



Guyra Gazette

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Wednesday March 11, 2026

Local women share and learn at IWD event

Nearly 100 women gathered at the Guyra Showground Pavilion on Sunday, March 8, for an informative and empowering International Women's Day event hosted by the Country Women's Association of NSW Guyra Evening Branch.

Titled "It's Not Just You," the event focused on perimenopause and menopause, bringing together eight health professionals to share knowledge, practical advice and reassurance about a stage of life many women experience but often feel unprepared for.

The day began with Armidale-based medical practitioner Dr Mandana Arshi from Lummier Health, who used humour and relatable examples to help normalise the perimenopause experience before outlining how hormonal changes can affect both the body and brain. Guyra pharmacist Jenni Jackson followed with an overview of pharmaceutical options, discussing medications and treatment pathways available to women. Together, the pair highlighted that Menopausal Hormone Therapy can be a safe and effective option for many women when appropriately prescribed and started at the right time.

Mental health and relationships were also key themes. Local psychologist Marni Hietbrink spoke about the emotional and psycho-



Above | to r: Marni Hietbrink, Ellen Adams, Brianna Short, Professor Gal Winter, Dr Mandana Arshi, Jenni Jackson, Kylie Long, Christine Connor

logical changes that can accompany menopause, reassuring women that feelings such as anxiety, mood changes and disrupted sleep are common as the brain adapts to reduced oestrogen levels. Sex and relationship therapist Kylie Long then discussed how hormonal changes can influence desire and intimacy, sharing practical strategies to help couples maintain connection during this transition.

Physical wellbeing formed another focus of the program. Exercise physiologist Ellen Adams, founder of Moveology in Glen Innes, highlighted the importance of strength, impact and sprint interval training to maintain muscle, bone and heart health. Pelvic floor

physiotherapist Bri Short from Physigro addressed common pelvic health concerns such as incontinence and prolapse, reminding attendees that while these issues are common, they are not something women have to simply tolerate.

Nutrition and preventative health rounded out the program. Associate Professor Gal Winter of the University of New England emphasised the importance of dietary diversity and adequate protein to support gut, brain and overall health, while Belinda Hook from BreastScreen NSW encouraged women to prioritise regular breast screening.

The day was facilitated by Christine Connor from Health-

WISE and received very positive feedback, with one participant jokingly asking when a similar event might be organised for their husbands.

The CWA Guyra Evening Branch thanked Armidale Regional Council for supporting the event, along with councillor Eli Imad for helping bring the day together.

If you missed the event but would like to know more about this topic, please feel free to join the FREE Virtual Women's Health Session being held this Wednesday 11th March from 6pm - 8pm at GALA. Please register your seat at <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/UTM0AJ>

Barnaby JOYCE MP

ONE NATION FEDERAL MEMBER FOR NEW ENGLAND

Strength, Clarity and Unity
for Regional Australia



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Fleece and Fibre Frolic returning for 2026

Fibre artists, wool growers and craft enthusiasts will gather in Guyra later this month as the Guyra Fleece and Fibre Frolic returns for its second annual event.

The event will be held on March 21st at the Lamb and Potato Festival Pavilion on the New England Highway in Guyra.

Organisers say this year's Frolic is shaping up to be even bigger after the success of the inaugural event in 2025, which attracted around 100 people throughout the day. Attendees praised the opportunity to access a wide range of fleece and fibre products locally, as well as the inspiration gained from seeing the work of other fibre artists.

Interest in the event has already been strong, with individuals and groups from across the region and beyond confirming their attendance.

A number of new retailers from across New South Wales and south-east Queensland are booked to attend, bringing a variety of goods including fleece, fibre, equipment and finished products. Local wool and fibre growers will also be present, with one of the key aims of the event being to connect local producers with their community.

Organisers said last year's event demonstrated strong interest in locally grown and unusual

breed fleeces, with many quickly finding new homes with fibre enthusiasts.

A key feature of the Frolic will again be the popular "sit and do" area, where visitors are encouraged to bring along their current projects or try something new while sharing ideas and techniques with fellow fibre lovers.

Enthusiast-led discussions and demonstrations will also run throughout the day, providing opportunities for visitors to learn more about a variety of fibre arts. Topics scheduled this year include cleaning wool using Suint Fermentation, using a 'picker', discussing an extended breed study, woollen spinning and long draw, fractal spinning and colour and demonstrations of spindle spinning. If these are terms you are unfamiliar with even more reason to come and see what all the excitement is about.

Organisers say the Frolic grew from a desire among local fibre art groups to create a community event celebrating fibre arts while bringing together growers, retailers, makers and the wider public.

Through the efforts of these groups, the 2026 Guyra Fleece and Fibre Frolic will once again highlight the region's strong connection to wool and fibre crafts.



The day will be all about sharing of fibre knowledge and creations

Quality cooking entries at Guyra Show

The cooking section at the Guyra Show was very successful. We welcomed the South Australian Rural Achiever winner George Seppelt to help with taking entries and recording winners. The judge Gail Kelly from Werris Creek was impressed with the quality of the entries.

The champion in the Open section was an outstanding decorated cake depicting Alice in Wonderland by Natasha Saunders.

Champion in the Primary section was Jack Newberry for decorated biscuits.

Champion in the Secondary section was a decorated birthday cake by Kate Campion.

Men's champion was Wayne Maples with a beautifully decorated chocolate cake. Special mention was made of Tom Mabbott's sponge cake.

Thank you to all that entered their cooking and my stewards for their help.

Heather Starr



Champion - Natasha Saunders



Champion Secondary Kate Campion



Champion Primary Jack Newberry

Guyra fluoride dosing plant temporarily offline

Armidale Regional Council advises the Guyra community that the fluoride dosing plant at the Guyra Water Treatment Plant is currently offline due to the need for major maintenance works.

The outage was necessary to address issues identified with the fluoridation system to ensure its ongoing safety, reliability and compliance.

The fluoride dosing plant is expected to be returned to service in the first week of April 2026, following completion of the required maintenance and recommissioning checks.

During this period, Guyra's treated water remains safe to drink and continues to meet the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines. The temporary outage affects fluoridation only and does not impact other treatment processes at the plant.

NSW Public Health has been notified of the temporary shutdown in accordance with regulatory requirements.

Council's water team will continue to closely monitor water quality throughout the maintenance period and will restore fluoridation once all works and verification processes are completed.

Armidale Regional Council thanks the Guyra community for its understanding while this essential maintenance is undertaken.

Kay Endres named Northern Tablelands Woman Of The Year

As part of 2026 NSW Women's Week, Member for Northern Tablelands Brendan Moylan announced that Kay Endres has been named the Northern Tablelands Woman of the Year.

NSW Women's Week showcases the remarkable stories and accomplishments of women and girls from a wide range of backgrounds across the state.

Mr Moylan said Ms Endres is very deserving of the accolade with continued commitment and dedication to a range of fields.

"Kay is a proud fourth-generation Armidale local who not only serves the community as a councillor but is a huge contributor to local charity organisations," he said.

"She was a founding member and is the current chair of Tour de Rocks which has raised more than \$2.5 million for cancer research. She also played a key role in start-

ing the 19 for 19 Challenge supporting Anya's Wish to help end childhood cancer, is on various committees such as the New England Garden Festival and dedicates her time to various causes, organisations, schools and more.

"Kay goes above and beyond for her community and is worthy of being recognised.

"I would like to congratulate and thank Kay for everything she does for the Northern Tablelands."

Armidale Regional Council Mayor Sam Coupland has worked alongside Ms Endres for a number of years and said she is a deserving recipient of the accolade.

"She has deep connections with the community and has been the driving force behind many of our storied and well known events," he said.

"In short, if it is happening in Armidale then Kay will likely be involved."



Northern Tablelands Woman of the Year Kay Endres is congratulated by Member for Northern Tablelands Brendan Moylan as part of NSW Women's Week.

Dr Jo Mackson of Sydney Women's Wellness will present an information and Q&A session on topics including:

- perimenopause and menopause
- pelvic pain, endometriosis and adenomyosis
- contraception and fertility planning
- donor conception and IVF
- preventative health for women across all ages

FREE

Virtual Women's Health Session

Wednesday 11th March, 6-8pm @ GALA, Guyra
Tea and coffee provided

RSVP @ [HTTPS://WWW.STICKYTICKETS.COM.AU/UTM0A1](https://www.sticktickets.com.au/utm0a1)

SUBMIT YOUR QUESTIONS HERE

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News stories, sport reports, letters, community news, what's hot or not, etc.
news@gala.org.au

Guyra Gazette Phone: 6779 2132

Education Public Schools

Expression of Interest

General Assistant – Casual position

Guyra Central School

Guyra Central School provides high quality, future focused and personalised learning & teaching. We are a Kindergarten to Year 12 educational setting, fostering a culture of high expectations, wellbeing and achievement for all. The school has a current enrolment of 293 students, including 27% Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

Vacancies exist to be a part of the team at Guyra Central School for 2026. The position will be located at: Guyra Central School, 27 Marne Street Guyra NSW 2365.

About the Role

This role is a casual General Assistant position with various dates throughout 2026.

A General Assistant may be required, subject to Workplace Health and Safety obligations, to perform duties from the range listed:

- Organising rooms, furniture, audio visual aids, public address systems, lockers and other items/equipment for school activities as required; dismantle and store items when not in use (with assistance where required). (NB. the role is not responsible for operating audio visual equipment or public address systems)
- Identify and report maintenance / safety issues to the role supervisor; undertake minor maintenance of buildings and equipment not covered by contracts or requiring a qualified tradesperson
- Maintaining and caring for school grounds, including: mowing school lawns and playing fields; marking of school playing fields; preparation of ground for planting trees and shrubs and planting and watering of same; pruning shrubs, trimming hedges, light lopping and trimming of trees. Safely and proficiently operate mowers, tools and equipment; store and maintain mowers, tools and equipment in accordance with WHS standards.

Selection criteria

- Provide an example of how you prioritised tasks to maintain building and grounds
- Provide an example of how you managed a potential hazard requiring maintenance

Essential Requirements

- A current Working with Children Check is required for this position
- Completion of mandatory training required by the Department of Education

For further information contact Tim Lloyd, Rel Principal on 02) 6779 0844 or timothy.lloyd2@det.nsw.edu.au

To apply applicants must submit an Expression of Interest addressing the selection criteria, of no more than 2 A4 pages to timothy.lloyd2@det.nsw.edu.au by close of business **Friday 20 March 2026**.

What's HOT

You have until March 23rd to apply for council's village and community grants

Dignity Drive is on again - see page 7 for details

100 years service at St Columba's this Sunday 9am - all welcome

What's NOT

Watch your step - plenty of snakes about at the moment

JOKE of the week

“The BOM says there's a chance of rain... same chance as finding a green paddock!”

Bureau of Meteorology Weather

WATCH

Guyra MPS

| Date | Day | Min | Max | Rain |
|------|-------|------|------|------|
| 3 | Tues | 13.1 | 21.9 | 0 |
| 4 | Wed | 14.4 | 22.5 | 1.2 |
| 5 | Thurs | 13.4 | 25.4 | 1.8 |
| 6 | Fri | 13.1 | 28.4 | 0 |
| 7 | Sat | 14.4 | 26.3 | 0 |
| 8 | Sun | 13.8 | 25.2 | 4.4 |
| 9 | Mon | 13.8 | 21.0 | 1.6 |

| | |
|-------------------|---------|
| Rain this week | 9.0mm |
| Feb. rainfall | 10.8mm |
| Rainfall YTD | 137.0mm |
| Rainfall last YTD | 278.4mm |
| Ave. rain YTD | 298.5mm |

Information supplied by Jeff Martin, Observer for Bureau of Meteorology

Vale: Ronald “Ivil” Reid

Ronald Ivil Reid, former Shire President of Guyra Shire Council, has passed away at the age of 97. Born on June 29, 1928, Mr Reid died on March 2, 2026, leaving behind a lasting legacy of community service and local leadership.

Armidale Regional Council acknowledged Mr Reid's contribution to the district, noting his dedication to the Guyra community during his time in local government.

Mr Reid served on Guyra Shire Council for 15 years from 1976 to 1991 and was Shire President for five years from 1987 to 1991.

His leadership formed part of a long history of local governance in Guyra, dating back to 1906. During his time as Shire President, Mr Reid was known for his practical approach, steady leadership and deep commitment to the community he served.

Former council employee Peter Campbell remembered Mr Reid as a capable and respected leader.

“Ivil was a very good Shire President. He was a thoughtful and practical man who could deal with whatever situation he faced,” Mr Campbell said. “He was a very good President and a top bloke as well.”

Other tributes describe Mr Reid as ‘a good, honest and community minded Shire President’, ‘larger than life’ and ‘tough as nails’.



Ronald 'Ivil' Reid

Mr Reid's contribution to local government and to the Guyra community will be remembered by those who worked alongside him and the many residents whose lives he touched through his service.

Woman in Black takes to the stage

One of the longest-running plays in West End history is being performed at the Armidale Playhouse this March, the acclaimed adaptation of The Woman in Black takes to the stage.

This celebrated ghost story has captivated audiences around the world with its masterful use of atmosphere, tension and imagination.

Told with striking simplicity, the production transforms a bare stage into a world of mystery and unease, proving that what you don't see can be far more frightening than what you do.

Featuring local actors Cal Hunter and William Billingsley, this intimate two-hander promises a gripping and immersive

theatrical experience.

The Woman in Black opened at The Armidale Playhouse on March 6 and runs until March 14th. Audiences are encouraged to secure tickets early and prepare for an unforgettable night at the theatre. Tickets are available at <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1520273>

Cinema Under the Stars back

Prepare to unplug from reality and rewire your imagination as Newcastle Permanent's iconic Cinema Under the Stars program returns to Tamworth and Armidale this March.

The event will feature the Oscar-nominated animation film, The Wild Robot (PG, 2024) and is free for the whole family to attend.

Newcastle Permanent Regional Manager Adam Power said there will be no shortage of fun on offer before the film commences at sundown.

“As a customer-owned organi-

sation we are incredibly proud to give back to our communities and see the return of our Cinema Under the Stars events, which have become a staple within our regional NSW communities for more than 15 years,” Mr Power said.

“This year's events will be action-packed with delicious food, local music, fun and activities before we settle in to enjoy a family-favourite movie.

“The adventures of Roz the robot and her quest to survive and build friendships in The Wild Robot is set to spark your emo-

tions and warm your heart.

“This year's film is the perfect opportunity for the whole family to come together and recharge their batteries under the stars.”

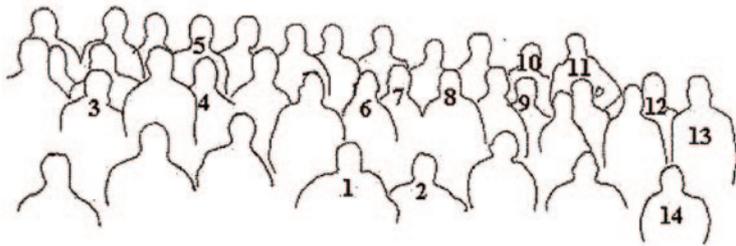
Newcastle Permanent Cinema Under the Stars 2026 takes place at Tamworth on Friday, 13 March, at Bicentennial Park and Armidale on Saturday, 14 March, at Civic Park.

Live entertainment from 5:30, with film to commence at sundown. This is an alcohol-free event.

100 Years Celebration for Saint Columba's Church



Presbyterian Church Elders at the Opening of St Columbas Presbyterian Church



- 1 Rev McKie
- 2 Rev Scott West
- 3 AJ Cameron
- 4 GA Handebo
- 5 Donald Handebo
- 6 JT Stewart
- 7 William Youman

- 8 Edward Handebo ?
- 9 Charles Schaefer
- 10 Arthur Brown
- 11 Thomas Youman
- 12 Samuel McCrossin
- 13 R Youman
- 14 William McCrossin

Saint Columba's Presbyterian Church in Guyra will celebrate a milestone this month. It will be 100 years since the foundation stone was laid and the occasion will be marked with a special service which is being held on Sunday March 15th.

Presbyterianism in the Guyra Area District commenced in about 1853. The first minister was Dr. Thomas Johnstone who was inducted at Armidale 1857. He dedicated the Presbyterian church at Wandsworth on April 11th 1886.

The Guyra Wandsworth Parish for the Presbyterian Church was formed on 1st January 1908. On 6th January the first congregational meeting was held and a committee formed. The Rev W.H. Bradley was inducted as the first minister in charge of Ben Lomond, Wandsworth and Guyra on 28th March 1908. Regular quarterly meetings were held in Guyra.

From the inception of the Guyra Wandsworth charge until



the dedication of Saint Columba's Church on November 26th, 1926 there was no Presbyterian Church building in Guyra.

Services were held in the Union Church in Ollera Street where now the Uniting Church stands. This land was granted as a site for a church. A small wooden building was erected by the Presbyterian and Methodist Bodies and

trustees were appointed.

In June 1912 the Rev. E. Norman McKie was inducted as the new minister of the Guyra Presbyterian Church. The site on which church stands today was purchased in 1916 and after many delays and postponements the task of erecting the church was put in hand and the foundation stone was laid on March 31st

1926, in the presence of over 300 hundred people. Designed by Messrs Power, Adams and Munnings, architects of Sydney, the contractor was C.F. Nott Armidale. The contract price was 4728 pounds and the work were to be supervised by R.N Hickson of Armidale.

Copies of several newspapers and a record of seventy men of the Guyra Wandsworth Presbyterian congregation who enlisted in the Great War for service of their country, nineteen of whom made the supreme sacrifice, were deposited under the foundation stone laid by Mrs. Marjory Jackson.

The Right Rev R. Scott West, Moderator General, conducted the opening and dedication of the new church on 26th November, 1926

A commemorative Church Service will be held on Sunday 15th March at 9am at St Columba's Presbyterian Church follow by morning tea. Everyone is welcome

Meals on Wheels

Mar 12 *Bec Broughton*
 Mar 13 *Golf Ladies*
 Mar 16 *Wendy Laidlaw*
 Mar 17 *Bea Velthuis*
 Mar 18 *Steve Norris*

Street Stalls

March 12, 13 *Freemasons*
 March 19 *Hospital Aux.*
 March 20 *CWA*

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 Mar 8.
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

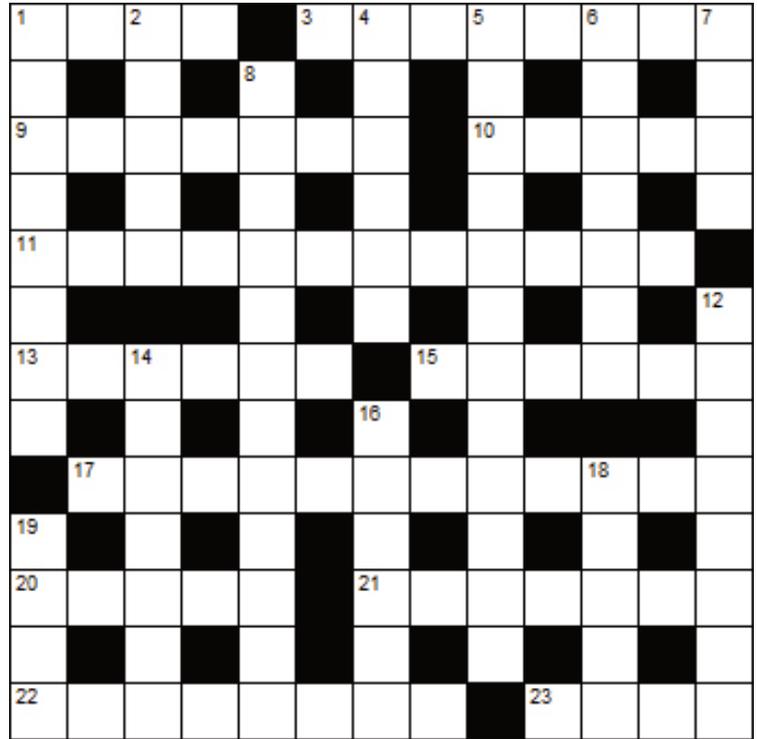
ACROSS:

- 1 Deserve (4)
- 3 Innocuous (8)
- 9 Pseudoscience (7)
- 10 Assumed appearance (5)
- 11 Penny-pinching (12)
- 13 Sound reflections (6)
- 15 Long and very narrow (6)
- 17 Inventiveness (12)
- 20 Verse (5)
- 21 Block (7)
- 22 Evacuating (8)
- 23 Sleeveless garment (4)

DOWN:

- 1 Illustrations that aid understanding (8)
- 2 Happen again (5)
- 4 In a careless manner (6)
- 5 Grandeur (12)
- 6 Gourmet (7)
- 7 Noticed (4)
- 8 Intentionally (12)
- 12 Search for minerals (8)
- 14 Do something more

QUICK CROSSWORD



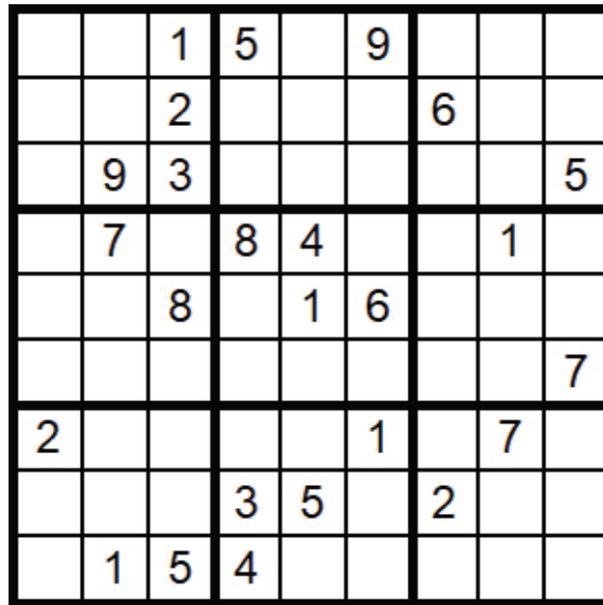
quickly (5,2)

16 Repudiate (6)

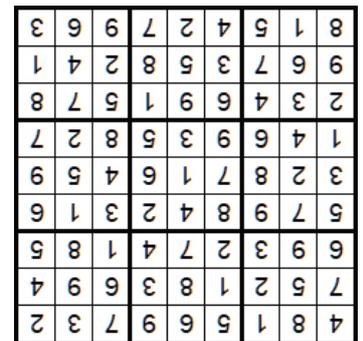
18 Display freely (5)

19 Release (4)

SUDOKU - Hard



ACROSS: 1 Earn 3 Harmless 9 Alchemy 10 Guise 11 Parsimonious 13 Echoes 15 Lin-ear 17 Creativeness 20 Rhyme 21 Oc-clude 22 Emptying 23 Vest
DOWN: 1 Examples 2 Recur 4 Anyhow 5 Magnificence 6 Epicure 7 Seen 8 Deliberately 12 Prospect 14 Hurry up 16 Disown 18 Exclude 19 Free



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Editor: Janelle Stewart **Advertising:** Martha Weiderman

Bald Blair Students take out PSSA Small Schools Relay

Nine talented students from Bald Blair Public School recently showcased their skills and sportsmanship at the Armidale Zone PSSA Swimming Championships. Each swimmer gave their best performance, demonstrating remarkable determination and proudly representing their school.

Highlighting their success, the mixed relay team clinched first place in the Small Schools 4 x 50m relay event. This outstanding achievement has

earned them a well-deserved spot at the upcoming North-west Regional PSSA Championships, scheduled for March 9th.

Congratulations to Maeve Milmo, Grace Schaefer, Noah Chapman, and Dustin Turnham for their exceptional teamwork and victory. We wish them all the best as they dive into the next stage of competition!

*Ros Edwards
Principal*



Relay team: Dustin Turnham, Maeve Milmo, Grace Schaefer and Noah Chapman

Dignity Drive returns this March Support Local Collection Point at CT Electric

Collection points for the March Dignity Drive are reopening at participating businesses nationwide, giving our community the chance to help tackle period poverty in Australia. Period poverty is a widespread and often silent crisis affecting women, girls and those who menstruate.

For many experiencing homelessness, domestic violence or financial hardship, purchasing period products can mean sacrificing other essential items. Menstruating isn't a choice — and no one should have to choose between basic hygiene and daily necessities.

Twice a year, in March and August, Share the Dignity calls on Australians to donate essential period products through the Dignity Drive. All donated items are distributed to charity partners across the country, directly supporting those doing it tough.

Donations of products in original packaging are welcome, including pads, tampons, reusable pads, period underwear, menstrual cups and incontinence products.

Locally, donations can be dropped into the pink collection box at CT Electric in town, or at any Woolworths store across Australia.

Share the Dignity is also on the lookout for more volunteers. If you can spare an hour here and there



during the drive, your help would be greatly appreciated.

Volunteers assist with collecting and organising donations and helping spread the word in our community. Head into CT Electric to see Anne Lane, Share the Dignity Volunteer, to find out more or sign up online to get involved.

Since being founded in 2015, Share the Dignity has collected and distributed more than 5.7 million period products — a remarkable achievement made possible by the generosity of everyday Australians.

This March, our community is encouraged to get involved and make a practical difference in the lives of women and girls who need support the most.

Every donation — and every hour volunteered — truly counts.

Skywhales to soar at 2026 Autumn Festival



The region is set to witness an unforgettable sight in 2026, as Patricia Piccinini's iconic skywhales - two monumental hot-air balloon sculptures - grace the skies during the Armidale Autumn Festival on Saturday 21 March.

In a major cultural coup, Armidale has been selected as part of the National Gallery of Australia's Skywhales Across Australia tour, bringing this extraordinary experience to regional audiences.

The event offers a magical 90-minute encounter at sunrise, where spectators can watch the slow, graceful inflation of Skywhale and Skywhalepapa. As cold air, then hot, fills the balloons, the sculptures gradually rise and come to life - culminating in a majestic flight, weather permitting.

This immersive experience is more than just a visual marvel. Skywhales Across Australia is a celebration of care, community, and creativity. As the skywhales journey across the country, artist Patricia Piccinini invites communities to engage with them through wonder and imagination.

"Skywhales Across Australia is a project that talks about nature, fam-

ily, evolution, care and wonder," said Piccinini.

"The skywhales float into our lives to make us smile and think. Remember to look up. Among the amazing creatures that fill the sky, one day you might just see a sky-whale too."

Armidale Regional Council (ARC) and the New England Regional Art Museum (NERAM) successfully secured Armidale's inclusion in the national tour, ensuring locals and visitors alike can share in this unforgettable experience.

The Armidale Autumn Festival is a vibrant celebration of community, colour, and all things Autumn. The 2026 event will feature the trademark Autumn Festival Parade with a new \$1000 prize for best float, sheep dog trials, the return of fair rides, kids' activities zone and a heritage display among many others exciting elements.

Skywhales Across Australia is a National Gallery Touring Event, supported by the Australian Government through Visions of Australia and the National Collecting Institutions Touring Outreach Program.

2026 Volunteer Grants Expressions of Interest Open

The Australian Government Volunteer Grants Program provides funding for organisations that increase participation in volunteering and focus on the inclusion of vulnerable people.

The Volunteer Grants program is an initiative established to support local volunteers, ensuring they can continue their valuable work in the community safely and appropriately.

Member for New England Barnaby Joyce said this program supports those special people in our community.

“Whether it’s volunteering with the local CWA, helping in the canteen at the local ag show, reading to the elderly at the nursing home, or responding to fires with the State Emergency

Service, our volunteers play an important role in our communities,” Mr Joyce said.

“These grants can help pay for equipment at your junior sports club or for promotional items that increase participation to volunteer, as well as reimburse fuel costs and expenses associated with transport, training and accreditation,” Mr Joyce said.

“For further information regarding the Volunteer Grants Program please reach out to my Office 02 6761 3080 or download the expressions of interest form from my website at www.barnabyjoyce.com.au.

Please note Expressions of Interest close Friday 27 March 2026.”

Vets Golf

Last Tuesday the 3rd we played our monthly stroke event. A great round by Colin Mulligan seen him shoot a very impressive 77 off the stick to come in gross winner. Also impressive was Wal Chapman scoring 66 nett to win the nett event. Colin also won the putting with just 25. NTPs went to Greg Constantine twice and the third to Paul Redden.

On Thursday a good contingent of men and lady vets travelled to Uralla for the fourth round of the

pennants. We managed to come third as a team in a large field of about 115 players. We are still in overall 3rd place heading into the last round in Glen Innes on Thursday the 19th.

Whilst Uralla and Walcha look to be fighting for the victory Guyra is still in with a slim chance. A few great scores for Guyra individuals though with Don Campbell getting a win with 41 points. Mick Cox was a runner up with 38 points. Scott Mendes and Belinda Lenehan both got a

After School Activities Program at Black Mountain



Black Mountain Public School’s after-school activities program is once again being well supported this term. The students are enjoying a variety of sporting activities provided by qualified coaches from PCYC on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. This program will run again in Term 2.

*Mrs Justine Eddy
Relieving Principal*

NTP with Belinda top scoring for the Guyra ladies with 37 points. Wendy George was the lucky raffle winner. Next Tuesday is our individual stableford event.

Drake

Men’s Bowls

Guyra has continued its strong run in the pennants competition with a convincing 56–36 victory over Uralla, claiming 9 and a half to a half point. John McIlwain won 27–18 win, David Wilcox won 24–13 and David Kennedy had a draw.

With two games remaining in the competition, Guyra sits comfortably on top of the ladder on 37 points, ahead of Glen Innes (20), Armidale (19) and Uralla (4).

Guyra will face Armidale this Saturday at Guyra, with play scheduled to begin at 12.45pm.

Teams for Saturday:
Team 1: J. McIlwain, A. Bull, R. Mulligan, R. Walls
Team 2: D. Kennedy, S. Campbell, S. Brennan, N. Brennan
Team 3: D. Wilcox, R. Moore, J. Varco, A. Sparke

NRL Gazette Footy Tipping

| | | | |
|-----------------|----|--|----|
| Happy Gilmore | 14 | Queen B | 10 |
| Dip Stick | 14 | SK | 10 |
| Bundles | 12 | Bulldog | 10 |
| Iggman | 12 | Nicko | 10 |
| Timmy the Tiger | 12 | DJ | 10 |
| Mocack | 12 | Wayno | 10 |
| Birdie | 10 | Luigi | 10 |
| Fred | 10 | Lilley | 8 |
| Farmer Joe | 10 | SuperJeff | 8 |
| Winter Wombat | 10 | <i>(There’s room for a few more Locals!)</i> | |

Locals Entry Form - Round 3

Tips must be submitted by 4.00pm on **Wednesday 18th March**

Name:

Phone:

| | | |
|----------|----|----------|
| Raiders | vs | Bulldogs |
| Roosters | vs | Panthers |
| Storm | vs | Broncos |
| Knights | vs | Warriors |
| Sharks | vs | Dolphins |
| Rabbits | vs | Tigers |
| Eels | vs | Dragons |
| Cowboys | vs | Titans |

Bye:
Sea Eagles



Gazette's Celebrity Footy Tipping

The first round of the season has 5 of our Celebrities crowding the top of their Leaderboard: Sue, Marie, Kim (ladies first!), Soley and Eli all on 12 points. Our helpful and delightful Pharmacist Vu and Smokey the Butcher (his smoked ham is delicious) are both next on 10 points.

This leaves the first to reach the Wooden Spoon position this season being the lovely lads at Fourways, only 2 points behind on 8.

Happy Gilmore and Dip Stick are on top of the Locals Leaderboard on 14 points.

In 2nd place we have 4 Locals on 12 points: Bundles, Iggman, Mocack and Timmy the Tiger. Most of the remainder of the field are on 10 points with Lilley and SuperJeff taking a relaxing spot at the tail end.

The deadline for Celebrity tips is no later than 10.00am on Tuesdays so that we can meet our print deadline.

Sue's Tips

Broncos
Raiders
Rabbits
Cowboys
Storm
Panthers
Knights
Dolphins



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Score: 12

Soley's Tips

Broncos
Raiders
Rabbits
Cowboys
Storm
Panthers
Sea Eagles
Dolphins



Your Rural Taxation Specialists

98 Bradley Street, Guyra
e: csole@soletaxation.com.au
p: 6779 1267



Score: 12

MCLS' Tips

Broncos
Raiders
Roosters
Cowboys
Storm
Panthers
Sea Eagles
Dolphins



Fourways Service Centre

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& other leading brands
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87-89 Bradley Street
6779 1284

Score: 8

Vu's Tips

Broncos
Raiders
Rabbits
Tigers
Storm
Panthers
Knights
Dolphins



Guyra Pharmacy Trading Hours

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

106 Bradley Street, Guyra 6779 1192



Score: 10

Robert's Tips

Broncos
Warriors
Rabbits
Tigers
Storm
Panthers
Sea Eagles
Dolphins



Opening Hours:

Monday to Friday:
8.00am to 5.30pm
Saturday: 8.00am to 12pm

Special This Week:
Sliced ham - \$19.99 kg



105 Bradley Street
6779 1008

Score: 10

Marie's Tips

Broncos
Warriors
Rabbitohs
Cowboys
Storm
Panthers
Knights
Dolphins



Call Marie today to book
your obligation free
appraisal

0488 738 930

marie@countrywideproperty.net.au



Score: 12

Kim's Tips

Broncos
Raiders
Rabbits
Cowboys
Storm
Panthers
Sea Eagles
Dolphins



OPENING HOURS

Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri:
6.30am - 2pm
Saturday: 7am - 2pm
Tues & Sun: CLOSED
Call: 0486 012 743



Kimmy's Kitchen
120A Bradley St,

Score: 12

Eli's Tips

Broncos
Warriors
Roosters
Tigers
Dragons
Panthers
Sea Eagles
Dolphins



Cr Eli Imad

Contact me:

M. 0404 000 075

E. Elmad@armidale.nsw.gov.au

For strong regional representation

Score: 12



Classifieds Trades & Services

GARAGE SALE

SAT/SUN 14/15 March, 9am-3pm, 16 Manse St. Kids toys, bikes, swings, outdoor play equipment, desk, single bed, cupboards, large new bath tub, car seats, lights, etc. Weather permitting.

POULTRY FOR SALE

LAYER PULLETS, 20 weeks, Isa & all breeds, delivered to Guyra on Friday, **27th March**. Call Jim 0428 194 105.

MEETING NOTICES

TROUTFEST AGM adjourned meeting will be held on Monday, 30th March, 5.30pm at Guyra Bowling Club. New members most welcome.

ADRA NOTICE

ADRA OP SHOP is NOT taking clothes donations again until May. We just need a little break to catch up with the sorting. All other donations are being accepted.

HISTORICAL MUSEUM

GUYRA HISTORICAL MUSEUM is open on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays 10.00am to 2pm. 188 Bradley Street, Guyra

FOOD PANTRY

Food Pantry at The Chapel
66 Llangothlin Street, Guyra
OPEN this FRIDAY
9am-12pm
Contact: 0455 232 073

CLAIM THE DATE

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

THURSDAY, 7th MAY

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea
will be held at ADRA,
Aboomala Street, Guyra

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

RETURN THANKS

HELEN PRESNELL

25.3.1951 - 25.2.2026

In the midst of our sorrow, we have been deeply moved by your outpouring of love, kindness and support.

Your generous contributions and thoughtful gestures brought light to a difficult time. Your compassion reminded us we were not alone, and for that we are deeply grateful.

Thank you also to the doctors, nurses and staff at the MPS and Can Assist.

*With heartfelt appreciation,
The family of Helen Presnell*

ELIZABETH EDNA HEAGNEY

'Betty'

8.12.1930 - 29.1.2026

The family of Elizabeth Edna Heagney wish to express their gratitude for the love and support shown to us following her passing.

Your visits, flowers, cards, food, messages, and phone calls have brought comfort during a time of great sadness. Every gesture—large or small—has reminded us how cherished Betty was.

We offer our sincere and heartfelt thanks to Dr Jay, the wonderful staff at the Guyra MPS, and the caring team at Kolora Hostel. Your compassion, dignity, and dedication meant so much to Betty and to all of us. We will always remember the gentle way you cared for her.

Please accept this as our personal thanks.

COURSES AT NECC

First Aid

Tuesday, 24th March

Forklift Course

Thursday & Monday

16th & 20th April

Accidental Counsellor

Thursday 14th May

Bookings essential at

**New England
Community College**

(RTO#90145)

Phone: 6779 2132

E: admin@gala.org.au

ONCE LOST ... NOW HOME

Coco is home

Where did she go?
We don't know.

But we are over the moon that she is home. We didn't mind at all that she turned up at 2am calling for us at our bedroom window. Somewhat skinnier, but fit and well.



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The Help to Buy Scheme is now here

With the new **Help to Buy Scheme**, the Australian Government can contribute up to 40% of the purchase price of a home.

So you can buy with a smaller deposit and lower mortgage repayments.

It's a pathway to home ownership backed by Government.

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firsthomebuyers.gov.au



Authorised by the Australian Government, Canberra

Spuds looking to revive Reggies



Hugo Brazier offloads to Garth Walls at Spuds training last week

The Super Spuds are back at training this week, but the biggest news might be the return of a reserve grade side for 2026.

With a number of young players, but not enough for an under 18s, the club is putting the call out for some older players to join them in a reserves side.

A coach or player-coach will also be needed to lead a reggies team and players will need to register and attend training.

With trial games coming up and the season proper starting on April 11, there is not a lot of time left to get involved before kick-

off.

Guyra has not fielded a reserve grade side since 2016 and not regularly since 2012.

All teams will continue training at 6pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the lead-up to the trials and in preparation for the Group 19 season kick-off.

Anyone interested in coaching reserve grade should send a letter to guyrarugbyleague@gmail.com or attend training.

Reserves players are also encouraged to get to training or contact the club ASAP.

Ladies Golf Champions

Last week the Ladies played the final round of the Championships.

After the final hole, two of our A Grade players Debbie Heffernan and Wendy George could not be separated so they went into a play off.

The play-off went for 7 holes!

Congratulations to Debbie Heffernan for winning Club Champion for 2026. Vicki Reeves is B Grade Champion and Suzanne Towells is C Grade Champion. Well done ladies.

The daily results were:

Nett winner Wendy George with 67 Nett. Runner up Vicki Reeves with 70 Nett.

Nearest the pins went to Donna White on the 7th hole, Wendy Jackson on the 9th hole and Kerry Bull on the 18th hole.

A huge thank you to Leanne Sweeney for on-going sponsorship of the Ladies' Championships.

This week is a Graham Betts Stableford round. Next week is a Par Medal.

Birdie



Vicki Reeves, Debbie Heffernan and Suzanne Towells

Great support for Guyra 4BBB Open

On Sunday the Guyra golfers hosted the 2026 Guyra 4BBB Open proudly sponsored by APL. It was a great day supported by golfers from around the New England region.

The winners are as follows.

C Grade winners were (and I don't think I have heard of this happening before) the team of Len Stanley and his Great Grandson Lachie Colley, this is a great effort by both players.

B Grade Runners Up - Peter Hall and Sean O'Brian from Bundarra, Winners - Brian and Macklin Groth also Bundarra.

A Grade Runners Up - Tyson Burey and Steven Wilson, Winners - Tim Murray and Matthew Bull from Armidale.

Nearest the pin on 7th and longest drive went to Tim Murray. Nearest the pin on 10th- Ryan Kinnear from Inverell. Nearest the pin on 18th- Mick Kinnear from In-



Len Stanley and his Great Grandson Lachie Colley won C Grade

verell.

A big thank you to Blake O'Reilly and his team from APL Group of Guyra and Armidale for becoming our new 4bbb Guyra Open sponsor and supplying us

with some wonderful prizes for the day.

This Sunday is the final Round of the Championships.

Tee off times for seeded players are as follows

9.45 Neil Paine, Chris Newberry and Bailey Wilson **10.00** Mick Jackson Ian Taylor and Harry Purvis **10.15** Steve Wilson, Steve Kliendienst and Scott Mendes **10.30** Beau Orchard, Trent Mendes and Cooper Brennan **10.45** Peter Jackson, John Cummings and Tyson Burey **11.00** Darrin Towells, Adam Brennan and Mick Purvis

Anyone wanting to play in the last round please arrive before 9.30 and this will qualify you for the Matchplay event following the Championships.

The Guyra United Soccer Club would love to thank Betty Ann Bourke, David Wilcox and all of the Bowling Club Board for donating the Green Fees for the Soccer Ambrose back to the Soccer Club, this is very much appreciated and the Soccer Club were overwhelmed by your donation and support for the day so thank you again. **HAPPY GOLFING**