

Allora Advertiser

Your free local since 1935

Issue 3623

Ph 4666 3089 E-Mail editor@alloraadvertiser.com

Wednesday, 9th December 2020

Good Crowd At Allora's Bush Christmas



The temperature was very hot for a 4.30pm start but as things cooled down the locals came out to play. Kids were well catered for with rides, slides and Santa. About 50 stalls were packed into Herbert Street while live music kept the crowd entertained. (Photo courtesy of Steve Hey).

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Christmas and New Year Opening Hours

- 24/12/20 – 8.30-12.30
- 25/12/20 – closed
- 28/12/20 – closed
- 29/12/20 – Allora 8.30-1.30, Killarney closed
- 30/12/20 – Allora 8.30-1.30, Killarney closed
- 31/12/20 – Allora 8.30-1.30, Killarney closed
- 01/01/21 – closed
- 04/01/21 – resume normal hours in both practices

Have a happy and safe Christmas and New Year

Letters to the Editor...

Dear Editor,

May I, through the medium of the *Allora Advertiser*, express my congratulations to those few stalwarts, especially Julie and Sharon, who against the odds, have brought Bush Christmas back to the main street. There was a nice buzz to the whole event, the sounds of a community coming together, not just for a celebration but for a general catch-up of friends. The atmosphere was great and the sentiment was expressed quietly and often "Isn't it great to have Bush Christmas back where it started, where it belongs?"

Thanks again to the organisers for a great night out.

Jackie Gallagher



Big and little kids lined up for a ride.



Time to sit back and relax to the soothing voice of Helen Conroy.



Farewell Tyronne - Welcome Keith



St Patrick's School, Allora has a new Principal from January next year. Keith Blaikie has been appointed to the position, replacing the current Principal Tyronne Maher. Dr Patrick Coughlan, Executive Director of Catholic Schools, Diocese of Toowoomba has thanked Tyronne for his outstanding leadership of St Patrick's School for the last 5 years. Tyronne who has been a popular Principal and

enthusiast member of the Allora Community moves to The Sacred Heart Primary School Toowoomba as Principal in 2021. The new Principal at St Patrick's School Keith Blaikie is currently Head of Downlands College Junior School and is looking forward to continuing the excellent school improvement work in the areas of quality teaching and learning with a focus on student and staff wellbeing.

Australia Day Awards Revamped

Southern Downs Regional Council has introduced many new categories to recognise the region's most deserving and outstanding citizens. Council is calling for nominations in both the southern and northern regions. Allora and Warwick being in the northern region.

- Citizen of the Year Award
- Junior Citizen of the Year Award
- Sportsperson of the Year
- Junior Sportsperson of the Year
- Cultural/Community Event or Person of the Year Award

In addition, one of these recipients will also be named the overall Southern Downs Citizen of the Year.

Locals are being urged to recognise those whose tireless efforts or outstanding achievements deserve to be celebrated and shared. Southern Downs Mayor Vic Pennisi said the awards were the perfect opportunity to nominate those people from the region who are consistently going above and beyond the call of duty and deserve a real pat on the back. Nominations are now open and winners will be announced in the lead up to Australia Day 2021. Nomination forms can be found at www.sdrcl.qld.gov.au or at Council's office in Warwick. Nominations close 5pm Friday 8 January 2021.

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Allora P-10 State School Leaders

Congratulations to the 2021 School Leaders at Allora's P-10 State School. **School Captains** - Tobias Briggs and Hamish Gartery **Vice Captains** - Sam Gilmore and Kimberly Lester **Gwynne House Captains** - Eli Breen and Felicity Nolan

Deacon House Captains - Sam Gilmore and Reagan McMillan
The Acting Principal Carole Douglas is confident they will represent the school with pride and will do a great job next year.

QCWA Bursary Applications Open

A reminder from QCWA Condamine Valley / Warwick Branch Secretary Penny Campbell-Wilson that Bursary applications are available to graduating Grade 12 students who reside in the QCWA Border Division.

"We have three bursaries for Grade 12 students who graduate this year and wish to proceed to tertiary level in 2021.

Each bursary is \$1,500 each for male and female students who may experience some financial difficulty commencing further studies next year," Mrs

Campbell-Wilson said. Bursary applications are available at the QCWA Condamine Valley/Warwick Rooms, 76 Grafton Street, Warwick from Tuesday to Friday prior to 1.00p.m.

The QCWA Border Division covers areas including Allora, Clifton, Warwick and Killarney.

Applications close on 22nd January, 2021 and the successful three students will be advised late January, 2021.

For further information contact Penny Campbell-Wilson on 0408 767 558.

Olive Shooter Book Launch



Jim Breeze, Olive Shooter and Harry Shooter.

Talgai resident Olive Shooter has written a book talking about her life growing up in the town of Nobby.

On Saturday morning, the book was launched during a well-attended function at Rudd's Pub in Nobby, not far from where the family shack stood.

The guests included many people with whom she grew up as well as current and past residents of the town.

As the function began, Mrs Shooter welcomed everyone, paying tribute to past residents of the Nobby district and thanking her childhood friends and members of her family.

She thanked her life

partner, husband Ray, whom, she said, "is my support for every wacky idea that I have."

Olive's brother Jim Breeze launched the book for his sister, who is 20 years older than Jim.

He described his sister as a pious lady who is kind, sentimental and old-fashioned.

Her grandson, well-known Wattles A grader Harry Shooter, was on hand to help collect the money from sales of the book.

Copies of Olive Shooter's book are available from Clifton Auto Ag Repairs and at the Clifton Courier or by calling Mrs Shooter on 0428 226 085 or 4666 3474.

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Australian Government

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The Economic Recovery Plan will make it more attractive to employ young people through the temporary JobMaker Hiring Credit. And encourage more training to give people the skills they need to get a job.

HEALTHY BUSINESSES MEANS A HEALTHY ECONOMY.

Australian businesses will receive lower taxes and other incentives to encourage investment that will create more jobs. Businesses will come back.

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\$15K support for Warwick Show

The Warwick Show and Rodeo Society will receive an early Christmas present from the Australian Government, with funding to flow to help ensure they can bounce back next year, Maranoa MP David Littleproud has announced.

"The Government is keen to ensure show societies and field day organisers are in the best shape possible to continue in 2021. These events bring our families and farmers together, build community spirit and help bridge the divide between country and city," Mr Littleproud said.

The Warwick Show and Rodeo



David Littleproud MP.

Society Incorporated will receive \$15,000 under the Supporting Agricultural Shows and Field Days program to help ease cash-flow pressures and cover costs after cancelling their 2020 show due to COVID-19.

Downs Explorer on track for tours

After not running for many months due to Covid-19, the Southern Downs Steam Railway is operating again from January next year. Based in Warwick, the Downs Explorer runs scenic heritage rail tours across the Darling Downs.

First tour for 2020 is Warwick Clifton on 2nd January and again the following Saturday 9th. For

dates, times, booking options and payment details visit the website - www.southerndownsteamrailway.com.au

Southern Downs Steam Railway is a not-for-profit organisation run by volunteers and anyone interested in joining is most welcome. SDRS members receive 10% discount on all tours.

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2021 RAINFALL



| DATE | JAN | FEB | MAR | APRIL | MAY | JUNE | JULY | AUG | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC |
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Authorised by The Hon David Littleproud MP, Liberal National Party, Dalby Qld



Queensland Labor fail to stump up for prickly acacia, again

Mark Furner and Queensland Labor have again duded the farmers of Queensland by not providing promised money to tackle the prickly acacia problem.

Member for Maranoa and Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management David Littleproud said he was stunned that the Palaszczuk Government had continued to renege on the \$5 million they guaranteed.

"In March 2019, Queensland Labor put their hand in their pocket and have left it there for the past 615 days," Minister Littleproud said.

"This money was to support the victims of the 2019 floods after the waters spread the prickly acacia seed far and wide.

"It beggars belief how arrogantly Mark Furner is treating the people he is supposed to have responsibility for.

"Prickly acacia is an insidious weed that creeps across the landscape and reduces the production capacity of pastures.



"We have put our promised \$5 million on the table and has made inroads in stopping the march of prickly acacia

"Correspondence from the Desert Channel Group shows that because of the support from the Federal Government the trajectory of prickly acacia is trending down for the first time in 23 years.

"Imagine what the production yields of lands freed of this weed if the Palaszczuk Government stumped up their \$5 million as well.

"It's time for Queensland Labor to take their hand out of their pocket and hand over the promised \$5 million and join in on the fight to get rid of prickly acacia."

Professor Roger Stone Honoured

Praises are flooding in for climate researcher Professor Roger Stone, named best in his field during the Engagement Australia Excellence Awards undertaken by Australian and New Zealand universities.

When he's not working for the United Nations or helping farmers during droughts, Professor Roger Stone also heads the University of Southern Queensland's Centre for Applied Climate Sciences.

"Climate scientists need to move out from behind their desks and their labs, and speak about climate risk with the community – especially in regional and rural Australia," Professor Stone said. "The issues associated with climate are so massive, they are so huge, we have to get out there and start talking to farmers about their work. Knowing when drought is developing so that we can prepare them for what's to come is vital to keeping food on the table."

A career spanning 35 years and several continents, Professor Stone has helped more than 60,000 farmers across Australia, and even more in India and South East Asia.

His research into climate risk management has led



Professor Roger Stone. Professor Stone to become internationally renowned in his field. In 2018, he was elected President of the United Nations' World Meteorological Organisation Commission for Agricultural Meteorology.

"We set up a drought management and research program as well as food security programs within the United Nations," Professor Stone said. "We're now starting to utilise a lot of the knowledge we've gained in Australia with countries around the world, especially in developing countries."

Professor Stone said drought would continue to be one of the biggest challenges Australia faces into the future – but there is hope. "We can get ready for it and plan accordingly, ensuring future growth and success," he said.

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The 2021 Allora Show

It's full steam ahead with organising next year's Allora Show however this year time is limited to prepare.

Planned for Friday 5th February and Saturday 6th February the Show Society has decided to go ahead as it's one of Allora's biggest events bringing a real boost to the local community. Competitors and patrons always look forward to attending, competing and parading.

This year there will be no Dog Show however the Pet Parade will definitely be held in honour of Show stalwart the late Kookie.

MEMBERSHIP IS NOW OPEN - So you won't be held up at the Entry gate

due to Covid Restrictions it's worth becoming a member - then you'll gain easy access without the hassle.

From early December you can purchase Family Membership for \$40 - this allows 2 adults plus children 16 and under.

Single Membership is available for \$20 - this allows 1 adult or 1 adult and children 16 and under.

Membership to the Allow Show has the added benefit of entry to Killarney, Stanthorpe and Warwick Shows.

No memberships will be sold after Thursday 4th February.

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| 25 x 25 x 1.6 GALV RHS NEW | \$21 x 6.5M | 65 x 65 x 2.5 GALV RHS SEC | \$70 x 8M |
| 30 x 30 x 1.6/2.0 Black RHS SEC | \$16 x 8M | 65 x 65 x 3.0 GALV RHS SEC | \$78 x 8M |
| 30 x 30 x 1.6 GALV RHS SEC | \$24 x 8M | 75 x 50 x 2.0 GALV RHS SEC | \$74 x 8M |
| 35 x 35 x 1.6 GALV RHS SEC | \$28 x 8M | 75 x 75 x 2.5 GALV RHS SEC | \$98 x 8M |
| 40 x 40 x 1.6/2.0 Black RHS SEC | \$32 x 8M | 89 x 89 x 3.5 Galv RHS SEC | \$148 x 8M |
| 40 x 40 x 2.0 GALV RHS SEC | \$45 x 8M | 100 x 100 x 3.0 GALV RHS SEC | \$155 x 8M |
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Jeremy's View



The year of 2020

2020 has been a big and chaotic year. I think in 2020 everything that could go wrong did go wrong. We had drought, COVID, bushfires and a heatwave. And for me I had to spend about 5 weeks of 2020 in hospital with meningitis, I had to do COVID home schooling and also 2020 was the year when we lost the printed versions of the Warwick Daily News, Goondiwindi Argus and Stanthorpe Border Post. The first event that took place in 2020 was the bushfires. They started in late 2019 and they continued on into early 2020 and they were helped by the drought. It wasn't long ago that bushfires reached Stanthorpe and some people's houses and sheds got burnt so everyone was worried when the smoke came in. The second event that took place was COVID. The first time I heard about COVID was when I was with mum buying my copy of The Sunday Mail, and on the front page they said there was a new virus that started in Wuhan China and which was spreading fast. We didn't know back then just how much it would change everything. My dad was busy helping people with problems from COVID because lots of people here live right on the border with New South Wales. And when we lost all of the paper copies of those newspapers I was really upset because I want to be a journalist when I grow up and I wanted to write for my local newspapers the old fashioned way. Then I got sick which was really bad. Even though I got to go in the helicopter ambulance, it wasn't worth it because hospital is no fun with needles and feeding tubes. My thoughts of what I predict 2021 will be like is that COVID will continue until mid or late 2021 and we will eventually find a cure for it. I also think that we'll get more rain (we already have) and that this will make the drought better and help keep bushfires under control. And I also think that the Allora Advertiser, which has been around longer than any person, will still be here as usual which is great.

Jeremy Lister, age 9

SUDOKU

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BAD JOKE OF THE WEEK

A local lady called at the police station to complain about the young man next door.

"It's not safe to go out on the street." She said "he's always sitting on his front porch whistling dirty songs!"

COLOURING FUN



Looking Back...

**Allora's Past 25 years ago
December 1995.**

Record Throw

Twelve year old Allora State School student Greg Holmes will compete for Queensland in the national Primary School Championships in Melbourne. Greg won the discus event for boys born 1983 at the Darling Downs Championships with a record throw of 34.24 metres. At State level he threw 39.6 metres to finish third behind the winner who recorded 40.7 metres. In training he has thrown more than 41 metres under coach, Allora State School teacher Steve Gillespie.

**Allora's Past 75 years ago
December 1945**

Escape to Java

On his return to Allora, former prisoner of war Harry Peachey told of incidents of his war time experiences. Lance Corporal Harry Peachey, 2/3 Reserve Motor Transport, was in Singapore at the time of the Allied surrender to the Japanese on the 15th February 1942. He and a number of A.I.F. men commandeered a bombed out 1000 ton Malayan coastal steamer and attempted an escape. The ship had no



2019 photo of the railway viaduct at Wampo in Thailand built by prisoners of war in 1943. superstructure but the engines were in working order. After a close encounter with rocks the assorted crew had to plug the hull with timber and sacking and eventually reached Java with two feet of water in the bottom of the boat. The men were too late in their arrival on Java and were captured by the Japanese and returned to Singapore. From there Harry was sent to Burma with A Force and worked on the Burma-Thailand Railway from October 1942 to December 1943. (A pretty good effort on Harry's part; the 2/3 Reserve Motor Transport was made up of older servicemen, Harry being 42 years of age at the time of fall of Singapore. His unit and their trucks bore the brunt of the nearly two month long withdrawal down the Malayan Peninsula, all the time only one step ahead of the Japanese)

**Allora's Past 150 years ago
December 1870**

Fatal Accident

On Tuesday last, Michael Kane a resident of Drayton, was thrown from his horse at Allora and killed on the spot.

Colin Newport

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• CHURCH NOTICES •

ECUMENICAL CAROL SERVICE - THIS SUNDAY,
13th December, at 6.30pm, at St. David's Anglican Church, Allora.

Scots Presbyterian Church - Allora

12 Jubb Street, Allora

Services recommenced, starting at 9.30am
and also running online service at the same time.
Wednesday night bible study 7pm online.

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 •

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Talgai - Victoria Hill Fire Warden District, West of New England Highway - Phone Mark Frizzell 4666 3792.
If Fire Wardens are unavailable please ring Deputy Warden Don Burge on Mobile 0428 964 154
Have your Bush Fire plan in place.

Fire permits for the Allora urban area need to be obtained through the Captain of Allora Auxiliary Fire Brigade, Ross Williams on 0427 890 089.

LOCAL BUSINESSES & TRADERS

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Allora Golf Report



Percy's Fruit Duck Run winner Garth with 22 points in a countback from Sparkie. Rundown Doreen, Errol, Whit and Kev. Pin shot won by Aaron and long putt

by Kev. Approach was a cleanskin. Thanks Percy.

On Sunday the Club Secretary Three Person Ambrose was won by the Ellwood team . Runners-up Moose, Tony and Rod.

Friday will be the Duck Run from 1.30 pm and Sunday the **Railway Hotel Monthly Mug** from 10.00 am. If you show up any earlier on either Friday or Sunday the club won't be open. See you on the links.

Allora Sports Club Fees

A review of membership fees, green fees and competition fees has been undertaken by the Sports Club committee. All golfers and bowlers would be aware that fees have not been increased for many years and the club has absorbed the ever increasing costs of providing first class sporting and clubhouse facilities to our members and guests. With this in mind, the fees from 1 January 2021 will be as follows: Golf Membership: Single \$220; Couple \$400; Junior \$40. Bowls Membership: Single \$20; Junior \$10. Golf Green Fees: Sunday Comp \$15;

Duck Run \$7.50; Social Golf 9 holes \$15; Social Golf 18 holes \$20; Social Golf School Age Child \$5. Bowls Green Fees: Night Bowls \$10; Social Bowls \$10.

Membership fees are due in January 2021 but can be paid anytime from now. With Christmas just around the corner, a Sports Club Membership would make an ideal present. Alternatively, you can purchase a gift voucher for a game of golf with a motorised golf cart for the golf enthusiast in the family. Contact Wendy on 0437 342 870 to discuss.

John Ellwood, Secretary

The final issue for 2020 of **The Allora Advertiser** will be published on **Wednesday 23rd December**

The first issue for 2021 will be published on **Wednesday 13th January**

Please note the office will be **CLOSED** from Thursday 24th December, **REOPENING** on Monday 11th January 2021

Warwick Sporting Grants

The 2020 Supplementary Volunteer Grants, funded by the Australian Government has supported the following groups -

The Warwick & District Rugby Union Club with \$2,000 and the Warwick

Hockey Association Inc with \$2,806.

These grants will help the organisations better support their volunteers to purchase small equipment, pay fuel, transport and training costs.



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