Evening Branch girls. We could not do it without them.

Our social gatherings have been our Christmas lunch, our 93rd birthday lunch and our monthly coffee mornings. CWA friends have joined us on these occasions.

We have welcomed our new member Leonie Cox and Noreen has done her best to find us more members. We were saddened by the death of our long time member Yvonne Pettit. Our members Leigh and Deidre also suffered family sadness.

My thanks to all the members for their support during the year, even when we were wondering if we could still keep the branch open. Just hoping we can fill off-ice bearer's positions today.

My grateful thanks to Secretary Del and Treasurer Leigh for the work you do on our behalf. And we hope to still be here in 2026.

Heather Starr
President

Elections – President/Secretary Leonie Cox, Treasurer Leigh Ramage. *We are still here!!*

Next chapter for Progress Association

Recently the Guyra and Community Progress Association (GACPA) held its AGM, and as always, it was great to see so much enthusiasm. Thank you to all our hard-working members for their ongoing commitment and contributions over the years, and a special acknowledgement and thank you to our outgoing President, Donna Davidson, for your dedication and tireless efforts throughout the past three years.

We are pleased to introduce the incoming 2025-2026 Committee, who are extremely excited to hit the ground running! President Sonya Wallbridge, Vice President Denise Ramage, Secretary: Lynda Kagan and Treasurer Nic Rooke.

As the Progress Association enters this next chapter, we're adding a little extra momentum by scheduling monthly meetings on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30pm, with a change of venue to The Guyra Neighbourhood Centre Meeting Room.

For those unable to attend in person, meetings will also include Microsoft Teams capability to ensure all members can participate.

We also look forward to inviting guest speakers to our meetings. These may include representatives from local community service groups, government or council officials, or members of the public who wish to discuss a topic of their choice.

Guest speakers will have the opportunity to share their vision, progress, and ideas for the development of Guyra, followed by a Q&A session. If any group repre-



sentative or individual would like to attend one of our meetings as a Guest speaker, we encourage you to send an email outlining your topic.

Each year, a Planning Evening will be held one week after the AGM. Our members recently attended the first Annual Planning Evening, where we developed an exciting, action-packed calendar for the next eight months, as we move into the 2025/2026 financial year.

For the third year running, the Progress Association will host two much-loved community events before the end of the year, and we look forward to our continued involvement with the community!

- Annual Christmas Lights Competition (Business and Residential)
- Free Pop up Family photos at the Rotary Christmas Carnival
- Free, Family-Friendly New Year's Eve Celebration
- Most importantly, GACPA

would like to extend our personal thank you to the suppliers for re-donating auction items from the "Snow Ball". Our extremely generous local businesses have kindly offered for the Progress Association to utilise their donated items for future fundraising events - so stay tuned for some exciting prizes and initiatives coming soon!

We are most grateful to you, our community, for your continued support and with the annual membership remaining at \$25, we warmly welcome anyone interested in joining the Progress Association - attending the first meeting free.

Looking ahead to 2026, our members remain committed as we continue investing time and energy into creating a positive impact for Guyra and its surrounds. Please reach out to us anytime via email at guyraprogress@gmail.com

Sonya Wallbridge
President

Emergency maintenance at Guyra wastewater treatment plant

Armidale Regional Council advises that essential emergency work will be carried out at the Guyra Wastewater Treatment Plant from Wednesday 5 November to Friday 7 November 2025.

This work is required to replace critical equipment and prevent

untreated sludge from discharging into the tertiary ponds. The EPA has been notified, and all relevant process and safety procedures are being reviewed to ensure minimal environmental impact.

What to expect during this pe-

riod:

- Odour: Some odour may be noticeable to nearby residents as wastewater and sludge are transferred between storage ponds.

- Noise: Maintenance activities will involve hire equipment, which may generate noise during

the transfer process.

Council is committed to completing this work as quickly and safely as possible to protect our waterways and community.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation during this essential maintenance.

Moylan calls into Ben Ben Lomond on quick visit

Ben Lomond Crown Land Managers welcomed Brendan Moylan to the Ben Lomond War Memorial Hall on Tuesday October 28th. It was an opportunity to acquaint our local State member with the village of Ben Lomond.

Improvements made to the Ben Lomond hall over many years were among various topics discussed during an informal, light lunch held in the 'outdoor room'. An inspection of the Memorial Room followed.

Of particular note was discussion about funding required for improvements at the Recreation Reserve, especially the oval fencing which was inspected during a quick stopover, as Brendan headed out for his next appointment in Inverell.



Above l to r: Jeanette Bush, Beth White, Dorothy Every, Brendan Moylan MP, Beth Rosser, Joe Morgan

BAGS & BEANS FOR DIGNITY

SUNDAY, 16TH NOVEMBER
TIME: 10AM



THE HARVEST COLLECTION SHOP AT
148 BRADLEY STREET, GUYRA 2365

Join us for a morning of coffee, connection and community as we come together to support Share the Dignity's "It's in the bag" campaign 2025



Let's pack some bags (bring a donation) with purpose, share kindness, and enjoy a brew — all while giving back. ❤️

👕 Dress code: Wear something pink!

🎁 Fun extra: Take part in our Bean Guessing Competition for a chance to win a prize.

Together, we can make sure every woman knows she matters — one bag (and one bean!) at a time.

Let's have some fun, enjoy a morning with like-minded people, and do good — we can't wait to see you there!

Hosted by Anne Lane & Chris from Bean Traveling



Meals on Wheels

Nov 6	Heather Marchant
Nov 7	Steve Norris
Nov 10	Toni Kirkman
Nov 11	Regional Bank
Nov 12	Wendy Laidlaw

Street Stalls

Nov 6,7,8	Lions
Nov 14	Can Assist
Nov 20	Hosp. Auxiliary
Nov 21, 22	Rotary

Church Notices

St. Mary of the Angels Catholic Church Vigil Mass 6pm Saturday 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
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

The Chapel: 66 Llangothin Street: Sunday Service: 10am
Food Pantry Fridays 9am -12pm
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: Dan McGinty 0409 399 270

Black Mountain Baptist Church

Service 3pm, second Sunday of the month. Next Service, Sunday Nov. 9th
Contact: Robert Dewhurst Armidale District Baptist Church 0409 723 522

Service Clubs

LIONS CLUB 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month at Guyra Bowling Club, 7pm. Ph: Geoff Reeves 6779 1257
ROTARY CLUB 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month 6pm at The Blind Chef Ph: Hans Hietbrink 0402 044 891

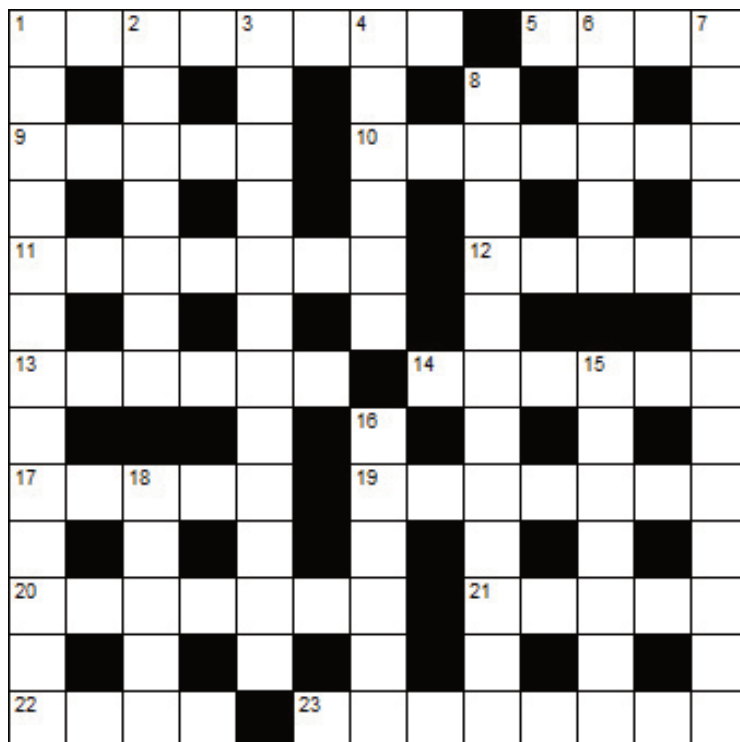
ACROSS

- 1 On a higher floor (8)
- 5 Contest between two people (4)
- 9 Love intently (5)
- 10 Inane (7)
- 11 The giving up of rights (7)
- 12 Camel-like animal (5)
- 13 Uncertain (6)
- 14 Plan of action (6)
- 17 Entice to do something (5)
- 19 Emotional shocks (7)
- 20 Withdraw from a commitment (4,3)
- 21 Pertaining to sound (5)
- 22 Compass point (4)
- 23 Short film (8)

DOWN

- 1 Inexplicable (13)
- 2 Husbands or wives 7)
- 3 Improvement in a condition (12)

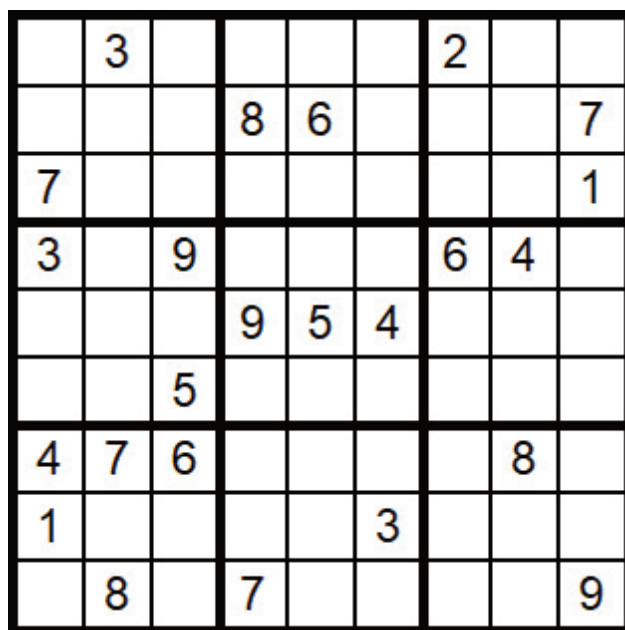
QUICK CROSSWORD



- 4 Periods of rule (6)
- 6 Extreme (5)
- 7 Lazy (13)
- 8 Binoculars (5,7)
- 15 Person proposed for of-

- fice (7)
- 16 Sculptured figure (6)
- 18 Sends out in the post (5)

SUDOKU - Hard



ACROSS: 1 Upstairs 5 Duel 9 Adore 10
14 Agenda 17 Tempt 19 Trauma 20
Ball out 21 Sonic 22 East 23 Newsreel
DOWN: 1 Unaccountable 2 Spouses 3
Amelioration 4 Reigns 6 Ultra 7 Lack-
adaisical 8 Field glasses 15 Nominations
Statue 18 Mails

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



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Editor: Janelle Stewart **Advertising:** Martha Weideman

\$9.6 million highway safety project complete

Works to improve the safety and traffic flow on the New England Highway between Guyra and Armidale are now complete with the upgrade works about nine kilometres north of Armidale now complete.

The \$9.6 million project, jointly funded by the Australian and NSW Government Road Safety Program, has delivered a range of safety and capacity enhancements designed to reduce crash risks and improve travel conditions.

The southbound overtaking lanes have been extended by about 350 metres, the highway widened to provide two 3.5-metre travel lanes, and wide centre lines installed to increase the distance between oncoming vehicles. Both northbound and southbound road shoulders were widened to 3.5 metres, improving safety for all road users.

Additional work included drainage extensions and improve-



ments, strengthening and resealing of the existing pavement, new line markings and raised road markers, installation of roadside safety barriers, and widening of a bridge culvert north of O'Connells Road. A box culvert near Blanch Road was extended, concrete kerb and guttering were added along the southbound lane, and roadside signage

was maintained and upgraded.

Weather impacts in March delayed some works, particularly at the Puddledock Road intersection, where heavy rainfall and increased traffic volumes from Pacific Highway diversions caused surface damage. That upgrade is now complete, with a new dedicated right-turn lane providing safer and more

efficient access to Puddledock Road.

While the road is open to traffic, motorists are advised that a final seal will be applied in coming months to ensure long-term durability. This delay allows the pavement to settle and ensures a stronger, smoother surface once completed.

NSW Government Spokesperson for the Northern Tablelands Peter Primrose MLC praised the rapid completion of the project.

"Many people saw the state of the highway near Puddledock Road after the severe weather event in March," he said.

"It's a credit to the engineers and road workers that this was completed so quickly. The 4,000 motorists, including 650 heavy vehicle operators, who use this route daily are now safer as a result."

Cool Climate Permaculture Workshops are back!

After an enjoyable and successful program in 2024, Guyra Neighbourhood Centre has teamed up with Heidi from Highland Permaculture to offer three sessions of shared learning around sustainable local food production tailored to the Guyra region's unique climate and terrain.

The workshops are run over three Saturday sessions in November: 15th, 22nd and 29th, between 10am and 2pm. The workshops include permaculture garden design, growing methods and brewing kombucha (week 1), growing sea-

sonal oyster mushrooms with Shane from Uralla Gourmet Mushrooms (week 2), siting, designing and managing greenhouses to extend the growing season with Lauren and Kade and preserving and fermenting harvests with GNC's picklers and local vegetable fermenter Lou (week 3).

Each workshop costs \$25, which includes a delicious local lunch and course notes. Make your booking at the Guyra Neighbourhood Centre or online: <https://events.humanitix.com/cool-climate-permaculture-2025>



Workshop group, 2024, in the Guyra Neighbourhood Centre community garden

Tree fall causes power outage near Ben Lomond

High winds brought down a large poplar tree along the New England Highway near Ben Lomond last week, cutting power to almost 20 homes and businesses and causing significant traffic disruption.

The tree, one of the double row of poplars between Streeters Road and the Inn Road turn-off, fell across the highway, taking powerlines with it. The highway was initially closed until crews could clear enough debris to allow traffic through one lane at a time, before being reopened. It was later closed

again to allow repair crews to restring the damaged wires safely.

Essential Energy confirmed its crews responded quickly to the unplanned outage, which occurred at around 12.35pm on Monday, October 27th, when strong winds triggered the network's safety protection systems, cutting power automatically to affected areas in Glencoe, Ben Lomond and surrounds.

A helicopter was dispatched to patrol the network and identified the fallen tree as the cause of the

damage near White Gully. With powerlines down across the New England Highway, repair work could not begin until traffic control was in place to safely close the road.

Final repair work was completed the following morning, with power restored to all customers by 11.00am on Tuesday, October 28th, almost 24 hours after the initial outage.

An Essential Energy spokesperson thanked local residents and motorists for their patience during the

prolonged interruption and emphasised the importance of safety around fallen powerlines.

"Electricity network protection equipment operated as designed to ensure community safety," the spokesperson said. "We remind everyone to always remain at least eight metres away from fallen powerlines or anything in contact with them and to report them immediately by calling 13 20 80, or triple zero (000) if the situation is life-threatening."

From the Archives at the Guyra Museum

Compiled by Dorothy Lockyer

Guyra Jockey Club

From an article in the Armidale Chronicle Newspaper Dated 8th December 1900 it states that:

"Mr. P.J. O'Conner, our local saddler promoted a half day's horse-racing on the lagoon-course on Saturday, when bridles, girths, stirrup-irons, spurs etc, were given as prizes. The winners were: - W. Foster, T. Tyson, J. See (2) White, J. Lawlor, A Prior, T Starr, and A. Kirk.

4th May 1901 the Armidale Express:

"A question which should at once engage the attention of residents of Guyra and District, particularly the sporting classes, of which I am pleased to say we have a goodly number (bona-fide sportsmen at that), is the Guyra Racecourse, particulars and rules of which were lately gazetted. The racecourse contains 105 acres, beautifully situated, and the makings of one of the best natural courses in the colony. At present the area is only a wild bush, with little or no improvement to fit it for the purpose for which it was intended. The racecourse has been vested in the hands of trustees, and I think the time has arrived for some move to be made in the matter. It is not necessary for me at present to dwell upon the urgency of erecting a fence around the racecourse, but I do think that if the trustees were to call a public meeting of citizens, and racing men in general, permanent and substantial improvements may be proceeded with, and a good course made for next year."

Hold a public meeting they did for on Easter Monday 5 April 1902, the initial meeting of the recently formed Guyra Jockey Club. The grounds having been fenced in, a large crowd of residents passed through the entry-gates and patronised the sport. The weather was exceptionally fine, and everything passed off pleasantly, albeit a couple of protests against the eligibility of certain horses were lodged



Dressed up for a day at the races in Guyra

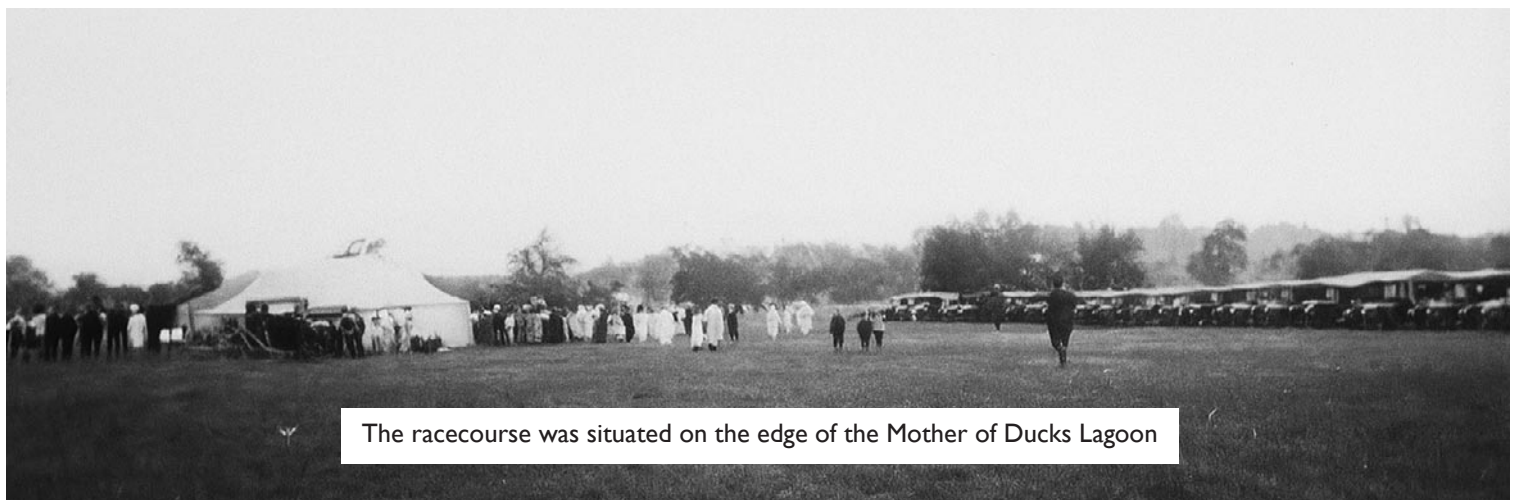
for consideration. The committee worked hard to ensure the success of the meeting. Mr J.T McGovern plied a thriving trade at the publican's booth, and Miss Stevenson's refreshment stall was freely patronised. In the opening Handicap, Radiance, who finished first, was protested against by the owner of Noble Boy, who came in second, on the ground of alleged inaccuracy in entry. In the big handicap, the positions at the winning post were reversed and the nominator of Radiance protested Noble Boy for failing to carry a 7lb penalty, provided for the winner of the opening race. These protests will be considered by the club in due course.

By 1920 the Guyra Jockey change its name to "Guyra All-Heights Race Club" and continued to hold Spring and Autumn meeting plus a couple of meeting during the year to raise money for organizations in Guyra. One being the Cot Fund for the Guyra Hospital that was held in November 1947. This meeting was filled with 'excitement'. The first being the rider of Cool Jim, R. Moore was called before the

stewards for an explanation of his riding when near the winning post. Moore stated that the pulling was due to his foot slipping, as he was riding without boots (Moore received a caution). Then a sensation occurred as the as the horses were going to the post in the First Scrubbers' Race when Old Bill dropped dead on the track. His rider, D Layton, escaped with a slight shaking.

The surprise of the day of was the Spring Handicap, when at the barrier the stipendiary steward (Mr W, Parnell) ordered Storm (owner J Englebrecht) and Two Step (owner J. Carpenter) back to the paddock and the owners change the riders on the ground of collusion. They refused to comply with the demand and scratched their horses. The committee then disqualified the owners and riders for life. The race meeting proved a most successful fixture attendance was over 600 and the gate receipts was £115.

The Guyra Jockey club continued until the early 1950 then closed due to the move to register under the AJA Rules.



The racecourse was situated on the edge of the Mother of Ducks Lagoon

Rose excels at Science Symposium

Guyra Central School student Rose Kliendienst recently participated in the biannual Aurora Residential Camp, a program designed to extend and challenge high-achieving students.

Rose demonstrated strong commitment to learning both in and beyond the classroom, impressing teachers and peers with her enthusiasm and curiosity. Her hard work paid off when she won the Year 10 Science Symposium, competing against 78 other students from across the state.

For her project, Rose explored how eye colour is determined by DNA, conducting detailed research and presenting her findings through a PowerPoint presentation. She then explained her work to fellow students, science teachers, and a biology expert as part of the symposium judging process.

Rose said she was proud of her achievement and grateful for the opportunity to share her learning in a supportive and inspiring environment.



Warmest October on record

Based on maximum temperatures October 2025 was the warmest on record from 94 years of available data commencing in 1911 (with a few gaps).

The average maximum for the month was 23.1C, the previous highest was 22.6C in 1917. The unusually warm conditions were caused by numerous low pressure troughs directing very warm air into New South Wales from the centre of Australia.

The maximum temperature for the month of 30.4C on the 21st and 22nd was the highest on record for the month of October. The previous highest was 29.3C on 26th October 2014.

Source: <http://www.weather-armidale.com/guyra.html>

Creative Arts Day



Last week we travelled to Ben Lomond Public School to participate in a Creative Arts Workshop Day. The students had an opportunity to explore their creativity through engaging art lessons, dynamic music sessions led by NECOM, and vibrant dance lessons. It was a

fun filled day of expression, learning, and artistic discovery.

A big thank you to Ben Lomond Public School for organising the day and providing a delicious lunch for all involved.

*Mrs Justine Eddy
Relieving Principal*



Australia Day Awards

**Nominations are now open and
CLOSE on Wednesday, 10th December**

- **Forms** are available at the GALA Centre, 136 Bradley St
or by emailing: dorothy@gala.org.au
or online at: www.armidaleregional.nsw.gov.au
- **Enquiries** should be directed to Rita Williams 6779 1182
or Dorothy Lockyer on 6779 2132.
- **Completed forms** can be posted to: PO Box 170, Guyra,
or emailed to: dorothy@gala.org.au
or delivered in person to GALA.
 - **Please mark** completed forms:
"ATTENTION: Australia Day Nomination"

Award Categories are:

- Citizen of the Year (over 25 years)
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Community Service Award
- Sports person of the Year
- Sports Team of the Year
- Contribution to Sport & Recreation
- Art, Drama, Culture or Music Award
- Community Event of the Year
- Environmental Citizen, Group or Organisation of the Year

Jerry Coleby Williams to share water saving tips

Renowned horticulturist and sustainability expert Jerry Coleby-Williams from Gardening Australia will visit the New England region this November, sharing practical water-saving solutions for urban and peri-urban gardens. His visit is being jointly organised by the Uralla Rivercare Group together with Southern New England Landcare are excited to bring.

Best known as a presenter on ABC TV's Gardening Australia, Jerry will deliver his engaging talk, "Whole of Site Water Saving – Making Every Drop Count", across a series of events in Walcha, Uralla, Armidale and Guyra.

Drawing on more than two decades of experience designing and managing sustainable gardens, Jerry will demonstrate how a Whole of Site Water Management Plan can help households and small landholders capture, recycle, and reuse water efficiently.

His own Brisbane property is a model of water-smart design. Every drop is harvested, treated, and reused to grow more than two hundred kinds of productive plants. The presentation covers key strategies such as:

- rainwater harvesting and storage
- recycling and reusing wastewater on-site
- land drainage and stormwater infiltration systems
- building compost-rich soils that absorb and retain moisture



Jerry Coleby-Williams from Gardening Australia will visit the New England region this November

- designing permeable surfaces and sustainable lawns

Elizabeth Rosser from Southern New England Landcare said that when the Uralla Rivercare group approached her with the

idea to bring Jerry to the New England, she was really excited by the prospect.

"Jerry's knowledge and enthusiasm for practical sustainability make him an engaging and inspiring speaker and his approach shows that with the right design any garden, from backyard plots to small farms, can use water more efficiently," Elizabeth said.

These events have been made possible through funding from the Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR) and ACEN Australia.

Workshops will be held at:

- Monday 24 November – Banded Bee Farm
- Tuesday 25 November – Armidale Tree Group's Woodland Centre
- Wednesday 26 November – Uralla Library
- Thursday 27 November – Black Mountain Nursery & Guyra Neighbourhood Centre
- Friday 28 November – Walcha Community Neighbourhood Centre
- Saturday 29 November (evening) – Alternate Root, Uralla
- Saturday 29 November (morning) – Uralla Rivercare Group community session (open to the public).

Each session will explore practical ways to save water and utilise in the home garden.

Remembrance Day is Tuesday, 11th November

The Guyra RSL sub-Branch will hold a brief Remembrance Day service at the Soldiers Memorial Hall in Bradley Street, commencing at 10.45am on Tuesday, 11th November.

Members of the community are invited to attend as a show of respect for all our servicemen and women who served in all conflicts. Each year on this day, Australians observe one minute's silence at 11.00am in memory of those who died or suffered in all wars and armed conflicts.

The First World War ended more than a century ago. At 5am on 11 November 1918 in a railway carriage in France, representatives of France, Britain and Germany all signed a document that would put an end to four years of conflict. Six hours later – at 11am – those signatures would bring into effect the Armistice that

ended World War I.

The 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month attained a special significance in the post-war years. The moment when hostilities ceased on the Western Front became universally associated with the remembrance of those who had died in the war.

Red poppies were among the first plants to spring up in the devastated battlefields of northern France and Belgium after the conflict ended. For this reason, the red poppy is worn on Remembrance Day in memory of those who served and made the ultimate sacrifice.

Everyone is asked to stop what they are doing at 11 am on Remembrance Day and observe a moment's silence in memory of those who served and paid the supreme sacrifice in conflicts around the world.

Rural Market Reports

Weekly Wool Market

October 31st - The slowdown of the losses in the wool market continued this week with the 14 cent decline in the Eastern market indicator registering the smallest market movement (in either direction) over the past 10 selling weeks.

In a positive sign when looked at in US dollars the EMI actually gained 5 cents for the week. In the Northern region the indicator declined 4 cents on the first day of sales and a further 13 cents on the final day. The finer Merino types were most effected with the better style types still receiving good competition.

Discounts for any imperfection in the finer Merino

categories appear to be widening as buyers cherry pick to fill orders. The national offering fell along way short of the expected 36,000 bales with just over 31,000 bales presented. 27,496 bales were sold for the week with a passed in rate of 11.5%. Major buyers included Endeavour Wool, PJ Morris and Sequoia.

Next week's sale will be conducted in the Wednesday, Thursday format due to the public holiday in Victoria on Tuesday. Weekly quantities available for the next fortnight look like falling below 35,000 bales nationally and should remain around that figure up until the December recess, barring any dramatic shift in price levels.

Schute Bell Wool



Classifieds & Services

PUBLIC NOTICE

GUYRA DENTAL CLINIC is now re-opened at 99a Bradley Street. Ring 0409 381 380 of call in.

GARAGE SALE

SATURDAY 8th & Sunday 9th November at 22 Claret Ash Drive. 9am start.

MEETING NOTICES

BEN LOMOND LANDCARE Group AGM will be held at Ben Lomond Hall Tuesday 18th November at 6pm.

GUYRA CENTRAL SCHOOL P&C Term 4 Meeting 6pm in main staff room Tuesday, 18th November. All welcome.

RAFFLE RESULTS

GUYRA HOSPITAL AUXILIARY raffle won by Helen McDonald. We need new members who are always most welcome. For information phone Gail Montague on 6779 1702.

PROBUS NOTES

Our next meeting is on Monday, 8th November at the Bowling Club at 10am. All welcome to attend.

After our meeting we will car pool to Black Mountain Nursery for a visit.

Any new members would be welcome.

Judy Jackson

HISTORICAL MUSEUM

The Mother of Ducks Folk Band

will be at the Guyra Museum

11am - 12 noon

Sunday 9th November.

Call in and have a cuppa at the Guyra Museum.

The Museum is open Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday from 10.30am to 2pm.

BEN LOMOND LANDCARE

Picnic with Nature Saturday 15th November from 12 noon

Join with the Nature Conservation Council's Picnic with Nature at Little Llangothlin Lagoon, together with Ben Lomond Landcare Group and Guyra Landcare Network.

Please bring your own rug, chair, picnic foods, drinks, walking shoes, hats, sunscreen, camera or binoculars.

Everything you need to enjoy spending a day in the natural environment.

DEATH & FUNERAL NOTICES

MARSHALL; RAYMOND JOHN 2nd November 2025 of "Bronte" Old Armidale Road, Guyra

Beloved husband of Pat.
Loving father & father-in-law of Derick & Alison and David & Melissa.

Loved grandfather of Alana, Brianna, Sam and Jack.

Loved brother & brother-in-law of Annette & Peter.

Loved uncle of his family.

Aged 79 years

A memorial service of thanksgiving to be held at Piddingtons Funeral home, Uralla Road Armidale, on Friday, 7th November 2025 commencing at 11am.



Piddingtons
EST 1899

6772 2288

CLAIM THE DATE

SUNDAY, 9th NOVEMBER
GUYRA CUP at Armidale Racecourse

FRIDAY, 5th DECEMBER
ROTARY CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL
From 4pm. Markets, food stalls, entertainment, Santa will be there

SATURDAY 6th DECEMBER
3pm at Aust. Poetry Hall of Fame
Fiori Musicali Armidale present
"This Endris Night" Christmas Chorale music with guitar interludes.

WED- MON 14th-26th JANUARY 2026

Lamb and Potato Festival

FRIDAY, 6th FEBRUARY
7pm at Aust. Poetry Hall of Fame
Gwyn Ashton presents "A Night of Guitar" - an upmarket theatre show from acoustic folk roots, blues to electric blues, rock and beyond.
www.trybooking.com/DGKEE

FRI-SAT, 20th & 21st FEBRUARY
Guyra Show

FRIDAY, 20th FEBRUARY
Guyra Lamb Show and Sale
at Guyra Show Ground

FRIDAY, 27th MARCH
2pm at Aust. Poetry Hall of Fame
Life & Rhymes of Banjo Paterson
125th anniversary tour feat Gregory North
www.trybooking.com/DGWQO

9 - 12 JULY 2026

Guyra SnowFest

Visit www.guyrasnowfest.com to subscribe for information.

TRADES & SERVICES

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Guyra

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Steve

0404 485 585



If I say I will be there, I will be there.

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Ralph Luo

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✉ : wolfunec@yahoo.com.au

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Ladies' Golf

Last week the ladies played the annual Tee off for Breast Cancer round. Thank you to Wendy George for organising this event for a worthwhile cause every year. We had a small but very keen field in cold and wet conditions which was a big turn around after perfect sunny days the week before.

The winner was Debbie Heffernan. Runner up was Wendy George. Second runner up was Wendy Jackson. Nearest the pin winners were, Debbie Heffernan on the 7th hole. Wendy George on the 9th hole. Shona Mulligan on the 18th hole.

Also last week our Pennants Team played in the final round of the Southern Division Pennants in Walcha. The Guyra Ladies won enough points to win the division so we now play Northern Division winners Tenterfield in November in the Regional Final. Good luck ladies!

This week the Ladies are on their annual golf trip which is always a welcome few days away to play on the coast. Next week is the Par Medal Playoff.

Birdie

Tennis

Guyra Tennis Club invites new players to join them at the Guyra Tennis Courts for some friendly competition, fitness and social games.

Ladies social tennis is played every Thursday commencing at 8.30am. Everyone is welcome to come along and new players are especially welcome. Contact Rita Williams on 0427 791 182 if you would like more information or just turn up at the courts.

Thursday nights will also see a social competition for men and ladies. Start time will be 6pm and you can contact Robert Jackson on 0401 656 058 for more informa-

tion.

Men's Bowls

Games set down for this Saturday 9th November starting at 12 pm.

In the Major/Minor Pairs, C. Stanley and G. Mitchell will play A. Bull and J. Varco.

The Open Singles Semi-Final will see J. McIlwain take on R. Moore, with A. Sparke marking.

Midweek Golf

Good week for golf if you avoided the storms. Some high individual scores this week. Ray Sweeney came in with 25 points. Well done. On 24 points were Archie Dowden, Robert Sisson and Rick Ellis. On 23 points was Peter Mulligan then on 22 was Tom Skipper and Jenni Jackson. Quite a few on 21 – Luke Brazier, Wayne Archibald, Lachlan Brazier, Belinda Williamson, Wendy

Jackson and Jodie Stewart.

Team scores for the week were: Denzels Frothingtons 84, That's a Gimme 81 and on 78 were Birdies, Full House and Balderleigh Bashers.

Have a good golfing week everyone.

Middy

Vets Golf

Last Tuesday was woeful weather so a good field of Vets turned up for our 4BBB on the Thursday. Wayne Archibald and Robert Moore came in with a brilliant score of 47 points to post the win. Neil Paine and Colin Mulligan were runners up with 41. Robert Moore picked up the only NTP.

Vets golf tees off every Tuesday at 9.30am. We would love to have you join us.

Drake



Lady Golfers Pennants team (above) won in Walcha and they also teed off for Breast Cancer (right)



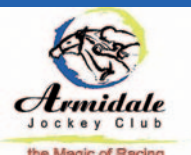
Guyra Cup Race Day Sunday 9th November

*Watson McNamara & Watt, sponsors of the Guyra Cup,
and Armidale Jockey Club
welcome you to Armidale Racecourse*

Raceday Sponsors: The Guyra Hotel, Fourways Service Centre, Guyra Fuels, Elders Guyra, Bishops Hardware, CT Electric, IGA Guyra, Guyra Bowling & Recreation Club.

Free bus: leaving at 12noon from the Guyra Hotel and returning at 6pm.

**Armidale Jockey Club
Barney Street, Armidale**



**Michael Timbrell
0407 293 239**