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 PHONE: (02) 6785 1033, FAX: (02) 6785 1202 MOBILE: 0429 851 033

email:manxpres@bigpond.net.au Website: www.manillaexpress.com

MANILLA, WEDNESDAY, 25TH AUGUST 2021

One of Mock Song's biggest fans is Mackenzie



The old adage 'the family that plays together stays together' would aptly apply to Attunga's Swan family.

Parents Dennis and Robin, along with kids Tim, Matt, Bec and Ashley have been the linchpins behind Tamworth's successful Avro Glass business for decades. That's on a Monday to Friday basis, but come the weekend, as many of the close-knit family (including grandkids) as can make it frock up and head to the racetrack wherever the family investment Mock Song is racing.

Mum Robin though jokes that the kids are all in ownership of the seven-year-old mare, but "mum and dad pay the bills and the kids reap the benefits".

Mock Song, with a strong contingent of the Swan family in the grandstand, will be having her first start back from a short spell in the 1000m BM 58 at Tamworth this Sunday. And if she pulls up well after that, Tamworth trainer Jake (Jacob) Perrett will be eyeing off a possible start at either Barraba or Bundarra cup meetings next month.

Victory this weekend would lift Mock Song's career tally to seven. In the mare's favour of grabbing a win fresh is the fact that she's

already won first-up before - a 1000m maiden at Gunnedah back in February 2018. Prior to spelling after a midfielder at Inverell back in March this year, Mock Song won the 1000m BM 50 Boggabri Cup at Gunnedah. That win didn't only bump the Swan Syndicate's bank account somewhat, it also gave Dennis and Robin a rewarding 39th wedding anniversary present.

Three starts back, the Your Song-Mocks mare, who has won on the track and over the distance at Tamworth, glided to victory on a wet track during February's Walcha Cup Meeting.

Trainer Jake Perrett is confident of an honest presentation from Mock Song, but is leaning towards her finishing in the placings.

"She won first up when younger, but now she takes one or two runs to hit form," he said.

"There's a nice 1000m benchmark (BM) 45 at Barraba that would suit, but she'd probably get 60kg or more, so we might bypass that and look to Bundarra."

And while racing Mock Song is a family affair with the Swans, the Perrett family of four kids (or "four ferals" as Jake jokes) and wife Lasche also treat the good-looking bay as part of the family.

"Particularly Kenzie (13-year-old daughter Mackenzie) has a very soft spot for her. She likes to give Mock a bit of a groom, or sometimes I'll come home from work and she'll have her tail plaited.

Kenzie might have even whispered in Mock's ear about the wedding anniversary before the win at Gunnedah. The Swan family deserve all the wins they get - they're a great family to work with. I never hear from them - I always have to ring them to let them know what's going on with the horse," Jake said.

Like many in the racing game, Jake Perrett is looking forward to things getting back to normal after Covid has buried its ugly head.

"It's pretty depressing going to the races at the moment. The only ones on course are horses, trainers and jockeys. I went to Gunnedah last Monday (where he led in winner Jousting) and it was like a real ghost town. No-one around - no people, not even a bookie."

Photo: One of Mock Song's biggest fans, Mackenzie Perrett, daughter of the seven-year-old mare's Tamworth trainer, Jake Perrett. By Vinnie Todd

Government deserts bush Press

Country Press NSW has described the NSW Government's decision to announce the recent state-wide lockdown via social media on Saturday afternoon (14th August) as a slap in the face to those who live in the bush.

CP NSW President Lucie Peart said it was a "kick in the guts" to bush media who are normally the first point of contact for many communities, especially those with aged populations.

There's been widespread confusion in regional and rural New South Wales, including panic buying and applicable restriction confusion after it was plunged into lockdown with two hours' warning and no press conference on Saturday afternoon.

Deputy Premier John Barilaro has defended announcing the lockdown on social media, saying it's "very difficult" to get that information out via the media on the weekend.

This has been rebutted by CP NSW which represents 30 independent newspapers across regional NSW. The Manilla Express is a member of CP NSW.

The Deputy Premier, who has neglected previous requests for the NSW Government to work more collaboratively with rural newspapers, has tried to defend the Government's decision, but Ms Peart said its actions were "indefensible".

"Mr Barilaro gave instructions to Members of Parliament in rural areas to talk to community leaders and mayors to get the message out. He didn't even hold a press conference, which has been the norm throughout the pandemic. We cannot understand why the New South Wales Government, unlike other states, will not promote its COVID messages through rural newspapers, which are the most trusted source and the major communication vehicle in their respective communities," Ms Peart said.

When asked if he would admit that it was not the right strategy to communicate with the public 18 months into a pandemic, Mr Barilaro doubled down by saying, "not at all".

Ms Peart said member newspapers could play a leading role in promoting the Government's messages, but continue to be ignored by city-centric decision makers who do not understand how to effectively promote their announcements into rural communities. And unfortunately, The

Nationals have not stood up and rectified the situation.

"Our member mastheads have websites and social media avenues alongside their print product to disseminate this information and where the State Government can advertise the lockdowns alongside crucial health advice.

"It is contradictory for the Government to spend millions of dollars on social media, then have its Members telling constituents not to take notice of the misinformation being spread by social media. This is what has been occurring.

"Surely, it is reasonable for the Government to work with trusted rural newspapers which are a recognised and reliable source of local information.

"For too long we have been asked to do the heavy lifting without any monetary compensation. It's discrimination towards the bush and this government, especially its National Party MPs, need to step up and step in for their regional communities."

Ms Peart called on Mr Barilaro to take the lead and improve the way in which the NSW Government is communicating COVID-19 health and safety messages, including restrictions and support available, to the regional communities represented by CP NSW.

Since CP NSW raised its objections on Monday, 16th August the NSW Government has placed lockdown messages in some newspapers, though many rural communities have been ignored.

"Why would you advertise important Covid messages in Hay, but not in Deniliquin or Condobolin, for example? The government is treating residents in some of our communities with contempt," Ms Peart said.


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ROUND-ABOUT

TENNIS NOTES

Manilla Tennis Club Spring Competition will commence on Thursday, 9th September 2021 at 6.30pm. To put your names down for this competition contact Taylor on 0421207172 . Names must be in before 2nd September so teams can be finalised.

AGM will be held on Thursday 9th September at the Manilla Tennis Club. All position vacant .

We would like invite all new and existing members to become apart of our club. For more information please contact Lisa on 0427 573 975.

5 DAY WEATHER FORECAST

Wednesday - 2 to 15, partly cloudy.

Thursday - 2 to 17, partly cloudy.

Friday - 4 to 18, partly cloudy.

Saturday - 3 to 20, sunny.

Sunday - 5 to 22, partly cloudy.

DAM LEVELS

Keepit: 95.1% of capacity, 389,459. **Split Rock:** 39.2% of capacity, 153,508ml. **Chaffey:** 100.2% of capacity, 100,739ml. **Copeton:** 72.8% of capacity, 977.298ml.

COMBINED CHURCHES PRAYER NIGHT

Wednesday, 1st September is the scheduled date for the next Combined Churches meeting for Prayer. Time to begin is 7.30pm in the Anglican Church. NOTE: Should Manilla still be in lock down the Prayer Night will be moved to a later date.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD UPDATE

To those who are planning or considering taking part in this years O.C.C. the shoe boxes will not be available while the lock down is on. Wanting a box as soon the way is clear you should phone John Barwick on 0437 400 393 to order one, two or whatever number you require.

SCOTTS HEAD ANNUAL YOUTH CAMP

Planning for the Annual Scotts Head Youth Camp is well underway. Dates for the Camp are 7th to 11th January '22. Almost all of the leadership positions have been filled. More information will be given as it becomes available. Needing more information. Phone Chris Weekes on 0477 149 032 or John Barwick on 0437 400 393. Look to The Express for further Camp information.

HOME FIRE SAFETY

If you like your home to be checked for fire safety contact Fire & Rescue Manilla through either Ted Taylor on 0428 851 302 or John Martin on 0429 851 033 and they will arrange for firefighters to come around and check your home - offer fire safety advice and also check your smoke alarms. This is a free service by Fire & Rescue NSW and the NSW Government. Checks will be carried out when lock down restrictions start to ease.

For all digital photo processing call into the Manilla Express - Open from 8am to 4pm Monday to Friday

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor

Re- Shocking Blue Hole Weir proposal.

Dear Editor,

We need better management of water resources more than new dams or weirs.

The river running through Manilla will be of greater benefit to the Manilla community than a weir that will benefit people mostly outside the local community.

Vibrant river water resources draw tourists bringing extra money to the town. The number of people travelling to "the bush" from the cities will increase because of covid and limited overseas travel for the same reason.

Australia is the driest continent and will probably get drier.

A weir is no good if it doesn't rain, and if it does rain you don't need a weir.

I'm 74 and have been coming to Manilla for holidays and family reasons for most of that time.

I remember when a dam proposed for the Blue Hole was rejected in favour of the present Split Rock site.

The reasons why it was rejected should be investigated.

Come on community and business houses demand more detail and open discussion and actively reject this proposal on:

- (1) Negative community benefit and
- (2) Environmental damage.

Mal Henderson,

Hazeldene,

Scone.

Dear Editor,

Re: TRC's Proposed Continuation of the "Secret Society".

What perfect "extra and opportunistic" timing has been granted to provide and provoke some serious discussion and questioning of potential Local Government candidates – be they present incumbents seeking reelection or others throwing their hats in the ring – for the forthcoming Tamworth Regional Council election.

As reported in the Northern Daily Leaders front page article (14th July 2021) titled "No Record" TRC., has vetoed a proposal for councillors and staff to register their dealings/discussions with developers; presumably this includes business's both new and existing.

As reported, at this stage in time, there may well be no legal requirements to disclose such information, but, and it is a "BIG BUT" a report released by the NSW., Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) on 22nd June 2021 recommends, to the NSW State Government, that quote "legislation be amended to better manage lobbying in the State including the prohibition of secret communications or meetings between lobbyists and government officials," unquote. This ICAC report also includes the recommendation that, based on an analysis of complaints and investigations conducted by ICAC (Operation Dasha), the provisions of the "Lobbying of Government Officials Act" – the LOGO Act – be extended to apply to local governments.

Currently there are two major projects underway within the Tamworth region – Namoi River Crossing at Manilla and the Intermodal Transport Hub in west Tamworth – both of which were promulgated and approved by our present incumbent councillors, albeit with a negligible lack of consultation and inclusion from TRC ratepayers! In the former's case, the ONLY public meeting – which was grossly unprofessionally conducted - was told where the bridge would be located and there would be no alternative/s discussed.

With the latter, many questions remain unanswered including a distinct lack of appropriate operational budgeting and initial capital funding disclosure for such an optimistic and very questionably located "off mainline" rail-hub!

Yet again, there now appears to be another TRC., thought bubble with the potential to cause major consequential disruption to the Namoi river, source of Manilla town's water supply, along with serious concerns for those Upper Namoi farmers relying on the river for their livestock and irrigation enterprises.

Given some incumbent councillors' belief that their definition of adequacy and depth of public communication has been more than sufficient, maybe they need to open their minds considerably to their role and responsibilities and reconsider how well they have performed as representatives of the electorate. Another question they may need to ask themselves is who do they think they are representing?

In conclusion therefore, the ratepayers of the electorate should be asking the candidates for the forthcoming TRC., local government election the main question - among several others of course – of "how soon after being elected into office will they endorse and enact this very necessary register of transparency?"

Alternatively, are they in favour of continuing to pull the wool – or should that be feathers! – over the eyes of the electorate? Perception may sound good in theory, but honesty is more truthful.

Best regards:

A. Allan,
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Council's Annual Donation Program now open

Tamworth Regional Council's Annual Donation Program 2021-22 is now open for applications.

The program is designed to help small to medium organisations and community groups who do significant work in the community with funding to help their operations.

There is \$61,000 available for the Tamworth region, including the townships of Nundle, Manilla and Barraba.

Councillor Helen Tickle said it is a great program that assist with the operations of essential community groups.

"Receiving a small donation can make a big difference to these organisations and represent a real benefit to the community. Funds can be used to pay for essential maintenance, build a website or pay for supplies and keep small organisations going during what are already difficult times."

In 2020-21 the program provided much needed funds across the region to a range of organisations. Among the successful applications last year were the Nandewar Historical Society Inc. who was successful in its donation application of \$4,997 to install air-con-

ditioning in its museum, the Manilla Men's Shed who used its \$802.14 donation to buy materials for six fire pits, the Lions Club of Barraba received \$5,000 to buy maintenance materials and eight community groups in Tamworth received funding as part of the program.

Applications are invited from not-for-profit organisations, charities, community groups and organisations located within the Tamworth Regional Council local government area, that provides a service to the Tamworth regional community which may be of a unique nature. Recipients of donations funding in previous years are welcome to reapply. Organisations are eligible for only one donation per financial year, that is 1 July to 30 June.

Successful applicants will be determined by a panel of three Councillors, Cr Helen Tickle, Cr Juanita Wilson and Cr Jim Maxwell.

For more information and to apply, visit the Tamworth Regional Council website: <https://www.tamworth.nsw.gov.au/about/forms/2021-2022-annual-donations-program-application-form>

Applications must be submitted by 5:00pm on Tuesday, 14 September 2021.

Calling out for the Manilla & Barraba regions to help save Daffodil Day

If having cancer wasn't already hard enough, Covid-19 has added a layer of additional challenges for patients.

There is the constant fear of contracting Covid-19, the isolation of no visitors with lockdown and the continual changes to hospital protocols.

During the pandemic, Cancer Council has continued to be there for cancer patients. During a time of increased demand, fundraising events were cancelled and with the latest lockdown, this continues.

Now in its 35th year, the iconic Daffodil Day Appeal is the latest fundraising campaign to fall victim to Covid.

Kate Dubois, Community Relations Coordinator at Cancer Council NSW said, "The beloved event will look a little different this year.

"For many of us, Daffodil Day means purchasing a beautiful bunch of fresh daffodils from a Cancer Council flagship stall to help fund world-class cancer research and show our support and importantly improve outcomes for people affected by cancer," Kate said.

"Sadly, the current COVID-19 outbreak in NSW means that we can't be out in the community this year.

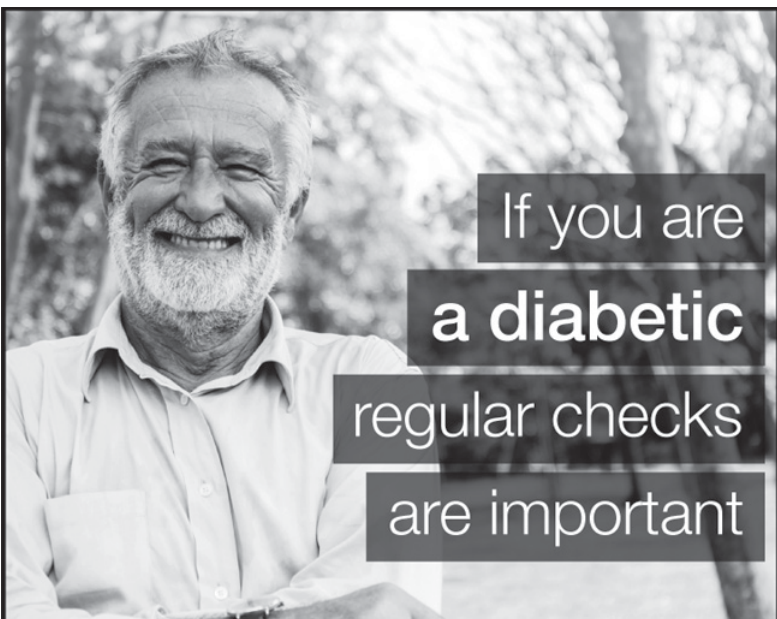
"Our flagship stalls are one of the most important ways that the community choose to support Daffodil Day, both through donations and by purchasing fresh daffodils.

"If you are one of the wonderful people who would usually purchase fresh daffodils, we're counting on you to show your flower power in a different way and help save Daffodil Day."

Cancer Council is calling on the Manilla & Barraba communities to show their Flower Power this Daffodil Day Appeal, with the current COVID-19 outbreak forcing the charity to cancel its usual fresh daffodil stalls.

If you usually buy a bunch, please donate instead by visiting www.daffodilday.com.au or call 1300 65 65 85. You'd be surprised that as little as \$5 helps.

If you or your loved one is affected by cancer and you are concerned about the impact of COVID-19, please call our free and confidential 13 11 20 Information and Support line. Cancer Council is here for you. Our services locally are still available, including Transport to Treatment, Financial and Legal assistance, Home Help and Accommodation Support.



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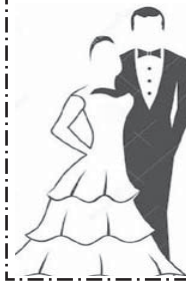
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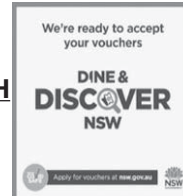
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Government Fails to Engage Regional Media in COVID-19 Messaging

Regional New South Wales is missing out on vital health information as Government excludes regional newspapers from their COVID-19 communications messaging, say Shooters Fishers and Farmer's Party Member for Barwon Roy Butler and Mark Banasiak, MLC.

The SFF is speaking out on the subject after the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional NSW and member of the COVID-19 crisis cabinet, John Barilaro, announced on Twitter that regional NSW would go into lockdown.

"For the NSW Government to fail to engage local, regional media to assist in communicating the lockdown is unforgivable. I have many people in regional NSW who rely on local papers or listen to local radio. Again, it demonstrates a lack of understanding of regional NSW," said Mr Banasiak.

"Many people in regional NSW have limited or no access to internet. Many wouldn't know what Twitter is," said Mr Banasiak.

"There needs to be a review of Government's communication decisions now," says Member for Barwon, Roy Butler.

"Rural and regional newspapers remain the most trusted media source for communities in our regions, and as such, they must be supported by Government and included in all marketing campaigns.

"It's the same for consultation with regional NSW communities. They just don't know how to do it successfully.

"Vital health information is not being communicated to our regions because Government has ceased to include small regional and rural newspapers in their marketing campaigns and would rather spend their money with Facebook to get their message out.

"Accessibility of evolving health orders that incur criminal penalties and hefty fines is of great concern to the SFF, and we call on the NSW Government to remedy this immediately," said Mr Butler.

The Local Government (General) Amendment (COVID-19) Regulation 2020, which removes requirements for councils to publish advertisements and announcements in local newspapers, is already hurting small local papers and their communities. Now, these same publications are left out of State Government health campaigns.

"These measures impact a person's right to access government information, and we see the reality of that in the misinformation spreading through our regions relating to COVID-19 health orders and restrictions being relayed through social media," said Mr Banasiak.

"The most up-to-date ABS statistics tell us that there are 421,000 households without internet access. It is these people that rely on the local paper to inform them.

"The SFF demand Mr Barilaro improve COVID-19 messaging for rural and regional communities by committing to full-page advertisements with accurate, up-to-date and reliable information," said Mr Banasiak.

Future Drought Fund - Grants valued at \$34.2 million to deliver innovation in drought resilience

Fast Facts:

- A \$34.2 million (GST exclusive) competitive grants process for innovative projects to manage and prepare for the impacts of drought has opened

- The Drought Resilience Innovation Grants are a key element of the Future Drought Fund's Research and Adoption program.

Expressions of interest are invited for projects to manage and prepare for the impacts of drought through the Federal Government's \$5 billion Future Drought Fund (FDF).

Deputy Prime Minister and Member for New England, Barnaby Joyce said the Government is looking to support a range of activities, with the grants split into three categories: an ideas grant, a proof-of-concept grant and an innovation grant.

"Ideas grants and proof-of-concept grants are for good ideas that need further development, while innovation grants are for mature ideas," Mr Joyce said.

"Whether you're from an innovation organisation, the private sector, industry, not-for-profit organisation, a community group or a consortium – now is the time to get involved.

Mr Joyce said, "If you have a great idea that needs some dollars behind it, then I encourage you to participate in the Future Drought Fund's Drought Resilience Innovation Grants, which has over \$34 million available to support drought resilience innovation projects."

Minister for Agriculture and

Northern Australia, David Littleproud said the Drought Resilience Innovation Grants would drive development, extension, adoption and commercialisation of drought resilience practices and technologies.

"If we want our Australian farmers – and the communities and businesses that depend on them – to thrive through future droughts, we need new ideas, practices, technologies and ways of doing business," Mr Littleproud said.

"Innovation is critical to our agriculture sector.

"We are looking for those bright sparks out there with ideas that

could transform agricultural practices, technologies and business models to make Australian farmers and communities more resilient to droughts," Mr Littleproud said.

For more information about the FDF Innovation Grants and to apply please visit: www.communitygrants.gov.au and for more information about the FDF Research and Adoption Program, please visit: <https://www.agriculture.gov.au/ag-farm-food/drought/future-drought-fund/research-adoption-program>.

Applications close 8 September 2021.

Making a difference in the disability community

Expressions of interest are now open to join the Disability Access Working Group (DAWG).

The group is made up of advocates of people with disability and strive to create greater access and better equality within the Tamworth region.

Community members can apply to be part of the group and be involved in the development and implementation of the Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan.

Councillor Helen Tickle said that it is important that the group represents the people in our community who live with disability every day.

"Having people with real lived experience with disability or close interaction and understanding of people with disability in the working group is vital to its success. This working group allows advocates of people living with disability to make real change in the community and provide better access."

Current member of the Disability Access Working Group, Fiona Hemmings says it is an excellent way to effectively communicate the needs of people with disability to the Council.

"Having lived experience with a now young man with a disability as well as being a business owner working in the disability sector has assisted me tremendously to voice issues of concern directly with DAWG. DAWG works directly with Council assisting Council to better understand the access needs of people living with a disability to make the community a better place."

Council will review all Expression of Interest applications and select seven members to be part of the group.

Tamworth Regional Council is working towards building a culture of accessibility and removing basic environmental barriers for people living with a disability. The Disability Access Working Group provides a direct avenue for Council to engage people with disability in disability planning, development, implementation and review of inclusion initiatives, and is at the very heart of Council's social model of disability and disability inclusion.

The Expression of Interest period closes at 5pm, 1 September, 2021.

To apply, people can visit the Council website:

<https://www.tamworth.nsw.gov.au/about/forms/disability-access-working-group-expression-of-interest> or contact Council by phone: 6767 5555 or email: trc@tamworth.nsw.gov.au



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ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

1st Sundays: Barraba Sat 6pm, Manilla 8.30am.
 2nd, 3rd, 4th Sundays: Manilla Sat 5.30pm, Barraba Sun 9am.
 Attunga: 12 noon instead of 7pm on 2nd and 4th Sundays.
 (5th Sundays Barraba 6pm, Manilla 8.30, Attunga 10am).

UNITING CHURCH

Sunday, 29th August - Due to COVID 19 lockdown there will not be a Service in the Uniting Church. Please obey the restrictions and stay safe.
 No Bible Study in the Hall this week.
 Enquiries: Phone 67857325.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WE'RE STILL IN LOCKDOWN, but all being well church will resume in the actual church building soon. As the lockdown continues we will have church via zoom. See our Web page for the link to that at manillapresbyterian.org.au. Once lockdown ends we will meet as usual every Sunday at 9:30 at the corner of Court St and Rowan St. In the course of the service there is also a children's story. After the service you are invited to stay for a cuppa and a chance to get to know one another. Our small groups meet once a week.
 For further information on the church, its meetings, its small groups, and pastoral services, please ring the Minister, Andrew Williamson, either 6785 2320 or 0478 794 129.

ANGLICAN PARISH TIMES

Thursday 26th Aug: 7:20am Men's Growth Group over Zoom.
 Friday 27th Aug: 5pm MAC Youth over Zoom; 5:15pm Women's Growth Group over Zoom.
 Sunday 29th Aug: If the COVID restrictions have eased the hope is that we'll have a COVIDSafe service at 9am. The service will also be available online over Zoom. Dave will also record his weekly message and email it out Sunday morning along with the weekly newsletter, some children's activities, and links to some great songs to listen to. If you're not yet on the Manilla Anglican email list and would like to link into the Zoom service or receive the email, please send Dave an email at manillaanglican@gmail.com or call 67851112.
 If you don't use a computer and would like to listen live to the service at 9am on Sunday you can be dialled in over the phone. Please contact Dave Fisher on 67851112 for more info.

**SHOP LOCALLY
 AND HELP
 CREATE
 EMPLOYMENT
 IN YOUR TOWN**



St Michael's News for the Week

Term 3 - Week 7 A Message from the Principal

"We've got this St Michael's!"
 At the risk of repeating myself, I can't emphasise enough the amazing school community we have at StMichael's. Something we may just take for granted but we shouldn't! We should be celebrating the StMichael's School community.
 Having worked in many different school settings, I am well placed to comment on the strong partnership that exists between staff and parents at St Michael's. A partnership that would be the envy of any school. Working and communicating as a team is part of daily life at St Michael's. It is therefore no surprise the ease of which staff, students and families have been able to transition to remote learning.
 It highlights the strong positive relationship that exists between home and school at St Michael's.

Whilst St Michael's will only be open to those students of essential workers between Monday 23rd Aug until Friday 27th August, it is important to remember the Remote Learning Program we offer means no child is disadvantaged. We will continue to run our 'one mode of learning' in Week 7. Support from your child's teachers is only a phone call, email, or scheduled Zoom feedback session away.

We understand the extra pressure lockdown brings on families and can't thank families enough for your continued support. Since the Premier's announcement, we have always maintained that we are not trying to replicate the full school experience at home. Trying to do this would just bring unwelcomed pressure on parents. We just ask you to keep being the wonderful teacher you already are to your children.

Continue to supervise your child as they complete what they can of their Remote Learning Workbooks, but most importantly be focused on your child's state of mind. Reach out when needed to your child's class teacher for any extra support. Be kind to yourself and create routines that suit your family's circumstances. Read, garden, create, sing, cook, dance, play, chat and enjoy nature with your child. All these activities will bring the family closer together and are excellent ways to educate your child.

Most importantly, make home a calm, safe place for your child through this challenging time. Keep being the nurturing, loving role model for your child. Nurturing your child's attitude and enthusiasm for learning by being positive is more important than just pushing through extensive amounts of work. Your child is learning every day from you...learning from you as their loving parent/caregiver.

St. Michael's families working together (home and school) will continue to ensure students' wellbeing, safety and learning needs are being met. The goal is having all our students return to school (planned for next Monday 30th August) in a positive state of mind, ready to start back into classroom learning.

You are doing a wonderful job. Having your child at home is what all of us in NSW are being asked to do...to try and stop COVID-19 spreading into our region. Please know that your child will be okay because school and home are working together. It is important you give yourself a pat on the back and celebrate what you are doing as a family.

Parents/caregivers, be kind to yourselves! We've got this St Michael's!
 Take care and keep safe.
 Darryl Martin, Principal

Enrolments for 2022

Unfortunately, at the moment, we are not able to have our Open Day for families wishing to find out more about St Michael's or wishing to have a look at our wonderful resources.

Enrolment packs are available which can be posted or emailed. Kindergarten 2022 enrolments are due on Friday, 3rd September 2021. If you would like the enrolment pack emailed you, please email manadmin@arm.catholic.edu.au

To help all families we will be including information about St Michael's in the newspaper each week. Please ring or email if you have any questions...
 This week meet our school captains and sports captains and find out what they think of St Michael's School.

Meet the Captains 2021

Matilda Dunbier - School Captain

Hello,
 My name is Matilda Dunbier I am a School Captain at St Michael's Catholic Primary school. I live on a farm outside of Manilla with my family. I love competing at horse shows, sport, cooking and looking after all the animals on the farm. I don't know what I would do without horses.

I came to St Michael's School in year four. I was welcomed in by all the wonderful teachers and students. The teachers are always supportive and helpful. I love how there are lots of fun ways to learn like literacy and numeracy on the iPad and Chromebook. Every day I learn something new and have a great time with my friends.

St Michael's is an amazing school for everyone to enjoy. *Matilda Dunbier*

Anna Northey - School Captain

Hi,
 My name is Anna Northey, and I am a proud school captain of St Michael's Catholic Primary School. I enjoy riding my bike, baking and playing sports with my friends. I have been a part of the St Michael's community since my first day of kindergarten.

St Michael's has great caring and encouraging teachers as well as amazing learning facilities such as Chromebooks, iPads and whiteboards. Many people that have visited St Michael's have said that we are so lucky to have so much sports equipment like a basketball/tennis/netball court and football field with goal posts.

I would highly recommend St Michael's to anyone.

Brock Easterman - Sports Captain (MacKillop)

Hello my name is Brock Easterman and I am the sports captain of MacKillop at St Michael's Catholic Primary School. I love the outdoors, playing sports and chocolate.

I enjoy riding my motorbike, fishing with my dad and uncle, playing hockey, touch football, swimming and hanging out with my mates.

I like St Michael's because the teachers are kind and caring and make learning fun!

We have a range of sports facilities such as sports equipment, our large oval, tennis court where you can also play basketball and netball. We have opportunities to sporting clinics that improve our skills. Just before Covid-19 hit us, we were doing rugby union which was fun.

This is why I believe St Michael's is a great school.

Millie Weekes - Sports Captain (Penola)

Hi my name is Millie Weekes and I am Penola Sports Captain for St Michael's.



114 MANILLA STREET, MANILLA
 (OPPOSITE THE RURAL MEDICAL CENTRE)

TRADING HOURS:
MONDAY TO FRIDAY 8.30AM-5.30PM
SATURDAY 8AM-12PM

PHONE 0428 019 901

I live on a farm with my mum, dad, sister and brother. I am the middle child. I like to play touch football at school. I also like to do work on my farm, watch NRL (I go for the Panthers), do art and play with my siblings.

St Michael's Catholic Primary School is a great school for any one in Kindergarten right through to Year 6. St Michael's has lots of fabulous teachers that are caring. All the students at St Michael's are respected. At St Michael's we have lots of great things for the students to play with such as a big football oval, tennis court, Chromebooks and other fun games to do at Lunch.

Remote Learning from Home

We would like to encourage any of our parents to forward photographs of their children completing their remote learning from home and/or any wonderful creations that students are achieving at home e.g. Art/Craft, Cooking etc to share with our school community via Facebook, 2021 Year book, Newspaper and Newsletter.

Please email photographs to manadmin@arm.catholic.edu.au

Religious Education News

Term 3 Week 7

First Reconciliation Postponed until 2022

As the Lockdown continues and no definite dates are able to be set, we have decided to postpone First Reconciliation for Year 2 students, originally planned for Wednesday 15 September, until 2022. We hope and pray that next year we will, as a world community, be on top of the current health crisis and able to return to more stability in our daily lives.

Confirmation Term 4, 2022

Traditionally in St Michael's Parish, we celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation every second year. However, last year as numbers were restricted due to the COVID19 pandemic we decided to only confirm students in Year 6 and wait until this year to confirm students in Year 5 (2020) in the hope that life would have returned to what we would call 'normal'. Unfortunately this is not the case.

With a vision to celebrate Confirmation next term for our Year 6 students who have received the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist, we would like to advise that at this stage due to the current health crisis, we cannot set a firm date but are hoping for early Term 4. As this is such a special celebration in the faith lives of these children, we will continue to monitor the current protocols and follow the directions of the CSO Armidale as advised by NSW Health, until restrictions are lifted to a level that will enable us to celebrate Confirmation with family and friends, although numbers will still most likely be restricted. Unfortunately, this will mean that there will be very short prior notice given to families of the Confirmation date, therefore we need to be prepared to move quickly once a date is decided.

We thank everyone for your understanding and support and ask at this stage if you and your child haven't chosen a sponsor, please start thinking about who you will choose. The sponsor must be a confirmed Catholic preferably practicing and be 16 years or older. The sponsor can be male or female and can be a friend or relative but not a parent of the child being confirmed. Due to the link between Baptism and Confirmation as sacraments of initiation, one of the child's Godparents is a good choice.

No Mass Until Further Notice

Updated health orders mean that school Masses are currently not able to be celebrated in the Church or school until restrictions are eased.

Diocese of Armidale - Live Mass Feed

We encourage people to visit the Armidale Diocesan Website to keep up to date with happenings around the Diocese. The website is found at armidale.catholic.org.au The site has a live feed of Mass being celebrated in the Cathedral each Sunday, if you or a family member would like to celebrate Mass on Sundays. As people are unable to receive Communion in person a prayer of Spiritual Communion is prayed instead.

Living Well Learning Well

Pastoral Care and Wellbeing

Prayer is an important part of strengthening our relationship with God and one another. This week we are encouraging children and families to use the Amoris Cube for prayer this week.

Source: The Official World Meeting of Families website: <https://www.worldmeeting2018.ie> (please note this site is no longer operational).

Let your light shine and remember we shine brighter together.

Jacqueline Cronin, Assistant Principal - Mission

Letting your light shine

Darryl Martin, Principal

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COURT HOUSE HOTEL
DARTS EACH THURSDAY
8 p.m. start Good Prizes

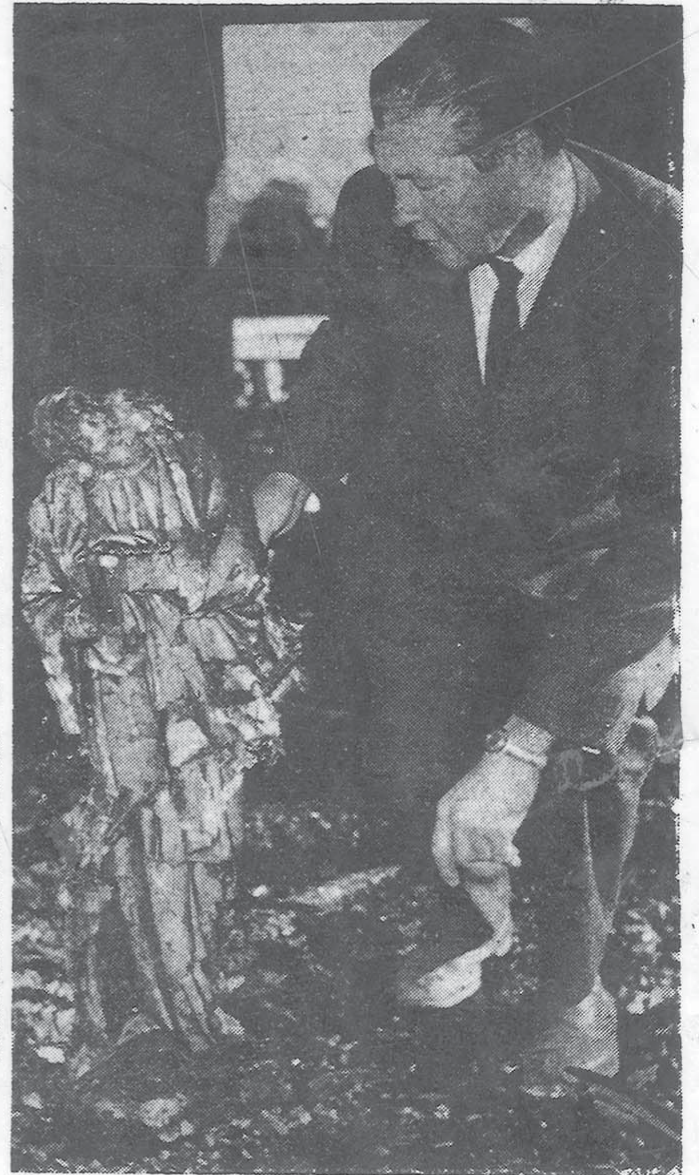
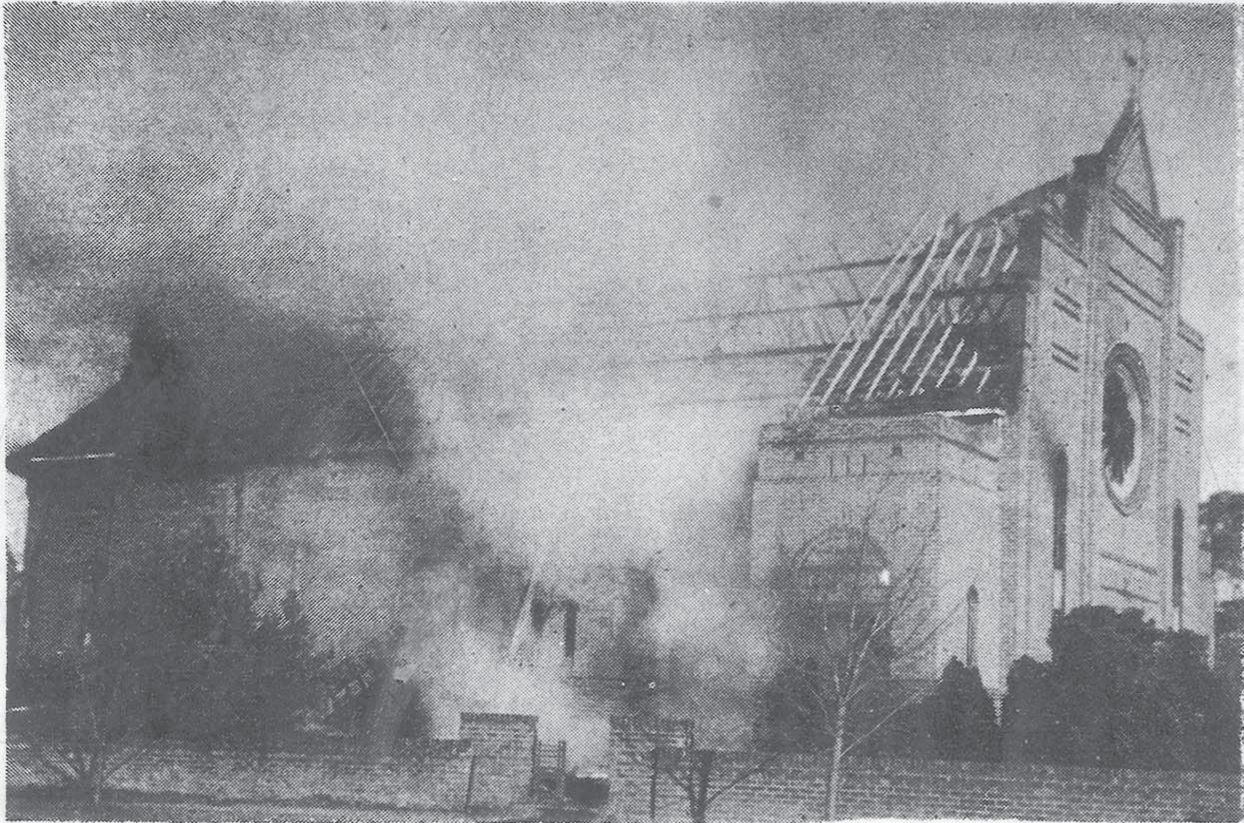
GIFTS FOR ALL
OCCASIONS

Manilla EXPRESS

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P.O. BOX 29 PHONE 8 (Day), 248 (Night)

CIRCULATING IN THE MANILLA, HALLS CREEK, ATTUNGA, WONGO CREEK, UPPER MANDLA, RUSHES CREEK, SOMERTON AND KEEPIT DAM, DISTRICTS
MANILLA: Wednesday, August 25, 1971. PRICE 7c

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH GUTTED BY FIRE



Fire last Wednesday afternoon gutted St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church situated on the corner of Court and Rowan Streets. Only the brick outer walls of the church remain standing, supporting twisted steel roof girders, along with a portion of the vestry on the southern side, from which sacred vessels and vestments were taken as firemen arrived on the scene.

Police said yesterday there were no suspicious circumstances surrounding the fire. Cause was believed to be an electrical fault.

Damage is estimated at up to \$100,000. Daily masses are at present being conducted in St. Michael's School building and a meeting of parishioners will be held this Friday evening to decide on a re-building scheme for the church. An appeal has been opened to assist in the re-building programme. Donations may be sent direct to Father T. Leahy at the Presbytery and will be acknowledged through the columns of this newspaper. Manilla branch of the Australian Labor Party has opened the appeal with a donation of \$100.

ALERTED BY SMOKE FROM UNDER EAVES

The alarm was sounded about 4.20 p.m. when Mrs. M. Moran who conducts a small store almost opposite the church, noticed smoke issuing from under the eaves of the building.

After telephoning the fire brigade and returning to the front of the shop, which took only a matter of minutes, the building had erupted into a mass of flames.

Although firemen were quickly on the scene, they could do little to control the blaze.

Their efforts were continually hampered by blazing roof beams falling as the church roof caved in.

Many local residents rushed to the scene but could do little to assist firemen.

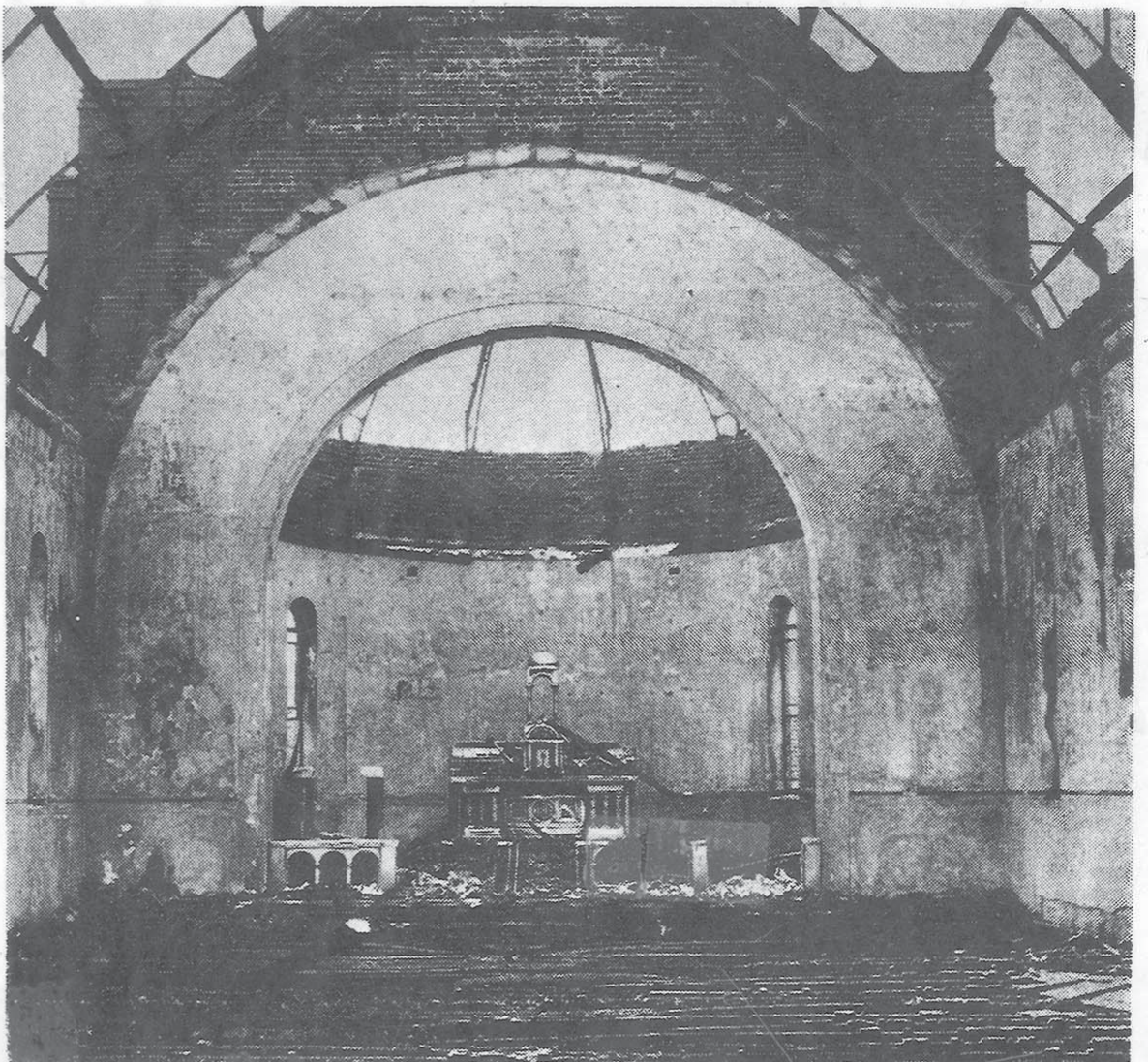
At the height of the blaze thick, black smoke billowing from the building was visible up to 15 miles away. One motorist reported having sighted the smoke south of Attunga.

Firemen took more than two hours to bring the fire under control. The brigade was re-called to the scene to extinguish threatened flare-ups at 8.45 p.m. Wednesday and again at 8 a.m. the following morning, Thursday.

Parish Priest, Monsignor T. Leahy was in Sydney at the time of the fire to attend the enthronement of Bishop J. Freeman as Archbishop of Armidale. Monsignor Leahy returned home on Thursday after hearing the news of the fire. His first reaction on seeing the burned-out remains of the church was one of shock.

The church, a landmark in Manilla, catering for about 500 parishioners, was dedicated and opened in 1938.

● The pictures on this page bring the stark reality of this tragic fire forward. TOP left shows smoke billowing from the building during the blaze with most of the roof already caved-in — only some 15 minutes after the brigade arrived on the scene; TOP left shows Mr. John Byrnes inspecting the remains of a statue of Our Lady of Fatima. The statue was donated to the church by the Byrnes brothers, of Manilla; BOTTOM picture shows the stark remains of the interior of the church looking towards the altar. Blocks by courtesy of the Daily Leader.





**DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE
CATCH THE BUS - 5 DAYS
(WEDNESDAY THRU TO SUNDAY)**

MANILLA SERVICES CLUB

(Formerly Manilla RSL & Ex-Servicemen's Club)

PHONE 67851209



PLEASE NOTE
PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT DUE TO CURRENT COVID RESTRICTIONS, MASKS ARE COMPULSORY FOR ENTRY.
PLEASE CONTACT FOR ANY ASSISTANCE.
MEALS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE RAFFLES FROM WEDNESDAY

WEDNESDAY
BINGO STARTS AT 11AM
RAFFLES
SUPERDRAW POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
HAPPY HOUR 5.30PM-6.30PM

FRIDAY
BINGO STARTS AT 11AM
MEMBERSHIP
RAFFLES FROM 6PM
25 PRIZES TO BE WON
NO POKER
HAPPY HOUR 5.30PM TILL 6.30PM

SATURDAY
TAB 'PICK THE WINNER'
PRIZES 3, 4, 5
ENTRY \$1 - \$10
\$945.00+ TO BE WON
BAR SNACKS FROM 2.30PM
FULL TAB FACILITIES
BEER PROMO BETWEEN 2PM & 4PM EVERY SATURDAY

SUNDAY
MEMBERSHIP DRAW POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
MONSTER RAFFLES
TICKETS ON SALE FROM 12PM - DRAWN 1PM
25 PRIZES TO BE WON!

IF COVID RESTRICTIONS ARE LIFTED ON SATURDAY NIGHT (28TH) - THE CLUB WILL OPEN AT 10AM ON SUNDAY (29TH)

Manilla Ladies Golf News

The weather is so spring-like and the course looks beautiful. However, we are caught up again with Covid restrictions and for the present time golf is only social.

Remember we can play socially in pairs, only one (1) person per cart, mark your own card and enjoy your 9 holes with a friend. The Club is not open.

This past weekend the ladies' executive discussed, by phone calls, whether we should continue with our Open Day in early September. A final decision was made to postpone this event until the Covid laws may be relaxed for us in regional NSW. If or when this may occur perhaps we could look for another day before the golf season ends. Under the present circumstances this seems to be the correct and safe decision we could make for our Club. I hope all ladies will support us.

We will also be looking at championships for 2021 and hope we may be able to play these by the end of October. Fingers crossed.

Until we are all able to gather, enjoy our golf, have a chat and laugh please keep safe and well. Have the JAB. It's the only way things will improve.

Sandy Wedge

K-12 at Manilla Central
The Learning Community



Primary Collection and Return of Work from Home Booklets
As you are aware, we will continue with Level 4 'Stay at Home' orders for another week.
Parents and students can drop off their work booklets each Monday between 9:00 – 10:00 am until we return back to Level 2 restrictions, unless you have arranged for it to go home on the bus run on Monday afternoon.



Seith West dropping off his completed pack and picking up his new pack of work.

Secondary
The Secondary will continue with the "Swap & Go" book packs for week 7, the packs will be ready for collection between 9:00-10:00am Monday morning, please contact the school to arrange a swap over.

We are asking that students return completed packs as the additional work packs are a roll over of the work they have received.

Please also note the packs are generic for the stage so your child may receive work for a subject they aren't timetabled for, they do not need to complete that subjects work.



Above: Danielle Burns distributing secondary learning packs.

Book Parade
Unfortunately, due to the Covid19 Lockdown our Book Week Fair and Parade for week 7 has been postponed.
We are hoping to hold these events at a later date.



Pick up and drop off station



BLUE PAINT
Someone has been very busy painting a road sign blue near the intersection of Pillerine Lane and Rangari Road (west of Manilla) sometime over the weekend. Also painted was a section of roadway in the same area (left). Just proves small things entertain small minds.

To buy, rent, sell or wanted, etc - place an ad in the Manilla Express phone 6785 1033 or fax 6785 1202 - email: manxpres@bigpond.net.au

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River and Dam Levels



Information sourced from WaterNSW website
Real Time Data as at Monday 23/8/2021

KEEPIT DAM
Latest instantaneous values

Res.Level (M)	329.14
% Eff. Full Stor.	95.5
Volume (ML)	406719
Volume (ML)	

KEEPIT DAM
Latest daily values

Net Inflow 24hML	1247
Rainfall mm	0.0
Storage Rel 24h ML	0
Evap.(US) mm	2.8

SPLIT ROCK DAM
Latest instantaneous values

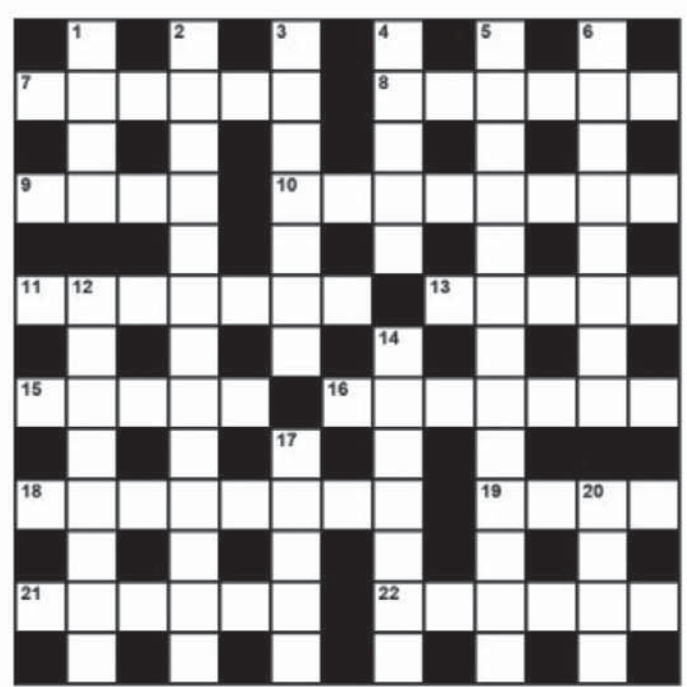
Res.Level (M)	434.67
% Eff. Full Stor.	39.3
Volume (ML)	158020
Volume (ML)	

SPLIT ROCK DAM
Latest daily values

Net Inflow 24h ML	168
Rainfall mm	8.4
Storage Rel 24h ML	6
Evap.(US) mm	

RIVER Manilla River at Barraba Level (Metres) No data | Manilla River at Upper Manilla Level (Metres) -0.321 | Namoi River at Manilla Railway Bridge Level (Metres) 1.201 | MacDonald River at Retreat Level (Metres) 0.933

P U Z Z L E S



CROSSWORD

No. 1088

Across

- 7 Church candle (6)
- 8 Lack of enthusiasm (6)
- 9 Pulled or drawn tight (4)
- 10 Of the nature of or resembling wood (8)
- 11 Step on the gas (5,2)
- 13 Ribeye or porterhouse (5)
- 15 Speed checker used by traffic police (5)
- 16 An encroachment or intrusion (7)
- 18 A musical composition for voices and orchestra based on a religious text (8)
- 19 Part of a hammer head (4)
- 21 Building material that hardens to act as adhesive material (6)
- 22 Lessee (6)

Down

- 1 The concluding section of a ballet (4)
- 2 Gossip or foolish chatter (6-7)
- 3 Enviously resentful (7)
- 4 Latin-American dance (5)
- 5 A business that owns or controls another business (6,7)
- 6 "One ___ And One Nights" (8)
- 12 Colour of the Owl and the Pussy-cat's boat (3-5)
- 14 Within the hull of a ship or boat (7)
- 17 Cappuccino topper (5)
- 20 Level, flat (4)

SUDOKU

To solve a sudoku puzzle, every number from 1 to 9 must appear only once: In each of the vertical columns In each of the horizontal rows In each of the nine 3x3 boxes.

★★★ No. 182 ★★★★★

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

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



★★★
Check your answers here

★★★★★

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

★★★★★

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THE Rotary Club of Manilla are seeking donations of car, truck and tractor batteries for recycling. Contact Peter Grill on 6785 1363 or 0427 851 363 or any Rotarian.

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LIONS FUNDRAISER

THE Manilla Lions Club now has four wheelie bins situated at Wood's Garage for the collection of drink and liquid containers that are eligible for the 10 cent per container refund from the NSW Government. All the funds raised by the Lions Club will help support local residents who are battling cancer.

FOR SALE

LAWN Bowls - Aero Dynamics, size 2.5 heavy, green with Shamrock motif. As new, purchased November 2020, had little use. \$400.00. Phone 0412401881.

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Been away? Missed something



BACK ISSUES AVAILABLE AT 107 Manilla st or online

Attunga & Somerton News

Attunga School News

• Like all other schools in lockdown around the region, Attunga Public student who couldn't be educated at home have received minimal supervision at the school. Principal Mrs Worley said that she was very pleased with local parents' knowledge and quick response to all the Covid requirements during the current pandemic.

• The school is currently running its 'Buy Your Place in History' which is a unique opportunity for former students and staff of the school to purchase a brick with their names engraved on it. Individual and family bricks are available. Cost per brick is \$50 and can be organised through the school before October 15. Details can be obtained from the school on 6769 5554.

• The school has welcomed back Miss Moore who will be working two days per week – part of which will include working on the school's Mathematic Initiative program. The initiative allows two support teachers and the classroom teacher to challenge student learning and give them an opportunity to work in small groups to develop their mathematical performances. Aiding this was the school's recent purchase of the TopTen Mathematics Program aimed at delivering explicit and challenging math lessons.

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From Safework NSW
The A - Z of Farm Safety
(To appear fortnightly on this page)

V - VACCINATIONS

In 1901, the first Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine was awarded to Emil Adolf von Behring, who introduced serum from immune horses to cure and prevent Diphtheria.

Today in Australia, snake antivenom is prepared from the plasma of horses that have been injected with snake venom.

Vaccination is important for the health of not just animals, but for humans as well. They are an effective way to protect against many diseases.

Vital Vaccines

Influenza – for poultry workers - especially during outbreaks of Avian Influenza – and for those working in the pig industry.

Q Fever – for anyone living or working with livestock should be vaccinated against this disease which is contracted largely from cattle, sheep and goats.

Tetanus – for those working outdoors. Check the Australian Immunisation Register to make sure your vaccinations are up to date.

Livestock like sheep, chickens, cattle and pigs are vaccinated against diseases like Rotavirus, E-Coli and Pinkeye.

Farmers are more susceptible to some diseases as a result of working with animals. As well as vaccinations received through the National Immunisation Program, boosters are advisable for diseases such as Whooping Cough and Tetanus. And vaccinations keep animals and humans healthy and are a cheaper option than paying for treatments.

CWA of NSW's Primary Product of Study for 2021 is rice



We all love it baked in a custard or as a side dish for that hot-as curry, but rice has many and varied uses away from the stove top/oven.

These can include anything from the making of air fresheners and easing pain to ripening of fruits or keeping one's tresses and scalp hydrated.

Some of you may recall our dear old grandmothers dipping their finger into the frying oil to test whether it was hot enough for those greasy chips. But not so this day and age – simply drop a grain of rice into the oil and if it sinks, it isn't hot enough. But if it floats, you're ready for the big fry-up.

Ever drooled over the avocados or mangos waiting to ripen on the kitchen bench? Simply submerge them into a container of rice – the multifaceted grain in rice is great at trapping ethylene, the gas that fruit produces as it's ripening.

What about the sudden need for a weighted eye mask, and the only one you own has been loaned to a friend. Simply knock up another one with rice and dried lavender for that relaxing aroma.

Rice can also be used to create a great heat pack. Instead of throwing out that odd sock you've been hoping to find the mate of for years, fill it with rice and an essential oil of choice, then tie the end – of course. Heat packs can help soothe sore shoulders, lower back pain, and stomach cramping.

Rice water is also said to enhance the glow of your skin. It's believed to have proponents that soften and brighten skin when used as a facial cleanser. A2013 study apparently showed that fermented rice water can actually have some anti-ageing effects!!!

Rice water treatment for hair growth is very in at the moment, and while there is no real scientific evidence that it actually works, it does have certain components such as starch, inositol and amino acids that can help keep tresses and scalp hydrated.

How many times have you gone to grab a knife from the drawer and

whoops – blood. Or when moving house and knives keep popping up everywhere they shouldn't. Well you can create a temporary knife block just by filling a wide-mouthed jar with rice – enough to cover the knife blades.

You can create your own natural, slow releasing air freshener by placing small containers of rice covered with essential oils into cupboards and bathrooms. The rice will coat with the oil to release a gentle smell around your home. Perhaps even make a small sachet to place in the family car.

Most men love fixing odds and ends around the house, but can tend to leave tools laying around. Toolscan be exposed to moisture and attract rust, so to help keep the pliers and screwdriver in good order longer, sprinkle some rice at the bottom of the toolbox. The multifunctional grain of rice is also a desiccant (moisture absorber).

During the current lockdown, why not test the kids' artistic talents by presenting them with some rice, paint and glue. Things like photo frames or artistic flower arrangements on a backing could be the result. Perhaps even a colourful peacock to hang in the bedroom.

No glue in the house if the kids decide to get creative with craft or papermache? Simple. Make your own by placing 1.5 cups of leftover cooked rice and 2.5 cups of water into a blender and blend well. (You then have rice milk which can be consumed). Simmer the liquid on stove for five minutes until it thickens, then cool.

Though perhaps you can't believe everything you hear. Submerging that mobile phone (which has been dropped into liquid) into a container of rice to dry is a myth according to Purewow website. Better idea to disassemble the phone, let it dry, then seek professional advice ASAP.

Photo: Rice. Not just a pretty face. Can be used for anything from accompanying that hot-as curry to a substitute for household glue.

What's on @
The Somerton Hotel

Phone 0447 115 984

The
SOMERTON
HOTEL

BINGO

2	21	32	46	66
15				
5	2			
6	1			
10	26			

THE HOTEL IS CURRENTLY CLOSED DUE TO THE COVID 19 LOCKDOWN - ALL GOING WELL WE WILL BE OPEN SOON WHEN RESTRICTIONS ARE EASED

JACKPOT DRAW

Every Tuesday 7.00PM
\$10 per number
Jackpot grows until won!

Thursday 10.00am
All welcome

Must be at The Somerton Hotel to collect winnings

Restaurant Open

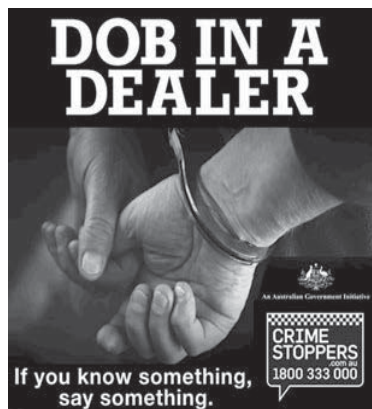
Friday Night – Saturday Lunch/Dinner- Sunday Lunch
Lunch 12-2pm
Dinner 5 pm – 8pm



LET US HELP YOU SPREAD THE WORD

Local news media is the most trusted source of news and information and our audience want to support local businesses when they can.

Call us on 67851033



If you know something, say something.



OUT & ABOUT IN ATTUNGA & SOMERTON

“Proudly brought to you by Graymont (Attunga) - Supplying all your Lime and Limestone requirements”

Barraba News Continued ...

BARRABA CENTRAL SCHOOL

Premier's Debating Challenge



Photo: Gold Team L-R: Lilly Groth, Sienna Hain, Chelsea Inwards & Macey CAbot



Photo: Green Team L-R: Cassidy Graves, Hope Payne, Jasmine Coombes & Hannah Woodhouse.

This year we had two teams of brave and talented debaters participating in the Premier's Debating Challenge.

The competition involves four rounds of debates against other local schools. For most students this was their first year being involved in debating and I was very impressed by the continued dedication and improvement.

These amazing students competed in debates where they have had only one-hour preparation time after finding out the topic of the debate, before having to stand up and present their arguments and devise quick rebuttals.

TRENT'S TIPS

With warmer days here my attention has turned to getting the veggie patch ready to plant again.

For the new beds, I have sprayed with Glyphosate to kill the grass and weeds, then tilled over a couple of days later.

I'll add a generous amount of sugar cane mulch and till in again to create organic matter. Given the chance of frost into late September, I won't plant any Spring/Summer plants until the frost is gone.

Prior to planting, I'll add plenty of compost or cow manure to add to the organic matter and nutrient in the beds, and till in again.

If you're keen to get seeds

Both teams have now completed their four rounds of debating and have done themselves and our school proud. Their commitment, growth and confidence has been outstanding and should be commended.

Barraba Green had 1 round win and 3 round losses. Barraba Gold had 4 round wins and now progress to the Knockout Regional Finals. Their first debate will be against Walcha Central School.

Congratulations to our super star debating teams! We wish you all the best in the finals!

Mrs Lowe
Debating Coordinator

planted, using the 'Jiffy pots' is a cheap and simple option if a greenhouse is out of the question.

They are basically a 'cardboard' pot that when the seedling is big enough, be planted directly into the ground without disturbing the root system.

The pot breaks down into the soil as the plants root system grows and breaks out of the pot.

You can also buy the mini greenhouse kits to start your seeds off a month or so earlier than outside, and easily transfer to the garden once the time comes.

They can simply sit on the window sill or shelf in the kitchen, out of the way.

Continued from page 12...

'Beyond the Walls' complete

The little swift parrot, and the galah are the smallest and largest birds depicted, and a king parrot, a red rumped parrot and an eastern rosella, along with a pacific, or white necked heron all appear to be taking flight. You can imagine whoops and calls of delight have disturbed peace, as a figure swings out over the deep pool at the base of the falls.

Human activities in nature, and the response of the birds and animals we share this world with, are narratives often explored in my work. I want to draw people into a relationship with the image, and with the characters, human or otherwise depicted, and that connection will inspire them to create a story of their own.

In total there are eight different animals to be found in the daytime image.

By Jane Harris

Barraba Landcare notes

The Barraba Landcare group is meeting in September about the Manilla River.

The meeting is on Wednesday 8 September at 5.30pm at the Barraba Bowling Club (if allowed). The meeting will also be offered via Zoom.

More details are available from the Northern Slopes Landcare Association on 0438 353 682 or co-ordinator@nsla.net.au.



Barraba Uniting Church

Sunday 29th August- Due to COVID 19 Lockdown there will not be a Service in the Uniting Church. Please obey the restrictions and stay safe.

Enquiries Phone 678216876

Barraba Anglican Church

10am Sunday, Zoom service. Check Barraba Anglican Church facebook page or call Minister for details.

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Tomato Vodka Penne

- ¼ cup olive oil
- 1 onion, chopped,
- 2 garlic cloves, chopped
- ¾ cup tomato paste
- ½ cup vodka
- ¼ cup thickened cream
- ½ cup pamesan, grated

Vodka is a strangely delicious addition to a tomato-based pasta sauce.

Get your penne or other pasta shapes to boil. In a frypan saute onion and garlic gently in the olive oil. Add tomato paste and continue to saute. Add vodka and cook sauce for 5 minutes together. Add the cream, pamesan and a slosh of the pasta water. Drain the pasta and stir through the sauce. Season to taste. Stir through cooked pasta.

Liberty Foodcare opens in Barraba



Photo: Liberty Foodcare items

A pantry has opened in Barraba to support people on low incomes.

Liberty Foodcare Barraba is operating at 82 Queen Street, in the former Victoria Hotel Premises. The pantry offers household staples very cheaply to people in need. Organisers say the cheap goods are available to anyone but the service is particularly aimed at those on Centrelink benefits or low incomes.

Shoppers need to register with Liberty Foodcare. Store manager, Estrella Hamilton, says already 50 people are registered. The service

is open twice a week on Thursdays and Saturdays from 9.30am to 2pm. Estrella, known as Star, is supported by four volunteer workers.

Liberty Foodcare is modelled on the service of the same name in Tamworth and is provided by the Liberty Church in Tamworth. Liberty Church is a member of the Australian Christian Churches (ACC) movement. Formerly known as the Assemblies of God, the ACC is a movement of Pentecostal churches where the individual churches are self-governing.

Barraba Cancer Patients Fund Raising Group Inc. DAFFODIL DAY STREET STALL

& MORNING TEA

FRIDAY 27 th August 2021

Regretfully CANCELLED (Due to COVID-19 Pandemic)

Please refer to the CANCER COUNCIL's Media Release,

Page 3 and this year show your support of the

FLOWER POWER APPEAL

online @ www.daffodilday.com.au



BARRABA RSL & RECREATIONAL CLUB LTD.
2 Maude Street, Barraba
Phone 6782 1379

We're ready to accept your vouchers

DINE & DISCOVER NSW

Apps for vouchers at www.gov.au

For the information of members and guests



BARRABA RURAL TRADERS

64-66 Alice St, Barraba NSW 2347
Phone: (02) 6782 1007

Jiffy 8pk pots and mini greenhouse kits \$8.95ea

Seedlings available now!




THURSDAY SUPERDRAW NIGHT

Suspended on Thursday night due to Covid lockdowns

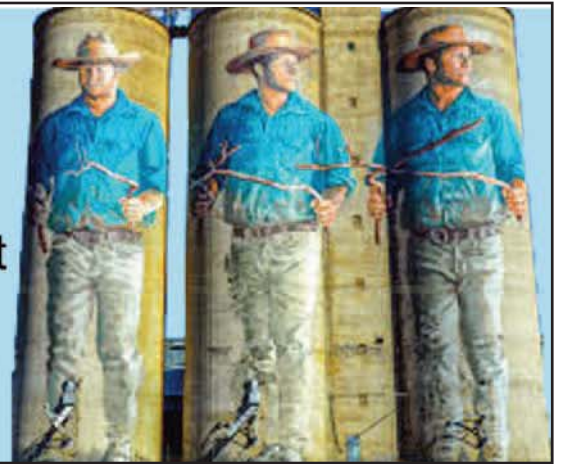
Stay safe everyone
We will be back soon!!

CORONAVIRUS CAUTION COVID-19

Subject to COVID restrictions being lifted Saturday night the Club will open Sunday 29th August

Barraba News

To submit news items or articles of interest
 email: barrabanews@gmail.com
 or Phone Jane Harris 0402 114 520
 John & Martin 67851 033
 email: manxpres@bigpond.net.au



'Beyond the Walls' complete



Photo: Barraba's new artwork "Beyond the Walls"

Artist Jenny McCracken has completed a new public artwork in Barraba. The work called "Beyond the Walls" graces the southern wall of the historic Treloars Building on Alice Street, only a few metres from Queen Street.

The large artwork has already created lots of positive local buzz, with lockdown conditions meaning out of area visitors will have to wait a little longer to see the work in person. The artwork was painted by

Jenny McCracken and creatively produced by Andi Methner of Zest Events International.

Barraba has a public art committee who have organised this project, auspiced by the community group Barraba Community Inc. The committee (Angela Croll, Karen Bishton, Emily Bowman and Andy Wright), aims to increase tourism through developing destination artworks. The silo artwork by Fintan Magee has been undeniably suc-

cessful in raising Barraba's profile and attracting visitors. This second artwork is located in the town's CBD and is intended to further attract attention, and spending, to Barraba.

Artist's description: 'Beyond the Walls' - Alice Street, Barraba NSW 'Beyond the walls' is an illusory image of breaking through the constructs of civilization to a wonderland of treasured memories and natural beauty.

Horton Falls, backdrop of the mural, is a local landmark where generations of Barraba families have enjoyed refreshing afternoons, camping, swimming, picnicking and exploring. Now flowing freely again, after many dry years, the site is almost restored to its remembered glory.

The surrounding bush is a haven for wildlife, birds in particular. Barraba itself is teeming with boldly coloured birdlife. Five of the more than a dozen different species of parrots found locally are featured here, including the rarest, and one of the most common.

Continued page 11...

POWER OUTAGE
 Due to Storm activity on Monday night early Tuesday morning 1483 homes between Upper Manilla and as far as Upper Horton were with out power. Power was restored around 8am in Barraba township.

CINEMA

THE PLAYHOUSE HOTEL CINEMA

121 -123 Queen St, Barraba

Ph: 6782 1109

All Tickets \$10

"Owing to the current lockdown, there will be no movie screening this week."

Federal funding for rural women project

The Northern Slopes Landcare Association, based in Upper Horton, will receive \$16,975 for its Rural Women's Catch-up from the Federal Government.

The funding is a share of more than \$1 million under the Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal's award-winning Tackling Tough Times Together program.

Deputy Prime Minister and Member for New England, Barnaby Joyce said the project aims to encourage more local involvement in the community by delivering a series of workshops in the Gwydir and Moree Plains areas, to help re-

duce social isolation.

"The Coalition is pleased to support the Foundation's critical work of supporting drought-affected communities, as the regions continue their recovery from the impacts of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and effects of natural disasters," Mr Joyce said.

"The Tackling Tough Times Together program has a range of benefits, including facilitating strong social cohesion, reducing volunteer fatigue and stimulating the local economy, which in-turn create capable communities and skilful leaders within our regions."

Richardson House Aged Care Barraba
Position Vacant

Assistant in Nursing (AIN) 40 hours/fortnight PPT

Richardson House Aged Care is seeking A suitable person to join their Care team.

For full job description please email joanna.bridges@richardsonhouse.com.au

Or call 67821 563 option 2.

Applications Close 3 September 2021

CENTRAL SCHOOL BARRABA

Enrolling now for 2022

Barrabull would like to invite all kindergarten children for 2022 to attend our transition early starters program

Fridays
 Term 4
 Commencing Friday
 8 October 2021
 (Covid 19 permitting)

For further information or to arrange a school tour. Please contact the school on 67821266 or email: barraba-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Brasserie Hours

Dinner: OPEN 7 days
 Sun til 12pm

Fridays 12 - 2pm

Subject to COVID restrictions being lifted Saturday night the Hotel will open Sunday 29th August.

Hotel Opens
 Every Day from 10.00am

Commercial Hotel
 136 Queen Street Barraba Tel: 02 67 821 023

BARRABA BOWLING

For the information of members and guests

Subject to Covid restrictions being lifted Saturday night 21st the Club will open on Sunday 22nd

Barraba Bowling Club Chinese Resturant will be open from Wed 18th Aug 2021.
 No Dine in allowed.
 Takeaways are to be picked up from side door.
 Please follow COVID protocol and sign in and wear mask. 1 person per order to pick up.
 Free delivery within town limits.
 Lockdown Opening hours
 Lunch 11.30-2.30pm
 Stictly no orders taken after 2pm
 Dinner 4.30pm - 8.30pm
 Stictly no orders taken after 8pm
 Phone orders 02 6782 1402
 All orders are CASH only

Restaurant Phone 6782 1402