Bright futures ahead

Graduates ready for big wide world

Ever since their first day in kindy, most school kids dream of their last day at school, where they imagine that breaking free from the shackles of the education system will be the best feeling ever. Then, more often then not, when the big day finally arrives, a strange feeling comes over them and they realise they are actually kind of sad. The friendships and bonds they have nurtured during their six years of high school suddenly have a new depth.

Family members, friends, teachers, people in the street, are suddenly asking ‘So what are you going to do?’, a big question for a young adult stepping out into the world for the first time.

Luckily, the class of 2014 from Brewarrina Central School have put a lot of thought into that very question and with the support of the teaching staff and their families, it looks like there are exciting times ahead for everyone.

Some of the courses the students completed for their HSC were collaborations with the school and TAFE, like the Certificate III in Health Services Assistant Electro-tech and Outdoor Recreation. From this, the students have developed a variety of aspirations from engineers, to plumbers, to electricians, fine arts, nursing and even the armed forces.

“The future is bright and the kids are positive about it,” BSC teacher Fiona Close said.

Whatever they decide to do, they are sure to look good while they are doing it if the fashions from the formal farewell on Monday are anything to go by. All of the students graduating went above and beyond with their outfits for the occasion, with dazzling frocks, immaculate hair and dapper suits.

The Visitors Information Centre was beautifully decorated thanks to the efforts of other students from BSC, who also waited tables in the evening.

Family and friends were there to cheer the graduates as they were introduced one by one, and the students were commended for making the effort to finish their HSC.

“It is a testament to the character of these young people for hanging in there until the end. I am very proud of them all and I wish them all the best for their future,” Mayor Angelo Pippos said.
Hello everybody,

The rumour mill has been working overtime concerning the future operations of the Brewarrina Shire Childcare Centre. So I would like to start off by putting some of those rumours to rest. Council has made a financial commitment to operate the Childcare Centre until June 2015. Council recognises that the Childcare Centre is an important service for families in the Brewarrina Community, however the Childcare Centre has faced some issues with as few as six children attending, this business scenario is not placing the service in a ‘cost recovery position’.

Unfortunately, if the community don’t patronise the service then there is a risk that the future financial viability of the Centre will be under scrutiny. Basically, if you want the Brewarrina Childcare Service to continue, vote with your feet and enrol your child for 2015.

Enrolment forms are available from the Childcare Centre on 68305113 or 68392385.

In other news, Council met with the Department of Premier and Cabinet last week to discuss, among other things, the blue print for the Far West Regional Authority, the formation of which was presented as an option in the recommendations passed down by the Independent Local Government Review Panel.

The possible Western Regional Authority would incorporate Brewarrina, Balranald, Cobar, Broken Hill, Central Darling, Bourke, Walgett and the Unincorporated area.

The good news is, at this stage the whole idea is pretty much a blank canvas, so we as a Council will have a chance to have a lot of input should the changes head in that direction, and we also have a good chance of putting our own model forward with the Outback Shires Alliance.

I would also like to thank everyone for their patience and apologise for any inconvenience caused by the water issues some of our residents experienced last week.

Our Water and Sewerage Team have since rectified the problem and I thank them for their quick and capable response.

I would also like to remind you all to keep cool.

From the FM

Brewarrina News • THURSDAY NOVEMBER 20 2014
www.breshire.com | news@brewarrina.nsw.gov.au | Tel: 6830 5144, 0448 392 102

Community Calendar

IMPORTANT NOTICE!!!
The Touch Of Christmas black tie Dinner Dance at the VIC HAS BEEN CANCELLED.

November 23
Xmas Market Days start @RSL

Tuesday November 25
Bre Show and Rodeo Committee meeting & 7pm @ the Middle Hotel

November 28
Asbestos Awareness Day @ Council
Fat men Don’t Dance @ RSL

November 29
Mixed Triples Bowls Competition

December 4
Sydney Hot Shots@ the RSL

December 5
Brewarrina Christmas Markets

December 6
Brewarrina Rodeo

December 10
Australia Day Nominations Close

December 25
Santa’s coming

Visiting Specialists @ the Hospital
Optometrist November 28

Every Wednesday

LITTLE A’s
@ the Oval @ 6pm
TRIVIA 7pm @ the Middle

Every Tuesday and Thursday

Aquarobics is BACK!!!
@630-7pm @ the pool

Every Thursday

Over 65s Social Gentile Exercise Group
Everyone over 65 welcome.
@VIC 10am-11am

Every Friday

Mobile Playgroup
Memorial Park
10-12 FREE!!!

RMS Opening Hours
9-12am and 1-3 pm Fridays and Mondays

NB Last RMS for 2015 December 19

Christmas Closures
The office will be closed from 1 pm December 24 and will reopen Monday January 5, 2015.
(This includes Library and Centrelink & RMS)
RMS closes Dec 19, 2014
Lyndall Robb from Birrang with her happy graduates from the Western NSW Aboriginal Driver Program which finished in Brewarrina this week

Graduates in the driving seat

The Western NSW Aboriginal Learner Driver Program wrapped up yesterday in Brewarrina and Program Instructor Lyndal Robb, from Birrang, couldn’t be happier.

“I am so pleased with what we have achieved here. There is no other town like Bre. I couldn’t be more impressed with the results.”

As for the results Ms Robb is referring to, the numbers speak for themselves. 67 participants registered for the program, of whom 18 already held a Learner License.

There have been 33 log book hours delivered for under 25 years (six participants were under 25), which for many would otherwise been difficult to notch up.

In total, 80 lessons were delivered to 25 participants, which resulted in 19 participants getting their learners license and 13 participants now have their provisional 1.

One participant gained a provisional 2 license and another has gained an unrestricted license.

But that, Ms Robb predicted, won’t be the last of it, with the remainder of the group yet to sit their respective exams. “So far we have had 31 licensed, but by the end of November we expect the other 27 who have booked tests to be licensed as well, bringing the total to 58 licensed drivers out of a class of 67.”

“Considering we had a few drop outs on the way you know, life happens, that is an amazing result no matter which way you look at it,” Ms Robb said.

Ms Robb was particularly appreciative of the support the program received from external agencies.

She was positively glowing when thanking those who had given the program a helping hand. “We have had so much support from the community,” Liz Leyland has referred many clients, Sergeant Wheatley has also been behind us every step of the way, and Brewarrina Shire Council have gone out of their way time and again to help us achieve our goals. We couldn’t have done it without them,” Ms Robb said.

This isn’t the first time the Get Licensed program has been run here, and most of us are aware of the success of the program, but earlier this month, the Western Aboriginal Learner Driver Program received formal recognition for the work they do in remote communities and received a NSW Premier’s Award for Public Service.

They were awarded first place in the category of Strengthening the Environment and Communities, which recognises projects that improve people’s lives and help build strong communities.

“Getting the award is just the icing on the cake,” Ms Robb said.

“This program really does change people’s lives. It means they can get mobile and in many cases get jobs,” she said.

“Being recognised with an award is a good sign for the long term sustainability of the program and I look forward to coming back to Bre next year.”

Footy funds up for grabs

Member for Barwon, Kevin Humphries has announced that the NSW Footy Facilities Fund is now open for applications.

The program is a joint initiative of the National Rugby League and the NSW Government, and offers funding for projects throughout NSW.

“This program is an important initiative that will help fund grassroots footy clubs in Barwon and throughout NSW,” Mr Humphries said.

“Members of the sporting community understand that modern, safe facilities will increase participation in the future. “The NRL and the NSW Government want to get behind our local footy clubs, and support this vision.”

The main objectives of the Footy Facilities Fund are to:

* increase regular and on-going participation opportunities in Rugby League
* improve the standard of Rugby League grounds and facilities.
* increase the security at sport and recreation facilities (e.g. installation of fencing)
* remove barriers to promote inclusion in Rugby League (e.g. upgrade of amenities to increase female participation, provision of disability access, upgrade of referee amenities)
* develop environmentally sustainable sport and recreation facilities (e.g. installation of drainage, rainwater tank, upgrade lighting for environmental impact)
* build strong communities

Applications close on 9 January 2015. For more information and to apply, visit www.dsr.nsw.gov.au/grants or phone 131302.
Welcome to the world
Rory Jack
Gartside
The Gartside family just got a whole lot cuter. Carly and James Gartside are thrilled to announce the arrival of Rory Jack Gartside, born at Wollongong hospital on November 7, 2014 at 12:25pm. Sister Bridie and brother Noah look absolutely delighted with the new addition. Congratulations to the proud parents.

Georgia Redmond
Georgia Redmond was born on October 14, 2014 a baby sister for Lee and Ty, who absolutely adore her. Mum is doing well and Dad is bursting with pride. Congratulations to the whole clan.

Off to a great start
Isabella Wheatley, Sterling Wheatley, Wal D Connor, Janicea Morris, Jakobithy rench, Jacob Bennett, Kera Jackson, Lee Redmond and Emily Kerby were getting a taste of what’s to come when they start school next year at the Kinder Start program at St Patrick’s.

Mouths of Babes...
Lilly Chapman,
What do you want to be when you grow up?
A cowgirl.
What does your daddy do?
He chops meat up.
What’s the oldest person you know?
My Nan.
What’s your favourite food to eat?
Apples.
What’s a horrible, yukky thing to eat?
Chocolate.
Is Santa coming to see you this year? Have you been a good girl?
Yes he’s coming at Christmas. I’m very good.
What would you like Santa to bring you?
Play dough.
Are you going on anywhere on holiday?
On Friday I’m going to Newcastle to see my cousin.
What makes you happy?
My cousin.
What are you scared of?
When I’m in my bed and I hear loud stuff.

CHRISTMAS MARKETS & CAROLS
Friday 5th December 2014
@ 6pm at the Visitor Information Centre.

- Giant Water Slide
- Jumping Castle
- Drinking Machine
- Seafood
- Christmas Carol
- Baked goods
- Baby Wares
- Santa Photos
- Cake Stall
- Local Produce
- Chocolate Wheel
- Toy and Treasure Stalls
- Bar & BBQ
- Lucky dips

For more information or to enquire about exhibiting call the Information Centre on 6830 192 or email visitbrewarrina.nsw.gov.au.
Lest we forget

We remembered them

At the eleventh hour, on the eleventh day of the eleventh month, we gathered to remember the fallen.

The ceremony on Remembrance Day was brief, but solemn, as the community took a moment to reflect on the loss and suffering caused by war. Wreaths were laid in honour of the fallen. Margaret Gilligan placed one for the Ladies Auxiliary, Sue Phillips represented the Brewarrina RSL, GI Pippin represented Council and Ben Andrews and Stevie Hammond placed one on the centotaph for St Patrick’s school.

Trevor Olson, from the RSL ran the ceremony, and Brendon Wilson from St Patrick’s did a reading. After the service, those who could retired to the RSL for morning tea.

Next year, ANZAC Day will mark the one hundredth anniversary of the ANZAC landings at Gallipoli, and if you or your family has a story that you would like to share with the community, Brewarrina News would love to hear from you. It would be great if we could share local stories on this important day, and ensure the memories stay alive.

Some households in the Brewarrina Shire may be eligible for up to $150 towards the cost of their energy bills if they apply for the 2014-2015 NSW Family Energy Rebate (FER).

The deadline for the rebate offer is Tuesday 16 June 2015. To be eligible for the 2014-2015 Family Energy Rebate you must:

• Be a NSW resident; and
• Have been assessed by the Federal Department of Human Services (DHS) as being eligible for the Family Tax Benefit (FTB) A or B during the past financial year, and have received an FTB payment; and
• Be a customer of an electricity retailer, or a long-term resident of a residential community (van or mobile home park), whose name appears on the electricity account for supply to her or his principal place of residence.

To apply for the Rebate, type “family energy rebate” into a search engine or apply online at https://applications.fer.trade.nsw.gov.au.

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Rebates for families

Your Local Bloke

Call in today and see our huge range of products, new stock arriving weekly

Christmas is just around the corner, so come in and check out our range of lights.

Lots of specials in store!

Telephone 6839 1844
Fax 6830 2905
Stuart Rd 0411 585 165
Michael Welsch 0428 392

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BSC Year 12 Graduation Formal

A very dapper Tony Rossi with lovely ladies Charlotte Boney and Bianca Cochrane.

Chantelle Dove cut a fine figure in her frock and Mitchell Beames scrubbed up nicely as well.

The gorgeous Nan Barker with Norm Johnson.

Tonya Kellet, Cate Sullivan, Beck Williams, Alice Pearce, Erin Faricy, Andrew Pearce and Sharon Fox were all looking very classy.

Simply dashing: Tom McNamara and Mitch Cooper.

Gregory reckons they looked like “Beauty and the Beast,” but both Gregory Bloomfield and Angelina Bennett look pretty fabulous.

Visiting Student Teacher Brianna Walley with Amy Kirby and Peter Gordon.

Jennifer Bennett, Catherine Bott and Alana Peel were among the guests present to farewell the Class of 201
Good bye and good luck to all

Andrew Smyth with the lovely Rebecca Crowther

Looks like “hot shots” hit town a couple of weeks early

A very proud Amanda Boney with Charlotte and Bianca

Top shot Burra: Christopher McHughes took this photo of Bianca Cochrane and Matthew Simpson and Lachlan Salt.

Bianca Cochrane with Nathan Travolta, Nathan, the seventies called, they want their dance moves back

Letizia Boney, Bianca Cochrance, Charlotte Boney, and Matthew Simpson. You think he could have cracked a smile sitting with all those good sorts eh?

Another great photo from Burra: Bianca Cochrane, Nathan Johnson, Charlotte Boney and Angelina Bennett looking absolutely stunning.

Right: Mary Waites, Natalie Salt, Christine Murphy, Noelene Murphy, Lindsay Murphy were all on hand to help Leticia Boney celebrate
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Our staff are among the most highly skilled and experienced in the business, covering all areas throughout New South Wales and Queensland. Our aim is to maximise and improve the potential of all our clients’ enterprises. Schute Bell means reliability.

SCHUTE BELL

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Wool Brokers
Livestock & Property Agents
Finance, Insurance & Merchandise

100% Australian Owned - Over 100 years in business

We won’t keep you guessing
Call Matt 0457 155 333 or Brett 0427 392 383

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How do you get bogged in a drought? Call Angus. He’ll tell ya all about it. Thanks mate, even though times are tough, it’s good we can still have a laugh, even if it is at someone else’s expense.

Schute-ing the breeze with Brian Johnston

I don’t want to sound all doom and gloom but we still gotta be aware of our mental health issues in our community. Not only our farmers but other people around are struggling with a lack of work skills keep coming in but the money isn’t.

It’s not just farmers either, it’s the whole community we gotta be looking out for. People still think they can handle it on their own. I talk to people all the time that have the “there’s nothing wrong with me” attitude, and maybe that’s what we need to address. To admit that you are struggling, that things are not right in your head, doesn’t mean there’s something ‘wrong’ with you. It means you need some support.

John Harper, from Mate helping Mate fame, who came out this way earlier this month, probably put it best. A shearer and farmer himself, when he started thinking dark thoughts, he refused to believe he had a problem. He reckons the only reason he didn’t clock the doctor who diagnosed him with depression was because it was a mate, and as far as he was concerned mates don’t give mates bum steers, so he eventually had to accept he had depression, and had to do something about it. It was affecting every aspect of his life. He had let his problems overtake his mind, and as a result he let himself and everyone around him down. After coming to terms with the fact that he needed help, John now tours regional Australia, telling his story about his personal battle with the black dog.

There is nothing special about his story. It could be any one of us, and that is his message precisely. John reckons, and I agree with this wholeheartedly, that the road to healing starts with keeping an eye on each other. In the day, people used to stop off in the pub and have a yarn about their troubles over a few ales, but the drink driving laws have put a stop to all of that, so for those of us living out of town, it gets harder to find that release.

John says we need to find time to do those little things that make us better people. Yes there’s a drought, yes there’s work to be done, but find that half an hour to sit with your missus on the verandah. Go into town and have a beer with your mates. Take your kids for a swim down the river. If there is an event on, go to it, even if it really isn’t your cup of tea, there will be someone to talk to.

A change of scenery, even for a couple of hours, can do you the world of good. Even if all you hear are other people’s problems when you come into town, at least you know you’re not alone, and sometimes it helps to put your thoughts into perspective.

I also have to wonder about all that drought money that’s floating around, is it being spent wisely? Is it really flowing into the communities that so desperately need it?

On a positive note, one side of town is having some great results with good lamb marking, good percentages, 100 or so in some places, so it’s been great news for that. The harvest down south should also create a good opportunity for us to off load some sheep into those stubble paddocks, but those markets won’t last forever so use the opportunities.

Righto then, catch ya later.
A picture is worth a thousand words
POSITION VACANT
Casual Cleaner for surgery
6 hours a week
Apply with references to
Practice Manager
Vivian Slack-Smith 68392 294

Death Notice

WHITE, William
13th November 2014
At Berr, formerly of Lilyfield, Bourke
Loved and missed by all the family
Aged 85 years
Bill’s funeral service was held in Nowra
Aged 85 years

Orana Haven Aboriginal Corporation
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

LOCATION: Orana Haven Aboriginal Corporation - Gongolgon
DATE: 5.12.2014
START TIME: 11.30am
AGENDA
1. Welcome To Country
2. Confirmation of minutes of previous annual general meeting.
3. Presentation of general report by directors.
4. Presentation of the financial statements and audit report for 2013-14
5. Appointment and remuneration of an auditor.
6. Other business:

Provision: Under rule 4.11 of the corporation’s rules a member is not entitled to vote at a general meeting by proxy.

*Note that the corporation’s rule book states at rule 5.4 that the board of directors (excluding non member directors appointed under 6.3.) is not entitled to vote at a general meeting.

5.14.10 for the determination of the election of directors simultaneously.

5.3.1.6 that more than one person of an immediate family can be appointed as directors at the same time (excluding their proxy).
AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS, 2015

NOMINATION FORM

Awards are an integral part of Australia Day that recognise and honour the outstanding achievement of Australians. Awards celebrate Australian excellence within our community. Nominations are invited for the 2015 Australia Day Awards. This is your opportunity to nominate either a person or organisation that has made an outstanding contribution to Brewarrina Shire during the 2014 year. There may have been a citizen that has volunteered time and effort for many years, without recognition. An independent committee will assess applications and Council will announce the awards at its Australia Day Ceremony, to be held on Monday 26th of January 2015 at the Brewarrina Swimming Pool.

I hereby would like to nominate.........................................................

The categories are:
(Please circle one)

Citizen of the Year (25 years and over on the 26th January 2015)
Recognises outstanding members of the community for their personal endeavours, achievements and community involvement.

Young Citizen of the Year (25 years and Under on the 26th January 2015)
Recognises young citizens for their personal endeavours, achievements and community involvement.

Sportsperson of the Year
Recognises a sportsperson, coach, administer or official whose actions inspire and encourage others and enrich the community through sport.

Australia Day Award
Recognises individuals or groups whose actions inspire and encourage others and enrich the community.

Signed.................................................................

Full Name............................................................

Date.................................................................

A Statement containing no less than 50 words, listing the nominee’s achievements, must accompany the above nomination form. Additional forms may be obtained from the Brewarrina Visitor Information and Exhibition Centre or the Brewarrina Shire Council.

All nominations are to be mailed to: ‘Confidential’ Australia Day Awards,

PO Box 125 Brewarrina NSW 2839

Nominations close Wednesday, December 10th 2014
Cooling off Bre style

We were warned the heat was coming, but the punishing 40 plus temperatures still managed to knock people for a six last weekend.

As temperatures rose steadily through out the week, locals took to the water any way they could.

Some showed off new tricks at Old Park, like Chantae Eyre (pictured), while others headed for the pool. It was announced on Friday that the pool would stay open until 830 pm Friday night, to appease the hot and bothered masses.

No matter where your allegiance lies water wise, the pool or the river was the only place to be.

To top it all off, there’s more on the way. Come Friday, temperatures will again hit the early forties, and both Ambulance NSW and NSW Rural Fire are warning people to take the necessary precautions against the extreme conditions. “Stay hydrated and stay indoors if you can,” NSW Ambulance Officer Brendon Wilson said.

Total fire bans remain in place during the dry conditions.