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ACROSS THE FENCE

ANZAC DAY



Saturday 25th April

Lest We Forget

A day to remember our Service Men & Women who have
died for us and those still serving to keep us safe

Happy Easter



*Remember to turn your clocks
back on Sunday 5th*

News from the Wallamba Watershed is a **FROGS BOTTOM PRODUCTION**



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Editorial.

Hi all,

Seems like we are all going to have to endure "house arrest" for a long time while this virus is causing havoc.

I will continue printing the paper as long as my supplier remains open and if he has to close, will just do one for the web page.

This will also depend on my receiving articles, your ideas, views, stories, etc to fill the columns as I will not just publish a 'telephone' book. So, get your thinking caps on and send me 'fillers'!

Thank you to all of the advertisers who have chosen to continue with their advertising and, hopefully, be able to continue doing their respective work safely.

For those who have pulled out due to temporary forced closure, I look forward to seeing you back as soon as possible.

Unfortunately a lot of shops have had to close their doors in NABIAC and surrounds, which will cause hardship to their owners, but hopefully they will reopen as soon as is safe to do so.

I have received some ideas for the kids to do to keep occupied over their extended school holiday and hope they help.

With it being such a busy month normally with school holidays, Easter and ANZAC Day, it will feel weird to not be having an ANZAC Day March or Memorials Service. I think I would be correct in saying it would be the first time since they started that one has not been held. Remember our fallen on 25th.

NABIAC was lucky to scrape in having the show go on and although it was understandably down in attendance, it appeared to be otherwise a good show.

On a personal note, I was extremely overwhelmed when, along with ex President **Dave Reeve**, I received a medal for work done for the show, and community, during my tenure as Show Secretary/Treasurer, which is awarded by the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW, on application by a Show's Committee.

My thanks go to the Committee for thinking me worthy of it.

I knew one was being requested for Dave as he has spent many years as President and also working tirelessly on the show grounds and for the show, a more worthy person would be hard to find. My congratulations go to him.

Let's all try to get through these next months in one piece, healthy, sane and ready to start again when we this is all over.

We have survived 2 big wars, Asian flue, and in the last six months drought, fires and almost flood. Not much else to throw at us!


We will all survive!

AND, best of all, Daylight savings ENDS on Sunday 5th

Until next month

Lyn & Tilley Cat, & Timidthy





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WHAT'S NOT HAPPENING IN APRIL, 2020

All markets are cancelled until the corona virus is controlled.

St Bernadette's Catholic Church, Krambach, Services are all cancelled until further notice

St Isidore's Catholic Church, NABIAC, Services are cancelled until further notice.

Assume all other denomination Church Services are also cancelled -check your local church for details as I have not been notified either way

ANZAC Day Marches and Services in Krambach and NABIAC and every where else are cancelled.

The Easter Show and all Local Shows have been cancelled.

NABIAC CTC is closed until further notice

NABIAC OP SHOP is closed until further notice

I am assuming all local groups meeting are also on stand by for the duration of the lockdown.

There are some ideas in the paper for keeping yourselves and kids occupied, hopefully for the time being. Lyn

Phone Lyn on 02 6559 1811 Email: paulreid@iprimus.com.au

Production: Lyn Reid

Contributions To: The Editor, *Across The Fence*, 1 Barry's Road, Firefly, N.S.W. 2429 or c/- Modern Motors, NABIAC, N.S.W. 2312 - **please phone**

WHEN you have left articles there to be collected

Contributions should be submitted - in writing - by the 25th of the month for inclusion in the following month's edition.

ALL ART WORK IN JPG ONLY

Disclaimer: The editor has **no affiliations** to any advertisers and the opinions expressed by submitters are their own.

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HAIR
by Shaz

Hi all,
Just to let you know I have closed the salon until the corona virus situation has finished.

Please call me, if necessary, on my mobile - **0410 541 672**.

Looking forward to seeing you back in the salon when normal life returns

Shaz 😊

Krambach Garden Lovers News



Our February meeting was cancelled due to family reasons by the host and our April and May meeting have also been cancelled due to the current health restrictions.

The Friendship Day set down for the 19th May has been postponed till spring time, as yet a date has not been set.

All members will still receive a newsletter and garden tips each month as usual. To our members who participated at the NabiAc show we would like to say congratulation to the successful members.

For more information about our club please contact **Cindy** on 6554 1912 or **Val** on 6554 9651

Happy Gardening **Val**

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NABIAC PHARMACY NEWS

Dear patients and customers of NabiAc Pharmacy,

Thanks for your patience over the very trying and extremely busy past few weeks. I apologise for not providing the same level of courteous, professional, service and care as we would like to.

I would like to assure you that I have taken every step that I thought possible to help prepare ourselves and the community for the current situation. Over the next few weeks and months we will need to change the way in which we help you. Please check our Facebook page for details and any notes and signs in and around the pharmacy. The situation is changing by the day and we can only do our best as a community and trust our leaders and their decisions.

The safety of our patients and customers is always the number one concern whenever dealing with your health. This is even more so now. We would like to help you minimise any contact with us to the highest degree. This is mainly for your protection, and also ours. We have many ways in which we plan do this.

We were the first community affected by the Bushfires. If we help each other the same way as we did then, I know we will be better for it. Please keep safe.

Many thanks,

Tim

Thank You

The Wallamba District A & H Assoc. Inc. **Ladies Committee** would like to convey our thanks to all the volunteers who helped us in the Hall Kitchen on the Friday and Saturday of the Show.

As usual, your help was very much appreciated and without it we could not have given the service that we were able to provide.

Special thanks for helping with the cleaning up afterwards.

Jean Paterson

Raw toilet paper for sale \$20



Some assembly required

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Sunny & Rosie

A message from Lauren Brady

On Thursday 19th March, I worked my last day at NABIAC Pharmacy ♥

Over the past 10 years I have made lifelong friends (in both workmates & customers) & enjoyed my time working with the most beautiful people at NABIAC.

This wasn't an easy decision to make, but I am ready for a change & I feel it is time for me to start a new chapter in my life.

NABIAC Pharmacy will always have a very special place in my heart & I am forever grateful for being part of such an awesome team.

Tim, Gavin, Jon & Pam- a special note of thanks for the opportunities you've given me, your leadership & support 🙏

I will start my new position as Dispensary Manager at Great Lakes Pharmacy in Tuncurry on Monday.

Love to all & see you around! 🤗

Lauren x

Congratulations

Congratulations to the **Coolongolook and Krambach Public Schools** on their entries in the Wallamba District (NABIAC) Agricultural Show on Saturday 14th March 2020.

Xaviour, from **Coolongolook School**, won a **2nd** for his creative animal in fruit and vegetable and **Krambach** (a much bigger school) won **1st**, **2nd** and **Highly Commended** for their Art, Statues and creative objects in fruit and vegetable.

The **Krambach Infants School** won **Best Display** in fruit and vegetable and **Supreme Champion** In Children's Produce.

We certainly have some very talented pupils in our district.

Well done children.

Nanna Judy

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News from Nabiac Second Chance Op Shop

Nabiac's Second Chance Op Shop wishes to announce a Temporary closure of The Op Shop business, including the operation of the Shed as of the 18th March 2020 due to this health crisis.

A big **thankyou** to everyone for your support in the past, but during this period of closure of the Op Shop business we are requesting that you **do not deliver any donations due to health risks to our volunteers** and the expense involved disposing of such goods.

Please hold all donations until we announce our reopening.

We will give any updates on a re-opening date via our local magazine Across the Fence, Facebook and Nabiac.com website and a Community announcement on Great Lakes Radio 101.50 FM.

We are sorry for any inconvenience. The health and safety of our members, volunteers and community is most important.

Thank you for your co-operation during this time of closure.

Now we would like to share some good news.

When we do re-open there will be some changes to the Op Shop. As an extra room has become available to us, we are now planning how to best make use of this extra space.

We will keep everyone updated with the progress of our plans.

All of our amazing volunteers are excited about these changes as all our wonderful customers will be as well.

Just another step towards big changes, hopefully in the not too distant future to our productive little Op Shop.

Looking forward to seeing all our dedicated customers after this health crisis is over.

Please, all take care of yourselves and each other.

From all the volunteers at Nabiac Second Chance Op Shop

Kathryn

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Nabiac Village Futures Group



I don't intend to say much about COVID-19 and the extraordinary times we are in. We are all in this together - each of us are impacted in some way and are doing our best. We have just a few matters to report on. Our April meeting was cancelled, and we are unsure about May.

Nabiac Community is our group's Facebook page. It's for information about Nabiac and the local area. Also see www.nabiac.com for Nabiac information.

Highway Signage

Thank you to Stephen Bromhead MP who followed up Highway signage repairs.

Mid Coast Renewal Committee

We attended the Renewal Committee's meeting early March. This group are supporting Mid Coast people and businesses affected by the recent fires. They have a Facebook page and a website.

Historical Photos - Archie Blanch Collection

The folders have passed on to *Nita Cox* who was able to add some photo information. They have now passed on to *Bruce Weller* who is enthusiastically following up. Is there anyone else who may also be interested in looking at them? You never know you may find an old relative or friend that you recognize!

Les Murray Memorial

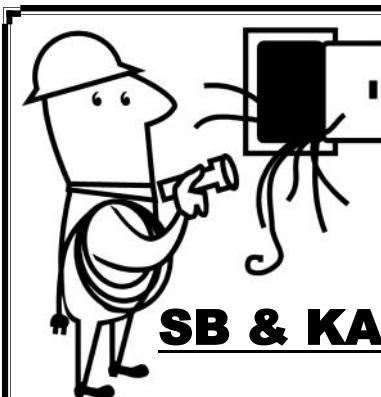
We have been discussing creating an appropriate memorial to the late *Les Murray*. Our talk with *Chris Jones*, MidCoast (Manager Libraries) is on hold until we are again able to meet in groups.

Town Creek Planning

We are involved with MidCoast Council on a grant application to fund removal weeds blocking the Creek and to establish native plants in the area between the 2 bridges (the footbridge and the road bridge).

Please take care of yourselves, take care of each other.

Louise Collins, Secretary NVFG ph 0409 585 635



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The Wallamba Watershed's History — Another in a series of historical articles gleaned from the archives of the "Manning River Times, 1938, by Bob Mann

NABIAC: - Our village is indeed looking splendid. The War Memorial Committee intend to have the park surrounding the monument a place of beauty. Working bees have been arranged and voluntary workers have turned up, also Mr *Bill Deer* with his rotary hoe. Trees are to be planted and flower beds formed in the near future. All will add to the beauty of our pretty little village.

Now we have our public school additions finished and officially opened, it is a very pleasing building and the inside is all that can be desired. But, as previously mentioned, still too small. However we can live in hope.

We are still wondering when our roads are going to get a dressing of bitumen and how far. Let's hope we get as far as other towns, not so far away or perhaps not as important.

Last evening, a very successful evening, a very successful concert was held in the Agricultural Hall by the Church of England Young Peoples Dramatic Society. It was something unusual and outstanding and a special treat for our town as we seldom have the pleasure of such entertainment. Good luck to the Society.

Mrs *E.E. Gorton* is still on an extended holiday in the city. It is pleasing Miss *Wallis* is back among her friends after such a long spell in hospital and convalescent.

The Wallamba Show Committee has been busy beautifying the entrance by way of a new picket fence and gravel walk to the entrance. We are looking forward to a bigger and better show each year, this year particularly owing to the wonderful season.

DYERS CROSSING BRIDGE TO BE OFFICIALLY OPENED ON NOVEMBER 25TH, 1938: On Tuesday night Mr *J. W. Startin*, President, presided over a full attendance of the Dyers Crossing Bridge Committee. It was decided to ask Mr *C. E. Bennett*, member for the electorate, to officially open the bridge on Saturday 26th November at 10:30am. It was also decided to ask Mr *T. O. Martin*, Minister for Justice and Mr *J. N. Harrison*, District Inspector of School. The ribbon will be cut by one of the oldest residents of Dyers Crossing. The day will take the form of a basket picnic. Hot water will be provided and the Church of England Ladies Guild will have refreshments, fruit, cordial, ice cream stalls & etc. and will also provide afternoon tea at a moderate charge. In the afternoon there will be a sports

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programme for the children. This will be organised by a committee composed of the teachers of the various schools. The prizes are being secured by a 1/- fund raised locally. Mr *L. C. Parker*, the energetic secretary of the movement, has everything well under way to be a successful day. The bridge is a wooden one of five spans and will be a boon to residents of the Wallamba and the travelling public; previously in flood time it had been necessary to use a 'flying fox' and butter, cream, mails and provisions had to be conveyed across by this means on many occasions, whilst in the case of sickness, there has been many trying experiences. The conditions prevailing during the flooded state of the stream was a constant source of worry from which all concerned will now be released.

Sumer, accompanied by a surplus of storms and sultry conditions, is here. We swelter under the tropical sun but why worry. In a district so richly endowed we are not troubled by such discomforts. The dairy cow still fills the buckets, rain has fallen at regular intervals and up to the present time the season is proving to be all that could be desired. Opening of the bridge will be a big attraction and all residents of the district together with those who have lived here at some time or have interests in our welfare are asked to be present. The function will begin at 10:30am and a very old resident of the district in Mrs *Macavoy* (Senr) (??think a line was omitted saying that she cut the ribbon) It is hoped to complete the formal part of the programme by midday so that following lunch a start can be made with the sports for the children. It will be a memorable time for the young people and some interesting events should take place. We trust that every child present will receive some gift.

A deputation will ask Mr *Bennet* to have the work of bridging NABIAC Creek completed without delay. We are told that the work was commenced some time ago but owing to the flood it was abandoned. With the building of the Taree bridge this is the only link required to give access to the railway. The Church. of England concluded this years functions with a euchre party at Mr *Dugold Griffis'* and dance. Great credit is due for the fine effort those people have made in order to raise funds for the erection of a new church at this centre.

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Helen Jackson sent this in and it is relevant to ANZAC Day and a bit of a tear jerker if you are a softie like me. Unfortunately the photo is not very clear.

OBITUARY

Bobby Tobruk

C Coy 2/2 AIF NX minus 9
(details on his identification disc.)



Bobby Tobruk is dead. He was run over by a truck driven by an Arab. Let this be his epitaph.

"Killed on Active Service"

In his short life he had shared a soldier's hard lot and had

earned the respect due to a comrade who had passed on. We buried him quietly and with emotion. Some of the old hands cried in genuine regret. No monument marks the place of his burial, but his identity disc was placed in the earth with him. He will be remembered, as our other mates who have fallen will be remembered, long after the murmur of war has passed from the earth, until the last of us who knew him is dead and gone.

The following epitaph was composed by Watty Barratt

He was only a stump-tailed poodle,
He had no pedigree,
He was born in a Libyan dust storm
Near an Itie RAP.
He would do his share of line guard
And share of picquet as well
And never a crime had Bobby
And never an AWL.
He saw his share of fighting
And fought like a soldier, too,
For we taught him concealment and cover
In the barracks of Mersa Matruh.
He barked at the planes of Olympus,
And fought in the thick of the van,
The boys of C Coy loved him
And voted young Bobby a man.
For Bobby was born to battle,
Though with none of a battler's luck,
And he who dodged dive-bombers
Had to die 'neath an Arab truck.
So we gave him a soldier's funeral,
'Twas all that we could do,
For Bobby Tobruk was a cobbler of ours
And helped to see us through.

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What's happening at Nabiac Preschool...

Nabiac & District Pre School and Nabiac Kids' Shack will remain open and operational until such times as they are advised otherwise by the government.

Many Thanks

Sophie

Nabiac Sustainability Plan Survey

Sarah Langdon is working with NVFG to develop a Nabiac Sustainability Plan. By developing an understanding of what sustainability means to the people of Nabiac we can better prioritise future projects.



Link to survey <https://forms.gle/eiuZ5eqsGSYURPwP9>

The link will also be found on www.nabiac.com/publications

Some printed copies will be available at the Post Office. **Survey closes 15th April 2020.**

Looking forward to receiving responses from residents of Nabiac and surrounding area.

Would you like to participate in the Nabiac sustainability survey?



1. Open the camera on your phone
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WALLAMBA CWA REPORT

Well what could be our last meeting for several months (who knows because of the Coronavirus-19) was held at the Uniting Church Hall on Tuesday 10th March, 2020 and there was a pleasing attendance of 12 members with 3 apologies received when the meeting was declared open by our President **Margaret Weller**.

Following the opening formalities members paused to remember the passing of **Bob Coleman**, **Bianca Jesse** (friend of member **Coral Gabriel**), **Mrs Carolyn Laws** (wife of Radio Broadcaster **John Laws**), **William Leadbeater** of Wingham and the family who died in Qld as a result of domestic violence.

Merle Barber brought along the thought for the meeting and it was *"Speak to people in a way if they died. The next day, you'd be satisfied with the last thing you said to them".*

Pam was to bring along the thought for April's meeting but so much has happened since early March and as a result there will not be a meeting held as per the direction of the Federal Govt. and also CWA Headquarters until further notice.

The business arising from the previous meeting included the various reports which had been presented at the Group Council Meeting held at Gladstone and these were discussed by our Branch Officers in the various segments.

We were to have had two members – **Penny Britton** and **Merle Barber** attending the CWA State Conference being held in Newcastle in early May but, like so many other events, this had been cancelled as a result of the deadly virus and as they say 'better to be safe than sorry' as normally this conference has a very large attendance of delegates and observers.

Treasurer **Mary** presented her financial report and told members that the Wallamba CWA ladies had Catered for Hunter Local Land Services workshop in connection with bushfire recovery and it went off well - the attendees enjoying the luncheon which had been provided.

It was again decided to make a donation of \$70 for show prizes at the Wallamba District A & H 2020 Show in the various sections including cooking, handicraft and flowers and this was much appreciated by the Show committee.

Merle, our Branch Handicraft Officer, gave a detailed report on her attendance along with **Mary**, **Beth** and **Jean** at the Group Council Meeting at Gladstone - where much was learnt in both handicraft and cookery fields. The branch had several members enter the cookery

section and also in the Handicraft. Well done to **Coral** for her doily which won a 1st and would have gone onto the State competition at Newcastle, **Merle's** husband **Fred** scored a 2nd with his leatherwork purse, whilst **Merle** won 1st with her toddler's knitted vest & 2nd for her felted bag. The branch project of set of placements & coasters in some beautiful waratah and whale print didn't score but have been put into 'The Nook' for sale.

It is hoped that the 'Show & Tell' day in June will be able to be held – we will just have to wait and see.

Our International segment was presented by officer **Penny** who told us the International Seminar is set for 8th August in Dubbo – but nothing is certain at this time, so a waiting game for all.

President **Margaret Weller** spoke about attending International Women's Day at Forster which attracted 120 women at which the guest speaker was **Ros Dries**.

Members were pleased to hear that the Aussie Women's Cricket Team had won their match in Fiji earlier in the month.

The Cookery Report followed with Branch Officer **Jean** informing members on results from the meeting at Gladstone. Congratulations to our winners, **Merle** who received a 2nd placing for her Pickled Pears and a delighted **Penny** also placed 2nd with her Donna Latter Chocolate Cake.

Jean, **Pam** and **Jill** also entered cooking but missed out this time. There was discussion on the expense in making some of the cakes for competition and that in the future ingredients, etc. costs will be looked at when deciding of what is to be made. Unfortunately with the Sydney Royal Easter Show also being cancelled the CWA will miss out 'bigtime' – no scones, cakes, pickles, jams etc. being sold.

Our Environment & Ag officers **Ruth** and **Coral** have been 'hard at' collecting information on our topics of 'Wild Dogs, Whales and Waratahs' and have asked fellow members to help by collecting interesting articles, photos etc to complete their project books for the end of the year. **Coral** informed us the wild dog pack that had been decimating her animals has been reduced and hopefully the problem has been solved – at this time.

Our Cultural segment contained a lot of interesting snippets, both local, national and international and some were quite humorous.

Penny reminded us that the 'Woman of Note' for 2020 is **Jessie Street** and that there was to have been a photographic display at the Newcastle Conference of "Bushfire Photos" which the competition



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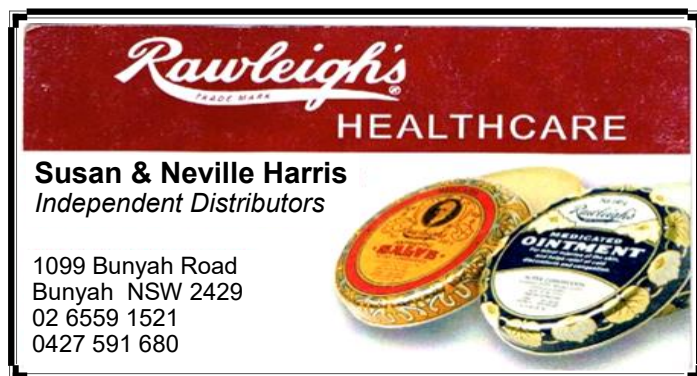
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photos were to have been 'Dust' and 'Friends'.

At the next Group Council Day set down for 14th August ?????? members have been asked to draw a tree on A4 sheet of paper – this sounded rather fascinating.

Two books were shown off; Pam had brought along the souvenir book from 'The Forgotten Works of Pixie O'Harris' which had been on exhibition at the Manning Regional Art Gallery finishing on March 8th, whilst Merle showed us the last book written by local man *Jim Fletcher* of Willow Point Rd, Failford "Coming to the Wallamba" and was full of information that mentioned the original settlers and included the Dargaville's (Pam's family having lived at Dargaville's Crossing).

Margaret read us a newspaper article on one of Australia's most well known bird – The White Cockatoo and a story "Cockatoo's Question" which brought lots of laughs and comments from the members. Margaret also read a poem "The Dash" from a funeral service sheet which was very thought provoking.

Jill showed us a story from the Sunday paper about young children of the outback "You can hear the River Coming" as many of them had never seen the water in the rivers running – it was very touching.

Thanks to the ladies who had attended the 2020 World Day of Prayer Service provided by the Christian Women of Zimbabwe "Rise, take up your mat and walk" which was very meaningful. Numbers were down on previous years but the collection still resulted in \$100 being raised for the work of World Day of Prayer.

Next year's service will be held at St. Paul's Anglican Church with the service set by the women of Vanuatu

Pam mentioned she had received a request for family history of a former St. Paul's Rector, *Rev Williams* from his grand daughter in Nebraska USA and had been corresponding with her.

Happy birthday wishes were extended to our hard working Treasurer Mary Webber for her special day on March 6th and we hope she enjoyed her day.

Remember everyone, NO BRANCH MEETINGS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

KEEP SAFE AND WELL

Wallamba CWA Member Iris Cummings reading a passage during the WD of Pray



Pam Muxlow

Wallamba CWA
Secretary/Publicity Officer



Attendees Jenny Ang, Geraldine Carson, Jeanie Paterson and Beth Brewster who attended the WD of Prayer Service

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Peter


Between the Pages
Nabiac Library News




We are now certainly in a time of unprecedented events! This has to be one of the most used words in our Australian vocabulary over recent months! First we had the unprecedented drought; followed closely by the unprecedented bushfires and now the unprecedented Corona virus impact on our world which includes all of us.

MidCoast Libraries have done the best they can to stay open and continue to provide services to all its valued members in these difficult times. Sadly, the time has come to close all our local libraries to the public to ensure the health of members, staff and volunteers. Please note the official notice below. Please check the website for further updates on when things change.

Important information for our community:
In an evolving response to the COVID-19 pandemic, MidCoast Council is changing the way services are delivered.
Effective from Wednesday 25th March at 5pm, all MidCoast Libraries will close. Our online services will still be available.
Please DO NOT return items to our Libraries Return boxes during this time



So basically, for our Nabiac Library friends this means we are going to be closed until further notice. Here is some more information from MidCoast libraries to hopefully reassure you.

To assist our community during these challenging times, we have:


1. Extended all existing loans, so please hold onto your library items until we re-open
2. If you have overdue items, we will manage these for you
3. If you have an item on hold at your library branch your item will still be on hold for you when we re-open
4. If you have an item reserved, this will remain on your membership until we re-open
5. While we are closed, we encourage our community to access our free eServices. These include eBooks & eAudio, eMagazines, films and documentaries, databases and more.

As you can see from the above information; all is not lost! If you have access to a computer, a tablet or any electronic device you can still access E-Books, Audio books, movies and films and magazines at your library with the click of a few buttons and it is all for free! All you have to do is go to <https://library.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/> and then click on the E-Services buttons and follow the prompts. You may find

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NABIAC MOWER AND TRACTOR REPAIRS



that there is a high demand for many of the resources as would be expected.

All you need to use is your Library membership number and your birth date (given as xx.xx.xxxx) as your password and follow the prompts.

What about your children?

For you and your children being safely kept at home during this challenging time and wanting to continue with their home school education we can also provide you with a variety of resources through our E-Services. Check out these options!

Story Box Library



Great kids books read by well known faces

Just login with your library member number to access Story Box Library

Encyclopedia Britannica is also available through E-Services.

What if I don't have access to computers and electronic devices?

This will possibly be the case for some of our members. It may also be that your internet or phone plans have limited data access. This is a time when we really need to rely on our family, friends and neighbours to support us. Maybe someone you know could help. Just ring them.

The other option is swapping books, DVD's, audio books etc between, neighbours, friends and family. Just ring and organise a swap and remember to follow the social distancing and washing of hands rules. Never has "Happy Birthday" been sung this many times each day!

In the words of the Von Trapp family: (a bit of research for some!)

So long! Farewell! Adieu! Adieu! Adieu! (those kiddies are so cute)
OR ... until we meet again! Don't know where, don't know when; but I know we'll meet again some sunny day!

So to all our Nabiac Library members and friends we are saddened that we are unable to stay open and share our love of all things Library and friendship with you. However, necessity is the mother of invention and we are sure you are all inventing new ways to entertain yourselves and staying home and safe.

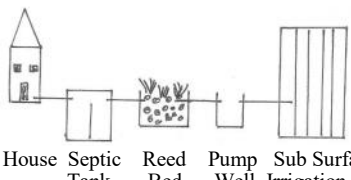
Take good care. Stay Safe. Stay at Home. Stay Well. Stay Connected.
See you soon, hopefully!

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Nabiac Landcare



As many of us are not enjoying the enforced 'holiday' from our normal activities—let me assure you that the weeds are enjoying the current conditions. I must admit that one of my most mentioned weeds, **cassia aka senna** is a cheery note of yellow as it is blooming prolifically along any unburned road verges. Unfortunately that means we will get a huge seed set to continue the problem. One person I was speaking with recently said she was leaving the cassia for bee food, fair enough, wait until it finishes blooming and then attack. One problem with this approach is that you forget about the weed or can't find it once the tell-tale yellow has faded.

Most of us are lucky enough to have a patch of yard, bush, park or paddock that we can still access in splendid isolation. So.....it's time to get out in between the downpours and showers and enjoy the sunshine and pull a few weeds. Keep an eye out for vines that grow rapidly and may smother desirable small bushes and trees. Some pruning, redirection or even removal may be in order. Continue to monitor your area for new weeds that are emerging post drought. There are plenty of resources on line such as Weedwise (weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au) to help you identify your invaders.

Nabiac Landcare has temporarily stopped group working bees and morning teas but some members are working 'socially distant' from each other. We are not in a position to accept new members at the moment but the weeds won't go away so we'll be back.

When we return: Nabiac Landcare work each Wednesday (weather permitting) 8-9am to 11am, followed by morning tea. Membership is only \$2.00 plus an occasional donation to the morning tea fund and new members are always welcome. Training, tools and safety gear supplied. Give us a ring if you are interested.

Liz Rees

6554 3196



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**MY CHILD IS A REALLY GOOD
READER BUT HAS TROUBLE
COMPREHENDING.**

The teacher suggested that she could have *Irlen Syndrome* but how can she be such a good reader if she has Irlen?

This is one of the main things that stop some parents thinking that their child may have Irlen. BUT the child may read well, but they may be light-sensitive to the point where the white page is discomforting for them, and while it may not affect their fluency, it can affect their comprehension, or they may simply be reluctant to read, despite being a good reader.

Other signs could be that they come home from school more fatigued than would normally be expected. These also are signs that should be investigated to make sure that they are not the result of Irlen. The only way to determine if anyone (adult or child) has Irlen is to have them assessed by an Irlen Certified Screener or Diagnostician.



There are no standardised educational or psychological tests that can identify Irlen Syndrome.

Contact Irlen Dyslexia Centre Taree on 0409 653700 for information or appointment. Visit our website for more information and self-test www.aaic.org.au

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MINIMBAH MATTERS

Minimbah Rural Fire Brigade has been adjusting their plans over the past couple of weeks. Coronavirus (COVID-19) will do that to you. We hope that's all it will do to us.



Congratulations to those responsible for organizing the 108th Wallamba District Show. Timing is everything, as was proven by the fact that **Our Show** went on while others all around us had to be cancelled.

Minimbah Brigade was very proud to be part of the Show, both with our information stand during the day and our truck on property protection during the evening festivities. Well it wasn't really our truck – it is an older one that is in line to be de-commissioned, but we are using it while ours is still suffering the after effects of the October-December fires. The crew were called on to attend to a couple of incidents in the Demolition Derby, but nothing major.



Oh ... Millie was photo ready and really enjoyed her big day out. What a trooper!.....

Part of what the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) does, comes under the heading "Community Engagement". Could be just having a cuppa at your place while going through your Bush Fire Survival Plan, or it could be something like attending the Nabiac Show and offering advice. We also have a programme aimed at Primary School Children, during which we teach about "Good Fires and Bad Fires". The lesson doesn't stop when the school bell rings. It is for grown-ups as well.



Millie with the Minimbah Fire Crew

A **Good Fire** would include the local farmer/property owner carrying out some pre-summer burning off or pile burns. Currently there is no requirement for a Permit to do this. Unless you actually see some serious flames, and no sign of people attending to those flames, there is more than likely no need to call Triple Zero. Have a good look at it and assess whether, in your opinion, it is out of control or at serious risk of damaging property. If you decide it is, then that's when you call Triple Zero 000.

The vast majority of property owners understand and are well practiced in winter hazard reductions and general property clean-ups, and will have prepared their proposed burn area adequately, advised the relevant people, considered the weather, and arranged for sufficient help and equipment to be on hand well before they strike that match.

A **Bad Fire** on the other hand, would include a motor vehicle, a building or large area of National Park on fire. Triple Zero 000 are ready for your call on that one. A "smoke sighting on Minimbah Road" at 7pm this time of the year, is not always worthy of a call. It could be worth having a look at – if you can find it. We would have a look at it – if WE could find it. When reporting fires, please give clear and accurate directions as to where it is; e.g. on the corner of Minimbah Road and MacKinnon Road. Then we stand a fair chance of getting to it in a timely manner, rather than driving in the opposite direction.

It's that time of the year again. Daylight Savings finishes.

Note to Self: Check and change if necessary, the battery in the Smoke Alarms.

We would hate for you to show up on the **Bad Fire** list.



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Our take on COVID-19

With apologies to "Banjo" Paterson)

There's less movement at our station, for the word's been passed around

*That COVID-19 from overseas is quickly on the go
And we need to be really careful – the germs they are about
So, wash your hands and be sure to cough into your elbow.*

*Emergency services are ready – it's almost business as usual for us
So, to a bush fire, a prang etc. we'll still go.*

*But because of Social Distancing and all the other fuss
To meetings and training sessions we have said "NO".*

*The toilet paper saga is driving people out of their minds
How many rolls a week do you normally require?
While spaghetti, rice and tissues and meat of several kinds
Suggests consumption as being raised much higher.*

*Our trolleys over overloaded, and the wheels won't go around
But we still go back to Woolies time and again
With bulging cupboards and freezers and vegies by the pound
From panic buying we really should refrain.*

*We care about our Members, their health and wellbeing too
Our community is also on our "Specials list"*

*The Government is providing guidelines so we all know what to do
Just be clean, mindful of each other and don't get p....d (upset).*

From the Captain:

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

Yep, this is your time to shine. Until 1st of October (earlier if things change) plan on getting those heaps of rubbish alight. NOT TODAY as they will be too wet to burn as a local here found out recently. Lot of smoke and no action.

We need 2 weeks at least of warm weather without rain to allow them to dry out. Green leaves and branches need to be a lot dryer than at the moment, but when the time is right get into it. It is also ideal if you can arrange to have machinery that can stir up the heaps as they burn, without this it is likely you will have several large timber pieces left over.

These actions will save not only you, but neighbours and fire crews a lot of heart burn and we don't have enough Quick Eze for that.

Of course, you **are required** to let your neighbours, the RFS District Fire Control Centre and, as a courtesy, your local Brigade know what your intentions are. At least 24hrs notice before you burn must be given to all of them.

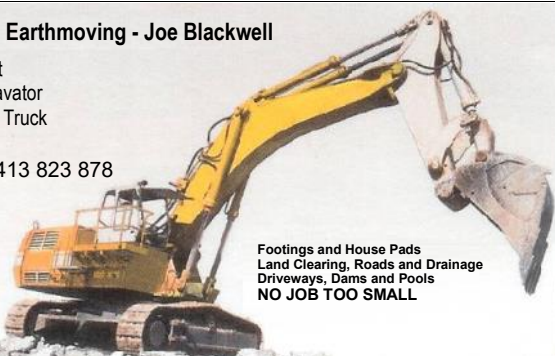
For information regarding up to the minute requirements concerning lighting fires, please call

NSW RFS Mid Coast District Office
1300 Mid Coast. (1300 643 262)
Report emergencies to Triple 000

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- | | | |
|------|--|----------------------|
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| 2nd | Yarads Mens Wear - Akubra Hat | Wayne |
| 3rd | Manning Great Lakes Woodworkers - Stool | Mary Webber |
| 4th | Bunnings, Forster - \$100 Voucher | Linda Jeffrey |
| 5th | M Burton - Horse Acupuncture Treatment | Fay Deer |
| 6th | Tuncurry Bowling Club - \$50 Meal Voucher | Lyz Taylor |
| 7th | Tuncurry Bowling Club - \$50 Meal Voucher | J. Gill |
| 8th | Tuncurry Bowling Club - \$50 Meal Voucher | M. Dale |
| 9th | Nabiac Motorcycle Museum - \$50 Fuel Voucher | Frank |
| 10th | Nabiac Motorcycle Museum - \$50 Fuel Voucher | H. Fisher |
| 11th | WDA & H Ass. Inc - ASC Cook Book | Diana Murphy |
| 12th | WDA & H Ass Inc - ASC Cook Book | J. Steward |

Thank you every one who entered. Try again next year



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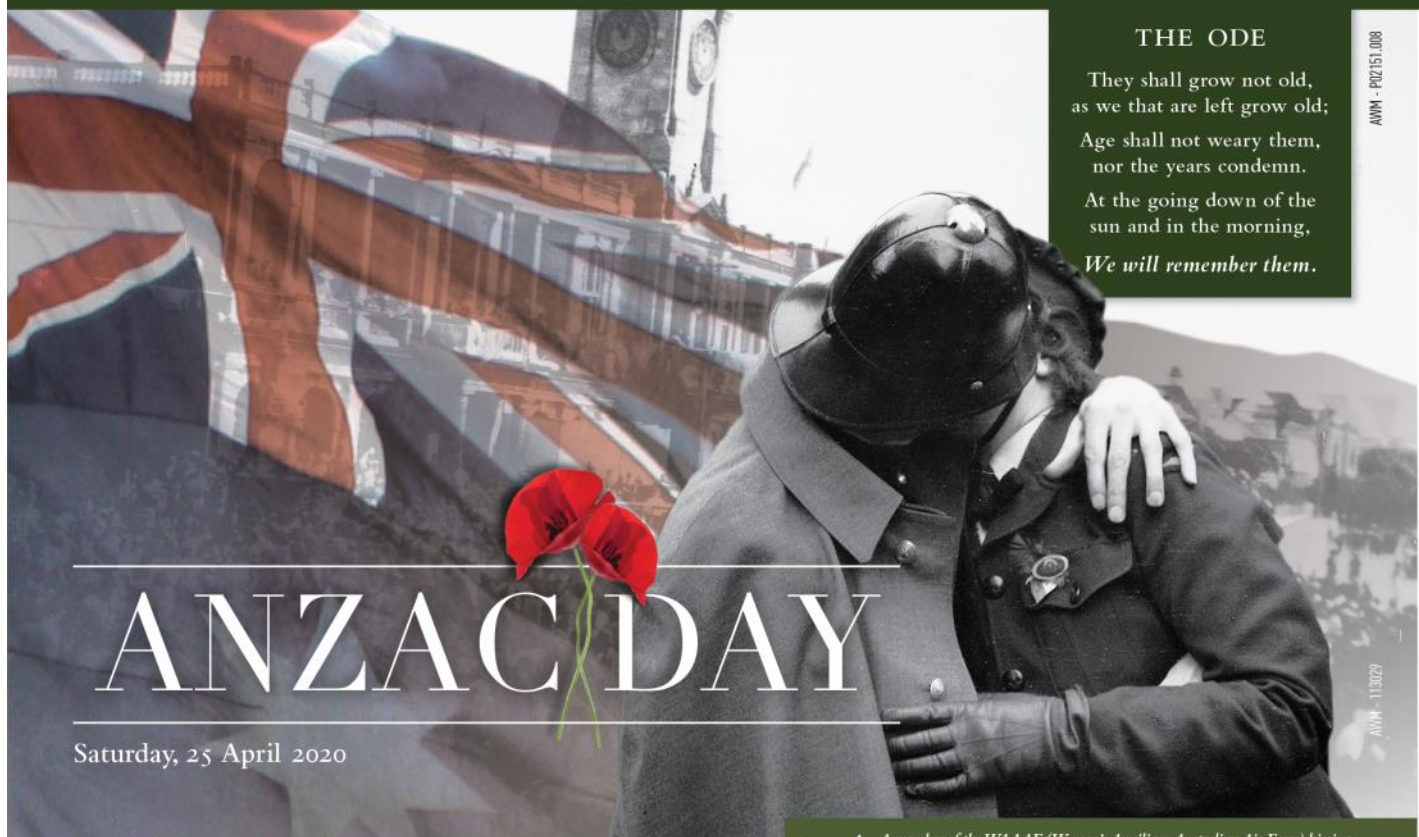
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THE ODE

They shall grow not old,
as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them,
nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the
sun and in the morning,
We will remember them.

AWM - P02151.008

AWM - 113029

ANZAC DAY

Saturday, 25 April 2020

AUSTRALIANS AT WAR 1914 – PRESENT



A member of the WAAF (Women's Auxiliary Australian Air Force) kissing a policeman at VP Day (Victory in the Pacific) celebrations in Melbourne.

First World War 1914-18



AWM EN0470

Second World War 1939-45



AWM 02429

Korean War 1950-53



AWM H003123

Malayan Emergency 1950-60



AWM H056078/ANC

Vietnam War 1962-75



AWM EN627010/OWN



In 2020, Australia marks 75 years since Victory in the Pacific and the end of the Second World War.

Across Australia, crowds gathered in the thousands in cities and towns to celebrate the end of the conflict and to commemorate the men and women who served so bravely.

15 August 1945 was declared a public holiday and celebrations continued into the evening – shops were closed, but theatres, dance halls and pubs remained open.

For many in Australia the end of the war in the Pacific was marked by celebration. For others it was a day of sombre commemoration and relief. For those who had lost loved ones, the cost was high – almost 40,000 Australians had been killed out of around one million who had served.

This year we also mark the 105th anniversary of the Gallipoli campaign. In the fire of battle they forged the Anzac spirit which endures in the bravery of the Australian Defence Force to this day.

Fifty years ago, Australia began to wind down its military effort in Vietnam with the departure of the 8th Battalion. Australians continued to serve in this theatre until December 1972 in an advisory capacity.

Australians continue to serve with distinction in conflict and peacekeeping around the world and this Anzac Day we commemorate more than a century of service.

For those who served in the Second World War, thank you for your service and all you did to protect our shores.

To learn more about the Anzacs, please visit anzacportal.dva.gov.au

Kind regards,

DR DAVID GILLESPIE MP
Federal Member for Lyne

DR DAVID GILLESPIE MP
Federal Member for Lyne

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Wauchope NSW 2446

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Email david.gillespie.mp@aph.gov.au

Web www.davidgillespie.com.au



State and territory Returned and Services Leagues (RSLs) have made the difficult decision to cancel local Anzac Day services on 25 April 2020.

While many of us mark Anzac Day by attending a dawn service or visiting the local RSL, only a selection of dawn services will be held across the country, which the public have been asked not to attend.

This decision has not been made lightly and has taken into consideration concerns about the welfare of Australians and slowing the spread of coronavirus.

Governments are committed to working with the RSL and other veteran and community organisations on how we best commemorate Anzac Day this year.

On 25 April 2020 I encourage you to join me in honouring those who have served our nation by watching the national Anzac Day service to be broadcast from the Australian War Memorial.

And if you know someone who has served in the Australian Defence Force, get in contact and let them know you're thinking of them.

As a nation and as a community, we have a responsibility to ensure we will always remember the service and sacrifice of all those who have served our nation in times of war, conflicts and peacekeeping operations, and the more than 102,000 who have died as a result.

Lest We Forget

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information on how the Australian Government is responding to the spread of coronavirus please visit australia.gov.au

TRADITIONS & SYMBOLS



Rosemary

Rosemary is worn as a symbol of remembrance on Anzac Day. It is a herb found growing wild on the Gallipoli Peninsula. The Flanders Poppy is also becoming increasingly associated with Anzac Day, although it was traditionally only worn on Remembrance Day, November 11.

The Last Post

The Last Post historically has been used to signify the end of the day. It is played during ceremonies to serve as a tribute to the dead.

Reveille & Rouse

Reveille is a bright, cheerful call that woke soldiers at dawn and called them to duty. Rouse is a shorter bugle call normally sounded alongside The Last Post at remembrance services, except the Dawn Service when Reveille is played.

The Ode

The Ode is the fourth stanza of Laurence Binyon's (1869-1943) poem, 'For the Fallen', and has been recited in ceremonies since 1919.

A period of silence

One or two minutes silence is held as a time for reflection and a sign of respect.

With thanks & appreciation to the Australian War Memorial.



Indonesian Confrontation 1963-66



Gulf War 1990-91



Afghanistan 2001-present



Iraq 2003-09; 2014-present



Peacekeeping 1947-present



The VP Day Girl

Lois Anne Drew (nee Martin) grew up in Richmond, Victoria. During the Second World War she worked at the Kodak Factory in Abbotsford.

With Germany defeated and Victory in Europe Day marked on 8 May 1945, Australia waited hopefully for Victory in the Pacific.

The celebrations on VP Day on August 15 were joyous and chaotic. In major cities and towns across Australia thousands of people flocked to the streets to dance and sing, including Lois. In preparation for this day, Lois knitted this vest and wore it at celebrations in Melbourne.

Lois was identified as the woman in this photo when the Herald Sun printed it in August 1995 to help find her. Lois' husband Bill identified her and showed the knitted vest as proof.

Lois' vest is now on display in the Second World War Gallery at the Australian War Memorial.



AWM - P02018.226



ANZAC BISCUITS

The origin of the ANZAC biscuit

Army biscuits, known as Anzac wafers or tiles, were a hard biscuit eaten by soldiers as a bread substitute. They were often ground up and eaten as porridge.

The Anzac biscuit we are familiar with today was developed by the mothers, wives and girlfriends of our soldiers. A sweet biscuit made of rolled oats and bound with golden syrup or treacle (eggs were scarce during the war) were sent to the frontline by ships of the Merchant Navy.

Ingredients

- 1 cup each of plain flour, sugar, rolled oats and coconut
- 4 ounces butter (115g)
- 1 tablespoon treacle (*golden syrup*)
- 2 tablespoons boiling water (*add a little more water if mixture is too dry*)
- 1 teaspoon bi-carbonate soda

Method

1. Grease tray and pre-heat oven to 180°C.
2. Combine dry ingredients.
3. Melt together butter and golden syrup. Combine water and bi-carbonate soda – add to butter mixture.
4. Mix butter mixture and dry ingredients.
5. Drop teaspoons of mixture onto tray.
6. Bake for 10 – 15 minutes or until golden. Allow to cool on tray for a few minutes before transferring to cooling racks.

** Makes approximately 35 biscuits
(From an original recipe provided by Mr Bob Lawson, an ANZAC present at the Gallipoli landing.)*

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Show News



Well, we did have our 108th Show in 2020. It was a close thing, but the COVID-19 virus restrictions did not come into effect until Monday 16th so we were clear to open the gates and run our Show.

The drought conditions started to ease from mid-January only to have us asking for a bit less rain in the week leading up to the Show. The ground was wet, but a timely two clear days dried up the puddles, and allowed us to achieve a wonderful clean-up and preparation of the Grounds. There were lots of volunteers helping and the Council workers did a great job mowing. The Poultry Shed was cleaned in record time and whipper snippers were working in all corners.

Numbers were down this year due to all the reasons you know of, but those who came, some regulars, some new, seemed to enjoy all that was on offer and helped add to the feeling of a fun, family day out that we want the Show to be.

To support our Community families, special emphasis was placed on the kids this year with the introduction of some free 'rides'. Complements of the NSW Government's *Drought Stimulus - Country Show Sponsorship Package* we had a 3-way bungee jump and 5 metre climbing wall going all day from 8.30am to 5.30pm, free of charge. This grant also covered the cost of Griego the Great who returned again this year.

Old McDonald Travelling Nursery returned this year to great delight of young and old. It was situated beside the bungee / rock wall, which made supervision of the kids easy for parents.

With the recent arrival of rain the Produce shed was an unexpected delight of entries. Many and varied items were on display from the Kindergarten classes' entries to strange and wonderful gourds.

The Hall entries were up and down, depending on the Class. There was still plenty to see, observe, wonder about and admire.

Most of the animal numbers were as expected, down, but we still had plenty for visitors to see and enjoy. The goat count was 17 beasts, and we greatly appreciate the effort and distance some of these exhibitors put in to come to our Show.

The Poultry numbers were light compared to our norm, but there were still some wonderful birds entered and on display until well into the afternoon.

That said it was our 2nd best year for Beef Cattle entries. This kept things moving at a good pace over in their judging ring. Participating schools were up this year with representation from Chatham High, Gloucester High and Taree Christian College. The kids had a great time, from practice runs and camping overnight Friday though to

'Show Time' on Saturday.

Horse numbers were down in all the rings, including show jumping. Again this was due to the drought, fires and difficult times leading up to the Show. Getting one, two or more horses ready to show requires a lot of work and in a drought, feed. So a big thanks to all those who made it into the Ring to compete this year.

The Pet Show had a variety of animals this year – dogs, a sheep and some chickens. They and their owners had a fun time.

The Doggy High Jump again had an increase in entries to eleven. The competition was fierce with three of them competing equally until the last jump. The winner cleared two metres!

The Midcoast Mower Racing Club was back again this year. During the day they kept folk entertained with demonstrations and races around the old Show Dog ring. Then they came up to the Ring and provided further entertainment and high jinx as part of the evening entertainment.

Our Vice President, *Judd Barker*, did such a great job promoting the Demo Derby that we had 24 entries. This number meant we got twice the fun by splitting the entries into two Derbies, and those still 'standing' at the end finished with a dash for cash. Great entertainment and fun for those positioned around the Ring.

The Grand Parade had to interrupt the Cattle judging but was held and lead in, once again by a representative of the Light Horse Brigade. The usual formalities were completed, including the fancy dressed rider and horse and the twelve winners of the Raffle prizes.

Bruce Weller, as a volunteer and member of the many community associations he is and has been involved with, kindly opened the Show and had the pleasure of making two special awards. It was with great pleasure that our prior Committee office holders – *Dave Reeve*, President and *Lyn Reid*, Treasurer/Secretary were awarded Royal Agricultural Society of NSW medals. These are a sign of our appreciation for their significant contribution to our Show over the years. Our congratulations go to them both, from the Committee and all the Wallamba District community. It is a token of the thanks felt for all the years of hard work they voluntarily put into making our Show what it is today.

The gathering of Results is keeping me focused, and will be in the May edition. Raffle results are on page ..

A huge thank you to everyone who volunteered and donated their valuable time (before, during and a very tired after) to helping this year's Show happen. This community event runs on the support and participation of a great many people.

Sally Henderson

Wallamba District Show Secretary

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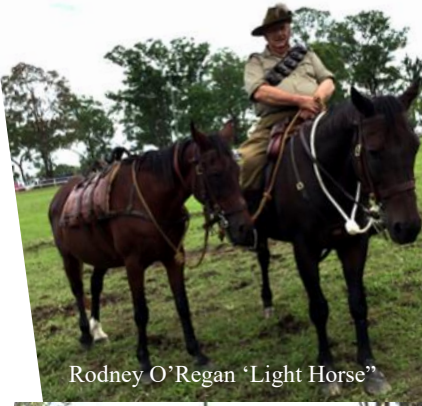
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Some of the pictures taken on show day.
I will include more next month when I have all of
the winners names in all categories . Ed



Rodney O'Regan 'Light Horse'



fotograf by diane



Supreme Champion Beef Bull - Blanco Ganado Sniper, owned by Penni Sloman and Kim Weller, with our Judge Mr Aaron Travalos presenting the ribbon



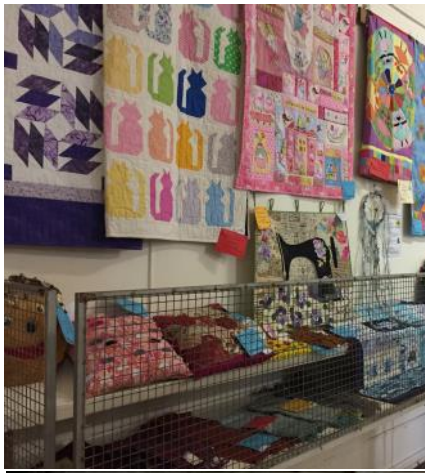
Champion Junior Judge - Lachlan Moore
Reserve Champion Junior Judge - Gypsy-Lee Marshall



1st in Heavy-weight section and overall Champion Led Steer / Heifer - Ping, owned by Chatham High School, with handler Bibiannah Peattie. Trophy being presented by Lyn Reid, recently retired secretary / treasurer of Wal-lamba Show.



Grand Parade



Champions exhibits



fotograf by diane



Dave Reeve and Lyn Reid showing their RSA Medals



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----Make It Bake It Grow It----

Nabiac Farmers' Market.... Hang in there everyone!

I'm sure that the March Market was hugely missed. The April market is up in the air too. To all our wonderful stallholders and customers, we send out love, energy and motivation to see you through this time. We hope there may be some other opportunities to trade during this crazy period. This can be a good opportunity to re-group, take a break from the routine, re-invent and embrace change. (Although by the time you read this, everyone will possibly be climbing the walls!)

Our amazing community is strong and resilient. People are always thinking of ways to support each other. The sooner the world listens and takes measures to slow the virus, the sooner we can get back on our feet.

Let's be confident that stall holders will survive the tough times and thrive when doors are flung open again. We can take inspiration from Mother Nature, who survived drought and fire and is now flourishing after the rain.

In the meantime, hopefully there's a good supply of fresh produce available locally so you can feed your immune cells. They can target a single unwanted invader amongst trillions of bacteria. Most immune cells live in your gut and they love fibre, so feed them well and let them do their job.

Ensuring a good intake of Vitamin C is a key to nourishing your immune cells.

The daily recommended intake for Vitamin C is 60mg. The good news is, it is pretty easy to find: An orange contains 60mg, 5 strawberries

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Catherine Pickard

have 35mg, a capsicum 180mg and a kiwi fruit 64mg. Fresh is best. Fruit will lose around 50% of their Vitamin C content by freezing – so just eat double if you only have frozen fruit! Mandarins will be in the shops soon. Perfect!



Vitamin C is not stored in the body, so we need some every day. It is essential for many functions including iron absorption, collagen production and supporting healthy immune cells. It is also an important antioxidant, which protect cells from harm, reducing the risk of heart disease and cancer.

So, for a healthy immune, eat plenty of fresh local produce; fruit and veggies; pasture raised meat and eggs; fermented foods and honey. Equally important is to; exercise, stay off the sugar, laugh, do something you love and stay connected (via face-time or out in nature, just stay a few metres apart!)

We will keep you posted on the next market date, via our Facebook page and here in ACF, and are looking forward to seeing you all whenever that is! ... At the next market, remember your bags, granny trolley and that stallholders *will not* be there during a pandemic, however they *will* be there at the next market, come rain, hail or shine. Thank you – market committee ☺

*Stall holder applications are open. Simply go to the website and download the vendor information forms from the website: nabiafarmersmarket.com. Call: 0422 177 122.

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Things to do in the garden when you're stuck at home!

Stuck for projects especially with the holidays coming up? Try some of these garden ideas:

Grab your spare tins of paint and sample pots to give old pavers, tyres, fenceposts, rocks and bricks new life!



Fun things to do when you're stuck at home!

- Dress up your dog or cat, take photos and post on social media!
- Paint old furniture
- Read books...
- Play board games
- Create 'Survivor' home challenges
- Draw – not necessarily on the walls!



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WIPES STOP PIPES

1. MidCoast Council is urging residents to stop flushing so-called 'flushable' wipes down the toilet as blockages seriously affect the sewage system.

It's a confronting photo – but this is the result of using so-called 'flushable' wipes as part of your toilet routine.

"Despite these wipes being advertised as 'flushable', there are no wipes that are suitable for flushing down the toilet," said Council's Director of Infrastructure and Engineering Services, Mr Rob Scott.

"This image shows a blockage of one of our sewer pumps, because of wipes being flushed down the toilet. A blockage can effectively shut down the movement of sewage through the system and is a serious problem."



Council staff have to hoist the pump out of the ground from depths of up to 10 metres, and then remove the 'choke' manually. Apart from being a disgusting job, it's expensive and time consuming.

"Normal maintenance includes our staff checking sewer pumps about once a fortnight – there's normally just a hose-off of domestic fat residue required. But recently, we've been deploying staff every second day to some pump locations to remove blockages due to people flushing wipes, sanitary items and sometimes nappies down the toilet."

Recently several pipe blockages have occurred at Wingham, Tallwoods and Tuncurry, with wipes being the major problem.

Unlike toilet paper, wipes do not disintegrate in water. They stay pretty much intact as they travel through the sewer pipes and can get caught on other debris. This increases the likelihood of a blockage in the sewer pipes which can cause costly damage to pumps or lead to sewer overflows – which have the potential to impact on the environment.

The best advice is to throw away any cleaning/disinfecting wipes, moist towelettes, personal hygiene products, baby wipes and any other type of wipe you may use in the garbage, never in your toilet.

Clogged sewer lines are ugly and expensive to fix. Binning disposable wipes is an easy way to protect our sewer system, our environment and prevent unnecessary trouble.

Be aware that by binning the products, you are contributing to landfill waste – and that also is not good for our environment – and contributes to the NSW Government's Waste Levy that ratepayers pay on all landfill waste.

"It's really a case of old fashioned toilet habits are best – avoid new

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flushable wipe products if you can. And if you must use them – they go in the garbage, not the toilet," said Mr Scott.

Follow the three P's rule - the only things that are OK to flush are pee, poo and paper.

For more information, visit www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/wipessstoppipes.

Image Wipes are responsible for causing sewer choke and cause big problems in pipes - don't flush them down the toilet.

2. Council facilities to shut from midnight 25th March in COVID-19 response

MidCoast Council will close libraries, visitor information centres, playgrounds, parks and a range of other facilities from midnight to-night in line with the Federal Government's latest COVID-19 measures to reduce the spread of the virus in the community.

Essential services such as water provision, sewer services, road maintenance and rubbish collection will continue.

Members of the community will be able to continue to do business with Council via phone, email and online services.

Playgrounds will also be closed and signage placed in parks and on beaches to remind the community of the anti-gathering requirements of the Federal Government, Mr Panuccio said.

All Council owned pools, including the YMCA operated facilities in Taree, Forster and Wingham closed on Monday, with the Manning Entertainment Centre closed late last week.

Council owned halls and facilities will also no longer be able to be hired.

MidCoast Council will continue to provide essential services to the community and the following facilities remain open for business including:

Gloucester's Service NSW and Services Australia (Centrelink) agencies

Waste Management Centres

Council's public amenities will remain open while ever they can be appropriately cleaned and hygiene facilities can be provided. Council is endeavouring to provide toilet paper and soap where possible, however is **battling an increase in theft and vandalism**. Facilities may be closed on short notice if these requirements are unable to be fulfilled.

The annual bulky waste collections have also been suspended at this point in time to prioritise weekly and fortnightly rubbish collections. Any members of the community who have put their waste out to be collected need to remove it from the side of the road.

We are doing everything we can to support our staff and customers in these challenging times and are committed to ensuring the vital services we provide continue," Mr Panuccio said.

The situation is changing rapidly and Council encourages everyone in the community to stay up to date by visiting www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au, and by following the Council facebook



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JOINT MEDIA RELEASE FROM MID- COAST COUNCILLORS IN SUPPORT OF MIDCOAST COUNCIL CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING – BIRIPI WAY

Wednesday 1st



MidCoast Councillors, by a majority decision at its Ordinary Meeting on 25 March, agreed to appoint the Head Contractor charged with the fit out of the Biripi Way building for use as MidCoast Council's central administration building.

We, the undersigned Councillors, are pleased and excited (albeit in uncertain times) that this landmark project can now proceed in the interest of better community outcomes. It will also provide an economic boost to the local building industry.

This decision is the culmination of over two years of careful planning and analysis by Council staff and expert consultants. It follows a tender process (overseen by an expert probity consultant) with the winning bid well within the range of prices expected.

With the full fit out cost of \$18.6m, the total cost of this project is \$25.6m and well within budget; costs will be partially offset by savings and sale of investment and/or no longer needed properties.

While there has been some vocal opposition from a local lobby group, the benefits in terms of improved productivity and cost savings will lead to better outcomes for ratepayers.

There has been some recent speculation (including a rescission motion signed by three Councillors) that MidCoast Council should go into "hibernation" and not make important decisions at this point in time, due to uncertainties around Covid-19.

We took the view, however, that this would add to the general economic uncertainty and supported the Prime Minister's call for businesses – and government bodies in particular – to get on with business as usual, wherever possible. Council staff are in continual contact with State Government agencies in relation to the impacts of Covid-19 and the implications for this region and are monitoring all health-related government information.

The Head Contractor is a national firm that has locally based employees. Much of the \$18.6m fit out costs will be awarded to local sub-contractors and tradespeople. We believe that it is important to go ahead so this money can be injected into the local economy as soon as

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practicable. This will provide significant economic certainty for the local building industry.

We would like to thank the staff involved in this project who worked with commitment and professionalism to deliver results, sometimes in the face of unwarranted and uncivil criticism from a small number of opponents to the project. This will also provide some certainty for staff who have been working in an amalgamated Council scattered across a large LGA for nearly four years.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

We, the undersigned Councillors, today reiterate our arguments in favour of this project:

- The total purchase price of the project is \$25.6m (\$7m for the land, building and utilities; \$18.6m for the fit out, modifications to the building structure, furniture and solar panels).
- Council will pay for this project using existing savings, property investment incomes and loans repaid over 20 years so that the cost is spread out. (Council has very flexible and low-cost borrowing facilities.)
- The move will free up four existing Council buildings for lease or sale at an appropriate time to recoup the highest returns (there will be no fire sale). Council also has other investment properties, some with better expected returns which may be sold in the first instance, for instance vacant land in Chapmans Road, Tuncurry which is currently on the market.
- Two independent cost benefit studies (including financial sensitivity analyses) undertaken by external financial experts concluded that the financial benefits of this project outweigh the alternative campus model of dispersed offices.
- Council can afford the project, having prepared a Financial Strategy that was reviewed by the State Government's Office of Local Government and independently peer reviewed by external auditors.
- The project will replace four buildings, several in need of costly repair and refurbishment, with a relatively new building with lower ongoing maintenance costs and improved and more collaboration friendly facilities for staff.
- Front counter services will still be available in Forster at the new Council facilities in Lake Street (Civic Precinct).
- For those residents wanting to attend Council Meetings, travelling to Taree rather than Forster is more convenient for many, including those living in the southern regions such as Tea Gardens and Gloucester.
- This project will not impact on rates. It will be fully funded outside of the rates budget. (Any increase in rates would need to be through a request for a Special Rate Variation and there is no intention to apply for this.)
- The Covid-19 restrictions may cause some disruption to completion of the work.
- All Business Papers and audio recordings of Council deliberations on this matter are available on the Council website.

Mayor David West
Councillor Len Roberts
Councillor Karen Hutchison
Councillor Brad Christiansen

Deputy Mayor Claire Pontin
Councillor Troy Fowler
Councillor Kathryn Smith

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REAL KULTCHA

I was watching a football game last weekend and in the middle of some verbal compost the dribbler was serving up, came this gem: *The More Things Change – The More They Stay The Same!* Eh? What does that actually mean and how come some ex-Rugby League boof-head – who's probably suffered far too many concussions – is actually able to think something so cerebral? Obviously he has corona virus (CV)!

And speaking of CV (as we must) it's just about wiped everything out to the point that, come the next edition of this newspaper, I could be reduced to reporting on the speed, time and distance taken by grass-hoppers to transit my front lawn! Both the men's and women's Oz Rules comps have been hit, the men for a couple of months and the women for the season. In the latter there will be no more games and so there is no winner. Given they still seem to held up as a token comp while the men play the pre-season knockout, I guess the AFL thinks that's fine. I'd think the women are fuming. First, because they want a longer season anyway and, Second, why couldn't the final couple of games of their comp be postponed as the men's has been? I reckon Gill McLachlan is being burnt in effigy in several locations on a regular rotation.

It was interesting to listen and watch (as the dingbats seem to always get on the TV) some players give their thoughts on the postponement of the AFL men's season and the fact they might have to take a pay cut! It's an extraordinary situation and they've obviously been caught off guard by developments. Some of the comments made clearly showed that many egos were being belted and they couldn't understand how it came to this. I recall reading a book on the Melbourne Olympics and the bid centred of course, on the MCG being the main venue. That was fine until the VFL (as it was in those days) suddenly realised that their main field was going to be confiscated by the Olympics! Boy, did they hit the ceiling! Oz Rules (in Melbourne, of course) **IS** obviously more important than anything else and the Olympics can just go somewhere else! Saner heads prevailed (as I recall, it did take an act of the Victorian Parliament to secure the ground) and the Olympics went ahead as scheduled but I think there are some folk down there who have never forgotten or forgiven that slight.

Rugby League is still on (at least when I wrote this, it was) but anything could happen. The Auckland *Warriors* have set up shop on the

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Gold Coast because otherwise, they couldn't travel back and forth across the ditch and nobody could fly over there. It appears Peter V'landy has decided that teams within the Sydney area can commute to games by bus while a private commuter jet will get teams to away games in Victoria and Queensland. Of course, there were no spectators allowed at last weekends games and it was interesting to be able to hear the players shouting instructions between each other as the game went on as that talk is usually drowned out by the crowd noise. It was also interesting to hear one player sledging Cam Smith ("Hey Cam, your boot lases are undone!") as he lined up a goal kick.

I think it's going to get worse before it gets better and therein lies the conundrum: who do you believe? President Trump (he with the orange possum on his head) has been caught out badly telling fibs (which seems to be his default setting, anyway) and even as he tried to give a reassuring speech to the nation a week or so ago, the bottom fell out of the New York Stock Market **as he spoke!!!** The Chinese say no new cases have been reported but as they denied it even existed at the start and hounded the whistle blower who first identified it for "spreading false rumours", you've got to wonder if they're still telling porkies! The whistleblower then caught the CV and died. Italy is in more trouble than Speed Gordon (look it up) and the news this morning seemed to indicate Spain wasn't far behind. The secret seems to be isolation and that's what we as a country are trying to do. It's going to take a few months but we need to hang in there and look after each other.

And what about the Tokyo Olympics? They're to begin on 24 July and Tokyo is praying with all they have they'll go ahead. Sadly, the Olympic movement has gone berserk and it's now a matter of pride that each Olympiad is seen as an opportunity by the host to out shine all those who have gone before. Huge stadia that are destined to be white elephants forever and corruption seem to be the norm in recent staging. Tokyo budgeted for a cost of \$US7.3 billion but the auditors estimate it will cost at least \$US28 billion! That's a 400% cost over run! I can see the Olympics being too expensive to run and they could die again as they did in the 4th century AD. It's going to take more than a Baron Pierre de Coubertin to rescue The Olympics from the mess they're now in!

Talk at you next month,

The Hillside Critic

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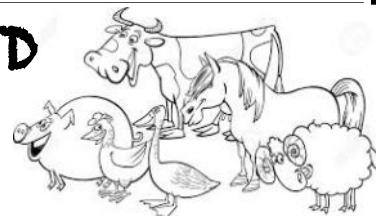
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Lyn's Larder

Some simple cake recipes for the kids to make during the holidays, confinement.

ROCK CAKES

INGREDIENTS

- 2 cups Self Raising Flour
- 90 g Butter
- 1/2 cup Sugar
- 1/2 tsp Mixed Spice
- 1 Egg
- 2 tbsp each of Currants, sultanas and chopped mixed peel
- 4 tbsp Milk

METHOD

1. Grease oven trays and set oven at hot (400f/200c)
 2. Sift flour, rub in butter lightly, mix in sugar and spice. Add fruits and mix well.
 3. Beat egg and add milk in a bowl, then mix with the dry ingredients to a stiff dough.
 4. Put small tablespoonfuls in little rough heaps on greased baking tin and bake in a hot oven for 10 to 15 minutes.
- Can be sprinkled lightly with sugar before baking

HUMMINGBIRD CAKES

INGREDIENTS FOR CAKES

- .440g Canned crushed pineapple in syrup
- 1 cup Plain flour
- 1/2 cup Self-raising flour
- 1/2 tsp Bi-carb soda
- 1/2 tsp Ground cinnamon and ground ginger
- 1 cup Tightly packed light brown sugar
- 1/2 cup Desiccated coconut
- 1 cup Mashed banana (2 large overripe)
- 2 Eggs, lightly beaten
- 3/4 cup Vegetable oil
- 1tbsp Icing sugar

INGREDIENTS FOR TOPPING

- 3 cups Shredded coconut
- 1/2 cup Firmly packed light brown sugar
- 3. Eggs lightly beaten

METHOD—CAKE

1. Preheat oven to 180 C. Line 18 cups of 2 large cup muffin pans with paper cases
2. Drain pineapple over a medium bowl, pressing fruit down with a spoon to extract as much syrup as possible and reserve 1/4 cup of the syrup
3. Sift flours, soda, spices and brown sugar into a large bowl and then stir in the pineapple, reserve syrup, coconut, banana, egg and oil.
4. Divide the mixture into the paper cups
5. Bake cakes for 10 minutes, then spoon Coconut topping on top of the cakes and bake a further 15 minutes.

Stand cakes in the pan for 5 minutes before removing and placing top side up on a wire rack to cool. Dust with icing sugar.

Make coconut topping while they are cooking

METHOD FOR TOPPING

Combine ingredients in a bowl.

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Some funnies to brighten your day.

Wiremu, a New Zealander, was on the dole in Australia but about to fly home, to watch the Rugby World Cup and was not feeling well, so he decided to see a doctor.

"Hey doc, I dun't feel so good, ey" said Wiremu.

The doctor gave him a thorough examination and informed Wiremu that he had long existing and advanced prostate problems and that the only cure was testicular removal. "No way doc" replied Wiremu "I'm gitting a second opinion ey!"

The second Aussie doctor gave Wiremu the same diagnosis and also advised him that testicular removal was the only cure.

Not surprisingly, Wiremu refused the treatment.

Wiremu was devastated, but with the Rugby World Cup just around the corner he found an expat Kiwi doctor and decided to get one last opinion from someone he could trust.

The Kiwi doctor examined him and said: "Wiremu Cuzzy Bro, you huv Prostate suckness ey."

"What's the cure thin doc?" asked Wiremu hoping for a different answer.

"Wull, Wiremu", said the Kiwi doctor "Wi're gonna huv to cut off your balls."

"Phew, thank god for thut!" said Wiremu, "those Aussie bastards wanted to take my test tickets off me!"

Ireland on lock down due to the virus!! Paddy and Murphy have just been signed up by the army. They are given a rifle each and told... "Martial law has been declared! Anyone caught out after 6 pm it's SHOOT TO KILL!!!"

On their first day, they are sitting on a rooftop when Paddy lets off 3 rounds and kills a man who is walking along the pavement!

Murphy shouts, "JESUS PADDY WHAT ARE YOU DOING? IT'S ONLY 5.45!"

Paddy replies: "I Know where he lives..... He'll never make it home by 6!"

This is it. The day your dogs have all been waiting for. The day they realise their owners can't leave the house and they get you 24/7. Lol. Dogs are rejoicing everywhere. Cats are contemplating suicide. ☹

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Good Medicine

Faith and fear

Well we've been through drought, fire and flood and now we are facing a new thing.

When it was far away we could ignore it but now it is close and perhaps has caught us by surprise.

Understandably we are fearful of the unseen and unknown, but the Bible tells us ... many times ... *do not fear*.

Should we worry?

No ... because that will not stop the spread and will just cause us to be anxious.

Don't worry about anything but pray about everything (Phillipians. 4:6)

Should we be thankful?

Yes .. there are many things to be thankful for such as the wonderful rain, the end of the fires, the fires, our food and homes, God's protection . You can probably think of other blessings in your life.

Should we pray?

Many people are praying not only for themselves, but for medical workers and researchers ... and what about checkout operators. When all is going well we might not think about God but in trouble we turn to Him because He is in control and will shelter us (Psalm 91).

We were created for community so might feel lonely or isolated ... but we can stay connected with others through technology, phone or 'snail mail'. We can't go to church but some churches have put services on TV or internet as well.

The children might be at home but this is an opportunity to spend more time with our families ... my grandchildren are being 'home-schooled' now. There are websites suggesting what you can teach the children while at home i.e. how to sew on a button or balance a cheque book. We can learn to be resilient. Winston Churchill said *never waste a good crisis*.

News From The News

Nabiac Uniting Church

Services are held every Sunday at **10:00am**

Holy Communion is celebrated with the service on the **3rd** Sunday.

For information regarding the Uniting Church, Nabiac please contact Margaret **Weller** (6554 1212), Jill **Hammond** (6555 7747)

St Bernadette's Catholic Church, Krambach

Mass times are all cancelled until further notice due to corona virus

Check with Helen **Legg** on 6559 1211

I have not been advised by the other churches as to what they are doing. You will have to check them your selves Ed.



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This crisis has not caught God off guard because He knows everything that happens to us. He's even counted the hairs on our head (Matthew 10:30).

Many of our choices have been taken away, but not joy. We can't choose what happens to us but we can choose our attitude to it. Many prisoners of war survived their dire situation because they chose to be positive and hopeful.

Our joy is not circumstantial, it doesn't depend on the economy, jobs or events. It is found in the Hope that is Jesus Christ, and that will never change.

As one preacher said, *This is about the 10th 'end of the world' I've lived through; pray but still wash your hands.*

The Counsellor

Useful Numbers

EMERGENCY - Police - Fire - Ambulance 000

Essential Energy - General enquiries	132 391
Essential Energy - Power outages	132 080
Police	131 444
FAWNA (NSW)	6581 4141
MidCoast Koalas in Care	6552 2183
WIRES (Wildlife Rescue)	1300 094 737
RSPCA (Taree)	6552 7177
Post Office - Dyers Crossing	0400 298 330
Post Office - Krambach	6559 1240
Post Office - Nabiac	6554 1211
Fire Permits	6591 2900

Do you need a *Justice of the Peace*?

Then contact

Stuart **Weller** on 6554 1904 (Nabiac)

Ray **McDonald**, 97 Stevens Close, Wang Wauk on 6550 2216

Diane **Greig**, Connect 3 Real Estate, Nabiac on 6554 1330

Jackie **Buckingham**, Buckingham's Real Estate, Nabiac on 6554 1107

Gordon **Foy**, 2949 Bucketts Way, Belbora on 6550 2547 or 0417 290 874

Julie **Arnoux**, 2 Cowper Street, Nabiac on 0434 253 266

St Thomas' Presbyterian Church, Krambach

A Family Service is held on the 2nd & 4th Sunday of each month at 9:30am. Everyone is welcome to join in. Any enquiries please phone Robert on 0400 310 357 .

St Paul's Anglican Church, Nabiac

A service will be held at **10:00 am each Sunday** All welcome

1st & 3rd Sundays - Contemporary Service

2nd & 4th Sundays - Traditional Service

Every Week Day Before and after school care by **KIDS SHACK**

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Call **Joy** on 0438 273 360.

St Isidore's Catholic Church, Nabiac

Mass - No Mass services until further notice due to corona virus

***Note Friday Service**



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REASONABLE RATES

Remember if you want to know what is happening in NABIAC, just look it up on the web - **nabiac.com**

If you want to advertise an event, visit the web site and click **SUBMIT**

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Barb available on Monday - Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday
Jess available Friday, Saturday (by Appointment) Otherwise we are shut Sat.

Hi everyone,

To all my most wonderful clients, I would like to say thank you for all your kind words and messages. I really am so lucky to work in this beautiful place. As soon as all this worlds craziness is over, I will be back good as new to take care of you.

As for **Barb** and **Jess**, they are continuing to work for as long as they can. One day at a time.

Jess, Barb and myself hope everyone stays well, and looks out for each other. Hope to see you all soon.

Thinking of you

Belinda ☺

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