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ABOVE: Within hours of starting work, the repair team had the site cleared and the poles back upright. The first roll of chain link is rolled out and attached to the undamaged part of the fence.

RIGHT: The new show ground fence was devastated by the water surging down the Goomburra Valley on December 27th.



Allora Showground Repairs

Allora has once again proved that it has what it takes when the chips are down.

Following the devastating floods from the other week, the Allora Showgrounds suffered quite badly. The huge fence around the showgrounds extension was completely flattened for almost 350m of its length, and water bourn debris was left scattered

...Continues on page 2

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Only another 330m to go.

Continued from front page...

about. The upcoming Allora Heritage Weekend had already been set down for the 22nd and 23rd January, and cancellation of such a major event at this late stage was not something the organisers wanted to think about. When news of the damage began to circulate among the wider community, including other heritage clubs and show societies, Allora Show Society president, Mrs Shirley Cornhill and members of the Show Committee began to field calls offering help and assistance from all over the district, and a working bee was scheduled for last Saturday, the 8th. A small army of 38 men and women volunteered from far and wide and descended on the grounds early on Saturday morning and began to tackle the mammoth task. One team worked on the fence and other group began the clean up. There were people from Toowoomba, Clifton and

Inglewood as well as Allora and possibly other places as well that I didn't find out about. Despite the magnitude of the task, no one involved had any doubts that the job would be done by days end, and when knock off time finally arrived at the end of a long hard day, the showgrounds were about back to their original state of readiness for the Heritage Weekend, with only a few minor fixes left to be attended to. Shirley Cornhill and the other committee members

were absolutely aghast that the grounds had been repaired in such a record time, and would like to take this opportunity to humbly pass on their sincerest thanks to all 38 volunteers for doing such a great job.

Flood Updates

Latest predictions put the expected peak in Warwick at a level of at least the '76 flood (9.1m) with that peak to hit sometime after dark. The level could go higher but there are so many variables in play across the catchment that it is difficult to be any more precise. Stanthorpe is still badly affected but levels are slowly dropping. In Warwick, 40-50 homes have been inundated as of early Tuesday afternoon (11th January), however up to 150 houses have been warned that evacuation may be necessary. In Allora, one evacuation was necessary for medical reasons. In Stanthorpe, approximately 30 houses were self-evacuated. There are no businesses affected in the Stanthorpe area. There are approximately 25 businesses flooded in Warwick and Killarney. All highways, except Warwick-Stanthorpe are closed. WIRAC, Slade and Stanthorpe Civic Centre are open as evacuation centres. There were 43 in the Stanthorpe Evacuation Centre (37 backpackers), however they have been relocated to a local motel. There are 32 at the WIRAC evacuation centre and 85 at the Slade evacuation centre. Allora centre is open but there are no people registered to stay overnight. SES will continue to evacuate houses as needed in Warwick, Stanthorpe, Allora. Due to inundation of the Stanthorpe Sewerage Treatment Plant, effluent has flowed into Quart Pot Creek. Residents, DERM and Qld Health have been advised.

S U D O K U	7	5		2				9
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		4		8	6			3
		3	7	5			1	9
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		2		5				3
	3		1	7	2	9		
	5				3		8	7

Solution in classifieds section

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ALLORA NEWS

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WEATHER FORECAST

Day	Forecast	Min/Max
THU	Light Rain Early. Morning Clouds. Mild.	18 25
FRI	Morning Clouds. Mild.	17 24
SAT	Mostly Sunny. Mild.	15 28
SUN	Early Rain & Fog Followed by Sun. Warm.	15 29
MON	A Few Showers. Breaks of Sun Late. Cool.	17 23
TUE	Showers Late. Morning Clouds. Warm.	18 31

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\$0.94 per 100g

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NOTE: Due to the extensive flooding in our growing areas Allora FoodWorks Market Day will be delayed until Friday 28th January. There will be no Market Day in February.

BACK TO SCHOOL

- 2 Ring A4 Assorted Binder ... **\$2.79**
- Papermate 4 Colour Pen 1pk ... **99¢**
- Kilometric Blue, Black or Red 10pk. **\$2.49**
- Papermate Blue or Black Profile Pen Bonus 2pk ... **\$2.59**
- Sistema Twist/Pop Bottle 600mL ... **\$4.99**
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BAD JOKE OF THE WEEK

A company, feeling it was time for a shake-up, hires a new CEO.

This new boss is determined to rid the company of all slackers.

On a tour of the facilities, the CEO notices a guy leaning on a wall. The room is full of workers and he wants to let them know he means business!

The CEO walks up to the guy and asks, "And how much money do you make a week?"

A little surprised, the young fellow looks at him and replies, "I make \$300.00 a week. Why?"

The CEO then hands the guy \$1,200 in cash and screams, "Here's four weeks pay, now GET OUT and don't come back!"

Feeling pretty good about his first firing, the CEO looks around the room and asks, "Does anyone want to tell me what that goof-off did here?"

With a sheepish grin, one of the other workers mutters, "He delivers the Pizzas from Domino's"

SEPTIC TANK CLEANING
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Southern Downs bracing for a big one

Mayor of Southern Downs Ron Bellingham said the Southern Downs community is bracing itself for a flood equal to the Christmas flood or "bigger than '76".

"The Bureau has not yet forecast the river height, however the Condamine River and all tributaries continue to rise at alarming levels," Cr Bellingham said.

"In Warwick, the SES and Council staff have door-knocked residences and businesses within the 100 year flood line, which is beyond the flood of 27 December."

Cr Bellingham said that of current concern is the Gravel Creek in Killarney.

"People are telling me it is as high as locals have ever seen it," he said.

Flood levels in Stanthorpe are also expected to be as high, if not higher, than the 1976 flood levels and around 25 homes have been evacuated as a precaution.

"Quart Pot Creek has now cut the Highway at the bypass and reports of damage to the northern end of Carnarvon Bridge are currently being investigated."

Cr Bellingham said that positive news for the Stanthorpe community was that both Morello and Harslett Dams were holding.

"Council is urging everyone to diligently observe flood levels however we encourage residents who are unaffected, not to go out sightseeing as this is using up valuable police resources in traffic control and impeding the SES in carrying out their role also."

Dams in the region are above capacity. Water is running 900mm over Storm King Dam and 830mm over the Connolly Dam spillway. Leslie Dam is overflowing at 70 megalitres per day as advised by Sunwater and currently all gates are open. All roads leading from Warwick to anywhere are closed, with the exception of Warwick to Stanthorpe. Allora and Killarney are also currently isolated. Stanthorpe to Wallangarra is closed. A number of evacuation centres are operational within the Southern Downs. Cr Bellingham said that staff and volunteers at Slade Campus, the Warwick Indoor Recreation and Aquatic Centre, the Stanthorpe Civic Centre and the Allora Community Hall are taking registrations and attempting to make evacuees as comfortable as possible.

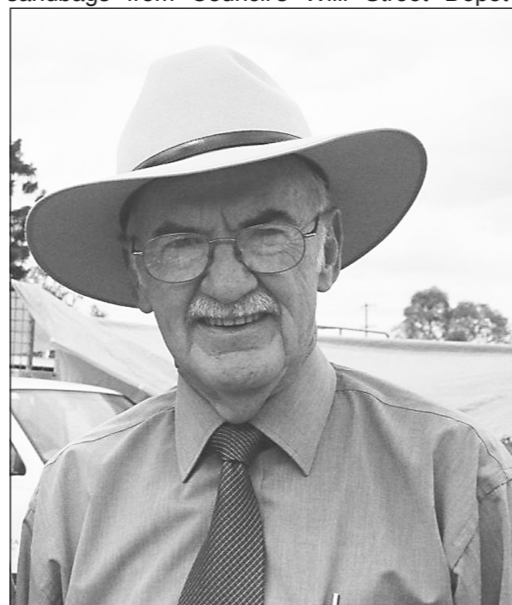
"However people are asked where possible, to stay with friends or to utilise commercial accommodation prior to going to evacuation centres," Cr Bellingham said.

"This will assist with demand on volunteers and ancillary organisations."

SES Controller John Newley alerted Warwick residents to the availability of sandbags from Council's Willi Street Depot (former Rosenthal Shire Council Depot).

"Alternatively, people willing to help fill sandbags are encouraged to head to the Willi Street Depot to offer assistance," he said.

Residents are reminded to monitor local radio and television for further information.



Southern Downs Regional Mayor Ron Bellingham



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Events Calendar

2011

- January -**
Sat 22 Allora Heritage Weekend
& **Sun 23** Allora Showgrounds
Sat 22 Wattles Meet & Greet
Downs Hotel, Drayton, 3.00pm
- February -**
Sat 19 Wattles Junior Sign-On & Muster
Platz Oval Clifton, 4.00pm

IMPORTANT INFORMATION for the inclusion of calendar entries - Clients who advertise their events in The Allora Advertiser in a display (box) advertisement sized at least 2 column x 8 cm, will 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, and venue and time. For those clients who phone to place their entry in the calendar prior to advertising, the entry will be included as date claimer only, until the advertisement is booked. If people wish to contact The Allora Advertiser and discuss their particular needs, please feel free to do so. Ph 4666 3128.

Peculiar Quotes from Famous Folks...

"Our strength is that we don't have any weaknesses. Our weakness is that we don't have any real strengths." - *Frank Broyles, College football coach*

"I'd run over my own mother to win the Super Bowl." - *Joe Jacoby, NFL Football player, of the Washington Redskins*

"To win, I'd run over Joe's mom too." - *Matt Millen, NFL Football player, of the Raiders*



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- Hahn Super Dry stubs 330mL.....24pk **\$45.99**
- XXXX Gold 375mL stubs24pk **\$36.99**
- Woodstock & Cola 4.8% cans.....6pk **\$16.99**
- Smirnoff Ice Double Black 6.5% btle 4pk **\$17.99**
- Jack Daniels 375mL cans.....4pk 2 for **\$30**
or **\$16.99 each**
- UDL Pre Mix 4.5% 375mL cans....6pk **\$17.99**
- Yalumba Premium Casks 2L..... **\$12.99**
- Johnnie Walker Red Scotch 700mL..... **\$32.99**
- Jim Beam White Bourbon 700mL **\$32.99**
- Wild Turkey 86.8% Proof Bourbon 700mL
..... **\$39.99**
- Lordson Gin 700mL..... **\$28.99**
- Kahlua 700mL..... **\$29.99**
- Lindemans Bin Range 750mL **\$7.99**
- Rosemount Diamond Cellars Range 750mL
..... **\$8.99**
- Jacobs Creek Sparkling 750mL **\$9.99**

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ALLORA FLOOD DECEMBER 2010



Marooned Mt Marshall residents survey the New England Highway into Allora, and the three vehicles that were swamped on this flooded roadway earlier in the day. All photos this spread © Steve Corbett



LEFT: The main roads safety sign on the New England Highway managed to hold its own against the barrage of fast flowing water.

BELOW: New Mt Marshall resident Diane Garth checks out the New England Highway at Backwater Creek.



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BELOW: Surfacing washed away and potholes left behind. Damage at the intersection of South Street and New England Highway.



ABOVE LEFT: The raging torrent that was the New England Highway into Allora, and the three vehicles that didn't make it while attempting to cross.

BELOW: Looking back up the Goomburra Valley and the Dalrymple Creek looks like an inland sea. Photos this spread © Steve Corbett



ALLORA FLOOD DECEMBER 2010



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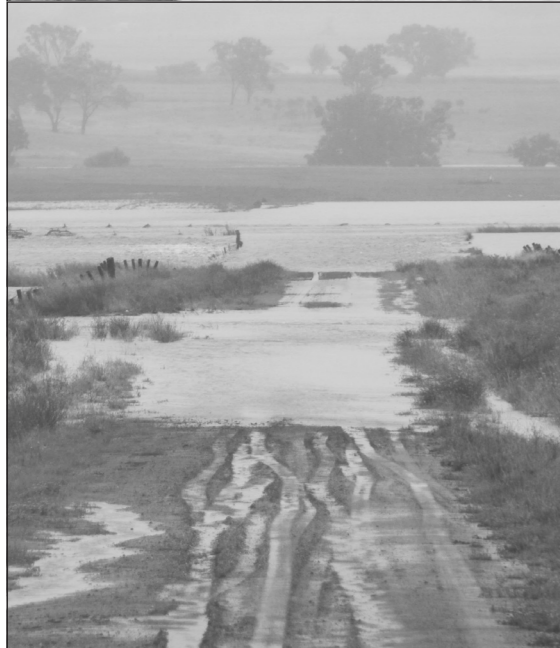
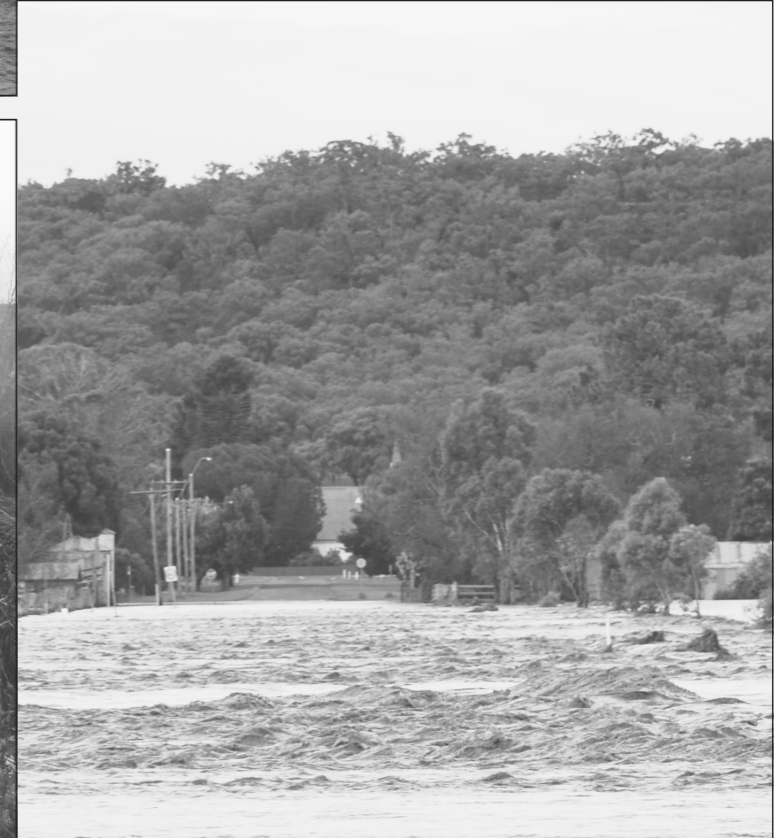


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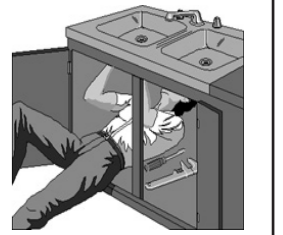
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*These flood photos of in and around
Allora supplied by David Gleeson*

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Looking Back...

Allora's Past 100 years ago Some Statistics from 1911

From the C. P. S. at Allora:-
Stock returns collected - 292
Old-age pension claims received - 6
Indigents- 2
Insolvent estates- 1
Police Court arrests - 36
Licenses granted to hotels - 7
Billiard licenses - 2
Tobacco licenses - 14
Slaughter licenses - 4
Carrier's licenses - 7
From the Post Office:-
Telegrams dispatched - 3431
Telephone trunk calls outward - 4449
Letters dispatched 134,910
Postcards - 8616
From the Railway Station:-
Goods dispatched - 7838 tons
Pigs consigned - 3679
Sheep - 646
Passengers on branch line - 6703

Allora's Past 150 years ago Approaching Land Sale

At the Police Office, Warwick, on Tuesday, the 21st day of February, 1861, 20 suburban lots will be offered for sale. They comprise Lots 1 - 10 of Section 2 and Lots 1 - 10 of Section 5, County of Merivale, Parish of Allora, Town of Allora.

These lots are 1 acre in extent and have an upset price of £4.

Moreton Bay Courier, 19th January, 1861.

(This was Allora's second land sale. Section 2 is the block enclosed by Raff, Drayton, Herbert, and Warwick Streets. Section 5 is that enclosed by Herbert, Drayton, Forde, and Warwick Streets.

The buyers of Section 2, starting from the Raff/Warwick Streets corner were:- Lot 1, T. B. Brooks; Lots 2 and 3, Lock Up Reserve; Lots 4 and 5, Dr. S. W. Aldred; Lot 6, Michael Erhardt; Lots 7 and 8, School Reserve; Lots 9 and 10, William Naish.

The buyers of Section 5, starting from the Herbert/Warwick Streets corner were:- Lot 1, George Munro; Lots 2, 3, and 4, David Sinton; Lot 5, John Rinehart; Lots 6 and 7, Henry Saal; Lot 8, Robert Black; Lot 9, T. Collings; Lot 10, Samuel Gordon.)

Sport in Allora

The Allora and District Historical Society is planning to set up a display in the pavilion on the Heritage Weekend with the theme "Sport in Allora". Anyone with items that they would like to lend for the display please contact Lyn Wright on 0408 753 085.

Please visit our web site www.allora-and-district-historical-society-inc.com

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ALLORA FLOOD DECEMBER 2010



LEFT & BELOW: Elizabeth Betts, who has lived at Ellinthorpe Rd for over 50 years had never seen the railway line go under before.

These photos supplied
by Elizabeth Betts



Allora Nail Inglewood in a Nailbiter

Allora "Foodworks" cricket eleven skipper Cameron Masters led from the front on Saturday, answering a late call up on Saturday morning with Allora unexpectedly a player who boasts a highest score of 62 in junior cricket has played two years in senior ranks. The Clifton State High School student is more than capable with the bat & ball, and on Sunday mopped up the Inglewood tail taking 2 wickets for 5 runs off only 2.2 overs.

snatching three wickets with his medium pacers in his side's 14 run victory over Warwick Cricket Association "Cool Solutions" Premiership high flyers Inglewood. The win is Allora's second at Inglewood against the local side, having also had their measure in last season's corresponding visit. The vital confidence boosting result is also the Allora side's second win of the 2010/11 season. Masters was very impressed with his team's gritty performance in the field, hobbling the Inglewood line up to 98 runs in their reply to Allora's 112. "Catches win matches" and the Allora side held their catches in the field, Masters taking three while the "younger brigade" of Alex Morris (2), Nick Morris (2) & Will Duff also showed steady hands when the opportunities were presented. In his first game of the season, experienced campaigner Jason Nightingale took a screamer of a catch on the boundary off Cameron Masters' bowling, to dismiss David Littleproud (11).

Ever reliable medium pacer Andrew Petersen stepped up to the plate yet again with an impressive 3 for 29 off eight overs, while Steve Hughes opened the gates for Allora with his more than economical 2 for 16 also off eight overs, including Inglewood's opening combination of Nick Campbell (34) and J Smith (11).

Allora, following Stuart & Cameron Masters, as well as

Petersen brothers Andrew & Jared and more recently Jordan & Josh Henry.

Another new face in the "Foodworks" line up on Saturday was up & coming 16 year old talent Will Duff, son of former local cricketing identity Malcolm Duff. The young right arm medium pacer, who is a regular with the Nobby side in the Central Downs Cricket competition, answered a late call up on Saturday morning with Allora unexpectedly a player who boasts a highest score of 62 in junior cricket has played two years in senior ranks. The Clifton State High School student is more than capable with the bat & ball, and on Sunday mopped up the Inglewood tail taking 2 wickets for 5 runs off only 2.2 overs.

Steve Hughes got a start with a quick fire 11 when he opened Allora's batting innings with Cameron Masters after Allora had won the toss and elected to bat. "First drop" Aaron "The Butcher" Vietheer put his mark on the match and celebrated his third outing in Allora colours top scoring with a match winning 38. The Allora Butchery employee is in his initial year with the local team after formerly padding up in the Lockyer Valley competition, and has missed many opportunities to show his style this season with so many matches cancelled of late due to weather conditions. On Saturday, wicket keeper Vietheer showed a steady hand after Allora lost their openers for 18, guiding his side's innings at the wicket until dismissed with Allora at 8 for 92. Champion all rounder Adam May supported Vietheer with a valuable total of 19, while dependable Justin Briggs held on with 9 not out as last batsmen in.

Allora batting: Steve Hughes 11, Cameron Masters 4, Aaron Vietheer 38, Adam May 19, Brady Glass 3, Alex Morris 2, Will Duff 3, Andrew Petersen 4, Jason Nightingale 5, Nick Morris 4, Justin Briggs 9 not out.

Sundries 10. Total 112.

Allora bowling: Adam May 6-0-0-9, Brady Glass 5-2-0-17, Andrew Petersen 8-0-3-29, Steve Hughes 8-2-2-16, Alex Morris 3-1-0-6, Cameron Masters 2-0-3-5, Will Duff 2.2-0-2-5, Nick Morris 1-0-0-5.

Saturday's match almost didn't eventuate. A Warwick Cricket Association representative advised on Friday that all fixtures, being the postponed Round 9 competition matches, scheduled for Saturday were cancelled due to inclement weather. Inglewood officials contacted Allora on Saturday morning advising conditions at Inglewood were more than acceptable for play, and requested the scheduled match at Inglewood proceed.

This Saturday the Allora "Foodworks" Eleven will take on the "Sovereign Hotel" at the Allora Cricket Oval in a replay of the washed out WCA Round 2 fixtures. The match was originally scheduled to be played on the 10th of October, and then again on the 11th of December with both matches postponed due to wet conditions. Cameron Masters will lead a virtually unchanged Allora side from the line up who defeated Inglewood; however junior representative pace bowler Brodie Frizzell will join the team. The "Sovereign Hotel" team will include Allora identity and former Allora player Brad Johnson. Play will commence at 12.30 pm sharp.

The Allora team to play "Sovereign Hotel": Cameron Masters, Adam May, Brady Glass, Justin Briggs, Andrew Petersen, Jason Nightingale, Aaron Vietheer, Steve Hughes, Alex Morris, Brodie Frizzell & Nick Morris. Player's and supporters are reminded that the initial Allora Cricket Association Saturday Raffles will commence at the Railway Hotel from 5 pm this Saturday. Tickets are only \$1 each in a board of great prizes, we look forward to seeing everyone for a chance of a winner and a cold beer.

Glyn Rees

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DAY	6am - 9am	9am - 12md	12md - 2pm	2pm - 4pm	4pm - 6pm	6pm - 9pm	9pm - 12mn
Mon	Breakfast Show: Michael Parris	Lite & Easy Morning Music: Don Maher	Evergreen Golden Hits with Katherine Barnes	From the 50's through the 70's with Andy Wilson	Youth Presentation	Monday Country with Don Maher/Jeff Beier	Late Night Country with Les Meiklejohn
Tue	Breakfast Show with Debbie Andersen	9am - 12md Easy Listening: Interviews, John Elliott	12md - 3pm Easy Listening Lunchbox with Russell Neucomb	3pm - 6pm Tuesday ArvoDriveTime with Loyd Wiermans	6pm - 8pm One Ladies Great Music/Jodi Keim/	8pm - 12mn Tuesday Night Country	12mn - 6am CBAA Satellite Programs
Wed	6am-9am Wednesday Breakfast Show/Pat Elliott/Mike Parris.	9am - 12md Easy Listening 70's to 90's: Danny Collins & Don Maher	12md - 4pm Early afternoon Mix 50's to 70's: Keith Tootell	4pm-6pm 70',80's,90's with Kris Moulder	6pm - 8pm Top 20 Pop Hits of the week with Tor Moulder/Emma Costello	8pm - 12mn Best songs of all times: Cedric Robbins	12mn - 6am CBAA Satellite Programs
Thu	Breakfast Show Pat Elliott	9am - 10am A little more brekky with Pat E 10am to 1pm/Music from other countries&with Julie	1pm-4pm Musical Memories with Keith Tootell	4pm-6pm Music Through the 80's & 90's with Julian Gibbs	6pm - 8pm Great Music of the 80's with Peter Hardwick	8pm - 12mn Jazz/Swing/Blues: Arthur Denton/	12mn - 6am CBAA Satellite Programs
Fri	Breakfast Show: Brian Moore & David Stevens	9am - 12md - Andy again - some of your favourite hits with Andy Wilson	12pm-4pm Friday Avro Mix Pat Elliott	4pm - 7pm Youth Music: Kris Moulder/Sue Keong	7pm - 11pm Rock & Roll: Bob Loxley/David Ure	11pm - 6am CBAA Satellite Programs	
Sat	Breakfast Show: John Moulder	9am - 12md Saturday Morning Best Sounds with Pat Elliott/Donna Turnley/Keith Tootell	12md-3pm Swing intoSaturday Arvo with Kathy Mapes/Krissy Bloomfield/Tim Moulder	3pm - 6pm Drive Time Music/ & Peter Hardwick	6pm - 9pm Saturday Night Country: (Old/Modern/Crossover) Don Maher/Pauline Pickering/Mary	9pm - 12mn Continuation of Country Music: Don Maher	12mn - 6am 4SDB's Great Music Mix
Sun	Breakfast Show: Russell Neucomb	9am - 1pm Australian Country Music/Bush Ballads & Verse/Aussie Top 20 Albums	1pm - 4pm Those were the days: Arthur Denton	4pm - 6pm Classical Music: Arthur Denton	6pm - 7pm Religious Hour with Ann & Carol	7pm - 10pm Sunday Night Country	12mn - 6am CBAA Satellite Programs

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• CHURCH NOTICES •

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THIS SUNDAY AT ALLORA - Service/Sunday School at 9.30am.
Wednesday Evenings - Bible Study at 7.30pm.
KIDS CLUB - 1st & 3rd Friday of each month for prep - grade 7. From 3.15pm - 5.00pm.
YOUTH GROUP - 2nd & 4th Friday of each month, 6.30pm - 8.30pm.
MENS BREAKFAST - Last Saturday in each month, 7.30am.
LADIES BIBLE STUDY - Tuesdays, 10.00am - 11.00am.
Enquiries to Pastor Dennis Mooney 4666 3829.
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The Catholic Community of ST. PATRICK'S, ALLORA

NOTE NEW MASS TIMES - 1st SUNDAY at 9.00am, 2nd & 3rd SUNDAYS at 6.00pm.

2nd TUESDAY (at The Homestead), and 4th TUESDAY, at 9.30am.
LAYLED LITURGY, with Communion - 4th & 5th SUNDAYS at 9.00am. Every FRIDAY morning at 9.30am.
SACRED HEART CHURCH - DEUCHAR - MASS at 10.00am every 3rd SUNDAY.
Ecumenical Prayer Service every 2nd Monday at 7.00pm.
For Church Bookings/Parish enquiries, phone 4666 3377.
St Patrick's Parish School (Prep - Yr. 7), enquiries 4666 4551.

The Anglican Parish of Allora and Clifton - Service Times

St Davids: Allora
Sundays: Holy Communion 10.00am
Saturdays: Holy Communion 1st of month 7.00pm
Wednesdays: Morning Prayer 10.00am
All Saints: Clifton
Sundays: Holy Communion 8.00am
Anglican Family Fellowship 5.30pm

Please note: Children are being especially welcomed at the St David's 10.00am Kidz Time services on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month.

Locum - Rev. Les Monaghan - Phone 0438 670 066 / 4666 3343

Uniting Church Allora

9.00am Sunday Services.
Enquiries phone 4666 3225. All welcome.

• SOLUTIONS •

THIS WEEK'S SUDOKU SOLUTION

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

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Leslie Dam Spills Over

The storm last Wednesday afternoon pushed the water level at Leslie Dam near Warwick to spill over point for the first time in over 20 years. The water started spilling at 9.00pm, 5 January 2011, and the gates were opened at 10.00pm. Southern Downs Mayor Ron Bellingham said "This is a significant historical event, having only occurred twice before in the Dam's history. "It's an amazing sight, however, from a safety point of view, we urge anyone in the area to obey all signage and direction from any officials. "These waters are incredibly powerful and it is important to act safely around them. "We understand that SunWater will be working hard to minimise any downstream effects." Speaking as rain continued to fall across the region, Cr Bellingham said: "I'm somewhat relieved that there is a release, as it does provide a cushion to lower the potential level of a future flood if this rain continues."



Leslie Dam spills over. Photo courtesy Southern Downs Regional Council

He said that whilst the Bureau of Meteorology had scaled back its rain predictions, the current rain "is very significant and will have a rapid effect on the Condamine River should it continue at the rate it is". "This rain will certainly hamper the continuing efforts of Council staff to make our roads safe, but we will be making our best efforts to fix damaged areas within the constraints of this weather. "I'd like to thank all the staff working under these difficult conditions." Leslie Dam wall was extended in 1986, but the dam was originally constructed in the 1960s. The Dam has spilled over only twice since it was extended in 1986. Southern Downs Mayor Ron Bellingham held discussions with SunWater on Thursday, 6th January, about the amount of water being released from the dam, which caused flooding on the Cunningham Highway between Warwick and Inglewood. The Highway was closed at Sandy Creek Bridge, about 8km west of Warwick. SunWater has since closed all but two gates in the dam, and Main Roads has re-opened the Cunningham Highway at Sandy Creek, but urges motorists to proceed with caution.

Local Disaster Coordination Centre re-activated

Southern Downs Regional Council Mayor, Ron Bellingham, said the Local Disaster Coordination Centre was re-activated at 10.00am Monday morning, 10th January. The group including Council, Main Roads, SES and Emergency Services representatives met Monday morning after heavy rain soaked the region overnight and continued to fall. Cr Bellingham said that on a very wet catchment area there is now more rain happening and that Emergency Services are on standby.

"We don't have a flood level prediction at the moment, but based on Bureau of Meteorology forecasts, it looks like we're going to have another moderate to major flood through the area," Cr Bellingham said. Between 50 and 200 millimetres of rain is forecast over the next few days. It is predicted that any floods could affect Allora, Warwick, Killarney and Stanthorpe. The disaster management plan kicked off Sunday afternoon, when local SES volunteers door-knocked around 150 homes in low lying areas in Allora and Warwick to encourage preparedness for evacuation should it be necessary. Dozens of roads have been affected by flooding. Senior Sergeant Stewart Day of Warwick Police advised that the road from Warwick to Killarney was closed Monday morning, but that the Cunningham Highway from Warwick to Inglewood was expected to remain open at that point. Council engineering staff advised that as of 11.30am Monday, road closures in the Granite Belt included: Granite St, Stanthorpe; Folkestone St, Stanthorpe; Pozieres Rd, Pozieres; Reid Rd, Severnlea; Teale Rd, The Summit; Amosfield Rd, Stanthorpe; Lock Street, Stanthorpe; Britannia St, Stanthorpe; Bents Rd 2nd crossing, Ballandean. Many other roads are under threat of closure. Evacuation centres are currently being prepared in case of flood. Police are urging motorists to avoid non-essential travel given the treacherous road conditions and widespread flooding. The local road network is being closely monitored by Emergency Services, the Council and the SES. The SES and Council have established Helpline numbers with residents urged to call Council on 4661 0300 or the SES on 132 500 for assistance. Residents are reminded to monitor local radio and television for further information. For current traffic information, people are urged to check www.131940.qld.gov.au or phone 131940.

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SWIFT WATER RESCUE -27/12/10



ABOVE and RIGHT: Swift water rescue at Allora on Monday 27th December 2010. *Photos © Logan family, Allora*

At Allora on Monday, 27th December 2010, this Nissan X-Trail was swept off the Warwick-Allora Road, with 2 mature aged occupants aboard.

Being isolated by raging flood waters both north and south the police and Queensland Fire & Rescue were physically unable to assist. Locals residents Lance Frizzell and Charlie Logan and family, using a crane truck and 6 tonne lifting slings managed to secure the vehicle and safely rescue both occupants. The vehicle left the road and was swept rapidly, bobbing up and down, whilst taking on water. A submerged



culvert increased the waters depth to about 5 ft deep. The vehicle luckily snagged on a railway line. Had the vehicle not snagged the outcome might have been tragic. Although shaken both occupants were not injured in the incident.

BELOW: Santa after the floods. **INSET:** Santa high and dry before the flood. *Photos © Logan family*

