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Issue 3798

Ph 4666 3089 E-Mail editor@alloraadvertiser.com

Wednesday, 12th June 2024

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A Perfect Day For Golf

On Tuesdays the picturesque Allora Golf Course attracts many social golfers who come out to play.

Enjoying the golf and the weather yesterday were these locals golfers (L-R) Rod Simpson, Lindsay May (moose), Neil Chandler and Max Bielefeld (who had just hit a birdie). Neil and Max are both Life Members of the Allora Golf Club. Apparently Rod and Moose are just hackers!



The commercial real estate sector in Warwick is on the move!

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Story Time Bringing Magic To Allora

Acclaimed children's author Rory H. Mather is set to brighten up winter school holidays in Southern Downs Regional Libraries when he visits to take mums, dads and kids on an adventure through his captivating children's books.

From a little vampire with bad breath to the King of the Jungle who has trouble finding his voice, get ready to embark on whimsical adventures as Rory brings his characters to life.

Self-described as a big kid with a beard, Rory will bring his stories to life, reading them with all the imagination and inspiration that inspired him to write them.

Rory's books include *Vlad's Bad Breath*, *Easter Hat-Astrophe*, *Vlad's In Love*, *Get Back in Your Books*, *Roary The Lion*, *Monster School Rules*, *Sebastian Stands Out*, *Book Week Bear*, *My Little Star* and *Sloths Love Parties*.

For ten years, Rory worked in

public libraries and for three of those years he delivered KidLit programs such as story time and baby rhyme time.

His passion for storytelling blossomed during a four-year journey around the world, when he visited every continent (except Antarctica!).

Take the adventure with Rory at the Allora Library on Wednesday 26 June at 9am. Rory will then move to the Warwick Library at 10.30am. Everyone welcome.



Rory Mather.

Special Meeting of Council to consider Draft Budget



Southern Downs Regional Councillors are attending a Special Meeting today Wednesday 12 June to consider the 2024/25 Draft Budget prior to inviting public consultation from tomorrow Thursday 13 June.

Ahead of the meeting, Mayor Melissa Hamilton emphasised the significance of community involvement in the budgeting process, saying that the 2024/25 Draft Budget reflects Council's commitment to building vibrant, liveable communities in the Southern Downs whilst remaining realistic about the cost of living pressures.

"It is proposed that there will be no increase to the residential General Minimum Rate, as we try to re-balance our rating system to ensure a fairer and more equitable system for our residential ratepayers," Mayor Hamilton said.

"In the longer term, a downward pressure on rates can only be achieved through encouraging sustainable growth and attracting new business and development in the region,

and that is something that will be a key focus for the new Council.

"I encourage residents to review the 2024/25 Draft Budget documents and participate in the process, as community input helps Council prioritise and allocate resources effectively.

"By working together, we can focus our spending to build vibrant, liveable communities across the Southern Downs."

The 2024/25 Draft Budget is available online for review at www.sdrc.qld.gov.au/living-here/have-your-say from today Wednesday 12 June. Hard copies will also be available at Council's Administration Buildings and Libraries. Feedback can be emailed to mail@sdrc.qld.gov.au or submitted at Council's Administration Building in Warwick.

Community Consultation opens 8am tomorrow 13 June and closes 5pm Friday 28 June. Following public consultation, the final draft budget will be presented to Councillors for adoption at a meeting on Wednesday 24 July 2024.



Mayor Hamilton wants community involvement.



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Letters to the Editor

Send letters to the Editor to -
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Please include your name and contact details.
Letters will be published at the discretion of the Editor.



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Candle Vigil for Domestic Violence



On Sunday evening, June 9, the group known as 'Allora Churches Together' assembled at St. David's Anglican Church for a candlelight vigil to acknowledge and support sufferers of domestic and family violence and to lament the environment that had permitted it to happen.

The event was attended by members of St. Andrew's Uniting Church, St. Patrick's Catholic Church, and St. David's and they thank all those who came to pray for and support those who are impacted by violence.

THE ALLORA ADVERTISER OFFICE IS CLOSED EVERY THURSDAY

The office will OPEN every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 9am.

If you have an enquiry on Thursday please phone The Clifton Courier Office on 4697 3603

Regional Uni Study Hub To Be Operational Next Year



Site for Uni Study Hub in Warwick.

Building modifications and fit-out work will commence shortly on the Southern Downs regional university study hub, located at 163 Palmerin Street, Warwick.

When completed, the centre will include quality learning spaces, meeting rooms, technology and pastoral care to provide local students with greater access to tertiary studies and improved academic opportunities while continuing to live and study locally.

Southern Downs Mayor Melissa Hamilton said Council had worked closely with leading educational and community organisations on the funding submission to the Australian Government's Department of Education for a centre that was suitably equipped to keep students local.

"We need more key workers in areas including health, education and engineering. Often the cost in moving away from home is not affordable for everyone, and this initiative will give so many more people an accessible pathway to higher education," Mayor Hamilton said.

The success of the Southern Downs submission was announced in late March. With the completion of a range of grant agreements, actual funding is now available for use.

The regional university study hub is expected to be fully operational for the start of the 2025 academic year and the recruitment process for a Centre Manager is currently underway.

James Lister's Mobile Office



Member for Southern Downs James Lister MP visited Allora last week to meet with local residents and listen to their concerns. As our representative to Parliament Mr Lister is happy to assist individuals and the community. His monthly visits give the opportunity for face to face meetings. Following the Allora visit, James Lister then moved onto the Goomburra Hall venue.

If you need to contact James Lister MP you can phone his office on (07) 4524 7700.

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Congratulations - Maryvale State School



Last Friday the Maryvale State School won the Queensland final of **Kids in Space 2024** program which looked at space junk solutions.

Over 100 schools across Australia including Government, Independent and Catholic Schools participated with 14 schools from Queensland. This is an excellent result for a School of about a dozen students.

The **Kids in Space** program held development days for teachers with guest speakers from the space industry. Then with support from teachers, students work through the **Kids in Space** challenge course and design solutions to problems they had identified.

Maryvale State School will now represent Queensland in the National Finals at the Australian Space Discover Centre in Adelaide later this year.

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The cost of living with fire ants

Fire ants are considered one of the world's most invasive pests and they can have devastating impacts on our environment, economy, human and animal health, and our outdoor way of life.

If we don't stop them, fire ants could infest all of Australia – resulting in our green spaces becoming unusable and surpassing the combined damage done each year by our country's worst pests.

Fire ants could ultimately cost Australia up to \$2 billion annually across community, industry and government, forever.

In the United States, the far-reaching impacts of fire ants cost approximately US\$6.70 billion each year in medical care and damage repair alone – a hefty bill that our National Fire Ant Eradication Program is trying to help Australia avoid.

Sadly, due to fire ant infestations, American farmers can only use small portions of their land. The rest has been taken over by fire ants to the point it's beyond treatable, and in many cases, unusable.

Residents are also unable to walk to their washing lines or spend time in their backyards without being stung.

Simply put, fire ants have become a part of the American landscape, spreading so far that they have given up trying to eradicate the pest.

Without a national effort to eradicate them, fire ants could spread across all of Australia.

More than 97% of Australia is suitable for fire ants to flourish in.

Thankfully, our eradication efforts have so far protected us from the devastation experienced in the United States.

Without our intervention and efforts so far, data modelling estimates fire ants would have spread north to Townsville, west past Longreach, and south to Albury by now.

Eradication will take a collective and whole-of-community approach. We need you to **look for and report fire ants** on your property and in your local community to stop this invasive pest in its tracks.

How to identify fire ants

Fire ants are copper brown with a darker abdomen and measure 2-6 mm in size.

They:

- are aggressive in nature
- swarm when disturbed
- appear in a range of sizes within one nest.

Whilst sometimes mistaken for native ants, their tendency to swarm when threatened makes fire ants easier to distinguish from other species.

Fire ant nests have no obvious entry or exit holes and they can appear as:

- mounds
- flat patches of soil.

The shape and size of a nest will depend on the soil type and size of the fire ant colony.

Nests are usually found in warm, open areas such as:

- lawns, pastures and garden beds
- near water sources
- on roadsides
- in newly developed areas
- next to or under objects

on the ground – timber, logs, rocks, pavers and bricks

- near utility pits, water and gas meters.

On rural properties, the most common sightings are near dams, along irrigation and fence lines, edges of cultivated land, in cropland and in piles of organic matter.

It is everyone's responsibility to look for and report fire ants within 24 hours of sighting them, and we need you to be our eyes on the ground.

Check your yard, work site, local sporting grounds, parks, playgrounds, or anywhere fire ants may hide, and report suspect ants or nests by visiting **fireants.org.au** or calling **13 25 23**.

All reports are important, even if you're not 100% sure you've found fire ants.

Reports of fire ants beyond the eradication treatment area receive priority. We also prioritise detections that pose a risk to public safety – schools, childcare centres, parks and sporting fields, and those with the greatest chance for future spread.



By investing in fire ant eradication now, we can avoid astronomical costs in the future and protect our Australian way of life for the next generation.

Visit **fireants.org.au** or call **13 25 23** for more information.

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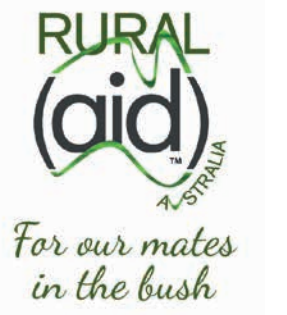
Demand for fodder still high despite rain

Rain across four states has failed to dampen demand for fodder to feed drought affected livestock. Australia's rural charity, Rural Aid, said relief from farmers who received rain in the past week was welcome but none more so than producers in south-western West Australia where the region had experienced its driest conditions on record. The challenge is still ahead of many farming families whose properties had received only light relief and are still hoping for more rain in coming weeks. Large parts of Victoria remained especially dry – rainfall during autumn had been in the lowest 10pc of records for the south-west, and parts of the west, north-east and East Gippsland. South Australia had enjoyed

some relief with falls on average of between five to 15mm but remained parched. "Rural Aid continues to be active right across the country at this time providing hay for livestock, drinking water, and financial relief," Mr Warlters said. In the past month, Rural Aid had coordinated 29 fodder drops across the country. In Queensland producers impacted by bushfires in late 2023 across the Southern and Western Darling Downs were being supported with hay and counselling. In addition, 30 volunteers recently spent a week working on nine properties in and around Tara. Mr Warlters said Rural Aid relied heavily on community and

corporate support to fund its activities and was encouraging tax-time donations to help sustain its efforts. "With June 30 just around the corner now is an opportunity to make a tax-deductible donation in support of Rural Aid and 'our

mates in the bush' – the farming families that need our help." Rural Aid provides critical support to farmers affected by natural disaster through financial, wellbeing and fodder assistance. Find out more about Rural Aid at www.ruralaid.org.au



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Bourke Inspires Wattles Victory



Left wing finisher Mitch Bourke broke down the Boars front door in just the eighth minute of play at Goondiwindi's Gilbert Oval on Saturday evening crossing for Wattles initial try that set those donning green and gold on the way to a 28 - 0 lead by the 28th minute of play, and a 36 - 22 winning result overall.

The home side Boars fought back to trail 28 - 10 at the break, and kept pace with the Warriors try for try throughout the second stanza.

Bourke snatched the Stillwater Pastoral Company Wattles opening two tries in the space of thirteen minutes, while three-quarter partner Matt Christensen also collected a try double.

Gilbert Oval feeds the Boars spirit, and while it took a good half hour to kick in on Saturday, when it did, they made up significant lost ground on the Warriors eventually crossing for five touchdowns to Wattles seven.

The match saw new faces back-rower Domenic Whittingham and five-eight Lachlan Watt run on in impressive green and gold debuts.

Australian touch football representative Watt was one to shine in the result, joining Whittingham, winger Bourke and hooker Tom Hatch as key contributors.

A sight for Wattles loyal sore eyes, especially coach Travis

Burns was to see his skipper Ty Gardner start off the bench after a four-week injury spell, and score his team's final try.

Along with winger Bourke's contribution to Wattles first half rampage, was tries by front-row book end Cooper Tate-Roche, centre Christensen and Watt who was partnering Brayden Paix in the halves.

It took the Boars until the 34th minute to find the try line to trail 28 - 4 after centre Samukie Gaidan sailed over, and lit the wick for the home side to cross for another three unanswered tries by Jarrod Dwyer, Michael Hazard and Damon Bulmer reducing Wattles advantage to 28 - 18.

Four-pointers by Christensen and Gardner extended Wattles lead to 36 - 18, before home side three-quarter Dwyer crossed in the final minute of play.

Coach Burns was more than encouraged with his team's performance, especially coming into this Saturday evening's key Round 10 clash with the Dalby Diehards.

After the win over Goondiwindi, Burns has some selection headaches given the return this week of a number of key performers from the injury list.

Aside from vital premiership points, as second on the ladder Dalby and third placed Wattles grapple for top end places, the Dalby contest will see the Rod Frahm Memorial Cup on offer.

A Wattles club Life Member and Clifton business identity, Rod Frahm also shared a close association with the Dalby area rural industry, the Cup named in his honour first contested in 2007.

Wattles 36 (Mitch Bourke 2,



Reserve grade front-rower Dan Rub was an inspiring performer against the Goondiwindi Boars on Saturday. (Image - JD Sporting Photography)

Matthew Christensen 2, Cooper Tate-Roche, Lachlan Watt, Ty Gardner tries; Brayden Paix 4 goals) defeated **Goondiwindi 22**.

Reserve Grade - Five touchdowns in a 27-minute purple patch of the second half hauled the 'Farm Spray' Wattles reserve grade team from a 12 - 16 half time deficient to an overwhelming 38 - 16 victory over the home side Boars.

Wattles rose to prominence after a shabby first half against the side on second bottom rung of the Clive Berghofer Land Sales Premiership ladder, where the Boars held a half time lead.

The Warriors had earlier raced to an early 10 - 0 lead after eleven minutes courtesy of four-pointers by impact forward Tim Exelby and habitual try scoring winger Isaac Leach.

When hooker Zac Stevens scored from close quarters in just the third minute of the second stanza, the Warriors opened the Gilbert Oval floodgates with fullback Dale McAntee, team skipper second-rower Tom Duggan twice and five-eight Garth

Lonergeran all finding their way through to secure points.

Dan Rubb was inspiring in the forward pack exchange against the Boars, with back-rower Aaron Schied and fullback Dale McAntee bringing experience and stability to the team as the line-up showed their true worth.

Others to shine included Tom Duggan with a superb captains knock, along with halves Michael Duggan and Garth Lonergeran and back-rower Tom Philp.

Coach Tony Morris admired the way his team recalculated their game course back in line with the match plan and pushed home for the desired result.

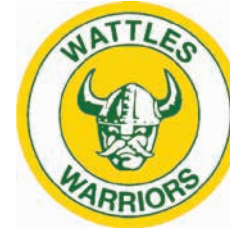
"We were an under-strength side this week, injury and promotion, but lucky enough to get the win after a slow first half."

Wattles 38 (Tom Duggan 2, Tim Exelby, Isaac Leach, Zac Stevens, Dale McAntee, Garth Lonergeran tries; Ben Comerford 4, Alex Morris goals) defeated **Goondiwindi 16**.

Under 19 - Wattles Under 19's enjoyed a bye round.

Glyn Rees

Wattles Under 15 Awesome Against Junior Boars



A crackerjack Glen McMillan coached Drayton Medical Centre Wattles Under 15 Warriors line-up boasted too much firepower for their Goondiwindi junior Boars opposition on Saturday at Platz Oval running out convincing 40 - 0 winners.

"I was happy our team play improved on past weeks, the line-up was very consistent across the park with back-rower Zac Wheeldon and hooker Orry Gilmore crossing for multiple tries." Glen said.

Fullback Will Peters was considered best on ground, the Crackerjack Chicken Player of the Match, given a shining performance combining great tackles and strong running.

Wattles 40 (Zac Wheeldon 3, Orry Gilmore 2, Hugh Denny, Jonte May, Joseph Llewellyn tries; Ty Betts 2, Ben Rauchle, Jonte May goals) defeated **Goondiwindi 0**.

Clifton Upholstery Under 6 - Wattles Under 6 mini-Warriors continue to improve every week, impressing against the Boars with their touchdowns and impressive tagging.

Rugby league debutantes Dusty Sauverain, Alex Nelson and Murphy Knight looked polished, while team mates Jack Wilson, Aubrey Thompson-Cleary, Ollie Van Der Poel, Bailee Monckton and Billy Byrne all performed well and scored some classy tries.

Willett Electrical Under 7 - It was another day of achievements for Wattles Under 7's against the junior Boars with plenty of strong go forward and well-timed passing.

Olivia Mullen and Jett Robinson crossed for tries against the best the Boars rallied to Platz

Oval, their strong running & eagerness for the ball highlights of the game.

While the competition was hot, both teams enjoyed the spirit of the match, just what junior footy is all about.

Railway Hotel, Allora Under 8 - Wattles Under 8's continued their impressive form and entertaining footy against the junior Boars, particularly in their organization and teamwork on the field.

Co-coach Jarod Gault admires the progress of the team, "It's awesome to see that the players have made such significant steps forward from the seasons kick-off."

A fine effort by Braxton Harper earned him Clifton Jam Factory & Café Man of the Match honours.

Dalrymple Landscape & Haulage Under 9 - The Boars were a little too tough a package for Wattles Under 8 side, but the local lads weren't far out of the running.

Coach Shadai Daley is continually impressed with her team's attitude and commitment at training and in games, "We're still working hard on defence and communication, and it's paying dividends."

Black Toyota, Warwick Under 10 - Wattles Under 10's celebrated a win over Goondiwindi as a result of a commendable team effort.

The second stanza saw those in green and gold run away with the match scoring nine tries to four.

Hunter Ryan had a busy game in defence and attack, while Toby Schmidt and Rhys Gascoyne impressed running the ball.

William Ehrlich was again a strong competitor, with team mates Tommy Saville, Henry Johnson, Joseph Ramsay and Aidan Hart giving their all throughout.

Patrick Potts took out the Crackerjack Chicken Man of the Match award in only his second game for Wattles.

Clifton Auto Ag Under 11 - Will Berry was the shining light in

the Wattles Under 11 line-up with a huge defensive game along with some very smart gamesmanship in attack.

Will Visser's tackling effort was also a highlight, along with Noah Schwenke's highly commendable work rate in both defence and running the ball.

Full marks to Tyson Dawson and Levi Grogan who continue to improve each & every week.

Ryanie For Tyres Under 12 - Coach Russell McMillan rated the effort of his Under 12's highly in what is always a tough contest against the Boars.

The Under 12's are among the top improvers in the Junior club developing plenty of polish as the season progresses.

With Stanthorpe not having an Under 12 side this season, Wattles will sit out a bye on Saturday.

Nutrien Harcourts Clifton Under 13 - It was a tough day at the office for the Under 13 Warriors with the Boars playing at another level to outgun the home side.

The team are now focused on regrouping for a positive outcome against Stanthorpe on Saturday.

Goondiwindi 34 defeated **Wattles 4** (Bohdi Free try).

Farm Spray Under 17 - Falling short of victory by 14 - 12 against the Under 17 Boars, Wattles had held a 6 - 0 lead at half time.

Best in green & gold and

Crackerjack Best & Fairest Player was Patrick Fitzgerald, "his running game was destructive but his defence was just as impressive" said coach Matthew Christensen.

Oliver Cooper in his first game back from injury a month ago was up to his usual standard, dominating in defence and running with vigour.

Patrick Denny and newcomer Will Rauchle were also impressive in a very tough contest.

Wattles 12 (Charlie Spina, Will Rauchle tries; Ben Barbierato 2 goals) defeated by **Goondiwindi 14**.

All In Electrical Under 15 Girls League Tag - While Wattles Under 15 league tag girls were scheduled to play Goondiwindi, a forfeit by the visitors saw the Under 15's match up against Wattles Under 18 ladies in a friendly.

Warwick & District Junior Rugby League Round 9 - Wattles juniors are back at Platz Oval this Saturday hosting the Stanthorpe Gremlins in what is a Super Saturday of rugby league, juniors throughout the day followed by seniors' fixtures against Dalby from 3.30pm until late.

With Stanthorpe not fielding an Under 18 ladies' team this season, Wattles will take in Tenterfield in that grade.

Glyn Rees

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SATURDAY 9TH JUNE

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CREATIVE CORNER

WORD ↔ MATCH-UPS

Match up these Pokémon with their power type.

- | | |
|------------|----------|
| Pikachu | Fighting |
| Sandslash | Electric |
| Clefable | Fairy |
| Diglet | Ice |
| Meowth | Psychic |
| Machop | Ground |
| Hypno | Dark |
| Bulbasaur | Water |
| Charmander | Bug |
| Squirtle | Poison |
| Metapod | Fire |

Solution this page below

TODAY'S QUOTE -

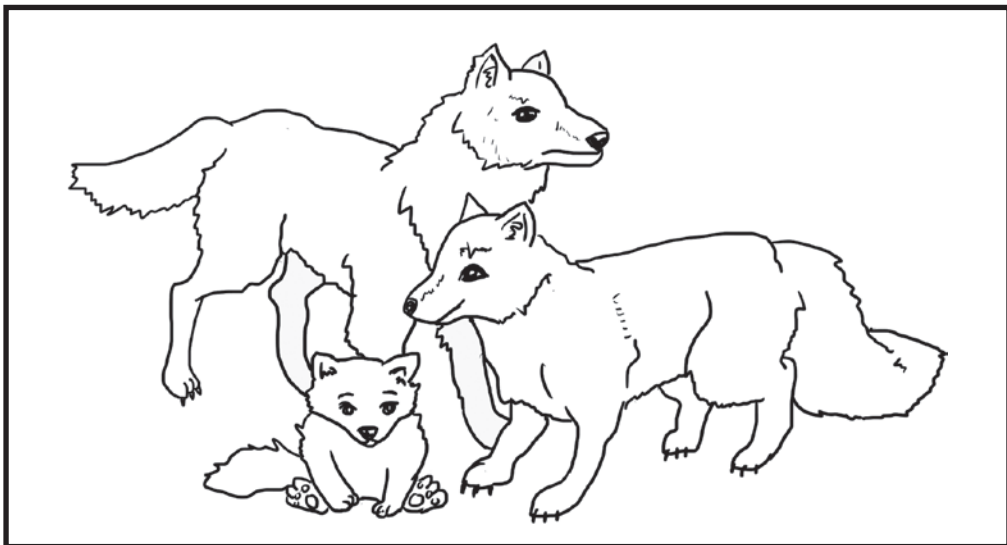
"He who hesitates is not only lost, but miles from the next exit."

SUDOKU

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

Solution this page

COLOURING FUN



Helen Harm
Real Estate

0408 457 496

BAD JOKE OF THE WEEK

My computer beat me at chess.

But it was no match for me at kickboxing.

SOLUTIONS

WORD MATCH-UPS

- Pikachu - Electric, Sandslash - Ice, Clefable - Fairy, Diglett - Ground, Meowth - Dark, Machop - Fighting, Hypno - Psychic, Bulbasaur - Poison, Charmander - Fire, Squirtle - Water, Metapod - Bug

SUDOKU

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

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Phone Paul Bradfield on Mobile 0428 674 783
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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.

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Friday's Allora Hardware duck run - The winners were: 1st: Errol May - 22 points, 2nd: Graham Whittaker - 18 points.
Pin shot on the 8th: Duke Maloney.
Long putt on the 4th: Lindsay May

Sunday's Amy's Country Cafe Monthly Medley - The winners were: 1st: Aaron Simpson - 38 points, 2nd: Kev Hurley - 37 points.
NTP'S: 4th: Lindsay May, 7th: Hethe Ramus,

8th: Hethe Ramus, 13th: John Sparksman, 16th: Rod Simpson, 17th: Rod Simpson.
Approaches: 2nd: Wayne McKewen, 5th: Aaron Simpson, 11th: Lindsay May, 14th: Neil Chandler.
Long putts: 1st: Lindsay May, 10th: Nick Lake.

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