

Allora Advertiser

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Issue 3589

Ph 4666 3089 E-Mail editor@alloraadvertiser.com

Wednesday, 15th April 2020

'Make or break' for Allora Show

The eventual fallout from current restrictions due to the COVID19 crisis will have a big impact on the future of the annual Allora Show.



That's according to president of the Allora Show Society Mark Pillar who said Allora will be one of many regional towns across the nation fighting to keep its show alive.

With the Government recently closing all camp grounds and caravan parks, this has shut off the final source of revenue for the Allora Show Society.

"It's not a decision that I would have liked to see happen but we have to follow the direction they give us," Mr Pillar said.

"It's going to make things extremely tough

from now on and i'm not sure how we will really get through it as we're basically losing more than six months worth of income."

Continued on page 5

LANDMARK Harcourts

We love what we do

32.32 Ha Productive Farm - Expressions of Interest

The block that is being presented for sale is slightly sloping, up from The New England Highway, along Reserve Road in a great location close to Allora. The block has been a silage block and a cattle fattening block that has a 24m x 9m shed with a rainwater tank connected and a bore near by. With great views across the valley, this would be a perfect 'family lifestyle' property. The domestic and stock bore has been tested and is ready for a submersible solar pump or bring power across from Reserve Road. There is an entrance from the north west corner onto the New England Highway and an entrance from Reserve Road. Toowoomba and Warwick are an easy 40 minute drive from this property. The owner will lease back for 3 years as an option.

Expressions of Interest closing 1st May 2020.
Contact our office for an Expressions Of Interest application.

Call Eugene Hollis-Neath 0474 777 022

Expressions of Interest

Lot 169 Reserve Road **ALLORA**



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Pennisi excited for region's future

Newly elected Southern Downs mayor Vic Pennisi is excited for the future of the region after defeating former mayor Tracy Dobie in this year's council elections.

Mr Pennisi said he was humbled with the victory and can't wait to roll up his sleeves.

"Really the first thing we have to deal with is the coronavirus and it's been dealt with well so far at this point," he said.

"We need to follow federal and state lead on this.

"The message is stay in

the state, stay in the region, stay in your suburb and only leave your house for food and medical but otherwise stay at home.

Mr Pennisi said he can see plenty of opportunities for the Southern Downs to expand.

"The Southern Downs needs to truly become a preferred place where people want to come and work, rest, live and play and I see opportunity everywhere to achieve that.

"Right this minute, in this region there are people that want to improve their life.

"There's a whole heap of development that will happen within.

"The best customer is the one that you've already got.

"The best way to grow jobs is to help facilitate those people when they come to the table

"What we need to do is give them a great experience and make them happy.

"If we can get that culture happening with the Southern Downs, the rest will happen organically.

Mr Pennisi has 16 years of local government experience and was an



SDRC Mayor Vic Pennisi.

established councillor before he began his mayoral campaign.

QLD border restrictions in Darling Downs



Stronger border restrictions are now in place across Queensland to help reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Anyone who is not a Queensland resident or considered exempt from the restrictions you will not be able to enter the state.

These strict measures are about safe guarding Queensland and minimising the spread of the virus.

Community members should avoid all non-essential cross border travel.

For those who fall into the exempt category (non-Queensland residents) and intend on crossing the border into Queensland can apply for a border pass online which can be printed at home before travel.

Queensland residents

who are likely to cross the border regularly, can also obtain a border pass.

To apply, visit this website: www.qld.gov.au/border-pass

More information about the restrictions and exemptions are available here: www.qld.gov.au/about/newsroom/queensland-border-restrictions

Police check points:

- **Wallangarra** - New England Highway Wallangarra
- **Goondiwindi** - Cunningham Highway at roundabout with Newell Hwy Goondiwindi
- **Killarney** - Killarney Road and Border Road Killarney
- **Texas** - Texas Rd Texas
- **Stanthorpe** - Amosfield Rd Stanthorpe
- **Talwood** - Boomi Crossing Talwood

Dobie worried for region under Pennisi



Tracy Dobie - SDRC Mayor for the past 4 years.

Former Southern Downs mayor Tracy Dobie believes the Southern Downs Region will not progress with Vic Pennisi as mayor.

Her comments were made when speaking with *The Allora Advertiser* last week, saying she has come to know how Cr Pennisi acts on council.

"He has demonstrated for many years that his only focus is on what benefits him personally," Mrs Dobie said.

"Unfortunately, he has been joined on Council by a number of others with the same motivation, making for a mirror-image of the dysfunctional Council that was in place during the period of 2012-2016.

"Those few councillors with the best interests of the

whole community at heart will be outweighed by those who are there for their own self-interest.

"This will have a detrimental impact on our council, on our region; and our residents will bear the cost," she said.

Since becoming Mayor of the Southern Downs, Cr Pennisi has given an update on his conflict of interest cases that are currently ongoing with the Office of the Independent Assessor.

"I have received a number of conflicts of interests, or complaints," he said.

"To date there have probably been 75% of them kicked out and the next 25% will go the same way in my view.

"I deem them to be vexatious and trivial.

"It's not exactly about water, but it's about long term water solutions for the Granite Belt."

Mr Pennisi was unable to vote in a number of cases regarding these issues during the previous council term, something he says is not uncommon.

"It's not uncommon for councillors to leave the room

for a vote discussing those types of issues," he said.

"If you look at the meetings that have gone on in the past there are plenty of people who leave the meetings due to conflicts of interests.

"There's no problem having them, it's how you deal with the conflict that's important."

2020 was an end to an important term for the Southern Downs region and Tracy Dobie herself.

Mrs Dobie said she wouldn't have done anything different in this year's campaign.

"My election in 2016 was against the odds."

"I am very pleased to have been given the opportunity to get our council

out of the dire management and financial situation it was in prior to 2016.

"I was elected in 2016 on a platform primarily of reforming our council: getting councillors to work together, paying down debt, reducing rates increases, and bringing our council into the 21st century.

"I achieved all of that.

"I am most proud of how the majority of our councillors worked together for four years, focusing on making decisions that were for the greater good of all residents of the Southern Downs."

As for what's next for Mrs Dobie?

"A holiday once we are again able to travel freely," she said.

Help Is On The Way

Here in Allora help is available for our elderly and disabled citizens.

If you're alone or can't get to the shops or need someone to run an errand - don't despair! Our wonderful Posties are here to help you any weekday, Monday to Friday.

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of your mailbox then Shaz and Rog will do the rest.

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WEATHER FORECAST

Day	Forecast	Min/Max
WED	Morning Clouds. Warm.	12 26
THU	Morning Clouds. Warm.	12 27
FRI	Mostly Sunny. Warm.	13 28
SAT	Decreasing Clouds. Warm.	17 29
SUN	Morning Clouds. Mild.	12 25
MON	Morning Clouds. Mild.	10 25

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LIGHT UP THE DAWN THIS ANZAC DAY

Right now, our ANZAC spirit is more important than ever.

At 6am on ANZAC Day, let's light up the dawn at home to commemorate all those who have served and sacrificed for this nation.

rslanzacspirit.com.au

Election Declared

The local Government of the Local Government Election for the Southern Downs Regional Council has been declared in accordance with section 100 of the Local Government Electoral Act 2011. The following persons have been duly elected as Councillors:

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS SATURDAY, 28 MARCH 2020

POSITION	FULL NAME OF ELECTED CANDIDATE	COUNT
Councillor	BARTLEY, Ross Trevor	9540
Councillor	GOW, Cameron Fraser	8405
Councillor	MCNALLY, Joanne	8342
Councillor	GALE, Paul Andrew	8066
Councillor	WINDLE, Sheryl Ann	8020
Councillor	GLIORI, Marco	7775
Councillor	MCDONALD, Cynthia Louise	7573
Councillor	TANCRED, Stephen James	7388

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACTION CENTRE (DVAC)

works with our community towards the prevention and elimination of domestic and family violence

DVAC is still operating in Toowoomba but not face to face appointments.

Services are still available via phone or video linking.

Intake Service lines and emails (client related)

Domestic Violence Intake Crisis line - 07 4642 1354

Sexual Violence Line - 07 4566 2633

Email - intaketwba@dvac.org.au

All administrative calls please phone 07 4566 2630

Referrals, crisis and urgent matters will now go through to the Intake teams.

In an Emergency dial 000

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Closure of major local drug operation

Allora Police and Warwick Detectives have charged 42 people with a total of 194 offences following the recent closure of a Southern Downs drug operation.

Operation Romeo Sunscreen was commenced by Allora Police in October last year, targeting the supply of dangerous drugs within the greater Warwick area, with a particular emphasis on smaller communities including Allora, Killarney and surrounds.

"Of note, it had been determined early-on, that the people we were dealing with locally, were primarily sourcing their drugs from the larger regional centres of

Warwick and Toowoomba," Senior Constable Riley Cozens of Allora Police said.

"We were looking to identify and target those drug-suppliers particularly."

Over the period of the operation, search warrants were executed at a number of addresses across the district, where varying amounts of the drugs MDMA, methylamphetamine, heroin, cocaine and cannabis, as well as drug utensils, firearms, a conductive energy device (taser), miscellaneous hand-held weapons, and more than \$10,000 worth of cash was located and seized by Police.

Police will also allege

that a stolen bobcat worth around \$35,000 was located during the process.

The offenders have been charged with offences including trafficking in dangerous drugs, supplying dangerous drugs, possessing dangerous drugs, and the unlawful possession of weapons.

As the operation has been undertaken over some time, some offenders have already appeared in the Warwick Magistrates Court with the remaining offenders charged during the operation's closure phase, to appear in the Warwick or Toowoomba Magistrates Courts at later dates.

(Given the current COVID situation affecting Court operations, the region's court appearance dates are being set for at least three months down the track, instead of the usual month only.)

Allora Police and the

attending Detectives said they would like to thank members of the public for their ongoing support in making the community safer through targeting drug and related crime.

As always, such results would not be achieved without your assistance and the information being provided, they said.

Anyone who may have information for police on drug-related or other suspected criminal matters, can contact Policelink on 131 444 or provide information using the online form 24 hours per day.

Alternatively, residents can report information about crime anonymously to Crime Stoppers, a registered charity and community volunteer organisation, by calling 1800 333 000 or via crimestoppersqld.com.au 24 hours per day.

Future of Show uncertain

Continued from page 1

Mr Pillar said the future of the Allora Show was looking strong but everything seemed to go wrong at the same time.

"The shows don't really make a profit anyway but last year's show was possibly the closest it's ever been to not costing us any money so things were looking positive.

"The virus is really the icing on the cake, not just for show societies but all not-for-profit organisations.

"If we think we had it tough before, this will be make or break," Mr Pillar said.

Agricultural Shows Australia (ASA) believes the impact on show societies and groups in regional towns will be 'catastrophic'.

"There is no revenue and

no possibility of revenue for the foreseeable future," the ASA stated in a recent media release.

"Agricultural Shows have never relied on Government support, never been a drain on community resources, but have been a net contributor to local community prosperity and goodwill.

"The current financial and social impact on shows is unavoidable, so the decision of Government to financially support the continuance of these iconic events will define the show movement for further generations."

Show societies are still waiting for government support which is currently in the pipeline but not yet confirmed.

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The Back Paddock

Workers essential to Agriculture

Maranoa farm businesses and communities stand to benefit from an announcement made by the Australian Government to extend working holiday maker and other visas amid the COVID-19 crisis with requirements to support the on-going health of regional communities.

Maranoa MP and Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management David Littleproud said the visa changes will allow Pacific seasonal workers, working holiday makers and a range of other visa holders who are unable to depart Australia, including in Maranoa, to continue to work until this health crisis has passed or they are able to return to their home countries.



Seasonal workers are busy on a local farm.

"Agriculture is an essential sector and it relies on temporary visa holders, many of whom arrive and depart Australia on a seasonal basis. These visa holders fill a critical workforce gap in this sector," Mr Littleproud said.

"At the same time it is critical we manage this

labour force to support the on-going health of regional communities and we've acted to include requirements to ensure visa holders follow self-isolation requirements when they move between regions.

"Sadly, there's been a significant number of Australians who've lost their

jobs due to the economic impacts of COVID-19," Mr Littleproud said.

"I know there has been strong interest from job ads and I welcome the announcement that we are keeping market testing requirements in place to ensure recruitment of Australians first.

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30 x 30 x 1.6 GALV RHS SEC	\$24 x 8m	100 x 50 x 2.0 BLACK RHS SEC	\$65 x 8m
35 x 35 x 1.6/2.0 GALV RHS SEC	\$28 x 8m	100 x 50 x 2.5 BLACK RHS SEC	\$75 x 8m
35 x 35 x 1.6/2.0 BLACK RHS SEC	\$19 x 8m	100 x 50 x 2.0 GALV RHS NEW	\$90 x 8m
50 x 25 x 1.6/2.0 GALV RHS SEC	\$32 x 8m	25 BLACK PIPE SEC	\$20 x 6.5m
50 x 50 x 3.0 GALV RHS SEC	\$72 x 8m	110 x 6 FMS	\$25 x 6m
75 x 75 x 3 GALV RHS SEC	\$117 x 8m	75 x 75 x 2.5 BLACK RHS SEC	\$80 x 8m

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Australian Government

OFFICIAL MEDICAL ADVICE

Coronavirus: You must take action to save lives in your community.

Stay at home unless absolutely necessary. Banks, supermarkets/groceries, petrol stations, medical services and suppliers will remain open. You must avoid non-essential travel.

If you can, work from home. Use phones for meetings and stop handshaking. Tap to pay where possible instead of using cash.

Gatherings of 2 people max are being enforced, with the exception of households, work and education.

You must stay 2 arms lengths away from others and wash your hands for 20 seconds.

Exercise away from others.

Download the App Visit australia.gov.au

Coronavirus

Happy Snaps of Life On The Farm

The Allora Advertiser received this photo of galahs enjoying a drink from the trough - a familiar site around local farms.

It was sent in by Karen McKechnie who often captures images of birds, possums, kangaroos and goannas while she is out and about.

Maybe other farmers would like to send in their interesting wildlife or scenic photos? The Allora Advertiser is more than happy to publish them and enjoy sharing with readers "life on the farm."

Email - editor@alloraadvertiser.com



Allora Golf Club Notes

A fantastic field of 18 golfers played in the **Percy's Fruit Duck Run** on Good Friday on a golf course that is in almost perfect condition. Thanks to our greens' curators Doreen and Ray we can be forgiven if we think we are playing at Augusta National. Winner on 25 points was Kev Harrison who shot one

over par. Runner up with a respectable 22 points was Brendan Corby. Welcome back Corbs. Our visitor Kieron Donron won a ball in the run down with 21 points and he also won the pin shot on the 16th. Rod won the approach on 11 and Nick won the long putt on 17.

Sunday we had 17 golfers playing for the **Railway Hotel Monthly Mug** with everyone hoping to pick up a value T Bone, chips and

salad from Robyn during the week. Surprisingly it was former butcher, firey and struggling A Grader Rod Simpson who flew home to collect 37 points in a count back from Nick Lake. Rod's 20 points on the back nine sealed the deal and he payed homage to his cart driver for his valued advice. Nick nailed an absolute beauty to win the long putt on the 9/18. Other pin/ approach shots went to

Garth (4/13), Aaron (8/17), Kev (3/12) Liam (7/16) and Wayne (5/14).

Please take advantage of this wonderful Autumn weather and enjoy a round of golf at Allora.

Next week is the **Percy's Fruit Duck Run on Friday and the Monthly Medal** on Sunday. Don't forget you can hit off early if you prefer. Good golfing to you all.

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SCIENCE TRIVIA QUIZ

1. What special thing happens when the Earth, Moon and Sun are in an exact straight line?
2. Which two oceans are connected by the Panama Canal?
3. Between leaving your lungs with oxygen and returning with carbon dioxide, how many times does a red blood cell visit your heart?
4. Which force makes water droplets fall?
5. True or false? Australia has more species of sea snake than land-based snake.

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.

SUDOKU

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

Solution in classifieds section

COLOURING FUN



TODAY'S QUOTE

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that." - Martin Luther King Jr

BAD JOKE OF THE WEEK

Half way through the trial, the defendant changed his plea to guilty.

"why didn't you plead guilty in the first place?" asked the judge.

"I thought I was innocent but that was before I heard the evidence against me."

ADVERTISER CLASSIFIEDS

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• PUBLIC NOTICES •

Under the current circumstances The Mobile Hairdresser advises that she will NOT be operating during Covid-19. Christina apologises to her loyal customers but she will be back when restrictions are eased.

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• CHURCH NOTICES •

Scots Presbyterian Church - Allora
12 Jubb Street, Allora
All Sunday Services/Sunday School and Wednesday Bible Study are suspended until further notice
MEN'S BREAKFAST - To ensure the health of our many valued visitors, we have CANCELLED the Breakfasts until further notice. We will advertise when they recommence.
Enquiries to Pastor Elton Wiltshire 4666 3743
A Warm Welcome to ALL.

• CHURCH NOTICES •

The Catholic Community of **ST. PATRICK'S, ALLORA**
All Regular Public Masses are suspended until 1 May 2020. This includes all Holy Week and Easter Ceremonies
For information on Baptism, Weddings, Funerals and other church enquiries, phone 4666 3377.
St Patrick's Parish School (Prep - Yr. 6), enquiries 4666 3551.

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• SOLUTIONS •

DOUBLE HELIX QUIZ ANSWERS

1. When the Earth, Moon and Sun are in a straight line, you get an eclipse!
2. The Panama Canal connects the Atlantic Ocean and the Pacific Ocean.
3. Blood cells visit your heart twice during a journey around your body - once just after leaving the lungs, and once just before returning.
4. Gravity makes water droplets fall.
5. False. Australia has approximately 140 species of land snake and 32 species of sea snake.

THIS WEEK'S SUDOKU SOLUTION

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

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Allora Swimming Champions



Under 12 girls Alannah Burton, Elyn Moore, Chloe Harm and Meiraleyka Johnson



Takira Kelk, Claire Eckersley and Aamilyn Johnson in the Under 14 Girls Championships.



Under 12 Boys Will Peters, Will Day, Bailey Harm, Ziggy Gibson and Alex Pardella.



Recipient of the Geoff and Heather Slatter Encouragement Award was Emma Day.



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