

The Sentinel

Your local paper containing district news circulating throughout
Clarence Town – Glen Oak - Glen Martin - Glen William - Limeburners Creek
Wallarobba/Brookfield - Circulation :- 1160

January/February 2023



Congratulations to Peter Trappel on the extension to the IGA!!

As one of the biggest employers in town it is great to see such an amazing asset to the town being looked after and improved!



IN THIS ISSUE

Around the Churches	Page 8
Parson's Pen	Page 9
Around the District	Page 10
Council Report	Page 10

Lion's Den	Page 15
RFS	Page 15
Our Schools	Page 19
Contact Numbers	Back Page

Closing date for News and Ads for our next issue is the 10th February

Clarence Town Progress Association
is holding a Community Weekend
To Celebrate Our Culture, Community and Heritage

Save the date!
29th, 30th
and 31st July 2023.

The weekend will bring our community together to celebrate our history!
The plan is for this to become an annual event.

“The Clarence Town Weekend”
HELP YOUR COMMUNITY!

We are looking for volunteers and sponsors to work with our committee to help organise and finance this weekend.

Four different levels of sponsorship are available:
Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum.

Each level will offer your business opportunities for promotion as well as supporting this worthwhile community event!

Our planning has commenced and at the moment the program for the weekend is shaping up to be:

- **Friday Evening:** Social Function in our community hall
- **Saturday Lunch Time:** Opening parade, markets, food stalls, coffee trucks, activities including town tours, Saturday just after dusk Fireworks
- **Sunday Morning:** Billy cart derby, lawn mower and tyre rolling race, Lego competition, stalls, coffee truck, town tours.

We will then finish in the afternoon with an Ecumenical Service of Thanksgiving

If you would like to help please contact Alan on the following email: clarroculture@outlook.com

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Parcel Collection - We appreciate you collecting your parcels on the day that they arrive, as we sometimes run out of room. But, please remember to give us time to sort them.

The messages you get are usually when the contractors are finished with them, we need time to bring them through and sort them into the delivery sections.

Thank you





Dave Layzell MP
MEMBER FOR UPPER HUNTER



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THANK YOU, TO OUR EMERGENCY SERVICES

On behalf of the Upper Hunter Electorate
I thank all emergency services for their efforts during the 2022 floods.

Preparations begin well before an emergency happens
if you can give a hand consider joining your local volunteer organisation:

NSW State Emergency Service www.ses.nsw.gov.au
NSW Rural Fire Service www.rfs.nsw.gov.au
VRA Rescue NSW www.rescue.org.au

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Around the Churches

St. John's, Clarence Town.

Another busy year has drawn to a close, and we look forward, in anticipation, to another year of friendship and fellowship at St. John's.

Our Op Shop will re-open on 18th January **and with a sale**, which is exciting and as Rev.

Kimbalee will be on holidays for most of January, we will be welcoming the Rev. Roger Zorab, who will be officiating at the services in our parish during that time. Our church hall is available for hire and you can contact Barrie Edwards on 4996 4174 to arrange that

Our Christmas Eve service was lovely, as usual, when we come together to celebrate the birth of Jesus, and of course to sing some traditional carols which always gladdens the heart. Some of us enjoyed an evening meal together in a time of fellowship the hall following the service.

Our annual **PANCAKE NIGHT** will be on **Tuesday, 21st February 2023** from 6pm in our hall. Do come along and join us. Pancake batter will be provided.

Please bring a topping/filling that you enjoy.

As we enter a new year –

Eternal God, You gave us the greatest gift:
the gift of life.

In the coming year, help us use it wisely.
May we grow in generosity, kindness and
forgiveness, hope, faith and love.

Amen.

– Rabbi Evan Moffic

Our Parish wishes to acknowledge the wonderful achievement of two of our retired Clergy, the Reverend Colvin Ford and the Reverend Neville Schofield, who both celebrated 50 years of ordination to the Priesthood during December, 2022 They are both much-loved and valued members of our parish.

Congratulations and well done,

Colvin and Neville.

You are a blessing to us.

Sue Flannery
4996 5528

St David's Presbyterian Church Clarence Town.



Manly Music (MM) launched at CTPC on 9th November last year where we have thoroughly enjoyed running the pre-school aged program for parents and their toddlers. MM runs every Wednesday at 9:30am (during set terms) where parents and kids come together and sing songs, play musical instruments, learn about God, build friendships with new people and deepen relationships with their kids. It was a fantastic end run to the 2022 year with a Christmas celebration along with the usual program that has a very interactive curriculum for Mums, Dads, Grandparents and Carers to get involved and enjoy! 10 local families joined in with MM in 2022, and the new term is due to start on Wed 8th of February 2023. Watch this space (and the Face Book Community pages) for further announcements! (For further enquiries please contact our Mainly Music Coordinator Leisa Bignill on 0419 205755)

Our Annual Congregational Meeting took place in December and was completed in record time! (Only 22 minutes long – which may be a CTPC record!) It was great to review all the ministries commenced during the year and to nominate a new Committee of Management (the team who administers all aspects of buildings care and other projects) A big welcome to the new committee and thanks to the newbies joining in 2023!

From the pulpit in 2023, we will be initially continuing our series on the letter to the Galatians, followed by some Proverbs and Psalms. And while parts of our secular culture might think it holds the megaphone on all things to do with sexuality, in April 2023 we head back into the Old Testament and explore the fantastic book 'The Song of Solomon' – a book that teaches us about awesome biblical sexuality and God's heart for his people.

We continue to pray for our town, our leaders, country and world, both in private and when we meet together and, all the more as we see the great Day of our Lord Jesus approaching. May the grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

In Christ,
Rev Allan D. Welch
0402 387 690

Clarence Town Tennis Club

Hi everyone. I hope everyone has enjoyed their Christmas and New Year break. Our tennis courts are open for social hire at all times so please make the most of the facilities and get your family and friends out for a hit. As school returns for term 1, 2023, so does our club activities. Our social night competition will start in the week commencing 6th of February. We are taking names for the night comp from now. Hotshots will return for our young tennis players on Saturday mornings commencing 11th of February. Have a great summer of tennis.



Brad Elloy
President

From the Parson's Pen

Hello from wherever you are reading this Parson's Pen!

As we move out of the Advent and Christmas seasons it presents me with an opportunity to reflect on new beginnings. We explore new beginnings with the arrival of Jesus Christ in our lives during the Christmas season. With the arrival of Jesus, we are promised a new beginning - that what ever has happened for us in the past, we are now promised new life in Christ. Isn't that amazing?

Some people often wonder how they can possibly be forgiven by God, or how they can possibly forgive themselves. I want to take a moment to explain the title of a book written by Pope Francis called The Name of God is Mercy. God is not a God of punishment, but one of love and - above all else - of mercy. In this book, Pope Francis explains that why the church should be like a field hospital, one that welcomes those who have fallen short to repent, turn away from the things that hurt themselves, others and their relationship with God, and to follow the God whose very name is Mercy.

For many people, this is the definition of a new beginning. You may be carrying burdens of guilt, shame or anger. God encourages us with the birth of his Son at Christmas time to trust in him to alleviate those burdens through sincere and deep repentance.

A new beginning awaits you as you seek to journey with Jesus and his all embrace love and compassion for the truly penitent. If you would like to talk with someone about this, please reach out to me. It would be my joy to share the Good News of God's mercy for those who whole-heartedly seek it.

God bless you,
Rev. Kim

Christ Church, Dungog.

I think we all hope that 2023 does not go as fast as 2022 did! Great year and Christmas for us all. We have had our Rev KimbaLee for a year already with new services and Bible Study / Growth Group each Wednesday night. We will have 3 adult Confirmations and 1 adult Reception when we have our Bishop Sonia come for a visit early next year.

We have Op Shop open each Friday as usual 8.30 to 2 pm and of course we have our Markets on the First Saturday of each month. We shall have them on 7th January, 4th February, and 4th March. We have had stallholders indicate that they will be there in January. We are getting ready for another busy year.

Thanks
Margaret Flannery

Clarence Town Op Shop and Treasure Centre.

We are closed now for the Christmas break and will re-open on **Wednesday 18th January 2023** when we will begin with a SALE.

Fill-a-bag for \$10.00 – clothes, shoes, bags.

We welcome Kathryn, Lois and Lara to the team for 2023 and thanks them for volunteering. We are so grateful to all of our volunteers for the wonderful work and support they give to the Op Shop and Treasure Centre. We had a lovely 'thank you' Christmas lunch together on the 7th of December which was enjoyed by all who attended.

Urgently needed:

We are in need of a bag handler, once a month, 8.30am to noon.

We collect:

- Used stamps for Missions;
- Unused Cosmetics;
- Old white T-shirts (pattern OK)
- 8 ply wool

Cotton Waste – 10kg Bag - \$22.22 including GST – white or coloured.

WE CANNOT ACCEPT – Books – electrical – coats – prams – high chairs – car seats etc.

See you in the New Year.

Gillian Finch

St. Patrick's, Clarence Town.

Where does the time go?

Christmas is past and we are venturing into 2023, happy new year to one and all, may it be a year of peace and harmony not divisiveness and hardship, may god's divine grace come into our hearts and help us to spread happiness and love throughout our little town. We are so blessed to live where we do.

Don't forget Mass—Sundays at 8am.
All Welcome!

God Bless,

Marilyn Amos

Around The District

Another active time since the last report. Cameron Archer, Chair of the Dungog Regional Tourism board, paid a visit to the Museum to offer some great support and advice based on his extensive expertise and years of published research into the histories of this whole region.



At the end-of-year Clarence Town Lions Club Markets, the Museum stall operating in conjunction with the Senior Citizens' Centre was delighted to receive 10 applications to join the Museum.

Another delight was to see the smiles on two visitors from the Central Coast, one who was born in Queensland and the other New Zealand, who as friends discovered they were related and to early European families in Clarence Town. They organised a visit to see if we could help. Once again, the enormous efforts of Reg Ford to have collated so much information and knowledge in his lifetime proved vital. They stayed overnight at an Airbnb on Clarence Town Road, and so contributed to the local area's economy.

Carols at the museum occurred on Sunday 11th December: a great crowd attended to experience the Clarence Town (incorporating Dungog) Choir singing a selection of Christmas standards; several remarkable singers playing guitar or piano; several stalls; the Kookaburras soccer club running a BBQ; and Santa arriving not by sled, rather in the Rural Fire Brigade truck. As the market stalls packed up, the Christmas lights came to life. It's fantastic to see so many locals at the museum.

Chris O'Neill (Secretary)

To get in touch our email is
clarencetownmuseum@yahoo.com,
Our phone number is 0493 346 491,
or you can reach us through Facebook.

Council Report



Clarence Town Bridge

Preliminary work is nearing completion with negotiations for land acquisitions continuing. Two parcels of land beside the river are subject to an Aboriginal Land Claim dating from 2009 and unfortunately staff have not yet been able to meet with the Worimi Land Council in order to negotiate a settlement.

The bridge design is finalized after adding 10 metres to its overall length to reduce flood impacts and moving the alignment another 10 metres further upstream to satisfy Heritage NSW (total of 20 metres separation). Such measures have increased costs beyond the original budget so Council has approached the Commonwealth and State Government for extra funding so that we can invite tenders for construction. Ongoing preparations are continuing and unaffected by the shortfall.

Extra Pothole Funding

Council received \$247,000 from the NSW Government's \$50 million dollar pothole repair funding scheme. Staff are developing a program of works to make best use of this most welcome addition to our normal pothole filling operations, which will continue.

Where possible the extra funding will be used for "heavy patching" of degraded sections. However, there are State wide shortages of gravel, emulsion and labour, with our staff fully occupied on regular tasks and there is plenty of work around for contractors. As with most other road work projects there will be challenges in delivering this program as quickly as Council would like. Regrettably, \$247,000 does not go very far as Council has already spent \$400,000 between 1 July and 1 December 2022.

Potholes

Potholes form when water enters the road base through tiny cracks and imperfections in the surface. Ideally a light coating of bitumen based spray should be re applied every 10-15 years to replace lost oils & resins. This explains why you will sometimes see us "fixing" a good section of road. It costs about \$50,000 per kilometer and despite the long term benefits, few Councils can afford to do this with every road.

Council has 458 KM of sealed roads and we only manage to reseal about 3% of this network annually. This equates to an interval of about 33 years, so many of our newly rebuilt roads will not be resealed when the time comes, and they will deteriorate faster than they should.

It is a pity to see potholes form on an otherwise good section of sealed road. Also, many of our roads are too far gone for resealing to be economical anyway. Filling potholes is very much a piecemeal operation to provide a basic level of service that everybody appreciates, but it is costly and does not address the fundamental cause of the problem.

Council's rural roads management strategy clearly states that we do not have the resources to properly manage our road network and prioritizes allocation of the available road funding: <https://www.dungog.nsw.gov.au/council/council-documents/roads-management-strategy>.

Your Local B Ward Councillors:

Jessica Clark: 0421 451 716 jessica.clark@dungog.nsw.gov.au
Steve low: 49964022 stevelow49@tpg.com.au

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Authorised by D. Gillespie, National Party of Australia, Shops 2&3, 43 High Street, Wauchope NSW 2446.

THE NATIONALS
for Regional Australia

More Around The District

From the Lion's Den.



Williams River Festival 4th February 4pm -8pm

What a big month November was for the Lions Club. We held our Pink Ribbon Fundraiser on the 12th and then our Twilight Markets on the 26th.

Thank you to the amazing group of people who attended the Pink Ribbon Fundraiser as we were able to donate over \$2000.00 to the Hunter Breast Cancer Foundation which was money raised on the day as well as a \$500.00 donation from the Lions Club.

Everyone had a great time and to be able to support a wonderful organisation that assists people in the Hunter Region that have been diagnosed with Breast Cancer was such a privilege.

The Twilight Markets was a brilliant evening with 2 wonderful vocalists and free face painting for the children. There was a huge array of items for sale at the market stalls and everyone had a wonderful time. It was a great opportunity for people to purchase unique Christmas Presents, plants or yummy treats. Our next **BIG** event is the **Williams River Summer Festival** which will be held on Saturday the 4th February from 4pm – 8pm at the Sporting Complex and Fields. There will be free rides for the children, musical performers, heaps of market stalls and many other great attractions. There will be no morning January Markets in 2023 due to this event the following week.

The winners of our Christmas raffle are displayed in the cabinet in front of the IGA and everyone's support of this raffle is greatly appreciated. Congratulations to our winners.

If you would like to be part of the Lions team please contact Annette on 0419964208 or contact us through our Facebook page. We are always looking for enthusiastic people to bring new ideas and energy to our group.

If you would like to donate items for us to sell on our market stall, please contact us through Facebook, on 0419964208 or by speaking to one of our members. We will take most items that are in good repair except large items (due to storage and cartage) and clothing.

Volunteering is a great way to bring positive change to people, communities and society in

General

|Lion Annette

New South Wales

Rural Fire Service



GRASS FIRES

When I was deciding which topic to choose this month I felt obliged to remind everyone how dangerous a grass fire can be at the moment. Brigades all over have been called out to many already.

Some of the reasons they have started: Using a grinder and sparks fell into the grass, Mower/slasher sparking on rocks. There is still a lot of moisture in the ground and the paddocks look green. However, the grass is curing and a grass fire will take hold very quickly.

Grass fires can spread rapidly, catching people off-guard. Grass fires are very hot and can produce huge amounts of heat that can kill anyone caught out in the open.

The safest place to be during a grass fire is well away from the fire. When in the vicinity of a grass fire, always keep the burnt ground in mind as a safe refuge. If you are threatened by a grass fire, always protect yourself by covering up all exposed skin with protective clothing such as: Long-sleeved shirt and pants made from a natural fibre such as cotton. Sturdy leather boots and woollen socks. Leather gloves. A wide-brimmed hat. A face mask or towel to cover your mouth and nose. Eye protection such as goggles.

Make sure you drink plenty of water to keep hydrated and be aware of your level of physical fitness, heat exhaustion, heat stroke and sunburn.

PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, LIVE STOCK AND CROPS

The Importance of Fire Breaks:

The spring time preparation of fire breaks by mowing, grazing, brush cutting or ploughing around buildings, crops, pasture, storage areas, along key fence lines and other exposures will greatly assist in fighting fires during the summer.

Construct effective fire breaks as a means of preventing fire escapes from your property and reducing the likelihood of fires entering.

Fire breaks should, where practical, be designed to avoid trees or to provide an additional break around the trees themselves.

Work together with neighbours to construct effective fire breaks.

Please be aware of the fires in the area and if you are leaving...LEAVE EARLY!

Only the very well prepared and the very fit should stay. Houses are not built to withstand a catastrophic fire.

For a fire plan or fire information go to <https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/>

Clarence Town Rural Fire Brigade Captain Alex Weston is very open to helping the residents so don't hesitate in contacting him for advice.

If you're interested in joining this voluntary organisation please contact Alex for more information: captain@clarencetownrfb.com.au

Contact Clarence Town RFS Brigade on 4996 4454 if you require fire permit information.

I would like to wish you all a very safe and happy Christmas.

Watch for Santa on the Fire Truck on Christmas Eve.

PREPARE, ACT, SURVIVE.

Stay safe until next time, Di Bennett DAM
Lower Hunter Zone Community Engagement Team
<http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/> for more information

**CLARENCE TOWN
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We are looking for new recruits .**

So 2022 has been another reasonably busy year for the CFR team. As much as it is not under the best of circumstances when we get a call out from Ambulance NSW, we are always keen to help our community in their time of need and do what we can to help.

We are keen to speak to anyone interested in joining our team, especially if you have availability to help during business hours through the week. Please call me to get more information.

Brad Elloy
0417 651 577

Official Rainfall 2021 / 2022

Clarence Town Rainfall Station 061010

July	312.4mm
Aug	65.0mm
Sep	89.6mm
Oct	89.6mm
Nov	54.4mm

Tim Gorton

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1st CLARENCE TOWN SCOUTS

**We meet on Tuesday nights
between 6.00pm and 7:30pm
during school terms.**

Hello everyone! 1st Clarence Town Scout Group will be returning following the school holidays for Term 1 of 2023 on Tuesday the 7th of February. We have an exciting new program to start the year off for our Joey Unit. It is a great opportunity for parent/s and their young Joey to get into the fun that is Scouts. Please get in touch and look out for other promotional advertisement to get more information about this.

We look forward to seeing all our current members in 2023 as well as lots of new excited young people.

**Scout Hall
747 Glen William Road,
Glen William.**

**Joeys - 5 - 8 years old
Cubs - 8 - 10 years old
Scouts - 11-15 years old**

Brad Elloy

News from Glen William Public School

Thank you students, community and staff for a productive and successful 2022. It was inspiring to see the COLA filled to capacity at our Presentation Evening. A big congratulations to our Captains and Leaders for 2023: School Captain- Liam Clarke Sports Captain- Isabella Jones-Clark Leader- Cuda Chandler Leader- Ava Jones-Clark We would like to extend a warm, Glen William welcome to Mr Brendan Gray. Mr Gray has accepted the role of Relieving Principal for Term 1 2023. We are looking forward to working with Mr Gray. We still be receiving enrolments 2023. Please go to Glen William Public School website to complete an online enrolment or contact the office for assistance.



Some highlights from Term 4 include:

INTENSIVE SWIMMING: We had a wonderful few weeks at Intensive Swimming. Our students have come so far in both their confidence and skills.

GRANDPARENTS & FRIENDS DAY: Thank you to all of our visiting grandparents. The staff and students had a wonderful day with plenty of smiles all round.

DUNGOG SHOW ART DISPLAY: Congratulations to our creative and hard working students who won first place at the Dungog Show in the school art display. A special congratulations to Georgia who won second prize with her photography piece, Carla who received a highly commended award for her photography piece, and the Infants class who won first prize with their clay jewellery bowls. Thank you to Mrs Rains, Mrs Reeves and Miss Janna for your tireless work collecting pieces and creating our display.

DEADLY AWARDS: The annual Deadly Awards Presentation Night was held at Murrook Cultural Centre. Congratulations to Dusty and Cuda for their awards for 'Love of Learning' and to Carla for her award for 'Significant Influence on Aboriginal Culture and leadership in the school'. As always, we are so proud of your achievements.

CAREERS SHOWCASE: Our Year 5 & 6 students attended the Careers Showcase at Clarence Town Public School. The students dressed-up in their future career uniform and recorded themselves explaining their career choice. Congratulations to Stephanie for winning the most believable costume award and Makayla for being awarded the best film presentation. This excursion was expertly facilitated by Dungog High School Year 10 students, who provided wonderful inspiration for the students' future goals and aspirations.

KINDERGARDEN ORIENTATION: We enjoyed meeting our 2023 Kindergarten students and families this term during orientation. They enjoyed a lovely Teddy Bears Picnic, for their final orientation day of the year.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH: Thank you to the P&C for our wonderful Christmas lunch. We are so lucky to have such a thoughtful and dedicated community body!

YEAR 6 FAREWELL: Mrs Rains, Mrs Hurney and Year 6 headed to Nelson Bay for a day of overcoming obstacles at Splash Waterpark, eating delicious food, laughing, talking, enjoying some ice creams and soaking up the beautiful sunshine. It couldn't have been a nicer day celebrating our awesome foursome. This incredible bunch of students show dedication, kindness, humility and perseverance everyday. We are so proud of each of them and can't wait to see what the future holds for them.

SURF FUN DAY : All GWPS students headed to Nobby's Beach for our Surf Fun Day to celebrate the year that was 2022. We had such a fun day playing games on the sand and in the water. Thank you to the Lifesavers for teaching us all about beach safety and playing fun games with us all.

We are still taking Enrolments for 2023. Please contact the school office for an information pack, visit the school website to complete an online enrolment.

Glen William Public School 4996 5507

E-Mail glenwillia-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au



*Happy and Safe
Holidays to Everyone!*

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IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Local Church Contacts:

ANGLICAN: Clarence Town Pastoral Ministry
0491 007 193

ROMAN CATHOLIC: 4992 1477

PRESBYTERIAN: Allan Welch - 4025 5638

DUNGOG BAPTIST: 4992 2122

DUNGOG UNITING: Joy Shelton - 4992 1508

CHURCH SERVICE TIMES:

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Clarence Town, 29 Marshall Street

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opposite

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Clarence Town, Rifle Street:

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