

t h e a b e r d e e n WHISPER

November 2025

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New Corridor Planned for REZ Network Infrastructure Project

Gundy and Upper Hunter residents will have an opportunity to hear details of the New England REZ network infrastructure project on Wednesday, November 5.

Set down for 3pm to 7 pm at the Soldiers' Memorial Hall, Gundy the public meeting will from the project representatives of the plan for a new corridor for the transmission lines connecting the NE REZ to the grid. The corridor is expected to impact on landholders properties in the Waverly, Gundy, Rouchel and some other parts of the Upper Hunter. (see map).

The transmission line study area has been altered following concerns over bushfire management. In an 8 page newsletter to areas that maybe affected it claims moving part of the corridor will mean there will be no impact on aerial firefighting operations out of Chaffey Dam, near Tamworth or Lake Glenbawn near Aberdeen. The meeting will hear from the project team on issues that relates to property and homes.

Supplied.



It's Almost Christmas Time. Looking For Some Christmas Gift Ideas?



Check out some of our local businesses on page 6 & 7.

Whisper Trivia

1. What musical term is an instruction to play louder?
2. What is the distance from earth to the sun?
3. What is the name of Elvis Presley's Memphis home?
4. Who was Elton John's "Candle in the Wind" penned in honor of?
5. What is the largest desert in the world?
6. How many floors does the Eiffel Tower have?
7. What year was the first "Batman" comic book published?
8. In "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone," what keeps the three-headed dog asleep?
9. What animal breathes through its butt?
10. Who painted "Girl with a Pearl Earring"?
11. What is the best-selling video game franchise?



- Answers:
1. Crescendo
 2. 150 million kilometers
 3. Graceland
 4. Marilyn Monroe
 5. Antarctica
 6. Three
 7. 1939
 8. Music
 9. Turtle
 10. Johannes Vermeer
 11. Mario

Business Directory

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Happy to hear from you

If you know someone in your community that has an interesting story to tell, who's doing some interesting things - we'd love to hear about it. Chances are if you think it's interesting - others will too - and we're always open to ideas for stories, or features here.



Earle's Column

continued on page 5

Normally the copy deadline for the next edition of "The Whisper" is the last week of the previous month and usually I'm struggling to meet it! For November I'm a week earlier because I'm trying to encourage publication and printing of the November edition by late October. Yes, there is method in my 'madness'!

2026 AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

There is a VERY NARROW window to get your nominations in for the above awards. **They will close at 4.30pm on Friday 7th November.** The Scone & Aberdeen Australia Day Sub-Committee will meet on the following Tuesday, 11th November to select the people that they think are worthy of recognition at the Australia Day Ceremony to be held at Murrurundi on Monday 26th January 2026 commencing at about 8.30 am. (Details to be advised)

For Aberdeen and Scone the award categories are:

- Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year, (under the age of 25 at 26th January 2026)
- Local Champion of the Year, (can be either an individual or a group)

Nomination forms are available at Council offices, which I think, includes Aberdeen Library. There is also a printable version available on the Council website under 'Public Notices'. Hidden in communities like Aberdeen and Rouchel are 'any number' of people who are quietly working at making improvements in the lives of those around them. They don't 'blow their own trumpet', they need you to do it for them! So that WE can recognise the stellar work they do, (even if they will be a touch embarrassed!).

ON DANGEROUS GROUND!

A week or so back I attended a function organised by Regional Australia Bank, (RAB), for their Community Partnership Program, CPP. At that event they organised for the distribution of about \$87,000.00 to what seemed like fifty or more community organisations in the Upper Hunter Shire. Amounts ranged from less than \$20.00 to an exceptional \$14,000+ that went to the Upper Hunter Cancer Support Group. Now, as I understand it, the funds actually come from the amounts in individual bank transaction accounts that do not attract any interest payments. RAB consolidates the balances in those accounts and then distributes a percentage of that to whichever organisation(s) customers have nominated on joining the CPP.

So how can a 'good-news' story like this be on 'dangerous ground'?

Well amongst the 'big-four' banks in Australia, each making multi-billion-dollar profits, much of which is sent to their shareholders as dividends, much less than 1% of their after-tax profit is put back into community organisations. Regional Australia Bank is claiming that 13% of their after-tax profit is put back into the communities it serves across a fair part of N.S.W. Two of the 'big-four' have already departed the Upper Hunter Shire, (ANZ and NAB), and it will be interesting if either of the remaining two stick around when an 18-month moratorium on branch closures concludes in 2026. It could be 'dangerous ground' because it may well be seen that I am promoting a commercial entity, (and bashing the 'big-end of town') Take it whichever way you like!

Missed the Whisper?

If you live in Aberdeen you should receive a copy of the Whisper but unfortunately, for whatever reason it may not get to your Letterbox. If it does happen you can collect a copy from the Aberdeen Post Office. A digital copy can also be found on the Hunter Valley Printing Website. Thank you for your understanding.

New Electrical Business for Upper Hunter

Born and bred in Aberdeen, Harry Douglass is embarking on a life as a business owner, establishing CONNECTLEC servicing the Upper Hunter district. As a fourth generation member of the Douglass family Harry has no hesitation in basing his business in what he affectionately calls Tiger Town.

In his relative short time Harry, 27 years of age has cemented his life in Aberdeen through his involvement in the community. Much of that involvement has been through Rugby League where he represented the Aberdeen Tigers are an early age. Rising through the grades he soon became a regular first grader winning a premiership like his father David and Grandfather Robert. Before injury held him back, representative honours came through Northern Division.

Not that football has the priority it once had, his new venture has consumed some of his passion and with the support of his partner Jess, he plans on providing a gold card electrical service. His range of work is broad having developed a skill base from previous employment with leading contractors in the Upper Hunter. This includes everything from house wiring, irrigation pumps, lighting, data and all things (almost) electrical.

Asked what the benefits of engaging Harry to carry out work he said " you will only need one of me to change a light bulb" ...a response you would expect from Harry, always keen to add some light hearted banter to a conversation.

His contracting work has already taken him to all parts of the Upper Hunter, but you may just get priority treatment if you carry an Aberdeen name.



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State Matters with Dave Layzell MP

FARMERS' PLAN

NSW Farmers has launched a discussion paper on opportunities the state's peak farm body believes Newcastle and the Hunter Valley could pursue as it transitions from coal.

Beyond Coal: New Growth for Newcastle and the Hunter, has laid out how the region could create 88,000 new jobs and generate an additional \$20 billion for the state economy within the near future.

The discussion paper focused on how the region was uniquely positioned to take advantage of existing opportunities in food and fibre value-adding, and what future investment in training, processing and logistics would be needed. Practical recommendations include repurposing degraded mining land for solar and wind projects, investment in agricultural skills and training by expanding programs in food science, logistics, and advanced manufacturing, prioritise food and fibre production and encouraging investment in niche processing and manufacturing. Read the discussion paper at: <https://nswfarmers.org.au>

ANZAC STUDY TOUR

Applications are open for Accompanying Teachers to be part of the 2026 Premier's Anzac Memorial Scholarship school study tour. Sixteen NSW students will be selected to participate in next year's study tour to Greece and Crete, with 2026 marking the 85th anniversary of the Greek and Crete campaigns of 1941.

NSW teachers of Stage 5 History and/or Stage 6 Modern History are encouraged to apply for this unique professional development opportunity to enrich their understanding and teaching of Australian war time history.

Key locations on the tour include Athens, war cemeteries at Phaleron and Suda Bay, and the historic site of the Battle of Rethymno, where Australian and Greek troops faced a fierce German paratrooper assault. Students in Year 10 or 11 in 2026 are encouraged to register their interest ahead of applications opening early next year: www.veterans.nsw.gov.au/education/premiers-anzac-memorial-scholarship/

Accompanying Teacher applications close 26 November at: <https://veteransaffairs.smartygrants.com.au/PAMS2026Teachers>

TSR RECREATIONAL USE

People who use travelling stock reserves (TSRs) are being reminded they can only be used for passive recreational activities. Hunter Local Land Services (LLS) is advising prospective users that it is illegal to camp, ride a motorbike or four-wheel drive on a travelling stock reserve.

Passive recreational activities allowed on the



reserves include bushwalking, bird watching, horse riding, having a picnic and pedal bike riding. TSRs are not only important for agricultural productivity, but play an important role in moving livestock, biodiversity conservation including supporting threatened species and habitats, and Aboriginal culture. To learn more, call the LLS on 1300 795 299 or visit the TSR webpage: www.nsw.gov.au/regional-and-primary-industries/primary-industries/travelling-stock-reserves

INFORMATION SESSION

EnergyCo has scheduled an additional Upper Hunter information session when it meets with the community to discuss the new transmission corridor study area for the New England Renewable Energy Zone.

The opportunities to ask questions and provide feedback begin next week at Muswellbrook Library on Wednesday 29 October and at Scone Motor Inn on Thursday 30 October, both sessions 3-7pm.

The following week, Gundy Soldiers' Memorial Hall is the venue on Wednesday 5 November with Timor Community Hall now added to the information sessions on Thursday 6 November, with both meetings 3-7pm.

The new study area between Bayswater Power Station and Walcha covers a broad area around 3 kilometres wide. The new study area is intentionally wide to find the best possible route for the transmission lines while balancing landowner and community feedback before a final permanent easement is narrowed to 140 metres wide for the dual line infrastructure. Feedback for the 'have your say' period continues until Friday 28 November with more information at: www.energyco.nsw.gov.au/ne and: www.energyco.nsw.gov.au/ne/working-community

TIME TO TAP-ON

If you have an unregistered Opal card, it might be time for a trip on public transport to use up some of your existing balance.

The Minns Labor Government is proposing to recover unused balances on dormant, unregistered Opal cards that have not been used for at least five years and invest the proceeds in active transport initiatives.

There is an estimated 17 million Opal Cards with remaining balances that will not have been used for five years by 2026-27 with an estimated total balance of about \$70 million.

A 12-month communications campaign is being promised to precede the recovery of unused balances and anyone with a card that has not been used in five years can recover their funds during that time.

The one-off revenue source will reportedly be invested by the NSW Government into active transport-related initiatives such as more Opal bike lockers and establishing a better system for shared e-bikes, including taking them off footpaths.

THROUGHBRED ACT REVIEW

Former NSW Government Minister, the Hon Brad Hazzard, has been appointed by the NSW Government to lead an independent review of the Thoroughbred Racing Act 1996 (TR Act).

The TR Act provides for the establishment, management and functions of Racing NSW as the representative body to control thoroughbred horse racing in the state. The review's purpose is to assess whether the terms of the Act remain appropriate to ensure the integrity and proper regulation of thoroughbred racing in NSW and to support the industry's development and sustainability.

You are being given the opportunity to comment on any issue within the review's scope, as set out in the Terms of Reference, such as governance structures and processes and stakeholder consultation measures established under the Act. Feedback can be provided by completing a survey or making a written submission by Monday 24 November at: www.haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/tra-review

Supplied.

Contact:

94 John Street Singleton 2330
upperhunter@parliament.nsw.gov.au
6543 1065

Athletics

Aberdeen Athletics

We had a storm affected first night for the 2025-2026 season however all age groups managed to get some of their events completed. Many thanks to everyone for your help throughout the night.

Registrations are still open and can be done through the Little Athletics NSW website. If you are entitled to an Active Kids Voucher, claim that first.

Further information, regarding upcoming carnivals etc can be obtained from our club's Facebook page.

Supplied by Denise Bell, Secretary.



St Joseph's Catholic College at the Upper Hunter Beef Bonanza

What a weekend! With 24 animals to show and 40 students in the team, St Joseph's was the biggest team at the Upper Hunter Beef Bonanza this weekend in Scone.

We came home with some great results - Reserve Champion Heavy Midweight Steer, led by Lucy N, bred by Jono Spence in South Australia and from our supporters Col and Lorna McGilchrist. A steer bred by James and Nancy Dent placed first in his class, and the Neil Nelson steers placed 2nd and 4th. We also won Reserve Champion Commercial Heifer with V20 bred by Ben Toll and led by Charlotte G. The cattle received many minor placings which was a great achievement amongst 400 head of cattle of excellent quality.

Excellent Paraders results were also achieved by the juniors - Marli W, Lillie W and Toby O placing 1st, Ashlee K and Ellie F placing 3rd, Calen K and Dan R 4th and Alyssa M and Tilly G 5th. Senior Paraders results - Millie B placed 2nd, Sam S and Annabelle H 3rd and Lily C placed 5th Tristan L placed 3rd in Junior Judging and Charlotte G placed 4th.

Many thanks to the Show Team parents who ran the VIP tent and kept the sponsors fed with excellent food over the three days. A big shoutout to ex-students Katie Sutcliffe and Caylie Edwards who keep the wheels turning. Your assistance is greatly appreciated. Credit goes to an excellent team of students who worked tirelessly over the three full days. They should be incredibly proud of what they have achieved.

Supplied.



pictured above: Lions club members and the Westpac representative at the handing over of \$5,000 donation. Back row: left to right: Andrew Carter, Rob Herps, Front row: Bob Dixon, Westpac representative Norma Burr, Sandra Herps, Sue Lewis, Coral Ross Mayfield

Aberdeen & Scone Lions Club

Aberdeen & Scone Lion's club have had their busiest month for sometime. Their volunteer work during October has taken them to Mach Energy MT Pleasant Mine, Aberdeen Ex Servicemen's Club, Woolworths Scone, and Gundy Campdraft.

The Lion's Club October donations included the West Pac Rescue Helicopter Service of \$5000, Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation of \$700.

Supplied.



pictured above: L to R: winner Jack Hayes, Lions President Dave Hollis, Treasurer Rod H. Their involvement in the Gundy Rodeo was with the donation of a rug to the winner of the Maiden B. competition draft

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A big thank you to the Warrior Disability Service staff, parents and participants for delivering your Whisper. The service offers people with disabilities choices through group activities, one-to-one support, and in-home support. NDIS registered. Sally Pereira is the Director of Participant Services. The office is situated at Shop 12 Brook Street Plaza, Muswellbrook, 0432 680 936.

Earle's Column

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ABERDEEN RAIL DISASTER COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE

We are official! A Charter, (a formal document), that brings us under the auspices of Upper Hunter Shire Council to conduct the proposed 'Heroes of Aberdeen' commemoration of the 1926 rail disaster now exists.

The Committee will only exist until July 31st 2026 and can consist of up to 9 members of the community plus one member of the Aberdeen CAC.

So, now it's up to Aberdeen. If the community wants to stage the commemoration on 7th June 2026, (King's Birthday long weekend), the existing committee of four (4) are going to need some more 'arms and legs'! Call me, 0419 681 175 or email ardc1926@gmail.com if you want to participate in the festivities.

Planned activities include: a Sunday marketplace at Jefferson Park, historical exhibition at the Aberdeen Community Hall, Railmotor rides Aberdeen to Murrurundi and return, a possible Group 21 Rugby League commemorative match featuring the Aberdeen Tigers at home and other ideas still to happen.

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Owner Kylie has filled the shelves with a delightful range of gifts and cards to suit just about everyone on your list. “Yes, it's more than just a post office,” Kylie says with a smile, gesturing to the array of thoughtful and affordable gift ideas. Now in her second year of ownership, Kylie says the local support has been amazing — with many customers choosing to shop local and keep their dollars in the community. And of course, part of the charm is Kylie herself — always ready for a friendly chat and a warm welcome when you pop in.

Why Shopping Local Matters

Choosing to shop local is more than a purchase — it's an investment in our community. Local businesses employ our neighbours, support local causes, and keep money circulating in our towns.

Small businesses give our streets character and offer unique products and friendly, personal service. They are the heart of our towns, creating spaces where people meet, connect, and feel at home. Shopping local also strengthens connections, letting us know and trust the people behind the businesses we love.

When we shop local, we help preserve the distinct identity of our towns while fostering a stronger, more resilient community. It's a simple choice with a lasting impact — every dollar spent locally helps everyone thrive. This season, think local first. Every purchase supports our community, keeps jobs in town, and helps our towns thrive — now more than ever.

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October Meeting Council Briefs

SCONE CUP HALF-DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY OPEN FOR FEEDBACK

A proposal to declare a half-day public holiday for the Scone Cup in 2026 and 2027 will proceed to public consultation. Residents and businesses will have the opportunity to provide feedback before a final determination is made.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 2024–25 ADOPTED

The Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025 were formally signed, completing statutory reporting requirements for the financial year and confirming Council's financial position as satisfactory.

NEW MEMBERS JOIN SCONE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY GROUP

Membership of the Scone Sustainable Community Group Subcommittee has been updated, with new members appointed to support local sustainability and environmental initiatives across the Shire.

ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION FOR MURRURUNDI

Approval was granted for a proposed electric vehicle charging station at the Wilson Memorial Oval car park on Mayne Street, Murrurundi. The project supports greater access to EV infrastructure in rural areas and aligns with the Shire's sustainability goals.

WATER AND SEWER FUNDING UPDATE

An update on water and sewer funding highlighted ongoing works and investment in key infrastructure across the Upper Hunter. The report noted continuing advocacy for funding to ensure long-term water security and improved service reliability. For more details on other matters discussed, please refer to the meeting agenda, or head to our YouTube channel to watch the meeting.

Supplied.

Bat Plan

Residents of the Upper Hunter shire have until 5 November to provide feedback on a Draft Flying-Fox Camp Management Plan. Whilst the local council understands the concern by some residents about the flying-foxes, it also has to balance protecting the native animals because of the role they play in the local environment.

The draft updated management plan covering the Murrurundi, Aberdeen and Scone camps aims to provide a coordinated approach that supports community wellbeing while caring for local wildlife. The plan proposes reducing impacts on the community, protection of flying-foxes and their habitat, managing health and safety risks and supporting clear communication and responsible management action.

Read more and view the draft plan by going to: www.upperhunter.nsw.gov.au/Public-notices/Draft-Upper-Hunter-Flying-Fox-Camp-Management-Plan

Supplied.



trees provide debris and roots support aquatic ecosystems including aquatic food for Platypi.

2/ Wide and Complexed Vegetation. A healthy riparian zone includes a mix of native grasses, shrubs and trees. Fencing off the riparian area, exclusion or limiting stock access will assist biodiversity and protect the stream bed and banks from erosion and degradation. The higher order of streams the wider fenced off area should be. Refer to Department of Environment, Heritage and Water fact sheets on appropriate riparian native vegetation widths. I have covered the order of streams in previous episodes.

3/ Overhanging Vegetation. Native vegetation along waterways edge and banks provides habit and create safe and stable places for platypus burrows, hidden from predators such as cats and foxes who are a major killer of platypus and other native wide life. This overhanging native vegetation creates habitat for aquatic invertebrates and other animals which are platypus sources of food.

4/ Organic Matter and Debris. Leaf litter, branches and cobbles in the waterways stream bed and lower banks. Create ideal habitat for aquatic invertebrates to thrive that are a source of food for platypus.

5/ Healthy Interconnected Waterways with Low Sediment. Platypi require clean water with deep pools, and rifles (shallow rocky stream beds). Preventing erosion and sediment (stream bed and bank stability) is extremely important

I have added 6:

6/ All types of pollutions are a major killer of Platypi. Fishing nets, fishing lines and fish traps are all large killers of this Iconic Australian Monotreme. Both carnivorous and herbivorous feral animals need to be eradicated.

Supplied by Steve Eccles.

Steve Eccles - steveecclesconsulting@gmail.com

Agriculture

Oceanic Waterkeeper Summit

by Doctor Dirt

I had the privilege to attend the Oceanic Waterkeeper Summit held at University of Western Sydney on 13 to 15th of October at Richmond NSW. It was great chance to interact with Scientists, Community Based Environmental and Ecological Organisations from Australia and Overseas Education and Community Engagement people.

Many topics were covered on Oceanic - Oceans, Seas, Rivers, Estuaries and Catchments. I was particularly interested in what a number of these organisations are doing regarding Platypus research, community engagement/education and on-ground works. The platypus one of our iconic, lovable and vulnerable water species in Australia.

Western Sydney University has a funded program work "Platypus Project" and closely with local community and groups such as The Hawkesbury/ Nepean Waterkeeper Alliance and Hawkesbury Landcare Groups and Cattai Landcare Groups. I also had the opportunity to discussions and networked with other groups that were present at the Summit such as Port Phillip Bay Waterkeepers Alliance and Werribee Melbourne Waterkeepers on what they are doing to assist platypus and other aquatic species in their river systems. Western Sydney University have researched, investigated and produced so much information regarding platypus health especially in The Hawkesbury – Nepean Catchment. Let me share some of this information with you in this article.

One such publication is "Creating Resilient Rivers for Resilient Platypus". The Five Features that make a Healthy Platypus habitat in this publication are:

1/ Tall Trees Over 5 metres. Tall trees help stabilise banks, making them safe for platypus burrows. Shade of the overhanging trees cool the water. The

The Latest on Vets Golf

STB EVENT WON BY MICK CURRY

MBK 18 hole course is always appreciated by the Vets, and the efficiency of the Proshop is wonderful, whenever they play there. We hope we can continue to play there, but there are problems with the restaurant at present. We hope that things can be sorted out soon.

Mick Curry won the Stb event with 40 points on Oct 21, from Paul Constable second 39, Lindsay Hodge third 38 CB, fourth John Belfield 38 CB, Andy Medway fifth 38 and Dave Bramley sixth 37. The Bradman's trophy, kindly donated by Gary Morley was won by Graham Guest.

Balls went to Gary Leake 36, Ross Banks, Dave Bradshaw and Tony Pearson 35 and on 34 Des Partridge, Alan Flanagan and Reg Davidson Nearest the Pins: 5th Tony Pearson 8th Tony Pearson 11th Gary Leake 14th (second shot) Dave Bramley 17th Robert Colbert.

GREAT TURN OUT, GREAT PIES FOR LUNCH

There was a good attendance of players for the Stb game at Denman Golf Club on Tuesday, Oct 14. Thank you to Brian Dever for the great pies for lunch and to Captain Mick McCormick for the players draw. We appreciate Denis Chandler processing the score cards.

With the across Australia adjustment to how golfers are handicapped, we remind all players, that when they come to play for any game, they will need to have their up to date handicap recorded on their phones. Until further notice.

The winner of the days' event was Glen Standing with 42 points, from Vets' Tournament Director Bruce Robinson 37 C/B second, Sid Collison 37 third, Andy Medway fourth 36 C/B and Geoff Ferguson 36 fifth.

Balls went to Captain Mick McCormick, Graham Schilg, and Graham Turvey 35, Brian Dever 34 and John Belfield 33. The Bradman's Trophy, kindly donated by Gary Morley was won by Mick Curry.

NTPs: 3rd (second shot) Graham Schilg 12th Andy Medway 5th Graham Schilg 14th Glen Standing

FUTURE GAMES:

- Oct 28, R.1 of the Championships at Scone
- Nov 4, Stroke and R.2

Please book-in with Lindsay Hodge for the Championships. New members welcome. Shotgun starts by 8.00am.



*pictured on the left: Tournament Director Bruce Robinson congratulates the winner of the Stb event Mick Curry at MbK on Oct 21 with 40 points
pictured on the right: Tournament Director Bruce Robinson congratulates Glen Standing, the winner of the Vets Stb event at Denman Golf Club with 42 points.*

Supplied.

A Huge Thank You from the Aberdeen Campdraft Committee!

On behalf of the entire Aberdeen Campdraft Committee, we extend a HUGE thank you to all competitors, spectators, volunteers, and supporters for helping us run a successful 2025 event. Every single person plays a part in bringing our weekend of campdrafting together, and we are truly grateful. Running a successful campdraft takes a village—not just on the weekend, but in the weeks prior and days after the event. As secretary, I'd like to highlight some of the amazing people and groups who made this possible:

Cattle Donors: McCarthy Family, East Rossgole, Mal & Adele McDougal, Tim Perram, Sheldon Cattle Company, Andrews Family, Neville & Brett Cameron, Brooker Family – our events simply couldn't run without you.

Judges: Wyatt Young, Gary Faulks, Adam Sadler, Jordyn Snape, John Rumbel, Brent Trotter, Dean Taylor, Dean Turner – thank you for your time and expertise across all events.

Announcers & Timer: Des Collison, Lloyd Acquilina & Liz Smith – keeping everything running smoothly from start to finish.

Volunteers: Whether in the back yards, at the front gates, on the scoreboard, or helping wherever needed, your efforts are invaluable.

Bar Staff: Long days, late nights, and a heap of running around – Emma Parkinson and team, we'd have been lost without you! Thanks also to Justin Gillis and Alex Pope for stepping in.

Food & Drink Stalls: Brucey's Tucker Truck & The Old Tea



House – your incredible offerings made the weekend even more enjoyable.

Cattle Cartage: T & J Carrigan Transport – Tom Carrigan, Brenden King, Eddie Carrigan, and all who helped transport cattle safely to and from the event.

Our Committee: Too many to name individually, but a huge thank you to everyone for your hard work, especially after a postponed event and challenges with flooding earlier this year. Special mention to Amy Croft & her Ring 2 team for adding extra fun, particularly for the kids.

Sponsors: So many generous businesses and individuals who donated resources, equipment, and support—your contributions are deeply appreciated.

Competitors: Thank you for being part of our 2025 event! Seeing your smiles and successes in the arena makes all the preparation worthwhile. Congratulations to all winners and placegetters.

To everyone who attended, volunteered, or supported in any way—THANK YOU! We may have missed a few names, but your contributions are not forgotten. What a cracking sport we have, and we can't wait to see you all again next year!

Supplied by Kaitlin S. Photos by AFI Photography.

Barnaby JOYCE MP



Fighting for
the Upper Hunter

THE NATIONALS
for Regional Australia

Authorised by Barnaby Joyce MP, The Nationals, Tamworth, NSW

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Dave Layzell MP
MEMBER FOR UPPER HUNTER



Authorised by Dave Layzell MP,
94 John Street,
Singleton NSW 2330
Funded using Parliamentary entitlements.



pictured on left: Tonia Barton's winning quilt

UH Quilt Adventure

What a wonderful weekend we had for the Quilt Adventure. The weather was perfect. A great variety of stalls in the garden and a very nice morning tea and lunch made by the Wybong Caterers. We had 65 quilts to hang and no two were the same. The quilts came from the top of the Upper Hunter in Murrurundi right down to Singleton. There were so many designs on display.

Thank you to everyone for loaning the quilts and helping promote the weekend.



pictured on top: L - Quilts for Homeless support | R - Quilts display

pictured on bottom: L - Ready for lunch | R - Market stalls in the garden

The winner of the viewer's choice was Tonia Barton with her quilt called 'Catch me if you can'. Tonia won a We Live Here card.

Anne March had a wonderful display of quilts that were donated to the homeless support group in Muswellbrook.

The Ovarian Cancer fundraising raffle was well supported with just over \$600.00 raised. The raffle winner was J Campbell from Willow Tree.

Supplied by Liz Birch



MACHEnergy

Mount Pleasant Operation

The Mount Pleasant Joint Venture owns & manages the Mount Pleasant Operation.

The Mount Pleasant Operation operates on a 24 hour a day, 7 days a week roster.

Please contact the following **FREE CALL** numbers 24 hours a day, 7 days a week if you have any questions or concerns.

COMMUNITY HOTLINE: 1800 886 889

BLASTING HOTLINE: 1800 931 872

GENERAL ENQUIRIES: 1800 931 873

For further information, including BLAST times and location, visit our website: www.machenergy.com.au or email: info@machenergy.com.au

Cellarbrations

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MONDAY 3RD NOVEMBER TILL SUNDAY 16TH NOVEMBER 2025

GREAT NORTHERN LIGHT 2% STUBBIES	\$ 45.00
CARLTON DRY MID 3.5% STUBBIES	\$ 49.00
TOOHEYS EXTRA DRY 24 STUBBIES	\$ 49.00 – LOYALTY \$ 47.00
CARLTON DRY STUBBIES/CANS/ULTRA LOW CARB	\$ 54.00
GREAT NORTHERN ORIGINAL STUBBIES	\$ 55.00
TOOHEYS NEW & ULTRA STUBBIES	\$ 56.00 – LOYALTY \$ 54.00
HAHN SUPER DRY 4.6% STUBBIES	\$ 57.00
KIRIN ICHIBAN STUBBIES	\$ 59.00
HAHN SUPER DRY 3.5% 30PK CANS	\$ 60.00 – LOYALTY \$ 58.00
GREAT NORTHERN SUPER CRISP 30PK CANS	\$ 62.00
SOMERSBY CIDER 10PKS	\$ 28.00
SUNTORY -196 4PKS	\$ 23.00
BUNDY CAMPFIRE 8% 4PKS	\$ 31.00
HARD RATED LEMON 6% 10PKS	\$ 50.00 – LOYALTY \$ 48.00
BUNDY OP 10PKS	\$ 56.00
CANADIAN CLUB & JIM BEAM CUBES	\$ 95.00
BEENLEIGH HARD ORANGE & PINEAPPLE 4PKS	\$ 24.00
ESPOLON TEQ 4PKS	\$ 27.00
WOODSTOCK & COLA RSV 12% 10PK	\$ 59.00 “NEW PRODUCT”
JACK DANIELS AMERICAN SERVE 10PKS	\$ 72.00
HARD RATED 30PK CUBES	\$ 115.00
BENCHMARK BOURBON 700ML	\$ 48.00 – LOYALTY \$ 46.00
J/WALKER RED LBL 700ML	\$ 52.00 – LOYALTY \$ 50.00
MAKERS MARK BOURBON 700ML	\$ 56.00 – LOYALTY \$ 54.00
JIM BEAM BLACK LBL 700ML	\$ 60.00 - LOYALTY \$ 58.00
JOSE CUERVO ESP GOLD TEQ 700ML	\$ 60.00 – LOYALTY \$ 58.00
JACOBS CK CLASSIC WINES	\$ 11.00 EA OR 2 FOR \$ 18.00
19 CRIMES WINES (EXCL SNOOP RGE)	\$ 12.00 EA OR 2 FOR \$ 22.00
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