



Guyra Gazette

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Wednesday December 17, 2025

Costa celebrates 20 years in Guyra

Costa celebrated the 20th anniversary of the opening of its first glasshouses in Guyra last week.

Costa CEO Marc Werner and Chief Operating Officer Domestic Manpreet Sidhu joined community representatives, long-serving employees and staff at a luncheon to celebrate the milestone.

Former Guyra Council Mayor Robyn Jackson and Frank Costa officially opened the first 20-hectare glasshouse facility in Elm Street Guyra on December 16, 2025.

Costa has invested more than \$140 million in the construction of glasshouses including a further 10 hectares at a facility on the New England Highway, which opened in 2015, and an additional 10 hectares which opened in 2022. The New England Hwy site also includes an additional 2.5 hectare nursery.

Robyn Jackson and former Guyra Councillor David Bearup, who both worked with Costa to support the initial development at Elm Street, were among those attending the celebrations

Also present were long-serving employees Marie Reeves, Julie Driscoll, and Lenny Jones, who have been with the business since its beginnings in Guyra.



Above l to r: Costa Chief Executive Officer Marc Werner, former Guyra councillor David Bearup, long-serving Costa employees Marie Reeves, Julie Driscoll, and Lenny Jones, former Guyra Mayor Robyn Jackson and Costa Chief Operating Officer Manpreet Sidhu

Brett Ryan, Costa State Manager for Vertical Farming, paid tribute to the vision of those involved in the initial development, including Frank Costa.

“Over the past 20 years we have invested significantly in growing our glasshouse business. We are

proud of our connection with Guyra and the surrounding community and the opportunities our operations provide in the local area. We are very appreciative of the support we have received, including from our local Community Reference Group,” Mr Ryan

said.

“I also want to acknowledge all our staff for their passion and dedication. We have recently expanded into new produce lines and look forward to the ongoing evolution of our business.”



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SCAN TO VIEW WEBSITE

FEMALE SALE

200+ SEXED PTIC STUD COWS

150+ PTIC CMCL HEIFERS

FRI 27TH MARCH 2026

OUTER BALD BLAIR, GUYRA

TO REQUEST A FEMALE SALE CATALOGUE

CONTACT 0404 454 143 OR
RICHARD.POST@GLENAVONANGUS.COM

SILVER BIRCH NURSERY
NOW OPEN EVERY SATURDAY
 9am - 2pm
 Plants from \$10
 0436 003 901
 109 Baldersleigh Road

*Vu, Nhu and staff
 wish you a season of blessings,
 a year of prosperity
 and a heart full of happiness.
 Have a wonderful Christmas
 and an even better New Year!*

Our Christmas trading times:

The Pharmacy will be **CLOSED** on:
 25, 26, 27 & 28 December
 and on New Year's Day - 1st January
We will be OPEN
 Monday 29 - Wednesday 31 December
 8am - 5.30pm
Normal trading hours from 2nd January



• **Call us on:**
6779 1192

• **102 Bradley Street, Guyra**

Black Mountain Presentation

On Thursday, 11th December 2025, we held our Presentation Afternoon at Black Mountain Public School. It was lovely to see parents, carers and special guests celebrate the learning achievements of our students for 2025. Congratulations to the awardees.

Students entertained families and guests with music items by the 3-6 Band conducted by Malcolm Liddell and the K-2 Class performed items with Mrs Lord and Ms Dya-son. Thank you to our teachers from NECOM for preparing students for this auspicious occasion.

The afternoon ended with a slideshow of our year in review. .

Black Mountain Public School students enjoyed a very important week as they participated in the School Swimming & Water Safety Program at the Guyra Swimming Pool. Students improved their swimming skills and water safety knowledge with Mrs Lorraine Brazier and teacher supervisors. While the weather proved to be challenging once again, all students enjoyed learning new skills.

We wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas. Students return to school on Monday, 2nd February 2026

*Mrs Justine Eddy
 Relieving Principal*



Lions Club Most Improved Rivah Kennedy, Solomon 'Ale Oscar Kennedy & Clayton Peltonen



Overall Academic Awards
 Layarna Patterson, Elijah Sampson
 Arwyn Sampson & Una 'Ale

Australia Day Awards

**HURRY: Nominations close
 Friday, December 19th**

- 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)	• Contribution to Sport & Rec.
• Young Citizen of the Year	• Art, Drama, or Music Award
• Community Service Award	• Environmental Citizen of the Year
• Sportsman of the Year	• Community Event of the Year
• Sports Team of the Year	

Guyra Cafe

Thank you to all who have supported us during 2025

*We wish all our customers a
 very Happy Christmas
 & a prosperous 2026*

**Closed from Monday, 22 December
 Re-opening Tuesday, 6 January**

**110 Bradley Street
 Guyra**

Phone: 6779 1605

St Marys farewell to Year 6 students

St Mary of the Angels said farewell to their wonderful Year 6 class at a Graduation Dinner on Monday December 15th.

“Saying goodbye to these fourteen amazing students was tough, but it was a beautiful night of celebration and reflection.

“We are so proud of everything they have achieved at SMOTA. We wish them the very best of luck as they start High School.”

Thank you to our St Mary of the Angels school community who contributed to the 2025 Vinnies Christmas Appeal!

Your collective effort and kindness have been truly inspiring.

We sincerely hope that these donations can bring joy and make Christmas a little brighter for someone in need this year.

Back to r:

Darcie C, Charlie B, Oskar L, Chase F,
Lachie C, Kobi W, Ted W, Grace L.

Front:

Lachie R, Lexi C, Ricky F, Peter G, Hugo S.

Absent: Jack M.



Bald Blair end of year extravaganza

Bald Blair Public School Celebration of Learning and end of year concert was held at the Guyra Bowling Club on Wednesday 10 December. This event attracted over 100 parents, families and special guests.

Left:

Bald Blair Public School Year 6 students Elka Chilcott-Geere, Sydnee Everett, Cruz Little and Ruby Little pictured with teachers, Ms Ros Edwards, Mrs Aimee Lenehan and Mrs Sally Purvis.



Merry Christmas

from

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Contact _ Phil Henry 0450432536 Class 1 Licence Number 20101002



MY OPEN HOME



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• Free Christmas Lunch at The Chapel to register phone 0455 232 073

• Progress Assoc. Christmas raffles at Royal Hotel Dec 19th

• Australia Day Awards nominations close this Friday - this is your chance to recognise people in our community for their contribution

• 20 years of tomato growing by the Costa group in Guyra

• Shop local if you can this Christmas and support small business in town

JOKE of the week

What did Mrs Claus say to Santa when he was hanging out his washing?
It looks like reindeer

Bureau of Meteorology

Weather

WATCH

Guyra MPS

Date	Day	Min	Max	Rain
9	Tues	11.9	28.0	0
10	Wed	14.2	26.1	0
11	Thurs	13.0	21.1	19.0
12	Fri	12.3	17.2	8.4
13	Sat	6.6	23.9	18.0
14	Sun	13.1	25.1	0
15	Mon	13.0	27.3	0

Rain this week	45.4mm
Dec. rainfall	46mm
Rainfall YTD	1056.2mm
Rainfall last YTD	809.4mm
Ave. rain YTD	906.5mm

Information supplied by Jeff Martin,
Observer for Bureau of Meteorology

Guyra Lions Club News

Remembrance Certificate

At our last meeting for this year became a very special event, this being a partner's night with special guests Bob and Jane Hollaway from Armidale Dumaresq Lions Club. Bob had come to the Guyra meeting to present Joyce Betts with a Remembrance Certificate that was part of the Lions Convention in Armidale earlier in the year. This certificate was to remember the late Lion James (Jim) Betts and his contribution to Lions, especially to Youth of the Year and the annual senior's trip. We also helped Joyce celebrate a big birthday.

Christmas Raffle

We have drawn our Christmas raffle with over \$1000 dollars worth of prizes at the Guyra Bowling Club on the 12/12/25. We would first of all like to thank the many people of the community that purchased tickets, but most of all the businesses that supplied goods and vouchers for the raffle, following is a list of the businesses and I would hope people could support them because without these businesses like these clubs like ours would not be able to raise money to support school, sporting clubs and people in need.

Guyra Fourways, Sisson's Family Meats, CT Electrical, Guyra Country Fresh Hot Bread Shop, Khammo's, Black Mountain Nursery, Darren & Tania Lennon Dasha's Hardware (now Bishops Hardware), Guyra Pharmacy, Bean Travelling, The Guyra Cafe, Crop Hair Design, Guyra Bowling Club, Costa Tomatoes. What wonderful support they give to all clubs that ask



Above l to r: Bob Hollaway, Joyce Betts and Steve Mephram

for help. A special thank you to the Bowling Club for letting us sell tickets and draw the raffle at the club.

Winners

1st Prize Andrew (Joel) Youman- \$250 worth of vouchers & Tray of Tomatoes

2nd Prize Thelma Tibbs- \$200 worth of vouchers & Tray of Tomatoes

3rd Prize Liz Starr- \$150 worth of Vouchers & Tray of Tomatoes

Minor Prizes- Vicki Youman \$50 voucher & tray of tomatoes, Bruce Reeves \$50 voucher & tray of tomatoes, John (Tex) Dawson \$30 voucher & tray of tomatoes, Peter Wall \$30 voucher & tray of tomatoes, Holli Waebenga gift pack & tray of tomatoes, Garry Sole \$50 voucher & tray of tomatoes, Roger Cox \$50 voucher & tray of tomatoes, David Bearup \$50 voucher & tray of tomatoes.

**Janelle & Martha
of the Guyra Gazette**

*would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas
and a Happy & Prosperous 2026*

A special thanks to all those who have supported the
Guyra Gazette in our 9th year of publication,
especially all our advertisers and contributors.

CLOSED from 17th December REOPENING: Monday 12th January

Bishop's Hardware & Building Supplies has commenced trading

New trading hours:

Monday	7:00am – 5:00pm
Tuesday	7:00am – 5:00pm
Wednesday	7:00am – 5:00pm
Thursday	7:00am – 5:00pm
Friday	7:00am – 5:00pm
Saturday	7:00am – 12:00pm
Sunday	8:00am – 11:00am

Christmas and New Year trading hours:

Christmas Day	CLOSED
Boxing day	8:00am – 11:00am
New Year's Day	CLOSED
Australia Day	8:00am – 11:00am
<i>(All other days – trading as normal)</i>	

Dasha & Tania of Dasha's Hardware and
Brett & Tanya of Bishop's Hardware and Building Supplies
would like to thank everyone for their ongoing support in 2025.
We would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
and we look forward to seeing you all in 2026.



Shop Local... Christmas Give-away

- 1st Prize: 3-piece Corden Outdoor Lounge Setting (Valued at \$699)
2nd Prize: 60 Litre Greenleaf Esky (Valued at \$206.25)
3rd Prize: Glow Low Work Fire Pit (Valued at \$75.00)

Just Shop Local – Place your docket in the box for a chance to WIN.
(Winners will be drawn Christmas Eve)

*We have some great Webber BBQ's, Garden Pots and a range of power tools and skins.
Remember, if you don't see an item on the shelves,
just ask our friendly staff and we can order it for you.*



Bishop's Hardware & Building Supplies

61 Ollera Street, Guyra Phone: 6779 2444

Meals on Wheels

Dec 18	Bec Broughton
Dec 19	Steve Norris
Dec 22	Heather Marchant
Dec 23	Bea Velthuis
Dec 24	Sue Adams
Dec 25	No deliveries
Dec 26	Steve Adams
Dec 29	Peter Thomas
Dec 30	James Parker
Dec 31	Narelle Leven
Jan 1	Wendy Laidlaw
Jan 2	Steve Norris
Jan 5	Narelle Leven
Jan 6	Kath & Warwick Leven
Jan 7	Bob Furze
Jan 8	Wendy Laidlaw
Jan 9	Golf Ladies
Jan 12	Bea Velthuis
Jan 13	Regional Bank

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
Anglicare Chaplain: Rev. Daniel Hayes (0428 828 852)

St. Columba's Presbyterian Church 9am Sunday followed by morning tea. **Contact:** Session Clerk Howard Schaeffer 0267791067

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 Jan. 11
Contact: Robert Dewhurst Armidale District Baptist Church 0409 723 522

Have your say...

A scar on the heart

The tragedy at Bondi Beach has left a scar on the heart of our nation. Lives have been stolen and over sixty people injured in a place that represents, egalitarianism, freedom, mateship, volunteering and life-saving. In the quiet of Guyra and right across that nation we feel the shock of this violence, and it is only natural that our grief could turn into anger. However we are responsible for our emotions and anger will only harm ourselves.

The terrorists who attacked our peaceful nation want us in fear, and want us to hate. If we respond with blind fury, we are only finishing the work they started. We need a different kind of strength right now. We need the wisdom to stop the cycle of violence before it takes root in our own community.

The Apostle James understood how dangerous reactive emotion can be. He didn't tell us to sup-

press our feelings, but he warned us about where they lead:

"My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires." (James 1:19-20)

Anger feels powerful, but it does not heal the injured. It does not comfort the grieving. As the Buddha taught centuries ago, fire cannot be fought with fire:

"Hatred does not cease by hatred, but only by love; this is the eternal rule." (Dhammapada, Verse 5)

This is not about being passive. It is about the immense discipline required to remain human in the face of inhumanity. Jesus Christ challenged us to a standard of love that seems almost impossible in times like this, yet it is the only way forward:

"You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbour and

hate your enemy.' But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." (Matthew 5:43-44)

He offered us a peace that doesn't depend on the world being perfect, but comes from within:

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you... Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." (John 14:27)

Guyra and Australians, let us stand with the victims by refusing to let terror change who we are. Let us support one another and choose the harder, higher path of peace. Now is the time for a spiritual renaissance. One love.

James Warren

Heartbroken and furious

The Bondi Massacre has left our nation heartbroken and furious. That such a brutal attack could take place in our own backyard is devastating — but that it



CHRISTMAS TRADING HOURS



WED 24/12	7:30AM - 2PM
THUR 25/12	CLOSED
FRI 26/12	CLOSED
SAT 27/12	9AM - 12AM
MON 29/12	7:30AM - 5PM
TUE 30/12	7.30AM - 5PM
WED 31/12	8AM - 2PM
THUR 1/1	CLOSED
FRI 2/1	NORMAL TRADING HOURS RESUME



**MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE
GUYRA NUTRIEN TEAM!**



Have your say...

happened during Chanukah, when the Jewish community gathers to celebrate light over darkness, makes it even more shocking.

Families who should have been lighting candles were instead running for their lives. A festival of hope was met with violence. This is not just a tragedy — it is an assault on the basic sense of safety every Australian deserves, and a cruel blow to a community already living with rising fear.

What makes this even harder to accept is that our government has ignored the growing antisemitism that Jewish Australians have been warning about for months. And now, in the wake of this atrocity, they seem more focused on going after guns than confronting the real, urgent threat: the surge of antisemitic hatred festering in our own suburbs. When leaders refuse to name the problem, vulnerable communities pay the price.

We cannot respond with silence

or symbolic sympathy. We need a full and transparent investigation, serious protections for at-risk communities, and leadership that finally acknowledges and confronts antisemitism instead of sidestepping it.

In a moment meant to celebrate light, darkness struck. It is now our job as a nation to push back that darkness with clarity, courage, and action.

Eli Imad

Thank you

As 2025 draws to a close Guyra Evening CWA girls extend enormous gratitude and thanks to the Guyra Community for their ongoing support, generosity and care in all our events, activities and fund-raisers. We wish everyone a blessed festive season shared with family and friends.

Mary "Poppins"
Guyra Evening CWA

Guyra comes out on top in second round of Shire Cup

On Sunday 12 players competed in the Shire Cup 2nd round versus a team from Armidale in a Foursome event

The morning didn't start well for the Armidale team who were short four players and had to forfeit two matches.

The day did not go any better for them with all four matches going the way of the Guyra teams in a dominant performance.

Tyson and Richard Burey were never headed in their match.

Mick Jackson and Scott Mendes were unstoppable.

Harry Purvis and Bailey Wilson put on a clinic for their opponents and Darrin Towells and Steve Kliendienst combined solidly to dominate their match.

Ian Taylor and Neil Paine played a round against Robert

Moore and Trent Mendes so none of our Guyra teams missed out on a match.

The day was won by Guyra 6-0 which took the overall score to 7-5 in Guyra's favour.

Thank you to all of our players for competing and showing the Armidale team what this competition means to Guyra.

This Saturday morning at 10am will be a Juniors 7 hole event so we invite all the kids to come along.

On Sunday we are hosting a 4bbb medley Ham and Turkey day for Christmas.

We invite all players to come along, men and women to enjoy the day.

Don't forget Boxing Day Ambrose so dust off your sticks and come along for a great day.

HAPPY GOLFING S.K.

The festive season
isn't always easy,
and that's okay

Whether you've had a tough year or endured some recent setbacks, it's okay to pause and reach out for support.

Looking after your mental health and wellbeing doesn't mean making big changes. Often, it can start with something simple like checking in with yourself, or someone you care about.



For more information to support your mental health and wellbeing, visit www.health.nsw.gov.au/support or call the Mental Health line on 1800 011 511.



Thank you for your support during 2025!

*We wish all our clients a
Merry Christmas
and a
Safe & Prosperous 2026*

CLOSED FROM
Wednesday, 17th December
OUR OFFICE WILL RE-OPEN ON
Monday, 5th January

Just Tax, No Bull

RURAL TAXATION SPECIALISTS

Sole Taxation



Sole Taxation

98 Bradley Street, Guyra

ph: 6779 1267

e: csole@soletaxation.com.au



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Accountants

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NUMBER ONE IN NUMBERS



THE TAX INSTITUTE

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ADVISER

Can Assist raffle winners



Guyra Can Assist raffle winners William Jones and Val McElroy with Can Assist members Sue Adams, Belinda Williamson & Pat Ulrick. Raffles were held at the Royal Hotel on Friday, December 5th.

Guyra ADRA Op Shop

Closes end of trading 18th Dec 2025
Reopens Wed. 11th February 2026

We would like to thank all the people in town that help to make our shop so special. From the excellent team of Volunteers that turn up week after week to the folk that bring donations that keep our shop viable and of course the customers. We work hard all year and look forward to our annual break. From our team to your family we wish you a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The Chapel will be hosting a free Christmas Day Community Lunch commencing at 12pm

Anyone is welcome.

To register, please phone 0455 232 073
or visit The Chapel at 66 Llangothlin St.



**Colin, Kylie
& All the Staff at
Guyra Bakery**

*wish all our valued customers
a Merry Christmas
and a safe and prosperous
New Year*



**We will be closed on & from
Christmas Day, 25th December
Re-opening Monday, 5th January**



Merry Christmas

We are closing for a break, from
20th December – 04th January 2026

**RE-OPENING IN THE NEW YEAR on the
05th January, 2026**

All new Job enquiries via email to ctelectric1@outlook.com will be answered and scheduled in the new year upon our return.

**FOR EMERGENCIES
ONLY** during this time
please contact Brad
on 02 6779 1273.

Thank you to our
valued customers for
supporting our
business in 2025.

CT ELECTRIC
Anne & Brad Lane

Christmas School Holiday Activity Program 2026



Guyra Library

MUST BE LIBRARY MEMBER. ALL ACTIVITIES ARE FREE!

5 – 23 January

Bookmark competition: Collect entry and drop off before school holidays finish. Children of all ages. 12 Winners.

Library treasure Hunt: 'Find a book' Bingo. Collect card and play throughout your Library visits. All ages, small prizes.

15 December – 31 January

Great Summer Book Binge: Collect your entry form from the library, read 5 items from our collection and enter the draw to win Visa gift cards. See the poster in the library for more information. Open to all ages.

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY	BOOKING
8 January	10.30am 2 hours	Movie Morning: How to Train Your Dragon, popcorn and water supplied.	PG 2025 version. Booking required.
14 January	10.30am 10.45am	UNE Discovery: "Escape the Museum", escape room scenario. UNE Discovery: "Palaeontology Puzzles", search for bones and make your own fossils.	Ages 6+ Booking required.
15 January	10.30am – 11.30am 2.30pm – 3.30pm	Decorative windchimes: Decorate and make your own windchimes to take home.	All ages. No bookings required.
16 January	10.15am – 4.30pm	Virtual Reality.	Ages 10+ Booking required.
19 January	10:30am	Paint your own mini artwork: Unleash your inner artist with a minute art work to take home.	All ages. Booking required.
21 January	10.15am – 4.30pm	Virtual Reality.	Ages 10+ Booking required.
22 January	10.00am – 12.30pm	Learn visual programming with Spheros: Learn the basics of coding, create and play your own game by programming your sphero robot.	Ages 10-16. Booking required.

Children under 10 MUST be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult.

**Find out more and book your spot
– in person at the library or phone 6770 3636**



Activities held at Guyra LT Starr Memorial Library

158 Bradley Street, Guyra | T: 6770 7123

armidale.nsw.gov.au

ARMIDALE
Regional Council



Property:



Date	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	Date	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Date
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Days Rained														
Cumulative														



RTO 90145

New England Community College

New England Community College Inc (NECC) offers a diverse range of certificate courses, general interest courses, computer training and literacy and numeracy tuition in the New England area. We have offices in Guyra, Armidale and Glen Innes. **New courses coming in 2026!**

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

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



136 Bradley Street, Guyra • Phone: 6779 2132 • E: admin@gala.org.au • www.gala.org.au

A year of community-driven wins

As the year draws to a close, Save & Grow Guyra Ratepayers Inc extends its heartfelt thanks to the people of Guyra for their steady support and generosity. Every donation, every message of encouragement, and every hand offered along the way has helped keep our not-for-profit active and effective. We exist to serve the community, and it's the community that fuels our work.

2025 has been a year defined by collaboration and practical progress. We kicked things off with a well-attended community forum featuring Brendan Moylan MP and Councillor Eli Imad—an opportunity for locals to raise concerns directly and hear candid updates on regional issues. These conversations set the tone for a year of engagement and action.

One of the most meaningful achievements came during winter, when we worked to help restore essential heating for residents at Kolora. Ensuring that some of our most vulnerable neighbours were safe and warm wasn't just a project—it was a responsibility we were proud to shoulder.

Environmental advocacy has also

remained front and centre. Our members represented local concerns about the rehabilitation of Mother of Ducks Lagoon in discussions with Brendan Moylan MP and MLC Dr Amanda Cohn. Protecting this vital natural asset is crucial to Guyra's identity, ecology, and tourism future, and we're committed to staying at the table as planning progresses.

Education and transparency around infrastructure have been important themes this year. Members attended the Guyra Water Treatment Works tour, where Mick Purvis delivered a clear and thorough explanation of the upgrades Armidale Regional Council has implemented to improve our local water supply. It's encouraging to see the level of work happening behind the scenes to secure essential services.

Throughout the year, we continued to advocate on development and infrastructure issues across the region, making enquiries to Armidale Regional Council on matters such as future footpaths, stormwater management, subdivision planning, and long-term town upgrades. These

discussions ensure that the needs of Guyra residents remain visible in broader regional planning.

We also met with consultants and investors exploring opportunities to grow the town's future - a reminder that positive development must be guided, not left to chance. Ensuring Guyra's voice is heard in these early conversations helps shape outcomes that reflect community values.

And of course, planning is well underway for Guyra SnowFest, a highlight of the local calendar and a celebration that brings us all together in the heart of winter.

None of this work happens in isolation. It's the result of a community that shows up, speaks up, and supports the organisations that advocate on its behalf. Save & Grow Guyra Ratepayers Inc looks forward to another year of progress, partnership, and passion for our town.

Thank you, Guyra—your commitment keeps us moving.

Best wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Save & Grow Guyra
Ratepayers Inc:*

Midweek Golf

Top individual score this week went to Ian Brown and Michael Jackson with 24 points. Next on 23 were Nancy Prisk and Jenny Rogers.

Team score with 90 points went to Pitch Purrfects then on 84 were Baldersleigh Bashers.

On the run down for the accumulated teams score are:

That's a Gimme, Baldersleigh Bashers, Putch Purrfects, Denzels Frothingtons, Birdies, Sultans of Swing, Green Grass, Blue Sky, Full House, Any Hole, Grip Rip Sip, Westerners, Shire Sharks, Hillbillies.

There are some close scores. The individual top scorers will be put in the first edition of the Gazette in 2026.

Have a safe and happy Christmas to everyone.

Recommence on 12th January.

Middy



Contact my office:

Ph: 02 6772 5552

Suite 1, 175 Rusden St
Armidale NSW 2365

@: northerntablelands@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Find me online:

[brendanmoylanmp](https://www.facebook.com/brendanmoylanmp)

[brendanmoylanmp](https://www.instagram.com/brendanmoylanmp)

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

NSW Seniors Festival funding

An event for seniors will be held in Guyra next March as part of the NSW Seniors Festival which celebrates older people in our communities.

Armidale Regional Council received \$4,500 through the NSW Seniors Festival Grant Program to hold an event in Guyra featuring a hot meal, drinks and musical entertainment to encourage older people to remain active, healthy and engaged.

Glen Innes Severn Council also received \$10,000 and will host 'Re-Wired', a two-week multi-venue program with cultural, artistic, creative, wellbeing and freely accessible events.

Virtual fencing

In great news for farmers across the region, virtual fencing is now legal in NSW. Virtual fencing systems allow farmers to confine and move animals without physical fences using GPS, wireless and sensor technology.

This is a no-brainer. It allows better pasture management, less stock handling and improves grazing accuracy.

This technology can also help preserve ecologically sensitive areas, manage stock in extreme weather events, identify sick animals and prevent the spread of disease.

Legal Aid Seniors Diary

The very popular and free Legal Aid Seniors Diary is back for 2026 and is full of useful tips and legal information on avoiding scams, goods and services, driving and fines, Elder abuse, money and Centrelink, and much more.

The Seniors Diary presents legal issues in an understandable and easy-to-read format. It also features a calendar, and important dates are marked out.

I encourage seniors across the region to secure their copy. The 2026 Legal Aid Seniors Diaries are free but limited to two per household. It is available by contacting the Armidale electorate office.

The diary's cover features artwork by Aboriginal artist Shelby-Rae Lyons.

ePetition for the rejection of the new transmission line corridor

Anna Young from Walcha has launched a Parliamentary ePetition which opposes the



*Member for Northern Tablelands
Brendan Moylan said virtual fencing systems
have a huge range of benefits to farmers*

re-routed transmission corridor from Bayswater to Walcha. It needs 20,000 to be debated in Parliament. To view and sign, visit:

[www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/la/
Pages/ePetitiondetails.aspx?q=jz_
sF2FRsWHj_36lRBvdcw](https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/la/Pages/ePetitiondetails.aspx?q=jz_sF2FRsWHj_36lRBvdcw)

Merry Christmas

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Stay safe over the holiday period!

Lights At Christmas

What would Christmas be without lights? As we celebrate Jesus's birth at Christmas, the lights remind us of Him, His love, and how He came to deliver us from sin, and give us eternal life with Him. Jesus says "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of light. John 8:12T

There was a star that appeared in the sky and came to rest above Jesus. Heralding the birth of the Christ child and lighting the way of the wise men. And just like the Christmas star shone brightly when He was born, Jesus is still shining a light into our lives today.

Jesus was born in a manger, died on a cross, rose on the third day, ascended to the right hand of the Father, and makes His home in our hearts, that's something we can believe in. It's the eternal beauty of Christmas.

Maybe this Christmas season finds you in a season that feels dull, with questions and anxieties that just won't lift. The temptation is to believe God is distant when life is dark, but the Christmas story tells a different truth.

God longs to be our friend. He wants to journey with us through life's difficulties and give us a reason to hope. The gift of Jesus – an act of love and kindness from God was a sacrifice that enables us to be in a relationship with God and a way for us to discover true joy and everlasting peace.

This Christmas the Chapel will be hosting our free Christmas Day Community Lunch at 12pm surrounded by beautiful lights. Anyone is welcome. To register, please phone 0455 232 073 or visit The Chapel at 66 Llangothlin Street.

Wishing you all a very light and bright Christmas.

*Pastors Linden
& Kerrie Pollard
The Chapel*

From Cradle to Cross

Christmas is more than a story of a baby in a manger. It is the beginning of something much greater. Stretching from the cradle to the cross, and beyond to the empty tomb and further.

In Bethlehem, Jesus was born in humility. He was laid in a manger, visited by shepherds, and announced by angels. This birth was not ordinary. He is the Son of God and the Son of Man—heaven's gift wrapped in humanity. But His birth was not the end of the story; it was the beginning of His mission.

Jesus came to save. The cradle points us to the cross, where He gave His life for the world. He saves us from sin, which separates us from God. He saves us from fear, which holds us captive. He saves us from hopelessness, offering instead forgiveness, peace, and eternal life.

The cross was not defeat—it was victory. By dying, Jesus broke the power of death. By rising, He opened the way to life. That is why Christmas cannot be understood apart from Easter. The joy of His birth finds its

fulfillment in the triumph of His resurrection.

For those who wonder what this means today, the message is simple: Jesus came for you. He knows your struggles, your questions, your hopes. As Son of Man, He understands our humanity. As Son of God, He has the power to transform it. Christmas is God's declaration that you are not forgotten, not abandoned, not beyond hope.

Yet we also know Christmas can be hard. Some face grief, loneliness, or uncertainty. To you, the cradle and the cross speak most clearly: God has entered our world, shared our pain, and offers peace. The Savior born in Bethlehem is the same Savior who died and rose again, bringing hope that endures.

So this Christmas, let us see the bigger picture. The manger is not the end—it points us to the cross. And the cross points us to the empty tomb. Together, they tell us that love is stronger than fear, forgiveness greater than failure, and life more powerful than death. From cradle to cross, Jesus is our Saviour.

*Sharon Ritchie
Church of Freedom*

Don't miss out on your Christmas meats!



We are making our own in-house smoked hams, bacon, chooks ... and more this Christmas!



Robert & the Team thank everyone for your support during 2025

We are CLOSED Thurs. 25th- Sun. 28th December and Thurs. 1st & Sat. 3rd January

OPEN: Mon-Wed. 29th & 31st December and on Fri. 2nd January then normal hours resumed.

**105 Bradley Street
Guyra**

**Phone:
6779 1008**



The season of hope

The commercial world of Christmas has us pin our hope, expectation, joy and happiness in a few 'wish list' items – things for which we might hope.

Despite the pressure on our budgets, in a 'cost of living crisis,' thoughtful creativity, ingenuity, simplicity in gift giving can deliver much joy!

Picture the scenario:-carefully planned for a surprise. Colourful presents wrapped in tantalising shapes underneath the tree. They may be shakeable, pressable, squeezable, but not really guessable! There is an air of hope in eager anticipation, expectation and excitement. That is part of the joy of Christmas.

At opening, those "interesting parcels" may or may not deliver the 'desirables' on our 'list' but the fun and excitement is complemented by the atmosphere of celebration, collaboration; the ingenuity of the giver; the time taken to create an air of mystery, the thoughtfulness, the love with which gifts are given and the joy of anticipation, with which gifts are received.

Take all those same components; the creativity of God; the timing; the air of mystery and the love of God giving a gift:- the birth of Jesus. The awe of the

shepherds at the vision of an angelic host; the wonder and expectation of the wise men led by the star; the shared joy at the scene in the stable.

So what is our hope? Is it greater than the mystery of tinsel, the brightness of baubles and the not really guessable presents under the tree?

This is the season of Advent. It is the season of hope, expectation, anticipation and joy of celebrating Jesus' birth, the arrival of the Lord Jesus. As we search for God in our lives, reading and declaring his scripture over our lives and choosing to live with the absolute assurance that God is here for us, so may we celebrate and rejoice in God's greatest gift of love.

This Christmas choose to remember the birth of Jesus, celebrate and rejoice in God's great love. Be thankful and rejoice in the relationship with God through Jesus, and relationships with special people He has brought into our lives.

Remember yesterday is history. Tomorrow is in God's hands. So we should live in the presence of today knowing that nothing takes God by surprise and He is true to the promises of His word. May God bless your Christmas and continue to bless you and keep you throughout the year ahead.

*St Columba's
Presbyterian Church*

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

Please have a safe holiday and drive carefully if you are travelling. I look forward to working for the region in 2026.

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



*We wish everyone a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year!*

Thank you for your support during the year.

We will be **CLOSED** on:
25th, 26th & 27th December & 1st January
We are **OPEN** from 28th - 31st December

Please note that we are also
CLOSED from Wednesday, 14th January,
reopening Saturday 24th January



Kimmy's Kitchen
120A Bradley St.

0486 012 743

**RAIN
WATER
TANK
REBATE**

FOR RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES
IN ARMIDALE REGION



Water security is a top priority for Armidale Regional Council. With the risk of drought on the rise, we're helping our community stay resilient, even during wetter periods.

Securing our water's future requires consistent, year-round action.

Council is encouraging the community to apply for a rainwater tank rebate for new water tanks.

Rebates:

\$250 - for tanks between 2,000 and 10,000 litres
\$500 - for tanks over 10,000 litres

Funding is limited-apply early!

*Terms and Conditions apply. Promotion closes 30 June 2026 or when funds run out, whichever is sooner.

SCAN QR CODE
FOR MORE INFO



www.armidale.nsw.gov.au

ARMIDALE
Regional Council



Classifieds Trades & Services

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

BLACK MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH community BBQ and Carols-based service will be held at 5pm, Saturday 20 December 2025.

ST MARY OF THE ANGELS Wednesday Vigil 6pm, Christmas Day Mass 9am.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S, Ollera Carol Service 5.30pm 24th December.

GARAGE SALE

206 SANDON STREET on 20th & 21st December, 8am - 12pm.

PROBUS NOTES

Our next meeting is on Monday, 12th January 2026 at the Bowling Club at 10am. All welcome to attend. Any new members would be most welcome.

Judy Jackson

RAFFLE RESULTS

ROTARY GUYRA Christmas raffle won by: 1st Vicki Reeves, 2nd Gayle Moses, 3rd Lizzie Blakehurst, 4th Margaret Cox, 5th Steph Youman, 6th Sara Hancock. Thank you to all who supported us.

GUYRA CWA DAY BRANCH raffle winners: 1st John Mitchell (redonated), 2nd Rita Williams. Thanks to all for your support.

GUYRA CAN ASSIST raffle winners William Jones and Val McElroy. Raffles were held at the Royal Hotel on Friday, 5 December 2025. Thanks to everyone who supported us.

GUYRA LIONS raffle 1st Andrew (Joel) Youman, 2nd Thelma Tibbs, 3rd Liz Starr. Minor prizes won by Vicki Youman, Bruce Reeves, John (Tex) Dawson, Peter Wall, Holli Waebenga, Garry Sole, Roger Cox and David Bearup.

HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Guyra Historical Museum will be closed from 17th December. Re-opening on 14th January

FOOD PANTRY

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

We are then closed until Friday, 16th January 2026
Have a Blessed Christmas
From all our volunteers
Contact: 0455 232 073

IN MEMORIAM

JIMMY DAVIS 19.12.1989

MICHAEL DAVIS 20.12.2009

Loving memories never die
As years roll on and days pass by
In our hearts a memory is kept
Of ones we loved and will never forget
Forever loved and missed
The Davis Family

CLIVE WILLIAM BRAZIER

27.7.1949 - 15.12.2021

Four years have passed since
you went away
Yet in our hearts you're here each day
Your love still guides us, soft and true
And every moment, we remember you
Love always
Snook, Tara, Akashia, Rave & Oakley

CLAIM THE DATE

WEDNESDAY, 31st DECEMBER
FREE family-friendly NYE Celebrations at Guyra Recreation Ground.
5:30pm to 9:00pm. Hosted by
Guyra & Community Progress Assoc.

2026

WED- MON 14th-26th JANUARY
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

WEDNESDAY, 25th FEBRUARY
Save & Grow Guyra Ratepayers Inc
AGM 6pm at Guyra Bowling and
Recreation Club

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.

CLAIM THE DATE
For your event
Phone: 6779 2132
advertising@gala.org.au

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The good gift giver

A few years ago, one of our kids received a Christmas present, a high-pitched talking plush bear, which made me question what we had done to warrant such a punishment! It's a question that has mysteriously gone unanswered, and in the end, it was easier to hide the "gift" in the top cupboard, hoping that the kids will forget it exists!

I wonder if you've ever had a similar experience? Nobody enjoys receiving lousy gifts, right? But more than just possibly being annoying, lousy gifts reveal a giver who doesn't really know us very well, which brings a relational clarity that we have to face quickly and unexpectedly.

Good gifts, on the other hand, can bring pure joy. They can be fun and functional, while more importantly, revealing a giver who truly knows us. This is one of the reasons we sing the carol "Joy to the World" around this time of year: at Christmas, God reveals himself as a good giver of gifts, because he really knows us and what we need. John's Gospel captures this in John 3:16: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

Here, John distils Christmas to its essence. Christmas is all about God proving that he loves everyone of us. No matter what life has thrown at us, or the good, bad or indifferent gifts we have received over the years, God's love for all of us stands firm. Words come easily, but at Christmas God's actions prove a God who loves us and who wants us to come back to him, because while our tendency is always to turn away from him, he sends His son into the world on a mission to die in our place, by taking our sin upon himself.

This is what makes Christmas so wonderful. Jesus' arrival as a baby reveals that God loves us, refuses to abandon us, and steps into our suffering world. Later, on the cross, Jesus demonstrates that love again by bearing the penalty for our sins. So, this Christmas, remember what this season is all about, and take the opportunity to come humbly to the God of unwavering love. Trust in His Son and receive eternal life.

If you'd like to explore more, we'd love to see you at Guyra Anglican at 9 am on Christmas Day or any Sunday at 9 am throughout the year.

May God bless you this Christmas,

Rev. Tim Stevens.
St James Anglican Church



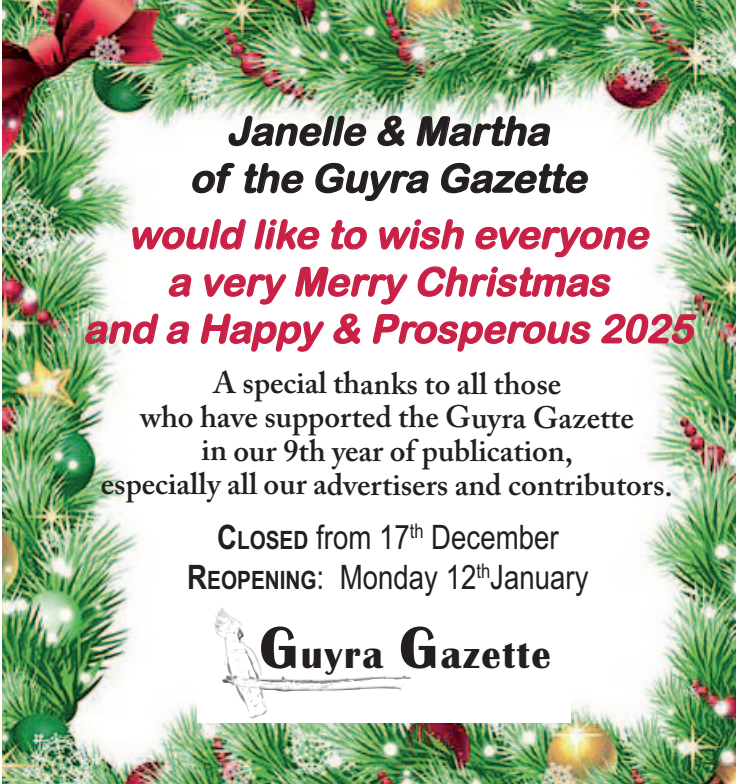
**Season's Greetings to all this Christmas
from Tania, Robyn & Gemma**

**Thank you for your support in 2025
and we look forward to a prosperous 2026**



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

CLOSED from 4.30pm December 18, re-opening January 12




**Janelle & Martha
of the Guyra Gazette**

**would like to wish everyone
a very Merry Christmas
and a Happy & Prosperous 2025**

A special thanks to all those
who have supported the Guyra Gazette
in our 9th year of publication,
especially all our advertisers and contributors.

**CLOSED from 17th December
REOPENING: Monday 12th January**

 **Guyra Gazette**

ACCOUNTS & COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER **Permanent Part-Time (0.6 FTE / 22.5 hrs per week)** **Guyra Adult Learning Association Inc – Guyra / Armidale Region**

The Guyra Adult Learning Association Inc (GALA) is seeking a motivated and organised Accounts & Communications Officer to support our finance, marketing and administrative operations across the region.

This varied role suits someone who enjoys working in a community-focused environment and can confidently balance accounts administration with communications, marketing and general office duties.

Key responsibilities include:

- Accounts payable/receivable, invoicing and bank reconciliations (Reckon)
- Supporting budgets, reporting and audit-ready financial records
- Managing social media, promotions and community communications
- Designing flyers, posters and the Semester Course Guide
- General office administration and customer enquiries

- A dedicated half-day each Monday supporting the Guyra Gazette

Essential skills and experience:

- Experience in accounts administration and reconciliations
- Strong communication and organisational skills
- Confidence using social media and basic design tools
- High attention to detail and ability to work independently
- Driver's licence and own vehicle

Desirable:

- Experience in community, education or RTO environments
- Skills in Canva, InDesign or similar design software

This is a permanent part-time position under the Educational Services (Post-Secondary Education) Award.

Applications close: COB 30 January 2026

Applications and enquiries: kelso@gala.org.au

Full Position Description: www.gala.org.au

Vets wrap up year with Christmas theme



Back l to r: Colin Walls, Jon Cumming, Neil Paine, Ray Sweeney, Paul Redden
Front: Phil Devlin, Robert Moore, Ian Taylor, Wal Chapman and John Prisk

Last Tuesday our golf was Christmas themed with 16 players joining in the festivities. After golf we enjoyed lunch and then had our yearly presentations. Everyone was a winner in the stableford event but the main ham winners were Ian Taylor with forty points, followed by Neil Paine and Dave Brown. Welcome to Vets Dave.

The yearly awards go to.....

The best individual stableford score was 39 points and that was shared with Wal Chapman and

Robert Moore. Ray Sweeney was next with 38.

The best 4BBB score was 48 points scored by Phil Devlin and Col Walls with Wal Chapman and Jon Cumming second on 46.

The best putter for 18 holes was Ian Taylor with 25. Ian Taylor and Robert Moore shared the best stroke score of 78 with Wal Chapman getting the nett with 67.

Overall player of the year went to the ever consistent Ian Taylor with 10 wins and heaps of NTPs.

Phil Devlin was very proud to pick up the prestigious Club Person of the year award. Thanks to all that came along to make it a great day.

Next week is a stableford. The week before Christmas we will play our 4BBB and then between Christmas and New Year we will do a two person Ambrose. All welcome. Have a great Christmas all and may 2026 bring low handicaps.

Drake

Ladies' Golf

Last week the Ladies played a Stableford.

Debbie Burey was the winner with a very impressive score of 43 points.

Pip White was the runner up with 41 points.

Pip also won the May Mitchell Matchplay final.

Nearest the pin winners were, Belinda Lenehan on the 7th hole.

Debbie Burey on the 9th hole.

Wendy George on the 10th hole.

Suzanne Towells on the 18th hole (on the green for one then putted in for birdie)

This week is a Stroke.

Next week is Christmas Eve we will have a game if we have enough interest.

Also last week Wendy Jackson played in the State Final of the Golf NSW Medal Playoff. Wendy played at the Stonecutter's Ridge in Sydney and represented Guyra and the New England District.

Wendy enjoyed the experience and was up against some tough competition.

Well done Wendy!

The Lady Golfers have had a highly successful year.

We would like to wish all our friends and families a Very Merry Xmas and thank you for all your support!

Birdie

Ron, Gary & Ann of

**JONES
CRACKNELL
& STARR**

wish you a
**fulfilling Christmas
and a
Financially Sound
2026**



Email: ron@jcs.net.au

130 Bradley Street, Guyra • Ph: 6779 1911

CLOSED FROM: 5pm December 23. **RE-OPENING:** Tuesday, January 6.



**OPEN for Lunch on
Christmas Day**
Book Now: 6779 1005

**Open daily for lunch and dinner,
including Boxing Day
& New Year's Day**



**Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year to all
Thank you for your support**

**122 Bradley Street, Guyra
Ph. 6779 1005**