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Allora's Jon Constable... Southern Downs Region Citizen of the Year

The Allora flag flew high in the Warwick Town Hall on Saturday evening as the Southern Downs Regional Council hosted the Warwick Region Australia Day awards ceremony, with local Pharmacist Jon Constable announced as the Region's 2013 "Citizen of the Year".

Mr Constable was presented with his prestigious award by Southern Downs Regional Council Mayor Peter Blundell, Minister for Health and State Member for Southern Downs Lawrence Springborg and event special guest 2013 Woolworths Ambassador Alison Alexander.

Mayor Peter Blundell commented "there is nobody who is more deserving than you" as Allora's Mr. Medical Centre was presented with his awards.

There would be few in the Southern Downs region that would not be aware of Jon Constable's tireless pursuit of a new medical centre for Allora. Jon can take credit for instigating the processes that have virtually led to the establishment of a new and much needed medical facility for the Allora district and wider regional community, with the facility's approvals almost finalised to allow construction to commence. Jon's motivation was the obvious need for more reliable access to Doctors for the



Allora's Southern Downs Region (Warwick) Australia Day 2013 "Citizen of the Year" Jon Constable with his proud family Michael, Justine & Lauren.

Allora & District community given the all but non existent medical facilities that were available in Allora at that time, almost three years ago. Jon chaired a meeting of near 600 concerned citizens at the Allora Community Hall in

...Continues on page 8

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Allora Streetscape – what do you think?

The final stage of the Allora Streetscape design is now in progress following Council's adoption of the draft concept plan 1 for final public comment.

Residents of Allora and surrounding areas will have an opportunity to provide feedback on the plan which will be on display at the Allora Show on Friday 8 February 2013 from 8.00am to 5.00pm.

A Notice to Residents is being distributed by Australia Post to householders and business in the Allora area with this information.

"Allora residents have so far provided a lot of feedback which helped to direct the initial designs," Peter See, Director Engineering Services said.

"Having now adopted the draft concept plan 1, Council is seeking final public comment before proceeding with the project," said Mr See. Landscape architect, Stephen Palmer and Council's Parks Coordinator, John Newley will be in attendance at the stand to answer queries.

The design can also be viewed at Council's website www.southerndowns.qld.gov.au and a copy is available for viewing at the Allora Library.

If you wish to provide feedback on the design you can do so at the Allora Show or you can send written feedback to the Chief Executive Officer, Southern Downs Regional Council, PO Box 26, Warwick Q 4370 or email mail@southerndowns.qld.gov.au.

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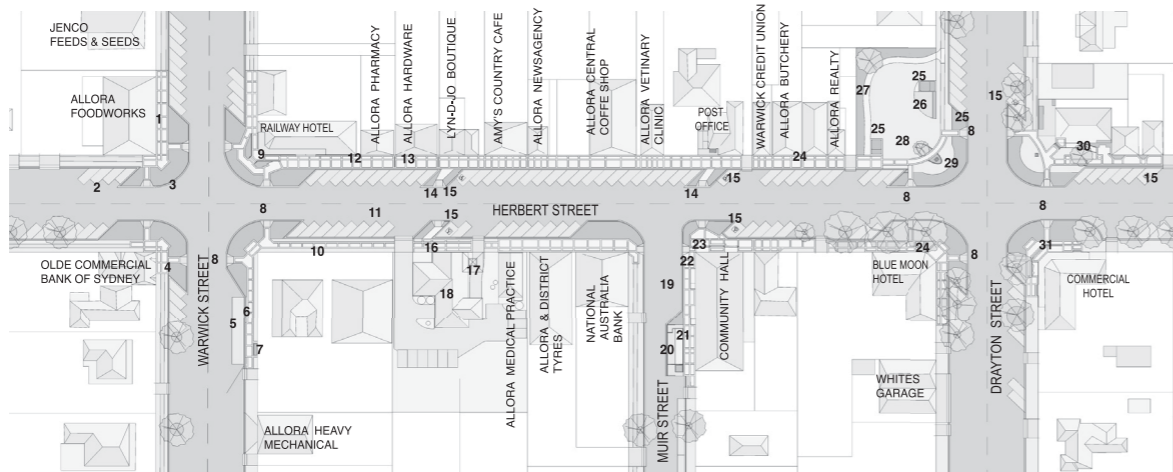
Allora Urban Village Streetscape Improvements

Master Concept Layout

The Allora streetscape redevelopment project recognizes that there is an opportunity to build on its unique street features and in so doing, establish a center of special character, based upon the pleasant and scenic nature of the street and the communities strong "sense of place". The design provides for improved equitable pedestrian access and movement within the business and shopping zone, including improved pedestrian safety crossing alignments along the street. The build-out buffer islands provide protection for the parking bays along the street and improved safety space for the pedestrian crossing alignments. The new pavement design addresses existing maintenance issues and the new pavement panels also allow sufficient space for future maintenance requirements along the street, the pavement pattern design is also structured to accommodate and preserve the existing verandah structures along the street. The improved equitable access to the Council buildings and Community Hall along with facility improvements to the open space on the corner of Herbert and Drayton Streets, provides the street with a wider range of opportunities for the community to undertake activities and events now and into the future.

Streetscape Development Key

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Renew footpath and extend to end of Foodland build. 2. Additional new defined parking. 3. Intersection safety build outs. 4. Lift footpath to provide equitable building access. 5. Relocated Bus stop from Herbert Street. 6. New 2m footpath connection to relocated bus stop. 7. Relocated bus shelter from Herbert Street. 8. New intersection safety crossing alignments. 9. New equitable access ramping to Railway Hotel. 10. New 2m footpath connection to medical centre. 11. New defined parking alignment to replace bus stop. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. Renew footpath Herbert Street west full width. 13. Lift footpath to provide equitable building access. 14. New pedestrian crossing alignment build outs. 15. Defined disabled parking bays. 16. Street seating placed at maximum 50m intervals. 17. Relocate volunteers memorial structure. 18. Proposed new Allora Medical Centre. 19. Visitor caravan parking space. 20. Refurbish amenities block and match to community hall cladding pattern. 21. New footpath connection to amenities block. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 22. Upgrade tourist information map to include details about the Allora Murals and heritage trail. 23. Provide improved equitable access to Community Hall. 24. Lift footpath to provide equitable building access. 25. New Park Shelters. 26. New small playground area. 27. New pathway. 28. Christmas tree garden. 29. Relocated 'Mary Poppins' statue. 30. New equitable access ramp to Council Building. 31. New equitable access ramp to Commercial Hotel. |
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FRI	Showers Late. Mostly Cloudy. Warm.	17 30
SAT	Showers Early. Mostly Sunny. Warm.	17 29
SUN	Mostly Sunny. Mild.	13 27
MON	Mostly Sunny. Mild.	14 26
TUE	Partly Cloudy. Mild.	14 25

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 **Southern Downs REGIONAL COUNCIL**

ALLORA STREETSCAPE DESIGN DISPLAY AT ALLORA SHOW

Council has adopted concept 1 of the Allora streetscape concept designs for final public comment. The design will be on display at the Allora Show on Friday, 8 February 2013 from 8.00am to 5.00pm. Council staff and Landscape Architect, Stephen Palmer, will be in attendance at the stand to answer queries. Members of the community wishing to provide feedback on the design can see Council staff at the Allora Show or written feedback can be forwarded to the Chief Executive Officer, Southern Downs Regional Council, PO Box 26, Warwick Qld 4370 or email mail@southerndowns.qld.gov.au. The design can also be viewed at Council's website www.southerndowns.qld.gov.au and at the Allora Library.

Council requires written feedback no later than 22 February 2013.

Andrew Roach
Chief Executive Officer

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For enquiries, bookings or to arrange a tour of the centre with your child, phone 4666 2299 or visit us at 29 Forde Street Allora.

Headstart Nature Walk

The children in the Mixed Age Room explored the environment when they went on a nature walk around Allora on Wednesday, 16th January. The children collected many types of leaves, flowers, feathers and bark and also sighted ponies, dogs and parrots during the walk. Throughout the trip the group also learnt about road safety.

Left to Right: Tiff Adnams (Parent), Alakai Adnams-Nash, Alara Williams, Dakota Chambers, Grant Kawano, Jesseka Morris (Educator), Lily Sugden, Jodie Bergemann.



Lenten Programme

The combined churches of Allora - (Anglican, Catholic, Presbyterian and Uniting).

In the busyness of our daily lives, the Season of Lent gives us a reason to make the time to slow down, even for just a couple of hours a week for 6 weeks. The focus of the Lenten programme for this year is the Sunday Gospels for the period. It is there we come closest to the witnesses of the words and actions of Jesus. There will be two sessions beginning Thursday, 14th February, 1.30pm, at St David's Anglican Hall and 7.30pm in St Patrick's meeting room, Mackillop House. Affiliation with a church is not a prerequisite. Everyone is welcome. Just come and see.

February is fee free at WIRAC!

The Warwick Indoor Recreation and Aquatic Centre (WIRAC) is pulling out all stops to help you get fit with great incentives on offer. If you join WIRAC in February for Fee Free February you will save with NO joining Fee!!!

"The joining fee will be waived for anyone who becomes a member during the month of February which means a saving of over \$70," said WIRAC's Dry Area Coordinator, Brendan Iles.

"We will also be offering, at no extra cost, the Face to Face Program to our members which includes five free consultations with a qualified trainer," Mr Iles said.

"This will definitely help get people started in the gym and

includes a health appraisal and their own personalised program."

With the new Crèche facility also on offer, there is no better time to join WIRAC. The Crèche facility is being offered free to all financial members! So no excuses! Please note that bookings for the Crèche are essential.

WIRAC also offers Personal Training sessions, Learn to Swim, a wide range of Group Fitness classes to satisfy all ages and fitness levels, plus much more.

Drop in or call WIRAC on 4661 7955 and speak to one of the friendly staff for more information.

ALLORA HISTORIC SOCIETY SHOW CASE THE DISTRICT HISTORY AT THE HERITAGE WEEKEND

The theme of this year's display at the Heritage Weekend was 'A Woman's work is never done'. Our model was dressed in period costume of skirt, blouse, apron and mop-cap. She carried a tea-towel over her arm. There are any number of chores that she just may have completed. She may have just washed up the fittings of the butter churn or just sterilized the preserving jars in preparation of cutting up the fruit from the orchard.

On display were many household items that a woman in any era may have used. The wooden rolling pin was once used by the Rooney family who first took up exchange land on Hendon Road in 1879. Other items set out on the table were an old mincer and an iron on stand that was heated on the stove top along with a collection of tins that once held the tea, biscuits or spices and a milk jug with a crochet cover.

Many of the visitors to the display had memories of either using some of the items or seeing their mother or grandmother using them. Items like the stove top griddle iron, cast iron pots and pans, meat safe and a old teapot created interest.

The era of having to store water for household use was depicted with the old wooden barrel and ladle.

One could picture the bags of flour that came with the supplies being emptied into the hand-made storage tin on display.

There were comments "I could get into but could not get out of" the old Sitz bath on display.

Along with all the various items mostly used by a woman were a small metal cot and the double pram that was bought second-hand by the Trimmingham family for their twin girls, Joan and Enid. An old glass babies bottle was on display. On the bottle side were the words "The Bee Feeding Bottle. Made Abroad"

One item that caused comment was the hand operated sewing machine. Needle work displayed included embroidery, knitting, crochet along with crochet hooks, embroidery rings, thimbles and buttons.

There were three forms of clothes washing equipment on display. There was a vacuum washer that was used in a kerosene tin, a washing board, tin wash tub, and an old washing machine with hand operated rollers.

With the Historical Society's Demonstration and Display Day coming up on 20th April, a small number of dairy



Allora Historical Society's display at the Heritage Weekend

The Allora Historical Society is holding a **Demonstration & Display Day** with the theme of *The Dairy Industry* on 20th April 2013. The following is from a series of articles telling the story of the Dairy Industry in the Allora district each week...

RESEARCH OFFICER'S REPORT – DAIRY INDUSTRY

Mr. Roy Neale who was instrumental in establishing the Allora Historical Society was the Research Officer. He compiled a report on the formation of the Dairy Co-Operatives in the district. His source of information was the Allora Guardian.

From Roy's report we learn that there was a meeting held in Kelley's Hall, Drayton Street on Tuesday 28th February 1893. The Mayor (Mr. P Kelley) presided. It was moved by Mr. T. Kennedy and seconded by Mr. A. Rickert that steps be taken to form a co-operative dairy factory. The motion was carried unanimously and the names of those present will be familiar to Allora and district residents today – T. Kennedy, R. Cooke, E. Harvey, W. Deacon, A. Gordon, A. Rickert, J. Kelley, J. Shannon, F. Erhart, J.J. Banks, J. Gilmore, R. Bradfield, W. Burge, J.Dougall, A. Dougall, E. McMillan, H. Fiedler, A. Shannon.

By June of that year a report in the Allora Guardian states that the plan to establish a Co-operative Dairy Company had been aborted owing to the general financial outlook.

Nearly twelve months later another meeting was held in the Town Hall to establish a butter factory and creameries in the



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district. Mr. W.B. Slade of 'Glengallan' Station was elected to the chair. At this meeting the first shares were taken by W.B. Slade- 250 shares, A.Dowing (Talgai West) 100 shares, J.J. Banks "Ebley Park" 50 shares, others followed suit. Shares were 2/6d and were to be paid in one week. In all 620 shares were taken at that meeting.

The Company was registered in April 1894 and the Municipal Council granted the use of a small room on the south side of the Town Hall as a temporary office. Messrs Wallace and Gibson drew up the plans and tenders were invited. The tender of W.G. Gilliam of 716 pounds was accepted with completion time of 16 weeks. The site of the new factory was on 30 acres of land on the main road from Allora to Hendon railway station.

The machinery for the new factory was supplied by Messrs. Overend and Co., Brisbane and Messrs. Quinlan, Gray & Co., were appointed Brisbane agents for the sale of butter. The butter was sent in refrigerated cars to Brisbane and the ice was supplied by the factory's own refrigerator. The high quality of the butter was favourably commented on.

Tenders were invited for the erection of creameries at Glengallan, Forest Plain and Spring Creek in an advertisement placed by the Secretary of the Central Downs Dairy Company, John R. Torbeck on 9th October 1894. Advertisements began to be placed in the Guardian by companies from Toowoomba and Brisbane for the supply to dairy farmers of equipment for their dairies. Geo. Chapman, Tinsmith, Allora placed an advertisement headed "Milk Cans! Milk Cans!" Listed were the names of local dairy farmers who had bought his cans – A. Gordon -6, A. Dougall -3, G. Tickle-3, W. Deacon- 2, R.R. Silvester-1, J. Kennedy-1, T. Sullivan-1, L. Geck-2, Griffiths-2, A. Shannon -1, C. Giliam Jrn.-2, H. Black Jrn.-1, T. Collins-1, J. Abernethy-1, J.Kelley-1,H.Black Sen.-1 At the second annual meeting of the Butter Factory held in the Town Hall on 28th August 1896, the profit stated was Eight pounds fifteen shillings and eight pence. During that year, 123,120 gallons of cream was received and 47,611lbs. of butter was made.



Central Downs Dairy Factory, Hendon Road, Allora in 1897.

were only four boxes of butter in the cool room at the time. The building was insured with the London and Lancashire Company for 2000 pounds.

Within a week the secretary, P. Donovan advertised that a Special General Meeting of Shareholders would be held at the Registered Office of the Company to consider the position of the Company with reference to the late destruction by fire of the Central Factory.

The land on which the factory stood and another portion of land owned by the Central Downs Butter Factory were sold at auction in February 1899. The 30 acre block sold for 10 pound per acre while the 21 acre block sold for 11 pound per acre.

After much deliberation regarding the state of affairs of the Company and the fate of the creameries previously supplying the factory, it was decided to wind up the Company in voluntary liquidation. Mr P Donovan was appointed Trustee and Liquidator. An advertisement appeared in June 1899 for the sale by Tender of the following creameries and plants – Allora – Creamery Building, 1 4h.p. Boiler, 1 250gallon Sharple's Separator with necessary appliances; Forest Plain – 1 acre of land, Creamery Building, 1 4h.p. Boiler, 1 No. 2 Alexandra Turbine Separator with necessary appliances; Grey Mare Creek – 1 acre of land, Creamery Building, 1 4h.p. Boiler, 1 E11 Alpha Laval Turbine Separator with necessary appliances; Lucky Valley – 2 acres of Land, Creamery Building, 1 4h.p. Boiler, 1 E11 Alpha Laval Turbine Separator with necessary appliances; Lord John's Swamp – 1 acre of Land, Creamery Building, 1 4h.p. Boiler, 1 E11 Alpha Laval Turbine Separator with necessary appliances.

The cream from the dairy farmers of the area was sent to various Butter Factories. The Lowood Creamery Co. advertised that they would pay 4 1/2d per lb. 40 test delivered Roma Street Station. Empty cans would be returned the same day.

An advertisement by The Warwick Butter and Dairying Co.Ltd in May 1903 read - 'Important Notice to Suppliers' and gave details of the benefits to dairy farmers of sending their cream to Warwick. In March 1904 the Station Master at Allora supplied the following figures on the export of cream from Allora to the Warwick Butter Factory during the month of February – First Week 147 cans – 753 gallons; Second week 192 cans – 884 gallons; Third week 172 cans – 869 gallons; Fourth week 220 cans – 1033 gallons making the outward produce 420 tons. In subsequent announcements the figures of cream being sent by train to Toowoomba and Willowburn were also included.

It must have interested the district dairy farmers when in April 1905 the Warwick Butter and Dairying Co., Ltd invited 'dairymen' to a meeting to consider a project to establish a Butter Factory at Allora. There had been a rapid growth of cream supply over the past few years. It would mean more profit with less rail cartage costs. The meeting was held in O'Callaghan's Hall on 19th April 1905.

Looking Back...

Photos

The Historical Society recently had contact from former Allora resident, Neil Ellis, through the www.allora-and-district-historical-society-inc website conducted by Ray Tippett. Neil went to school in Allora before taking up a position with Allora Motors. He listed some of the people that he worked with in his 10 years at Allora Motors as Andy Carney, Dick Hansen, Norm Fiechtner, Mal Graham, Bill Ellis, John Chandler, Phine Chandler, Mrs. Hurley, Kay Slatter, Ron May, Don Stewart and Ian Smith. He left Allora in 1957 to join the R. A. A. F.

Neil sent some photos that he thought might be of interest to the Historical Society. One is of the Allora Hockey Team in about 1948 when they won the Warwick B Grade Hockey Premiership. He named the players from back left as: Bob Gordon, Keith Masters, Geoff Slatter, Jock Cross, Ray Croker, Nev. Hentschel, George Ellis, Jim Whitton. Front: Rolly Ellis, Joe Cross, Alan Thornton, Neil Ellis. Ball boy: Laurie Ward.

The second photo was taken in 1962 just before Neil took up a two year posting to Malaya. Tania Verstak, Miss Australia 1961 and Miss International 1962, was touring the Darling Downs and expressed a wish to see a little lamb. She was taken to the farm of Ralph Johnston near Allora (now owned by Fred McCann)

If anyone has any other photos that they think might be of interest please email them to allora_history@yahoo.com.au or contact a Historical Society member.



Allora Hockey Team C.1948

Allora's Past 75 years ago January 1938

Tin Kettling

Allora residents paid a visit to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Nicholls and presented them with gifts, on the occasion of their recent marriage. The presentation was made by the deputy chairman of the Allora Shire Council, Councillor H. Geitz. The arrangements were made by Mesdames D. Sullivan and P. Schriek.

Allora's Past 100 years ago January 1913

Allora Bridle Races

There was a fair attendance at a bridle race meeting conducted by the Allora Jockey Club on Wednesday. Mr. R. M. Corden acted as judge while Mr. H. Downes filled the position of starter. The meeting was held under the supervision



Neil Ellis and Miss Australia, Tania Verstak, at Allora in 1962

of the secretary of the club, Mr. J. A. Roush.

Results:- Maiden race: H. Geck's Lady Flo, 1st, A. Chard's Alma 2nd; Open Hack Handicap: R. Wilson's Mandarin 1st, H. Geck's Lady Min 2nd; Pony race: H. Geck's Lady Flo 1st, A. Masters' Kitty M. 2nd; Hack race: R. Sinton's Gozar 1st, A. Chard's Alma 2nd. A match race was also run between J. A. Roush's Doctor and T. Shannon's Melba, the former winning easily.

Colin Newport

CENTRAL DOWNS BUTTER FACTORY – Totally Destroyed by Fire

This was the headline in the Allora Guardian on 17th September 1898. Early on the previous Friday the factory building and plant was destroyed by fire. All that remained was the half burnt blocks and the large vertical boiler. A large crowd gathered on hearing the steam whistle alarm from Messrs. Clark Brother's mill but nothing could be done. The fire began on the eastern end of the building in or near the cheese making room. There

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THANK YOU – The Committee and Members of the Allora R.S.L. Sub Branch would like to sincerely thank Shaun for his generous support of labour with the fitting of our recent upgrades.

Continued from front page...

March 2010 that saw the vision for a medical centre with permanently based Doctors and staff come into being. The goal was set, and since that meeting he has been the driving force behind the Medical Centre concept, subsequent actions, public transparency, information provision, fundraising and the seeming endless, daily, hands on involvement in the wide and varied necessary administrative needs to bring the medical centre proposal in to being. He has given an absolute and total commitment to every facet of the establishment of the proposed medical centre, from the formation of the initial Medical Centre Task Force committee to the formation & chairmanship of the Allora Medical Support Group Inc on the 26th of July 2010. The AMMSG being the Group that have administrated the progress of the medical centre proposal over the past two and a half years on behalf of and for the benefit of the Allora district community, and will continue to do so in the future on completion of the facility.

Since arriving in the Allora community from Brisbane in 1999 with his family, wife Justine and children Lauren & Michael, to take up the business opportunity that is the Allora Pharmacy, Jon has given his community tremendously loyal support. This includes generous sponsorship, cash donation, in kind support, and voluntary contribution for an array of community events and groups around Allora and the wider community over

the period since adopting Allora as his home.

The avid Brisbane Broncos supporter is a former President of the Rotary Club of Allora, an active member of the Allora District Development Board and as a keen sportsman with a healthy enthusiasm for fitness he has been the competition co-ordinator of sport at the Allora Show Society's Allora Community Sports Centre over the past five years.

Jon Constable can be proud of his achievements and his so deserved Australia Day recognition, as are his family, the wider Allora district community and the community of the Southern Downs. The direction, commitment & enthusiasm he has afforded the Allora Medical Centre proposal has been extraordinary, his Australia Day recognition a sincere vote of thanks from his community.

Allora can also take some credit for Southern Downs Region Australia Day Junior Sports Award winner Brendon Hoffman. Eleven year old Warwick resident Brendon excels in swimming, state level athletics, rugby league & football, and is a member of the Allora Swimming Club.

Fellow Australia Day Award winners were: Junior Cultural Award: Lucy Boland, Cultural Award: John Telfor, Senior Sports Award: Mark Steketee, Sports Administrator Award: Jason Wright, Community Event Award: Warwick State High School Centenary and Junior Citizen Award: Cary Cooper.

Glyn Rees

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ALLORA FLOODING JANUARY 2013



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ALLORA FLOODED

The Australia Day weekend of 2013 will be remembered for mass flooding around Allora and across the Southern Downs region. The Allora Post Office registered 103mm of rain over the long weekend. Allora was isolated for much of the weekend, the Allora Drive northern entrance to the town cut as Dalrymple Creek flood water surged across the William Deacon Bridge.

Allora, intersection Herbert & Jubb Streets



Dalrymple Creek at William Deacon Bridge 7.00am, 27 January.

Contacting family and friends who may be flood affected

Anyone who is worried about their family and friends and can't get in touch with them should make an enquiry through the National Registration and Inquiry System (NRIS) at <https://emergency.redcross.org.au/>

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Events Calendar

2013

February -

- Fri 8 & Sat 9** 135th Allora Show
Allora Showgrounds
- Sat 16** Allora RSL Country Markets
RSL Hall, 8.00am start

March -

- Sat 2** Bi-Funathon (RSL fundraiser) - Walk/Run/Swim
For all ages. Registrations to Gina 0423 772 383
- Sat 2** Concert - "Happy Wanderers"
Allora Senior Citizens, 1.00pm

April -

- Sat 13** Scope Club of Allora Annual Afternoon Tea
Allora Community Hall, 1.30pm
- Sat 20** Historical Soc. Display & Demonstration Day
Old Shire Hall, Warwick Street, Allora

June -

- Sat 15** St David's Guild's 'Lavender & Lace' Hi Tea
St David's Church Hall, 1.30pm

November -

- Fri 1** Anglican Parish Allora/Clifton Annual Fete
St David's Church Grounds, 4.30pm

IMPORTANT INFORMATION - Clients wishing to include their events in the *Events Calendar*, must book a display (boxed) advertisement for the event in *The Allora Advertiser*, sized at least 2 column x 8 cm. Clients will then automatically receive, as a bonus, a calendar entry. These entries will be in a 2 line format as above, starting in bold with date and event, followed by venue and time.

If people wish to contact The Allora Advertiser and discuss their particular needs, please feel free to do so. Ph 4666 3128.

Learn to Fly for Free: The Flying Scholarship for 2013

The Darling Downs Sport Aircraft Association Inc., based at Clifton, is again offering its annual recreational aviation flying scholarship for 2013.

The club is offering youth, male or female, aged 15 to 21 who are looking at aviation as a career, sport or hobby, the chance to apply for the annual Darling Downs Sport Aircraft Association Inc. recreational aviation flying scholarship being offered for 2013. On successful completion of the course, you will obtain your restricted Pilot's Licence.

A completed Application Form must reach the Darling Downs Sport Aircraft Association Inc. by the scholarship closing date of 31st March 2013. The scholarship is valued in excess of \$5,500. Your copy of the information pack and application form can be obtained by contacting Darling Downs Sport Aircraft Assn., 549 Clifton-Leyburn Rd, Clifton, 4361, telephoning 0429 378 370 or after hours 07 4695 8541, emailing: trevorbange@bigpond.com or visiting our club website at www.loneagleflyingschool.org.au

The Scholarship, which has been offered every year since 2005, covers membership fees, a training-books package and flying training in a certified Ausflight Drifter aircraft. It is anticipated a concentrated training course will start during the June holidays. Overnight accommodation can be arranged in our clubhouse for extended training periods. People who were unsuccessful in previous years are welcome and encouraged to apply again.

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Les & Lorraine's Mary Poppins Open House a Journey in Time

The "Mary Poppins House Open Afternoon" lived up to all expectations of those who ignored the inclement weather to explore the magnificently restored home and gardens of Les & Lorraine Struthers at 61 Herbert Street, Allora.

Allora's Jaimie McMillan was one of the many visitors overcome by the house's charms, "Allora is one lucky place - full of such amazing history!"

The house was the home of Travers & Margaret Goff and their three daughters from 1905 to 1907, when Travers Goff was Manager of the Australian Joint Stock Bank, which was also located in the house. The Struthers have attempted to recreate their home to resemble as close as possible as it would have been in the time the Goffs were residents. Their effort is exemplary, with period furnishings to the finest detail, and walls painted in the original colours as discovered during the restoration. Les & Lorraine themselves were in period costume based on photographs of former residents Mr & Mrs Goff, Lorraine complete with a Mary Poppins parrot head umbrella.

The living room, which was the former bank business area, has certainly retained the bank feel with its superb cedar panelling and Milners 212 Patent Fire Resisting strongroom. The fireplace, still in working order, would have warmed patrons on



Mary Poppins House Open Afternoon hosts Lorraine and Les Struthers in early 1900's dress to display their magnificently restored home, the former Australian Stock Bank and home of world renowned author Pamela Travers, to the many guests that attended on Sunday afternoon.

those cold Southern Downs days, while the antique mantelpiece clock appears as if it has been ticking since last wound by bank manager Goff. The adjoining managers office, now Les' office and once the work place of Travers Goff himself, displays various pictures, photographs and drawings on the walls, a print of the official picture of the Thanksgiving Service at St. Paul's Cathedral in London taking pride of place, titled 'The Heart of the Empire - May 6th 1935'. All very interesting, especially when one considers the house was already over forty years old when the print was produced.

The polished floors add to the homes character with its timberwork and antique furnishings, while the bedrooms, adorned with beds and wash bowls with stands and duchesses that would have been very similar to that owned by the Goff family.

The Mary Poppins House restoration is a wonderful example of late 19th century Australian country home architecture. The building that was the Australian Joint Stock Bank is believed to have been designed by F. D. G. Stanley, the Queensland Colonial Architect from 1872 to 1881. In his official capacity F. D. G. Stanley designed many public buildings in Queensland including the Supreme Court Building and the Brisbane G. P. O.. In private practice he designed many other buildings throughout Queensland including the Queensland National Bank and St. David's Church of England in Allora. The name of the Australian Joint Stock Bank was changed to the Australian Bank of Commerce in 1909, the A. B. C. traded until the time of the World War II when it was incorporated with the Bank of New South Wales under a Government bank restructure. The Bank of New South Wales only operated in Allora for a short time, Allora chemist Arthur Gunn later living in the old bank residence.

Bert and Willamina Blanch bought the former bank building from Eric Clarke in 1960, the bank premises as it was when the Bank of New South Wales vacated it in the 1940's.

Former resident Travers Goff immigrated to Australia from Carn County, Wexford, Ireland in the 1890's, and married Margaret Moorehead at All Saints Church, Brisbane, in 1898. Travers & Margaret Goff had three daughters, the family moved to Allora in 1905, where the two eldest girls, Helen Lyndon Goff and Barbara Irene Goff attended the Allora State School. While well respected in the Allora community, tragically Travers Goff died from influenza at the age of 43 on the 8th of February, 1907. The family then moved to Sydney where the girls attended Normanhurst Private Girls School at Ashfield. Helen Lyndon Goff (the eldest daughter) moved to England in the 1924 and died there at the



Judy Pullen of Brbie Island was a busy hostess at Sunday's "Mary Poppins House" open afternoon.

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age of 97 in 1996. She is considered one of Britain's most celebrated authors. Her most famous work was Mary Poppins written under the pen name Pamela Lyndon Travers. Funds raised from the day will be used to finance the restoration of Travers Goff's grave in the Allora Cemetery.

Glyn Rees



Enjoying afternoon tea at the "Mary Poppins House" open afternoon on Sunday were Glen McMillan, Jaimie McMillan with Lucy and Henry McMillan, Julie Nolan with Felicity with Vince & Lorraine Nolan.

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Flood cleanup in full swing

With the river levels steadily dropping the scope of the cleanup is now being revealed. A lot of mud and debris is being left behind as the river levels drop.

Council's works crews are out and about assessing damage so that works can be prioritised and repair works commenced. Work is also continuing on cleaning up the pensioner units so that the residents can be moved back in as soon as possible. Stanthorpe staff will be deployed to Warwick today to begin the collection of flood debris from properties allowing Warwick staff to continue with assessment, repairs and cleanups.

Road closure signs around Warwick will be moved back to more appropriate placements as the river continues to recede. The evacuation centre at the Warwick Christian College Slade Campus was closed from lunchtime Wednesday as ongoing accommodation for stranded travellers is no longer required.

The Warwick-Allora back road is closed indefinitely with significant damage to the road at Massie Flats.

Transport and Main Roads are continuing to assess issues at Cunningham's Gap and will commence works to clear the road. At this time it is expected that the Gap should be open to motorists later this week.

For further information road closures please contact the Local Disaster Management Call Centre on 4661 0300.

RADF continues to support the Arts

Projects including indigenous music, dance and art, fibreglass sculpture, pottery workshops, and oil painting workshops are among the 14 projects in the latest arts grant round from Southern Downs Regional Council, announced RADF Chair, Cr Jo McNally.

"In this round of funding from the Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF), a partnership between the Queensland Government and Southern Downs Regional Council, we will see people being brought together through their own personal discoveries from within the arts world, with musical workshops and master classes for young people."

A new arts program in Warwick will be provided by local professional artists to develop skills in a variety of artforms over

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a six month period.

Writing and researching is also being funded this round, which is a category not often applied for in the Southern Downs Region.

"The arts and cultural sector of our community provides opportunities for shared cultural experiences, which can generate a sense of community belonging and pride", Cr McNally concluded.

Minister for the Arts Ros Bates said RADF was Australia's only locally-delivered regional arts grants program.

"In 2011-2012, the Queensland Government allocation to RADF is \$2.047 million with another \$1.5 million from 55 Queensland councils, meaning more than \$3.5 million is available for arts projects across the state," Ms Bates said.

"From its beginnings in 1991, RADF now supports more than 3000 arts and cultural projects each year in communities across Queensland."

The Regional Arts Development Fund is a partnership between regional councils and the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland to support local arts and culture.

The successful and long-running RADF program gives communities the flexibility to shape their own arts and cultural priorities.

Due to an overwhelmingly successful Round 2 and a record number of applications, Southern Downs Regional Council wishes to advise that the 2012/13 allocation of RADF funds have been distributed and there will be no Round 3 as in previous years.

For more information on RADF please contact Sue Organ on 4681 5524 or email sue.organ@southerndowns.qld.gov.au

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GARAGE SALE - 3/7 Muir Street, Allora, Saturday, 2nd February, 8.00am - 12.00pm. Household items, linen and blankets, baby accessories, toys, mobility scooter, '78s' records.

GARAGE SALE - 302 Forest Spring Road, Allora, 8km north of Allora. Saturday, 2nd February, 6.00am. Furniture, kids & adults clothing, Genoa lounge suite, island bench, bric-a-brac, giftware and lots more. Phone 4996 4229

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• PUBLIC NOTICES •

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the **ALLORA SPORTS CLUB - Monday, 11 February, at 7.30pm.** Business of the meeting will include - (a) Election of the Club Secretary; (b) Election of the Club Patron; (c) Election of the Club Provider. John Ellwood, Acting Secretary

• CHURCH NOTICES •

The Anglican Parish of Allora and Clifton - Service Times

St Davids: Allora
Holy Communion: first Saturday of month 7.00pm
Holy Communion: Sundays 10.00am
Holy Communion: Wednesdays 10.00am

All Saints: Clifton
Holy Communion: Sundays 8.00am

Baptisms, Confirmations, Weddings - by arrangement
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The Catholic Community of ST. PATRICK'S, ALLORA
1st SUNDAY at 9.00am, 2nd & 3rd SUNDAYS at 6.00pm, EVERY TUESDAY, 9.30am.
2nd TUESDAY (at The Homestead), at 9.30am.
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SACRED HEART CHURCH - DEUCHAR - MASS at 10.00am every 3rd SUNDAY.
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For information on Baptism, Weddings and other church enquiries, phone 4666 3377.
St Patrick's Parish School (Prep - Yr. 7), enquiries 4666 3551.

• CHURCH NOTICES •

Uniting Church Allora
9.00am Sunday Services.
Enquiries phone 4666 3225. All welcome.

Scots Presbyterian Church - Allora.
THIS SUNDAY AT ALLORA - Service/Sunday School at 9.30am.
Wednesday Evenings - Bible Study at 7.30pm.
KIDS CLUB - 1st & 3rd Friday of each month for prep - grade 7. From 3.15pm - 5.00pm.
YOUTH GROUP - 2nd & 4th Friday of each month, 6.30pm - 8.30pm.
MENS BREAKFAST - Last Saturday in each month, 7.30am.
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Governor to Open 135th Allora Show

It's going to be rides galore at the 2013 Allora Annual Show on February 8th & 9th, a festival of thrills and spills. Not to many spills we hope, but definitely plenty of thrills. Certainties for what will be the 135th annual agricultural show in the "Best Little Town on the Downs" are the dodge'em cars, ferris wheel and bungee jumps that will keep the younger brigade busy, along with a few adventurous oldies.

This year Show patrons can enjoy the excitement of a brand new ride on the Show circuit, called 'Stars'. Patrons can access vouchers allowing two rides for the price of one on Friday night from 5.00pm until 8.00pm. Vouchers for the two for one offer will be included in the Allora Advertiser next week & at the Allora Show office.

A feature of this year's Show that exhibits Allora in all its finery will be the official opening at 12.00 noon on Show Saturday by Governor of Queensland, Her Excellency Ms Penelope Wensley AO who will also honour the Allora community by dedicating the recently restored Allora Showgrounds grand stand.

The Allora Showgrounds grand stand is steeped in tradition and history, providing an historic backdrop to the picturesque Show venue. The restoration, that has maintained the historic appearance of the structure, was carried out in meticulous detail. Aside from the determination and dedication of those involved, which included so many volunteers, the venture was made possible due to a Warwick Credit Union Foundation grant of \$13,000 approved in early 2011.

The Warwick Credit Union Foundation is a non-profit foundation which was formed by the WCU Board of Directors in late 2009 focused on providing philanthropic assistance, of up to \$25,000, to community groups in Warwick Credit Union branch areas for innovative projects, facilities or activities. The Foundation was formed as an additional means to support local community groups as part of the Credit Union's community focus.

If you haven't already checked it out, the 2013 Allora Show Schedule is on the Allora Show Society website www.allorashow.org.au It can be downloaded and any pages printed, including entry forms, waivers, site forms etc.

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Printed schedules are available for \$2.00 at the Allora Post Office & Warwick Credit Union Allora Branch. Allora Show Memberships are now due and available online, by post, or from Allora True Value Hardware, Allora Post Office, Allora News and Allora Pharmacy. The economics of purchasing Allora Show membership certainly add up at \$30.00 for family & \$15.00 especially as it also allows entry to the Stanthorpe, Killarney & Warwick Shows.

Glyn Rees

Don't forget to buy your Show memberships
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HOPE FOR LIFE



ALLORA SOCIAL BOWLS CLUB NOTES

A great night of bowls was enjoyed by the teams on Tuesday night 29th January. It was disappointing that so many players/teams did not turn up. Games director Greg has the 'team draw' all organized for games to start at 7 o'clock then has to spend time shuffling teams to make up the competition.

The basic rule is that unless it is raining at the time of play, bowls is on. The creek may have been flooded but Noel made sure that the green was at least mowed if not marked. It is the responsibility of teams to make up the numbers for players who are unable to attend at any time.

Ted has again teamed up with the Happy Hippy's now that they are back from their wanderings. Seems 'Two and Half Men' are back to 'normal'!!!! Young Aden did a great job cleaning all the team's bowls. That Nick sure is slippery, he slipped into the 'Old Dog's team and played like a champion. It is great that everybody supports the raffle. The money raised goes towards general expenses and maintaining the greens. There were lots of winners and Bill Lacey from the Swimming Club team went home with the \$140 Jackpot prize. Congratulations to the winners of the chocolate bars, Bev, Chris, Kev, John, Josh and Kelsey. Winners of the 'Runner's Up' were 'Two and Half Men' while 'Liquid Life Style' were the winning 'Winners'.

Greg thanked everyone who helps out in some way to have things run smoothly. He also thanked the donors of prizes, Gary Evans Drilling, The Railway Hotel, The Swimming Pool and True Value and Wilson & Rigby and the team trophy donor.

Wattles Junior Rugby League Sign On

Wattles would like to remind all past players and any new players that our sign on is Sunday 3rd FEBRUARY at Platz Oval Clubhouse, Davenport Street Clifton from 4pm.

The cost for sign on is; \$70 per child per family and \$65 for each other child from the same family. All new players are to bring their birth certificate. Wattles JRL caters for all players from U6 through to U16 Girls up to 12 years of age can also play.

Wattles JRL are also in desperate need of coaches for our U7 and U9 teams. Please consider this thoroughly rewarding and fun role in the community.

We are also in need of a canteen coordinator to keep our highly successful canteen running smoothly, our canteen is arguably the best in the entire WDJRL competition and helps us keep our fees low.

Please contact Paul Morris 0407 973 276, Linda Sharman 0408 798 763, Ian Brady 0417 077 293 or Grant Lollback 0407 795 439.

This year, the Wattles JRL strongly encourages all parents and players to support our senior team at all of their home games, the A Grade Warriors team has been described by many as being extremely strong and should be very competitive in this season's TRL fixtures.



Allora Golf Notes

Last Sunday we played for the Monthly Medal sponsored by Jenco Feeds & Seeds. It was good to see a great roll up. Winner of the day was Matt May. Runner Up was Kev Harrison. Pin Shots went to Adam on the 7th, Matt on the 16th & 17th, Jim on the 8th & 2nd, Kev on the 11th. Next week will be club trophy sponsored by Kev. Thanks Kev. Also we played our annual Medal of Medalist with six players, winner of this prize was Kev Harrison. Well done Kev two years running. Don't forget your sand buckets - to play is to live.

Pony Club News

Members are reminded that our rally on Sunday 3rd has been changed to a non riding rally due to conditions at the show grounds. We will meet at 9.00am at the grounds. Also if any one missed our sign on day and would like to join it's not too late, all they need to do is come to the grounds on Sunday at 9.00 am.



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Warriors to Take On Bombers in Weekend Clash

It's all systems go for local rugby league club the Wattles Warriors as they look towards their initial season hit out on Saturday against Ipswich Rugby League Club, the Fassifern Bombers. The matches will be Wattles first trial matches as they prepare for the 2013 Toowoomba Rugby League season. Wattles are no strangers to the Bombers having made the trek over the range for a pre-season clash in 2010 at Harrisville's Hayes Oval. It was the Warriors first hit out for the new season back then, but the Bombers took the honours winning 44 - 18 on home turf. Scott Murdoch, Matt McCarthy & Luke Whitton scored Wattles tries that day, and Brady Glass booted three goals.

Fassifern will provide a sturdy test for Wattles being current Ipswich Rugby League first grade premiers, but will have to perform on Wattles home turf at Clifton's Platz Oval.

Wattles Club President Aaron Scheid and Vice President Tim Hentschel are both veterans of the 2010 Fassifern clash, and both will don the Wattles green & gold on Saturday in an attempt to level the match result ledger. Former Australian Rugby Union International Andrew Walker will be a member of the Fassifern side, the dual international kicking five goals in the Bombers 2012 Grand Final win. The 38 year old back played a rugby league Test in 1996 and seven Tests for the Wallabies in 2000/01.

Saturday's program will kick off at 4.30 pm with an Under 18 match followed by the senior grade clash 6.00 pm.

Wattles supporters and Allora & Clifton community members are invited to attend; the Warriors are your team, let's get behind them in 2013.

For further details contact Aaron Scheid (0458 204 550) or Glyn Rees (0400 811 093).

Glyn Rees