



# Guyra Gazette

Wednesday April 12, 2017

## Tears, hugs and tributes for Mrs Burgess

Principal Jo Burgess was farewelled last week by the Guyra Central School community at an emotional final assembly.

There were tears, hugs and tributes for the popular Principal who departs the school after seven and a half years at the helm.

Mrs Burgess began her career as a classroom teacher at Guyra 27 years ago. When she returned as principal in September of 2009 she set herself a goal to make Guyra Central the school of choice and to improve educational opportunities for the children of Guyra.

In her final address she said that she was happy in the knowledge that what she set out to do and more has been achieved.

While there had been many improvements at the school over recent years, a makeover for the secondary quadrangle was the final thing on her bucket list.

"It had not changed since my teaching days and so closely resembled a prison



There was a standing ovation for Mrs Jo Burgess as she departed the stage for the final time last Thursday

yard," she said." In 2016 this finally came to pass and I was proud to be able to make this happen"

"I believe now that my work is done," Mrs Burgess said. "I have had the honour and privilege to work with

wonderful students and the good fortune to work with some great teachers and wonderful bosses."

Mrs Burgess said that it was her belief that the quality of what is done at Guyra Central School during a

child's 13 years of schooling will impact on the community for the next 20 years.

"I am of the opinion that your children and the future prosperity of Guyra is in good hands," she concluded.

*Continued page 2 >>>*

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# Local seminar a first step to tax planning

You are entitled to minimise the amount of tax you pay through legal tax planning arrangements. However, under Australia's self-assessment system the way your tax affairs are structured is your own responsibility. This is regardless of whether you use a tax agent to prepare your tax return. The claims you make are also your own responsibility, so when making decisions that will impact your tax liabilities, it's important to get independent and impartial

advice.

When the ATO identifies arrangements where the promised tax benefit aren't available under the law, the arrangement is deemed to be a tax avoidance scheme. As a result, tax deductions for the arrangement are disallowed and participants face potential penalties.

Tax schemes aren't limited to the 'too good to be true' type of arrangement. They can be more sophisticated than many people realise. Schemes

can be complex arrangements that are offered to you by some advisers with claims the availability of tax benefits is confirmed by genuine experts.

It is important that you make sure you understand the arrangement and the promised tax benefits are legal.

Sole Taxation offers expert tax planning strategies that are tailored to each individual client's needs. With almost over 20 years in the industry, holding a Masters of Taxation

with the University of NSW and both a Chartered Accountant and also a Chartered Tax Advisor with the Institute of Taxation in Australia Chris Sole has the knowledge to give you the right advice.

Your first step towards tax planning for 2017 will be to contact Jess Sisson at Sole Taxation to confirm your attendance at our Tax Planning Seminar at Rafter's 5.30pm to 6.30pm Thursday 27th April.

## Tributes for departing Principal

>>> from page 1

Director, Public Schools NSW, Northern Tablelands Mrs Sue Brown was among those who paid tribute to Guyra Central School Principal Jo Burgess at her farewell assembly.

"Over the last seven years she taken Guyra Central School on an incredible journey," Mrs Brown said. "She was ahead of her time and ahead of the pack and has led the students and school down the best path."

"Mrs Burgess is an exemplary educational leader and her legacy is to leave behind a strong culture of learning at GCS."

Former Deputy Principal Sam Hutton also paid tribute to Mrs Burgess, saying that she had made the school a special place, where students want to learn.

"If you build the house well it will last a

very long time," Ms Hutton said. "That is what Mrs Burgess has done. Guyra Central School will continue to go forward because of all the work you have put in and the legacy you have left."

Perhaps the most emotional and heartfelt tribute came from P & C President and former student Aimee Hutton.

"I was lucky to be a Year 7 student in one of the first classes she taught and also lucky to have Mrs B (as we called her) as year advisor," she said. "Mrs B went above and beyond to provide opportunities for us and made us believe we could achieve anything."

"Thank you for putting the students needs first and for creating a supportive culture of learning and achievement. You have been the wind beneath our wings for many years and now it is your time to fly."

## Star grazing at Ben Lomond

At Ben Lomond, we graze sheep and cattle by day but in April we will graze the stars by night. On Saturday 22nd April at Ben Lomond activities will start from 4:30pm with "Fatty the Rat Rod" (see Facebook) Hands on, Story book and Colouring at the Ben Lomond oval.

There will be a Sausage sizzle starting at around 5.30pm and tea and coffee will also be available.

From 6:30pm there will be a welcome and Introductory Session in the hall and there will be viewing opportunities between 7pm and 10pm at the oval.

There is no charge for these events but donations will be thankfully accepted.

Beth White.

### What's HOT

**School Holiday** activities at the Guyra Library

**Congratulations** to Jo Burgess and good luck on the next stage of your journey

**Record prices** at the Guyra Sheep sale last week for wethers

**Autumn** is here - loving it

Submit your Hots and Nots by phone 6779 2132 email news@gala.org.au or drop in to the GALA centre

**Good roll up** for the welcome morning tea on the weekend

**Easter** long weekend

### What's NOT

**Recycling bin** not collected for the last two weeks

**Barking dogs** in the middle of the night - please keep

your dogs under control

### Weather Watch

#### Guyra Hospital

Date	Day	Min	Max
04	Tues	5.7	16.0
05	Wed	6.5	14.2
06	Thurs	4.1	17.7
07	Fri	6.1	17.1
08	Sat	6.1	18
09	Sun	6.9	17.9
10	Mon	6.4	13

#### Rainfall this week

11.8mm 2 days

#### April rainfall

18.9 5 days

#### Water treatment plant

Rainfall Registrations - to 9am Monday, April 3

Rainfall - 44mm (486.5mm YTD)  
Top Dam 20mm above spillway  
Bott. Dam 30mm above spillway  
Daily average town consumption (target 650 kl) 840.75 kl  
Water Restrictions - NIL

Rainfall year to date 516.8mm 47 days

Rainfall last year to date 213.8mm 25 days

# Bulls in the Bush will be back in town!!

After the dust settled on the inaugural Bulls in the Bush, two champions walked away with the trophy buckles and the prize money.

Luke Cooper from Tamworth was the last bull rider for the day and rode Ugly Kid Joe for the win with 83 points.

"I've been waiting all week to get on him," Cooper said. "Last time I got on that bull here he bucked me off, so it was good to get one back on him."

Jarrod Hunt, also from Tamworth, came in second on the locally sponsored bull "Multi Block Argy Bargy" on 78 points, with all other rider's being thrown off.

In the novice bull ride Kempsey cowboy Tom Donnelley rode the previously unridden Electric Avenue for 75 points, to take the lead going into the top 5 shoot-out. He was bucked off in the shoot-out by Rajah, with second and third going to Logan Jobson from Barraba and Brendan Babington from Armidale.

Promoter's and stock Contractor's Dean and Michelle Mulligan said that despite the P.A system playing up throughout the day all in all it was a good show.



Tamworth's Luke Cooper riding -U- Rodeo Company's Ugly Kid Joe for the Win

"We've had plenty of positive feedback, although we did fall short on a few things," Dean said. "Considering it was our first event and that it was all put together by myself, my wife Michelle and two sons Anthony and Dallas, we have done pretty well."

"We will run another event later in the year when it warms up and we plan to make it bigger and better."

"We would like to thank all our sponsors, without their help we would not be able to put this event together."

"A big thanks to our full time

sponsors Multi Block in Guyra who provide us with all our supplements for our bulls & cows," Dean said. "Since starting the use of Multi Block our bulls and cows have gone ahead in leaps and bounds."

The Mulligans would also like to the following businesses for their support. McFarlane Building, Ray White Rural Guyra, Kirks IGA, Guyra Towing, Guyra Fuels, Landmark Guyra, Green Valley Farm Tingha, Dasha's Hardware, Cookies Hotel, Rural Co. Guyra, Green Plumb Energy & Gas, J.M & G Investments, Guyra Welding Works, Guyra Mechanical & Smash Repairs, Country Fresh Hot Bread Shop Guyra, T&A Meats Guyra, Ramage Engineering, Williamson's Earthmoving, National Clinical Services, B & L Cox Painting, Hammond's Plumbing, St Mary's of the Angels Guyra and everybody who helped to make the event possible.



We wish to thank all our supporters of our inaugural Bulls in the Bush event last weekend.

We especially appreciate the support of our sponsors, without whom we would not have been able to hold this event.

Dean & Michelle Mulligan



## Ben Lomond Public School 2017 Transition

If you have a son or daughter commencing school in 2018 come and have a friendly chat to us.

Ben Lomond Public is offering an extensive transition to school program during 2017 commencing Term 2.

To find out more details please contact us on 6733 2001  
We'd love to hear from you.

### EASTER TRADING HOURS:

Good Friday	8.30am - 6.00pm
Easter Saturday	8.00am - 7.30pm
Easter Sunday	Closed
Easter Monday	8.30am - 6.30pm
ANZAC Day	12.00noon - 7.00pm

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# Have your say.....

## # Congratulations GALA

I would like to congratulate you and your journalists on producing Guyra's own, Guyra Gazette, local paper again, at last.

Over my lifetime in Guyra and here (I read the Guyra papers online) looking back, Guyra has been threatened with losing a local paper at least three times to my limited knowledge. By the inspiration and drive by some wonderfully skilled people a Guyra paper persists.

In the late 1950s when a Mr Barrington left the Guyra Argus, it temporarily ceased publication. For a period Guyra had no paper. Due to public request, people gathered news and jottings and it was typed and printed at New State Stores/R Hall & Sons office. It was called New England Survey or some such title.

At last someone came to work the presses at the Argus premises. I can't recall the person's name. While he was at the Argus, quite an amusing story was printed. His office girl, from Newcastle, namely Miss Carmen Clarke was approached by a well known resident, Jack Ray offering to pay his Argus annual subscription. When asked for his name for the receipt, Jack replied: "John Ray" (this was about the era that Johnny Ray was at the top of the charts). Carmen thought that she was being set up. Without losing a breath she said: "Pleased to meet you. I'm Doris Day."

I think the next person to take over the Argus was George O'Rourke who, with his wife, Maureen, became very popular citizens of Guyra. When the O'Rourke's retired the Guyra Argus closed again. (see Editors Note)

After a period of time, Lynne and Wally Chapman bought a property at Balder-sleigh. Lynne was shocked that Guyra didn't have a paper. Like all self-motivated people, Lynne went on to produce The Guyra Guardian (sic) and did so for several years.

Then the Kane's came and opened up the Guyra Argus (sic) with some terrific staff, who later carried on the business. It is still printed but I believe by the printers of the Armidale Express and other regional newspapers, with only profits in mind. As a result the Guyra Argus has lost its local flavour.

Then GALA, with some local journalists have stepped into the breech and are producing the newsy "Guyra Gazette". It must be said that Guyra strives for local identity which is shown by this brief history that I have noted.

Well done GALA and its supporters.

**Ken Hutton**

**Editors note:** The original Guyra Argus was founded in 1902 and remained in production until 1957. The Guyra Guardian 1959- 1983 (George O'Rouke), Guyra Shire Chronicle 1983-1988 (Lynne & Wal Chapman) and the Guyra Weekly News 1989-1992 (Geoffrey & Margaret Hovey) provided

news for the district until the Guyra Argus name was relaunched in 1993 and the paper was acquired by Rural Press in July of that year. It remains in publication as part of the Fairfax Media group.

## # Rate rise avoided

In the last session, the NSW Parliament passed the Local Government Amendment (Rates-Merged Council Areas) Bill 2017. The legislation requires merged Councils to maintain 'rate path protection' for a further three years.

In addition to the 12 month rate freeze following proclamation of the merger in 2016. Only rate increases that had already been approved will be allowed unless a special application is made to the Local Government Minister. In speaking to the Bill I noted Ratepayers of the former Guyra Shire Council have avoided a proposed 30% rate increase.

The Liberal National Coalition delivered on its commitment when the mergers were announced by Premier Baird last year.

For an average residential rate payer this is a saving of about \$300 each year. Commercial ratepayers will save from \$600 to \$1200 per annum. Rural ratepayers make up the largest block of rate revenue in the former Guyra Shire Council and will avoid increases from the hundreds to thousands of dollars annually.

It has been speculated that there may be a large special rate variation at the end of the rate protection in three years. We don't know what a newly elected Council will prioritise and what Capital Works will be planned over the next few years. It is up to every voter in the new LGA to get behind fiscally responsible Council candidates.

We do know it is unlikely Guyra residents, and in particular farmers paying rural rates, will shoulder the burden as they did under the former Council.

Rural ratepayers made up 72% of rate income under GSC, whereas they constituted just 19% with Armidale Dumaresq Council. Residential rate payers were 25% and 65% respectively. And significantly just 4% of Guyra's rate income came from the Commercial rate payers compared to Armidale's 17%. The Fit for the Future process identified Guyra as being overly reliant on rural ratepayers.

In other words, when rate variations do come there will be a much reduced reliance on rural rate payers.

The new Armidale Regional Council is getting on with the job. Undertaking more works without an excessive and distorted burden on Guyra rate payers. Particularly rural ratepayers. Our farmers and businesses don't need unwarranted costs if they are to remain competitive, grow and employ locals.

**Scot MacDonald MLC  
Guyra NSW**

## # Wolf in Sheeps clothing

Wonderful of Scott Macdonald to point out the fantastic privilege for Guyra residents in receipt of a compensatory package inclusive of a rate freeze for four years.

While he portrays those against amalgamation like 'the boy who cried wolf,' I rather feel that he is in fact representative of 'a wolf in sheep's clothing' - telling us it is all OK while evidence from other previously amalgamated shires point out that the short term gain is clearly a set up for long term, undeniable pain.

By definition 'compensation is made in recognition of loss, suffering and injury' and the mere inclusion of such a condition is recognition that the community will be exposed to such loss, suffering and injury because of the amalgamation process while the consequences of such a freeze are yet to be discovered/disclosed.

In Cinderella the ball gown, coach and glass slipper were all in there for the short term 'moment of glory' but vanished come midnight and thereafter she returned to a life of drudgery made worse because her sisters were chasing after the prince. Her only hope was to make alternate arrangements for a better deal.

For Goldilocks the free breakfast, comfy chair and cosy bed were just great in the short term, until the bears came home then she had to flee for her life.

Jack was able to take short term advantage of the magic beans' beanstalk to access the giant's treasures but had to chop that down in fear of his very existence.

The wolf thought, in the short term, he could eat granny, have her bed and Red Riding Hood's goodies too but lost his life for the short term pleasure.

Will Scott please elaborate on the "Happily ever after" part of his story - we need to hear his version of how it will be in the fifth and successive years please, especially given the financial report in the Armidale Regional Council's Agenda 7/12/2016 p 29 in reference to special rate variation (SRV) "...At this point there is a need for double digit increases. Amalgamated councils such as Armidale Regional Council are limited from applying for a special variation for four years". which indicates the need for a 'double digit rate rise" already to balance the books (as of December 2016) - except for the four year rate freeze applied to amalgamated councils.

Meantime don't 'spend' any of the "savings" just in case Scott's year five and six statistical revelation indicates that you might need to have them saved up for your mere survival in the future - or to enable you to "jump ship."

**Guyra ANTY**

## Guyra Sheep and Lamb Sale Market Report

On April 7, there was a reduced penning of 4,470 head comprising 2,360 fair to good quality lambs and 2,110 grown sheep. The quality of the lambs was not quite as good as the previous week with a reduced supply of heavy and extra heavy weights. Lambs suitable to restockers also showed quite a variation in quality.

Market trends were dearer though all categories, however some average prices were affected by quality. Lambs to restockers sold to a slightly dearer market trend with premiums for the well bred second cross lines. There was a fair supply of light weight first cross lambs. Well finished trade weight lambs sold to a dearer trend, averaging \$2/head dearer with odd sales more.

Heavy and extra heavy weight lambs also saw a dearer trend with the top price up to \$8/head dearer.

In what was a fair to very good penning of sheep, condition and weight varied greatly. The majority of the sheep were carrying good length skins with values high for the Merino skins. Demand was extreme across all types regardless of condition or weight.

Records were set with medium and heavy Merino wethers averaging between \$42 and \$49/head dearer. The top price of \$203 was as much as \$60/head dearer. The well finished ewes followed a similar market trend, however the price gains were not as high. Plain condition ewes also attracted strong price increases.

# Pink Stumps Day at Bald Blair



What a success last Friday was for students, parents and staff at Bald Blair public school. We held a fundraiser for the McGrath Foundation by holding a community BBQ and a fun afternoon of cricket. Everyone came dressed in pink and generously donated money towards the great foundation.

A huge thank you to all the families that participated on the day, or helped out with the preparation. Thank you to Vidler's Butchery

and Lenehan Contract Services for donating the meat for the BBQ and also to Kirks IGA for donating the loaves of bread.

Overall on the day we raised a fantastic \$423.00 which will go straight to the foundation. This is such a great achievement for a small school!!

Thanks again to everyone who helped make the day a success.

*Mrs Aimee Lenehan*

## Dasha's Easter Trading Hours

Good Friday	Closed
Easter Saturday	7.00am - 12.00noon
Easter Sunday	Closed
Easter Monday	Closed
ANZAC Day	Closed



## NEW PRODUCTS IN STORE



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# A time to reflect

Growing up as a kid, Easter was a time to travel and catch up with family. Memories of cooler weather, amazing colours of autumn leaves, chocolate eggs and family are etched in my mind. Mmm memories.

As believers in God, Easter is not only a time to travel and catch up with family and friends, but a time to reflect that Jesus was the one that travelled, two thousand years ago, up Golgotha's hill carrying a cross, to make a way for us to become members of His family.

We are told in the bible that Jesus travelled this road, being delivered up to be crucified "because of our offenses." Jesus the perfect one, was taking the place and crimes of humanity. It was for us that He went

## Why so special?

'So why's the death of a Jewish carpenter, 2000 years ago, so special? Everyone dies, sooner or later. Many people were crucified, not just Jesus. 6600 slaves were nailed to crosses along the Apian Way after Spartacus' failed rebellion. What makes Jesus so special?'

It certainly wasn't crucifixion. And it wasn't dying either. After all, with taxes, death is a great certainty. What makes Jesus special is what happened three days later. His tomb was found to be empty. And not by a group of wild eyed dreamers. It was found to be empty by some very ordinary women and men, not at all expecting anything but, by then, a rather smelly body.

What they found that day, well, what they didn't find, was a body. And then they met Jesus, personally, alive, larger than life. And these ordinary men and women, fired up with the truth that a dead man walked, turned the Roman Empire upside down.

Easter invites us to examine the facts and decide for ourselves. Did it really happen? And if it did, then, with Jesus, there's the possibility, the hope, of life after death. Eternity. Heaven! That's worth checking out!

**Rev. Andrew Campbell**  
*St Columba's Presbyterian*

through crucifixion, the cruellest of all ways to die. He died in our place, so that we all, as many as come to faith in Him, can be forgiven from the guilt of our past, no matter what it is.

A past... we all have one. It can sit like a huge weight on our shoulders affecting our lives daily and ultimately our destiny. The good news is that Jesus, through the cross, has done what we could never do, and that is make us free from the wrongs of our past. How good is that!?

God was motivated by love for us, and He showed it. We are told that "God demonstrated his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us." His love is beyond our brain's capacity to

understand.

Death for Jesus at the cross was not the end, He rose to life again on the third day. The tomb was empty! Jesus Himself was seen by over five hundred witnesses to the fact. Death for us is by no means the end either, the Easter message brings assurance, good news, peace, hope and joy, to those who believe in Him.

I don't know what you think about Jesus, but why don't you make the time this Easter to investigate the claims of Jesus, this amazing, historically undeniable person that walked the face of this earth so long ago, and who is still impacting lives today. Jesus is the one that make the difference.

**Tony Stace**  
*North West Church*

## Dealing with Easter

At Easter, each of us needs to deal with Jesus. None of us want to, no-one ever has, but this is a man who was executed on a Roman cross, then three days later rose again from the dead. Jesus was dead, now he is alive again, never to die again. The reality of the resurrection demands a response from every single person. Either we write it off as a hoax, as a story invented by the disciples, or we need to acknowledge Jesus as the undisputed, risen, Lord and Saviour of the entire world. There is no middle ground. It's either true, or it's not. Jesus either rose from the dead, or he didn't. The tomb is either empty, or occupied. Jesus forces us to make a decision, a decision we don't want to make, a decision that will affect every part of our lives. So instead we do anything to distract ourselves from the reality of Easter. The claims of Jesus, that he died on the cross for the sins of the world, and that he rose again three days later, have been crowded out of Easter. What was once the most holy day on the Christian calendar, has become all about chocolate eggs, Easter hat parades, Easter Bunnies (or Bilbies) and hot-cross buns. Things were pretty much the same in Jesus' time as well.

No one wants to deal with Jesus. They are jealous of his following. They don't care about the truth, they just want him gone. They don't care how, they just want him dead.

The crowd doesn't want to deal with Jesus. They call for Barabbas instead and demand Jesus crucified. Pilate doesn't want to deal with Jesus either. He just wants to placate the crowd. So he does what is popular rather than what is right, and sentences Jesus to die on the cross. So on the first Good Friday, Jesus is strung up on a cross, and dies. In his own words, he dies "as a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45). Jesus dies for the sins of the world. But he doesn't stay dead. Three days later, on the first Easter Sunday, he rises again from the dead. This is why all of us need to deal with Jesus. Because he rose from the dead. Because he has conquered death, and is now sitting at his father's side, ruling the world. One day, he is going to come back. When he does, he is going to deal with every single person depending on how they have dealt with him. This Easter, will you deal with Jesus? Or let yourself be distracted by chocolate Eggs?

**Rev. Mark Evers**  
*St James Anglican Church*

## Community Noticeboard

### Meals on Wheels

- 13 April: Pamela Hart
- 14 April: Golf Club Ladies
- 17 April: Lions Club
- 18 April: Pamela Carter
- 19 April: John Mitchell

### Street Stalls

- 13 April - Ben Lomond CWA
- 14 April - Good Friday
- 20 April - Guyra RSL
- 21 April - Hospital Auxiliary
- 27, 28 & 29 April - Guyra Rotary Club

### Church Notices

#### St James Anglican

Sunday 9am Traditional Service, 10.30am Family Service; 1st Sunday of the month Backwater 2pm, 3rd Sunday of the month Ben Lomond 12.00noon

Rev Mark Evers 6779 1111

**EASTER:** Good Friday - 9am Easter Sunday - 9am & 10:30

#### St Mary's Catholic

Saturday Mass 6pm in Guyra, Sunday 9am, 1st Sunday of the month Ben Lomond, 3rd Sunday Wards Mistake, otherwise Guyra

**EASTER:** Holy Thursday 6pm, Good Friday 3pm, Easter Vigil Saturday 6pm, Sunday 9am

#### St Columba's Presbyterian

Sunday 9.00am Rev Andrew Campbell, Acting Session Clerk: Jim Coleman 6733 2021

**EASTER:** Good Friday 9am

#### Uniting Church

Regular Sunday Service 9.30am Enquiries Nancy Davidson 6779 1366

#### Seventh-day Adventist

Saturday from 10am Bible Study, 11am Divine Service. Enquiries: 6779 1587

#### Northwest Church

66 Llangothlin St, Sunday meeting 10am, Wed 7pm Food Pantry - Fridays 1-3pm.

Tony Stace 0427956772.

**EASTER:** Friday Service ph. 0427956772 Sunday 10am

#### Church of Freedom

10 Nincoola Street - Contact: 0421 847 973, Tuesday Prayer 6.30pm, Wed Bible Study 6.30pm Sunday Service 10am

# The Aliens have departed

They came, they saw, they conquered! Well, after only a few short hours of tentative investigation of these young aliens in our mountain community, it was clear to me that no "defensive steps" were necessary. In fact it seems their presence in the homes and lives of all who crossed their paths, were generously blessed with peace, hope and words of great wisdom.

However, my careful scrutiny of the situation uncovered more than I expected when I found that these gentle aliens possessed so many human qualities and great giftings. I witnessed nervousness, insecurity, illness and spontaneous and outrageous humour. They are great musicians, cooks, singers and their love is quite extraordinary! These burdens and gifts were made extremely clear to all who were able to come to the Gospel Café on Saturday 1st April. The music and



Mick Clark, Carol Gilbert, Amy Thomason and Linda Clark

singing, food, coffee, conversations as well as moving testimonies all mingled to make an atmosphere that, dare I say was, "out of this world!"

Yep, I would definitely conclude my investigations by saying Guyra is a better place for having hosted these wonderful aliens and I'm hoping they, or

more like them, will return to us again sometime soon.

For all of you who are now wishing you had met some of these amazing beings, take heart...there are some amongst us still!

All enquiries contact Rev. Mark Evers 0413 446 535

## Probus notes

Our April meeting was held this week with a good roll up.

Any Probus members who have not paid their membership fees of \$30 please pay Helen Gaukroger of Ollera St as soon as possible.

Our speaker this week was Kevin Harman who gave us a talk on his life which was full on with his different occupations over the years, a very interesting life.

Our next meeting is on Monday the 18th May at the Bowling Club at 10am. New members welcome.

On Monday the week after we will have a games day at the Bowling Club on the 15th May commencing at 11am.

**Judy Jackson.**

Adam Marshall MP  
MEMBER FOR NORTHERN TABLELANDS

### Find me online:

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### Hans leads Local Land Services

Former Guyra Shire Mayor Hans Hietbrink will continue his leadership of the region's Local Land Services (LLS), after a successful three-year term in the role.

I believe the new LLS board will be well suited to represent landholders. Nominations closed yesterday for the three remaining elected positions, with voting for LLS members starting on May 8.

### Tourists flow to rural areas

NSW has seen a record year in regional tourist spending – with a huge \$16.7 billion in tourist spending over the past year. That's thanks to a record 29.3 million overnight visitors, 70% of whom spend a night in country areas.



Guyra Polar Bears head coach David Mills, President Sarah Campbell and me at the pool.

### Polar Bears score two sporting grants

Guyra Polar Bears Swimming Club has had a good start to 2017 – securing \$13,000 from the NSW Government.

The club will remodel part of the men's change rooms at the pool to serve as a larger storage unit to house new gear.

Competition will also be improved with head coach David Mills to undergo further training to help swimmers at

higher levels of competition.

### Saving Community Legal Centres

The State Government has stepped in with \$6 million in to save Community Legal Centres from a funding crisis – after the Federal Government decided against continuing their funding.

This will help services like North-North West Community Legal Service keep their heads above water – they provide free legal advice to people from Guyra to Glen Innes.

It's a shame the Federal Government has decided against continuing with this funding – but this will prevent difficult decisions being made on cutting services.

### Contact my office:

Phone: 02 6752 5552 Fax: 02 6772 5026  
Email: northerntablelands@parliament.nsw.gov.au

# Easter Egg-citement for preschoolers



Rose Gordon & Bunny



An Easter Hat Parade and a visit from the Easter Bunny were on the agenda at the Guyra Preschool last week.

There was much excitement as the youngsters were sent on a hunt for Easter eggs which the Easter Bunny had hidden in the playground at the centre.



Callie Kennedy and Lucy Koina with The Easter Bunny



Charlotte Bavea



Jake Siddell



Callie Cameron and Indigo-Grace Atkin



# Gazette Footy Tipping

It's now somewhat crowded at the top of the tree in the Locals competition. The Ref is at the top on 58, but sitting right beside him are Carmel, the Men's Shed and John.

Next in second place on 56 are Hazel, Mailman and Darcey, followed closely by Eel-be-Right, Ron and the Nightwatchman on 54 points. 10 of the 14 tipsters are in 1st, 2nd or 3rd place!

As for the Celebrities, perhaps it might be time for Soley to call on the Assistant Coach for some assistance!

Tegan continues to sprint out in front on 66 points even though we hear that she is a fan of the "other code"! Josh and Sue are following with consistent tipping.

## Soley's Tips

Bulldogs  
Roosters  
Broncos  
Storm  
Raiders  
Dragons  
Sharks  
Eels



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**Score: 44**

## Beth's Tips

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Roosters  
Broncos  
Storm  
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Dragons  
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## Sue's Tips

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Roosters  
Broncos  
Storm  
Raiders  
Dragons  
Sharks  
Tigers



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**Score: 54**

## Josh's Tips

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Broncos  
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Raiders  
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**Score: 58**

## Tegan's Tips

Rabbitohs  
Roosters  
Broncos  
Storm  
Raiders  
Cowboys  
Sharks  
Tigers



*It might officially be  
Autumn, but the Winter  
chill has arrived - treat  
yourself and your hair  
NOW!*



118 Bradley Street  
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**Score: 66**

# Slow start for rugby joint venture

It's been a slow start to the 2017 Rugby Season for the Glen-Guyra Rugby club due to the recent wet weather, UNE Holidays and the Easter break, having only played 1 competition round so far against Albies. The boys went down in this match 29-10 but showed some great signs that we could be a team to watch out for this season.

Round two against the Armidale Blues was to be a home game on the 1st April but has had to be rescheduled due to our field being too wet for the match.

Last weekend we had the Bye so we travelled to Moree for a trial match against the Moree Bulls. This proved to be a tough game, going try for try with the Bulls who unfortunately got the better of us in the end.

Round 4 of the New England comp is on the 22nd April when we face Robb College at Bellevue Oval.

As a combined club we are looking forward to getting into

the season and making an impact in the first grade competition.

Home Games have been split between both towns and are as follows:

06/05/2017 in Guyra vs. Barbarians

13/05/2017 in Glen Innes vs. Albies

03/06/2017 in Guyra vs. Robb College

10/06/2017 in Guyra vs. Armidale Blues - date to be confirmed

01/07/2017 in Glen Innes vs. Armidale Blues

08/07/2017 in Glen Innes vs. Barbarians

We hope to get a lot of support from both towns at our home games and are working on making this season something that both clubs can grow from. We would like to thank our sponsors for their ongoing support and hope to see as many as possible supporting the Ghost-Elks throughout the season.

*The Guyra Ghost*

# Gazette Footy Tipping

The Ref	58	Eel-be-Right	54
Carmel Hoade	58	Ron McEwen	54
Men's Shed	58	Nightwatchman	54
John Credland	58	PHJ	52
Hazel	56	The Saint	50
Mailman	56	Elva Brazier	48
Darcey Heagney	56	Bulldog	44

## Locals Entry Form - Round 8

*Tips must be submitted by 4.00pm on Tuesday, 18 April*

Name: .....

Phone: .....

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

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## RAFFLE RESULTS

**CWL STREET STALL** Raffle; 1st; Poppy Staney, 2nd; Aileen Heagney. 100 Club; 1st; Lyn Skinner, 2nd; Shirley Lennon, 3rd; Mike Hill.

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## Mens Bowls

The results of Bowls played over the weekend. To kick off the weekend of Bowls the Final of the Club Pairs was played Saturday April 8th. I witnessed most of the Final and from what I could read into the game was that it was played in the manner that all Bowls should be played. Typical of Finals the game was either teams to win and this Final did not disappoint. The teams that contested the Final were: David Wilcox and John Hamel who played Cameron Peardon and Murray Bourke, right from the first bowl played this game was a contest. The scores were a testament of the closeness of both teams. By the 17th end David and John appeared to have opened a substantial lead, but the never say die attitude of Cameron and Murray saw the lead close to a lead of only two by end 20 leaving only one end to play the game was up for grabs but after the dust had settled and the last bowl was played David and John managed to hang on with a final score of 16 shots to 15 shots over 21 ends. Congratulations to David and John being Club Pairs Champions for 2017.

Also played was the Semi Final of the Open Singles, this was played between Steven Sole and Col Stanley. Col bolted out of the blocks and was never headed despite Steven giving

his all. The final score was a win to Col 31 shots to Steven 19 shots over 32 ends. The final game played Saturday was a Minor Singles match up between Barry Walls and Wayne Reeves. Despite the scores being level on several occasions Wayne appeared to be the more consistent of the two, Wayne's consistence had him in good stead and he managed to hang on and take victory 31 shots to 27 shots over 36 ends.

Sunday April 9th saw another Minor Singles played between Ivil Reid and Barry Campbell. Barry started well and opened a lead that despite all his effort Ivil was unable to round up and as a result Barry went on to take victory 31 shots to 21 shots over 30 ends of bowls.

There will be no Club Championships set down for this weekend, however there are a couple of games that can be played.

In Major Singles: Dan Kennedy to play Col Stanley. In Minor Singles: Cameron Peardon to play Barry Campbell. If you wish to play either of these games it would be great but you have to arrange a marker.

On behalf of my wife and myself I would like to wish all readers a wonderful Easter and if travelling a safe journey.

### *The bowls bandit.*

## Men's golf

Again the winner of Sunday's golf was the weather. With the course too wet for carts the New England Autos Ambrose will be rescheduled. This Sunday's golf will be an Individual Stableford for the Jones Cracknell & Starr trophy in conjunction with this month's monthly mug. Couldn't think of a better way to spend Easter Sunday.

*The Albatross*

## Veteran Golfers

Last Thursday 22 Vets travelled to Uralla to play in a Pennants match. The Uralla course has recovered very well from the rain we have had and we all enjoyed playing golf in sunshine.

Ron Starr was a star when he won the Men's B Grade division with a good score of 39 points. Len Stanley was the runner-up for C Grade on a count-back from Doug Archibald with 33 points.. Paul Redden was nearest the pin on the 6th and Ian Taylor on the 9th.

Walcha is still leading with 723 points, followed by Guyra with 688 and Uralla with 643. (Armidale did not have sufficient players to submit a score.)

The last Pennants game will be played in Guyra on Thursday, 4th May, with a 9.30 shotgun start. Please let David Bearup - 0412856679 or Nancy Prisk 0438791057 if you are able to play.

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# Many hands make light work

The Guyra Recreation Ground has received a lighting upgrade with new, brighter lights installed by Armidale Regional Council.

The pre-existing lighting infrastructure was damaged by the same wild storm which struck the Lamb and Potato Festival in January.

The new LED lights will provide greater energy efficiency and provide the community with a quality night-time sporting venue.

Council's Director of Engineering, Ralf Stoeckeler, said the installation of the lights was a successful joint partnership between Council and the Guyra Community.

"Local businesses and volunteers donated their time, tools and heavy equipment including cranes and hydraulic

lifters to enable the project to be completed," he said.

"This infrastructure will be of long-standing benefit to the sporting groups which use the facilities for training and competition, and I am pleased that Council was able to react quickly, and implement quality improvements, following the storm damage."

Mr Stoeckeler said the project also supports Council's aspirations to provide greater energy and cost efficiencies through new technology.

The project was supported by generous donations from the Guyra sporting and business community including Anne & Geoff Thrift at CT Electrics, Williamson Earthmoving, Steve Burey, Burgess Garage, Blush Tomatoes and volunteers from the Guyra United Soccer Club.



**Switching on the lights** - Ralf Stoeckeler and Mark Burgess from Armidale Regional Council with Guyra United soccer players(l to r) Brodie Harman, Logan Stanley, Mick Purvis, Ben Harry, Mark Evers, Jake Ellis, Tyrone Clough, Eunice Blair, Mason Harman, Vinnie Abayan and Geoff Thrift from CT Electrics

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