



The Allora Advertiser

Issue No. 3277

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Issued Weekly as an Advertising Medium to the people of Allora and surrounding Districts.

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THURSDAY, 19th DECEMBER 2013

Season's Greetings



Marie & Graeme McMillan's long standing Allora based transport business, G.J. & M.P. McMillan Carriers has closed ending an era with Graeme's retirement.

2013

Christine, Fraser,
Tim & David at
The Allora Advertiser

would like to take this opportunity to thank all advertisers, customers, readers and friends for their support during 2013 and wish you all a Joyous Christmas & Prosperous New Year.

This is the final edition of The Allora Advertiser for 2013. Our next edition will be published Thursday, 16th January 2014.

Allora's King of the Road Calls it Quits

They say driving trucks isn't for everyone, and I'd have to say it isn't. But for those that roll around our nations endless highways, transporting the livestock, produce and

machinery etc. that keeps our great nation progressing, a truck driving life is for a special breed.

Allora boasts some of this breed, connoisseurs of hulking horsepower and open roads. Many Allora locals will be familiar with Mack cab

...Continues on page 2



FUEL DISTRIBUTORS



Glenn & Marg and the team wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year. We look forward to serving you again in 2014.



07 4666 3387
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Continued from front page...

over prime mover 500 Ultra Liner, grey in colour with blue and white trims and bull bar, trailer attached, being reversed into the Forde Street shed of McMillan Carriers signalling the end of another work day.

Last Thursday that Mack, owned by local Allora identities Graeme & Marie McMillan, reversed into its aisle in the shed for the final time. As the hand brake locked on and the ignition switched off, the curtain fell on a successful and long standing Allora business.

After forty years behind the wheel of trucks, and 24 years in business, Graeme McMillan, popularly known as Yogi, climbed out of his much loved Mack on business for the final time. I was fortunate enough to join him for that last delivery, 25 tonnes of barley out to a goat farm behind Ellinthorp, the truck that has been part of the McMillan family for over two decades seeming to know exactly where it is going.

The driver is not one to talk for talk sake, focused straight ahead with his feet pumping pedals in unison with his left hand manipulating a split shift and right hand steering the wheel as we navigated the turns, bends and gravel roads to Allora's north west.

You ask a question, you get an answer, no frills or unnecessary adjectives, as he manoeuvres the 42 ton truck and trailer as if it's an extension of him. The Mack has provided the McMillan's with a comfortable income, helped raise three sons, and is given the respect deserved by the driver.

While his devotion to life partner and wife of 37 years Marie, who has also been his business partner, or "the finance director" according to Yog, can't be questioned; his other life partner since 1991 has been his 1989 model Mack.

While born in Warwick in 1948, Graeme has lived in Allora all his life, his parents Snowy & Manda McMillan raising two daughters and a son on a 200 acre dairy & grain farm on the north west fringes of Allora. The fact he is a '48er has him a member of an "exclusive club" according to Graeme, and establishes a level of excellence sometimes debated among his circle of friends that meet regularly at Allora's Blue Cow Hotel to discuss the events of the past week.

Educated at the Allora State School, before completing junior at the Warwick State High School, he was far from a lover of school, "I passed" quipped Graeme with a smirk, "I had some athletic ability, a 100 & 200 metre sprinter with enough pace to finish ahead of star local sportsman Bob Denny". Graeme's initial experience in what would be a life love, driving machinery, was as a seven year old in the saddle of a Fordson P6 on the family farm. After leaving school aged 16, he worked on his parent's farm and also at L.A. May Transport in Allora loading grain bags.

He cut his teeth behind the wheel of a truck in a 1948 Ford at the Allora Co-op, where he also loaded semi-trailers to do runs



The D Series Ford Graeme drove for Allora Co-op, loaded with bags of sunflower seed ready to head to Brisbane in 1975.

SUDOKU

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WEATHER FORECAST

Day	Forecast	Min	Max
THU	Mostly Sunny. Mild	12	26
FRI	Mostly Sunny. Mild.	12	27
SAT	Early Fog Followed by Sun. Warm.	12	30
SUN	Early Fog Followed by Sun. Warm.	14	30
MON	Sunny. Warm.	15	30
TUE	Morning Clouds. Warm.	16	32

The Allora Advertiser

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53 Herbert Street, Allora Qld 4362
Phone 07 4666 3128 - email editor@alloraadvertiser.com

DEADLINE: Advertising and Articles - Tuesday 4.30pm

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Peters Original Ice Cream 2L..... \$2.00	Celebrations Chocolate Tub 750g..... \$3.00	Nestlé Chocolate Blocks 118g-200g .. \$3.00
Bega Cheese Tasty Bar-B-Cubes 500g..... \$7.00	M&M's or Maltesers Chocolate Bucket 520g-710g \$9.00	Starburst Confectionery 104g-180g ... \$1.29
	Coca-Cola Soft Drink 2L... 3 for \$8.00	Big Sister Heritage Fruit Mince Pies 360g..... \$4.49
	Lawson's Traditional Bread 800g or Mighty Soft Raisin Toast 600g..... \$3.50	Cadbury Christmas Stocking 186g..... \$5.99
	Golden Circle Fruit Drink 6pk x 250mL..... 2 for \$5.00	Lipton Pyramid Tea Bags 20pk \$3.00
		Kantong Sauce 485g-520g..... \$2.80
		Western Star Butter Pat 250g ... \$2.30
		Logan Farm Garden Peas 1kg.. \$3.00
		Christmas Santa Hat 99¢
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DELI SPECIALS

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Family Chef Rolled & Boned Pork Shoulder ... **\$8.99 kg**

Primo Saveloys, Cocktail & Thin Frankfurts ... **\$4.99 kg**

Zammit COB Leg Ham (Full or Half) or Pendle Hill COB Leg Ham (Full or Half) ... **\$8.99 kg**

KRC Kentucky Picnic Shoulder Ham ... **\$9.89 kg**

FRUIT & VEG

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Safe & Prosperous 2014.



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Wednesday, 25th December - CLOSED
Thursday 26th December - CLOSED
Friday, 27th December - CLOSED
Wednesday, 1st January - CLOSED
Thursday, 2nd January - Normal trading hours



After 40 Years behind the wheel of a myriad of trucks, and the last 22 years behind the wheel of his beloved 1989 Model Mack, Allora's gentle trucking legend Graeme "Yogi" McMillan has called it a day.

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space to learn

Continued from page 2...

locally as well as Toowoomba & Brisbane.

A stint at Mt. Isa mine was a very different experience for the lad from Allora, he and local friends Greg Smith & Bob Denny earning a fatter pay packet than normal working eight hour shifts as pipe fitters 2,700 feet underground. The Isa was a great experience for the three young men seeing the country, "action packed and you had to be careful" says Yog.

He and friend Trevor Hentschel tried their luck grape picking over a three year period at Mildura in Victoria, "it was seasonal work, a great experience, and then in 1973 we headed north to

the Burdekin area to truck sugar cane to the mills".

Graeme joined Trevor Hentschel and Ray Crothers in a 1964 EH Holden in 1972 to travel around Australia, taking in all on offer from Allora south and west, crossing the 300 mile gravel Nullabor Plains and endured another another 1200 miles of gravel road up the west coast of Western Australia ending up at the Ord River, then east to North Queensland and some R & R at Hayman Island, one of the more popular pit stops. His school ambitions saw him envisaging a life as a farmer, the land seemingly in his blood. However 1974 had Graeme back at the Allora Co-op for a four year stay that had him regularly piloting trucks. He was a regular visitor to Brisbane, initially in an eight ton Ford, with later trips in the Co-op's eight wheel Acco 14. His initial semi-trailer run was to Mt. Isa in an F Model Mack 700 with a five speed main and four speed joey gear box, and he was the second truck into Jundah after the floods of 1974.

Cruising the streets of Allora in his first car, a Zephyr, Graeme used to knock around with his many friends. "We had a bit to amuse ourselves in Allora, cabarets, movies at the community hall, you made your own fun, and I got to meet Marie through her brothers, the Nolans". Marie was a shop assistant at the Allora Co-op, Graeme actually literally bumping into her while she was looking in a freezer prior to arranging their first get together.

The couple married in 1976, and while Marie had to finish her job, Graeme moved from the Co-op to L.A. May & Co. Transport in Allora in 1978. The move to May's, which lasted



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eleven years, saw Graeme start driving D Series Fords, "they had a top speed of 80 kms an hour, D1000's with V8 Cummins motors", to Moree, Brisbane and Narrabri. Some harvests had you moving "in the 1978 harvest over a six week period we managed just half a day off" grinned Yog, "busy times". His next work vehicle was a 30/70 Acco prime mover and trailer, the very same trailer he hauled in his 24 years self employed.

"When May's closed down we bought the Acco & trailer, our first day of business as G.J. & M.P. McMillan Carriers was September 1st, 1989".

In 1991 Graeme & Marie acquired their cherished 1989 model Mack prime mover, a noticeable step up in power from the 300 hp Acco to the 500 hp Mack. "We picked it up for the right price as it had been repossessed, it has done its job more than capably, just the one rebuild, but alas it is now for sale" said Graeme. "My life has been largely trucks but I am a committed Mack supporter, in the world of trucking they make Macks... and they make others!" he says with a mischievous grin.

The old girl (Mack that is) has hauled it all, but mostly grain; barley, sunflower, sorghum, corn, cotton & cotton seed and meal, and has also provided valuable transport of historic machinery to rallies around Queensland and New South Wales.

The lifelong truck driver is well qualified to compare transport past and present, "it all boils down to the fact we used to drive underpowered trucks for what we were doing, a Brisbane run used to take four hours, today I can do the same trip in a comfortable two and a quarter hours, having said that, it was a lot more relaxed in my early years".

"Expenses now days are considerable, breakdowns, fuel, on road expenses make an impact" says Graeme, "you don't want a drought year like 1994 when no grain was carted from the local area". The Mack autopilot had to be altered that year, "I headed to North Queensland for a few trips hauling mangoes, for the last trip I took my ten year old son Glen along for the ride" recalls Yog, "I used to haul tyres etc to the mines around Collinsville, then bring the mangoes south".

Graeme & Marie's youngest son Glen recalls the trip fondly, "Dad & I did a trip to Ayr to get some mangoes, I got a week off school to do it. We took some mining truck tyres up on the way



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and saw the big mines, fair to say that all the mangoes didn't quite reach their destination" says Glen with a grin.

While Marie is continuing a little longer in the workforce, one of the smiling faces at Allora's Foodworks Supermarket, after Graeme's body odometer clicked over 65 years this year, he is looking to wetting a line more often in his favoured pastime of fishing, at a favourite haunt Jacob's Well and perhaps the odd trip to Gladstone. He is also available to help his eldest son Russell on his farm at Ellinthorpe and interests at Nobby & Gatton, "just heading and tractor work, nothing to do with cattle".

Marie is looking for some increased production in the family vegetable garden, the suggestion didn't arouse much of a response.

If things are getting a trifle slow for him, a cuppa on the back patio and a glance over the fence to their spare acre will see a 1960 Zephyr utility and a 1934 Dodge truck in pole position ready for restoration honours.

The couple are looking forward to a trip to Graeme's former stamping grounds Mt Isa in July next year, before heading east to Ayr for the 6th Queensland Heritage Rally.

Graeme and Marie can boast 8 grandchildren, sons Russell & Glen and their families in the Allora area, another son Gary & his family in Gladstone.

Despite the challenges of running their business, the McMillan's have given much to their community. Marie, a current Allora CWA member, served for many years on the local school P & F committee, ironically granddaughter & current Allora State School student Reagan McMillan the sixth generation of the family to attend the school.

Marie has also given many years' service to Wattles senior & junior rugby league clubs, St. Andrew's Indoor Bowls Club and the Allora Historical Society.

A staunch Brisbane Broncos devotee, Graeme is also a member of the Allora Historical Society, and served for a decade as President of the Warwick Veteran & Vintage Vehicle Club, the organisers of the famed Allora Heritage Weekend. He has presided over the committee of the Warwick, Allora, Clifton Fishing Club who own a property at Jacob's Well, since 1989, and he is also a regular ushering veterans to the annual ANZAC Day service in his 1960 Zephyr sedan.

Last Thursday as the mighty McMillan Mack backed into its corrugated iron shed home of 22 years, coming to rest beside fellow shed dweller, a three ton 1934 British Bedford truck, history clicked over a significant notch, both for the McMillan family and the Allora district.

As a left the shed and bid my farewell, in a parting glance behind I saw the famous Mack Bulldog staring out onto the roadway from its mounting under the Ultra Liner's windscreen, the Bulldog the Mack truck emblem since 1916, and it can probably be considered a fitting emblem for G.J. & M.P. McMillan Carriers.

Glyn Rees

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Allora Men Secure Shed

Allora's own Men's Shed group got together on Saturday a week back for a double celebration, their first ever local Men's Shed Christmas Party and a few toasts to their recently signed Southern Downs Regional Council lease over the old Allora Fire Station building at 80 Herbert Street.

Group President Danny Daniels is upbeat about what lies ahead for Allora's Men's Shed membership, "we needed a building to call our own and begin hosting activities and providing a meeting place for those involved, now we have taken that step".

Securing the historic old fire station has been a hot topic at recent group meetings, more so the planning of the building's future layout to cater for members activities. The group have benefited from the generosity of the community with donations of tools & furnishings to outfit the building. Members Trevor Shields, Andrew Cave, Dick Evans, Justin Petersen & Secretary Ros Cave visited the Fire Station on Saturday morning, getting their thoughts together for the future plans. Thanks to considerate donors the group have a band saw, router, drop saw, a grinder and a collection of hand tools along with tables & chairs. Community members are requested to consider donating tools, furniture and other items considered useful for the Shed.

"Everyone involved is looking forward to the future" according to Secretary Ros Cave, "there is a definite opening for an organisation like the Men's Shed in Allora, our growing membership of eighteen reflects plenty of interest".

Men's Shed Vice President Dick Evans, who is keen on vehicle restoration, welcomed the suggestions from fellow members, "the guys are keen to concrete an area at the rear of the building and build a

skillion over it, the building is in dire need of a repaint, some landscaping & a vegetable garden will spruce up the back yard, and we have suggestions of a fire place and outdoor oven". Fellow member Trevor Shields, who has a talent for making bush furniture, is keen to have residents of the Homestead Aged Persons Hostel involved, and feels members of the Allora Men's Shed have skills that can be imparted at the local schools.

The next meeting of the Allora Men's Shed is scheduled for January 25th, at the new digs, the old Fire Station, the meeting featuring guest speaker Bill Challen from the Glen Innes Men's Shed.

The new Allora Men's Shed abode is an historical site, the town fire station from 1965 until 2001, and after that a seed grading laboratory and later an art studio. Prior to it's years as a fire station, the building has housed a number of businesses including a couple of tailors, a second hand trader & a dry cleaning business.

Men's Sheds are now established as part of the health infrastructure that supports programs to improve men's health and well being. Mensheds Australia (MSA) plays a role in building the viability of men's sheds through their commercial activities, and their programs to achieve health outcomes.

For further information regarding the Allora Men's Shed, contact Ros Cave on 0428 334 500.

Glyn Rees

?? CSIRO Double Helix Quiz ??

1. Which is greater: the distance from the centre of Earth to the North Pole, or the distance from the centre of Earth to the Equator?
2. Which two chemical elements contain the letter 'x' in their names?
3. In regards to sleep, what does REM stand for?
4. What is the largest species of fish?
5. When carbon dioxide dissolves into neutral water, what happens to the water's pH?

Answers in Classifieds pages

Originally published in Science by Email. For more CSIRO Double Helix science visit www.csiro.au/helix or call 02 6276 6643.

Looking Back...

Allora's Past 25 years ago
December 1988

Aerodrome Gate Opened

Original members of the Warwick & District War Memorial Aerodrome Committee, Bob Carstens and Roy Knight, cut the ribbon to officially open the new gate posts and grid at the aerodrome at Massie on the weekend of 17th and 18th December, 1988. The occasion marked the 30th anniversary of the building of the aerodrome. The two men said that the committee had looked at several sites before choosing the site at Massie. The site had been surveyed for an aerodrome by the Americans during WW II before they settled on another site at Leyburn.

A group of about six Deuchar and Massie residents had worked for the past two months to construct the gate posts and grid in time for the opening on the weekend. Deuchar-Massie Bicentennial Committee chairman, Graham Kirkland, said that the voluntary labour input reflected the original building of the aerodrome 30 years ago.

Allora's Past 50 years ago
December 1963

Mothers have you visited...

MAHONEY'S TOYLAND

The best array of toys on the Downs is on display in their spacious Toy Department. Call in and make your selection now. Mahoney's have gifts for everybody. Do all your Christmas Shopping at Mahoney's, Allora's leading Toy & Gift Store.

Allora's Past 75 years ago
December 1938

Christmas Party

Misses Elma Tickle, Merle Forster and Val Hicks arranged a Christmas party for the scholars of the Methodist Sunday School. Master Keith Masters was "Father Christmas's messenger".

Allora's Past 100 years ago
December 1913

The Princess of Wales Hotel

The Princess of Wales Hotel is Allora's

oldest licensed house and the mere mention of the name calls many minds back to the time when Allora was a wayside halting place on the main Ipswich-Warwick route. A small and typical bush hotel it was in those days. Latterly the exigencies of the period called for greater things. The licensee for many years (Mrs. S. Clarke) who is a daughter of the late Mr. S. Gordon, the original proprietor, rose to the occasion and today in place of the old rambling structure there stands an ornate two-storied hostelry replete with modern adjuncts and conveniences.

The Holidays

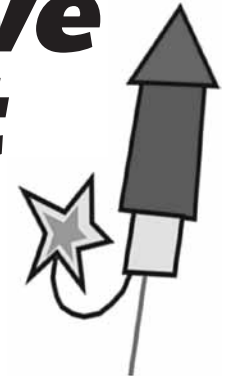
One is reminded that the old year is fast coming to a close, by the breaking up of the schools and the occurrence of Christmas with its talk of Santa Clause and its many other associations, till one would almost feel inclined to think that they were young again.

The old year has brought many changes, some happy and no doubt some sad. So no doubt with the next, but let's hope that the good will predominate.

Colin Newport

BRING THE NEW YEAR
IN WITH A BANG!!!

New Years Eve Family Night



Allora Showgrounds, commencing 5.00pm
Tuesday, 31st December 2013

Fireworks 8.30pm

Sponsored by Grainx Australia and Southern Downs Regional Council

Novelty Races start 5.30pm followed by Anything Goes (10yrs & under)

After Fireworks - Anything Goes (11yrs & over) with Calcutta.

Other features include:

- LOTS OF LUCKY GATE PRIZES
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- JUMPING CASTLE • DISCO
- SNOW CONES • FAIRY FLOSS
- POCKET ROCKET DISPLAY
- BARBEQUE • FISH & CHIPS
- LICENCED BAR

Entertainment by local artists

From 9.00pm - Music by DENNYS
BAND with Joanne

Multidraw Raffle

Courtesy Bus, Camping & Brekky available

Admission: Adults - \$5.00, Under 16 - FREE.

Enquiries phone Ted 0418 731 514

After 31 Years Col & Bette are no Longer On the Buses

As the tune goes, "Hail To the Bus Driver, Bus Driver, Bus Driver, Hail to the Bus Driver, Bus Driver Man".

Up Allora way community members of the 'Best Little Town on the Downs' have hailed their favourite bus driver for the last time, after Col Gay parked his bus at the end of last Friday's last day of school for 2013. As he switched off of the ignition signalling the end of a 31 year career providing safe and trusted transport to the area's school bus runs and various charters, many memories were going through his mind.

On Friday afternoon Allora community members, school staff, students and former & current bus service staff gathered at the Allora State School Performing Arts Hall for an afternoon tea and presentation to Col & Bette recognising their contribution to the Allora school's communities, and the Allora community overall.

Col & wife Bette operated Allora's bus service for thirty years, with Col continuing as a driver for the businesses new owner's this past twelve months.

Col is a very familiar and respected face to the children attending the Allora State School and Allora's St. Patrick's School, and also well known to parents, many who themselves would have also ridden in Col & Bette Gay's buses.

"The bus run bought Bette and I to Allora from Mullumbimby, along with our five children, our time involved with our business allowing us so many special memories" says Col.

The Gay's bus service transported almost 100 children to school daily from the Talgai, Spring Creek, Berat & Henden districts, across almost 200 school days annuallyso that amounts to around 20,000 individual rides across the year.

Col & Bette bought the bus service from Col & Marcia Young back in 1982, "it consisted of three school runs then, Talgai, Spring Creek & Henden, and we later acquired the Berat run from John Rays". "Our interest was aroused at my father's

ALLORA FOODWORKS

MINI MARKET DAY

THIS FRIDAY 20/12/13

Tibaldi & Primo half and full Leg Hams	\$8.99 kg
Champagne Ham.....	\$8.99 kg
Bacon Rashers.....	\$8.49 kg
Peters Original Ice Cream 2L.....	\$2.00 ea
Coca-Cola 375mL 18pk	\$9.99 ea
Nestlé Drumsticks 24pk.....	\$19.99 ea
Streets Family Favourites 20pk	\$18.00 ea
Susan Day Golden Sponge Slab 450g	\$4.29 ea
Aeroplane Jelly 85g	99¢ ea
Nestle Sweetened Condensed Milk 395g	\$2.20 ea
Blossom Margarine 500g	\$1.29 ea
Mangoes	\$1.49 ea
Cauliflowers	\$2.99 ea
Continental Cucumbers.....	\$1.29 ea
Truss Tomatoes 500g pk	\$2.99 ea

And plenty of other fruit and vegetables
fresh from the Brisbane Markets!

funeral in Warwick when I learned from my cousin Noel Mullins that a bus run was for sale, and we decided to pursue the idea".

...Continues on page 8

Continued from page 7...

"Over our time running the bus service we have regularly upgraded the vehicles, as well as replacing and renovating the sheds and facilities used to house and maintain the bus fleet" said Col, "our new shed included a pit which made servicing vehicles considerably easier".

Over the years the bus service sheds have hosted Bedfords, Leylands, Col's favourite Hinos & Mitsubishis. Col wanted good quality buses in the sheds when he sold the business to Matt & Tracey Heslin, "I wanted quality vehicles to hand over".

The sale of the bus service operated by Col & Bette Gay for thirty years occurred in February 2012, the new owners, the Heslins respected local residents from Spring Creek who are owner operators of Allora's Whites Garage, "the Bus business is in good hands" according to Col.

We had some wonderful staff over the years, and as our tenure with the business was coming to an end, our drivers included Ian Oehloman, Ian McGrath, myself and Andrew Benz who drove for us for twelve years.

Col was the familiar face behind the wheel on the Talgai run, collecting the children prior to school and returning them after, he always had his trade mark wave for the parents. "We got to the stage that we had transported separate generations of some families to schools, we used to take Ellinthorp land holders John & Gwen Peters' children to school, David, Helen, Joanne & Shane, and now we have some of their children riding in the bus" recalls Col fondly.

"I never had any trouble with the kids, but there was a time when we had a situation where someone was tampering with the bus number plates, that was addressed when I rigged up a horn to the plates, from then on it was then no secret when they were touched" laughed Col. "While we had the service I always drove the Talgai route, you got to know your passengers well, and I looked forward to seeing them all each morning".

Charter work was also a special part of the bus service, "we transported community & sport groups to functions, including the residents of Allora's Nursing Home and the Homestead Aged Person's Hostel" recalls Col, "I think the toughest trip was taking the Year one class from Allora's St. Patrick's School up Allora Mountain, a geographical challenge" he laughs.

Prior to owning the bus service Col & Bette ran a dairy farm at Mullumbimby for thirteen years. Aside from the demands of the dairy, he also worked on the development of coastal New



Col & Bette Gay after cutting a special cake to celebrate their retirement among friends, community members and members of the Allora State School community at an afternoon tea in their honour last Friday afternoon.

South Wales town Ocean Shores on the north side of the Brunswick River in the 1970's. He was a backhoe operator who also spent time in the development workshops, before working for himself with a mobile welding operation, the future bus service owner considered a jack of all trades. Col's family headed to New South Wales for work in his younger years, but he can lay claim to being an Allora area local. He was actually born in Warwick, while his parents John



The Allora bus fleet when Col & Bette Gay took over the business in 1982.

BAD JOKE OF THE WEEK

On a cruise to Alaska, I saw my very first glacier in the magnificent Inside Passage. Excitedly, I asked the ship's officer what it was called.

"It's some dumb glacier," he replied.

Disappointed by his attitude, I bought a map to figure it out myself. I spotted our location and found the name of the ice mass.

It was called, just as he'd said, "Sumdum Glacier."



Tracey & Matt Heslin, current owners of what is now the Allora School Bus and Local Charter, present a gift, "the Allora Bus Service Fleet", to Col & Bette Gay on their retirement celebrated last Friday at the Allora State School.

& Dorothea worked a dairy farm at Shepherd's Drive just south of Allora. An aging shed still stands at Cantwell's corner Wheatvale that was constructed by his father and grandfather. Col & Bette have been tremendous and caring supporters of their Allora community, very involved in the St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Bette teaching religious education at the Allora State School.

Retirement will see them with the opportunity of spending more time with the families of their children, Rachel (Warwick), Ruth (Kununurra, Western Australia), John (Dunedin, New Zealand), Peter (Brisbane) & Deborah (Warwick), along with their twelve grandchildren and one great grandchild, and another on the way. Christmas will be special next week in the Gay's

...Continues on page 10

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Christmas / New Year Trading - 2013

Tuesday 24th December - OPEN
 Wednesday 25th December - CLOSED
 Thursday 26th December - CLOSED
 Friday 27th December - OPEN 8am to 3pm
 Saturday 29th December - OPEN 8am to 12pm
 Monday 30th December - OPEN
 Tuesday 31st December - OPEN
 Wednesday 1st January - CLOSED
 Thursday 2nd January - OPEN

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Raff Street residence, with many family members heading back to Allora for a Christmas at home. While retirement will see Bette & Col with the time for a little more relaxation, be aware that the 'Jack of All Trades' will still find time to exercise his skills and there will be the odd stint back on the bus for Matt & Tracey Heslin, while also embarking on some travelling around in the Col Gay manufactured motor home. It's been said in jest that "The person whose problems are all behind them is probably a school bus driver", that's certainly not the view of Col Gay over his 31 years behind the wheel, those sitting behind him were the highlight of his working day.

Glyn Rees

RAILWAY HOTEL ALLORA



Wishing all our customers a very Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year.

From Robyn, Justin, Jan and all the staff at the Railway and Commercial Hotel!

Any queries phone 4666 3402

Events Calendar

2013

December -
Tue 31 **Allora New Years Eve Party**
 Allora Showgrounds, Allora

2014

January -
Sat 25 & Sun 26 **Allora Heritage Weekend**
 Allora Showgrounds

February -
Fri - Sat 7 & 8 **136th Annual Allora Show**
 Allora Showgrounds

April -
Sat 12 **Allora & District Historical Society Display & Demo Day** - Historical Society Building, Cnr. Forde & Warwick Sts.

May -
Sat 3 **Allora Scope Club Inc. Annual Afternoon Tea**
Fri 9 **Allora QCWA International Day - Vietnam**
 St. Andrews Hall, Allora

June -
Sat 21 **Anglican June Afternoon**
 St. Davids Hall, Allora

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.

Allora Pharmacy

Jon Constable - 42 Herbert Street
Ph. 4666 3100 Mon. - Fri. 8am - 5pm
 Sat. 8am - 12 noon

Christmas and New Year Trading Hours

Monday, 23rd December ... **8.00am - 5.00pm**
 Tuesday, 24th December ... **8.00am - 5.00pm**
 Wednesday, 25th December ... **CLOSED**
 Thursday, 26th December ... **CLOSED**
 Friday, 27th December ... **8.00am - 5.00pm**
 Saturday, 28th December ... **8.00am - 12.00pm**
 Sunday, 29th December ... **CLOSED**
 Monday, 30th December ... **8.00am - 5.00pm**
 Tuesday, 31st December ... **8.00am - 5.00pm**
 Wednesday, 1st January ... **CLOSED**
 Tuesday, 2nd January ... **8.00am - 5.00pm**
(normal trading hours resume)



Jon & Justine along with the girls would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our wonderful customers a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

We thank you for your loyal support and look forward to seeing you all in the new year.

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"In their own words"40 flood stories told from the heart

On Wednesday, December 11, the Southern Downs Regional Council held a special celebration of a local history project which documents Southern Downs residents' stories of disaster, recovery and resilience after the 2010/11 flood event. Mayor Cr Peter Blundell said the DVD was a powerful and moving account of people's personal stories and it was for this reason the project has been called "In their own words". "Our Community Development Officer Pam Burley has worked incredibly hard on this project and there has been an enormous contribution from community members, businesses and emergency personnel. "One of the most significant images for Pam was when one of the recovery volunteers told her about a clean-up at an older woman's house at Warwick. The volunteer saw the woman's photo albums being piled up with other damaged books. Being a young person, she recognised that these photos were a lifetime of memories at risk of being destroyed by the flood damage. She gathered them out of the damaged pile of books from the bookshelf, cleaned each photo individually and pegged them out to dry on a clothes line - this story says so much about the spirit of goodwill that surrounded this devastating weather event," he said. Cr Blundell said the project had been funded through the Community Development and Recovery Package which is a joint initiative of the Australian and Queensland governments, under the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements. "The funding has been used wisely - council felt the project should capture the stories from across the Southern Downs so 12 people were trained in the gathering of video and audio recording material and a total of 40 interviews were completed. "The interviews were with residents affected by the floods, service providers, community volunteers, emergency responders and community leaders. "Local young musicians Matt Vels and Brad Davis have written and recorded a song that is played on the DVD. The song 'We came together' is also a moving tribute to the strength and tenacity of our community. Another local young artist Caitlin Alley has provided narration for the DVD.

St Patrick's School Celebrate School Year

Allora's St. Patrick's School completed their final week of the 2013 school year on Friday December 6th, a week that featured their Year 7 Graduation Ceremony, and the curtain closing week also highlighted by a visit by past student and current World Champion Athlete Matthew Denny. Recently announced Athletics Australia Junior Athlete of the Year and World Under 18 discus champion, Matthew was sensational in his final outing in the recent National Secondary School Athletics Championships. He backed up from his great success of last year by winning Australian under 18 gold medals in discus, hammer and shot put. He set four new



We wish to advise that White's Garage will be **CLOSED from 3.00pm, Friday, 20th December 2013** and will **RE-OPEN at 8.00am on Monday, 6th January 2014**



Mathew, Tracey, Mark and Nathaniel would like to thank all our valued customers and friends for your support during the year and wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and all the best in the New Year!

Phone/Fax: 07 4666 3397
 13 Drayton Street, Allora

Australian all schools meet records in hammer and discus last year, and then proceeded to break those records this year: 77.39m in the hammer throw, 65.48m in discus and 19.33m in the shot put. Matthew was a very welcome guest, talking to students about his achievements and how hard he had to work, both at his athletics and at school, to reach the high honours he has. It was somewhat of a family reunion for Matthew, his cousins Will Denny, Jack Phelan and Emily & Abby Phelan all among the students that enjoyed his visit. St. Patrick's School Graduation Ceremony was hosted on Tuesday, December 3rd, with the following students recognised for the outstanding efforts. Nicholas Blakemore & Georgina Garnsey - Community Spirit Award; Seth Mathie - Diligence Award; Nicholas Brown - Cultural Award; Temika-India Gordon & Ailish Wallace - Christian Leadership Award; Jai Catling & Mary Higgins - Sporting Award; Mary Higgins and Sophie Ryan - Academic Award.

Glyn Rees

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Wishing all our clients a Merry Christmas, we look forward to seeing you in the new Year.

We will **CLOSE 12pm on 24th Dec** and **RE-OPEN 7th Jan.**

Ph 4666 3639



Sharon & Roger Neilsen ready for Christmas mail deliveries. The kids at Kindy loved their visit.

Merry Christmas Allora!

Thanks for all the new mail boxes and your efforts to make our job enjoyable.

Sharon, Roger & DJ

Sharon would like to give a special thanks to her husband Roger, Alan Jones and the girls.

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badge. Elly has been in the CWA 56 years and told the meeting she started in CWA when she happened to be in town with five small children and a friend told her about the CWA Holiday homes. She joined straight away and the family enjoyed several holidays. In the later years she said they would leave some children down the road while they signed in before bringing all 10 into the cottage. President Olive Shooter and Divisional president Jenny Hill paid tribute to Elly who despite all her commitments was always active in the CWA. The group also celebrated Maureen Holmes' ninetieth birthday with a cake made by Olive Shooter. She was presented with a card and a decorated Christmas cake. Before enjoying a special lunch Olive demonstrated making Waterlilies with paper napkins. This involves many folds but the results were very good. The table was soon decorated with the group's efforts. Joyce completed her visit by drawing the winning tickets in the CWA Christmas raffle. Surprisingly all

Cassie Henry, Georgina Lester and Ava Lester sure enjoyed catching up with Santa at Friday evenings Allora Rotary Bush Christmas on December 6.

Allora CWA notes

Twelve members and the visiting Divisional President Joyce Bell from Clifton arrived on December 17 to find the hall decorated for Christmas. Mary Schelbach had been busy and the room was very inviting for the December meeting. This was a special meeting as Elly Marshall received her Quiet Achiever

the winners were male. This has been a very successful fundraiser and Olive thanked those who produced the popular plum pudding and decorated cake, those who produced the hamper and those who sold tickets.

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GOLD LOTTO \$30M MEGADRAW Saturday Jan 4, 2014
Store Syndicate available or grab a Maxi Quickpick.

David, Zita and staff would like to thank you for your support during 2013 and wish you all a very Merry Christmas and New Year.

BACK TO SCHOOL 2014 - Take the hassle out of Back to School next year. All Stationery and Text Books are packed by us. This service is available up until school commences.

CHRISTMAS DAY - CLOSED :: BOXING DAY - 7.00am-11.00am
:: NEW YEARS DAY - 7.00am-11.00am ::

ALLORA NEWS

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• ANNOUNCEMENTS •

Birthday...

HAPPY 50th BIRTHDAY CHRIS
a.k.a. Snap Dragon.
All our love, Dave & Hayley x x o o

90th Birthday...

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO MAUREEN HOLMES
for 19th December.
Hope you enjoy your special day.
From all your friends

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• CHURCH NOTICES •

The Anglican Parish of Allora and Clifton
Christmas Service Times - All welcome
St Davids: Allora
Sunday, 22nd December 10.00am
Christmas Day, 25th December 8.00am
Sunday, 29th December 10.00am
All Saints: Clifton
Sunday, 22nd December 8.00am
Christmas Eve, 24th December 7.30pm
Sunday, 29th December 8.00am
Enquiries - Rev. Andrew Baldwin - Ph 4666 3343

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.
LAYLED LITURGY, with Communion - 4th & 5th SUNDAYS at 9.00am. Every FRIDAY morning at 9.30am.
CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION - TONIGHT
Thursday, 19th December at 7.00pm
CHRISTMAS MASS - Tuesday, 24th December at 9.00pm
For information on Baptism, Weddings and other church enquiries, phone 4666 3377.
St Patrick's Parish School (Prep - Yr. 7), enquiries 4666 3551.

Uniting Church Allora
9.00am Sunday Services.
8.30am - CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE
Enquiries phone 4666 3225. All welcome.

Scots Presbyterian Church - Allora.
THIS SUNDAY AT ALLORA - Service at 9.30am.
CHRISTMAS SERVICE - 9.30am
MENS BREAKFAST - Saturday, 21st December, 7.30am.
God loves you so much, He gave us Jesus.
Want to know more? Please join us...
Enquiries to Pastor Dennis Mooney 4666 3829.
A Warm Welcome to ALL.

• PUBLIC NOTICES •

RESULTS OF QCWA RAFFLE - 1st prize hamper, Ray Shooter; 2nd prize cake, John Foley; 3rd prize plum pudding, Allan Bell. Thank you to all who supported.

ALLORA DENTAL SURGERY
will be CLOSED Friday, 20th December and will RE-OPEN on Monday, 13th January 2014.
Alan and staff would like to wish everyone a Safe and Merry Christmas.

• PUBLIC NOTICES •

GRAEME & MARIE MCMILLAN wish to advise we have closed our transport business. We take this opportunity to thank all our loyal clients.



We also wish all a Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year

• SOLUTIONS •

CSIRO DOUBLE HELIX QUIZ ANSWERS

1. The distance from the centre of Earth to the Equator is greater than the distance from the centre of Earth to the North Pole.
2. Oxygen and xenon are the two chemical elements that contain the letter 'X'.
3. In regards to sleep, REM stands for rapid eye movement.
4. The world's largest species of fish is the whale shark.
5. When carbon dioxide dissolves in neutral water, the pH decreases.

THIS WEEK'S SUDOKU SOLUTION

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

ALLORA CRICKET CLUB INC.
Allora Cricket Club News
On Saturday 14 December, Allora played Sovereign Animals at the Allora cricket oval. Opening batsman Mitch McLennan put 50 runs on the board before being caught and bowled by Jeb Jerome. No other Allora batsmen scored more than 17 runs. Allora were all out for 148 off 37 overs. Sovereign players wasted no time in putting runs on the board, passing the Allora total after just 28 overs. Best bowler for Allora was Scott Sparksman, taking 3 wickets for 20, off 4.5 overs. Matt Kiernan took two wickets, with Mitch McLennan and Cameron Masters taking a wicket each. Wheelbarrow raffle is drawn this Saturday afternoon (21 December). Please get your raffle tickets and money to Shannon Masters before Saturday. This weekend see Allora take on Inglewood, at Inglewood. On 4 January, Allora play the Allora Rascals at the Allora cricket oval. We take this opportunity to thank our sponsors for their support for this season. Merry Christmas to you all and best wishes for a successful and happy new year.

ALLORA SOCIAL BOWLS NOTES

The 2013 season ended on a high note with players in the Christmas spirit. Maybe next year we could have a prize for the 'best dressed'. Rooniks would have won this year, Holly and Nicky were cute and Darren had tinsel round his middle. Of course God showed us his style with his crazy santa hat and Bec was the 'Lawn Grub' elf. There were a number of substitute players this week. Great to see Dave M, Alexx2, Craig, Brad, John Cx2, John D, Simon, Shaz & Harry filling in for absent players. Thank you all for helping out and anyone else whose name was missed. Talking of Christmas spirit, Evans Drilling donated a large ham and Lorraine's On Herbert, two Christmas Packs for the special Christmas raffle. Lyn Patterson donated six plum puddings for an extra round on touchers. Winner of the Spotto (spot the silly b...) Segment was Craig. He did manage to play some good shots in between being late, lingering at the bar, wandering off to yarn and dance? to God's crazy hat tune! Was he also responsible for substituting a beer carton for the mat causing his Skip to slip. Rule to remember - A player shall not be allowed to change bowls during the course of a game, unless a bowl has been so damaged in the course of play that the bowl is unfit for play... on penalty of disqualification! (Oops am guilty) Raffle winners were: - Six Pack - Donna; Railway Hotel Pizza - Harry; Bottle Port - Peter; Fruit Tray - Lyn P; Team Trophy - Lorraine; Ham - Lyn P; Christmas Packs - Greg and Peter; Jack Pot - Brett Willett. (The Wilson &

Rigby/Swimming Pool/Lorraine's Café Jackpot prize will be \$100 next time). Thank you to all prize donors. On the ringing of the bell the following players won the touchers:- Barryx2, Brad, Simon, Lorraine, Brett, Kelsey, Nicky, Peter, Ted, Alex and Chris. This week saw "The Old Boys" win the winner's prize and "Lorraine's Café" win the losers prize. Each player takes home a six pack or substitute. Each week Games Director Greg Patterson always thanks the sponsors and all those who help in some way. I would like to thank Greg for the amount of work that he does to keep the Allora Social Bowls going. Without Greg's dedication we would not be able to enjoy our weekly night of bowls. REMINDERS - Next social bowls night will be 7th January and membership fees (\$20.00) are now due for the following year.

RAILWAY HOTEL RASCALS ALLORA Est. 2013
Railway Hotel Rascals vs. Wheatvale
Round seven of the Condamine Cup witnessed the Railway Hotel Rascals take on the second ranked team, Wheatvale, at Slade Park. Wheatvale won the toss and chose to bat on a scorching day, with the impressive heat creating a very hard turf pitch. The Rascals started the game very well, and at first drinks after 15 overs, Wheatvale were 5/51. Soon after the break the Rascals struck again with the score at 6/64. At this point the Cantwell brothers came to the crease and added 61, before losing one Cantwell, where another Cantwell replaced him, and this pair added another 62 before both batters were dismissed in consecutive overs. Wheatvale finished on 212/9 off the 40 overs available. James more was the pick of the bowlers with three wickets, Brad Johnson claimed two wickets and Joe Morris picked up one wicket and was again the most economical bowler of the group. Paul Christensen took two solid catches at point, whilst Tom Morris and Simon and James Moore and also took one catch each. In response, the Rascals goal of lasting the 40 overs was looking good at the 20th over drinks break, with the score at 2/46. Thanks largely to the opening three batters who hung around and took the shine off the new ball. James Moore was the best of the three, scoring 11 off 37, his highest score of the season and best batting performance to date, although he was outscored by his father Simon later in the game, who, due to the game going past 6pm and him being 'almost late' for a dinner date, smashed the ball around and scored a quick 14 off 18. After losing three wickets in the 21st over, David Watson in his first game this year for the Rascals, scored a smart 30 runs, and was well supported by Tom Morris who scored a class 10 not out, to leave the Rascals score at 114 off 35 overs all out, the second highest score of the year. Railway Hotel Rascals player of the year points- 3: James Moore, 2: David Watson, =1: Tom Morris, =1: Joe Morris. The next game is against The Sovereign Animals at Allora on Saturday the 21th of December, which should prove to be an interesting game, as five of the current Rascals players were part of the Sovereign team last year, before constructing the new Railway Hotel Rascals team this year. Brad Johnson

Warriors Focus on New Season

Wattles Rugby League Football Club President Aaron Scheid believes his 'Warriors' teams will be finals contenders again come August next year, and he is looking to build on this past season's semi-finals performances of the A & Reserve Grade sides so they can take the next step. Scheid juggles the demanding duel role of being an A grade player for Wattles, as well Presiding over the club, re-elected at the Annual Meeting in October after an impressive first year as the Warrior's head of administration. "There were so many positives to be drawn from the 2013 season, our performances to make the finals series in two grades, the overwhelming positivity within the club, enthusiasm demonstrated with a fifty plus training attendance and an on field off field balance that saw our social aspect & fundraising success equating with our on field performances." While only 27, Scheid can boast a decade of top grade experience with his beloved green & gold 'Warriors', his passion easing the pressure of the demanding game day pressures of a Club President, and also preparing and playing in the feature match. "We are very fortunate to have a very active and future thinking committee to take us in to the new season, a former club

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Wattles Rugby League Football Club 2014 season executive committee Jaimie McMillan, Barry Glass, Joanne Frizzell, Don Scheid, Aaron Scheid and Tim Hentschel are well underway with preparations for the coming season.

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President in Barry Glass, Don Scheid & Tim Hentschel in Vice-President roles, Joanne Frizzell is the new face as Secretary after last season as Assistant Secretary, Jaimie McMillan continues Treasurer, Shelley Duggan the Registrar and Margaret Hentschel heading up or fundraising committee" said Shied, "plenty of commitment and experience".

Wattles open the door of their 2014 season campaign this Saturday with a player muster at Aaron & Holly Scheid's home at 9 Norman Street Allora commencing a 12.00 noon. "We are more than happy to have the very large majority of our 2013 player roster back with us for next season, our A Grade side virtually intact, with the odd new face".

Training for the 'Warriors' commences on January 7th at Clifton's Platz Oval, with the club's first new season fundraiser, pig racing at its best, the 2014 Wattles Magic 100's Porker Challenge, also at the club's home ground Platz Oval on Saturday January 18th.

Platz Oval will also play host to the 22nd Barrett Family Shield contest between the Warwick 'Cowboys' and Wattles, on March 15th.

As they prepare for the new season, the 'Warriors' will also head down the range to take in Ipswich Rugby League side Fassifern on a date to be finalised, before hosting a Queensland Police team at Platz Oval on Saturday March 1st.

"The Police team will be a combination of players from the Brisbane Police side, Logan 'Muddies' and the South West Queensland area by the Queensland Police Rugby League and will head to Clifton to take on Wattle's reserve grade side", said Scheid, "it'll be a big day that will support the 'Men of League Foundation', with some junior matches also between clubs from Brisbane & Wattles Juniors, and some new faces expected to be confirmed to contest the A & Under 18 matches". Wattles are already off to a superb start to the new season according to the club President given their coaching appointments, "We had no problems retaining A Grade coach

Luke Duggan from the past season, while club stalwart and former A Grade Coach Glen McMillan will take the helm of the reserve graders and junior grade premiership winning coach Shaun Henry will mentor the Under 18's".

Wattles centre Brenden Wilson and halfback and 2013 TRL Player of the Year Matt Duggan have both been named in the Toowoomba 'Clydesdales' side to play Ipswich/Souths Logan for the Bulimba Cup at Clive Berghofer Stadium on February 22nd prior to the Gold Coast 'Titans' verses North Queensland 'Cowboys' NRL pre-season trial.

Wattles supporters can see the 'Warriors' in action in the first round of TRL fixtures on March 22nd when they take on Southern Suburbs in Toowoomba.

Inquiries regarding the Wattles Rugby League Club, including interested players, should be directed to Aaron Scheid on 0458 204 550.

Glyn Rees

SHAUN HENRY

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