

February 2024 Edition

gwydirnews@ccni.nsw.edu.au



A new chapter begins for The Gwydir News

The Gwydir News is a free monthly publication available online or for collection from local outlets.



See the rendered view of our Council's new Maitland Street (Bingara) complex

Published by
Community College
Northern Inland



Call Melissa on
0438 546 519

Bingara

6 Riddell Street
Bingara NSW 2404
Mon - Thu 8.30am to 4.00pm

Warialda

47 Hope Street
Warialda NSW 2402
Wed - Fri 8.30am to 4.00pm

The history of *The Gwydir News* spans 130 years beginning with the first edition of *The Warialda Standard* printed in 1894. *The Bingara Advocate* was born 40 years later, in 1934, with both papers serving their respective communities for decades under the leadership of various editors and owners.

The Bingara Advocate was sold to Nancy Capel in 1995. Nancy acquired *The Warialda Standard* 20 years later and in 2018 merged the two papers to become *The Gwydir News*.

Following Nancy's retirement in 2019, the Gwydir Shire Council stepped in to save the local news, committing to the running of the paper for a period of 12 months until a suitable buyer could be found. Over the next four years, Council's Gwydir News Team artfully transitioned the newspaper from a weekly publication into the brilliant monthly newsletter-style format we know now.

Fast forward to 2024 and ownership of *The Gwydir News* has been passed by Council back to the community it serves. *The Gwydir News* will be published by Community College Northern Inland as a monthly newsletter that aims to provide its audience with reliable, free news information covering local council activities, community events, education, health, local arts, sport and more, and will include business and classified ads as a means of connecting readers to service providers and a local marketplace, at the same time connecting businesses with local

consumers of their goods and services.

The Gwydir News will be published on the third Thursday of every month and made available as a free printed newsletter from local outlets, as digital news that can be read online, or an online edition for download to your own device.

From the Editor

We're thrilled to be bringing you the news. We think local papers provide an **essential service**, connecting people with information about events taking place where they live and work, at the same time providing information about sources of support and social connection.

But without the continued backing of local businesses, community organisations, men and women on the farm and in the street, your local paper won't be able to deliver the news and information you want.

So we're asking you to do your bit to support a 130-year old tradition that makes the Gwydir's country towns and villages great. Support the local news with articles of interest, photos, current events, and advertising and **invest in your local community by buying a local ad.**

Next issue: The Gwydir News will be published on Thursday 21st March. Plan your advertising now—booking deadline for the next issue is Monday 11th March. Call 0438 546 519 or email gwydirnews@ccni.nsw.edu.au



NEWS & UPDATES FROM GWYDIR SHIRE COUNCIL

Living the Gwydir Good Life

Bingara Council Office Building update

The demolition of the existing buildings is progressing well with no major issues arising.

The development approval process is also advancing with the assessor requesting additional information and this having now been provided by the external town planning company.

Following an expression of interest period six respondents were selected and invited to submit a tender. The **tender period closed at 2pm on Thursday 22nd February 2024.**



Rendered images of the new complex incorporating the existing building façade.





Bingara Foreshore and The Living Classroom Cabins

The lack of progress on the Gwydir River foreshore project (especially the removal of the beloved tree), and the electricity supply connection to The Living Classroom Cabins project is proving to be very frustrating to Council. External contractors are engaged to undertake and complete these projects and progress is beyond Council's control. The foreshore area is a Bingara showcase, and it is very sad to see the area continue to be presented as it has been since the flooding event in October 2022.

Roxy Café, Bingara

Fresh Finds (a local grocery store which serves toasties, sandwiches, sushi, rice paper rolls, salads, milkshakes, thickshakes, and fresh fruit juices) has moved into the Roxy Café.

The great benefit of this agreement is Council is helping an existing business keep its doors open, AND that Council is not bringing in a new, competing business to town.



Bingara Riverside Caravan Park Onsite Caretaker Opportunity

Council is seeking a long-term caretaker for the Bingara Riverside Caravan Park. The successful respondent will live at the onsite office/residence and will provide after-hour services including dealing with bookings, enquiries, late arrivals, and emergency cleaning. As the office/residence is not fenced no animals will be allowed.

The terms and conditions of the caretaker/s duties, responsibilities, rights, and residential agreement will be negotiated with each respondent on a case-by-case basis.

To express an interest in the caretaking opportunity please contact Council on (02) **6724 2000** or email: mail@gwydir.nsw.gov.au by 5pm Friday 8th March 2024.

Bubble Games

Bingara provided a steamy day for Bubble Games on Thursday 11th January. The heat did not stop 25 young people (and a couple of staff) from participating in the activities. All welcomed a cool down, courtesy of the **Rural Fire Brigade**. Staff provided marquees, sunscreen, and bottled water, and reminded participants to rest in the shade regularly.



Cartooning with David Moor

Twenty-two young people from across the Gwydir Shire attended a Cartooning Workshop at Ceramic Break Sculpture Park on Wednesday 10th January.

The group enjoyed the tips and feedback provided by Warialda cartoonist, David Moor. David told staff that there was some real talent in the class and that they were "a great mob of kids".



COUNCIL NEWS

Naroom Frail Aged Hostel

Naroom residents enjoyed a quieter month in January after a very busy festive season. They enjoyed lots of indoor activities to beat the heat which included manicure days, craft afternoons making items to celebrate Australia Day, bingo and carpet bowls.

Naroom is now trialling new shift times. These will be two 7-hour shifts, and a 10-hour night shift.

The University of New England has accepted three of Naroom's staff to study externally to become Registered Nurses.

Nicholson Oval Clubhouse

Council's Building Services Team continually inspects, maintains and repairs over 200 buildings.

In addition, 2023 saw a major new build for the Team being the demolition of the old Nicholson Oval Clubhouse and the construction of a new purpose designed facility.



Warialda Koala Matters

Council has been working to bring the diverse stakeholders together to loosely form one Koala Group. The stakeholders include dedicated individuals and volunteers, a number of Landcare group representatives, the Lions club, and the Australia Koala Foundation.

During the December and January period, the team improved the Koala Park and surrounds. Such improvements include developing additional signage, establishing watering points in Apex Park, maintenance of the Koala Corridor on the Gwydir Highway, and creating a tourist brochure which is available from the Warialda Visitor Information Centre.

It is exciting to see a regular number of koalas frequenting the Warialda Koala Wildlife Reserve despite recent hot and humid conditions. Throughout December and January, up to six koalas could be seen almost daily, including some familiar faces.

Koalas named Kiara and daughter Kimmi, have delighted and afforded many photo opportunities to both locals and visitors alike.

Warialda Truck Wash

The truck wash facility was used by 101 trucks during December and 95 during January with an average wash down time of 56 minutes and total water used was 1564kL. The estimated income for the reporting period of December is \$7,671.40 and \$7,258.90 for January, less monitoring fees and expenses.

Plunkett Street Development

Readers would have noticed a great deal of buzz happening in Plunkett Street. Council gained federal funding and have installed a purpose-built **Disability Day Centre** onsite, together with a two bedroom **All Abilities Cottage**.

Two three-bedroom cabins have also been installed onsite which will be used by visiting locums, registrars, other health alliance professionals and contractors.

The existing shopfront is being renovated and it is planned that it will become home to an Op-Shop which will be run by volunteers known as the Warialda Warriors!

As these are community assets, Council wants to give the community the opportunity to name the whole complex, the **Disability Day Centre**, the **All-Abilities Cottage**, and the two cabins.

To enter, obtain an entry form from Council's website, or Council's Front Counter at the Warialda Visitor Information Centre/RMS on the Gwydir Highway. Submit the completed form to Council by 5pm Friday 15th March 2024.

The prizes to be won are **Gwydir Gift Cards**.

- \$200 voucher to name the Complex, and
- \$100 each to name the Centre, Cottage, Cabin 1, and Cabin 2.

Total prize value \$600 in vouchers.

44 Hope Street Warialda

On 25th January 2024 Council sold 44 Hope Street Warialda.



COUNCIL NEWS

NSW Rural Doctors Bush Bursary 2023

Gwydir Shire Council once again participated in the NSW Rural Doctors Network Bush Bursary Program. The program provides selected medical, nursing and midwifery students with funding to undertake a two-week placement in Country NSW. The bursaries are offered on an annual basis and are financially supported by rural Councils in NSW.

Council's investment of \$3,000 provided sponsorship for first year medical students, Edward Langley and Maddie Tilyou, to undertake two weeks placement at Warialda and Bingara Family Practice, and Warialda and Bingara MPS, between Monday 4th and Friday 15th December 2023.



Left to Right: Edward Langley, Maddie Tilyou, Dr Di Coote and Dr Clem Gordon

Ed and Maddie were very impressed with the medical facilities within the Shire, and both hope to return for further learning and development opportunities.

Roads Update

IB Bore Road Upgrade

Works continued on the SR9 IB Bore Road upgrade near North Star this month. This project is jointly funded by the *Fixing Country Roads Program* (\$9.54m), and the Federal Government's *Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program* (\$2m). Over half of the project's length, (approximately 11.5 kilometres), has been completed including the upgrade of the intersection of IB Bore Road and Croppa Creek Road. The team has now transitioned to the next section, approximately 11.5 kilometres from the intersection of Croppa Creek Road and IB Bore Road and has commenced subbase forming and table drainage operations.

County Boundary Road Upgrade

The project is jointly funded by the Federal Government's *Roads of Strategic*

Importance (ROSI) Program (\$9.75 million) with Council contributing an additional \$2.44 million. Council staff have completed Stage 1 of the construction and the sealing of County Boundary Road with the initial seal carried out by contractors on 30 November 2023. Stage 1 is a 3km long section from Croppa Moree Rd intersection to the south. The second 3km long stage is currently under construction with lime stabilisation of the subgrade programmed for February/March 2024. It is expected that the 12.3km long project will be completed by April 2025.

Getta Getta Road Resheeting

The Getta Getta Road resheeting project, funded by the *Fixing Local Roads Program*, has been completed with final seal done on the 24 January 2024.

Gulf Creek Road Timber Bridge Replacement

This project is funded by the *Fixing*

Country Bridges Program (\$252,500) with a co-contribution from Council (\$30,000). Project planning and procurement have been completed. The drainage works have been completed marking a significant milestone of the project. The base layer for the road has been laid down, and the table drains have been formed successfully. The next phase of the project involves sealing this section of the road and installing guardrails.

Wearnes Road Sealing

In January, works continued on the Wearnes Road Sealing project. This project is jointly funded under Round 4 of the *Fixing Local Roads Program* (\$2,845,929) and Council (\$256,133.61). Polycom stabilising is complete for Stage 1 of the project and 4.7km of the road sealed. There has also been a new pipe installed in the first stage of the project. Ramp upgrades are underway with three of the four timber frames replaced.



Australia Day

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

Australia Day Honours

Community is at the heart of Australia's national day, and each year, Local Government Areas invite their communities to nominate a worthy member to receive a NSW Local Citizen of the Year Award. On Friday 26th January 2024, the Gwydir Shire celebrated the awesome locals recognised by their communities in the 2024 Bingara and Warialda Australia Day Awards.



Above: Chris Matthews with Bingara Op-Shop's Janine Howard, Stewart Dixon on behalf of Event of the Year winner - the Mason Daley Memorial Day, Citizen of the Year Alan Bilsborough, and Young Citizen of the Year Marshall Bond proudly display their awards.



Above: Chris and Bev Matthews. Chris stood in as Awards Presenter, on behalf of Special Guest, Major Alex Rubin, who was unable to attend on the day.

Congratulations to all Gwydir nominees and recipients of the 2024 local Australia Day Awards.

2024 Bingara Australia Day Award Winners

Event of the Year

Bingara Bullets Football Club - Mason Daley Memorial Day

Volunteer Group of the Year

Bingara Community Op-Shop

Citizen of the Year

Alan Bilsborough

Young Citizen of the Year

Marshall Bond

2024 Warialda Australia Day Award Winners

Event of the Year

Ravi Gill and Family, Hope Café - Warialda Christmas Lunch

Jnr/Snr Environmental Champion

North Star CWA Branch

Citizen of the Year

Lawrie and Cheryl Timmins

Young Citizen of the Year

Sophie McMaster

Senior Citizen of the Year

Carmel Gobbert and Jean Willmot



Top Left: Ravi Gill from Hope Café accepting the Warialda Event of the Year Award

Top Right: Sophie McMaster was named Warialda Young Citizen of the Year

Centre Left: North Star CWA Branch took out the award for Warialda Senior Environmental Citizen of the Year

Centre Right : Carmel Gobbert and Jean Willmot were each awarded Warialda Senior Citizen of the Year

Bottom Left : Lawrie and Cheryl Timmins jointly received Warialda Citizen of the Year



CULTURE

Bingara's Film Club Looks Forward to 2024

Bingara's Film Club is set to kick off in February with an exciting selection at the end of the month. The Film Club looks forward to 2024 with a variety of films embracing a contemporary vibe with a mix of newer releases and cherished classics.

Commenting on how pleased the club is with the line-up, Film Club President Ros Moulton said that this is a programme offering something to interest everyone. "Our 2024 lineup is truly exciting and offers something for everyone" she commented. "The Film Club, now in its 14th year, maintains its commitment to affordable entertainment, with membership fees held steady at \$60 for access to a stellar collection of 11 movies throughout the year. Our member numbers were around 30 last year, and everyone enjoys not only the diverse range of films, but the socialising with a glass of wine afterwards." Other club benefits include free access to an excellent DVD library which includes many films screened by the club over the years, reviews of the selected movies each month and introductions to the films.

The 2024 program showcases a rich tapestry of genres, spanning epic dramas and comedies to Academy Award winners. The eclectic mix includes timeless classics and contemporary gems:

- **February:** "The Man Who Would be King" (1975) An epic directed by John Huston, starring Sean Connery and Michael Caine.
- **March:** "The Dry" (2020) Australian thriller starring Eric Bana.
- **April:** "The Perfect Candidate" (2019) Our foreign film.
- **May:** "Elvis" (2022) Biopic directed by Baz Luhrmann.
- **June:** "Tea with Mussolini" (1999) Historical film with great cast including Maggie Smith and Judi Dench.
- **July:** "Inherit the Wind" (1960) Our classic film starring Spencer Tracy and Frederic March.
- **August:** "A United Kingdom" (2016) The story of King Seretse Khama of Botswana.
- **September:** "Red, White and Brass" (2023) Comedy from New Zealand.
- **October:** "Belfast" (2021) Directed by Kenneth Branagh about "The Troubles".
- **November:** "Big Fish" (2003) Drama starring Ewan McGregor and Albert Finney.
- **December:** Christmas party and mystery movie.

Film screenings take place on the last Sunday of each month

at 4.00pm at the Roxy Theatre, with the exception of March due to Easter falling on the last Sunday.

If you're eager to join the Film Club or want a copy of the 2024 programme, contact Ros Moulton on 0412 081 642 or Jen Mead at the Bingara Visitor Information Centre. Don't miss the chance to be part of a thriving club enjoying the magic of cinema! The North West Theatre Company Film Club kicks off the 2024 season with an exhilarating adventure film that's sure to captivate audiences.

The Man Who Would be King

Dive into the action-packed world of "The Man Who Would Be King," a 1975 adventure film based on Rudyard Kipling's 1888 novella. Directed by John Huston and starring the dynamic duo of Sean Connery and Michael Caine, this cinematic journey follows two former British Army non-commissioned officers seeking thrills in late 19th-century British India. Their quest for adventure leads them to the distant land of Kafiristan, where one of them is mistaken for a god and crowned king.

Picture yourself in 1885 India as journalist Rudyard Kipling, portrayed by Christopher Plummer, encounters the rogue adventurers Peachy Carnehan and Danny Dravot. The film unfolds with stolen pocket watches, Masonic tags, and audacious plans as the duo, frustrated with the changing landscape of civilised India, sets off on a daring expedition to Kafiristan.

Embark on an epic overland journey with the protagonists, overcoming bandits, blizzards, and avalanches. Michael Caine, ranking "The Man Who Would Be King" among his top five films, shares his experience of working with Connery and Plummer under the direction of John Huston in his final movie. Ironically, Caine notes that Huston, trusting his seasoned cast, did minimal directing, relying on their expertise.

For movie fans, this film offers not just a gripping storyline but also a chance to witness the camaraderie between legendary actors. John Huston's long-cherished project, the film captures the essence of Kipling's adventurous spirit.

Join the NWTC Film Club for a captivating cinematic experience throughout 2024. For just \$60, enjoy 11 handpicked movies, including after-show drinks and nibbles at the Roxy where members can share their thoughts. The NWTC Film Club screenings take place on the last Sunday of each month at 4.00 pm. Don't miss the first screening on Sunday, February 28, and be part of a thrilling cinematic adventure.

Adventure in all its glory!

Rudyard Kipling's epic of splendor, spectacle and high adventure at the top of a legendary world.



Emanuel L. Wolf presents

Sean Connery and Michael Caine
Christopher Plummer

In the John Huston-John Foreman film

The Man Who Would Be King

Also starring Saaed Jaffrey and introducing Shakira Caine

The North West Theatre Company Film Club presents

The Man Who Would Be King

Sunday February 25th 2024 | 4:00pm | The Roxy Theatre

Local poet takes first prize in prestigious competition

Walcha resident Julie Butler, has taken out first place in the Fellowship Of Australian Writers Lambing Flat Poetry Competition with judges deeming her work "Impressive in concept and execution". The poem, Field to Page, attracted outstanding review from competition judges. Still a Bingara local at heart, Julie was thrilled to win this competition.

The poem was published in the January 2024 issue of *FreeXpreSsion Literary Magazine*, a literary magazine that I was the first person to subscribe to when it began way back in November 1993. As many of you know I won an Australia-wide competition in 1996 that saw my first book of poetry published. Over the years I have been published in numerous literary magazines, and anthologies both in Australia and overseas, in the USA and India. I have also had my poems widely broadcast on ABC Radio and commercial radio. For the first time in June 2023 another of my poems was Longlisted in The Yeovil Literary Festival in England.

Judges Review

Looking at conflicts and wars, how they are recorded, and judgements made on the event and participants, the composer of this work makes it apparent that primary sources abound wherever there are actors and events – that books, diaries, letters home, examined, are rare, available, interesting if not compelling gifts and open new vistas to researchers, and look at the multi-factored reasons behind sometimes narrow interpretations.

Opening up previously unknown fundamental details on Mao, Stalin, Evelyn Waugh, just as starters, the composer offers the possibility in the last stanza that researchers may find 'vaster wilds burning beyond limits of imagination.' Impressive in concept and execution.

Field to Page

Abiding, indispensable part of life
floating freely through the mists of time
traces not destroyed,
waiting to be found,
surprising ways of written culture,
rich, authoritative
highly readable,
have been shaped
and are being shaped
by the conflicts of the modern age,
from wars past to the invasion of
Ukraine.

Who remembers Chairman Mao was
a librarian,
Stalin was a published poet,
Evelyn Waugh served as a commando,
modern warfare shadowing books
on the frontline,
diaries recording man's inhumanity to man,
letters home reviewed,
books, authors and readers have gone to war
becoming both deadly weapons
and the most persuasive arguments for peace.

An age of conflict
between libraries and readers,
rare gifts,
the eye of darkness
finds vaster wilds
burning beyond limits of imagination.

© Copyright Julie Butler 2023

THE NORTH WEST THEATRE
COMPANY PRESENTS



Man from Ironbark

POETRY &

Ozymandias

Ning Nang Nong

Jabberwocky

PANCAKES

Spider on the Gwydir

THE ROXY THEATRE

"HEAR SOME OF THE ALL-TIME GREAT POEMS OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

THEATRICALY PRESENTED BY MEMBERS OF THE NWTC.

FUNNY, SAD, AND THINKABLE POEMS TO MAKE YOU LAUGH, SMILE AND REFLECT!"

7:30pm, Saturday 9 March 2024 OR

1:30pm, Sunday 10 March 2024

<https://www.trybooking.com/CPLFR>

\$40pp | 2 Course Meal | BYO Drinks

Bingara Information Centre - 02 6724 0066





ADULT EDUCATION

News from Bingara U3A

What do you know about U3As?



Universities of the Third Age, or U3As as they are more often called, are voluntary, non-profit organisations which aim to offer older people low-cost educational opportunities which operate in a pleasant, supportive social setting. There are no formal entry requirements, no examinations and no awards. **U3As** are basically groups built on the premise that collectively older people have the skills and knowledge to provide learning/social opportunities for themselves.

Most **U3As** offer a program of classes conducted in daylight hours and

arranged on a term or semester basis. A wide range of subjects are generally offered, depending on the interests of members and the availability of suitable group leaders and tutors.

Bingara U3A offers three regular activities each term. Pilates runs weekly on Saturday mornings and Balance 'n' Bones also runs weekly but on Monday mornings. This class is for mobile, mature-aged participants and was developed especially for **U3A NSW**. We also run Armchair Travel once a term where a member takes us on a trip somewhere in the world from our armchairs.

We also run other workshops during the term depending on who we can get to present them. Last year we then on Scams, Volcanoes, Better Sleep, Pruning Fruit Trees, Organising Email, Divining and Dyeing Silk Scarves. This term we will be making face cream and learning about opals.

Courses are generally free (except Pilates) but you will need to be a member of **U3A**. Annual membership is \$20 and the membership year runs from July 1st to June 30th. We currently have 40 members and look forward to welcoming more.

We will be at the Community Information Day on March 16th and would love to see you there. You can find out more about us and also let us know what sorts of workshops or courses you would like us to consider. You might even let us know what you might be willing to present. We would particularly like someone to run some art or craft classes.

Alternatively, if you would like more information about either **Bingara U3A** or any activities, please contact bingarau3a@gmail.com



Become a member of U3A

Enjoy learning and social opportunities in a pleasant, supportive and social setting.

One low annual membership fee

\$20





ADULT EDUCATION

News from Bingara Community College

Food Safety



For more information visit:

<https://www.foodauthority.nsw.gov.au/retail/charities-groups-and-volunteers/>

Recent changes to the Food Standards Code have introduced new food safety requirements that affect charities and groups that prepare and sell food on an ongoing basis.

From 8 December 2023, charities, groups and volunteers that prepare unpackaged, potentially hazardous food, and serve it ready-to-eat, must:

- have a qualified onsite Food Safety Supervisor, who is reasonably available to supervise food handlers
- ensure all food handlers are trained in food safety and hygiene, or can demonstrate adequate skills and knowledge, and
- be able to show their food is safe.

The requirements, known as Standard 3.2.2A, **do not** apply to the handling of food for, or at, a fundraising event, or providing food free to the community.

Fundraising event means an event that raises funds solely for a community or charitable cause and not for personal financial gain.

The NSW Food Authority and NSW Government recognise the valuable work conducted by charities, organisations and volunteers when selling or donating food for charitable purposes. Examples include:

- free sausage-sizzles for junior soccer players
- school fetes
- lamington drives to raise money for the victims of a natural disaster
- selling chocolates to raise money for the Red Cross
- making food for volunteer fire fighters during a bushfire.

What are potentially hazardous foods?

Potentially hazardous foods need special handling to keep them safe and specific food standards apply. This is because, if not kept cold, bacteria that produce toxins or cause illness can grow.

The simplest and most effective way of controlling the growth of bacteria is proper temperature control.

Potentially hazardous foods include:

- raw or cooked meat
- smallgoods
- dairy products
- seafood (excluding live seafood)
- processed fruit and vegetables
- cooked pasta and rice
- foods containing eggs, beans, nuts or other protein-rich foods.

Food Safety Supervisor

A Food Safety Supervisor is someone associated with the business who is certified in the past 5 years to have skills and knowledge in food safety. Training is delivered by registered training organisations.

Food Handler

Anyone in the business who handles unpackaged, potentially hazardous, ready-to-eat food must have either completed a food safety training course or have appropriate skills and knowledge of food safety and hygiene for their duties.

A range of training options can be utilised, including internal training tailored to suit the business's activities.

If opting for a food safety training course, it must incorporate safe handling of food, food contamination, cleaning and sanitising of food premises and equipment and personal hygiene.

Additional training may not be needed if food handlers already have appropriate skills and knowledge.

Many government agencies provide a free online course for food handlers on food safety and hygiene.

Community College Northern Inland (RTO 90027) provides nationally accredited Food Safety training at its Bingara and Warialda campuses. Phone the college on **0438 546 519** to book or enquire about private training delivered to your staff.





SCHOOL NEWS

News from Bingara Central School



Above: Jacqueline Hall - Deputy Principal

Welcome back from the Principal

Welcome back to another exciting term filled with endless possibilities! We hope your break was filled with relaxation and cherished moments, and now, we're thrilled to dive into the new academic year together.

Our highly anticipated Twilight Swimming Carnival is fast approaching and is scheduled for Thursday February 15th! It's an evening where our school community comes together to celebrate sportsmanship and teamwork. Parents, you're invited to join us and cheer on our talented swimmers from Laver, Bradman and Fraser houses. Let's create an atmosphere of encouragement and enthusiasm as we support our students in the pool.

It is with great pleasure that we introduce three remarkable individuals who have joined our school community, each bringing a unique set of skills and experiences to enrich our educational journey. We are thrilled to have them on board and look forward to the positive contributions they will make to our students' learning and growth.

Deputy Principal—Mrs Jacqueline Hall

Mrs Jacqueline Hall brings with her a wealth of knowledge accumulated through years of dedication to education. Having worked in a variety of schools both within and outside our Namoi and Barwon Network, Mrs Hall's expertise spans across primary and secondary education. With a specialist background in Special Education and Learning and Support, she is well equipped to support our diverse student body. We are privileged to have Mrs Hall as a valuable member of our leadership team.

Kindergarten Teacher—Mrs Tammy Hall
Mrs Tammy Hall's passion for early childhood education shines brightly as she joins us with a background in infants and primary education. Her journey into teaching exemplifies her dedication and commitment to nurturing young minds. With a strong focus on reading development and a deep understanding of the needs of our youngest learners, Mrs Hall is poised to make a significant impact in our Kindergarten classroom.

Year 1 Teacher—Mrs Belinda Caban

With a solid foundation in education and a strong understanding of the essential literacy and numeracy skills required across the K-6 curriculum, Belinda is well-equipped to guide our students toward academic success. Her commitment to continuous improvement and her readiness to embrace challenges are qualities that will undoubtedly inspire those around her.

Both Mrs Tammy Hall and Mrs Caban bring with them an unwavering commitment to our beloved Bingara community and a passion for empowering students on their educational journey. Their connection to our school is deep, as they once walked the same halls and experienced the transformative power of education here. Their strong ties to our community fuel their dedication to providing every student with the opportunity to thrive and excel.

Brooke Wall
Principal
Bingara Central School

SCHOOL NEWS



Above: Mrs Tammy Hall - Kindergarten Teacher

Below: Belinda Caban - Year 1



Twilight Swimming Carnival

Oh, what a night! Our Twilight Swimming Carnival continues to be a highlight of the BCS calendar. The weather made for a memorable evening with rain causing events to be paused at times and while there was some delays in the schedule we were pleased to be able to carry on and complete all events.

Students from Years 2 to 12 competed enthusiastically for their houses throughout the evening in both novelty and non-swimmer events as well as our competitive program. Unfortunately, we were unable to hold our presentation to Age and House Champions but will do so at an upcoming assembly. Primary Zone nominations will go home next week.

Congratulations go to King and Queen of the Pool Liam J and Blaire J as well as winners of the Bingara Gift, which was this year taken out by Primary swimmers, Hudson P and Ivy M.

A full list of results and records broken will be published in the Week 4 edition school newsletter.



News from Warialda Public School



2024 Student Leadership Team

Captains

Digby Wilson
Snowden Green

Vice Captains

Hamish Michel
Matilda Brooks

Prefects

Daniel Whalan
Darci Ford

An update from the Principal

Another incredible year has started at Warialda Public School. In 2024, we have welcome 14 new students in addition to 19 kindergarten students with a total of 209 enrolments. The school year has commenced smoothly with all of our students slipping straight back into strong routines designed to maximise all learning opportunities.

In 2024, our school will be lead by a new Student Leadership Team. Our 2024 student leaders are:

Captains

Digby Wilson and Snowden Green

Vice Captains

Hamish Michel and Matilda Brooks

Prefects

Daniel Whalan and Darci Ford

Our first major school event for 2024 took place on Monday the 12th of February with the Annual Swimming Carnival. This event saw no less than 154 competitors—a staggering number showcasing the willingness of students at Warialda Public School to jump in and simply try their best. This event was again well supported by our parents and community who cheered on participants. From the carnival, 40 students have qualified to attend the Inverell Zone Carnival on Friday the 23rd of February.






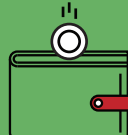
We were delighted to host one of the most important events of the school year—being our Meet the Teacher evening. This event saw a large contingent of parents meet with their children's teachers to establish strong partnerships that will guide learning throughout the year. It was lovely to meet so many parents and build these important connections.

Dan van Velthuisen
Principal
Warialda Public School

OUR SCHOOL TUCKSHOP IS NOW ONLINE!

Download the free app or access www.myschoolconnect.com.au



	<h3>1. REGISTER YOUR ACCOUNT</h3> <p>Register on any device, simply login to www.myschoolconnect.com.au and click on "Create Account", follow the prompts to add your email and password.</p>
<h3>2. ADD YOUR STUDENT</h3> <p>And make sure that you select your school and classroom details.</p>	
	<h3>3. SELECT "TOP UP"</h3> <p>To add money to your account via Credit Card or Paypal, you can choose Direct Deposit but allow 3-5 working days to process prior to ordering. You can also pay as you go, simply skip the pop up screen for adding funds and start ordering.</p>
<p>(Please note Merchant Fees applies to Credit Card or Paypal Transactions)</p>	
	<h3>4. ORDER</h3> <p>To start ordering lunches simply select your Student and click "Buy Now", and you can order for the day, week. It's that simple!</p>
<h3>5. CHECKOUT</h3> <p>Once you have completed your order, view your order summary in the "cart" and proceed to "checkout". Select your preferred form of payment and submit, all orders are confirmed via email.</p>	
	<h3>NOTE ON PAID ORDERS</h3> <p>Note that only paid orders will be sent to your canteen, not those still sitting in your cart. To start ordering lunches simply select your Student and click "Buy Now", and you can order for the day, week. It's that simple!</p>



Keep an eye out for a pride of Lions in your community in coming weeks

Many of Lions Australia's 25,000 plus hardworking volunteers will be getting out in the community in coming weeks to celebrate the importance of community service in the lead up to Lions Awareness Day.

Held on 2nd March, Lions Awareness Day is a time to celebrate the incredible impact Lions Clubs have and recognise the many benefits of volunteering.

Many Lions will be out in their communities in locations including shopping centres, local Bunnings stores, markets and parks.

Lions Australia CEO Rob Oerlemans says Lions Awareness

Day is particularly important this year, as climate induced disasters continue to devastate communities across Australia.

"Lions have been providing emergency support to Australian communities for decades," says Rob Oerlemans.

"Over \$4.6 million was raised and distributed in the Australian Lions Foundation Black Summer National Bushfire Appeal and \$2 million was raised and distributed to Flood Support last year. Whilst the smoke has cleared and flood waters have receded Lions continue to support those communities in their recovery and will for many years to come."

"Most recently Lions volunteers have been mobilising to support Far North Queensland communities impacted by



Cyclone Jasper and those impacted by fires in Queensland and WA.

"Lions Australia's 25,000 plus hardworking volunteers often serve their communities silently behind the scenes. Lions Awareness Day is a wonderful opportunity to recognise the incredible difference our volunteers make and give people an opportunity to learn more about our organisation."

"A big thank you to Bunnings for offering their stores to our local clubs to use for Lions Awareness Day this year," adds Rob Oerlemans.

Some Lions are on a mission to cure childhood cancer and diabetes, others are committed to assisting those impacted by drought and floods and many are simply working together to help people in need in their local community. One thing all Lions have in common is together they are making an incredible difference.

Lions Australia has set a goal of 30,000 members by 2030 and 50,000 members by 2050.

"If you see any Lions out in your community in coming weeks, we encourage you to say hello and get some information on what your local club is up to. If you are interested in making a difference ask your local Lions how you can get involved. We know there are many people out there looking to make a difference in the community right now, and it's a great time to join us," says Rob Oerlemans.

"Our goal is that the demographic makeup of our clubs matches the demography of the community in which they operate. We're so proud to have a growing number of

speciality clubs across Australia ranging from young Leo clubs, virtual clubs, ethnic clubs, special interest and autism clubs. We have key focus areas and a number of fantastic Lions foundations. Whatever your interest and passion, Lions can help you make a difference," adds Rob Oerlemans.

In addition to disaster relief Lions Clubs drive a range of community service projects and initiatives ranging from youth programs, medical research, aid to people with disability and environmental work.

Lions volunteers pay annual membership fees to cover admin costs which means 100% of funds donated to your local Lions Club goes directly towards the cause.

For more information on Lions and how to get involved visit www.lionsclubs.org.au

About Lions Australia



Where there's a need, there's a Lion. Lions Australia is Australia's largest service organisation with more than 1300 clubs in Australia and Papua New Guinea. Lions Australia promotes youth, supports medical research, provides aid to people with disability, community service and disaster relief. **Lions are**

friends, family and neighbours who share a core belief: community is what we make it.



Carinda House happenings...

Carinda House is open and ready for you to visit to purchase some of our beautifully handmade, unique craft items. Also, don't forget Jeanette's wonderful cooking, our natural honey and homemade pickles, jams and relishes.

Perhaps you might like to join the Tuesday morning craft group which meets in the Stump Room from 10.00am to 12.00pm. Just bring along your particular craftwork, enjoy the company of like-minded people and have a cuppa!

Congratulations to Tanya Rose on winning our Christmas raffle. We hope you enjoyed your prize.

Carinda House has been lucky enough to receive a grant from FRRR **ANZ Seeds for Renewal Program** which will help us update our equipment. We have also been able to install a 24-hour security system which includes five cameras.

The AGM will be held on Thursday March 14 commencing at 10.00am. All positions will be declared vacant so if you are interested, please come along.

Carinda welcomes new members. A day on roster duty is a great social experience. It's a chance to meet visitors from all over Australia as well as newcomers to Warialda.



Bingara Garden Club

Congratulations to Trish and Bob Maxwell, winners of the Bingara Garden Club February 2024 Section B Drive-by Encouragement Award. A securely fenced double block makes it difficult to capture the full beauty and layout of the extensive garden in a single photograph. Extensive and well maintained lawns are complimented by roses and other ornamentals. Vines adorn the front fence.

The garden features Australian natives, intermittently spaced birdbaths and white crepe myrtles along the footpath. Large trees shade some of the lawn area. The front porch attracts early morning sun and provides a sense of house-to-garden inclusiveness.



Bingara Garden Club was established in 1989 as a self-funded community organisation incorporated with Garden Clubs of Australia. The Club's motto is "**Friendship Through Gardening**" and the Club strives to encourage and promote gardening and beautification of the town. The Garden Club conducts a monthly "drive by encouragement award," and liaises with local organisations on matters of interest where they can be of assistance.



Claiming the date!

Saturday 16th March 2024

Gwydir Oval

Cunningham Street Bingara

"Bingara's Heart Beats!"

**Community Support &
Volunteer Groups**

Information Day

9am -1 pm

Entertainment on the day

B-B-Q lunch available

**Come along and view the diverse range of
groups and services that support our
amazing town.**

**Who knows you might even find a new
hobby or become involved in a group
that urgently needs your particular skills
and life knowledge.**

For further details phone: 0428 345 600



PUBLIC NOTICES



Position Vacant – Business Support Officer

Part time contracted role until 30/6/2027

Are you passionate about ensuring organisational efficiency and compliance? Do you thrive in a fast-paced environment, managing multiple tasks and working with diverse stakeholders? If so, we have an exciting opportunity for you!

Our company is seeking a dedicated and detail-oriented Business Support Officer to join our team. As the Business Support Officer, you will be responsible for implementing and maintaining various organisational requirements, ensuring smooth operations and effective governance.

The position is 21 hours per week, working for a well-established community-based Landcare organisation located in Bingara, NSW.

We will be creating a talent list for future positions from applications.

Key responsibilities

- Implement and maintain governance procedures to ensure compliance with organisational policies and regulatory requirements.
- Oversee financial administration tasks, including payroll processing, budget monitoring, and expense tracking.
- Coordinate and monitor day-to-day operations to ensure seamless workflow and timely task completion.
- Assist in project management, including planning, coordination, and execution.
- Manage contracts and agreements, ensuring compliance with terms and monitoring vendor performance.
- Develop and maintain a comprehensive Work, Health, Safety, and Environment (WHSE) management system.
- Manage the membership database, including data entry, updates, and communication with members.
- Handle organisational correspondence, drafting and editing emails, letters, and other communication materials.
- Identify opportunities to grow the organisation.

For more information and to obtain a position description please contact:

Kate Groth – chair@nsia.net.au

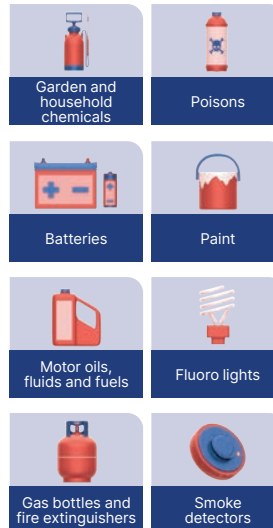
Closing date

9am, Monday 26th February 2024

Bingara & Wialda

It's time for a Chemical CleanOut

You can drop off for free:



Bingara

Your next local event:

🕒 Friday 15 March 2024, 8:30 - 11:30am

📍 Bingara Waste Facility
Narrabri Road,
Bingara

Wialda

Your next local event:

🕒 Friday 15 March 2024, 1:30 - 4:30pm

📍 Wialda Waste Facility
Rubbish Depot Road,
Wialda

🌐 www.cleanout.com.au

Only household quantities accepted (20L or 20kg).



Household
Chemical CleanOut



Copeton Dam Level

64% as at 21 February 2024

Bingara Golf Report

Submitted by John Gill

Hot weather during January did not deter Bingara golfers from turning out for Thursday afternoon's 9-hole Chook Run, nor Sunday afternoon medley events, with good numbers attending. A monthly medal event is being run each month from December 2023 through to November 2024 where each winner will compete for the medal of medals in December 2024. Winners to date include John Gill (December), Garry Hinksman (January), and Danny Capel (February).

Results February Medal Event

Men's Winner	Danny Capel	62 nett
Runner-up	Merv Hall	63 nett
Ball Comp	Lloyd Fullerton	64 nett
Nearest to Pin	Peter Smith	7/16
	Merv Hall	9/18
Second Best Shot	Shane Thomson	6/15
Women's Winner	Jenny Burling	77 nett
Runner-up	Judy Northcott	78 nett
Nearest to Pin	Bernie Houlahan	7/16
Second Best Shot	Jenny Burling	9/18

Next Monthly Medal – March 10th (Men's and Women's)

Bingara Golf Events

Thursday	9-hole Chook Run	2.30pm
Saturday	Mixed Golf	12pm for 12.30pm Tee
Sunday	Sunday Golf	12pm for 12.30pm Tee
Tuesday	Ladies Golf	Contact 0428 241 415

Warialda Golf Report

Bingara and Warialda golfers met at the Warialda course on February 18th for the first of two rounds of golf, for the David Rose Cup, with 52 golfers taking part on the day.

Warialda is the first round winner with 28.960 points to Bingara 24.077 points leaving Warialda leading by 4.88 points. Players of the day were Joel Daley for Warialda, and Hayden Mack for Bingara.

Second round will be played at Bingara on November 17th when the winner of the Cup will be decided.



BINGARA COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL

Thurs 18th April - Sun 21st APRIL 2024

An invitation to come and enjoy some great relaxing country music in the comfort of the beautiful Bingara RSL Club.

**FREE
SHOW**
ALL WEEKEND

FEATURING

"DUBBY" DOUBLEDAY, THE CROSBY SISTERS, GED & TRUDY HINTZ, LANCE BIRRELL, BRIAN HOWARD, REECE BLINMAN, GEOFF CLAPSON, KERRY KENNEDY, ROB BREESE, LYN JERRETT, LACHY MCKAY, TONY AND HELEN CORNISH, GEORGIE DARR

WALKUPS

10 - 6pm Friday & Saturday
great backing band supplied

SHOWTIME

6.30 - 10.30pm Thurs, Fri, Sat
10 - 3pm Sunday- including club raffles



**WALKUP PRIZE
\$500 plus
RECORDING DEAL**

FREE CAMPING

on the banks of the Gwydir River

**COURTESY BUS
FROM CAMPING GROUNDS TO CLUB**

Breakfast available at the club
from 8.30am Friday & Saturday Mornings.

**PROUDLY SPONSORED BY
BINGARA RSL CLUB**



0267241404

Phone the club and register your interest



YUM YUM MALAY

For all your catering needs
Call (02) 6724 1404
Lunch specials from \$14.50
Open Tues-Sun
Lunch 12pm - 2.00pm Dinner 5.30pm - 8.00pm



Food Safety Supervisor

SITXFSA005 Use hygienic practices for food safety

SITXFSA006 Participate in safe food handling practices

Bingara Campus

19th & 20th March 2024



Community College Northern Inland
Registered Training Organisation 90027

Bingara Campus

6 Riddell Street
Bingara NSW 2404

Mob 0438 546 519

Freecall 1800 952 264



FEATURED BUSINESSES



CAMERON BUILDERS

- RENOVATIONS • EXTENSIONS • NEW HOMES
- INSURANCE WORK

Mobile **0413 497 708** NSW Licence #259682C



CERAMIC BREAK SCULPTURE PARK

Open from Thurs to Sun
9.00am to 5.00pm
and by appointment

Phone (02) **6729 4147**
kerry@cbreaksculpturepark.com.au
www.cbreaksculpturepark.com.au

WARIALDA NEWSAGENCY

Stationery | Cards | Giftware
Lotto | Magazines

MONDAY - FRIDAY 8AM - 5PM
SATURDAY 8AM - 12 NOON
SUNDAY 8AM - 11AM

Ph: **6729 1049** **NEWSPAPER**

WARIALDA ELECTRICAL

ESSENTIAL ENERGY LEVEL 2 AUTHORISED

IVAN COOPER
warialdaelectrical@bigpond.com

Mobile **0429 061 691**



AgSkilled™

Industry Led Workforce Development
Supported by the NSW Government

Grow on-farm work skills with the help of Community College Northern Inland and the **AgSkilled** vocational training program. Scan the code to find out more about subsidised training.



Gwydir Chartered Accountants

- Tax & Accounting
- Business Planning
- CFO Services
- Management Accounting
- Software Advice
- Bookkeeping Automation

Locally owned and operated in the Gwydir Shire

(02) 6724 1658
admin@gwydirca.com.au





SAVE THE DATE

COMMUNITY OP-SHOP

22nd February

The Bingara Community Pantry opening 10:00 am
Third Birthday of Op-Shop
Morning tea in garden
All welcome

9th March

Fashion Parade by The Bingara Community Op-Shop

In the library from 10am to 12pm
Morning tea, raffle \$1 per ticket \$10 entry

30th March

Open Shed on Easter Saturday
\$2 clothes and other bargains
Anzac Week Display of poppies made by the
Bingara community outside the op shop
on the median strip



Neighbourhood Watch

Warialda Neighborhood Watch

would like to invite all community members
to the first meeting for 2024 to be held at
the CHSP Building (HACC) at 10.00am on
Wednesday 6th March.

Beth Albert
Minutes Secretary



Calling all Publicity Officers

Are you a publicity officer for an
organisation in the Gwydir region?

Invitation for Submissions
The Gwydir News welcomes submissions
from the community. If you would like
to contribute to your local news please
phone us on 0438 546 519 or email
gwydirnews@ccni.nsw.edu.au

SAVE THE DATE!

—
ORANGE PICKING
FRIDAY 5 JULY 2024

—
ORANGE FESTIVAL
SATURDAY 6 JULY 2024

—
PLEASE JOIN US TO CELEBRATE
BINGARA'S CULTURAL HERITAGE.





What's on

Church Notices

FEBRUARY 2024

- Thur 22nd** **SES Information Night** - Warialda Unit 124 Stephen St, Warialda from 6pm
- Sat 24th** **Paris After Dark** - The Roxy Theatre, Bingara starts 7pm. \$40pp.
- Sat 24th** **Jam Session** - Warialda Golf & Bowling Club from 6pm. All welcome.
- Sat 24th** **New England Uke Muster** - Bingara RSL Club from 10.30am to 4.00pm. \$10pp.
- Sun 25th** **The Man Who Would Be King** - The Roxy Theatre, Bingara starts 4pm
- Mon 26th** **Free hearing tests** - Bingara Library from 9.30am to 12.30pm. Call (02) 6724 2064 - Bookings essential.
- Mon 26th** **Warialda Physical Culture Club** - Warialda Town Hall Mondays from 4pm. Contact 0429 344 931.
- Wed 28th** **Bingara Minor League Come-and-Try Day** - Gwydir Oval, Bingara from 5pm
- Wed 28th** **Junior Jivers** - Warialda Anglican Parish Hall Wednesdays from 9.30am

MARCH 2024

- Mon 4th - Wed 6th** **Quantum Leap Subtle Energy Level 1** - The Living Classroom, Bingara
- Sat 9th** **Hollymount Garden Party** - Hollymount, Warialda Rail from 12pm to 4pm. \$30pp.
- Sat 9th - Sun 10th** **Gwydir River Run** - Stockman's Challenge
- Sat 9th - Sun 10th** **Poetry & Pancakes** - The Roxy. \$40pp.
- Sun 10th** **Bingara Golf** - Monthly Medal
- Tue 12th - Wed 13th** **Quantum Leap Subtle Energy Graduate Circle** - The Living Classroom, Bingara
- Fri 15th** **Chemical Clean Out**
Bingara Waste Facility 8.30am to 11.30am
Warialda Waste Facility 1.30pm to 4.30pm
- Fri 15th - Sun 17th** **Mason Daley Cod Classic** - Gravesend Fishing Club for details
- Sat 16th** **Bingara's Heart Beats!** Community Support & Volunteer Groups Information Day - Gwydir Oval, Bingara from 9am to 1pm
- Sat 23rd** **Gwydir Mini Debutante Ball** - Soldiers' Memorial Hall from 11.30am
- Fri 29th - Sun 31st** **Easterfish 2024** Catch and Release Competition - Bingara Anglers Club

ANGLICAN CHURCH

- Bingara** Worship at St John's Anglican Parish, Bingara - Sundays 9.30am
- Warialda** Warialda Anglican Church, Warialda - Sundays 9.30am
- Coolatai** First Sunday month 3.00pm

Minister Steve Cimarosti can be contacted on (02) 6729 1501.

CATHOLIC CHURCH

PARISHES WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

- Bingara** Sundays 8am
- Warialda** Saturdays 6.00pm, 4th weekend 10.00am
- Delungra** Sundays 10.00am, 4th weekend 6.00pm

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

- Bingara** 2nd and 4th weeks - Rosary 9.30am/Mass 10.00am
- Warialda** 1st and 3rd weeks - Mass Mon, Wed 9.00am Tue, Thu 10.00am

Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Thanksgiving and Family Mass - by appointment (02) 6729 1116.

UNITING CHURCH

Inverell Uniting Church services are live streamed at 9.00am on the Inverell Uniting Church Family private Facebook Group. These services are also recorded for later viewing - please search and join.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

- Bingara** Scots Presbyterian Church is open for worship at 10.00am every Sunday. Sunday School is also held each week.
- Warialda** St Stephen's Presbyterian Church has a weekly worship service each Sunday at 10.00am. All welcome. Enquiries (02) 6721 0511.