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No. 210

# Wellington & District LEADER

Covering news and views from within the Wellington, Euchareena, Geurie, Goolma, Gollan, Mumbil, Stuart Town, Wongarbon and Yeoval districts.

Established August, 2021

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2025 ISSN 2653-2026 Inc GST

\$2.50

WELLINGTON RACE CLUB  
NEXT MEETING  
**MONDAY**  
**24 NOVEMBER**  
Full TAB Meeting  
Racing at its Best



Gillian Ryan's  
Life Membership  
Race Club - P24

PCYC Gymnasts  
exceed at State - P3

CWA centenary seat dedicated  
in Cameron Park - P5  
\*\*\*  
Stockdog trials at Geurie P9

## Cottage garden takes top honours

DESCRIBED BY judges as a "beautiful blend of cottage charm and modern outdoor living" the grand champion garden of the Wellington Rotary and Wellington & District Leader 2025 garden competition.

The garden is of Tony and Penny Inder of Montefiores which took the judges' eyes and further described – "This delightful cottage garden opens up with colourful front yard of cheerful flowers and roses that complement the charming home.

"But beyond the house expansive tiered backyard unfolds.

"Manicured mature lawns, layered garden beds and stunning entertainment area complete with firepit, pool and spa.

"A perfect balance of relaxation, elegance, style."

Judging by three members of Dubbo Garden Club took place on October 29.

The town was in full bloom recently as entries displayed the creativity, hard work, and love of gardening that make our district so vibrant.

Rotary President Beth Hattenfels said it was an absolute pleasure to visit so many inspiring gardens this year.

"Whether it was a carefully tended courtyard, a sprawling country retreat, or a cheerful school garden, every entry reflected the heart and pride of the community.

"Each garden tells its own story," Beth said. "Some were decades in the making, while others were newly planted with big dreams. Every gardener deserves to be proud - the standard this year was outstanding."

Judges remarked that the competition was exceptionally close this year, with some gardens separated by very small margins.

Each garden was assessed on five key criteria: Street or approach appeal – first impressions and visual impact; Choice of plants – suitability for local climate and conditions;

... Turn to Page 4.



Wellington Rotary Club president Beth Hattenfels presents the grand champion garden trophy to Penny Inder of Montefiores.

Inside  
This  
Week

## 2025 Magical Christmas Feature Support Locals in Wellington & Geurie

- \* Alicemary Designs
- \* Ben's Tyres
- \* Caves Wood Gallery & Gifts
- \* Cusack's Butchery
- \* Four Cats Coffee

- \* Jacinta Haycock Gallery
- \* Jespresso Cafe
- \* Mallee Hen's Nest & Cafe
- \* N J Jewellers
- \* Notts Rural and Domestic
- \* One Stop Auto

- \* Styled By Sim
- \* T & N Auto and Ag Services
- \* The Lemon Tree Cafe
- \* Wellington Craft Co-op

## Duke of Wellington Bridge – meeting with Minister



Minister Saffin and Josh Black.

proceed.

These trees are in 750 litre bags and are approximately five metres in height.

Each tree is valued at approximately \$2000 ex gst. Council is paying freight only from Western Sydney for the trees with this costing \$38,000, depending on the number of trucks required.

Fifty of the trees will be going to Wellington and Dubbo.

Due to the size of the root ball (1500mm diameter x 600mm deep) they are not suitable for street tree planting due to the size of the planting hole (twice the size of the root ball) required and the presence of underground services.

Thirty-three of the trees will be going in at Cameron Park along the western pathway to create a shaded walkway along the river corridor.

Fraxinus pennsylvanica "Urbanite" is a male selection that produces no seeds.

This lack of seed production is why it was developed, as the wild species can be a nuisance due to its prolific seeding and therefore is an ideal plant for the river corridor.

This planting is also in keeping with the Cameron Park Master Plan 2017 that identified a deciduous avenue along this path.

The original plantings of Tulip Trees (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) failed largely due to vandalism as their trunks were quite slender.

Ten trees are proposed to go into or around Teamsters Park, including the replacement of six to eight Claret Ash (*Fraxinus raywoodii*) immediately adjacent on Lay and Montefiores streets.

The existing trees have been inspected by Council's arborist with concerns raised regarding their structural stability and general health.

As part of the recent redevelopment of Teamsters Park (tennis courts and playground upgrades) this is seen as an excellent opportunity to further invest in the long-term future of the park.

The remaining trees for Wellington will be planted at Bicentennial Park.

Discussions with the adjacent school will impact on the number of trees to be replaced.

The 50 trees for Dubbo will be planted primarily at sporting facilities to increase summer shading for spectators.

Sites include Dubbo Regional Cycling Facility, Bob Dowling Oval and Apex Oval/East Dubbo Sporting Complex.

The first three loads of trees (for Wellington) have arrived, with Dubbo scheduled to arrive on Friday.

Works are being scheduled to get these trees into the ground within the next two weeks and watering is also being scheduled to assist in establishment.

**Josh Black**

WHILST I was at Parliament House in Sydney last week it was great to be afforded an audience with The Hon. Janelle Saffin, MP, Minister for Recovery.

The topic of discussion was funding options for the \$10 million required to build the wall along the Bell River to ensure that the repaired Duke of Wellington Bridge approach road isn't washed out again in the next flood.

Minister Saffin is across all the issues to do with disaster recovery and rebuilding, and understood the need for "The Wall".

The tricky part of this is how that money fits into a State or Federal funding category.

Council staff will now work with the various funding bodies when the next grant rounds open to hopefully find a category that fits.

\*\*\*

100x Fraxinus 'Urbanite' – 750 litre trees for Wellington & Dubbo Council has managed to secure 100 Fraxinus pennsylvanica "Urbanite".

These trees were previously being grown on for a Sydney based project that did not

## \$15.6 million partnership with PCYC to build stronger futures for regional youth

THE STATE government and Police Citizens Youth Club (PCYC) are investing \$15.6 million to deliver life-changing opportunities for young people living in regional and remote NSW.

This funding commitment will provide young people experiencing the pressures of societal challenges and disadvantage access to PCYC's youth programs.

PCYC currently delivers different programs into 22 locations including Wellington based on community need, BOSCAR data, local police information, and experience from PCYC's Youth Programs team.

During the four-year partnership, PCYC NSW will deliver 278 life-changing programs across regional areas.

Ten million dollars will come from the state government while PCYC will co-contribute \$5.66 million.

Flexibility will be built into this model, allowing PCYC's Youth Programs to transition to alternative locations as circumstances change and needs are evaluated.

The PCYC Youth Programs to be delivered under the partnership are:

### Employability

\* Fit for Work, Stepping Up and Job Ready – to prepare young people experiencing disadvantage or disengagement, capacity building for long-term, meaningful employment.

### Wellbeing & Leadership

\* Growth-mindset Resilience Intervention for Teenagers (GRIT) – designed to build in young people resilience, independent decision making, and confidence.

### Culture & Community

\* U-Nites, Fit for Life, Nations of Origin, and Indigenous All-Stars Sporting Pathways – focused on bringing young people together and encouraging them to understand and embrace culture and community, and connect them with their community with a sense of belonging.

Addressing youth crime by breaking the cycle of reoffending and preventing at-risk youth from entering the justice system in the first place are key priorities for the government. Its support ensures PCYC programs in regional areas can move from uncertain and short term-by-term funding to continuous program engagement, providing consistent care, connection and guidance for young people across multiple years.

This new funding builds on the \$271,950 announced in February 2025 for the National Rugby League and PCYC partnership which is already delivering a Youth Empowerment Program in regional NSW building resilience, self-confidence and encouraging community engagement.

Established in 1937, PCYC NSW is a trusted youth charity delivering life-changing youth

programs to more than 13,000 young people each year, as well as providing community sports and recreation, outside of school hours care (OOSH), and driver education programs.

Further announcements about the new youth program locations will be made soon.

This week's announcement builds on work already underway, including:

\* \$12 million to continue place-based responses in Moree and expand responses in Tamworth and Kempsey. This will fund community-driven prevent and diversion programs that work for specific communities – not a one-size-fits-all approach.

\* \$6.3 million to provide intensive bail supervision and support for young people – also adding five extra caseworkers in Moree, Tamworth and Kempsey to support young people on bail.

\* \$5 million for a new Community Safety Investment Fund to back tailored, community-led programs to give kids a positive alternative to crime.

The NSW Police Force is working around the clock to tackle youth crime and keep communities safe.

Since March, over 300 individuals have been charged with more than 1800 offences under Operation Soteria – an ongoing policing operation that focuses on repeat offenders and targets offences such as aggravated break, enter and steal, stealing motor vehicles and post and boast offences across regional hotspots.

## Locals urged to help shape \$100M safety upgrades on Bells Line of Road

FEDERAL AND State government are teaming up to deliver a safer future for motorists travelling the Bells Line of Road, with the community, business and industry invited to have their say on which upgrades should take top priority.

The Federal Government has committed a \$100 million investment to fund a package of targeted safety improvements on the critical link between Sydney and the Central West – one of only two major crossings over the Blue Mountains.

The NSW Government will be responsible for delivering the work, with engineering specialist firm Civil Consulting and Highway Design (CCHD) Pty Ltd announced as the successful tenderer to investigate and identify strategic upgrade options.

Transport for NSW and CCHD have worked closely with local councils and other stakeholders to better understand the challenges motorists face when travelling on the Bells Line of Road.

From those investigations and discussions Transport has produced a shortlist of potential projects.

Monday, November 17, road users can pro-

vide feedback on the shortlist, which includes curve widenings, intersection upgrades, new heavy-vehicle rest areas, shoulder widening, safety barriers and fauna protection measures.

The feedback will shape which projects are delivered first, with submissions closing Sunday, December 14.

To provide feedback visit [www.haveyour-say.nsw.gov.au/bells-line-road](http://www.haveyour-say.nsw.gov.au/bells-line-road) or attend a community drop-in session online or in person

at Kurrajong, Bilpin, Mount Tomah and North Richmond.

For more information and updates go to [www.transport.nsw.gov.au/BLoR](http://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/BLoR).

### Editor's note:

Residents of Central West and western communities should also submit feedback as this road and the Great Western Highway are the only two direct road links to Sydney and surrounding areas.

Obviously the long-proposed fast route is off the table.

## Wellington & District LEADER

### In Memory of Beryl O'Brien

Covering news and views particularly from within the Wellington region, which now runs from Euchareena to Elong Elong within Dubbo Regional Council Local Government Area.

Wellington & District Leader is independently published locally by Mark Griggs and Sharon Wilson trading as Wellington District Leader, 14 Nancarrow Lane, Wellington, NSW, 2820, ABN: 26847723165 and printed by Gilgandra Newspapers, another independent and both members of CPNSW.

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Community input and feedback is welcomed. Story leads, prepared articles and photographs can be forwarded to the publisher.

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Obituaries of our loved ones are welcomed

for publication in the 'Leader'.

Contact: [mark@wdleader.news](mailto:mark@wdleader.news)

# PCYC gymnasts among top state performers



LEFT: Wellington PCYC's Sassy Cats pose for photos after their Bronze-winning performances in Sydney during last weekend.

## Centre Open

Yoga with Catherine Thursdays 5:30pm  
Seniors' Tai Chi Fridays 9:30am  
Open Sundays 1pm to 4pm  
Empathetic Counselling  
by Appointment 6845 4661



Wellington Buddhist Centre  
Tharpa Choeeling Australia

### Congratulations Sassy Cats

WELLINGTON PCYC's incredibly talented 12 Team Gym girls competed over the weekend at PCYC State and came away with Bronze Medals.

The local PCYC officials said they were so very proud of each and every one of their gymnasts for putting in such hard work and dedication week in and week out.

And a special shout out went to Miss Amanda for her commitment to the

team and creativity in the routines.

PCYC said 'thank you' to all the parents that made this weekend possible by travelling to Sydney and continuing to support the club's gymnastics program.

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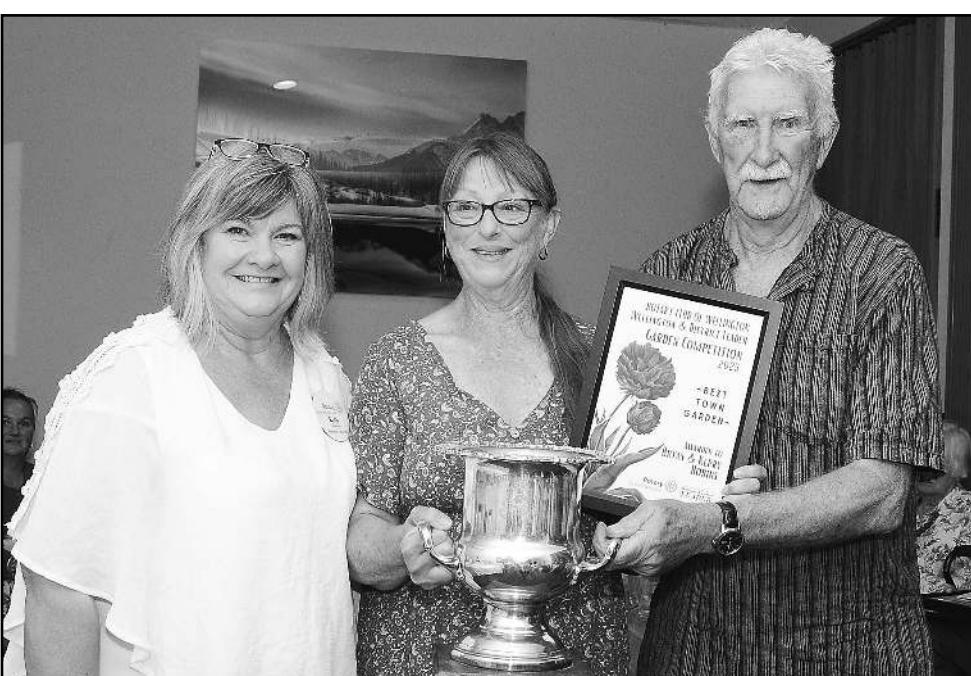


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COUNCIL



## Cottage garden takes top honours

**...Continued from Front Page.**

Design – balance, creativity, and use of space; Sustainability – water-wise practices, mulching, and composting; Maintenance – tidiness, plant health, and overall presentation.

**Category Winners**

Best Town Garden — Bryan and Kerry Robins

Best Country Garden — Trisha Scott

Overall Grand Champion — Penelope Inder

Best Rose Garden — Trisha Scott

Prettiest Garden Bed — Bryan & Kerry Robins

Best Non-Residential Garden — ‘Four Cats’ by Alice Mitchell

Best Small Space / Patio Garden — Bryan & Kerry Robins

Best Garden Under Five Years Old — Trisha Scott

Best Kitchen / Edible Garden — Nyasa Holmes

Best Waterwise / Drought-Smart Garden — Trisha Scott

Best Kids’ Patch / School Garden — Wellington Public School

Scary Scarecrow- Golden Gnome Award- Michael McLauchlan.

**LEFT:** Rotary Club president Beth Hattenfels presents the Best Town Garden trophy to Bryan and Brian Robins of Arthur Street.



Beth Hattenfels presents Best Country Garden to Trish Scott on Tuesday evening at The Grand Hotel.



Nyasa and Brian Holmes were awarded Best Kitchen/Edible Garden.



Marty Keeffe of Wellington Public School accepts the Best Kids Patch/School Garden award.

## Leading frontline voices to reveal realities of domestic violence in rural, remote NSW

CATHOLIC CARE Wilcannia-Forbes will bring together leading voices and frontline workers in domestic violence this month to uncover the realities of the issue across regional, rural and remote NSW.

‘Hidden No More: shining the light on domestic violence in rural communities’ will seek to drive lasting change when it takes place at Narromine on November 28.

Its keynote speakers are Stephen Lawrence MLC, NSW Women’s Safety Commissioner Dr Hannah Tonkin, author, professor and investigative journalist Jess Hill, NSW Police Incident and Emergency Management Commander Superintendent Greg Moore, and Magistrate Aaron Tang, Local Court of New South Wales, Dubbo.

Orana and Far West had the highest rate per 100,000 population of domestic violence-related assaults in NSW in the year to June 2025, the latest update from NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) shows.

In Orana and Far West, domestic violence-related assaults have consistently occurred at more

than three times the state rate per 100,000 population for at least the past two years, BOCSAR’s quarterly reports also show.

CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes operates across 52 per cent of NSW and is a lead domestic violence service provider in Forbes and Bourke, also managing the women’s refuges in both towns.

The organisation’s CEO Anne-Marie Mioche said the extent of perpetration in regional and rural communities should not be ignored, noting that ways to address domestic and family violence in the bush differed considerably from metropolitan areas and required a specific approach.

“Levels of domestic violence continue to remain at unacceptable levels,” Ms Mioche said.

“Frontline workers are seeing firsthand what NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research reporting shows.

“Towns in western NSW, such as Moree and Walgett, report domestic and family violence levels over five times the state average.

Women in very remote areas experience assault-related hospitalisations at 43.1 times the rate of women in major cities (AIHW,

2022–23).

“Women and children have a right to live in safety and without fear.

“Domestic violence causes deep and long-lasting emotional, social and financial effects on victim-survivors, their families and wider communities.”

Ms Mioche said the Hidden No More symposium would bring together community leaders, sector workers and advocates including Plus Communities, Bunmabunmarra, Maranguka, Western NSW Community Legal Centre and more, whose insights and experience were key to achieving effective and lasting change.

“Domestic violence is preventable and the Hidden No More symposium will bring the focus to the issue in regional and rural NSW, with a unified goal of improving the safety of women and children,” she said.

The 150+-capacity symposium, which will be MC’d by Emma Alberici, is already at full capacity, highlighting the collaborative and collegial commitment of regional frontline DFV service providers to drive meaningful, trauma- and survivor-led change.



Beth Hattenfels presents Best Non-Residential Garden award to Alice Mary Mitchell for Four Cats Coffee in Warne Street.

# Wellington CWA celebrates Century of Service with commemorative seat in Cameron Park

A SIGNIFICANT milestone in the centennial year of the Wellington branch of the Country Women's Association (CWA) was finally marked last Wednesday by the unveiling a commemorative seat in Cameron Park.

The installation celebrates 100 years of CWA dedication and service to the community, with the seat positioned near the picturesque sunken garden.

A festive ribbon-cutting ceremony was held, where Helen Norris, a long-standing member of the CWA, and junior member Audrey Burift had the honour of cutting the ribbon.

The event drew a crowd of local

residents and CWA members, all eager to celebrate this momentous occasion.

"This seat is not just a piece of furniture; it represents the commitment and community spirit of the CWA over the past century," said Helen Norris during her dedication speech.

"We hope it will be a place for relaxation and reflection for many generations to come."

Wellington CWA, which officially turned 100 in 2023, has been instrumental in fostering community connections through various initiatives, including educational programs, support for local charities, and promoting women's issues.

The new seat in Cameron Park serves as a fitting tribute to their enduring legacy and ongoing contributions.

As attendees enjoyed refreshments and shared stories, the atmosphere was filled with a sense of pride and nostalgia.

The seat's location in the serene environment of the sunken garden provides an ideal spot for community members to gather, relax, and appreciate the beauty of their surroundings.

With this installation, the Wellington CWA continues to honour its past while looking forward to future projects that will further enrich the lives of those in the Wellington community.



CWA members gather at the seat dedication.



## Lions Bookshop visitors leave with some great books to read

LEFT: Lions Pre-loved Bookshop had a cute lot of visitors on Saturday.

Eleven nieces and nephews of Lions member Vicki McNamare Jeffery came to visit and all went home with some great books.

Vicki said it was lovely to see them all.

Don't forget the bookshop now at Kimbell's Kitchen in Warne Street is open from 10am to 2pm each Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Most books can be secured by a gold coin donation.

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WHEN: 30 NOVEMBER 2025  
TIME: 1:00 PM  
Where: The Grand Hotel, Wellington  
FREE BEER ON ARRIVAL FOR ALL WHO HAVE COMPLETED EOI FORM!  
Learn about preseason plans, 2026 goals and training schedules.  
EOI Form

# Redbacks 2025/26 Seniors committee announced

AT THEIR recent annual general meeting the Wellington Redbacks Senior club elected Josh Bullock as president for the 2025/26 footy season.

Senior vice-president is Abe Dearmer while Dave Sears takes up the Junior vice-president position.

Micheal Bullock is treasurer and Jazmine Billiards is secretary/public officer. Dave Sears also takes on as Walla Coordinator while Eve Campbell is Canteen Coordinator.

Nikita Telfer is Registrar and Carmeb Gain takes on Junior Social

Media. Senior Social Media duties will be taken by Kathryn Newman General while the general committee Committee is made up of Kieran Baker, Brad Thomas, - Will Smith, Carmen Gain, Hamish Doherty and Tom Redfern.

The club is looking forward to another big year with plenty of hard work, great footy and good times ahead, and thanks everyone who continues to support and be part of the Redbacks family.

"Let's make 2026 one to remember!"

## Starting to think about what to buy for Christmas?

Support small businesses in the Dubbo Electorate and shop local this upcoming holiday season!

Dugald Saunders MEMBER FOR THE DUBBO ELECTORATE

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Authorised by Dugald Saunders MP, 1/18 Talbragar Street Dubbo NSW 2830. Funded using Parliamentary entitlements.



# Hypro Australian Allround Stockdog 2025



The competition was held at Geurie showground during last weekend and resulted in Daniel Camilleri's 'J' the champion.

AASD Champion Daniel Camilleri - 'J'

R1: 171 R2: Yard 90. Cattle 91, 3Sheep 84 = 436

2nd Andrew Heath - 'Braziers Brontë'

R1: 199 R2: Yard 52. 3Sheep, 89 Cattle 59 = 399

3rd Ryann Redmond - 'Flowers Eagle'

R1: 190 R2: Yard 32. 3Sheep, 88

cattle 75 = 385

4th Sam Taylor - 'Roy'

R1: 185 R2: Yard 63. 3Sheep 53,

Cattle 68 = 369

5th Les Everleigh - 'Marong Beattle'

R1: 176 R2: Yard 6. 3Sheep 49, Cat-

tle 59 = 347

6th Dan Camilleri - 'Sting'

R1: 205 R2: Yard 0. 3Sheep 59, Cat-

tle 0 = 264

Judges:

3 Sheep - Laura McKillop

Cattle - Zac Ede

Yard - Peter Hogan

## Funding certainty for TAFE NSW

THE STATE Government is delivering on its commitment to rebuild and restore stability to TAFE NSW with a major reform that will save more than \$80 million over four years and ensure teachers, not external consultants are at the centre of course material development.

For the past 10 years, TAFE NSW has had to compete with private training providers for annual government funding which involves unnecessary bureaucracy and instability across the public training provider.

From next year that will change. TAFE NSW will no longer compete with private providers for annual funding and will instead receive a

predictable, long-term budget, allowing it to focus on delivering high-quality education and training to students across the state.

The change will cut administrative red tape for teachers and allow them to dedicate more time to course development and supporting students.

The decision reflects the critical role TAFE NSW plays as the public provider delivering quality vocational education and training to students and communities across NSW.

Independent, industry and community training providers will continue to play a vital role to meet the skills NSW needs.

## Remembering the storms and floods of 2022

LAST WEEK was the third anniversary of the devastating storms and floods that hit Wellington and the Cabonne Shire in 2022.

I was honoured to spend time with the Eugowra community last Friday and Saturday to remember those who tragically lost their lives.

Eugowra community as together as ever. On Friday I spent time with Eugowra residents as many of them recounted their experiences of that dreadful day.

I am continually amazed at the strength and heart of the Eugowra community and its ongoing resilience.



While so much recovery and rebuilding work has been undertaken, there is still a long road ahead.

Supporting these ongoing efforts is the dedicated volunteers at the Eugowra Hospital Auxiliary.

I was thrilled to be able to draw their anniversary raffle.

Together with Daniel Townsend from the Eugowra Newsagency & Supermarket, we also laid flowers at the flood memorial stone.

\*\*\*

### Remembering Diane Smith and Les Vugec

I was back in Eugowra the following day (Saturday) and was again honoured to lay wreaths in memory of Diane Smith and Les Vugec at a ceremony at the flood memorial.

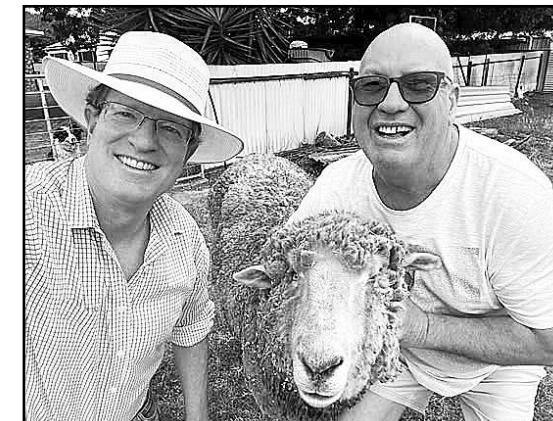
Family and friends gathered to share how Diane and Les are much loved and deeply missed.

No-one can forget the fatal disaster which also resulted in a third of the township's population of



## The Gee Report

Andrew Gee  
Federal Member for Calare



about 150 people being airlifted from rooftops, after waiting hours stranded while the 11-metre flood raged below.

It was the biggest helicopter rescue in Australia's history.

About 90 per cent of homes in Eugowra were damaged and while the recovery process is proceeding there are still many people living in pods and temporary accommodation.

Reunion with two special local legends

During the Eugowra flood anniversary weekend, I also caught up with a couple of locals, John 'Dukesie' Dukes and Ed the Sheep!

Ed shot to fame during flood of 2022 when he made a miraculous swim through the floodwaters. Residents on rooftops reported seeing a sheep paddling down Nolina Street through the raging torrent.

And that was the last anyone heard or saw of Ed... until 24-hours later when he turned up in a flood-hit furniture shop.

Freed by fires after being trapped behind furniture and debris, Ed gave them a few of his trademark headbutts before making his way home!

Three years on and Ed is a pretty mellow sheep. He moves a little slower these days but he still came over to say g'day!

The Dukes family have worked incredibly hard to rebuild their home and three years on, it's looking fantastic!

It's been a long and difficult journey but what they have achieved is inspirational.



## with Mathew Dickerson, Axxis Comworld



I REMEMBER back in the old days when I drove a V8 253 Holden HZ Ute.

It was from an era when locking your car was a procedure: push the button down on the door, get out of the car, check your pocket for keys (critical step), hold the handle up, and then close the door.

The idea of lifting the handle to lock the door was introduced by a few manufacturers in the 60s to stop people locking themselves out, but it wasn't foolproof.

I can still recall that sinking feeling one afternoon when, mid-close, I spotted my keys sitting innocently on the seat inside.

The solution back then was blue packing tape - fold it over, slide it down between the window and the seal, and spend the next ten minutes fiddling around like a backyard locksmith.

Central locking started to become common in the early 90s, and it felt like magic.

Push a single button and all the doors obediently locked. It was modern, efficient and, for a while, it felt like the height of automotive sophistication.

Ford did try for a paradigm shift before central locking became common.

They introduced a door-mounted keypad system (SecuriCode) so unlocking your vehicle involved punching in a code rather than using a fob or metal key.

It was an idea too early for its time and never took off.

Fast forward to the beginning of this century and proximity keys changed the game.

Your car suddenly knew you were there.

It sensed the key in your pocket with no button pressing required. Roadside service organisations were immediately concerned for their membership numbers.

How would someone lock their keys in their car now?

In 2017 I bought my first Tesla and suddenly a proximity key seemed so yesterday.

The key was an app on my smartphone.

I could unlock and start the car, share access with a friend, or even open the car remotely. It was seamless, smart, and just another thing that technology had made possible today that was impossible yesterday.

And yet, here we are in 2025, and most people still carry a key.

Despite the technology being mature, digital keys have been slow to take over.

Apple's somewhat obviously named "Car Key" and their collaboration with BMW, announced back in 2020, was going to change the game but that has been lagging in uptake.

Modern digital keys use Bluetooth, near-field communication or ultra-wideband signals - the same technologies that let you tap to pay or find your missing earbuds. They're secure, convenient and easy to share.

So why do we still cling to our keys?

Picking up the car keys on the way out the door is ingrained in our routine.

Maybe there is some ego involved.

Sitting the keys of your vehicle on the table at a restaurant is symbolic.

It represents ownership, independence, even a little status.

Still, the momentum is shifting.

In China alone, nearly three million cars already use digital keys and that number

will reach 80 per cent within five years.

Some new vehicles even go a step further, using facial recognition to unlock the doors.

The challenge for the rest of the world isn't the technology - it's the ecosystem.

Automakers are notorious for building their own proprietary systems.

That's slowly changing, with Apple hoping that everyone uses the Apple Wallet but there are also efforts by the Car Connectivity Consortium pushing for a universal digital key standard.

Our phones have already replaced our credit cards, wallets, cameras and boarding passes.

The car key is simply the next relic to retire.

\*\*\*

I am feeling generous this year! Send a question or comment about this article to ask@techtalk.digital and the first 10 e-mails will receive a FREE Tech Talk compilation book! Get curious, get involved, get a freebie!

# Andrew GEE MP

## INDEPENDENT FEDERAL MEMBER FOR CALARE



### RUNS ON THE BOARD FOR WELLINGTON

- ✓ \$9.5 million for Maranatha House Aged Care
- ✓ Introduced Bill into Parliament to ban foreign buying of residential property for two years. The Coalition and the Labor Party voted against it and then they both announced it as their policy!
- ✓ Backed Independents' Bill to reduce dominance of big supermarkets. All major parties voted against it and then Coalition announced it as their policy!
- ✓ \$50 million for storm and flood recovery in the Central West
- ✓ Secured the Parliamentary Inquiry into the Disaster
- ✓ Response of Insurers \$2 billion for Great Western Highway upgrade
- ✓ \$2.02 million for replacing the Terrabella, Burrendong and Gundu Creek Bridges
- ✓ \$738,000 for the Cameron Park footbridge
- ✓ 60 mobile phone towers and base stations for Calare
- ✓ \$560,000 for Stuart Town water security project

## 2025 WELLINGTON CLONTARF ACADEMY – AWARDS NIGHT

**W**hat an inspiring evening celebrating the achievements of the Wellington Clontarf Academy boys at their annual awards last week!

It was a real honour to present the Leadership Awards to Kyrell Peckham (Junior) and Jordan Budd (Senior) – two outstanding young men who've demonstrated leadership, commitment, and pride in everything they do.

This year, 13 Year 12 students are graduating and will soon head off to Cairns for their end-of-year camp – a fantastic reward for their hard work and dedication. Clontarf started in Wellington with just 4 graduates, and the success of the program is there for all to see.

The Wellington Academy continues to go from strength to strength, with 85 boys in the program, guided by a dedicated team of mentors – Mason, Logan, Michael, and Employment Officer Bruce Wilson, who ensures the boys are supported into meaningful jobs after school.

Clontarf's reach is truly remarkable, with nine programs stretching from Orange to Bourke, managed by 35 staff and supporting 730 boys.

It was terrific to see strong support for the program from Wellington High School Principal Adam McKeown and staff.

Congratulations to all the award winners and all the boys on another outstanding year!



### GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

#### ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NSW GRANT

The Royal Agricultural Society of NSW is offering up to \$30,000 in funding for community-driven projects across rural NSW that deliver strong social and economic benefits. Projects might include upgrades to showgrounds, community halls, or other infrastructure that supports broader ongoing use by local groups.

Applications close: 12 December 2025

Apply here: [rasnsw.com.au](http://rasnsw.com.au)

#### CLUBGRANTS CATEGORY 3 INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS

The NSW Government's Clubgrants Category 3 Infrastructure Grants provide funding between \$50,000 and \$300,000 for not-for-profit organisations to build, renovate or fit-out community infrastructure.

Projects can cover sport & recreation facilities, community hubs, arts centres, and disaster readiness infrastructure in regional, remote, or disadvantaged areas.

Applications close: 15 December 2025

Apply here: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/grants-and-funding>

#### LOCAL SPORT DEFIBRILLATOR GRANT PROGRAM

The NSW Government's Local Sport Defibrillator Grant Program provides up to \$3,000 for the purchase and maintenance of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) at community sport and recreation venues.

Applications close: 1 December 2025 (or earlier if funds are exhausted).

Apply here: [sport.nsw.gov.au/grants/local-sport-defibrillator-grant-program](http://sport.nsw.gov.au/grants/local-sport-defibrillator-grant-program)

### GETTING EQUITABLE HOUSING FUND SUPPORT FOR THE CENTRAL WEST

**A**mid the housing crisis, I recently challenged the Federal Housing Minister in Question Time on why the Housing Australia Future Fund (the fund) is failing regional communities.

that regional community housing providers can deliver at scale, at speed, and value for money.

It's time that the fund explicitly considers our regional, rural and remote communities and provides fair and equitable funding across the country.

Community housing providers like Housing Plus cannot get a look-in, while the statistics show the Central West is being dunned by the fund.

In response to my question, Minister Clare O'Neil offered to meet with our local community housing providers to discuss opportunities with the remainder of the fund allocation.

I recently followed up with Housing Plus CEO Justin Cantelo to help make that meeting with the Minister happen. Justin is keen to explain to the Minister



Andrew with Housing Plus CEO Justin Cantelo

### ORANGE ELECTORATE OFFICE

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Authorised by Andrew Gee MP, Suite 1/179a Anson Street Orange NSW 2800

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**Public Notice****Binjang Community Radio Annual General Meeting Thursday 27, November 7pm**

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*Around the electorate*

with our State Member Dugald Saunders

**Nationals Leadership**

For the past two-and-a-half years I have had the privilege of leading the NSW Nationals – this week I stepped down from that position.

It's been an honour to lead the Parliamentary team during a challenging time in Opposition, and I have always done my best to represent regional NSW.

It is a difficult decision, but it is the right time for me to take a step back and focus more on my family and myself.

It is also the right time to allow a new leader to take up the fight ahead of the next election.

I thank my family, my staff, my team, and the party, for all their support.

I will continue to serve the people of the Dubbo electorate as their local member.

\*\*\*

**Infrastructure grants**

Applications for the next round of the highly anticipated Clubgrants Category 3 Fund open on Monday, November 24.

This program provides funds to support the construction, alteration, renovation,

completion and fit out of buildings and community infrastructure to deliver outcomes for disadvantaged NSW communities.

Grants are available across four streams including, arts and culture, disaster readiness, sport and recreation, and community infrastructure.

Applications close on Monday, December 15.

For more information, visit:  
<https://www.nsw.gov.au/grants-and-funding/clubgrants-category-3-fund>  
\*\*\*

**Cancer Awareness campaigns**

This Cervical Cancer Awareness Week, Cancer Council NSW, the Western NSW Local Health District, and the Western NSW PHN want women in the Dubbo electorate to know that they have the power to choose how they get screened for the cancer-causing Human Papillomavirus (HPV).

Since 2022, Australian women have had the option to choose between a traditional Cervical Screening Test (like the old Pap

smear) with their healthcare provider or to self-collect in private without the discomfort of a clinical setting.

Talk to your GP about which method of collection is best for you or call the Women's Health Nurse on 1800 008 422.

Cervical cancer is one of the most preventable types of cancer because nearly all cases are caused by HPV.

By working together and spreading the word, we can eliminate cervical cancer in Australia by the 2030's.

This week is also National Skin Cancer Action Week. Sid the Seagull is back once again to remind us that while the world has changed since his first 'Slip, Slop, Slap' campaign launched in the 80's, we are still living under the same sun and its harmful UV rays.

When the UV level is 3 or above, remember to be SunSmart by using all five (5) sun protection measures, even if it is cloudy: SLIP on some sun-protective clothing, SLOP on SPF50 or SPF50+ sunscreen, SLAP on a broadbrimmed hat, SEEK shade and SLIDE on some sunglasses.

**Youth Parliament**

The Y NSW's Youth Parliament leadership program is accepting applications until January 4, 2026 for participation in its 25th anniversary year.

Youth Parliament is an inclusive youth leadership program, which empowers students from across NSW to raise their voices, advocate for their communities, and connect with peers who share a passion for making a positive difference.

The program is not just for school captains or debate team members; it is for any young person who wants to use their voice.

It enables high school students in years 10 to 12 to build confidence, develop leadership skills, engage with civic leadership, policy development, and democratic parliamentary debate.

The Y NSW is looking to accept Youth Parliamentarians from each of the 93 NSW electorates including Dubbo.

For more information, visit:  
<https://www.ymcansw.org.au/commun.../yo>uth/youth-parliament/  
\*\*\*

Until next time, Dugald

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# When times are tough - mates help mates

Twelve Mile Road residents' Feast for Flood Relief donates \$230,000 to Quilpie and Thargomindah communities to share among selves to help compensate a little from the March/April floods



Bulloo Shire CEO Tiffany Dare and Mayor John (Tractor) Ferguson are presented the \$230,000 cheque by Twelve Mile resident and 'Tractor's' mate, Peter Barton and Julie Hancock.

TWELVE MILE ROAD landholder Peter Barton recently took a \$230,000 cheque to South West Queensland, the amount raised by the Twelve Mile Feast for Relief day at Mumblebone Merino stud, Wuuluman back in July.

Organised by Twelve Mile property owners, the fundraiser idea began when locals who had been on a fishing holiday on the Bulloo River heard of the devastating flood from April 1 earlier this year. On their trip they were guided to special fishing spots by the mayor of the Bulloo Shire, John (Tractor) Ferguson, who became a life-long friend of Mr Barton and members of the Taylor families.

The day of festive wining and dining by more than 100 paying guests resulted in the large

amount of money raised also from auctions and other means.

Peter Barton said 'Tractor' and all he met at the Bulloo Shire including the local CWA said they were incredibly indebted to the generosity of all who participated in the fundraiser.

"There is enough money to be shared among everybody in both town communities," Mr Barton said.

"Each will be given a share and all that money will be spent within the two towns' businesses, so the ripple effect will be enormous for those communities."

"At the end of the day and through all the flood devastation, this is a prime example of mates helping mates."

## Story wins Country Press 'Highly Commended' Agricultural story award

MARK GRIGGS' story of the floods and Twelve Mile Road residents' Feast for Relief fundraiser gained a 'Highly

Commended' in the Agricultural Story section of Country Press NSW annual publishing awards.

**Flood feast to help Queensland mate's communities**

LASTING FRIENDSHIP has led landholders along the Twelve Mile Road to band together in an enormous effort to "help a mate". It's just not "a mate" but whole communities in the Thargomindah and Quilpie regions of South Western Queensland who are still recovering after incredible floods along the Bulloo River, not a regular experience in the 'Never Never'.

As reported in last week's Wellington & District Leader, the Twelve Mile Fraternity is organising the 'Feast For Relief', an afternoon and evening of food, fun and entertainment on Saturday, July 5 at the Mumblebone Merino stud 'Dome' at Wuuluman, to aid the flood communities.

For each of the past 20-plus years, Thargomindah farmer, apriarist and local shire mayor, John (Tractor) Ferguson, has been taking his hives to 'Brooklyn', the property of Peter Barton on the Twelve Mile, and a bond had developed between the two.

"Tractor comes down here when there's no flowering up his way and leaves his hives for a while," Peter Barton said. "He's also got a little block at Mudgee where he processes honey from his hives here and in return I get a couple of litres in payment."

"We've become mates over time. He's a lovely bloke."

Several years ago Peter took his two daughters on a camping holiday on the Bulloo River out of Thargomindah with Chad and Lou Taylor of Mumblebone and other friends with their families.

"Tractor lined up a great spot for us not far out of town where we camped for three or four days," he said.

Floods

Peter was listening to ABC radio one day and heard Tractor being interviewed during the floods.

"I immediately thought, oh shit, I've got to do something for Thargomindah. It's a little place and people

will just forget about them," said Lou Taylor as she had been out there and she knew Tractor. "I just heard Tractor Ferguson on the radio. We've got to do something for these poor buggers out there."

"Lou was in the car with Pip Smith of Glenwood Merino stud, also on the Twelve Mile and she said they have got ram clients out of Quilpie, and too."

A couple of days later Peter found out they had a committee going and had organised a lunch at the sale dome at Mumblebone.

"The plan was a feast of local produce for 150 people, and they had a few sponsors already lined up."

"It was all happening," Peter said what "blew him away", was if you've got a good idea, and throw it out to the universe and you get a couple efficient people, usually efficient women, to help you. "It's amazing how things came

After the floods comes the clean-up.

Feast For Relief tickets are available on [123tix.com.au](http://123tix.com.au)

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Keirle's Alliance Pharmacy staff get into the Christmas spirit early.

## VIP Christmas Event success

Keirle's Pharmacy jumped into the Christmas spirit last Wednesday with their loyalty member VIP Day.

Customers were treated with lucky door prizes, discounts on giftware and fragrances, plus lucky dips and gift wrapping by this town's most friendly

staff members.

Make sure you sign up to the Alliance VIP loyalty membership if you are not already a member.

Just ask the girls when you next visit. There are many gift suggestions on the shelves.

## Toongi rare minerals in Probus spotlight



John Trounce thanks Fergus Job from Australia Strategic Materials, Toongi, for his talk as special guest at the November Probus meeting.

Their mine to metals strategy is to extract, refine and manufacture high purity metals, alloys and powers supplying direct to global manufacturers in clean energies, electric vehicles, defence and aerospace, electronics and communications.

Their Toongi project is based on a long term globally significant resource of rare earths, zirconium, niobium and hafnium.

The Toongi project will become an alternative sustainable and secure source of critical metal oxides – one of the few supply options outside China.

The project has all major approvals and licences in place.



**6.00** Morning Programs. **10.00** When The War Is Over. **10.30** The Piano UK. **11.30** Crime Night! **12.00** ABC News At Noon. **1.00** Silent Witness. **2.00** Restoration Australia. **3.00** QI. **3.30** Julia Zemiro's Home Delivery. **3.55** Grand Designs Revisited. **4.45** Long Lost Family. **5.30** Antiques Roadshow. **6.30** Hard Quiz. **7.00** ABC News. **7.30**. **8.00** Grand Designs Australia. **9.00** Long Lost Family. **9.45** Portrait Artist Of The Year. **10.35** ABC Late News. **10.50** The Business. **11.10** The Art Of. **11.40** Late Programs.

**7two** **6.00** Morning Programs. **1.00** Escape To The Country. **2.00** South Aussie With Cosi. **2.30** Hornby: A Model Empire. **3.30** Harry's Practice. **4.00** RSPCA Animal Rescue. **4.30** Better Homes And Gardens. **5.30** Escape To The Country. **6.30** Bargain Hunt. **7.30** Father Brown. **8.30** Line Of Duty. **11.10** Murdoch Mysteries. **12.10** Late Programs.

**NN Entertains** **6.00** Morning Programs. **2.05** ER. **2.50** Heartbreak High. **3.35** A Bite To Eat. **4.05** QI. **4.40** MythBusters. **5.30** Amazing Spaces. **6.15** Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. **7.05** Claire Hooper's House Of Games. **7.35** QI. **8.05** Would I Lie To You? Final. **8.35** Hard Quiz. **9.05** Gruen. **9.45** Planet America. **10.15** Late Programs.



**6.00** News Breakfast. **9.00** ABC News Mornings. **10.00** Portrait Artist Of The Year. **11.05** The Forsytes. **12.00** ABC News At Noon. **1.00** The Newsreader. **2.00** Grand Designs Australia. **2.55** QI. **3.25** Julia Zemiro's Home Delivery. **3.55** Grand Designs. **4.40** Long Lost Family. **5.30** Antiques Roadshow. **6.30** Hard Quiz. **7.00** ABC News. **7.30** Gardening Australia. **8.30** Maigret. **9.25** Hard Quiz. **9.55** Crime Night! **10.25** Spicks And Specks. **10.55** ABC Late News. **11.10** Silent Witness. **12.15** Rage New Music. **5.00** Rage.

**7two** **6.00** Morning Programs. **2.00** House Of Wellness. **3.00** The Great Australian Doorstep. **3.30** Harry's Practice. **4.00** Better Homes And Gardens. **5.00** Escape To The Country. **6.00** Bargain Hunt. **7.00** Better Homes And Gardens. **8.30** Escape To The Country. **10.30** The Yorkshire Vet. **11.30** Late Programs.

**NN Entertains** **6.00** Morning Programs. **2.05** ER. **2.50** Heartbreak High. **3.35** A Bite To Eat. **4.05** Would I Lie To You? **4.40** MythBusters. **5.30** Amazing Spaces. **6.15** Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. **7.05** House Of Games. **7.35** QI. **8.05** Would I Lie To You? **8.35** MOVIE: American Sniper. (2014) **10.45** Late Programs.



**6.00** Rage Charts. **7.00** Weekend Breakfast. **9.00** Rage. **12.00** ABC News At Noon. **12.30** Return To Paradise. **1.25** Maigret. **2.20** All Creatures Great And Small. **3.10** ACO: Gershwin And Shostakovich. Return. **4.55** Spicks And Specks. **5.25** Landline. **5.55** Australian Story. **6.25** I Was Actually There. Final. **7.00** ABC News. **7.30** Return To Paradise. **8.30** Vera. **10.00** The Forsytes. **10.55** Bergerac. **11.40** Rage.

**7two** **6.00** Home Shopping. **8.30** Travel Oz. **9.30** Better Homes And Gardens. **11.00** Harry's Practice. **11.30** Get On Extra. **12.00** Horse Racing. Cranbourne Cup Day, The Gong Race Day and Mooloolaba Cup Day. **6.00** Dog Patrol. **6.30** The Yorkshire Vet. **8.30** Escape To The Country. **11.30** The Yorkshire Vet. **1.30** Late Programs.

**NN Entertains** **6.00** Morning Programs. **2.30** Heartbreak High. **3.15** A Bite To Eat. **3.45** Portrait Artist Of The Year. **4.40** MythBusters. **5.30** Amazing Spaces. **6.15** Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. **7.05** Spicks And Specks. **7.35** QI. **8.10** Live At The Apollo. **8.55** The Stand Up Sketch Show. **9.20** Ab Fab. **9.50** Late Programs.



**6.00** Morning Programs. **11.00** Compass. **11.30** Songs Of Praise. **12.00** ABC News At Noon. **12.30** Landline. **1.30** Gardening Australia. **2.30** Miriam & Alan: Lost In Scotland And Beyond... Final. **3.25** Long Lost Family. **4.10** Extraordinary Escapes. **5.00** Antiques Roadshow. **6.00** Grand Designs Australia. **7.00** ABC News. **7.30** Spicks And Specks. **8.00** Portrait Artist Of The Year. **8.50** The Forsytes. **9.45** Return To Paradise. **10.40** When The War Is Over. **11.15** Anh's Brush With Fame. **11.40** Late Programs.

**7two** **6.00** Morning Programs. **10.00** House Of Wellness. **11.00** Escape To The Country. **1.00** The Surgery Ship. **2.00** Harry's Practice. **2.30** RSPCA Animal Rescue. **3.00** Hornby: A Model Empire. **4.00** Escape To The Country. **7.00** Greatest Escapes To The Country. **7.45** Mrs Brown's Boys. **8.30** Vera. **10.30** Murdoch Mysteries. **11.30** Late Programs.

**NN Entertains** **6.00** Morning Programs. **2.10** ER. **2.55** Heartbreak High. **3.40** A Bite To Eat. **4.05** Would I Lie To You? **4.40** MythBusters. **5.30** Amazing Spaces. **6.15** Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. **7.05** Spicks And Specks. **7.35** QI. **8.05** Annelib Crabb's Civic Duty. **8.55** Planet America: Weekend Edition. **9.45** Late Programs.



**6.00** Sunrise. **9.00** The Morning Show. **12.00** Seven's National News At Noon. **1.10** Blankety Blank. **2.00** Bridge Of Lies. **3.00** The Chase. **4.00** Seven News At 4. **5.00** The Chase Australia. **6.00** 7News Local. **6.30** 7News @ 6:30. **7.00** Border Patrol. Return. **7.30** Highway Patrol. **8.30** Ego: The Michael Gudinski Story. **11.00** Gatecrashers. **12.00** The Front Bar. **1.00** Life. **2.00** Home Shopping. **4.00** NBC Today. **5.00** Sunrise Early News. **5.30** Sunrise.

**7mate** **6.00** Morning Programs. **2.30** The Force: Behind The Line. **3.00** Talking W. **3.30** Cricket. Women's Big Bash League. Match 16. Melbourne Renegades v Hobart Hurricanes. **7.00** Cricket. Women's Big Bash League. Match 17. Sydney Sixers v Melbourne Stars. **10.30** MOVIE: Unhinged. (2020) **12.20** Late Programs.

**NN Family** **6.00** Kids' Programs. **5.30** Peter Rabbit. **6.05** PJ Masks. **6.25** The Adventures Of Paddington. **6.45** Ben And Holly's Little Kingdom. **7.05** Batwheels. **7.35** Ninjago: Dragons Rising. **8.00** Operation Ouch! **8.35** Secrets Of The Zoo. **9.20** Secret Life Of The Koala. **10.05** The Mysterious Benedict Society. **10.40** Late Programs.



**6.00** Sunrise. **9.00** The Morning Show. **12.00** The Ashes: Pre-Game Show. **1.20** Cricket. The Ashes. First Test. Australia v England. Day 1. Morning session. **3.20** The Ashes: The Lunch Break. **4.00** Cricket. The Ashes. First Test. Australia v England. Day 1. Afternoon session. **6.00** 7News. **7.00** Cricket. The Ashes. First Test. Australia v England. Day 1. Evening session. **9.00** Cricket. Women's Big Bash League. Match 18. Brisbane Heat v Sydney Thunder. **11.30** Get On Extra. **12.00** Late Programs.

**7mate** **6.00** Morning Programs. **3.30** Swamp People: Serpent Invasion. **4.30** American Resto. **5.00** American Pickers. **6.00** The Ashes: Tea Break. **6.20** The Ashes. First Test. Aust v England. Evening session. **7.00** Pawn Stars. **7.30** Surveillance Oz. **8.00** Cricket. WBBL. Heat v Thunder. **9.00** MOVIE: Ambulance. (2022) **11.55** Late Programs.

**NN Family** **6.00** Kids' Programs. **5.30** Peter Rabbit. **6.05** PJ Masks. **6.25** The Adventures Of Paddington. **6.45** Ben And Holly's Little Kingdom. **7.05** Gardening Australia Junior. **7.35** Star Wars: Young Jedi Adventures. **8.00** Scooby-Doo And Guess Who? **8.30** Hard Quiz Kids. **9.00** Robot Wars. **10.00** Merlin. **10.45** Late Programs.



**6.00** Today. **9.00** Today Extra. **11.30** 9News Morning. **12.00** Budget Battlers. **1.15** Explore TV. **1.45** My Way. **2.00** Pointless. **3.00** Tipping Point. **4.00** 9News Afternoon. **4.30** Tipping Point Australia. **5.30** WIN News. **6.00** 9News. **7.00** A Current Affair. **7.30** RBT. **8.30** RPA. **9.30** A+T After Dark. **10.30** 9News Late. **11.00** Chicago Med. **11.50** Tipping Point. **12.40** Pointless. **1.30** TV Shop: Home Shopping. **2.30** Global Shop. **3.00** TV Shop: Home Shopping. **4.00** Believer's Voice Of Victory. **4.30** Late Programs.

**7flix** **6.00** Morning Programs. **10.00** The Greatest Aussie Caravan. **10.30** House Rules. **12.00** S.W.A.T. **2.45** New Idea Test Kitchen. **3.15** The Goldbergs. **3.40** First Dates UK. **4.30** Bondi Vet. **6.30** Judge Judy. **7.30** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares. **10.50** Ramsay's 24 Hours To Hell And Back. **11.50** Late Programs.

**NN NEWS** **6.00** Morning Programs. **3.00** ABC News. Afternoons. **4.00** Afternoon Briefing. **5.00** ABC News With Joe O'Brien. **6.00** ABC News Hour. **7.00** ABC National News. **7.30** **7.30**. **8.00** ABC News Tonight. **8.45** The Business. **9.00** The World. **10.00** ABC Nightly News. **10.30** Boyer Lecture Series. **11.00** Late Programs.



**6.00** Today. **9.00** Today Extra. **11.30** 9News Morning. **12.00** MOVIE: Zoe's Having A Baby. (2023) **2.00** Pointless. **3.00** Tipping Point. **4.00** 9News Afternoon. **4.30** Tipping Point Australia. **5.30** WIN News. **6.00** 9News. **7.00** A Current Affair. **7.30** David Attenborough's Asia. **8.45** MOVIE: The Magnificent Seven. (2016) Denzel Washington, Chris Pratt, Ethan Hawke. **11.25** Law & Order: Organized Crime. **12.15** Tipping Point. **1.05** Drive TV: Launch Pad. **1.30** TV Shop: Home Shopping. **2.00** Late Programs.

**7flix** **6.00** Morning Programs. **10.00** New Idea Test Kitchen. **10.30** House Rules. **12.00** S.W.A.T. **3.00** The Goldbergs. **3.30** First Dates UK. **4.30** Bondi Vet. **6.30** MOVIE: Minions: The Rise Of Gru. (2022) **8.30** MOVIE: Ghostbusters. (1984) Bill Murray, Dan Aykroyd, Sigourney Weaver. **10.40** MOVIE: Winchester. (2018) **12.35** Late Programs.

**NN NEWS** **6.00** Morning Programs. **3.00** News. **4.00** Afternoon Briefing. **5.00** ABC News With Joe O'Brien. **6.00** ABC News Hour. **7.00** ABC National News. **7.30** ABC Evening News. **8.00** Planet America: Weekend Edition. **8.45** ABC News Tonight. **9.00** The World. **9.30** Close Of Business. **10.00** ABC Nightly News. **10.30** Late Programs.



**6.00** Getaway. **6.30** A Current Affair. **7.00** Weekend Today. **10.00** Today Extra: Saturday. **12.00** Surfing Australia TV. **12.30** My Way. **1.00** Our State On A Plate. **1.35** The Golden Bachelor. Final. **3.15** David Attenborough's Asia. **4.30** The Garden Gurus. **5.00** 9News First At Five. **5.30** Getaway. **6.00** 9News Saturday. **7.00** A Current Affair. **7.30** MOVIE: The Wizard Of Oz. (1939) Judy Garland, Ray Bolger. **9.35** To Be Advised. **1.30** The Garden Gurus. **2.00** The Incredible Journey Presents. **2.30** Late Programs.

**7flix** **6.00** Morning Programs. **1.00** Extended Family. **1.30** Starstruck. **3.00** Dancing With The Stars: All Stars. **4.30** Cats Make You Laugh Out Loud. **5.25** MOVIE: Look Who's Talking. (1989) **7.30** MOVIE: Back To The Future Part II. (1990) **9.45** MOVIE: Father Stu. (2022) Mark Wahlberg. **12.20** Late Programs.

**NN NEWS** **6.00** Morning Programs. **3.00** News. **3.30** If You're Listening. **3.55** News. **4.15** Planet America: Wknd Ed. **5.00** News. **5.30** Asia News Week. **6.00** Evening News. **6.30** Aust Story. **7.00** National News. **7.30** Compass. **8.05** Your Say: Digital Dilemma. **9.00** Nightly News. **9.30** Boyer Lecture Series. **10.00** Late Programs.



**6.00** Morning Programs. **7.00** Weekend Today. **10.00** Cross Court. **10.30** Next Stop. **11.00** Fishing Australia. **11.30** Drive TV: Launch Pad. **12.00** Explore TV. **12.30** Garden Gurus Moments. **12.45** Budget Battlers. **2.00** MOVIE: Blueback. (2022) **4.00** Getaway Presents The Arctic. **5.00** 9News First At Five. **5.30** RBT. **6.00** 9News Sunday. **7.00** 60 Minutes. **8.00** Live Aid: When Rock 'n' Roll Took On The World. **9.00** 9News Late. **10.30** Essex Millionaire Murders. **11.25** Mobsters. **12.15** Late Programs.

**7flix** **6.00** Morning Programs. **10.00** Declassified: The Royal Scandals. **11.00** Cats Make You Laugh Out Loud. **12.00** Extended Family. **12.30** To Be Advised. **3.30** Dr Harry's Animal Encounters. **4.30** Bondi Vet. **6.30** Dogs Behaving (Very) Badly. **7.30** Law & Order: Criminal Intent. **8.30** Law & Order: SVU. **10.30** Bones. **11.30** Late Programs.

**NN NEWS** **6.00** Morning Programs. **2.00** News. **2.30** Aust Story. **3.00** News. **3.30** Offsiders. **4.00** Landline. **5.00** ABC News With Auslan. **5.30** News Regional. **6.00** Evening News. **6.15**

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# Make this a Magical Christmas

## Unwrap Unbeatable Bargains by Shopping Locally

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# Make this a Magical Christmas

## Unwrap Unbeatable Bargains by Shopping Locally



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Butchery**

*Quality that you can taste*

**Christmas closing**

from 3.30pm Christmas Eve  
Re-opens December 29



**Cusack Butchery has all  
your BBQ meat cuts**

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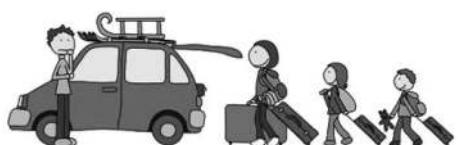
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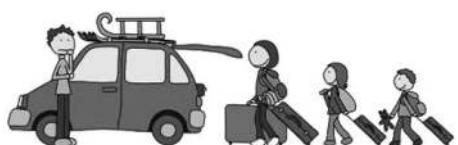


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A BROWSE through Alice Mary Designs in Four Cats Coffee will show an expansion into fashion and footwear.

There's also a line of saddlery and leather goods especially for those who are involved in the equine industry, whether pleasure or competition.

Alice can arrange custom orders. Just call in, have a browse through her catalogues and the rest is easy.

Plants are also a specialty – custom order plants and trees. Alice's garden design elements are for people who may want to build up on their existing garden through further plantings – Alice can suggest ideas that are good for our climate.

On the other hand, people who have a fresh slate and are needing

a garden designed, then Alice will visit to consult and introduce fresh design ideas.

She is also an expert in interior design, especially a make-up prior to selling.

Now in stock is a large range of Summer water cans. They're Yowie water bottles, and bigger than the average water bottle with a broad base that doesn't roll around in the back of the ute.

Alice is also expanding into everyday work shirts for men and women on the land who don't want to wear the boring bland, same coloured shirts.

"We've got some really bright colourful, fun work shirts in stock from Coastal Cowboys.

Also now in stock are a wide range of Holster shoes which are orthopedically recommended.

As well, a range of Eb & Ive and Isle of Mine clothing in soft cottons and linens.

She's always obtaining new children's clothing coming in of timeless prints.

A large range of Olssons salt products.

On the home décor side, some lovely fruit baskets, melamine plates for summer dining outside.

Christmas candles with gorgeous scents.

Lois Lousick's beautiful indigenous artwork. Framed prints and loads of fashion jewellery.

And coffee table books on gardening, cooking, fashion or interior designs.

Also cow hides and a range of men's products including leather belts or pocket knife holders. Even ladies leather handbags.



# Make this a Magical Christmas

## Unwrap Unbeatable Bargains by Shopping Locally

### Only a couple of days off at Christmas

ACCORDING TO the stories going around town, Cusack's Butchery will be closing, but just for the Christmas period.

Butchering within the same shop for the past 37 years, Gary Cusack has no intention of retiring very soon.

"I'll be here for another several years yet," he said when asked about the rumours.

Cusack's Butchery will be trading right up to 3.30pm on Christmas Eve (December 24) and reopens on Monday, December 29 for normal hours.

"You don't get many holidays in this business," he said.

Born in Parkes Gary worked for his grandfather Jack Smith in his butchery in Yeoval for some time and had also worked at the Dubbo Abattoir when owned by the McDonald family.

When Gary started his own butchery in Wellington there were upwards of six shops operating. But since the big supermarkets hit town, there is only Gary's and another butchery left in the main street, both in Lee Streets.

He certainly carried on a family

tradition – butchers on both sides of his family.

His father, Tom, named after his father, was from a large family.

At one stage the family held the record of the highest number of sons, 12 in total.

An article possibly in the Parkes Champion Post some years ago printed that a family in Queensland claimed an Australian Commonwealth record of nine successive sons.

Gary's grandmother, Mary Cusack (of Bogan Street, Parkes) answered this by saying she had 11 boys in succession.

Mrs Cusack was 39 years at the time. Her first child was a daughter and the next 11 were boys.

The first six were born at Wagga where the Cusacks were married in 1920, and the other six were born in Parkes, all to Thomas Cusack.

The youngest, Kevin, was born in 1945 after his father died, so that would actually make 12 successive sons.

Customers are still happy to patronise their local butchers.

"I sell a lot of my own recipe sausages and specially-made rissoles," Gary said.

"People obviously like my flavours."

"But Scotch fillet is another big seller."

"Eating habits have changed somewhat as we don't sell as much fore-quarter beef these days, except scotch fillet, mainly hind-quarter cuts now."

When asked about supermarkets' competition, Gary said when a person walks into his shop they will be sold what they actually want.

"Meat cut to want they want," he said.

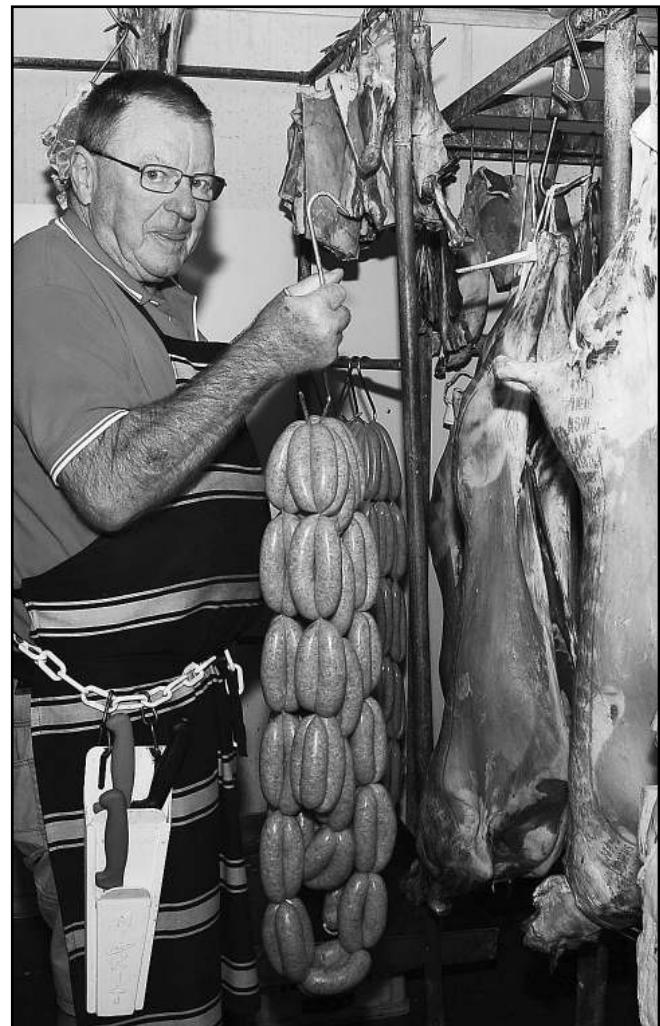
"No one over the counter will cut meat to your order from the pre-packed shelves in a supermarket."

"My last customer just left with scotch fillets cut an inch-and-a-half thick."

You can't get that personalised service at a supermarket."

It's hard to beat personalised customer service, face-to-face like in a butcher's shop.

And Gary says he'll be in his Lee Street shop for plenty of years to come.



### Jacinta's Geurie gallery is a 'must stop' art shop with a difference



It's coming up to two years at Geurie and a really good move for Jacinta Haycock and her art studio and gallery.

Her gallery continues to attract people from all walks of life.

"There absolutely nothing that defines the customers I serve," she said,

"I still have a great online following, and that's what really works with my line of business."

Commissions are another big side for Jacinta.

This has worked a lot better for her in the Geurie gallery as people get to see more of her art.

She said she has never had as many commissions before opening in Geurie.

"I think it is because people can see my work and then visualise their preferences," she said.

Lampshades are a specialty. People are even bringing their old shade in for Jacinta to do her

magic with her brushes.

"I like meeting people. And there is still people out there who like to talk to you and get to know you, and make a little bond with you."

"If you say hello to a person browsing, they will make contact and before you know, we're best of friends."

Travellers are incredibly interested in Jacinta's art style.

"They tell me they like to blow in and support little places - small towns and villages."

"This has been a great move for me."

The Lemon Tree Café next door is an incredible asset.

"We work off each other, it's fantastic. People call in after or before a coffee, then sometimes they come back."

Most popular sales are tea towels, and I don't get many of the same, so there are always a

new range often available.

This year I've brought aprons in for Christmas.

"I reckon an apron is a good present, and people love my tea towels."

Huxter Natural Soaps are great sellers.

They are a Melbourne company that have taken me on.

"They support a lot of Australian artists and print my images on the wrapping."

People love my vases. Aso table cloths. Wall hangings of little birds.

"People just like something original I guess, so now I'm planning items for end of school year teacher's gifts"

"I like to be accessible to everyone. I know where my place is in the art world."

And it works well, as people continue to come in and buy."



### First draw lucky winner - next draw at Ben's Tyres

LAST SATURDAY was the first draw of the Wellington & District Leader 2025 Magical Christmas show and support local promotion.

Samantha Harries at Jespresso Cafe drew the winning coupon from just 550 entries collected from our 15 participating shops and businesses in Wellington and Geurie.

The winner was Michelle O'Brien who decided to spend her winning \$100 cash bonus at

Cusack's Butchery in Lee Street.

But don't panic.. There are still four more draws and the next will be at Ben's Tyres.

So keep filling a coupon each time you purchase an item at the participating businesses.

There's no limit on your spend, just support our locals in Wellington and Geurie.

Happy shopping and hope you're the next \$100 winner. Just keep supporting locals.



**6.00** Morning Programs. **12.00** ABC News At Noon. **1.00** Landline. **2.00** Parliament Question Time. **3.00** QI. **3.25** Julia Zemiro's Home Delivery. **3.55** Grand Designs. **4.40** Long Lost Family. **5.25** Antiques Roadshow. **6.30** Hard Quiz. **7.00** ABC News. **7.30** **7.30**. **8.00** Australian Story. **8.30** Annabel Crabb's Civic Duty. Final. **9.20** Media Watch. Final. **9.40** Planet America. Final. **10.10** I Was Actually There. **10.40** ABC Late News. **10.55** The Business. **11.15** Creative Types With Virginia Trioli. **11.45** Late Programs.

**7two** **6.00** Morning Programs. **1.00** Hornby: A Model Empire. **2.00** Weekender. **2.30** Hornby: A Model Empire. **3.30** Harry's Practice. **4.00** RSPCA Animal Rescue. **4.30** Better Homes And Gardens. **5.30** Escape To The Country. **6.30** Bargain Hunt. **7.30** Doc Martin. **8.30** Endeavour. **10.30** Air Crash Investigations: The Accident Files. **11.30** Late Programs.

**ABC Entertains** **6.00** Morning Programs. **2.10** ER. **2.55** Heartbreak High. **3.40** A Bite To Eat. **4.05** Would I Lie To You? **4.40** MythBusters. **5.30** Amazing Spaces. **6.15** Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. **7.05** House Of Games. **7.35** QI. **8.05** Would I Lie To You? **8.35** Penn & Teller: Fool Us. **9.20** Whose Line Is It Anyway? **9.45** Late Programs.

**6.00** Morning Programs. **1.20** Cricket. The Ashes. First Test. Australia v England. Day 4. Morning session. (Please note: alternative schedule may be shown due to changes to cricket coverage). **3.20** The Ashes: The Lunch Break. **4.00** Cricket. The Ashes. First Test. Australia v England. Day 4. Afternoon session. **6.00** 7News Local. **6.30** 7News @ 6:30. **7.00** Cricket. The Ashes. First Test. Australia v England. Day 4. Evening session. **9.00** The Rookie. **10.00** Alert: Missing Persons Unit. **11.00** Why Trains Crash. **12.10** Late Programs.

**7mate** **6.00** Morning Programs. **2.30** Mt Hutt Rescue. **3.30** Swamp People: Serpent Invasion. **4.30** American Resto. **5.00** American Pickers. **6.00** The Ashes: Tea Break. **6.20** Cricket. The Ashes. First Test. Aust v England. Evening session. **7.00** Pawn Stars. **7.30** Aussie Gold Hunters. **9.30** Aussie Salvage Squad. **10.30** Late Programs.

**ABC Family** **6.00** Kids' Programs. **4.25** Super Monsters. **5.30** Peter Rabbit. **6.05** PJ Masks. **6.25** The Adventures Of Paddington. **6.45** Ben And Holly's Little Kingdom. **7.05** Batwheels. **7.35** Ninjago: Dragons Rising. **8.00** Operation Ouch! **8.35** Gladiators UK. **9.35** The Crystal Maze. **10.20** Merlin. **11.05** Late Programs.

**6.00** Today. **9.00** Today Extra. **11.30** 9News Morning. **12.00** MOVIE: Candy Cane Christmas. (2020) **2.00** Pointless. **3.00** Tipping Point. **4.00** 9News Afternoon. **4.30** Tipping Point Australia. **5.30** WIN News. **6.00** 9News. **7.00** A Current Affair. **7.30** Travel Guides. **9.00** MOVIE: Crocodile Dundee II. (1988) Paul Hogan, Linda Kozlowski, John Meillon. **11.15** 9News Late. **11.45** Transplant. **12.35** Tipping Point. **1.30** TV Shop: Home Shopping. **2.30** Global Shop. **3.00** Late Programs.

**7flix** **6.00** It's Academic. **7.30** Get Clever. **8.30** News Of The Wild. **9.00** Home Shopping. **10.00** House Rules. **11.45** New Idea Test Kitchen. **12.15** S.W.A.T. **3.00** First Dates UK. **4.00** Jabba's Movies. **4.30** Bondi Vet. **6.30** Judge Judy. **7.30** Law & Order: Criminal Intent. **9.30** Law & Order: SVU. **10.30** Bones. **12.30** Grimm. **3.00** Roswell.

**ABC NEWS** **6.00** Morning Programs. **2.00** Parliament. **3.10** ABC News Afternoons. **4.00** Afternoon Briefing. **5.00** ABC News With Joe O'Brien. **6.00** ABC News Hour. **7.00** ABC National News. **7.30** **7.30**. **8.00** ABC News Tonight. **8.45** The Business. **9.00** The World. **10.00** ABC Nightly News. **10.30** Planet America. Final. **11.00** Late Programs.

**6.00** Morning Programs. **8.00** Bold. **8.30** Deal Or No Deal. **9.00** Lingo. **10.00** Ent. Tonight. **10.20** Jamie Cooks The Mediterranean. **11.30** Judge Judy. **12.00** Farm To Fork. **12.30** Family Feud. **1.00** News. **2.00** Wheel Of Fortune. **2.30** Lingo. **3.30** 10 News: Afternoon. **4.00** Neighbours. **4.30** The Bold And The Beautiful. **5.00** 10 News. **6.00** 10 News+. **6.00** 10 News. **7.00** 10 News+. **7.30** Deal Or No Deal. **7.30** Big Brother Australia. **8.40** Sam Pang Tonight. **9.40** NCIS. **10.40** 10's Late News. **11.05** 10 News+. **12.05** Late Programs.

**10 drama** **6.00** Home Shopping. **8.00** IFISH. **8.30** Everyday Gourmet With Justine Schofield. **9.00** So Help Me Todd. **10.00** JAG. **12.00** Days Of Our Lives. **12.45** The Young And The Restless. **1.30** Numb3rs. **2.30** JAG. **4.30** So Help Me Todd. **5.30** JAG. **7.30** NCIS. **8.30** Blue Bloods. **10.20** NCIS: Hawaii'. **11.15** Numb3rs. **12.15** Home Shopping.

**9Gem** **6.00** Morning Programs. **1.00** Building Icons. **2.00** World's Greatest Natural Icons. **3.00** Antiques Roadshow. **3.30** MOVIE: Alive And Kicking. (1958) **5.30** Yorkshire Auction House. **6.30** Antiques Roadshow. **7.30** Death In Paradise. **8.40** Shakespeare And Hathaway. **10.40** Major Crimes. **11.40** Late Programs.

**6.00** Morning Programs. **12.10** WorldWatch. **2.00** Wildlife ER. **3.00** Going Places. **3.35** The Cook Up. **4.05** Supertrains: The Race For Speed. **5.05** Jeopardy! **5.30** Letters And Numbers. **6.00** Mastermind Australia. **6.30** SBS World News. **7.35** Bill Bailey's Vietnam Adventure. **8.30** American Prince: JFK Jr. **9.20** Jimmy Carr's I Literally Just Told You. **10.10** SBS World News Late. **10.40** The Man Who Died. **11.30** A Criminal Affair. **11.00** Devil's Confession: Lost Eichmann Tapes. **2.15** Late Programs.

**10 comedy** **6.00** Morning Programs. **11.30** Deal Or No Deal. **12.00** The Late Show With Stephen Colbert. **1.00** Ridiculousness. **2.00** Poppa's House. **2.30** Becker. **3.00** Frasier. **4.00** Farm To Fork. **4.30** Poppa's House. **5.00** Becker. **5.30** Frasier. **6.30** Neighbours. **7.00** Friends. **8.00** The Big Bang Theory. **10.00** Becker. **10.30** Frasier. **11.30** Late Programs.

**VICELAND** **6.00** Morning Programs. **3.00** History's Crazy Rich Ancients. **3.25** Baymax. **3.55** WorldWatch. **5.50** The Food That Built The World. **6.40** Jeopardy! **7.35** 8 Out Of 10 Cats Does Countdown. **8.30** DNA Journey. **9.30** MOVIE: Monty Python And The Holy Grail. (1975) **11.10** Never Mind The Buzzcocks. **11.50** Late Programs.



**6.00** Morning Programs. **10.30** Call The Midwife. **12.00** ABC News At Noon. **1.00** The Forsytes. **2.00** Parliament Question Time. **2.55** QI. **3.25** Julia Zemiro's Home Delivery. **3.55** Grand Designs. **4.40** Long Lost Family. **5.25** Antiques Roadshow. **6.25** Hard Quiz. **7.00** ABC News. **7.30** **7.30**. **8.00** When The War Is Over. **8.30** The Piano UK. **9.20** The Art Of. **9.50** The Assembly. **10.35** Media Watch. Final. **10.50** ABC Late News. **11.05** The Business. **11.20** Annabel Crabb's Civic Duty. Final. **12.15** Late Programs.

**7two** **6.00** Morning Programs. **2.00** Creek To Coast. **2.30** Air Crash Investigations: The Accident Files. **3.30** Harry's Practice. **4.00** RSPCA Animal Rescue. **4.30** Better Homes And Gardens. **5.30** Escape To The Country. **6.30** Bargain Hunt. **7.30** Call The Midwife. **8.45** Judge John Deed. **10.45** Autopsy USA. **11.45** Late Programs.

**ABC Entertains** **6.00** Morning Programs. **2.05** ER. **2.50** Heartbreak High. **3.35** Nigella's Christmas Kitchen. **4.05** Would I Lie To You? **4.35** MythBusters. **5.30** Amazing Spaces. **6.15** Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. **7.05** House Of Games. **7.35** QI. **8.05** Would I Lie To You? **8.35** Not Going Out. **9.35** Spooks. **10.30** Late Programs.

**6.00** Morning Programs. **1.20** Cricket. The Ashes. First Test. Aust v England. Morning. (Alt schedule may be shown). **3.20** The Ashes: The Lunch Break. **4.00** Cricket. The Ashes. First Test. Australia v England. Day 5. Afternoon session. **6.00** 7News Local. **6.30** 7News @ 6:30. **7.00** Cricket. The Ashes. First Test. Australia v England. Day 5. Evening session. **9.00** Murder In A Small Town. **10.00** Homicide: With Ron Iddles. **11.00** Gross Pointe Garden Society. Final. **12.00** Late Programs.

**7mate** **6.00** Morning Programs. **3.30** Swamp People: Serpent Invasion. **4.30** American Restoration. **5.00** American Pickers. **6.00** The Ashes: Tea Break. **6.20** Cricket. The Ashes. First Test. Australia v England. Day 5. Evening session. **7.00** Pawn Stars. **7.30** Outback Truckers. **9.30** Outback Farm. **10.30** Ice Road Truckers. **11.30** Late Programs.

**ABC Family** **6.00** Kids' Programs. **5.30** Peter Rabbit. **6.05** PJ Masks. **6.25** The Adventures Of Paddington. **6.45** Ben And Holly's Little Kingdom. **7.05** Batwheels. **7.35** Ninjago: Dragons Rising. **8.00** Operation Ouch! **8.35** Animals Up Close With Bertie Gregory. **9.10** Super Shark Highway. **10.00** Merlin. **10.45** Late Programs.

**6.00** Today. **9.00** Today Extra. **11.30** 9News Morning. **12.00** MOVIE: Christmas In Alaska. (2023) **2.00** Pointless. **3.00** Tipping Point. **4.00** 9News Afternoon. **4.30** Tipping Point Australia. **5.30** WIN News. **6.00** 9News. **7.00** A Current Affair. **7.30** Taronga: Who's Who In The Zoo. **8.30** Jamie Durie's Future House. New. **9.40** Beyond The Build. New. **10.40** 9News Late. **11.10** Wild Cards. **12.00** Around The World With 30 Kilos. **1.00** Cross Court. **1.30** TV Shop: Home Shopping. **2.00** Late Programs.

**7flix** **6.00** It's Academic. **7.30** Get Clever. **8.30** News Of The Wild. **9.00** Home Shopping. **10.00** The Food Dude. **10.30** House Rules. **12.00** S.W.A.T. **3.00** The Goldbergs. **3.30** First Dates UK. **4.30** Bondi Vet. **6.30** Judge Judy. **7.30** CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. **9.30** CSI: Miami. **11.30** CSI: New York. **12.30** Grimm. **3.00** Roswell.

**ABC NEWS** **6.00** Morning Programs. **2.00** Parliament. **3.10** ABC News Afternoons. **4.00** Afternoon Briefing. **5.00** ABC News With Joe O'Brien. **6.00** ABC News Hour. **7.00** ABC National News. **7.30** **7.30**. **8.00** ABC News Tonight. **8.45** The Business. **9.00** The World. **10.00** ABC Nightly News. **10.15** To Be Advised. **11.00** Late Programs.

**6.00** Morning Programs. **7.30** Farm To Fork. **8.00** Bold. **8.30** Deal Or No Deal. **9.00** Lingo. **10.00** Ent. Tonight. **10.20** Jamie Cooks The Mediterranean. **11.30** Judge Judy. **12.00** Farm To Fork. **12.30** Family Feud. **1.00** News. **2.00** Wheel Of Fortune. **2.30** Lingo. **3.30** 10 News: Afternoon. **4.00** Neighbours. **4.30** The Bold And The Beautiful. **5.00** 10 News. **6.00** 10 News+. **7.00** Deal Or No Deal. **7.30** Big Brother Australia. **8.40** FBI: Most Wanted. **10.40** 10's Late News. **11.05** 10 News+. **12.05** Late Programs.

**10 drama** **6.00** Home Shopping. **8.00** What's Up Down Under. **9.00** So Help Me Todd. **10.00** JAG. **12.00** Days Of Our Lives. **12.45** The Young And The Restless. **1.30** Numb3rs. **2.30** JAG. **4.30** So Help Me Todd. **5.30** JAG. **7.30** NCIS. **9.25** NCIS: Hawaii'. **10.20** So Help Me Todd. **11.15** Numb3rs. **12.15** Home Shopping.

**9Gem** **6.00** Morning Programs. **10.30** Pointless. **11.30** Find My Country House NZ. **12.00** Poirot. **1.00** Shakespeare And Hathaway. **3.00** Antiques Roadshow. **3.30** MOVIE: Confession. (1955) **5.30** Yorkshire Auction House. **6.30** Antiques Roadshow. **7.30** New Tricks. **8.40** The Chelsea Detective. **10.40** Major Crimes. **11.40** Late Programs.

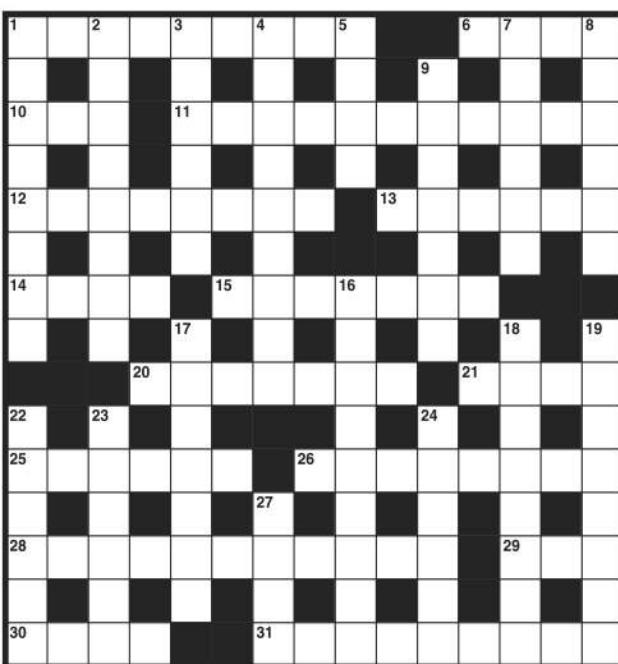
**6.00** Morning Programs. **12.00** WorldWatch. **2.00** Wildlife ER. **2.55** Portugal's Atlantic Train. **3.45** The Cook Up With Adam Liaw. **4.15** London: 2,000 Years Of History. **5.05** Jeopardy! **5.30** Letters And Numbers. **6.00** Mastermind Australia. **6.30** SBS World News. **7.35** Great British Railway Journeys. **8.30** Who Do You Think You Are? **9.40** Australia: An Unofficial History. **10.40** SBS World News Late. **11.10** Families Like Ours. **12.10** Carmen Curlers. **2.25** Late Programs.

**10 comedy** **6.00** Morning Programs. **11.30** Deal Or No Deal. **12.00** The Late Show With Stephen Colbert. **1.00** Ridiculousness. **2.00** Poppa's House. **2.30** Becker. **3.00** Frasier. **4.00** Farm To Fork. **4.30** Poppa's House. **5.00** Becker. **5.30** Frasier. **6.30** Neighbours. **7.00** Friends. **8.00** The Big Bang Theory. **10.00** Becker. **10.30** Frasier. **11.30** Late Programs.

**VICELAND** **6.00** Morning Programs

# PUZZLES

## CROSSWORD



### ACROSS

- 1 Danish writer, Hans — Andersen (9)  
6 Electronic music player (4)  
10 Yank (3)  
11 Right away (11)  
12 Graveyard (8)
- 13 French (6)  
14 Ump teen (4)  
15 Italian composer (7)  
20 Enlarge (7)  
21 Church recess (4)  
25 Soporific drug (6)  
26 Dictator (8)

### 9-LETTER

No. 150  
Using the nine letters in the grid, how many words of four letters or more can you list? The centre letter must be included and each letter may only be used once. No colloquial or foreign words. No capitalised nouns, apostrophes or plural words ending in "s".

Today's Aim:

- 18 words: Good  
27 words: Very good  
36 words: Excellent



## CODEWORD

No. 100  
Each number corresponds to a letter of the alphabet. Two have been filled in for you, can you work out the rest?

24	20	5	5	11	14	1	22	5	14	15	H
16		18		7		8		14		21	
22	H	7	10	5		20	5	10	5	14	11
H		11				21		5	3		2
15	2	5	14	21		14	16	15	13	7	22
7						11		6	1		
14	6	17	16	15	2		2	20	14	G	7
		14		4		8		8			H
19	7	1	2	5	20	23		13	7	9	16
H		16		H		15				16	22
14	6	14	21	14	1	2		4	20	7	1
20		20		10		5		8		20	5

No. 100

SOLUTIONS: 1=A, 2=T, 3=Z, 4=B, 5=E, 6=D, 7=L, 8=O, 9=Q, 10=Y, 11=I, 12=K, 13=P, 14=A.

## SUDOKU

No. 150  
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every number from 1 to 9 must appear in: each of the nine vertical columns, each of the nine horizontal rows and each of the nine 3x3 boxes. Remember, no number can occur more than once in any row, column or box.

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

No. 150

PUZZLES AND PAGINATION © pagemasters.

## SOLUTIONS

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

## QUICK QUIZ

- What is the capital of Morocco?
- Which country was Julia Gillard born in?
- In the book Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, what is the name of Veruca Salt's mother?
- Which Australian pop singer covered Raspberry Beret on her 2007 album?
- Which American actor played the femme fatale Gilda in the 1946 film of the same name?
- In which film did Maggie Gyllenhaal (pictured) play her real brother's on-screen sister?
- What does the word 'esperanto' mean in its own language?
- In which year did the TV show Getaway first air?
- Which weekly entertainment trade newspaper was founded in New York in 1905 by Sime Silverman?
- What percentage of a panda's diet is made up of bamboo?



ANSWERS: 1=Rabat, 2=Wales, 3=Anglia, 4=Kate Ceberano, 5=Rita Hayworth, 6=Donna Deakos, 7=One who hopes

## WORDFIT

No. 150

### 3 LETTERS

- ADO SAKI  
AGE SEES  
CHI TOED  
DNA TYRE  
DOE

### 5 LETTERS

- EEL ACIDS  
EGO ACRES  
END AGENT  
ERA ALIVE  
eve ALLOT  
HID ION  
ION ANGEL  
IOU ARIAS  
LSD ATONE  
NET CUBIC  
ODD DEARS  
OHM DRAPE  
ONE ESSAY  
SAD EXTRA  
SKI FIEND  
TAR GREET  
TEA HAREM  
TVS HERON  
URN HINTS  
HOSTS RESTS

### 4 LETTERS

- CHAP INNER  
DAIS ISLAM  
DAMP MACES  
DAMCY MERCY  
ERGO NESTS  
LEER OBEYS  
LIES OLIVE  
MEAL OMEGA  
MEWS PANES  
RICE POSES

### 6 LETTERS

- DRESSY EXPERTLY  
IMPURE LANDLADY  
RIDDLE BOARDS

### 8 LETTERS

- ATONE RESUSCITATE  
SKATE



## WORD SEARCH

No. 060

Can you find all the words listed? The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.

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

ALCATRAZ	FUJI	RUSHMORE
ARC DE TRIOMPHE	GREAT WALL	TAJ MAHAL
BERLIN WALL	HARBOUR	ULURU
BIG BEN	BRIDGE	YOSEMITE
CENTRAL PARK	LOCH NESS	
CHICHEN ITZA	LOUVRE	
CN TOWER	MECCA	
COLOSSEUM	NIAGARA FALLS	
EIFFEL TOWER	NOTRE DAME	
EVEREST	PENTAGON	
	PETRA	
	POMPEII	

SECRET MESSAGE: Sites of historical significance

20-11-25

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ANOTHER DRY week despite a few attempts to rain.

Dry weather for a month is what grain growers want to enable a smooth harvest. The week's forecast is tops of 30 to 34 degrees, lows of 12 to 14.\*\*\*

#### Marketing your grain

In the volatile world of grain markets having a clear and proactive marketing strategy is essential. One powerful tool growers can use is setting a target price - a predetermined price at which they're willing to sell part or all of their grain TARGET be notified when the market reaches your price, doesn't transact straight away.

How to do it

1. Go to customer hub Pricing on the dashboard.
2. Go to my saved bids on the upper tool bar.
3. Enter your save bid.
4. Before saving, scroll to the bottom and enter your target price and tick enable notifications for target price.
5. Save search. Up to 40 commodities can be listed.

View market trends over one week or by 1, 3, or 6 months. Follow these four easy steps:- 1. Go to Customer Hub pricing on the dashboard. 2. Go to Market Trends on the top menu and select commodity and location. 3. Drop down option for time frames. 4. Your tailored market trend will appear. Hover over the chart to get specific details.eg 1 week.\*\*\*

Crops in WA are great, in SA pretty ordinary, Vic fair to ordinary, NSW excellent, Qld very good.\*\*\*

#### Markets at a glance

Cash grain prices PARKES SUB: Canola G/Corp \$763.25, APH2 G/Corp \$334.25, H2 Bunge Aust P/L \$305.25, AUH2 G/Corp \$304.25, APW1 G/Corp \$295.25, ASW G/Corp \$294.25, AGP1 \$284.25.

**WOOL.** 13th. EMI closed 1458c/kg clean, up 39 cents with 29,621 bales nationally, down 3,914 bales. Sydney (Tues/Wed) Encouraging signs as all MPGs recorded double digit price gains (29 to 72c) up to 97% clearance. Merino skirtings: fleece-like broken lines keenly sought after and underpinning a 10 to 25c price gain. Crossbred 26micron mpg shed 3 cents day1, remained same day 2. 28-micron mpg gained 13 cents. Cardings unchanged. NRI 1490c/kg clean, up 30 cents. Sydney, 4% passed-in, 349 bales withdrawn.

**CATTLE.** DBO 13th, 8400 head, up 1430. Limited young cattle to trade firm, vealers and yearlings 430c to 588c/kg. Feeder steers up to 15c dearer, heifers firm to 5c cheaper. Young cattle to restockers 15c cheaper, steers to 576c, heifers to 480c/kg. Grown steers firm, heifers up to 9c cheaper.

Steers 452c to 488c/kg, heifers 430c to 460c/kg. Cows 12c cheaper, 2 - 3 score to processors 302c to 398c/kg. Heavy cows 390c to 420c, heavy bulls to 426c/kg.

**SHEEP:-** Cowra 12th. 1900 sheep, lambs 4770, up 1120. Quality very good for shorn new season lambs, woolly lines showing dryness. Light new season to restockers \$129 to \$237, up \$2 to \$7. Lambs to processors \$214 to \$236, down \$10. Medium and heavy trade new season held firm, ave 1140c to 1195c/kg cwt. 23 to 24kg \$274 to \$295. Heavy lambs firm for longer skins and up to \$11 dearer for shorn lines, ave 1090c to 1220c/kg cwt. Heavy lambs \$296 to \$330, extra heavy \$325 to \$376. Medium first cross ewes \$159 to \$176. Heavy \$190 to \$270. Heavy ewes \$178 to \$209.\*\*\*

**STOCK CLEARANCE Continues**  
TRITON tray top (2018) 128km with hydraulic crane (1t) \$18,000 also 500lt sprayer self-wind \$3000.

# Rural



Dubbo (02) 6885 0549



Wellington 0427 919 062

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT  
Week ending November 14, 2025  
AWEX Northern Micron Indices Comparison

AWEX INDEX	This Week S20/25	This Week M20/25	Last Sale S19/25	Sydney Change	Last Year Sydney	Sydney Yearly Change
17	2050	2035	2020	+30	1671	+379
18	1917	1940	1887	+30	1530	+387
19	1780	1788	1732	+48	1411	+369
20	1736n	1736	1664n	+72	1336n	+400
21	-	1733	-	-	-	-
26	742n	768	745n	-3	595n	+147
28	653n	660	640n	+13	400n	+253
MC	805n	732	805n	n/c	707n	+98

#### Smaller offerings drive market

THE POSITIVE tone that was set up the week prior continued with solid increases across the indicators, particularly the Merino MPG's. Tuesday opened with gains of up to 38 cents in the North, with Melbourne and Fremantle in similar form, improving by up to 47 cents. Day two was stronger than the previous, lifting by up to 53 cents in the South. The anticipated offering of 33,000 bales failed to materialise, with less than 30,000 making it to auction. The tight supply and improved buyer support allowed the passed-in rate to fall to 3.7%, a far cry from the 25% witnessed just four sales ago. Skirtings were better but not at the improved rate of the fleece, cardings managed to hopefully bottom out and head forward from these levels, and crossbreds mainly lifted, with the 30-micron indicator rising 23 cents. The positive price improvement now has the 19, 21, 28 and 30 micron indicators between 97 and 99 per cent of the highest price achieved over the past five years. No doubt the change in sentiment over the last couple of weeks is on the back of the smaller offerings, which is reflecting the buying sentiment of the larger Chinese-based mills particularly. Given that we have only five sales remaining prior to the three-week Christmas break, all processors will no doubt be looking at their stock position on both the greasy and wool top sides and make a plan to execute in the sale room. The Northern hemisphere cold weather is only just starting to impact, and with Black Friday sales seen as a litmus test for woollen clothing demand, this could determine the price level the market could achieve heading into the New Year. AWI election voted in grower consultant Chris Mirams, sheep operations manager Anthony Uren, and re-elected veterinary consultant Michelle Humphries. George Millington was elected unopposed as new chairman. Disappointing for Paul Swan and Drew Chapman. Voter turnout was quite low, with only 937 of 13,795 eligible shareholders in AWI voting in the election. It will be interesting if sale volume offers the 33,750 bales that are listed currently, after the positive market seen last week. Macwool and Carmichael Wool offered 955 bales on opening day.

#### YOUR WOOL IN SAFE HANDS



#### Stock report by Ross Plasto

**DUBBO CATTLE** sale yarded 8532 plainer quality with larger numbers of secondary cows, good numbers of young cattle suitable for the restockers and backgrounders, good numbers of prime cattle in all sections, fair numbers to suit the feeders. Limited young cattle to trade firm, vealers and yearlings 430c to 498c/kg. Feeder steers up to 15c dearer, heifers firm to 5c cheaper. Feeder steers 436c to 528c, heifers 382c to 474c/kg. Young cattle to restockers 15c cheaper, steers to 576c, heifers to 480c/kg. Grown steers firm, heifers up to 9c/kg cheaper. Prime grown steers 452c to 498c, heifers 430c to 460c/kg. Cows 12c cheaper, 2-3 scores to processors 302c to 398c/kg. Heavy cows 390c to 420c, ave 408c/kg. Cows to restockers 280c to 386c/kg. Heavy bulls firm to 426c/kg.

**CARCOAR STORE** cattle. 3054 head. Quality good and demand strong with many buyers. Good mix of older weaners and yearlings, especially 260 to 300kg. Market stronger for steers and heifers, steers lifted \$150 to \$200, heifers lifted \$80 to \$120. Light weaner steers under 200kg \$1200 to \$1320, medium weights \$1200 to \$1750, most ranged from 600c to 660c some up to 700c/kg, heavy weights to \$2040. Medium weaner heifers \$790 to \$1380, most 430c to 470c/kg, heavy weights to \$1550. Yearling steers 260 to 300kg \$1640 to \$1770 or 600c to 630c/kg, heavy weights to \$1900. Best priced heifer at \$2135. Heifers with calves \$2200 to \$2750. Heavy Charolais cow with older calf at foot reached \$3000.

**DUBBO LAMBS** yarded 20,900. Fair quality yarding, good numbers of trade new season lambs, good runs of well-finished shorn lambs. Heavy lambs limited supply, a lot less Merino lambs.

Light lambs to processors \$5 dearer, 12kg to 18kg 2-scores \$170 to \$208. Trade new season lambs \$8 dearer, \$219 to \$317, ave 1180c to 1295c/kg cwt. Heavy new season to \$345. Trade old lambs dearer, 20kg to 24kg \$225 to \$323. Heavy lambs \$10 dearer, old lambs over 24kg \$320 to \$395. Few Merino lambs \$8 dearer, trade weights \$178 to \$306, heavy Merinos to \$320. Lambs to restockers considerably dearer \$88 to \$249, feeders paid \$182 to \$215. Hoggets to \$268/head.

**DUBBO MUTTON**. All weights and grades represented. 10,170, market \$20 dearer and more in places. Merino ewes \$110 to \$276, crossbred ewes \$127 to \$290. Merino wethers \$125 to \$260, most sheep 680c to 745c/kg cwt.

**WOOL.** The green shoots of the previous week continued with the market once again finding some solid support. For whatever reason the month of October is more often than not unkind and hopefully can be put behind us. The recovery in the mid-micron Merino prices was the standout this week, and whilst 21 and 22 micron price guides were not reported in the Northern region due to lack of volume, they certainly responded positively down South. So much so that just 14 cents separates the 20-22 micron indicators. Sales reverted back to the Tuesday, Wednesday format with gains made over both days. Tuesday saw an 11-cent gain in the indicator followed up with a further 19-cent jump on Wednesday. Crossbred and carding prices remaining flat held the overall market indicator back from being quoted even dearer. 28,522 bales were sold nationally with both the passed-in rates and withdrawal rate dropping considerably. A similar quantity is on offer nationally this week..

*Around the tracks  
with Col Hodges*

#### Racing at Bathurst

GLOWING RAPIDS hit all the right notes at the Country Music meeting when a stylish winner on Saturday at Bathurst.

Well-tuned for the occasion by Forbes trainer Melissa Harrison, Glowing Rapids (\$3.40 to \$2.60 favourite) hummed along in the lead for Dubbo based apprentice Zoe Hunt and sailed home over two lengths clear of Ultra White (Izzy Neale, \$5) and Fancy Garter (Mathew Cahill, \$5.50) in the 1100 metres Bathurst Volkswagen-Benchmark 50 Handicap.

Trackwork rider Kyla Harrison, the daughter of trainer Melissa Harrison, later explained Glowing Rapids had been working strongly and after consulting with Zoe Hunt they decided to go to the front from the start.

Melissa Harrison with the help of husband Matt and daughter Kyla is putting together a handy team of gallopers at Forbes and the following day at Wellington the stable had another good result when \$51 outsider Erion ran home strongly for second to the Mudgee trained Chappolicious in a \$50,000 Maiden Plate.

Long time successful Cowra jockey Mathew Cahill continues to ride in great form and he landed a winning double at Bathurst on Zou Royal and Instead.

From the Warwick Farm stables of Jarrod Austin, Zou Royal (\$2.30) led throughout for a three-lengths win over \$101 chance Twin Gift (Ashleigh Stanley) and Lucky Monkey (Jake Pracey-Holmes, \$18).

Placed over 2400 metres at Warren last campaign, the David Smith, Mudgee trained Instead was able to win first up from a spell over 1300m at Bathurst in the Volkswagen Amarok Benchmark 50 Handicap.

Mathew Cahill brought Instead (\$9.50) down the outside from midfield to overwhelm Jade Division (Poppie Gorton, \$15) and Bulla Vinaka (Jordan Quince, \$3 fav).

Jordan Quince in the following race won the 2000m Volkswagen Tiguan Benchmark 50 Handicap on the Dale Wagstaff, Newcastle trained Farraigie.

Tracking the leading pair Big Bertha and Ever Was at the top of the straight, Farraigie (\$6) then hit the front and scored by almost three lengths from Doutelle (Zoe Hunt, \$18) and Big Bertha (Wendy Peel, \$12).

The other winners were the Brett Thompson, Wellington trained Casino Sting (Jake Pracey-Holmes, \$8) and Joshua (\$8) trained at Dubbo by Connie Greig and ridden by apprentice Jacob Stiff.

Bathurst will next race on Tuesday, December 23.

\*\*\*

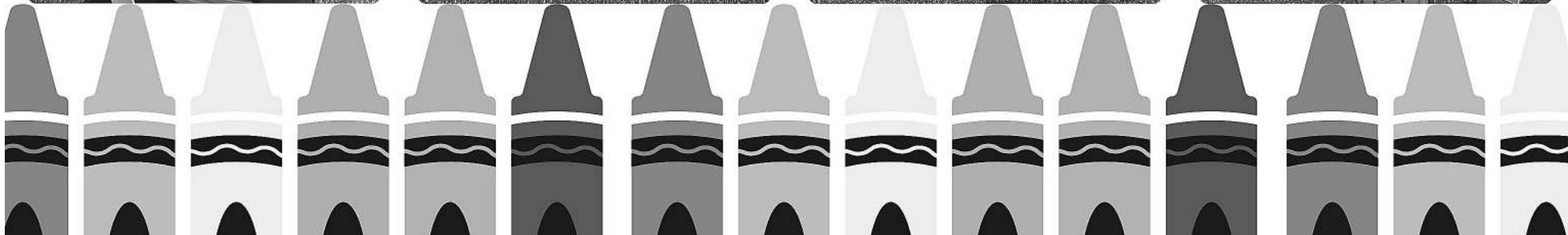
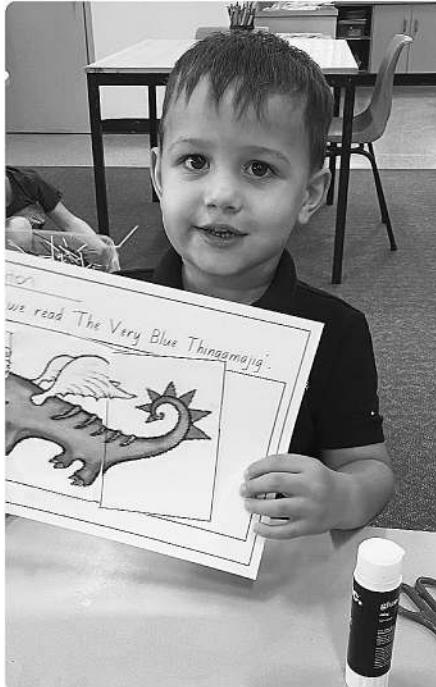
Racing at Orange tomorrow (Friday), Cowra on Saturday and Wellington on Monday.

**Get your backside  
Trackside  
Next Monday,  
November 24.  
Another TAB  
meeting**



# Wellington Public School

## Kinder Transition





Kath Bell-Pitomac steers Green Run to the finish to win the LSS Locksmith & Security Solutions Country Boosted Benchmark 58 Handicap at Wellington on Sunday.

## Racing at Wellington

MUCH ADMIRED jockey Kath Bell-Pitomac who has on several occasions returned to the saddle after seemingly career ending injuries, continued her recent good form with a winning double on Sunday at Wellington.

Sending her many supporters home happy, the mother of teenage children won the final two races on Andale and Green Run.

Winner of a barrier trial against good quality opposition last week at Warren, the Merv Rumble, Dubbo trained Andale was given a charmed run by Kath Bell-Pitomac in the 1100 metres Over The Line Racing Class 1 Handicap.

Travelling on the rails, Andale (\$5.50 to \$3.50) was eased around the leaders heels turning for home and won by a half-neck from Champ De Mars (Jacob Stiff, \$31) and the fast-finishing Supreme Style (Siena Grima, \$2 favourite).

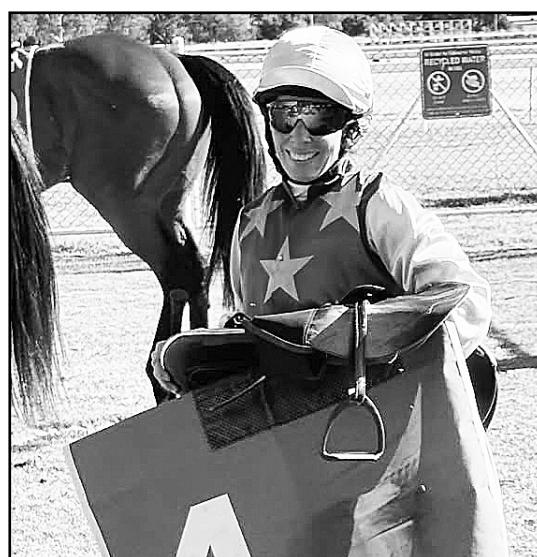
Back in the winner's circle after a string of placings, the Dar Lunn, Dubbo trained Green Run was also well ridden by Kath Bell-Pitomac in the 1600m LSS Locksmith & Security Benchmark 58 Handicap.

Coming from well back, Green Run (\$7.50 to \$5.50) won by a half-length from Sports Page (\$8.50) with a similar margin to the third placed Way To Divine (Jacob Stiff, \$9).

Producing a game performance, the Clint Lundholm, Dubbo trained Brutal Love won the 1400m KFC Wellington Class 3 Handicap after an exciting battle in the straight.

Taken on in the lead by Firestorm Boy and Kirk, the strongly supported Brutal Love (Jake Pracey-Holmes, \$2.90 to \$ 2.15 fav) made it three wins and seven placings from 15 starts when fighting off Comongin (Izzy Neale, \$2.10) and Kirk (Ashleigh Stanley, \$8).

First leg of a winning double for Jake Pracey-Holmes was the Mack Griffith, Mudgee trained Chappolicious in the 1100m Grand Hotel and Bottle Shop-Super Maiden Plate.



Kath Bell-Pitomac returns to scales after riding Green Run to win Race 7 at Wellington on Sunday.

Ridden aggressively, Chappolicious (\$2.80) took the early lead and kept the frontrunners role to score by almost a length from Erion (Olivia Chambers, \$51) and Vicious Rumour, (Kath Bell-Pitomac, \$7.50).

Leading apprentice Siena Grima combined with Mudgee trainer Bob Howe to win the opening event with Torendosetta.

Finishing well from midfield, Torendosetta (\$11) beat Yasena (Jake Pracey-Holmes, \$8) by a half-length with Frosty's Gotcha (Kath Bell-Pitomac, \$21) a length away third.

The other winners were Priscila Statement (Leeshelle Small, \$5.50 to \$3.70) and Pelette (Clayton Gallagher, \$2.60 fav), both being trained at Muswellbrook by Jan Bowen.

\*\*\*

Racing at Orange tomorrow (Friday), Cowra (Saturday) and at Wellington on Monday.

**Colin Hedges**



Ralph Chalmers of ClubCart and Wellington Soldiers Club manager, Stephen Hodge with the seven new golf carts and two bike buggies delivered last Friday.

## Club upgrades golf carts and buggies fleet

WHILE THERE is still hold-ups with Wellington golf course lease arrangements with council, Wellington Soldiers Memorial Club is moving forward on upgrades to the golf club facilities.

Since the amalgamation of the golf club and the soldiers club last year plans are well under way on club house upgrades, which will commence as soon as approvals are received.

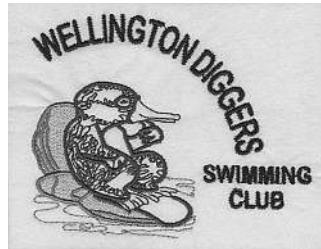
A full-time curator, Damien Bell, has been working non-stop on the golf course renovations and last

weekend brand new golf carts and buggies were delivered to increase the fleet available for hire, and replace old models.

These electrics carts are ultra modern and will serve club members and visiting golfing patrons for many years to come.

"This is all part of our vision for the golf club and course to become a jewel in the crown for Wellington Tourism," Club manager, Stephen Hodge said.

## Wellington Diggers Swimming Club



OUR FIRST swim of the season attracted a small number of members.

Katharine O'Rourke won the 30-metre event being 0.18 outside her time with Nick Knowles 2nd and Di Donnelly third. Nick Knowles won the 50-metre event being 0.88 outside his time with Janelle Frappell 2nd and Di Donnelly 3rd.

Rhylee Hill won the junior events. Swimming commences at 6pm each Tuesday at the Aquatic Leisure Centre.

To compete in our Weekly Swim adults must be members of the Wellington Soldiers Memorial Club and for juniors to compete a family member must compete on the night.

Membership is \$2 for adults, swim cost is \$5 per person plus pool entry. After swim BBQ is included.

The Western District Championships will be held in Cobar on Sunday, February 8, 2026.

Cost will be advised at our Tuesday Swim. New Members are always welcome and for more information contact Terry Dray – 0408 294 526. **The Platypus**

## Golfing News

### Cusack is club champion



CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS have been finalised.

In A grade Kurt Cusack (pictured) claim the prize with a four-round score of 272, 16 under par, and it was by a fair margin to the nearest golfer, which was Mitchell Cusack, 301, John Donnelly was next best with 303 to claim the Veterans winning prize.

Scores were a lot closer in B grade with David Hyde, 343, winning by the barest of margins, one shot from the early leader Rod McMahon, 344, Steven McCarroll was next with 345.

In C grade Rod Irwin, 382, finished over the top of the field by a comfortable margin from Drew Stone 389, who tried hard but couldn't reel Rod in, while Warren Williams finished out the top three with 394.

Junior winner went to Cody Conn, who was the early leader in C grade.

Last Saturday and Sunday saw a Stroke event with Ron Cowan the winner who showed the field he can still play the game, final score 69nett.

Runner-up was Kurt Cusack finishing with 70nett.

Sunday's event winner was Noel Stanford who was heard to say "I'm back", his final score was a 70nett.

Runner-up was John Donnelly with a 71nett on a countback.

Prize winners were; Paul Hannelly, Noel Stanford, Steven McCarroll 71netts; John Donnelly, Matt Ringley 72netts; Steven McCarroll, 73nett; Rod Miller, Kurt Cusack 74netts.

Nearest the Pin on the 3rd Gary Cusack, 8th John Donnelly, Peter Holden, 14th Malcolm Payne and

David Hyde, 16th Daniel McCullum and David Hyde.

Club sponsored NTP in two-shots on the 7th went to Kurt Cusack and on the 15th David East.

Jespresso Cafe longest drives went to Kurt Cusack and Justin McCarron in A grade and Brock Naden and Warren Williams in B grade.

Brent Eather Encouragement awards were taken out by, and in a first, the same so-called golfer claimed the prize on both days, and that golfer was Peter Holden with scores of 86 and 88netts.

Wednesday's ladies day played a Par 3 event with Janelle Frappell the winner with 55nett,

Runner-up and only just was Kathy Martin who finished with 55.5nett. Prize winner Patsi O'Brien 56nett.

NTP's, Janelle Frappell and Marie Cornish.

Thursday an Individual Stableford was played with Jimmy Armstrong the winner, and you couldn't get the smile off his face, final 40pts.

Runner-up was Rex England on a countback with 39pts.

Prize winners were, Lindsay Wilson from Dubbo Golf Club 39pts, Jamie Robertson 37pts.

Iberdrola, Wellington Soldiers Memorial Club nine-hole competition played Round 6 last week.

No results were forwarded. Round 7 sees the Front nine being played this week.

Wellington Mowers and Chainsaws Summer Competition nominations are now closed with the competition to start on either November 22nd or 29th. This Saturday sees an Individual Stableford being played.

**19th Hole**

# Narromine Carnival & Friday Pointscore

## Carmen Gain photos



### Pointscores and Macquarie Yabbies Carnival

WITH ONLY five weeks left of Pointscores for 2025, our numbers are continuing to grow and it is great to see swimmers getting in and trying their hardest each week.

On Sunday, nine swimmers travelled to Narromine for the Macquarie Yabbies Carnival.

Congratulations to Lakyn, who placed in four events. Roman was very competitive in the 10-year-old boys, securing top-three finishes in all but one event.

Brodie and Steph smashed their times across numerous strokes, while Ned took out first place in the 8-years 50m Butterfly.

Elsie had a fantastic day, winning her 50m freestyle, butterfly and breaststroke, and placing second in her backstroke.

Imogen swam beautifully, placing 2nd and 3rd across four events. Macy came 2nd in the 14-year-old 50m backstroke and narrowly missed places in her remaining events.

Ronnie won all of his multi-class events.

A special mention to Chris Steven, who was the Technical Official for the day, and Pip Smith, who refereed. Both are valued members of our club and do a wonderful job ensuring these events run smoothly.

**Carmen Gain**



# Touch Foooty R5 - Jo Ivey photos

WELLINGTON TOUCH Association competitions continued with strong showings across Rounds 4 and 5, producing several shifts on the ladders.

In A Grade, Fast Eddie Owens Plumbing remain undefeated on top, with Wolf Pack and FORME close behind as the race for finals tightens.

Lousicks also hold firm in B Grade with a perfect record, ahead of NF Electrical and Arthurville.

In the junior C Grade competition, Wello Weapons stay unbeaten after five rounds, while Swamp Kings, Whipper Snippers and Junior Cowboys are tightly bunched behind them.

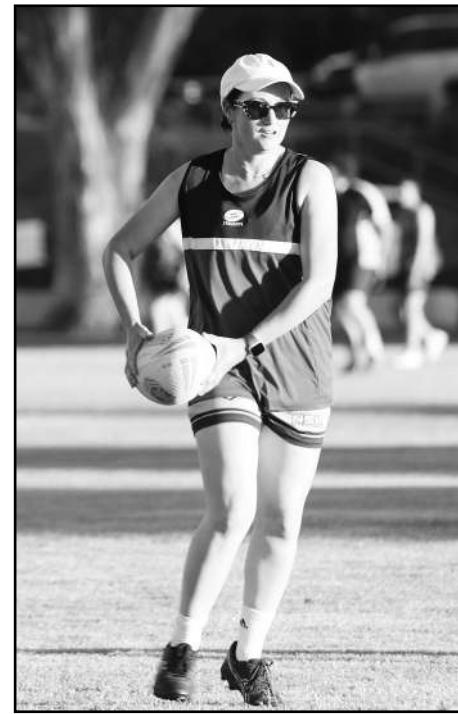
Looking to yesterday's Round 6 games, A Grade featured several key clashes, including Fast Eddie Owens Plumbing against Wolf Pack, and Ben's Tyres meeting Biggest Mob in an important mid-table battle.

In B Grade, Lousicks took on NF Electrical in a top-of-the-table match, while in C Grade Touch Downs were to attempt to hand Wello Weapons their first loss.

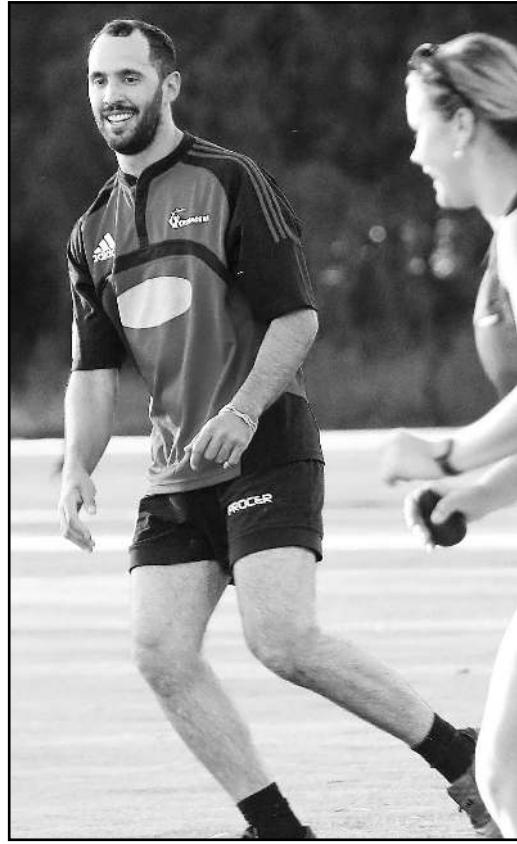
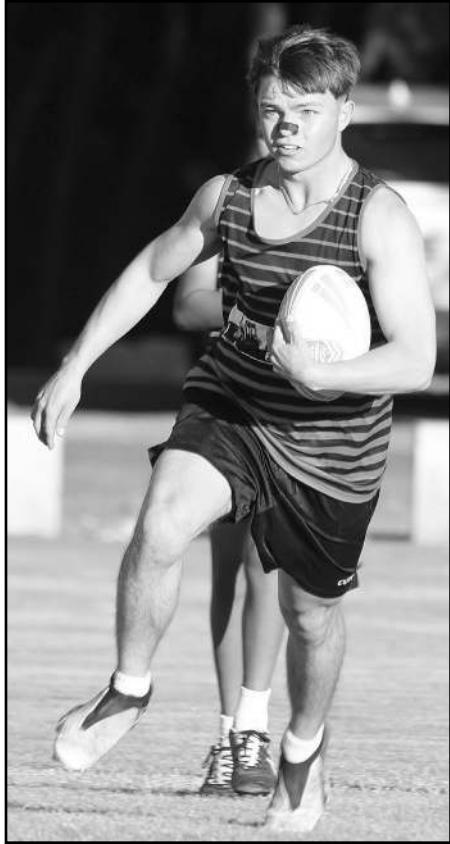
Swamp Kings vs Junior Cowboys shape as another highlight.

With competitive games across all grades, Wellington Touch continues to deliver excellent mid-week sport at Pioneer Park.

**Abe Dearmer**



# Touch Foooty R5 - Jo Ivey photos



# Wellington & District LEADER sport

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## Life membership to Gillian

After more decades she cares to remember, Wellington Race Club stalwart Gillian Ryan was bestowed Life Membership of the club during yesterday's race meeting in Wellington.

Club president, Peter Barton presented the honour between races saying he was privileged to be in the position to bestow such a prestigious award to a lady who has worked tirelessly for not only the race club but many other organisations in Wellington and locally.

"Gil has been a keen supporter and hard worker on and off race club committees for many years," he said.

In accepting the honour, Gillian Ryan mentioned that one year, her and another

lady sold more than 1000 hotdogs at one race day, probably a Wellington Boot race day.

She recalled many decades back she asked to join the club committee to be told that they didn't have women on their committee.

Instead, she and other ladies sold raffle tickets for bull raffles, Merino rams and later, young horses to raise funds for the club.

But, how times have changed, and minds sets too, as Gil and other women are now the backbone of the race club.

Her late father, Jeff England was a club president and later a life member of Wellington Race Club.



Gillian Ryan shows her Life Membership badge after the presentation of life membership of Wellington Race Club on Sunday.

**VALUED MEMBERS, YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR MEMBERS**  
**Christmas Party**  
ENTERTAINMENT BY NIGEL STANLEY & TERRY LEONARD  
SUNDAY | 7 DECEMBER  
12:00PM:  
TWO FREE DRINKS  
PRAWNS AND OYSTERS  
CHOICE OF 2 BAKED DINNER MAINS AND DESSERT  
\$25 PER PERSON  
MUST PAY WHEN BOOK  
RSVP 4 December

**MONSTER TOY RAFFLE**  
FRIDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2025  
JUST IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS  
TICKETS ON SALE FROM 6.30PM

**CHRISTMAS HAM RAFFLE NIGHT**  
SUNDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2025  
TICKETS ON SALE FROM 5.30PM  
40 HAMS ON OFFER  
AS MORE TICKETS ARE SOLD MORE HAMS WILL BE RAFFLED

Gamble Help is close at hand Gambleaware.nsw.gov.au | 1800 858858 | gambleaware.nsw.gov.au

**ARTHUR STREET, WELLINGTON | INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS AND THEIR GUEST**

**WELLINGTON**  
Soldiers Memorial Club

**6845 2877**

**SATURDAY DISCO NIGHT**  
DJ BUDDY  
22<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER  
STARTS 7.30 PM

**LIVE MUSIC**  
NIGEL STANLEY  
SATURDAY 29<sup>th</sup> November  
STARTING FROM 7.30pm

**Dear Valued Members.**  
The Club will be closing at 5:30PM on MONDAY 1 DECEMBER so that our Staff and their loved ones may have their CHRISTMAS PARTY!  
We thank you for your understanding.