

The Allora Advertiser

Issue No. 3475

"Since 1935"

Published by C. A. Gleeson Pty. Ltd., at the Office, 53 Herbert Street, Allora, Q. 4362
Issued Weekly as an Advertising Medium to the people of Allora and surrounding Districts.

Your **FREE** Local

Ph 07 4666 3128 - E-Mail editor@alloraadvertiser.com - Web www.alloraadvertiser.com

THURSDAY, 21st December 2017



Mary Higgins singing at the Allora Creekside Carols Under the Stars last Saturday.

The Allora Advertiser would like to offer the Allora Community Best Wishes for the Festive Season.

2017 has been an interesting and eventful year for our town and surrounds and the **Allora Advertiser** team works diligently to produce an interesting weekly publication.

This is not done in isolation and we would like to thank those people in the community who support us by providing items for publication. Firstly our sincere appreciation to Colin Newport our local historian who presents our segment 'Looking Back'; as well as local identities Lyn Wright, and Trevor Neale. Glyn Rees has for many years created stories for local groups & individuals for inclusion in our weekly Advertiser. We thank Glyn for the time taken from his busy schedule to provide these stories.

Last but not least we thank the community groups, individuals, photographers, sports groups for their input and the advertisers for their commitment to our

local Advertiser. We look forward to continuing to work with you and hope 2018 is a productive year for us all.

Christine, Fraser & Tim
The Allora Advertiser Team



Grainx

Spectacular & Fireworks

New Year's Eve

6.00pm start
Allora Showgrounds
Fireworks 8.30pm
Adults \$7, Under 16 Free


BBQ & Bar
FREE Jumping Castle
Miss 2018 Showgirl Announcement
Entertainment till late with Butch Collier
Children's Games, Snow Cones, Fairy Floss, Ice Cream

Christmas Closure for

The Allora Advertiser

CLOSE - THURSDAY 21st December 2017, 5.00pm.
OPEN - MONDAY 15th January 2018, 9.00am.

This is the final edition of The Allora Advertiser for 2017. Our next edition will be published on Thursday, 18th January 2018





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LEFT: Singing artist Stacey Turner tries to get on Santa's Nice list.

BELOW: Local kids performing at the Creekside Carols.



Letters to the Editor...

Dear Editor,

I would like to get the message out to interested readers that the Allora Doctor Who Club still has 8 seats left to fill on the planned Bus Trip to Supanova Gold Coast in April 2018 to meet 12th Doctor PETER CAPALDI. Our bus will be picking up attendees from Toowoomba, Clifton, Allora and Warwick. Cost for a seat on the bus will be around \$65 and this includes entry into the event and the chance to take part in a Q & A session with Doctor Who! Any fans who'd like to take part should contact the Allora Doctor Who group on 0401 432 587 or send a message to the DWCA Allora Local Group facebook page.

Fraser Clark, Allora

The Allora Advertiser
Your community advertiser servicing local and surrounding areas for 80 years

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

DEADLINE: Advertising and Articles - Tuesday 4.00pm

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Solution in classifieds section

To the Editor,

The 2018 Allora Autumn Festival will go ahead without me in the co-ordinating role. For four years we have worked to bring visitors to our town through a Festival that would benefit all. I have thoroughly enjoyed co-ordinating the 2016/2017 Allora Autumn Festival and have been excited by the numbers of community groups; businesses & volunteers who have come on board to make this event the success it has been. Thank you so much one and all. I wish you all the best for 2018.

Christine Gleeson

Letter from the Editor

I would like to take the time to thank the Allora Advertiser Team for their ongoing support through a difficult time and to my "Editor in Chief", Dawn for stepping in at such short notice. Bless you all.

Christine Gleeson

Letters to the Editor must have name and address for authentication, but upon request there will be consideration to withhold names. Publishing or editing of letters is at the editor's discretion.

WEATHER FORECAST

Day	Forecast	Min	Max
THU	Mostly Sunny. Warm.	18	34
FRI	Passing Showers. Mostly Sunny. Warm.	19	29
SAT	Morning Clouds. Hot.	17	34
SUN	Mostly Sunny. Hot.	17	36
MON	Morning Clouds. Very Hot.	18	38
TUE	Mostly Cloudy. Mild. Humid.	20	26

RAILWAY HOTEL ALLORA



Robyn, Jan and staff would like to wish all our customers a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.



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Trevor, Deirdre, Paul and family from TD's Garden Services would like to wish Allora and surrounds a Very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year. We would like to extend a massive Thank You to all our clientele for supporting us and we are looking forward to seeing you again in 2018.




OUR PEOPLE

At Southern Cross Care we are deeply committed to our Vision and to making a difference to those we care for, and those we work alongside. Our staff are dedicated, caring and generous, they live our values and are inspired to deliver a great service. We thank and acknowledge the contribution of the following staff who have achieved significant service milestones for their dedication and loyalty to our clients and organisation this year.



The Allora Posties Sharon & Roger wish all a...
Happy Christmas & Enjoyable New Year




ALLORA BUTCHERY

Christmas / New Year Trading - 2017/18

SUNDAY 24TH DECEMBER - CLOSED
MONDAY 25TH DECEMBER - CLOSED
TUESDAY 26TH DECEMBER - CLOSED
WEDNESDAY 27TH DECEMBER - OPEN
THURSDAY 28TH DECEMBER - OPEN
FRIDAY 29TH DECEMBER - OPEN
SATURDAY 30TH DECEMBER - OPEN
MONDAY 1ST JANUARY - CLOSED
TUESDAY 2ND - OPEN, NORMAL TRADING RESUMES

We wish our valued customers a safe, happy and peaceful festive season, and extend our sincere thanks for your support this year. We look forward to seeing you again in 2018.
Aaron, Ashley and staff at ALLORA BUTCHERY.

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STAFF SERVICE

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Susanne Griffiths
Lancia Hall
Judith Clarke
Tania Dawson
Jenipher Dudley
Rufaro Machedmedze
Elvira Hayes
Junko Flannery
Sheril Ward
Janine Boyle
Vicky Wright
Karen Bochow
Fiona Rowley-Cathcart
Cassandra Lee
Debra Symes
Jillian Little
Tracey Chester

15 YEARS
Donna Corder
Martha Gonzalez
Simon Masters
Susanne Pick
Patricia Barry

25 YEARS
Mary Kyle

30 YEARS
Majella Baker

Diana Cuciureanu
Michelle Lines
Kennet Westphall-Jensen
Kayleen Carkeet
Bernadette Bott
Jennifer Cameron

CONGRATULATIONS

EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR
Zoe Wright,
Southern Cross Care Direct - Edens Landing

VALUES CHAMPION AWARD
Kaylene Carkeet,
Allora Homestead

LEADERSHIP AWARD
Shelley Lee,
Castra - Murgon

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Allora's Own Christmas Song

In 1888 the TOWN AND COUNTRY JOURNAL of Sydney offered a prize of £25 for the best Australian song suitable for Christmas. Entries flooded in from across the country and on the 22nd December the Journal announced that from the 1574 entries submitted by the deadline, "the committee selected fourteen as being, in its opinion, most meritorious; and these are now submitted for the opinion of our readers, who will have to vote for the one which they consider the best."

On the 23rd March 1889, the Journal announced "we find that out of 4784 votes the list is headed by No. VII.-"THE SHEPHERD'S SONG," by "Dum Spiro Spero." The peculiarity of the voting in this case is that, not only has this poem secured the largest aggregate amount of votes; but the voting is most representative. Coupons in its favor have been received, not only from Sydney and the country districts, from centers of population and from the lonely bush, but also from Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand, and even as far away as West Australia. In every respect, therefore, this poem has deservedly won the £25 prize. The author's name and address, according to the letter inclosing the poem and pen-name, are "G. SPENCER BRIGGS, Rose Farm, Allora, Queensland."

A week later in its next edition, the Journal announced a second competition "to test the musical powers of Australians by offering the prize of ten Guineas (£10 10s) for the best and most effective music to the words of the song...suitable for the pianoforte, organ, or harmonium. The melody will be for a single voice; the chorus may be harmonised. All competitions must be legibly written, and must be

sent to the editor of the TOWN AND COUNTRY JOURNAL so as to reach the office not later than July 1 next."

Compositions were received, not only from New South Wales, but from Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, New Zealand, West Australia, and Tasmania.

The judges considered the poem was not an easy one to deal with effectively in music. The standout melody was by "Hopeful", an accomplished composer from Adelaide (never named), however it "could be sung only by an accomplished vocalist, and would never be taken up by bushmen or station hands, or truly appreciated except by musicians." Therefore they recommended "the composition bearing the pen-name-of "Myosotis," which, is the work of Mr. J. Churchill Fisher, Granville, near Sydney."

Spencer Briggs, the first son of George and Louisa Briggs (nee Spencer), was born in England in 1862 and when, only nine years of age he sailed for Queensland with his parents and four siblings in the clipper Storm King; landing in Brisbane in 1871. Shortly afterwards the family, moved to Sydney, and later went to Maitland and New England, where the father was engaged in chemistry and literary work and where two more siblings were born. In 1879 the Briggs family came to Allora, where George Briggs opened a chemist shop in Darling Street, between Raff and Gordon streets.

Spencer Briggs must have received a good education prior to his arrival in Allora as he showed marked literary ability from his teenage years, writing articles, poems and short-stories, many of which appeared in the "Queenslander". The Allora Historical Society has some of his diaries from 1879 to 1884. As a young lad of 17, he

worked the 10 acre family farm bounded by Darling, Raff, South and Gordon Streets; mostly growing wheat and potatoes. Later he worked as a farm labourer in the district - clearing trees, ploughing with horses, harvesting and shearing.

In 1885 he married Mary Jane Neale (nee Rooney) widow of William Neale who had four children. Spencer and Mary Jane had six children. Spencer worked the 80 acre farm on the Loggan Road between Allora and Hendon that Mary Jane inherited from her late husband. With ten children to support he supplemented the farm income by working as a shearer in the woolsheds of East Talgai, Talgai West and Toolburra stations.

He earned additional income by writing articles for the "Allora Guardian" and the "Brisbane Courier" newspapers and was a regular contributor to English and Southern papers. A collection of his stories and verse was published in book form under the title of "Australians' All," by Robertson and Co., Toowoomba in 1903 when he was 41.

Spencer Briggs under the nom de plume of "The Harvester," wrote for the Warwick Examiner. He afterwards joined the staff of the Allora Guardian writing under the name of "The Angel." Reader's derived much enjoyment from his sparkling wit and his brilliant and satirical judgement on local affairs and current events. He was an active member of the Show Society, School of Arts, and St. George Society.

When the 'Warwick Daily News purchased the Guardian, he was appointed editor, and held this position until failing health forced him to relinquish it in 1929. He then disposed of his farm and lived in retirement in Allora until his death in December 1935, aged 73

Now enjoy our homegrown Christmas Song from 1888 by Spencer Briggs.

The Shepherd's Song

Quick, boys; roll up the blankets and saddle up the nags;
 No time to lose to-night, my boys; so buckle up the swags;
 At home are many waiting; we've many miles to tramp,
 Ere we get back from shearing. So, quick, break up the camp.
 The hut's all in a bustle; billies,



G.Spencer Briggs.

pint pots strew the floor;
 And half a dozen rolled-up swags are blocking up the door;
 The rouseabouts, the shearers, and saucy tar-boys gay,
 Are getting ready for the road; all haste to be away.

From many homes are many eyes now watching many tracks;
 And many hands are burning to clasp Harry's, Tom's, and Jack's;
 Many husbands, sons, and brothers are spurring on the way,

For it is Christmas Eve to-night; tomorrow's Christmas Day.
 And many are the meetings upon this joyous night;
 And many are the greetings while tear filled eyes glow bright;

As they welcome home the loved ones from many a far-off run,
 When Johnny's home from shearing, and father's fencing's done.

Right welcome, Father Christmas a hundred thousand times;
 Though in this land thou comest not with merry belfry chimes;

The voices of the children make our music just as sweet,
 For they tell us in a minute our dear ones we shall greet.

Right welcome, Father Christmas; the children welcome thee,
 As, open ey'd, they dance around the glistening Christmas tree;
 And wifely clasp, and mothers hug, and sweethearts' blushing kiss,
 Shall bid thee royal welcome, thou harbinger of bliss.
 Right welcome, Father

Christmas; see the old folks at the door
 Who welcome thee as heartily as in the days of yore;
 Though sight may fail, and hearing's dull, and hair is changed to gray,
 They joy in all the blessings thou bringest them to-day.
 The moon is waning, but the stars shed down their holy light;
 And "Peace on Earth" seems mingled with the star-beams chaste and bright;
 "Good Will to Man" 's borne on the breeze; the gum trees catch the song;
 And, whispering it to the wattles, they sing it all night long.
 The flocks are sleeping peacefully; safe sheltered in the fold,
 So slumbered they beneath the trees in Juda's land of old,
 And here again the earth seems still a listening ear to bring,
 And breathless waits again to hear those "herald angels" sing.
 But with the morning sun will rise the grand old chant once more,
 When heavenly hosts and sons of men their triumph songs shall pour;
 From every bird, and every

flower, and every Christian home,
 Incense of prayer and praise shall rise up to the Great White Throne.
 The shepherds kept their watch by night; beneath His own bright star;
 Beneath His cross in Southern skies, we shearers watch afar;
 "Unto us a Son is born" they raise Isaiah's song,
 "Unto us a child is given," we Isaiah's notes prolong.
 A blessed Christmas time to all, and happy may they be,
 The rich, the poor, the great, the small, the prisoner and the free;
 And each Australian household sitting round the evening lamp,
 When Johnny's home from shearing, and father's in from camp.

I now have the sheet music written by both Churchill Fisher and "Hopeful" and maybe we will hear it sung at next year's "Creekside Carols under the Stars", just 130 years after it was written. The Latin pen-name "Dum Spiro Spero" used for this poem means "While I breathe, I hope"

Merry Christmas

Trevor Neale

- Allorahistoricalociety.org

"Sorry Allora – We want Quality not Quantity"

The Allora Regional Sports Museum, with the expertise of the Hon. Tom McVeigh, have been campaigning for over a year to have the Queen's Baton Relay travel through Allora on its journey to the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games 2018. We were quick to realise that the same route the Olympic Torch followed through the streets of Allora in 2000 was not to be repeated. We apologise to the people of Allora for our failed attempts

to have this relay occur. Our repeated requests and plans fell on deaf ears and blind eyes.

The organising committee of the Baton Relay is of the belief that Allora is too far from the proposed route to be viable (It will pass by twice!). They could not be convinced that the Allora State School and the K.O. Masters Oval touch the New England Highway, not realising that a trip through town is only 600 metres longer

New Year's Eve Family Fun Night

The 7th annual Allora Show Society New Year's Eve Family Fun Night will be held on December 31st from 6pm at the Allora Showgrounds. Sponsored by Grainx and Southern Downs Regional Council, the night promises to be fun for all of the family. The children will be entertained with a free Jumping Castle, games, snow cones, fairy floss and an ice cream van. Adults will be catered for with BAR facility and entertainment

till late by Butch Collier. Mum can have a night off as the canteen will be serving a selection of hot foods and cold drinks. The highlight of the evening will be the 8.30pm fireworks spectacular. Adult entry is just \$7 and children under 16 are free. Camping is available and bookings must be made through Ted on 0418 731 514. Get family and friends together for a safe family night of fun and entertainment at Allora Showgrounds.

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and 5 minutes in time. All we requested was to pass the two schools with students, a welcoming cheering parade and possibly the school captains bidding the Queen's Baton a safe journey to the Gold Coast. History created! The Sports Museum proudly displays two Royal letters from Prince Phillip the Duke of Edinburgh and Prince Charles & Camilla, congratulating Allora polo legends and Hall of Famers, Ken Telford and the Gilmore brothers (Jim, Stuart, Gary, Derek and Andy) all of whom have played against either Prince. These brothers would have been invited to salute the relay. While we congratulate Warwick for being selected for hosting a leg of the relay and congratulate their selected runners, especially sports identities Linda Bunch and Rex Baguley, we fail to understand why our home grown Commonwealth Games reps, Laura Geitz and Matt Denny along with Shelley

Duggan will not be recognised as runners in the town that means the most to them! The Museum gave up on its continued pleas when the staff of the organising committee told the Aboriginal Museum (we think they mean the Allora Sports Museum) that the people of Allora should travel to the closest relay leg in Winton (we think they mean Warwick!) to cheer on the relay. Sorry Allora, we can't cater to you, we want "quality not quantity". Many thanks to Hon. Tom (he was the minister in charge of the 1982 Brisbane Commonwealth Games, same position as Peter Beattie in 2018). He tried hard in his attempts and remains bewildered by their actions. The Museum extends its best wishes to the success of the Games and all success to Laura and Matt. Maybe we can have our own relay celebration when they win gold (Laura's 3rd).

A.A.P.

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**Support Services For Veterans
Open Over Christmas**

Secretary of the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) Simon Lewis said today that crucial support services for the veteran community will continue to be available throughout the Christmas and New Year period.

Mr Lewis said that providing veterans with continued access to support services was particularly important during this festive time of year because it can be a challenging period for many veterans.

"Christmas is a time of celebration for most Australians, but it's important to remember that for veterans it can bring on a reminder of what has been lost, of the men and women who didn't make it back home from service overseas and of those continuing to serve our country far from their families and loved ones.

"I wish to reassure veterans and their families that while some DVA services will be reduced during this break, help and support, including mental health support, will remain available throughout the holiday period and they can continue to access crucial DVA services during this time," Mr Lewis said.

The services that will remain available to veterans include:

- Counselling – The Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service (VVCS) offers free and confidential, nation-wide counselling and support for current and former Australian Defence Force (ADF) members and

their families. This service is available toll free on 1800 011 046, 24/7.

- Access to DVA's online mental health information and support – Veterans can visit DVA's At Ease mental health portal wherever they are at www.at-ease.dva.gov.au

- Transport – DVA staff will be available to process transport requests for medical treatment between 27–29 December. The transport booking service will be closed on 25–26 December and 1 January. If transport is required during this period but has not been pre-booked, DVA clients can pay for the transport up front and seek reimbursement when offices re-open. Alternatively, transport can be booked and reviewed, and travel expenses can be claimed online through DVA's MyAccount at <https://myaccount.dva.gov.au>.

- Hospital admissions – Doctors can admit DVA patients into hospital and request retrospective approval for the admission, where required, when DVA resumes full services on 2 January.

- Defence Service Homes (DSH) Insurance – Help with policy and claim enquiries is available 24-hours a day on 1300 552 662. Payments can be made on 1300 304 989 or via the DSH website www.dsh.gov.au.

- Pharmaceutical approvals – providers seeking prior

Allora Pharmacy

Jon Constable – 42 Herbert Street

Ph. 4666 3100 Mon. - Fri. 8am - 5pm
Sat. 8am - 12 noon

*Allora Pharmacy would like to wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!
Jon & Justine would like to take this opportunity to thank their valued customers for their support throughout 2017.*



OPENING HOURS FOR CHRISTMAS PERIOD

THURSDAY 21 DEC 8am - 5pm
FRIDAY 22 DEC 8am - 5pm
SATURDAY 23 DEC 8am - 12noon
MONDAY 25 DEC – CHRISTMAS DAY - CLOSED
TUESDAY 26 DEC – BOXING DAY - CLOSED
WEDNESDAY 27 DEC – 8am - 5pm
THURSDAY 28 DEC – 8am - 5pm
FRIDAY 29 DEC – 8am - 5pm
SATURDAY 30 DEC – 8am - 12noon
MONDAY 01 JAN – NEW YEARS DAY – CLOSED

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SCIENCE TRIVIA QUIZ

1. Which carbon isotope is used for radiocarbon dating?
2. What word describes an infectious disease that doesn't increase or disappear in a population; a) epidemic, b) endemic, c) pandemic?
3. A male Satin Bowerbird decorates his nest with various items of what colour to get the girls?
4. Where would you find your distal phalanges?
5. Cochineal is a dye made from crushed bugs. What colour is it?

Answers in Classifieds pages

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

approval for pharmaceuticals can call the Veterans' Affairs Pharmaceutical Advisory Centre (VAPAC) 24-hours a day on 1800 552 580.

All DVA offices will close at the end of business on Friday, 22 December 2017 and will resume full services on Tuesday, 2 January 2018.

Mr Lewis added that there

would be no change in pension payment dates this year over the Christmas–New Year period.

"To all members of the veteran and Defence community and their families, on behalf of the Department I wish you all the best for the festive season and 2018," Mr Lewis said.

**BAD XMAS JOKE(s)
OF THE WEEK**

What does Santa suffer from if he gets stuck in a chimney?
Claustrophobia!

Why does Santa have three gardens?
So he can 'ho ho ho'!

Why did Santa go to the doctor?
Because of his bad "elf"!

What kind of motorbike does Santa ride?
A Holly Davidson!

Who delivers presents to cats?
Santa Paws!

What do you call Father Christmas in the beach?
Sandy Claus!

What do you get if you cross Santa with a duck?
A Christmas Quacker!

What says Oh Oh Oh?
Santa walking backwards!

What do you call a bankrupt Santa?
Saint Nickel-less!

Where do elves go to dance?
Christmas Balls!

What do you get if Santa goes down the chimney when a fire is lit?
Krisp Kringle!



The Allora Community Directory...



ORGANISATIONS

Allora Community Circle - Meets on the 4th Thursday of the month, 6.00pm at the Senior Citizens Hall, Drayton Street Allora. Enquiries, contact Julie 0407 954 615.

Allora Community Kindergarten - 7 Gordon Street, Allora. Children attend 5 days per fortnight - Qld School Terms. Phone 4666 3420.

Allora & District Historical Society - Meets 3rd Wednesday of every month, 7.00pm, at Old Shire Hall, Warwick St., Allora. Drayton Street Museum open 1.30pm - 4.30pm every Sunday. Contact Colin Newport 0408 740 622 or Rod Close 4666 3662.

Allora & District Rural Neighbourhood Watch - Meets 3rd Tuesday bi-monthly at the Allora Court House, Raff St., Allora, 6.30pm. All welcome. Contact Wendy Ardrey 0488 673 778.

Allora Garden Club - Meets 1st Tuesday of the month at 1.00pm, at 44 Arnold Street and travels to different locations. Contact Flora Sparksman 4666 2261 or Glad Holmes 4666 3191.

Allora Landcare Group - Meets on the 3rd Thursday of every second month, starting in February, at the Commercial Hotel, 7.30pm. Contact Peter Thomas 4666 6210 or 0419 724 025.

Allora Men's Shed Inc. - Open weekly Thurs. and Sat. at 16 Jubb Street, Allora, 8.30am to 12.00pm. All welcome. President Glenn Miller 0408 063 387, Secretary Stuart Campbell 4666 3499. Email alloramensshed4362@gmail.com.

Allora QCWA - Meets 3rd Tuesday of month, 10.00am. Once Upon a Song 1st and 3rd Monday each month, 9.30am - 10.30am. Contact Sharon Hannah 4666 2197.

Allora R.S.L. Sub Branch - Meets at R.S.L. Hall. Contact Kath Turner 4666 2050.

Allora Red Cross - Meets 2nd Tuesday of the month from 1.30pm at 22 Forde St., Allora. Contact Kay Graham 4666 3035.

Allora Rotary Club - Meets every 2nd Monday at Railway Hotel, from 6.30pm. Contact Ann Balmmain 4666 2450.

Allora Scope Club - Meets 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of month. Contact Daphne Whatley 4666 3691 for details on venue.

Allora Senior Citizens - Meets Monday and Friday, 1.00pm - 3.30pm for cards and games. Contact Kathy Shannon 0427 973 286 or Joan Barnett 0475 565 740.

Allora Show Society - Meets 1st Sunday of the month at 2.00pm at Show Society Ring Office, Allora Show Grounds. Contact Conrad Schnitzlering 0418 756 498 or Shirley Cornhill 0427 100 210.

Blue Care Shop - 46 Warwick St, Allora 4362, open 9.00am - 4.00pm Tuesday and Friday. All donations are welcome and appreciated.

Friends of the Homestead - Meets on the 2nd Monday of the month at 2.00pm. Contact Joyce 4666 3694.

Goomburra Hall Committee - Meets 3rd Wednesday of the month, from 6.30pm at Goomburra Hall. Contact John O'Brien 4666 6050 to confirm.

Hope Masonic Lodge - Meets 1st Friday each month at 7.30pm, at Gordon St., Allora. Inquiries welcome. Contact Graeme Allen 4666 3164

St. Patrick's Parish Pastoral Council - McKillop House (old convent) Warwick St., Allora. Contact 4666 3377 and leave a message.

TACK (Team Allora Country Kingdom) - Meets 2nd and 4th Friday of the month at 12 Jubb Street, 7.00pm - 9.00pm. Contact Tony on 0403 265 440 for more information.

Victoria Hill QCWA - Meets 1st Tuesday of month 1.30pm at Victoria Hill Hall. Contact Shirley Erhardt 4666 3470

Warwick Veteran & Vintage Vehicle Club Inc. - Meets 1st Wednesday of the month from 7.30pm. Contact Graham McMillan 4666 3554 to confirm venue.

ART & CRAFT GROUPS

Allora Arts & Crafts - Meets every Tuesday, 9.00am - 12.00pm, at St. David's Hall, 1 Church St., Allora. Contact Sue Dalton 4666 3083.

Allora Photography Group - Meets 2nd Wednesday night of every month, 7.00pm, Allora State School Library, Raff St. All welcome. Contacts - Pres. Chris Johnson 0412 097 424, Sec. Sandra Head 0427 032 798, email alloraphotographygroup4362@gmail.com.

St. Patrick's Craft Group - Meet on 1st Monday of the month at McKillop House (old convent) Warwick St., Allora. Contact Cathie Wilson 4666 2441.

SPORTING / HEALTH ACTIVITIES

Allora Amateur Swimming Club - Meets Tuesday afternoons at 4.30pm at the Allora Swimming Pool. Contact Shannon Sparksman 0472 712 344

Allora & District Campdraft Association - Contact Secretary Angela Hart on 0418 708 366.

Allora Sports Club - Meets 2nd Monday of the month at the Club House, Warwick St., Allora. Contact John Ellwood 0448 196 647.

Allora Sports Museum - Regular hours each Sunday, 12.00pm - 4.00pm or other times open by appointment. Contact Perry Cronin 0407 034 320 or Glyn Rees 0400 811 093.

Allora Tennis Club - Family Fun Nights, first Friday of month from 5.30pm, phone 4666 2260. Ladies Tennis Tuesday AM and PM. Court available for night tennis. Contact 0439 702 051.

Line Dance Classes - Tuesday 6.45pm - 8.30pm, at Allora Sports Centre, Darling Street, Allora. Contact Jenny 4661 2448.

St. Andrews Indoor Bowls Allora - Meets Tuesdays from 7.15pm at St. Andrews Hall, Warwick St., Allora. Contact Kathy Shannon 4666 3286.

Southern Downs Rifle Club - Long Range Full Bore rifle competitions each Sunday, 9.00am - 12noon, at the Risdon Rifle Range, Connelly Dam Road, Warwick. Contact Margaret Taylor on 07 4666 1018 or Bob Tyllyer bobtyllyer@hotmail.com. Web site www.southerndownsrifleclub.websyte.com.au

Squash - at Allora Indoor Sports Centre. Phone John 4666 3100 for key.

Tai Chi for Health - Thursdays, 8.30am at Allora RSL Hall, 10.30am Clifton Senior Citizens Hall, starting 9th February. Contact Janet 0428 891 277.

IS YOUR COMMUNITY GROUP OR ORGANISATION NOT LISTED? Please email admin@alloraadvertiser.com with your details or talk with the team at Allora Advertiser office on 4666 3128 to confirm your details for next month's Allora Community Directory listing. CHANGE OF CONTACT DETAILS ARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL GROUPS.

Council Endorses Public Consultation Program for the Draft Economic Development Strategy

At last week's final Council General Meeting for 2017, Council resolved to endorse a community consultation program for the draft Economic Development Strategy. The Southern Downs Region has the potential to increase its contribution to the Queensland Economy. The Region is well located, being two hours from Brisbane and at the junction of two highways, with ample land that is appropriately zoned, access to water and very safe and liveable communities. The draft Economic Development Strategy provides the plan that will help to realise the Region's potential.

There are three goals in the Economic Development Strategy:-

- Increase population by 10% by 2020;
- Attract \$300 million of investment by 2020; and
- Attract 1500 New Jobs by 2020

Those sectors targeted by the strategy include agriculture, the region's primary industry; food processing; health and aged care; transport and logistics; education and tourism.

To achieve these goals the Economic Development Strategy has four strategic elements:

- Business Growth;
- Investment Attraction;
- Workforce Development; and
- Advocacy

Some of the specific actions included by the strategy include attracting new jobs to the region, advocating to the State government to reduce red tape, assisting the workforce to be work ready and improving local business profitability and sustainability. Council has already proven commitment to this strategy, holding a Jobs Expo in November, business development workshops throughout the past year at

which 100 people attended and a tourism forum which brought together over 100 operators in the region. This activity is underpinned by the creation of 1000 new jobs to hit the region across the next three years.

This Economic Development Strategy has been developed in concert with the Economic Development Advisory Committee.

The Economic Development and Tourism Department will undertake this consultation program including posting the Strategy on the Council Website; direct contact with

Check your locks and check them twice: RACQ

Queenslanders heading away for Christmas have been urged to take precautions to protect their homes after new RACQ data revealed more than \$11 million worth of property had been stolen from Queensland households in the past two years.

RACQ spokesperson Kirsty Clinton said jewellery topped the list as thieves' most preferred item.

"Jewellery was stolen in more than half of all home break-in claims we received in the past two years," Ms Clinton said.

"While insurance can replace the items, we can't replace the memories that come along with sentimental objects like family heirlooms.

"Other popular items for thieves are computers, cash, bags/luggage and handheld electrical tools."

Ms Clinton said there were several steps homeowners could take to make sure their properties were as safe as possible over the holidays.

"Prevention is always the best option – so take care this Christmas to keep your property secure to protect your belongings."

"It's about remembering the basics, like locking your doors,

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the Warwick and Stanthorpe Chambers of Commerce and the Region's Progress Associations; and direct contact with other business peak bodies and State and Commonwealth Government Agencies.

Portfolio Councillor for Economic Development Mayor Tracy Dobie said that the formulation of this strategy highlights Council's commitment to the economic growth and job opportunities for the entire region.

"Council is striving for more investment, more jobs, more visitors and more residents. Assisting existing businesses to expand and attracting new businesses to come into our area is a key function for Council's Economic Development Department," said Cr Dobie. "The public consultation process is a vital part of formulating the strategy, so please make sure that you make your voice heard."

arming alarms and securing all entry points where a burglar could attempt to break in."

Tips to protect your home this Christmas:

- Deadlock doors and windows
- Avoid posting about your holiday plans on social media
- Don't assume high windows or balcony doors are too hard for thieves to access
- Store easy to carry items such as laptops, jewellery

- and cash out of sight
- Consider installing a safe
- Ask neighbours, family or friends to regularly clear your letterbox, mow your lawn or park in your drive way to make your home look habited
- Consider a timer on lights or a radio to give your home the appearance someone is home
- Check your home contents insurance is up to date.

Events Calendar

2017

December -

Sun 31 Grainx Spectacular & Fireworks New Year's Eve
Allora Showgrounds, 6.00pm, Fireworks at 8.30pm.

2018

January -

Fri 26 2018 Australia Day Senior Tennis Tournament
Allora Tennis Club, 8.00am

March -

Fri 2 The Rotary Club of Allora Annual Trivia Night
Allora State School Hall, 6.30pm

April -

TBC 28/29 Doctor Who Club Bus Trip to Supanova (DATE - TBC)
Departs: Toowoomba 7am, Allora 8am, Gold Coast 5pm

IMPORTANT INFORMATION - Clients wishing to include their events in the *Events Calendar*, must book a display (boxed) colour advertisement for the event in *The Allora Advertiser*, sized AT LEAST 2 column x 4 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.

Council extends invasive pest management scheme on Southern Downs

Southern Downs Regional Council's Invasive Pests Control Scheme will remain in place until 2020, after Council resolved to extend it at its final General Meeting for 2017.

Council resolved to extend the scheme based upon recommendations put forward by the Pest Management Advisory Committee following its last meeting in November. The extension of the scheme was recommended to:

- Continue to align with the funding opportunities which have been received and anticipated.
- Provide certainty to all stakeholders that the scheme will continue until at least 14 June 2020.
- Assist with the backfilling of Local Laws positions, to ensure adequate Council resources are allocated to the scheme, as there has been difficulty in filling these roles for short term employment.
- Continue on the ground results across the region with respect to the control and management of invasive pests.
- Create ongoing opportunities to increase awareness and education to landowners on

invasive pests including correct chemical usage and spray techniques.

The Invasive Pests Control Scheme Policy was approved by Council at a Special Council Meeting in June, with the scope of the current policy being until 2018.

Since its implementation, the scheme has proved highly successful with close to a 50% increase in baiting program participation and the return of native flora and fauna to the local environment.

As of late November, a total of 5,180 Control Works Forms were received by Council from 5,814 that were issued, a return rate of 89%.

A total of 1,714 Control Works Forms have been assessed by the Local Laws team with 442 requests being received from landowners for Council Officers to inspect their properties.

Council has garnered interest from other local governments about the initiative, many of them expressing interest in establishing similar schemes in their respective areas.

The success of the Scheme is being closely monitored by these Council's as well as the Local Government Association

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Queensland (LGAQ) and the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF).

Eligible property owners are able to receive a rebate on their rates if they meet the requirements of the Environmental Enhancement Rate Rebate Policy.

Council will work closely with local landholders to continue to build upon the success of the scheme and its effective implementation, including the distribution of Control Work Forms to be completed

annually.

Council has officers experienced in the control of local invasive pests are available to provide advice to landowners on the most effective and economical control methods.

Landowners with extensive infestations will be given adequate time for comprehensive and targeted treatment over several years, which works to reduce the impacts of pests on neighbouring landowners.

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Santa delivers a lifesaving message

The world's most loved man is also the perfect poster boy for Ergon Energy's Look Up and Live high-voltage safety campaign.

Despite steering his sleigh over millions of air miles every Christmas Eve, Santa has never once had an incident of striking powerlines.

Although more than 1000 reports of powerline strikes each year occur in Queensland, Santa said his unprecedented run of safety was not a case of luck.

"I've been asked in the past how I can visit so many homes in one night, dodging barking dogs, avoiding air traffic and preventing powerline strikes," Santa said.

"Pets love me - they aren't a

problem - and I am usually flying too low for other pilots to be bothered by me, but I must always remain vigilant of powerlines in every country I visit.

"Like me, anyone who works at heights or operates a vehicle near powerlines must remember Ergon's message of Look Up and Live because coming into contact with high voltage electricity can ruin anyone's Christmas, not just for this year – but potentially for life."

Santa also warned that many modern presents have the potential of reaching great heights and contacting powerlines.

"More and more I am seeing gifts such as drones and other

remote controlled aircraft under the trees in homes I visit and I hope parents explain the dangers of flying them near powerlines to their children," he said.

"I once saw a child in the North Pole hit powerlines with a drone and not only did it cut power to my workshop, it brought the wires down, creating a much higher level of danger.

"One of my elves actually witnessed this and immediately called our power company and kept everyone well away, knowing that powerlines on the ground could still be live." Santa added that children should also remember more traditional Christmas gifts, such as kites, can also carry

the same risks as drones and should only be flown in an open area away from electricity infrastructure.

Santa said powerline safety should be at the top of everybody's list and knowing what to do if the worst does happen is important.

"While the best bit of advice I can give to anyone working around powerlines is to keep away and be aware of your surroundings above and below, if someone sees an emergency such as powerlines down, they should always call Ergon on 13 22 96," he said.

"Or, in the case of a life-threatening emergency, calling Triple Zero should always be the priority."

• ANNOUNCEMENTS •

Sincere Thanks...

The Gleeson family would like to thank their friends and family for their support and offers of condolences in the loss of FYNN PETER GLEESON. Please accept this notice as our formal thank you.

12 / 10 / 1999 — 4 / 12 / 2017



• PUBLIC NOTICES •

**ALLORA TENNIS CLUB
2018 Australia Day
Senior Tennis Tournament**

Friday January 26th, 2018

Sets commence 8am

Ladies Doubles, Men's Doubles & Mixed Doubles



\$10 per player per event

Tournament entry forms available on Allora Tennis Club Facebook page or call Andrew on 0408 845 549 or Mandy on 0428 365 676 or email alloratennisclub@gmail.com

Entries close 4pm Friday January 19th, 2018.

WARWICK, CLIFTON, ALLORA FISHING CLUB
CHRISTMAS RAFFLE RESULTS - 1st - R. Pugliese, 2nd - Chris Crivbell, 3rd - Colleen Mitchel, Allora, 4th - Eleanore Briggs, Allora. Thank you all for your support. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

ALAN SMITH DENTAL SURGERY

will be CLOSED from Friday, 22nd December 2017 and will RE-OPEN on Monday, 22nd January 2018.

Alan & Staff would like to wish everyone a Safe & Happy Christmas and 2018.



• CHURCH NOTICES •

The Anglican Parish of Allora and Clifton - Christmas Service Times

CHRISTMAS EVE - 24th December, 6.00pm at St. Davids
CHRISTMAS MORNING - 25th December, 8.00am at All Saints
NO WEDNESDAY SERVICE - 27TH DECEMBER
ECUMENICAL SERVICE - 31st December, 9.00am at St. Davids

For further information - Phone 4666 3343

The Catholic Community of ST. PATRICK'S, ALLORA - Christmas Service Times

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS - Sunday, 24th December, 9.00am
NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS - Sunday, 31st December, 5.00pm
St Patrick's Parish School (Prep - Yr. 6), enquiries 4666 3551.

Uniting Church Allora Christmas Services

Christmas Eve - 7.30pm, Pilton.
Christmas Day - 8.30am Allora
Sunday, 31st December - St. David's Allora, 9.00am
PLEASE NOTE: No Service in Allora on Sunday, 24th December.
Enquiries phone 4666 3225. All welcome.

Allora Tennis Club Australia Day Tournament

The Allora Tennis Club is pleased to announce the inaugural 2018 Australia Day Senior Tennis Tournament fittingly on Friday January 26th, 2018, at the synthetic grass courts behind the Freedom Fuels outlet on the New England Highway, Allora. Allora Tennis Club President Andrew Dunn stated, "The

Allora Tennis Club committee noticed the Senior Tournament Calendar showed no other tournaments within the region on Australia Day and we thought a Senior Tennis Tournament would be a fantastic way for a family to celebrate Australia Day. With Ladies Doubles, Men's Doubles and Mixed Doubles

covered it will be a great way for a social hit of tennis with teams matched on their capabilities. The sets will commence at 8am and interest so far has been very enthusiastic. Food and drinks will be available for all." Tournament Entry Forms are available on the Allora Tennis Club Facebook page or for

more information call Andrew on 0408 845 549 or Mandy on 0428 365 676 or email alloratennisclub@gmail.com Entry fees have been set at \$10 per player per event and all entry fees and Entry Form must be received by 4pm Friday January 19th, 2018.

• CHURCH NOTICES •

**Scots Presbyterian Church - Allora
12 Jubb Street, Allora**

THIS SUNDAY AT ALLORA - Service/Sunday School at 9.30am.
TUESDAY - Ladies Bible Study at 10.00am.
WEDNESDAY - Bible Study at 7.00pm, at the church.

NO MEN'S BREAKFAST FOR DECEMBER.

Enquiries to Pastor Elton Wiltshire 4666 3743.
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• SOLUTIONS •

**THIS WEEK'S
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**DOUBLE HELIX QUIZ
ANSWERS**

1. Carbon dating compares the levels of the radioactive carbon-14 isotope with non-radioactive isotopes.
2. A disease that doesn't increase or disappear in a population is endemic.
3. Male Bowerbirds collect blue bling to decorate their nests and impress females.
4. Your distal phalanges are the bones in the tips of your fingers and toes.
5. Cochineal is a red dye.

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

• FOR SALE •

SELL YOUR UNWANTED ITEMS! Place a FOR SALE advert in The Allora Advertiser. Phone 4666 3561, email editor@alloraadvertiser or drop into our office at 53 Herbert Street, Allora. Next issue comes out Thursday, 18th January 2018 - DON'T MISS IT!

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However, work falling outside that definition may be performed by unlicensed contractors and is not subject to any value limit.

To check whether a contractor holds a QBCC licence visit www.qbcc.qld.gov.au or call the QBCC on 1300 272 272.



Waste Facilities Christmas Closure

Council advises the following waste facility closures over the Christmas period in 2017.

Kerbside domestic waste collections provided by JJ Richards & Sons will continue as per usual.

ALL waste facilities will close on Monday, 25 December 2017, and will re-open as follows:

- Supervised sites that are usually open on a Tuesday will re-open on Tuesday, 26 December (Warwick, Stanthorpe, Allora and Killarney); and
- Supervised sites that are not usually open on a Tuesday will re-open on Friday, 29 December (Broadwater, Leyburn, Maryvale, Northern Granite Belt, Pratten, Wallangarra and Yangan).

If you require any further information or have enquiries, please contact Council on 1300 MY SDRC (1300 69 7372).

David Keenan
Chief Executive Officer



**Christmas Closure Times
of Council Services**

Stanthorpe and Warwick Council administration buildings and libraries are open over Christmas except for public holidays.

- Allora library and office will be closed from 22 December and will reopen 2 January.
- Mobile library will be closed from 22 December and reopen 2 January.

If you require any further information or have enquiries, please contact Council on 1300 MY SDRC (1300 69 7372).

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The Haybale Reindeer is made out of recycled parts. Reindeer nose is an old cane planter covered in red material - eyes, ears & mouth are pieces of wood & styrofoam - antlers are branches - sleigh is a radiator breather off an old harvester that was in the scrap heap - baby Jesus is a straw baby in swaddling cloth - gifts are boxes wrapped in plastic tablecloths.