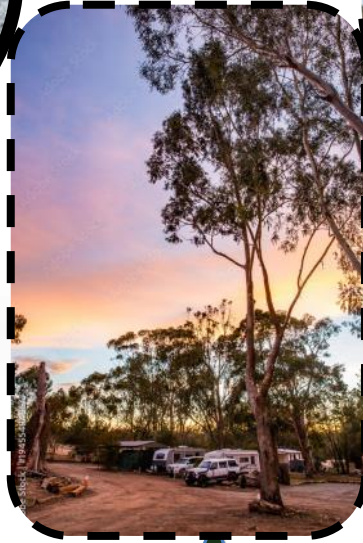


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# ACROSS THE FENCE



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## Editorial.

Hi everyone,

Apologies for the late edition. Family problems took me to Sydney on the weekend, so I didn't get the paper done in time before I left.

Well, we wanted rain and we certainly got it! Now I would like a little bit of warmth to dry the grass so it can be mown and cut some firewood from the big tree branches that came down during that wind. I bet a lot of fires have been lit in the last few days. The days went from the mid 20s to 6. Winter has ARRIVED, and we are still getting bits of rain.

Short a lot of articles this month. Seems everyone has gone into hibernation and I will have to wait for the sports results instead. That I know of, nothing very exciting has happen in the last few weeks. I did get a new ad from a local electrician, so hope he picks up some work to keep him busy.

The Show is lacking news until after the AGM in August. Krambach Hall's AGM is on later this month and the CWA are hosting a Learn to knit and crochet 'class' on 16<sup>th</sup>, so you can learn to knit a warm woolly jumper or beanie to keep you toasty for the winter. There seem to be a lot of caravans on the road, so the retirees are taking advantage of the cooler weather to go to warmer climes over winter and 'tween the school holidays. Our own 'travellers' have been away and are now back again. They don't seem to like home! A lovey article on helping the birds and animals from the FAWNA people. We don't think about the native animals and birds when we spray pesticides and chop down trees and native bushes then wonder where all the beautiful birds have gone.

The vet has an informative article on goats, very interesting. Our local schools have had a busy start to the new term with lots of sports and events happening. They certainly cram more into a term than I remember when at primary school— that was just after the ark sank!

Our new Minimbah Fire reporter has presented a good first go at reporting what's happening in Minimbah. Will have to wait and see what direction of reporting she will take in future months, Nabiac Markets were blessed with a good day in the middle of a wet week and they apparently had 59 stalls, so no complaints for variety. Hope every one is well and has an enjoyable time over the next moth.

That's all from me, until next month

Lyn & Timidthy



## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN JUNE, 2026

### Markets & Events.

- Bulahdelah (1st Sat) 6<sup>th</sup> 8am to 1pm
- Blackhead Bazaar (1st Sun) 7<sup>th</sup> 8am to 12 noon
- John's River Country (2nd Sat) 13<sup>th</sup> 9am to 1.30pm
- Wingham Farmers (1st Sat) 6<sup>th</sup> 8am to 12 noon
- Myall Quays (3rd Sat) 20<sup>th</sup> 9am to 1pm
- The Hub Taree Showgnd (3rd Sat) 20<sup>th</sup> 8am to 12 noon
- **Krambach** (3rd Sun) **21<sup>st</sup>** **8am to 12 noon**
- **NABIAC** (Last Sat) **27<sup>th</sup>** **8am to 12 noon**
- Old Bar (Last Sun) 28<sup>th</sup> 7am to 1pm
- Pacific Palms (Last Sun) 28<sup>th</sup> 9am to 1pm
- Forster Town (2nd Sun) 14<sup>th</sup> 8am to 2pm
- Halliday's Point (1st Sun) 7<sup>th</sup> 8am to 11am -?
- Town Head (every Mon) 8am to 2pm
- Mt. George (4th Sat) 27<sup>th</sup> 8am to 2pm
- Forster Farmers Market (3rd Sat) 20<sup>th</sup> 8am to 12 noon
- Bobbin Community —<sup>th</sup> 9am to 2pm
- Tuncurry Markets (4th Sat) 27<sup>th</sup> 8am to 1pm
- Burrell Creek (2nd Sun) 14<sup>th</sup> 9am to 12.30pm
- Gloucester (2nd Sat) 13<sup>th</sup> 8am to 12 noon
- Wingham Markets—showgrounds

Check out [barringtoncoast.com.au](http://barringtoncoast.com.au) for more info & confirmation

Phone Lyn on 02 6559 1811 Email: [frogsbottom@outlook.com](mailto:frogsbottom@outlook.com)  
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.  
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**Krambach & District Garden Lovers News** 

For the month of May we went to visit the garden of *Carol* and *David* at Harrington. We were very lucky as the weather was kind to us and we had a delightful morning

We first visited here approximately a year ago and we were able to tell the difference. In a small backyard they have a vegie plot with giant oxheart tomatoes, broccoli, spinach and pumpkins. In the front yard there were many lovely, healthy plants including Carol's gerberas which she brought with her from their farm when they moved.

After the meeting we went and visited a neighbour's oriental garden and then we visited another neighbour who was selling lovely healthy plants. I think she did quite well!

All in all, a lovely morning.


If you would like to join us. we are a happy group who meet on the last Monday of the month at a member's garden and you would be quite welcome.

Happy gardening,

Just call me  
*Judi*  
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\*\*\*\*\*  
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**Nabiac Landcare**



Rain, beautiful rain! I am so thankful. The creek is flowing, the grass and garden is green and growing ...but...I have measured some rainfall on 19/19 days in a row and my tanks and laundry baskets are overflowing. Oh, the weeds are growing! Beware, also, of the tiny baby ticks that seemed to have hatched with the rain...you don't want them to get in sensitive spots on your body or on your car seats or upholstery where they can wait for other members of the family.

We have continued to do follow-up weeding at Lilypilly Bend but volunteer hours for May have been down because of the wet conditions. In June we will be heading back to the Bullock Wharf reserve to keep on top of the regrowth of weeds there, especially camphor laurel seedlings on the borders and Maderia Vine along the river.

I really hate to say this but I have a 'new' weed for the area. A **cuphea**, common name **Columbian Waxweed**, (*Cuphea carthagenensis*). Although cupheas are fairly common garden plants and some are known to self-sow, I haven't seen this one in local gardens or nurseries. It has been a problem weed of pastures from Queensland down to about Kempsey but now is showing up further south.



I copied the following from the Kempsey Council website.

**Weed to watch: Colombian waxweed - Kempsey Shire Council working with the Macleay Valley community**

*Commonly found in pastures and damp areas such as floodplains, swamps, drains and waterways, Colombian waxweed rapidly forms dense populations, outgrowing preferred pasture species. Although it isn't toxic to cattle, the animals are reluctant to eat it and lose condition when the pasture becomes dominated by the weed.*

*Colombian waxweed is a short-lived upright plant that can reach 60cm tall, however most are below 40cm, with pinkish purple flowers that grow either singly or in small clusters at the leaf forks or tips of branches.*

*The weed reproduces by seed, which is spread mainly by floods on low-lying land, and by sticking to livestock and machinery as they move between paddocks and farms.*

*Like most weeds, Colombian waxweed colonises disturbed or damaged ground, often along drainage lines, stock camps, after flooding, and on over-grazed pastures.*

*Isolated plants can be pulled out by hand, bagged and disposed of appropriately, but in situations with dense infestations, chemical control is the most effective and practical method of control.*

The most distinctive feature for me when I saw it was the wiry stems that have a strange sticky feel.

What this plant has really showed me is the value of knowing 'your' country, whether it be creek, pasture, forest or garden. I first saw this cuphea on a Midcoast Council environmental display and promptly forgot about it. I was walking with a friend through her paddock just before the rain started looking at horses, speculating on how long the feed would last. I saw a plant that just didn't belong and the feel of the stems triggered the memory cells. We have no idea how it got there but earthmoving equipment is the best bet.

Nabiac Landcare volunteers normally work each Wednesday (weather permitting) 8-9am to 11am. Join us and we'll teach you to identify the weeds and the natives, teach the best way to control weeds and provide tools to do the job. You don't have to work every week. We can find a job for anyone of any level of fitness.

Our cook is currently on leave but you might find us after work in a local cafe. You'll know us...looking a bit dirty and bedraggled! Stop and have a chat. Even if you can't help in the bush, you can do your bit for our lovely area. If you have a garden remove fruit and seeds from exotic plants that the birds and wind will spread. When you prune, compost your prunings or use your green bin. Over the fence or across the road in the bush shouldn't be an option for excess dirt, grass clippings, or anything else you don't want on your patch of earth. Most of all enjoy a quiet walk in the local bush!

If you're interested in joining us, having a look at our projects or just having a chat, give me a ring on 65543196.

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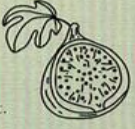
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## COOLONGOLOOK PUBLIC SCHOOL



Hello everyone,

As we move into June, we would like to share a quick update on some of the exciting happenings from May at Coolongolook Public School. It has certainly been another busy and engaging time for our students and staff.

One of the highlights was our recent *EnviroMentors* visit, where students K-6 participated in a hands-on worm farming and composting session with *Catherine*. Students thoroughly enjoyed learning about sustainability, reducing waste, and how composting and worm farms can help support healthy gardens and the environment. The session provided many practical learning experiences and sparked lots of thoughtful discussion amongst students.

We also recently commenced our basketball program, which will continue every Friday for the remainder of the term. Students have been highly engaged and are already developing their teamwork, coordination, and ball skills. It has been wonderful seeing students encouraging one another and enjoying being active together.

Our Year 6 student leaders recently attended the **GRIP Leadership Conference** in Forster, where they joined student leaders from schools across the Great Lakes region. The day provided valuable opportunities for students to further develop their leadership skills, confidence, teamwork, and communication. Our leaders represented our school proudly and thoroughly enjoyed connecting and learning alongside other student leaders.

Students K-6 also enjoyed attending the recent *Questacon Science Circus* visit. This highly interactive experience gave students the opportunity to explore a range of exciting science concepts through hands-on activities and demonstrations. From problem-solving challenges to engaging experiments, students were enthusiastic participants throughout the session and left inspired by the world of science. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to **Manin** and **Melissa** for delivering such an engaging and enjoyable presentation. Their enthusiasm, knowledge and ability to make science fun and accessible for students helped create a memorable learning

experience for all.

Another recent highlight was a visit from author and illustrator **Mick Elliott** as part of the *MidCoast Festival of Stories*. Students were thoroughly entertained by Mick's engaging presentation, learning about the creative process behind writing and illustrating books while enjoying plenty of laughs along the way. Mick shared insights into where his ideas come from, how characters are developed, and the journey from an idea to a published book. The visit inspired our students to think creatively, embrace their imaginations, and explore their own storytelling ideas. We would also like to sincerely thank **Meredith** and the MidCoast Libraries team for helping make this wonderful opportunity possible. Their ongoing support provides valuable literacy experiences for our students and is greatly appreciated.


Over recent weeks, students have also been busily preparing for the *Small Schools Athletics Carnival*, which will be held on **4<sup>th</sup> June** at Tuncurry. Students from Krumbach, Bungwahl, Barrington and Stratford Public Schools will join us for the day. Our students have been enjoying practising their running events, high jump, long jump and shot put skills, and are very much looking forward to the carnival.

Later in the month, students in Years 3-6 will attend the *Small Schools Soccer Gala Day* in Wingham on **19<sup>th</sup> June**. This is always a fantastic opportunity for students to participate in team sports, build friendships with students from other schools, and demonstrate sportsmanship, teamwork and school spirit in a fun and supportive environment.

We are also very much looking forward to our upcoming **NAIDOC** Week celebrations, which will include a visit to Bulahdelah Central School and the official opening of our school *Yarning Circle*. These events will provide valuable opportunities for students to deepen their understanding and appreciation of Aboriginal culture, perspectives and community connections.

Be sure to visit our school Facebook page for more updates and photos from our exciting June happenings. We look forward to updating you again soon on all that is happening at our wonderful school.

**The Coolschool Team**



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## MINIMBAH MATTERS



**Minimbah Rural Fire Brigade**, hello from your new reporter! I am ecstatic to be delivering you the news from our humble brigade!

Before I get to telling you all the recent hot topics I'd like to give a shout out to **Jan Gray**, who wrote these articles for nineteen years. I certainly have some mighty big shoes to fill!

Now onto the news - in April, we saw the perilous Woodlands Road fire, which has now, thankfully, been declared out, after burning over a thousand hectares. This was only achieved with help from all over such as the Incident Management team, many Mid Coast Brigades, aerial support (Helicopter and fixed wing), strike teams from the central coast and lower north coast, staff, caterers earth moving equipment and volunteers who sacrificed many hours out on the fire front, including our own. These guys deserve a huge **thank you!**

Speaking of volunteers... have *you* ever thought of joining the RFS? We could always do with more helpful hands! With the shameless plug out of the way, I am pleased to bring you the good news that we have another qualified member who we hope to see out on the fire field! Well, we don't want another fire though!

### How's Rufus going?

I am glad you asked! Rufus is going spectacularly, here he is working with the radios! Radio work is a major part of what we do here at the RFS, communication keeps us safe and updated, and Rufus is a pro.



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Now it's not just Rufus who should be communicating, but you as well! Since fire permit season is over, you no longer require a permit, however if you are going to do a pile burn, please notify us at least **24 hours** before you light an outside fire, visit [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/notify](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/notify). Rufus always makes sure to notify his neighbours!

Even in wet weather you can never be too careful. There's loads of ways to be fire safe! But in this weather and this cold, maybe it would be easiest to give that smoke alarm a quick check. Did you change that battery? Can't hurt to give it a quick test. There we go! Turns out it's okay, but it never hurts to double check, because you've got a smoke alarm, and you want to stay calm. Don't forget to check it works it will save you a whole lot of hurt.

Your newest reporter,  
**Cassody Lee.**

Did you know the Male SEA HORSE has a pouch on his body that the Female lays her eggs into and he will carry them until they hatch. Then *hundreds* of them shoot out into the sea.

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**Alan, Terry, Stewart, Glen, Jillian and Sheila. (6554 3032)**



The CTC Nabiac would like to announce a new volunteer who some of you may know from his many years of running his computer business in and around Nabiac.

Now retired, **Glenn Singleton** ran *Possible Solutions*, a computer sales, repairs and programming business helping many people in Nabiac, but also in the Great Lakes and Greater Taree areas.

He brings a great deal of knowledge in regard to computer repairs and optimization, virus removal, phone to computer transfer, the internet and more.

You can find Glenn, ready to help, at the CTC Friday mornings or at other times by appointment.

Please contact the CTC via email at [nabiacctc@gmail.com](mailto:nabiacctc@gmail.com) with any questions.



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## WALLAMBA CWA REPORT

The May meeting of Wallamba CWA held 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2026 was presided over by President **Jenny Ang** who welcomed 8 members and received a further 4 apologies followed by the usual formalities before members paused to remember *Mal Anderson (who died)* on 11<sup>th</sup> May aged 91 years. Mal was famous for being a Davis Cup and Grand Slam champion and his contributions to the sport of tennis.

**Penny** gave us two thoughts for our meeting as follows:- "May is the month of expectation the month of wishes, the month of hope" which was penned by Emily Bronte.

A further quote in recognition of International Nurse Day was as follows "Work for a cause – not applause, live life to express – not impress. Don't strive to make your presence noticed, just make your absence felt."

The local Deaf Camp has been sent the Branch's \$100 donation towards their next camp.

Wallamba Branch received "Thank You" for its members assisting with packing of the delegates bags at the Forster CWA Branch who hosted this year's State Conference.

Members **Merle**, **Fay** and **Colleen** attended Port Macquarie's International Day on Fiji held 22<sup>nd</sup> April and had an enjoyable time.

Wallamba has been advised they will host November 2027 Mid North Coast CWA Group meeting so we have a little time to prepare for it.

Members are pleased with the continuing sale of the CWA Cookbook at the Nabiac Nook. It was moved that the branch purchase a box of the CWA Cookbook "70 years in the Kitchen" also for sale at the Nook when they arrive.

Items from the State Conferences at Forster were discussed including the Ecumenical Service. The Opening Service was great and the singing by "Company of Voices" was delightful.

The Conference finished with John Farnham's "You're The Voice."

Congratulations' to member **Margaret Weller's** entries of jams and preserves won in the Land Cookery at Group Level but sadly not at



7 Nabiac Street,  
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State Level.

Congratulations to Merle Barber for her International needlework, a beaded tiger pendant, and to her husband **Fred** also for his beaded entry in handicraft.

Jenny and Penny are continuing to work on the set up of CWA Facebook Page and Penny continues to post entries on Nabiac News and Chat.

The Handicraft mornings are proposed to commence soon, on 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday each month at 10.00am, for a trial period of 3 months. The first of these will be on 16<sup>th</sup> June focusing on knitting and crochet.

**Colleen** gave a report on Port Macquarie's International Day; the day included the Fiji's national anthem, Guest Speaker, traditional Fijian food as well as craft and competition. Penny gave a report on International Dolls displayed at State Conference which have been donated to the State Office.

Handicraft report by Merle informed members the Chairman's Choice is Brazilian embroidery with the Branch project - 4 decorated coat hangers.

Ag & Environment Group Day is to be held at Forster on 24<sup>th</sup> June. This month's focus is Foe Topic – Garden Escapes.

Cultural report – **Jill** brought along words and music to a Fijian song, which she recited, that had been written by a Defence Force Lieutenant in 1932.

Congratulations extended to member Merle and husband Fred for their 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary coming up on 10<sup>th</sup> June, along with happy birthday wishes to Jenny and Margaret for 2<sup>nd</sup> June, Fay for 5<sup>th</sup> June and Pam for 28<sup>th</sup> May.

Meeting closed at 12.10pm when all enjoyed a friendly lunch and a cuppa and lots of chat.

### Pam Muxlow

Publicity Officer

Wallamba CWA Branch

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### Nabiac RSL - Sub branch

As we approach winter and we have many veterans working on the land, it is very good to see some rain. Here's hoping all your dams are full.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff and children of Nabiac Public School, for all of their efforts in making this year's ANZAC Day, another success. A lot of work goes into the preparation and the support, especially for the dawn service, is greatly appreciated.

Our secretary, Lieutenant Colonel, Retired, Mr **Greg Jackson** was invited to the school to speak on behalf of our veterans (see pic). He said it was a very enlightening experience.

At last month's meeting, our guest speakers were Mr **Nigel McIntosh** and Mr **Bob Waller**, who spoke on updates to members' benefits, pertaining to their service in regard to holders of the white or gold cards. A very informative meeting, followed by growing numbers who attended the Nabiac hotel for lunch afterwards. Great to see so many members and their families attend.

Remember, if you know of any veterans in our district who may be struggling, we are here for them.

Regards,

**Max Frost**

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President - Nabiac RSL: SB



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The next market is on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June, 8-12 at the showground.

The May market was just fantastic. After a few drizzly weeks and a couple of days of very heavy rain, Saturday's weather was perfect. Mild for this time of year, with bright blue skies and no wind. People had a spring in their step after welcoming some much-needed rain.

Stallholders reported a good day's trade. It's always a joy to walk around and see people asking producers, makers and bakers about their offerings, then loading baskets with a range of great products.

It's fun to see all kinds of dogs, enjoying a morning out, just like in one of author, Lynley Dodd's "Hairy McClary" books.

It's heart-warming to see friends and families chatting and enjoying the market atmosphere.

Our next market day is on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June. It's sure to be chilly, so it could be a good opportunity to buy scarves and beanies from our talented textile artists.



Julia, from Julia Jay art, set up a free interactive community art space, using natural and reusable materials. This was well embraced and it was lovely to see so many children becoming excited about participating in the design.

The market BBQ is always a winner, with local



eggs from Pasture Pearls, meat from Nabiac Butchers and bread from Nabiac Bakery.



The proceeds go to various charitable local organisations or the local schools throughout the year.

Some stallholders had to cancel due to the previous day's flooding in some areas, however with 59 stalls attending, it was all in all another successful, rewarding market day.




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We regularly post info and updates on Instagram and Facebook. By following us and sharing, liking and commenting on the posts, you'll help to spread the word about our truly wonderful monthly market.

Thank you to everyone in our community for making our market great: Stallholders, the committee, our customers, and the shop owners in Nabiac who promote us to their patrons. We appreciate you all.



See you at the next market on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June.

Market enquiries, including new stallholder applications:

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By **Laura Pennington** on behalf of the Nabiac Farmers' Market committee.




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## NABIAC PUBLIC SCHOOL



Term 2 has been an exciting and eventful time here at the best little school anywhere! Our students have eagerly participated in a variety of sports opportunities, including netball, touch football, and soccer tryouts, as well as knockout competition games, showcasing great teamwork and sportsmanship.

Students across all classes enjoyed participating in the engaging workshops offered by the Environmentors program. They learned about sustainability, including what can and cannot be recycled, how to make environmentally friendly choices, and the importance of caring for our planet.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our annual Mother's Day breakfast and assembly. It was wonderful to see so many families, students, and staff come together to celebrate the important role mothers and caregivers play in our community. We are grateful to our wonderful P&C for organising the Mother's Day gift stall and the lucky door prizes, adding a special touch to the celebrations. A big thank you also to our dedicated teachers and staff for preparing breakfast and coordinating the morning's events.

Students have enjoyed participating in our *Creative Play* duty during lunchtime. These sessions provide valuable opportunities for students to engage in open-ended play that encourages creativity, collaboration and imagination. As they build, design and create, students develop important skills such as negotiating with peers, problem-solving and working together. It has been wonderful to see students so engaged and enthusiastic as they learn through play.

Kindergarten had a wonderful time learning all about the letter **Hh** in week 4. After practising the /h/ sound, students created colourful house collages to reinforce their learning. It was fantastic to see everyone working so carefully and creatively while building their own houses. Great work, *Kindergarten Bees!*

*3/4 Coyotes* have been exploring the structure of persuasive texts and learning how modal words can strengthen an argument and influence the reader. Students used Canva to publish their persuasive texts about dingoes, combining their writing skills with creativity and

technology. We are so proud of their thoughtful arguments and polished final pieces!

We are very excited to welcome Mr *Grady Meadows* to our school family as our band instructor. Mr Meadows has two decades of experience as a professional musician and three years teaching music in the Great Lakes area. Mr Meadows will support the **Nabibeats**, and will also form a developmental band for Year 3 students who have shown an interest in learning a musical instrument. This is an amazing opportunity that we can offer our students! Mr Grady will be at school every Thursday from 11am-1pm. Even Kindergarten poked their heads in for a little dance!

Looking ahead, our Year 5 students are gearing up for the **RYSTEM Engagement Day**, a full-day competition designed to give them a positive, hands-on experience in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). Working collaboratively in teams, they will tackle various challenges alongside peers from other local primary schools. This event is a fantastic opportunity to ignite curiosity and build important problem-solving skills in our aspiring STEM learners.

Later in the year, our Stage 3 students will embark on an exciting excursion to Canberra, where they will explore the nation's capital, engage in educational activities, and deepen their understanding of Australian history and government.

To stay updated with all the latest news from the best little school anywhere, follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NabiacPublicSchool>

Our weekly newsletter is also published every Monday on our school website: <https://nabiac-p.schools.nsw.gov.au>

Thank you for your ongoing support and involvement in our school community!

Kind Regards,

**Amelia Bridge**

NABIAC PUBLIC SCHOOL T 02 6554 1247 W [Nabiac Public School](http://www.nabiacpublicschool.nsw.gov.au)

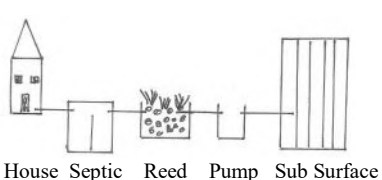
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**W**e are getting bigger and more exciting every month!

Our May market saw all of your old favourites, plus some new stalls:- *Demoiselle Distillery* with their amazing collection of gin, *Old Inn Road Winery* with their reds and whites, *Garnet* had his antique tools and *Coffee Tsunami* had their coffee machine buzzing constantly. *Paul* was busy all morning juicing up oranges for fresh orange juice and *Noella* had her large selection of jams and pickles. *Jill* was back with her chickens, ducklings and eggs.



Find them again at our next markets on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June, along with bacon and eggs for breakfast, coffee, cakes for morning tea, honey, veggies and more.

Stallholder highlight: This month Jill had a very popular stall with her rescue chickens, fuzzy ducklings, fresh free range eggs, pre-packaged dog food and even a friendly goat to pat! She'll

be back next month with even more.

Louise



"Aww" moments



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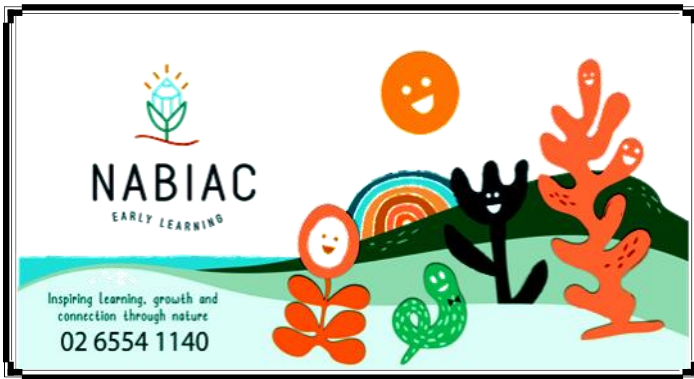
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Authorised by Alison Penfold MP, National Party of Australia, 144 Victoria St, Taree NSW 2430.



**WALLAMBA LANDCARE**

Our next meet-up is on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June, at The Artisan Farmer.

We welcome guest speaker vermiculturalist **Lee Fieldhouse**, to talk about worm wee as a fertiliser and to boost beneficial microbes.

We'll be enjoying good coffee and sharing ideas on all things compost, worms, worm wee, and compost tea.

I'll share the info in the next edition of Across The Fence.

**Upcoming field days:**

The following field day will be in Dyers Crossing in August, to see the results of multi-species seeds sown last summer and allowing some to go to seed, plus the results of winter seed sowing. Date TBA.

We're planning a dung beetle workshop later in the year. Details TBA.

If you would like to stay in the loop, message **Joel Dunn** about membership, details below.

**Future activity ideas for our group:**

- Joel, our Local Landcare Coordinator can lead a group work session of bushland weed removal. Tool belts can be available from Landcare. If you have a site that could be a good



educational working-bee for a couple of hours, please let us know.

- Joel also has a slide show of garden escape weeds which can be another group event. Venue suggestions are always welcome.
- Visit a multi-species pasture improvement property; form an interest group via the membership database.

Thank you,

**Laura Pennington** –  
Convenor- 0409 997 309.

**Robyn Lamond** –  
Co-Convenor.

Membership enquiries:

**Joel Dunn:** [great-lakes@midcoast2tops.org.au](mailto:great-lakes@midcoast2tops.org.au)



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### Welcome to Deb's Gardening

'I'm just sitting watching flowers in the rain, feeling the power of the rain, watching the garden grow'. A line from a song I listened to and thought to myself, how appropriate because it was all so true.



The heavens have opened up, the creek has water in it which has been dry for over 6 months. With all this beautiful rain the garden is flourishing. Last month I was busy Seasoling the gardens and the bare lawn patches, spreading cow manure and organic, watering it all in then covering the bare soil with mulch to stop the soil drying out too quickly in preparation for this so called 'Super El Nino. I thought to myself to be prepared for an even bigger dry period. Maybe it is still coming, who knows, but at this point the ant mounds are prolific. I have to stop worrying about what the weather man says because I am sure they have no idea.

I have been busy making a new garden bed, thinking that it won't get planted out until the rains come but, low and behold, the new garden is planted out already because the rains came. I wanted to plant natives in this new bed but I couldn't help myself, I planted annuals instead. My reasoning was that it was a 'no dig' garden with newspaper and cardboard to smother the grass then a good layer of cow manure on top of the cardboard that I collected from the cattle camps around the paddock. A thick layer of mulch and I was going to wait for it to all break down. I could have planted natives in it but that meant needing to dig bigger holes into the grass. Well-aged or composted cow manure is excellent for Australian natives. Because cattle graze on grass, their manure is naturally low in phosphorus—a nutrient many native plants (like banksias and grevilleas) are highly sensitive to. It acts as a great soil conditioner to improve water retention and soil structure.

It was so much easier to make little holes in the cow manure instead of making holes in the cardboard or grass. So in went punnets of stocks, hollyhocks, poppies, dianthas and snapdragons. By spring I should have a beautiful display hopefully. Then when they finish the garden bed will be ready for the native plants.

I have been proactive in the vegetable garden with most of the seasonal veggies planted, such as broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, peas, spinach, onions, leek, kale, salad greens, potatoes, beetroots, but my biggest success story is the carrots. I struggle with germinating carrots, and beetroots for that matter. I keep visiting the beetroots to see if they have germinated but there are only a few here and there that have germinated, but the carrots are prolific. The last lot of carrots that I grew were an organic variety. I let a few go to seed and

once they dried off I just tossed the heads of the seeds directly onto the soil where I wanted them to grow and low and behold. I am sure they have all germinated because there are carrots everywhere. It pays to let a few varieties of vegetables go directly to seed. I have not let the beetroot go to seed but I will the next lot and see if it works for the beetroot.

The zucchini are not quite finished yet but I have let a few of them go big and put them on top of the soil where I want them to grow next year. Over a period of time they will break down and germinate next season, that's how I grew this last lot of zucchinis. It is the same story with the salad greens. They have grown from letting a few heads go to seed and they are germinating where I put the heads of seeds. It is so easy!

Once I pull out the zucchini I will prepare the soil by adding compost, blood and bone and plant the garlic which are starting to sprout from last year's crop, the last of the veggies to go in.

One of my favourite vegetables, apart from peas, to eat is broccoli, and I had a vacant spot to pop 4 broccoli seedlings in near the zucchini at the start of autumn, to get a head start, thinking that the white cabbage moth should not affect them. Well, that was a waste of time as they are almost chewed from grubs. However not a total loss. I have a garden bed planted out with broccoli that I planted a month later, they followed the corn. There is not 1 hole in them, and the reason is because the onions and leeks are planted around the edge. The onions and leeks are companion plants for the brassicas family as they deter the white cabbage moth and the proof is there. The 4 lonely broccoli have no companion plants to protect them.

I am picking the last of the tomatoes that are almost finished. The capsicum are still producing plenty of capsicums and are doing better now than they were when growing during summer. With plenty of flowers, I should be picking them through the winter and at the end of winter, with capsicums being a biannual, I will cut them back and leave them there for the following year.

The pumpkins are picked and stored, the chokos are pulled out and given to the cows, not a choko fan except to use for pickles which need making. This time I made sure I did not leave one choko behind because I don't want them to grow next year, they just took over because I did not pick all last year. I let them shoot. Passionfruits are going in instead. There are so many success stories in the garden and a few failures but success outweighs the failures so I don't care.

Until Next time - "In almost every garden, the land is made better, and so is the gardener."

Deb



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## REAL KULTCHA

Ah, I do love the smell of napalm in the morning! Sorri, I watched that film t'other night and the scene stayed with me. The sporting world has seen the equivalent disorder over the last few weeks. For starters (in the BIG game based in Canberra) there was the midnight massacre in the seat of Farrer. It's been a Liberal Party seat since Adam played half-back for *The Angels* but of late the Libs have lost their way. To be truthful, I think they've lost their *raison d'être* (I've included this phrase for the lone intellectual who has stumbled upon this rant) and there's a chance they (the Libs) will never find it again! On the sporting field (i.e. those with grass) the *Manly Sea Gulls* lost patience with their fully qualified coach, punted him and then appointed a player who only retired at the end of last season! The result: Manly is on a winning streak! How do the bookies explain that? Down south, *The Blues* (aka Carlton) were facing a similar situation – fully qualified coach with (so it's said) a good pack who couldn't win a chook raffle even if they held the only ticket! Much tearing of hair and rending of clothing was witnessed (down south there is a belief that: *As go The Blues – so goes the State*) so the coach was given the flick and replaced by somebody (the water boy, possibly) and suddenly they're a winning side!! If that happened on the racetrack, all bets would be held and an investigation begun. But in the ARL and the AFL: Play On – nothing to see here.

And speaking of *Play On*, I must mention the passing of Neale Daniher. If you ever think you're a no-body and you're destined to do or achieve nothing in your life, I'd suggest you take a look at the life of Neale. He was a very good Australian Rules player and at just 20 years of age he captained the team he played for. There was another milestone in that he and three of his brothers once played on the same team. Following his retirement, he took up coaching, which he did well at. But the thing he'll be remembered for is what followed when he was diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease (MND). Rather than feeling sorry for himself, he decided to do something. But what could he do: he had no medical skills or knowledge? He decided to raise money to fund researchers (who did have medical skills and knowledge) to find a cure for what he called *The Beast*. The usual life span of a suffer following diagnosis, is 2 or 3 years but Neale hung in there for 13 and using an idea considered a joke at first, began the annual Big Freeze at the MCG. Who would be silly enough to dress up in a costume, get on board a small snow sled, slide down a slippery-dip and into a large tub of freezing cold water? As it turned out, lots of people because funds were raised by each slider and the

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Government matched it dollar for dollar. In all, Neale raised over \$141 million and while he knew he would not benefit from the research, he persevered as *The Beast* destroyed his body. He passed away – surrounded by his family – on 25<sup>th</sup> May aged just 65. Spare a thought also for young South Sydney Rugby League player Jai Arrow who has just been diagnosed with the same disease.

**VALE Neale Daniher AO. You fought a good fight. *The Beast* is under attack as never before, by those researchers your efforts have funded. You will be remembered.**

And speaking of drugs and the like, I guess we should mention *The Enhanced Games*! If there was ever an idea that should have been clobbered the moment it was mentioned, this is it. It's the idea of Australian lawyer (need I say there are far too many lawyers and they have far too much time on their hands to enable them to think of things like this) Aaron D'Souza and it could be said this was a backlash of sorts, from the efforts that went into making sure normal competition – such as the Olympics - were drug free. "Why not," according to D'Souza, "let participants use all the drugs they wish and set new world records the likes of which we've never seen?" Former Australian Olympic swimmer James *The Missile* Magnussen was the first to sign up with the prospect of picking up \$US1 million if he could break a world record! He was quoted as saying he'll *be juiced to the gills* to pick up the prize money. Around 40 sprinters, swimmers and weight lifters took part in the games at a specially built facility at Resorts World, Las Vegas. Where else? There was one record "broken" in the event but *The Missile* finished last in both his races. In fact his time of 49.44 seconds in the 100 metres final was two-and-a-half seconds slower than his career PB of 47.10 seconds! Maybe drugs are not the answer.

It is my sad duty to inform you *The Mighty Saint George Dragons* are languishing in 17<sup>th</sup> spot on the ARL ladder. On the other hand *The Glorious St Kilda* are sitting 11<sup>th</sup> on the AFL ladder and about to make their run at the flag. You heard it here first.

Talk at you again next month,  
***The Hillside Critic.***

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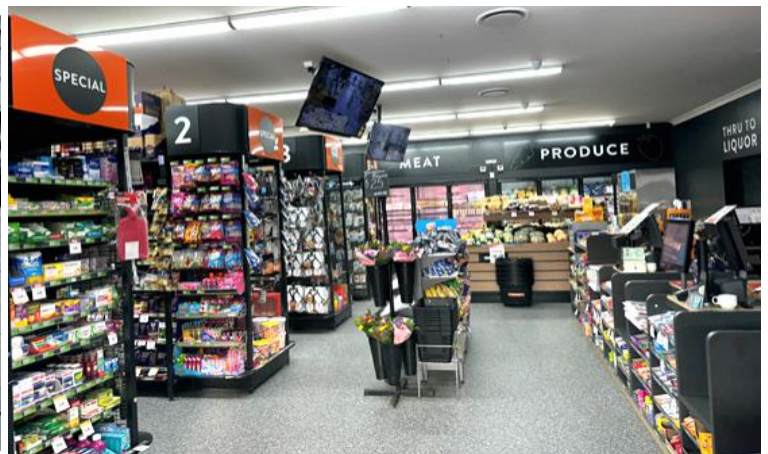
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For most Australians, a 'fair go', or kindness towards others, extends to our wildlife.

Sadly though, much of our unique wildlife, including many bird species, is disappearing, with habitat loss the major driver. Sometimes it feels overwhelming but there are things that we gardeners can do to help.

Some bigger bird species, such as magpies, butcher birds and noisy miners, have adapted well to our urban landscapes of clipped lawns and neatly ordered garden beds of introduced plant species. However, for our beautiful smaller birds, wildlife friendly gardening is around messy, multi-storied plantings.

This involves prioritising native plants, including native grasses, that are local to our environments. In this way the butterflies, native bees and other insects that feed upon these species will be able to grow and thrive. These in turn feed the insectivore birds such as fairy wrens, robins, fantails, wagtails, silvereyes and weebills.

Even honeyeaters will supplement their diet with insects, especially when feeding young. And worth noting, spiders are not only a food source for many birds but spiderweb is an essential resource or 'glue' for nest-building.

Planting flowering natives that provide nectar all year round is also vitally important for honeyeater bird species such as the Eastern Spinebill, Scarlet Honeyeater and others.

However, it is also critical to create bushy prickly habitat for these smaller birds to hide from the more aggressive domineering noisy miners and predatory birds such as butcherbirds and kookaburras.



Letting native grasses go to seed not only increases insect numbers to feed the insectivores, but it also feeds finches and parrot species such as Eastern Rosellas.



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Providing multiple water sources, preferably near bushy cover, will allow the smaller birds to drink and bathe without the risk of being predated upon.

On a final note, it is estimated that overseas twitchers, i.e. bird-watchers, bring in over 2 billion tourist dollars every year into Australia. So, providing habitat in our gardens is not only good for our native birds and ourselves, but also arguably good for the economy.

*Kym*

FAWNA Media Spokesperson,  
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*(Pity the picture is in black and white as the colour of the bird are beautiful, take a quick look on the webpage version)*

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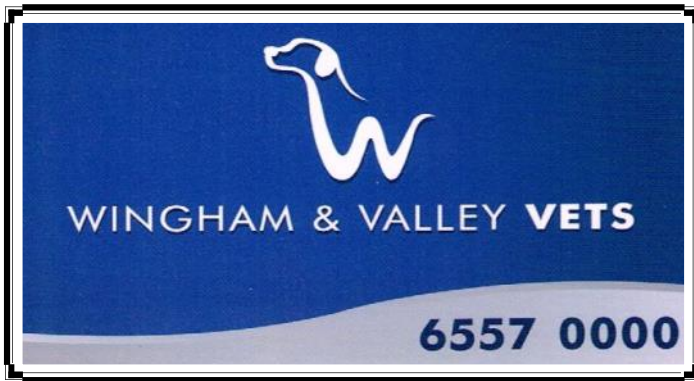
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### **WORM CONTROL IN GOATS NSW EAST COAST**

The control of worms in our region is particularly difficult due to our climate and high stocking density on the coast. High humidity and small acreage with lots of animals provide an excellent environment for worms to continue their lifecycle and re-infect animals. Some examples of common roundworms in goats are the Barber's Pole Worm (*Haemonchus contortus*) and black scour worm (*Trichostrongylus* spp.). The lifecycle begins with animal ingesting an egg or infected larvae during grazing. The larvae or egg undergo developmental stages in the animal and shed eggs which are defecated by the animal and then contaminate the pasture with eggs or larvae. High worm burdens are caused by further ingestion of larvae from the paddocks, so pasture management and prevention of ingestion of larvae is critical in managing worm burdens in goats and other species.



#### **Pasture Management**

Pasture management is essential in creating an effective worm management plan. Grazing sheep and goats together is not recommended due to goats hosting and shedding higher worm burdens than sheep. Avoid grazing paddocks heavily contaminated with worm larvae. Adequate 'browse' should always be provided, but particularly when grazing infected pastures, so animals have sufficient supply of edible pasture, without overgrazing. Feed and water areas must also be strategically managed to avoid faecal contamination. High-risk animals such as weaners, late pregnant and lactating does must be kept in low worm burden paddocks. To prepare low worm burden paddocks for these animals, it is recommended to rest them from goats and sheep for 2 months in spring and summer and 3 months in autumn and winter before they are required. During the rest period, cattle and horses may be grazed in these paddocks. If there is no alternative option other than to graze goats and sheep on contaminated paddocks, ensure they have been treated with an effective drench and only graze them for up to 3 weeks after the period it is killing worms i.e. the protection period.

#### **Small Acreage**

If your property is too small to adequately rest the paddocks, it is recommended to cell graze paddocks with longer resting periods than grazing periods. Alternatively, a temporary or long term feed lot area may be used periodically for best management. This would require an area that has no pasture, ensure the ground is covered with

compact dirt, pine bark or similar to prevent grass growth. The animals need supplementary feeding to accommodate their nutritional needs. Feeders and waterers must be raised to prevent faecal contamination.

#### **Genetic Selection and FAMACHA Scoring**

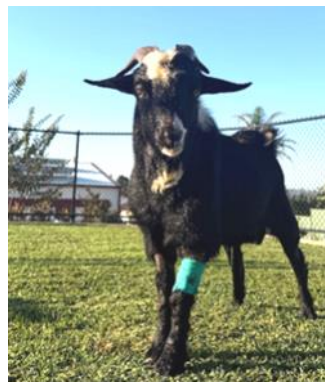
Selecting your goat flock to have a higher resistance to worms is possible by looking at the Estimated Breeding Values (EBVs) for worm egg count. If this is not possible, then selecting individuals that have consistently good FAMACHA scores will better select for Barber's Pole Worm resistance. FAMACHA scoring involves assessing the pigmentation of the lower eyelid conjunctiva. If the conjunctiva is pale or pale pink this may indicate anaemia and possible Barber's Pole worm burden. More information on FAMACHA scoring is available on the WormBoss website <https://wormboss.com.au/famacha/>.

#### **Drenching Decisions**

Routine drenching is recommended for specific times when animals have lowered immune systems or during stressful periods. These events are: prior to moving pregnant does into the kidding paddock and kids at weaning. Additionally, any individual animal showing signs of worms should be wormed after a faecal worm egg count is performed. At Wingham and Valley Vets, we can perform same-day faecal worm egg counts from a sample of faeces to assist in drenching decisions. We can perform pooled samples from a herd or, if small herds, can test individuals to identify high worm egg shedders. Targeted and appropriate use of drenches is recommended by using the Wormboss Drench Decision Guide <https://tools.wormboss.com.au/sheep-goats/programs/goats/eastcoast.php>.

#### **Other Considerations**

A product that may also assist in managing worms is BioWorma. The product contains an active ingredient that has been proven in studies to reduce worm egg shedding in cattle, sheep, horses and goats. The product will not reduce pasture larvae contamination but will prevent further pasture contamination via reducing egg shedding. In studies



on goats, the product has been 86% effective in reducing gastrointestinal nematode (round worms) larvae on pastures.

For more information, contact the clinic to book a phone consultation or on-farm assessment for tailored advice. Alternatively, the Wormboss Goat Worm Control Program East Coast (2016) provides further reading on worm control in goats <https://wormboss.com.au/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2023/03/>

[WB-Program-Goats-East-coast.pdf](https://wormboss.com.au/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2023/03/WB-Program-Goats-East-coast.pdf)



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**Grey Nomads (their journey home continued from last month)**

Like a discarded shoe, we were left behind (not really) the day after the old car event in Temora, with our fellow attendees already on the way home. So for us it is back to Yass for two days where the Bride found a work friend from the Telephone exchange where they worked in the 50's.

Time for the bloke to depart..(call girls taking calls again).

A quick worthwhile trip to Canberra to visit an unwell cousin, two 80+ blokes reliving past glories. He, a lifetime with the RAAF before retiring from senior management.

On to Parkes for a few days and camp at a friend's place, "while you're here, here's a toolbox "

He has an enormous collection of old vehicles including supposedly, the Albion truck used to transport Phar Lap to racetracks. Still with the original wooden body and doors.

Things fixed and time to go. To Dubbo, the country is dry some farmers have planted and on the road north an occasional tractor working the fields, all hoping for rain. Short distance out of town and chatting with a friend who is building some equipment to prevent another \$3,000.00 loss of diesel stolen whilst away for the evening.

Some fields show a tinge of green due to a quick shower some weeks ago. However if no follow up is forthcoming, that's big dollars down the gurgler. Others are in a quandary, yes or no? And the constant warnings from forecasters of an El Nino is not helping.

Average cost, depending on crop and chemicals is about \$5,00.00, to \$10,00.00 per hectare. Many plantings are around 1500h/a and larger, so do the maths, not pretty. These problems are not apparent yet, but will become obvious next year when grain prices rise as they must.

For nearly 200kms to the Bungles, some paddocks are still being prepared for planting, whether it really happens is a lottery.

Camped in the Warrumbungle National Park. Still dry, haven't seen anything green since leaving Temora. Perhaps 30 years since our last visit here and it has changed so much. I am reminded constantly of my failing memory, "that wasn't there last time?" "yes dear"

It is worth a visit, 2.5 hours from Tamworth (our next stop) and just 40kms from Coonabarabran.

The scenery is staggering, the camp ground, magnificent, and facilities first class. The absence of lights at night makes the heavens appear so much brighter, but was a full moon for us. A great place for the Siding Springs Observatory with another such facility visible on an adjacent peak from where we are camping.

Tomorrow and to Tamworth. Mention to the bride's cousin we would call at Gunnedah on the way 'n say hello. We meet on the outskirts of town, and she arrives complete with coffee, scones 'n jam. Another great country woman.

Onto Tamworth and catching up with a friend for a few days who has

just had a knee replacement.

We are safely camped in a bit of a sub standard van park 6kms from town centre. All good, only need power 'n showers anyway, cheap @ \$29.00

Dry here too, but doesn't seem to affect the city. Have mentioned before as to the explosion of industry and enormous industrial areas in this city, all appear busy. There would not be any product that does not have an outlet or repair facility to purchase or fix your problem. The number of business's is staggering.

Time to leave, but not over the range via Port Stephens Cutting as usual as significant repair work is being carried out so not suitable for caravans, the alternate route is via the Moonbi Range Bendemeer and Walcha.

Some 6kms of climbing and then 90kms to coffee in the park at Walcha (pop 1,370 and 1,067m above sea level) on the eastern edge of the Great Dividing Range and on the Apsley river. This leads to the magnificent Apsley falls, then onto the Macleay river to Kempsey and to the sea at South West Rocks. Footpaths in Walcha are covered with fallen Autumn leaves and look great.

Onto Nowendoc and we have been bobbing along the top of the New England Tablelands for some time and through very pleasant country with a great 100kms/hr road. See our first large numbers of Black Angus cattle in this area.

Road from Nowendoc on is OK but not as good and within another 40kms we in fog at times, and at the top of the 6km descent down the Range to Gloucester. Low gear is a must here and not over 40kms/hr. Good thing the van brakes are working.

We cross the Manning, the Little Manning and Barnard rivers and see the first sort of green paddocks since home. The closer we get to the coast, the greener it gets and once home are told we have been declared a drought area. A far cry from what we've seen.

Good to be home again.



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*Woman Patient:* 'I've come to see you about my husband, doctor, We've been married for over 20 years, and he's been a good husband. He was happy and contented and loved me very much. But since he came to see you with his head pains, he's a different man. He is never at home, doesn't take me out. Doesn't buy me anything or give me any money. He doesn't even look at me. Your treatment seems to have changed his entire personality.'

*Doctor:* "I didn't give him any treatment at all. All I did was to give him a note to see the optician and get a pair of glasses."

A doctor at a party was complaining bitterly to a lawyer friend...  
 "Every time I mention to someone that I am a doctor they start reciting their symptoms and ask my opinion on whether their own doctors are treating them correctly. Do you have this problem, and how do you deal with it?"

"When I get home", said the lawyer, "I send them bills straight away - To:- Consultation at the party last night, \$25 That soon stops it."

"Jolly good idea", said the doctor, "I will do that."

Next morning he opened his mail, and the first letter was a bill from his lawyer friend - To:- Consultation at the party last night - \$25.

Mrs Smith was a lady who was always at the Doctors for her aches and pains.

He kept he going with a prescription and a few words of advice.

But the day came when the prescription didn't work, and poor Mrs Smith died, and was buried in the local churchyard.

She had only been gone two weeks, when her old doctor himself died, and he, too, was buried in the local cemetery in the next plot to Mrs Smith.

The mourners hadn't been gone long, when he heard a tap - tap - tap on the side of his coffin.

Well, **What** is it now, Mrs Smith?" he asked.

"Please, doctor, can you give me something for worms??"

*A drunk gets on a bus, staggers up the aisle and sits next to an old lady, breathing fumes all over her*

*She looks at him with withering contempt and says, "I've got news for you. You're going straight to Hell"*

*The drunk jumps out of his seat and shouts, "Christ! I'm on the wrong bus!"*

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Dad & Dave saw an ad in the Daily Newspaper in Geelong, Victoria, and bought a mule for \$100.

The farmer agreed to deliver the mule the next day.

*The next morning the farmer drove up and said, "Sorry, fellows, I have some bad news, the mule died last night.."*

Dad & Dave replied, "Well, then just give us our money back."

*The farmer said, "Can't do that. I went and spent it already."*

They said, "OK then, just bring us the dead mule."

*The farmer asked, "What in the world ya'll gonna do with a dead mule?"*

Dad said, "We're gonna raffle him off."

*The farmer said, "You can't raffle off a dead mule!"*

Dad said, "We shore can! Heck, we don't hafta tell nobody he's dead!"

A couple of weeks later, the farmer ran into Dad & Dave at the local grocery store and asked.

*"What'd you fellers ever do with that dead mule?"*

They said, "We raffled him off like we said we wuz gonna do."

Dad said, "Hell, we sold 500 tickets for two dollars apiece and made a profit of \$898."

*The farmer said, "My Lord, didn't anyone complain?"*

Dave said, "**Well, the feller who won got upset. So we gave him his two dollars back.**"

### Ponderisms

I used to eat a lot of natural foods until I learned that most people die of natural causes.

Once you're in heaven, do you get stuck wearing the clothes you were buried in for eternity?

What disease did cured ham actually have?

How is it that we put man on the moon before we figured out it would be a good idea to put wheels on luggage?

Why is it that people say they "slept like a baby" when babies wake up like every two hours?

*Why do peanuts float in a regular coke and sink in a diet coke. Go ahead and try it...*

Why do people pay to go up tall buildings and then put money in binoculars to look at things on the ground?

Why do toasters always have a setting that burns the toast to a horrible crisp, which no decent human being would eat?

Can a hearse, carrying a corpse, drive in the carpool lane? I've never seen a sign that says 'Two or more LIVE people needed to use the T 3 lane'...

If corn oil is made from corn, and vegetable oil is made from vegetables, what is baby oil made from?

HOW DID THE MAN WHO MADE THE FIRST CLOCK, KNOW WHAT TIME IT WAS?

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**loopy loopy...**



I COULD NOT BELIEVE IT TODAY, WHEN I CAME HOME AND WAS TOLD BY MY WIFE THAT MY 5 YEAR OLD SON WASN'T ACTUALLY MINE. SHE SAYS THAT I NEED TO PAY MORE ATTENTION WHEN PICKING HIM UP FROM SCHOOL!


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"Remember I said I wanted you to stop golfing so you could spend more time at home? Well if you don't mind, I'd like you to go back to golfing."



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### LANDCARE PROJECTS RECEIVE MORE THAN \$585,000



Member for Myall Lakes, Tanya Thompson has welcomed more than \$585,000 in funding for MidCoast 2 Tops Landcare Connection through the NSW Landcare Enabling Program.

The funding will support two major projects focused on climate adaptation and culturally informed landscape management across the Mid Coast and Hunter regions.

The first project, Climate-Resilient Landcare: Building Adaptation Capacity Across the Hunter and Mid Coast, has received \$410,870 to strengthen collaboration between Landcare groups, councils, technical experts and Hunter Local Land Services, while helping communities better respond to changing climate conditions.

A further \$174,257 has been awarded for Listening & Learning Together: Building Strong Aboriginal-Landcare Partnerships across the Hunter & MidCoast, which will deliver on-Country learning experiences, cultural heritage immersions and workshops with Aboriginal communities and stakeholders.

Mrs Thompson said the funding was a significant investment in local environmental stewardship and community resilience.

“Landcare volunteers play an enormous role in protecting and improving our local environment, and this funding will help ensure that work continues well into the future,” Mrs Thompson said.

MidCoast 2 Tops Regional Landcare Coordinator Justine Thompson said the projects would deliver lasting benefits for both communities and the environment.

“We are excited to begin this work with our Landcare volunteers, coordinators, landholders, Aboriginal partners and local organisations,” Ms Thompson said.

### TANYA THOMPSON WELCOMES THREE NEW POLICE RECRUITS

Member for Myall Lakes, Tanya Thompson, has today welcomed three new probationary constables to the Manning-Great Lakes Police District.

The new officers bring a strong personal connection to the region. Two of the recruits are returning home to start their policing careers, while the third has already called our region home for the last 18 months after moving from Mount Druitt.

Mrs Thompson said it was heartening to see officers choosing to serve the community they call home.

"It is great to see two locals returning home to serve, joined by an officer who has already called our region home for the last 18 months," Mrs Thompson said.

"Choosing to serve is a big commitment. Seeing these officers stay local to protect the community they grew up in, as well as the place



they now call home, is very special."

Mrs Thompson also expressed her gratitude for the wider police force across the Myall Lakes.

“Our local police are so

important to our community, it’s a difficult job and I want to thank each and every one of them for the work they do to keep us safe.”

### MidCoast Council continues major flood recovery effort across region



MidCoast Council is continuing work on a large and complex flood recovery program following the May 2025 flood event, with hundreds of roads, bridges and drainage sites in need of repair across the region.

The scale of the recovery program remains significant, including over 70 bridges requiring repair work; six bridges needing full replacement; over 100 separate landslip locations; and over 4,000 flood-damaged sections of road.

The remaining transport flood recovery program is estimated to cost around \$230 million, with the total expected to shift as specific works get approved for roads, bridges and landslip sites.

To date, Council has submitted more than \$89 million in claims to the NSW Reconstruction Authority (NSWRA) for emergency works, immediate reconstruction works and major reconstruction projects. This reflects an enormous quantity of work in investigating damaged sites, costing repairs, and preparing detailed claims.

NSWRA is currently prioritising the assessment of Emergency and Immediate Reconstruction submissions Council lodged before 31 March 2026.

Director Infrastructure and Engineering, Rob Scott said that Council is responsible for ensuring all projects meet strict eligibility, safety, engineering and environmental standards.

“It is essential that we carefully document and manage every project because non-compliance with funding conditions or legislation can result in rejected claims or delays,” Mr Scott said.

“The road monitoring cameras installed on waste trucks have helped us prove flood damage on much of our network. This is because we have a clear image of roads before and after the flood,” Mr Scott said. “This is good news for the community because we’re one of the few Councils able to prove our eligibility for a large number of repair projects. Unfortunately, it also means that defects or issues that existed before the flood aren’t likely to be fixed as part of the recovery program.”

Major projects currently progressing include:

- Belbora Creek Road, which is now substantially complete.
- Design work for The Bight and Tiri Bridges.
- Repairs and reconstruction planning for Thunderbolts Way and The Bucketts Way.
- More than 100 landslip repair locations currently being prepared for construction packages.
- Repair planning across 760 roads, with 4,738 flood damaged sites, throughout the MidCoast region.

Council is facing a range of challenges, including contractor and material shortages, weather disruptions, and rising material costs and supply impacts linked to overseas events.

To help reduce delays, Council is working closely with suppliers, contractors and the NSW Recovery Authority.

Keep informed of roadwork taking place across the MidCoast by visiting Council’s Roads Hub <https://haveyoursay.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/midcoast-roads-hub>



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## Good Medicine

### Trusting

According to the dictionary a miracle is a supernatural happening ... and some accounts I have read are of people coming back to life after dying. That sounds amazing to me ... but there are also other kinds of miracles. Do you find it hard to believe in miracles?

The Bible contains many miracles but we expect that because it's talking about God. However there was a young man who just couldn't accept these miracles so he prayed for God to do something he 'couldn't explain'. He owned a Gideon Bible but one day he couldn't find it and thought it unusual as he rarely lost things. After a rainy drive to his job at a university, he saw a Gideon Bible on the wet footpath ... how strange. When he picked it up it was 'totally dry' ... he couldn't explain **that**.

You are probably familiar with Gideon Bibles which are sometimes found in hotel rooms and are distributed in schools and other places. One of our past neighbours used to do this. My children received them in their schooldays and my father sent me one as a teen ... which embarrassed me as I realise he had taken it. Wonder if he read it himself ...

The story of Gideon is in *Judges 6* in the Old Testament, where Gideon doubts that he can lead the Israelites into battle against a large army, as God tells him he can. So he asks for confirmation. He first put a sheep fleece on the floor and said if the dew was on it and the ground was dry, that would be a sign ... God ticked that one for him. The next night he said if the dew was on the ground and the fleece dry he would take that as a sign ... it was something impossible by the law of nature. From this comes the expression 'putting out a fleece'.

Then God told him to send home the soldiers who were afraid; and again the ones who knelt down to drink at the river ... I always wondered why they **weren't** chosen and the others were!

Finally Gideon sneaked into the enemy camp at night and heard an interpretation of a dream which was that Gideon would win the battle. And only after all this confirmation did he go to battle with his 300 men against an army as numerous as grasshoppers. God's instructions were to shout out 'the sword of the Lord and of Gideon ... and they won, *Judges 7*.

We can be like that ... doubting God's power. But God **can** do miracles and wants us to trust Him, He is our strength, *Isaiah 12:2*. I read about a remote tribe who were far from medical help, so when people were sick they prayed for them.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding, *Proverbs 3:5*.

*Quotes from Our Daily Bread*

*The Counsellor*

## Never ride faster than your guardian angel can fly

## Lyn's Larder

### LANCASHIRE HOTPOT

(OLD READERS DIGEST BOOK)

*Another warm the belly dish as the nights get colder*

#### INGREDIENTS

1.5 kg	Best end of neck Lamb, divided into chops
4 large	Onions, thickly sliced
3½ cups	Beef Stock
225g	Mushrooms, thickly sliced
9 medium	Potatoes, peeled and thickly sliced
25g	Butter, cut into small pieces
	Salt & Pepper

#### METHOD

1. *Preheat the oven to 180°C. In a large casserole dish with a tight fitting lid, place a first layer of lamb chops lying head to tail. Sprinkle the meat with salt and pepper*
2. *Cover the layer of chops with a layer of onions and season again. Repeat the layers with the rest of the chops and onions. Pour in the stock until it almost covers the meat,*
3. *Add the mushrooms to make another layer and cover thickly with the potatoes, overlapping the slices. Dot with half the butter pieces and cover tightly.*
4. *Transfer to the oven and cook for 1½ hours. Remove the cover, dot with the remaining butter and cook, uncovered for 45 minutes more to brown the potatoes.*

*Serve with vegetables - peas, carrots, pumpkin?*

*Serves 6*

## News From The News

### Nabiac Village Community Church

Services are held every Sunday at 10:00am  
Holy Communion is celebrated with the service on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday  
For information regarding the Nabiac Community Church please contact **Margaret Weller** (0427 570 039),

### St Bernadette's Catholic Church, Krumbach

June's Mass times are Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm, Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm, Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm  
July Mass Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> 5:00pm  
(contact **Helen Legg** on 6559 1211)

### Krumbach Bible Church (a ministry of Wingham Presbyterian)

A Family Service is held every Sunday at 11am.  
All denominations are welcome to join in.  
Any enquiries please phone **Robert** (0400 310 357).

### St Paul's Anglican Church, Nabiac

Service each Sunday at **11:00 am**. All welcome  
Enquiries: Contact **Sandra Martin** on 0439 541 329

Every Week Day Before and after school care by **KIDS SHACK**  
We also provide Vacation time care.  
Call **Joy** on 0438 273 360.

### St Isidore's Catholic Church, Nabiac

June's Mass time is Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm,

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## Useful Numbers

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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 (Open 10am to 3pm)	5565 1222
Post Office - Krumbach (Wed. closed 1pm to 2pm)	6559 1240
Post Office - Nabiac	6554 1211
Fire Permits	1300 643 262

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* **Need to advertise** something for sale or wanted to buy or a  
\* freebie?  
\*\*\*\*\*

An announcement of a birth, birthday, passing?  
Some personal message?  
Do it on the back page to get full attention  
\*\*\*\*\*

## Do you need a *Justice of the Peace*?

Then contact

Stuart Weller on 6554 1904 (Nabiac)

Gordon Foy, 2949 Bucketts Way, Belbora on 0417 290 874

Karen Tyler, The Bucketts Way, Kundibakh on 0425 226 699

Kate McIntosh, on 6554 1144 or 0434 589 048 (Minimbah)

Amanda Chapman, on 0437 067 117, 3392 Wallanbah Road Dyers Crossing

Jane Hallock, on 0414 626 549 (Nabiac)

Brett Dennett, on 0459 988 241 (Failford)

# MIDCOAST RURAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

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Jess available Friday, Saturday (by Appointment) Otherwise we are shut Sat.

*"Make it a habit to talk about blessings more than burdens.*

*Where focus goes, energy flows."*

*Belinda, Barb & Jess* ❤️

Remember if you want to know what is happening in Nabiac,  
just look it up on the web - [nabiac.com](http://nabiac.com)

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

## KRAMBACH SCHOOL OF ARTS INC.

**ANNUAL  
GENERAL  
MEETING**



@ KRAMBACH COMMUNITY HALL

**MONDAY  
JULY 20, 2026  
AT 7.00 PM**

**AGENDA**

- Confirmation of previous AGM minutes
- President's Report
- Treasurer's Report & Financial Statements for year ended 30 June 2026
- Election of Management Committee for 2026/2027
- General Business

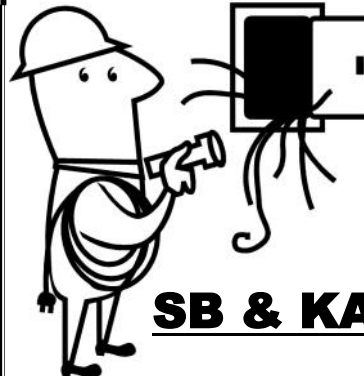
**KRAMBACH.ORG**

**P: 0411-17 11 50**

**E: SECRETARY@KRAMBACH.ORG**

Nominations for Committee positions are now open. Please submit in writing to the Secretary by Monday 13th July 2026.

**ALL FINANCIAL MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND**



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