



Guyra Gazette

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E: news@gala.org.au, advertising@gala.org.au

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The community deserves better

The administrator appointed to oversee the running of Armidale Regional Council has outlined how he plans to proceed while the council is suspended.

Viv May has already commenced meeting with suspended councillors and wants to hear from as many people as possible while he works to get council back on track.

In a mayoral minute which was tabled at last week's extraordinary meeting he said that he comes to the role with an open mind and will aim to address all the issues raised by the Minister for Local Government.

"Residents, Councillors and staff must question (as I do) how did it come to this. Money and energy better used in the service of the ARC community seemingly wasted on matters that in my view are not the Charter of a Council."

"The community deserves better from its Council so let's commit to work together to restore a democratically elected Armidale Regional Council as soon as possible."

Mr May also said in the



Administrator for Armidale Regional Council Viv May

"Residents, Councillors and staff must question (as I do) how did it come to this. Money and energy better used in the service of the ARC community seemingly wasted on matters that in my view are not the Charter of a Council."

Administrator Viv May

minute that his door will be open to any person who wishes to meet him and assured that confidentially will be maintained in all discussions and correspondence.

Speaking to media following last week's extraordinary council meeting he said that his initial reaction was surprise at what he described as an 'obscene waste of public

money' that has gone on and that after nearly 50 years in local government 'I thought I had seen it all'.

Mr May said that he sees his role as being to get a democratically elected council back for the community of the Armidale region.

"I will be talking to everybody before making my mind up," Mr May said. "I hope that through talking and not taking sides I can come up with a conclusion."

"It is going to be a challenge to set straight in three months, but I want to try to get to bottom of it and put the jigsaw puzzle together - whether I can in three months I don't know."

Mr May said that he has been asked by the Minister to find out where it went wrong and wants everybody to have confidence that they can come and talk with him because he wants to hear all the stories.

He has given out his mobile phone number (0427 293 082) and has assured that all calls will be returned and information will remain confidential.

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E: guyrarural@bigpond.com

BioAg Pty Ltd:
Paul Medlock, BioAg Area Manager
0429 820 360
E: paul@bioag.com.au





Australian Government

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With a COVIDSafe plan.

It's time to restart our economy. So, to ensure that when you open, you stay open, you'll need a COVIDSafe plan. That way, you can be sure you're doing everything you can to keep yourself, your staff, and your customers safe, as well as your doors open. For information and tools to create a COVIDSafe plan, visit australia.gov.au

Authorised by the Australian Government, Canberra

Release of report fails to stem protests

Armidale Regional Council (ARC) have released the Hydrogeologist report which they relied on to develop the Guyra groundwater resource. General Manager Businesses for ARC, Scot MacDonald said that he is pleased to release the report, 'Hydrogeological Investigation Guyra - Emergency Town Water Supply', which was compiled by Hydroilex in October 2019.

The Hydroilex report outlines the scope of work; adherence to regulatory conditions; plans to avoid interference with other bore users and the potential groundwater resource.

"Council elected to undertake an emergency groundwater program as Guyra dam storages emptied in 2019," Mr MacDonald said. "ARC worked with the NSW Government to investigate potential groundwater sources that could assist the community in the 2019/20 emergency and potentially over the long term."

Mr MacDonald said that the environment is considered in the study, which makes the observation "There are no recognised Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDE) in the investigation area." (page 8 of report)

Armidale Regional Council has applied for a permanent Water Access Licence for the groundwater extracted to be piped and pumped to Guyra's water treatment plant.

Council believes it can sustainably utilise this resource to enhance water security for its residents and businesses.

Mr MacDonald said that the State Government's Natural Resource Access Regulator will determine the Licence volume and sustainable extraction.

"Council operates under licence from the NSW Government and has been working with the State authorities to invest in infrastructure and programs to extend water security," he said. "Our job is to deliver safe and reliable water to customers, diversify our water sources; budget for a fi-



Protesting against the extraction of bore water from Izzard Park which borders the Mother of Ducks Lagoon
L to r: Rebecca Smith, Georgia Smith, Rob Lenehan, Ali Cairns, Gabe Staats, James Warren and Laurie Smith

nancially responsible water system and plan for the future including asset renewal."

"We also need to support economic activity that brings employment to the region and ensure its resource use is sustainable and has minimal impact on the environment."

ARC is continuing the construction of the piping and pumping infrastructure required to develop the groundwater system and connect it to the Guyra water treatment plant.

It has approval under Section 39A to undertake this work as an emergency supply for town water. Permanent utilisation of the resource will be at the discretion of the State regulatory authorities.

"It is prudent for Council to undertake this now rather than wait for the next drought," Mr MacDonald said. "Additionally the NSW Government is providing \$1million funding support for this groundwater project and that

external funding may not be available in the future."

Responding to the release of the report Rebecca Smith from the Friends of Mother of Ducks said that what is does outline is the lack of understanding of how the aquifers work.

"We have just come through one of the worst droughts in history and nearly run out of water with the aquifers intact," she said. "What will happen in the next drought if they have been depleted?"

"We are not trying to fight with council, we want them to openly collaborate and share information in a timely manner and ensure the right studies are done so water is not extracted beyond what is sustainable."

"The Mother of Ducks Lagoon is filled from above but is maintained by these aquifers and until we understand how they work we want assurances that no water will be taken."

PET OF THE WEEK



Snowy is a very friendly 2 year old female cat. She is looking for a loving home along with 2 of her kittens. There is a male and female kitten available and they are 9 weeks old.

Snowy and her kittens are fully litter trained. They are desexed, vaccinated, wormed and flea treated. The kittens are \$150 and Snowy is \$100 to adopt.

For more information please call or text:

0423 685 694

or message the Friends of Fred Animal Rescue facebook page for more information



What's HOT

BURGERS, Chips and Coffee at Mother of Ducks Saturday 4pm to 7pm

SNOW chasers and tourists giving a much needed boost to local businesses

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS coming up - time for a short break

HOT FOOD and beverages on a cold day

What's NOT

BORDER closures still in place limiting travel options

QUOTE of the week



More people rust out than wear out

Bureau of Meteorology Weather

WATCH

Guyra MPS

| Date | Day | Min | Max | Rain |
|------|-------|------|------|------|
| 17 | Tues | 1.9 | 15.0 | 0 |
| 18 | Wed | -0.1 | 15.0 | 0 |
| 19 | Thurs | 2.2 | 10.4 | 0 |
| 20 | Fri | 3.47 | 12.5 | 1.6 |
| 21 | Sat | 1.6 | 11.9 | 0 |
| 22 | Sun | 3.2 | 9.0 | 0 |
| 23 | Mon | 0.1 | | 14.4 |

Rain this week 16mm
 June rainfall 58.6mm
 Rainfall YTD 530.4mm
 Rainfall last YTD 182.4mm
 Ave. rain to June 454.0mm

Information supplied by Jeff Martin, Observer for Bureau of Meteorology

Much loved Principal retires

Long time Principal of Bald Blair Public School, Mrs Julie Gittoes, formally retired on May 5th.

Julie has enjoyed a long and successful career with the Department of Education and was the Principal at Bald Blair Public School for more than 20 years.

Relieving Principal Ros Edwards said that it was Julie's vision for the school, her passion for education and teaching and her love of children that has been the foundation for the growth and educational opportunities for every student.

"It is Julie's commitment to expanding the minds of young people through education that has seen so many children walk through the front gates at Bald Blair and flourish," Mrs Edwards said

"On behalf of the Bald Blair community, thank you for all that you have done.

"The school community will miss having you around and want you to know that this school will always live and breathe your vision and congratulations on a wonderful career."

The school is looking for-



Julie Gittoes has retired after more than 20 years at Bald Blair

ward to being able to celebrate Julie's wonderful career when the Covid-19 restrictions allow.

It's a bit puzzling

We haven't really done many puzzles since the kids left home but since isolation we have started doing a few. Puzzles aren't my thing; there are other activities that are more important, enjoyable or at least seem to achieve something. Also, I hate to be rushed. I like to think and do the puzzle over time and what seems obvious to others doesn't always seem so to me. A time limit takes away the enjoyment. Surely we can eat our dinner in front of the telly for a few days, maybe a week.

Anyway, I know the rules about separating the pieces into border bits and little

piles of different colours, and starting by completing the border first. This method doesn't appeal to me much as I like a more spread out approach. I stay focused for what to me are the interesting (probably the easy) sections and then am quite happy for someone else to finish the boring sections. However, the last puzzle has been a little different. I am enjoying the challenge and even see the point in doing the sky. Perhaps the addiction has kicked finally kicked in. I almost gave up fairly early on in the process but then noticed a few pieces that made sense and have

carried on. There does seem to be a bit of a craze for puzzles at the moment. Not only in Guyra either. A friend said the other day that it's a bit difficult to get puzzles in Sydney as the activity has become so popular.

In the end, puzzles seem a bit like distance education. There aren't too many rules about how, but you need to accept that by concentrating and doing the task your goals can be reached. Even if this means putting in all those little bits of the cobbled street or learning algebra.

Ramblings by the Guyra Ghost.

Draft Budget and Operational Plan on exhibition

Armidale Regional Council's Draft 2020/21 Budget and Operational Plan is now on public exhibition. The plan includes funding for a new Preschool in Guyra as well as the completion of the CBD upgrade. It will also see new charges for Guyra residents as the final steps in the harmonisation of fees and charges following the amalgamation.

CEO Susan Law said that significant pressures on Council's Budget have been compounded during the past 12 months by the combined

effects of drought, bushfires and COVID-19, which have cut Council income and brought the additional cost of measures to deal with each crisis.

"Responsible financial management by Council, including an operating surplus last year, has ensured the financial impact has not been as severe as it might otherwise have been," Ms Law said.

"However, these crises have still had a substantial impact on the strength of our Budget and will push back

the timeframe for our journey to financial sustainability."

The Operational Plan for 2020/21 includes a number of key projects, such as the new Curtis Park Playground, the new Guyra Early Childhood Learning Centre, the Guyra Main Street refurbishment, the Business Hub at the former Armidale library building, the airport apron upgrade, ongoing works at the Armidale Regional Airport Business Park and the start of modernisation of the Puddledock Dam to Armidale

Water Treatment Plant pipeline.

The harmonisation of fees and charges – as remaining steps in the amalgamation of the Armidale Dumaresq and Guyra Shire councils – will also bring adjustments to fees and charges.

Guyra residential and business ratepayers will come on board with Armidale ratepayers in contributing towards the new regional landfill, which is on track to be operational in September and will receive waste from throughout the region.

Information sessions for Budget insight

Community members will have plenty of opportunities to find out more about Armidale Regional Council's Draft 2020/21 Budget and Operational Plan, with Council representatives preparing to hit the road and the internet for an extensive series of information sessions.

The sessions kicked off with a pop-up information stall in Guyra on Tuesday and will continue throughout the next month.

A second drop-in session will be held in Guyra on July 9th from 10.30am to 12.30pm at 140 Bradley Street (next to the Gala Centre).

Armidale drop-in sessions will be held at Armidale Central on June 25th and July 7th.

Further sessions will be held at Hillgrove on June 29th, Ebor June 30th, Wollomombi July 2nd, Wards Mistake July 3rd and Ben Lomond on July 8th.

They will be complemented by six community webinars, including sessions on specific aspects of the Budget and some targeting the business and farming communities:

A full list of information sessions is available on the 2020/21 Budget and Operational Plan page of Council's Your Say Armidale website.

"Those sessions will explain



ARC Manager Utilities Shane Anderson, and General Manager Businesses Scot MacDonald with Graham Newton who was one of the first residents to call in to find out more and pose questions

how the fees and charges proposed for 2020/21 have been impacted by the drought, bushfires and COVID-19 during the past 12 months, as well as the harmonisation of fees and charges to ensure they are applied consistently to all residents in the former Armidale

Dumaresq and Guyra Shire council areas," CEO Susan Law said.

"They will also be an excellent opportunity for community members to ask questions and I encourage everyone to get involved."

Submissions are invited

from community members by Thursday July 16th. They must be addressed to the CEO and titled 'submission for draft operational plan and budget', via Armidale Regional Council, PO Box 75A, Armidale, NSW 2350 or sent by email to council@armidale.nsw.gov.au

**HAVE
YOUR
SAY**

Draft 2020/21 Budget and Operational Plan on exhibition

An extraordinary meeting of Council on Thursday 18 June resolved to exhibit Council's 2020-2021 Budget and Operational Plan from 19 June to 16 July 2020.

Significant pressures on Council's Budget have been compounded during the past 12 months by drought, bushfires and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. This has impacted heavily on Council revenue, creating pressures for increases to fees and charges.

Harmonisation of fees and charges – as remaining steps in the amalgamation of the Armidale Dumaresq and Guyra Shire councils – will also bring adjustments to fees and changes, including increases for some customers and reductions for others.

While Council continues to focus on consolidating its financial position and long-term financial viability, the Operational Plan 2020-2021 includes a number of key projects to address community safety and bolster the local economy, such as Kempsey Road, Armidale Regional Airport Business Park and the Business Hub.

Submissions are invited from community members and must be addressed to the CEO and titled 'submission for draft operational plan and budget', via Armidale Regional Council, PO Box 75A, Armidale, NSW 2350 or sent by email to council@armidale.nsw.gov.au

Hard copy documents can be viewed in Council's Armidale and Guyra Customer Service areas from Monday 22 June. Submissions can also be made at Council's Customer Service areas.



Pop-up information sessions

Face-to-face contact with staff to discuss the Draft Operational Plan and Budget and table questions. Hard copies of the documents will also be available to view.

**Guyra - 140 Bradley Street
(next to Gala Centre)**

- Tuesday 23 June - 10.30am to 12.30pm
- Thursday 9 July - 10.30am to 12.30pm

**Armidale - Central Shopping Centre
(old Gloria Jeans Cafe store)**

- Thursday 25 June - 5.30pm to 7.30pm
- Tuesday 7 July - 10.30am to 12.30pm

To review the documents on public exhibition, a comprehensive engagement schedule, frequently asked questions and to register for community webinars visit yoursay.armidale.nsw.gov.au



Community webinars

- > Drought, bushfires and pandemic – What this means for Council's short term financial sustainability. Budget & Op Plan overview and Q&A. 29 June – 12pm
- > Drought, bushfires and pandemic – What this means for Council's short term financial sustainability. Budget & Op Plan overview and Q&A. 1 July – 6pm
- > Drought resilience, water infrastructure and the Access & Water Usage Charges. 6 July – 6pm
- > Environmental and regional benefits of the new Waterfall Way Regional Landfill – what this means for you. 9 July – 6pm
- > Exclusive webinar for Business Chambers & L4L members. 7 July – 7.30am
- > Exclusive webinar for NSW Farmers Federation members. 2 July – 12.30pm

To register to participate in a community webinar visit yoursay.armidale.nsw.gov.au

Village Meetings

- Hillgrove - Monday 29 June 6pm - 7.30pm
- Ebor - Tuesday 30 June 6pm - 7.30pm
- Wollomombi - Thursday 2 July 6pm - 7.30pm
- Wards Mistake - Friday 3 July 6pm - 7.30pm
- Ben Lomond - Wednesday 8 July 6pm - 7.30pm

Face-to-face presentations and Q&A sessions with residents in the villages of Ebor, Hillgrove and Ben Lomond. Locations to be advised. For more information visit yoursay.armidale.nsw.gov.au

Stay connected

Armidale Regional Council is on Facebook - the page is named 'Armidale Regional Council'.



on Twitter 'ArmidaleRegional LGA' or '@ARC2350'.



and on Instagram 'armidalerregionalcouncil'



PUBLIC NOTICE - Wednesday 24 June 2020

Authorised by the CEO Susan Law Armidale Regional Council
PO Box 75A, 135 Rusden Street, Armidale NSW 2350. Ph: 1300 136 833
Fax: 6772 9275. Email: council@armidale.nsw.gov.au

Farmers filthy about rubbish charges

Chair of the Guyra Branch of NSW Farmers Callan Schaefer has raised concerns that Guyra rate payers are being slammed with a 157% increase in their rates notice to pay for the Regional Landfill. It follows the release of the 2020/21 Draft Operational Plan which could see these new charges imposed.

Callan said that they currently pay \$56 per rates notice, but now Armidale Regional Council are increasing this to \$144 per rates notice.

"How is this fair? Guyra residents did not get a say nor input into this decision," Callan said.

"Armidale Dumaresq Council decided on the new landfill in Armidale long before the council merged with Guyra, so Guyra residents had no say in this project, but are now being asked to pay for its debt!"

"How do we as farmers benefit from this? We are getting hit from both sides.

"We are paying for a road side service that we do NOT receive and we get charged \$50 a small trailer or Ute PER load at the transfer station," he added. "If you go in once a month that's an extra \$600 per year on top of \$144 already paid."



NSW Farmers Chair
Callan Schaefer

Another concern is for those who have multiple rates notices. Each block whether it be vacant or has a house on it receives these charges.

"That's a costly expense and for what?" Callan said. "Why should we be paying these fees with no benefits or services."

"Councillors have just been stood down and then they release this. Where's our representation? Who do we have to talk to?"

"We need as much community involvement as possible to put a STOP to this!"

Guyra Branch of NSW Farmers have organised a GoTo meeting with Armidale Regional Council on Thursday July 2nd at 12:30pm and are asking their members to try and log into this session to have their say.

Login details for this meeting will be emailed to members as soon as they are available. They need as many members as possible to attend to make their voice heard.

They are also urging their members to take part in information sessions that are currently being run by Armidale Regional Council.

The face to face sessions in Guyra will be held at 140 Bradley St (next to GALA) on Thursday July 9th 10:30-12:30pm as well as a evening session at Wards Mistake on Friday July 3rd 6pm-7:30pm and at the Ben Lomond village on Wednesday July 8th 6-7:30pm.

Case against councillors dismissed

Armidale Regional Council has lost a legal bid against five Councillors, which would have prevented them from debating a motion to terminate the employment of the council's CEO, Susan Law.

It argued the five Councillors: Margaret O'Connor; Dorothy Robinson; Debra O'Brien; Ian Tiley; and Jon Galletly; would be biased in making a decision about her future.

Justice Brian Preston ruled in the Land and Environment Court on Tuesday that the Councillors couldn't be biased simply by raising concerns about Ms Law's performance.

The Councillors have issued a joint statement saying that the court action was "a monumental waste of Council funds."

It means the Councillors are free to debate the motion should they be reinstated after the current period of administration.

Armidale Regional Council and chief executive Susan Law have been ordered to pay the legal costs of five councillors.

Thunderously Good News



Sean Plunkett onstage

The Australian Poetry Hall of Fame began socially distanced events three weeks ago and the first Guyra Songwriters Circle was held on Sunday afternoon with performances from Sean, Mick from Armidale, Ian and Thundercloud.

There was a wide range of songs with everything from ballads and blues to hip hop and opera. New songwriters and audience members are welcome on the third Sunday afternoon of each month.

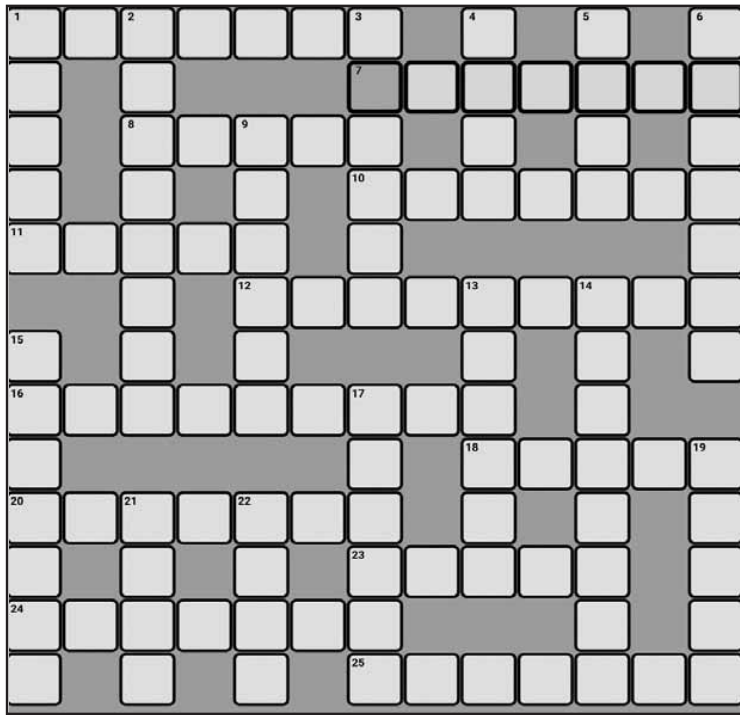
The Wednesday Words open mic poetry night continues this week, while the Saturday morning Guyra Farmer's and Craft market is building in patronage with new stall holders welcome.

If you'd like to part of the Great-est Poetry Show on Earth as cast or crew, then come along to rehearsal on Tuesday night from 6pm. This is in preparation for the Grand Opening in September.

There are also employment opportunities for a yoga teacher plus traineeships in hospitality, event management and digital multimedia production.

The Seed Gallery is also nearing completion and is calling for artists who would like to stage an exhibition.

Drop in and see James for more information or follow the Australian Poetry Hall of Fame on Facebook for updates and events.



CROSSWORD CLUES

Across:

1. Waterfall or cataract
7. Use, employ
8. Waterway
10. Slang for a very smart person
11. Every 24 hours
12. Disastrous drop of snow on a mountain
16. Machine or person who gathers crops
18. Take along
20. Country in /southern Africa, capital is Windhoek
23. Power, strength
24. A place to keep things
25. A snake

Down:

1. A lot of people in a group

2. One who lived through a horrific event
3. Archimedes' famous exclamation
4. Vocalise
5. Dismiss (an employee) from a job
6. Hands-free device worn in customer service centres
9. A long journey by sea
13. Inflated cushion invented for car safety
14. Agatha ____, also known as the Queen of Crime
15. Diffidence, timidity
17. Famous river that flows through London
19. Spectral presence
21. Satellite of Earth
22. Ursine creature

CROSSWORD CLUES

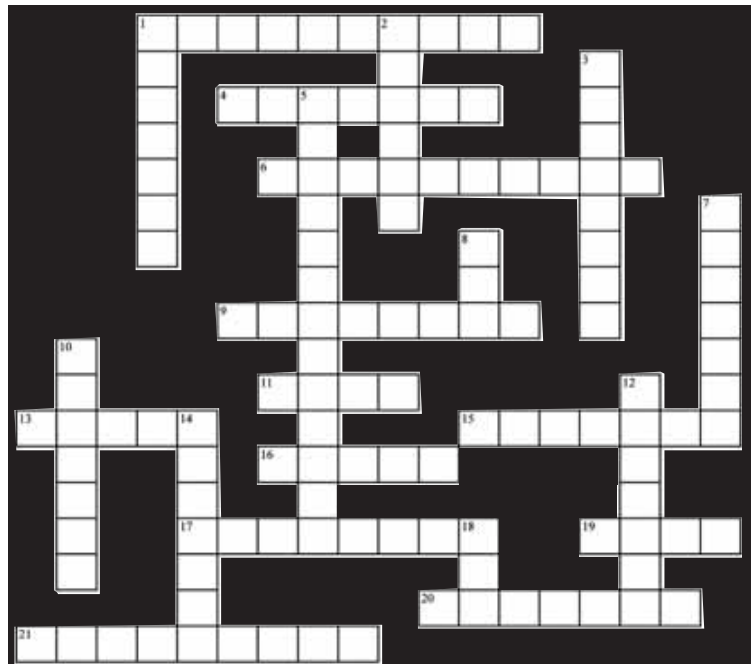
Across

1. Sold in Anglican Hall during L & P Festival (5,5)
4. Summer time Golf competition
6. Artworks unveiled at entrance to Kolora
9. Tuesday is their day on the golf course
11. Yellow vehicle that dispenses coffee
13. Celebrity who broadcast from Showground on Australia Day (nickname)
15. Pamper night for ladies, Beauty, Bliss and _____
16. Organisation that donated school bags for Ebor students
17. McKenzie family property sold in January
19. What part of the Anglican Church is undergoing restoration?
20. Lions event for Seniors _____ trip
21. New event held at 2020 Show _____ to Art (4,5)

Down

1. Temporary cleaning facility operated by both council and VRA
2. Couple who were made life members of L & P committee this year (surname)
3. Best male cook as judged at Guyra Show, Dan _____
5. Concert held in Bradley street during L & P Festival (7,6)
7. New Anglican Minister (surname)
8. Major infrastructure project switched on in February (abbr.)
10. 2020 Guyra Showgirl, April _____
12. Seniors Ball theme, Glitz & _____
14. Event run by CWA during L & P Festival (3,4)
18. Rotary Club organised delivery of this for farmers in January

HINT: Regular readers will find answers in past editions of Gazette



WORDSEARCH - Weather

C M W A H T H R
 R A D A R G I I
 E E C I U A E D
 M T I O N N C G
 M S R S O L O E
 U T F Z O M T E
 S O O U S B G C
 G N D L N I A A
 E Y U L O W L R
 T S U G M K E T
 H T Y P H O O N

- Air
- Cloudy
- Fog
- Gale
- Gust
- Ice
- Isobar
- Low
- Monsoon
- Ozone
- Radar
- Ridge
- Slush
- Smog
- Steam
- Summer
- Thaw
- Trace
- Trough
- Typhoon
- Zone

SUDOKU

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Regeneration a boost to precious habitat

One of the few remaining high-altitude freshwater lagoons on the Northern Tablelands is benefitting from an ongoing restoration project. Little Llangothlin Nature Reserve is a Ramsar wetland site of international importance. It is located 20kms north east of Guyra and covers an area of 260 hectares.

Protecting Little Llangothlin Lagoon for Future Generations is a five-year project that began in 2018 to evaluate the ecological condition of the Nature Reserve, with a focus on improving conditions for threatened species and ecological communities.

The project is being delivered by GLENRAC, in collaboration

with Northern Tablelands Local Land Services and National Parks and Wildlife Service, through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.

Anya Salmon, Senior Land Services Officer with Northern Tablelands Local Land Services, is excited by the longevity of the project. A large part of the project involves monitoring change, particularly in the vegetation in the lagoons. Valuable research is being carried out by a team of ecologists, led by Dr Mahri Koch, GLENRAC, as well as Dr John Hunter, School of Environmental and Rural Science, UNE.

The project is enhancing the Threatened Ecological Commu-

nity of *Eucalyptus nova-anglica* (New England Peppermint) and *Eucalyptus pauciflora* (Snow Gums). The species have suffered considerably from *Eucalyptus dieback* in the region.

"A large part of the project involves increasing this habitat and we are pleased that in the first year of the project, two hectares of revegetation have been successfully planted," said Anya. "Despite the project being challenged by the previous years of drought, recent rain has provided the opportunity to plant further seedlings at the site."

"Our aim is to plant a further four hectares which will include 450 seedlings of mixed species," explained Anya. "We are de-

lighted that BackTrack assisted us with planting some these and it has been a wonderful collaboration."

Marcus Watson, Business Development Manager, Social Enterprise with BackTrack, is highly complimentary of the collaboration and the rewards it brings to the BackTrack team.

"The team is provided with hands-on training which allows them to gain practical skills so they can potentially obtain further employment," Marcus said. "It provides a valuable opportunity to work as a team while connecting with industry. The experience has been extremely positive and successful."

Have your say.....

Rain fall records

There has been much talk about rainfall and the frequency of dry and wet periods in our neck of the woods. I have only lived here 19+ years but in that time have kept meticulous rainfall records. We all would be aware that rainfall in one area is not necessarily matched even in another area reasonably close by. We also no doubt understand that when the rain falls in either summer or winter there can be big gaps between the falls and this all impacts upon the soil moisture at any one time. I was told back some years ago that "Guyra is only three weeks out of a drought in summer if there is no rainfall".

I thought that I would share this rainfall data that relates to my Black Mountain property over the past 19 or so years. A miniscule of time in "earth years" actually.

Average rainfall from 2001 to 2019 inclusive has been 845 mms. This year with 673mms to date will no doubt lift this number.

To keep this letter brief I will summarise dry years as being below 800mms, wet years as over 900mms and average in the 800s.

* Dry years accounted for 7 years with the driest being last year with 304mm. Interestingly

dry years clump together 2001 and 2002, then 2012, 2013 & 2014 and 2018 & 2019.

* Wet years also numbered seven years with the wettest 2011 with 1162mms and 2017 with 1111mms. These really wet years were followed by dry years.

* Average years totalled 5. So over the past 19 or so years we have swung between dry years and wet years with there being a minimal of average years scattered about.

What to learn from this? When it is really wet, collect and store the water. Be prepared to have a number of dry years in a row and be thankful that generally here we have more average and wet years in total than dry years. But there is no getting past the last two years were really bad drought years with 665mm for 2018 and 304mm for 2019.

If the rainfall levels continue for this year, then this could be a wet year and might be very wet with over 1000mm. But who knows? Just remember Dorothea Mackellar's poem My Country "I love a sunburnt country a landof droughts and flooding rains".

Look after your water and be prepared.

Alan St Clair

Special visitors at Black Mountain



Last week Black Mountain Public School welcomed Senior Constable John Geere and Senior Constable Warren Furphy to our school to talk about Cyber Safety as well as bullying and what we can do to stamp it out in our communities. Thank you to our local Police Officers for taking the time to come to our school to talk about such important issues as we help our students to navigate being online and the challenges they may face. There were a fantastic range of questions that our students asked with a great deal of curiosity around how to become a police officer and the equipment they use.

Take care and stay safe.

*Justine Eddy
Relieving Principal*



Gazette's Celebrity Footy Tipping



It's a bit crowded at the top of the Celebrities Leaderboard: B&L, Soley and the Gazette all share the top spot on 63 points.

All the Celebrities, except Soley, scored 10 points this week.

Sue and Vu share 2nd place on 59 points leaving Ben at the back of the field on 55.

GG remains top of the Locals Leaderboard on 65 points. Can he repeat last

year's success and stay there for the rest of the season?

From the Desk showed remarkable form to be one of the top scorers of 12 points to take him to 2nd place along with Bulldog on 63 points.

Eel-be-Right must have been distracted this week and has slipped down the ladder to equal 3rd position on 61 points with Chris and the Terrible Twosome. Hazel had a shocker and slid down to 4th place.

Sue's Tips

- Panthers
- Storm
- Roosters
- Knights
- Broncos
- Eels
- Sea Eagles
- Tigers



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Score: 59

Soley's Tips

- Rabbits
- Storm
- Roosters
- Knights
- Broncos
- Raiders
- Sea Eagles
- Tigers



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p: 6779 1267

Score: 63

B-&-L's Tips

- Panthers
- Storm
- Roosters
- Knights
- Titans
- Raiders
- Sharks
- Tigers



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MVRL54583

Score: 63

Ben's Tips

- Rabbits
- Storm
- Roosters
- Cowboys
- Broncos
- Eels
- Sea Eagles
- Bulldogs



This week's specials

Lamb Leg Roast - **\$13 kg**
Strawberries - **\$4 punnett**
Carlton Dry Stubbies
\$47



94 Bradley Street, Guyra
6779 1555

Score: 55

Gazette's Tips

- Rabbits
- Storm
- Roosters
- Knights
- Titans
- Eels
- Sea Eagles
- Tigers



Guyra Gazette

Published weekly

Your local newspaper

Contact us on:

news@gala.org.au

advertising@gala.org.au

6779 2132

Score: 63

Vu's Tips

- Rabbits
- Storm
- Roosters
- Cowboys
- Broncos
- Eels
- Sea Eagles
- Tigers



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106 Bradley Street, Guyra 6779 1192

Pharmacist Advice **Score: 59**



Gazette Footy Tipping

| | | | |
|------------------|----|---------------|----|
| GG | 65 | The 3 Bunnies | 57 |
| Bulldog | 63 | Red Devils | 55 |
| From the Desk | 63 | Nightwatchman | 53 |
| Eel-be-Right | 61 | Elva Brazier | 53 |
| Chris Morley | 61 | Rock 3 | 53 |
| Terrible Twosome | 61 | WKAD | 43 |
| Hazel | 59 | Famous Five | 43 |
| Sarbear | 59 | Old Chook | 43 |
| Jy Starr | 59 | Dason | 35 |
| The Red V | 59 | | |

Locals Entry Form - Round 8

Tips must be submitted by 4.00pm on Wednesday, 1st July

Name:

Phone:

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



Classifieds Trades & Services

MEALS ON WHEELS

25 June Sue Adams
 26 June Stephen Adams
 29 June Lyn & Richard Skinner
 30 June Guyra CWA
 1 July Wendy Lockyer

CHURCH SERVICES

St. Mary of the Angels Catholic Church - Guyra - Contact: 6779 1667:
 Mass 6pm Saturday

St. Columba's Presbyterian Church:
 9am Sunday followed by morning tea

The Chapel:

66 Llangothlin Street
 Sunday Service: 10am
 Contact: Linden Pollard 0412 531 883

FOOD PANTRY

Food Pantry at The Chapel

1st, 3rd & 5th Friday of the month.
 10am - 12pm and 1pm - 2.30pm.

FIREWOOD

MIXED FIREWOOD. Ute or bogey trailer loads available. Call 0429 302 600

WANTED

HAY CONDITIONER, second hand, wanted to buy. Ph: Chris 0427 522 840

HOUSE ON PROPERTY within 20km of town, including sheds, workshop. Caretake or rent. Ph: 0402 821 943

GARAGE SALE

SUNDAY, MONDAY & TUESDAY 28th, 29th & 30th June at Llangothlin on the Highway. Furniture, household goods, bric-a-brac. Not before 9am.

CLAIM THE DATE

SUNDAY, 8th NOVEMBER: Guyra Cup (note postponement from 19th April).

RETURN THANKS

Barbara Chrystelle SKINNER
 (nee Dawson)
 13.9.1944 - 6.6.2020

I would like to thank the Paramedics, the Guyra MPS and Armidale Hospital for their care and also the Care Flight Crew who took Barb to John Hunter ICU.

Sadly missed by her husband Gary Skinner, her step-children Jane, Lecarne, Aaron and Scott. She will be missed by all who knew her. Rest in peace, Barb.

Gary Skinner

STEVEN WALLS

14th April 2020

The family of the late Steven Walls would like to thank everyone for their kind thoughts and well wishes during this time of great loss.

Please accept this as our personal thanks.

The Walls Family

DEATH & FUNERAL NOTICES

MORSE; NOELENE MAY
 18th June 2020

Of "Diggers Rest" Prisk Street, Guyra. Dearly beloved wife of Ron (Digger).

Loving sister of Shirley, sister-in-law of Jill, Deanna, Marlene (dec'd), Nancy, Thelma (dec'd), Robyn (dec'd), Phyllis (dec'd), Bruce (dec'd), Margaret, Flo, Eileen, Harold (dec'd), Valerie (dec'd), Dorothy (dec'd) and fond aunt of their families.

Aged 81 years

Graveside Funeral to be held at the Guyra Lawn Cemetery today, Wednesday 24th June 2020 commencing at 2.00pm.



Piddington's AFDA 6772 2288

NIELSEN; GWENDOLYN LORNA
 "GWEN"

Passed away on 15th June 2020 aged 90 years. Formerly of "Winterville", Tenterden.

Beloved wife of Tom (dec'd). Loved mother and mother-in-law of Jenny & David, Murray & Marea (dec'd), Richard & Stacey.

Proud grandmother of Lara, Shae, Brett, Jake, Jess and Elliot. Great-grandmother to Olivia, Lincoln and Isla.

A wonderful friend to many.

She will live on in our hearts forever.

Be at peace.



Gwen's funeral was held in Inverell on 22nd June 2020. She will be laid to rest with Tom at the Ollera Cemetery.

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GUYRA VINNIES CONFERENCE, Care & Support have a new mobile number for clients to contact us.

Mobile; 0467 591 020

Shop number; 6779 2133.

email: guyraconf@vinnies.org.au

We are open each Wednesday only, from 2pm to 4 pm. Clients can ring or email or drop in on Wednesdays.

Note: We are now re-open for face to face interviews.

WHERE'S SUPER SPUD

Find Super Spud! This week you need to look for Super Spud. He appears three times. There are no prizes just put your detective hats on tear your hair out looking for him!



Anglers Club

The Guyra Anglers Club Inc. is excited to be on the other side of Covid-19. Our successful AGM, held at the Guyra Hotel, was followed by lockdown, and some of our memberships have fallen due. The club is built on families, fishing and aims to make the fishing future secure. If you need to make yourself, or family, a current member, please call into Dasha's; Guyra Hotel; or contact Wade Jones. Memberships are due by June 21st to retain a current Malpas Card, after this date your cards will be cancelled. If you are experiencing financial difficulty, please contact President Grant on 0429856769. \$30 for a family membership or \$20 for an individual.

Our monthly raffles on the last Friday of every month at the Guyra Hotel, are full of fantastic prizes from local businesses such as Khammo and Dasha's and some quality meat trays. We would love to see you there. Ticket sales begin before the Friday night, so pop into the Guyra Hotel and get yourself a chance to win. This week brings 25 prizes.

The Guyra Anglers Club Inc. are having a Laura Creek clean-up day on Saturday 25th July. If you wish to join this family day, all welcome, please contact Grant 0429856769.

A big thanks to the Ebor Trout Hatchery, the Tenth dam at the Golf Course, will be restocked with some ex-brood stock Trout before the school holidays in July. A great drawcard for the young people in the local, and wider, community.

Along with the refurbishments at the Guyra Hotel, the Members Competition Board continues in a new space. Make sure you send your photos to Dean to get your name on there. Contact Dean Williams on 0427 750 182. In the future, mystery lengths will be applied to different competition groups.

Take care and keep the fish on.

Guyra Anglers Club Inc

Men's Bowls

Well readers we are back, be it in trying conditions and restricted numbers but let's face it we are in uncharted waters.

Saturday June 27th. Start: 12pm. Starter: Robert Walls. Umpire: David Wilcox.

OPEN SINGLES:

Cameron Peardon to play Anthony Bull: marker: Dan Kennedy.

Wayne Reeves to play John McIlwain: marker: Barry Walls.

Scott Campbell to play Robert Walls: marker: Steven Sole.

Col Stanley to play Mallie Walls: marker: David Wilcox.

John Jackson to play Andrew Sparke: marker: Barry Presnell.

Bowlers please note: Due to recent lock down and the necessity to get the Open Singles finalised so that we can have an entry in the Champion of Champions, all games set down are play or forfeit.

Match Committee.

The Bowls Bandit

Vets Golf

Twelve players competed in a fun two person Ambrose on one of the best days we have had this season. The back nine had to be played twice as the front nine was closed.

The winners with a great nett score of 60.5 was John Prisk and Adrian Seward.

Runner ups were Jim Betts and Wal Chapman with nett 66 thanks to Jim's putting skills.

Nearest the pins were Roger Grills on the 10th and Ken Fuller and John Prisk who both chipped in on the 18th.

From now on we are starting at 10am, after the frost lifts although this week's snow may have an effect rather than frost.

A Vet.

Ladies' Golf

Last week a field of 12 ladies played in perfect weather for Belinda Lenehan's trophy.

Because of water damage we played the back nine twice.

The competition was a Stroke and Putting Competition along with the Mabel Mackenzie Brooch.

The winner was Vicki Reeves with 77 Nett the runner up was Wendy George with 81 Nett.

Nearest the Pin Winners on the 10th were Belinda Lenehan for the first round of back nine holes; then Jenny Tierney for the second round of the back nine.

Nearest the Pin on the 18th was Wendy Jackson for the first round of the back nine holes; then Karen Oehlers for the second round of the back nine.

Vicki Reeves and Wendy George both had 28 Putts.

This week the ladies are playing the Canadian Foursomes Associate's Cup sponsored by "Juneils Café"

Next week is the NEDGA Jug 4BBB Stroke sponsored by Grills Racing. The starter is Vicki Reeves.

Birdie

From the Archives



Back 1 tor: Shirley Dean, _____ Little, Caroline Gilmour, Beryl Kirk, Pat Holloway, Nancy Williams, Jill Cullen, Kath Kirk, Beryl Mitchell, Noeline Starr, Shirley Burgess

Middle: June Williams, Judy Hayden, Judtih Comino, Ann Parry, Jeanette Clarke, Marjory Mitchell, Shirley Hammond, Helen McCully, Pam Briggs

Front: Jennifer Reeves, Jean Kerr, Bev Ruming, Meryl Clark, Colleen Moore, Barbara Holt, Val Youman, Dawn Youman