

THE SENTINEL

MAR/APR 2024
CIRCULATION 1300



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Dungog Shire Council Media Release

Clarence Town, a Future Growth Zone...

The Hunter Regional Plan has earmarked Clarence Town for future growth!

As a result, The Dungog Shire Council has secured a \$170,000 grant from the NSW Regional Housing Strategic Planning Fund to develop a Structural Plan for Clarence Town and surrounds. This will establish a framework for development, facilitating future growth by identifying residential, retail and employment land development, as well as improving public spaces and transport networks. The plan also seeks to enhance the town centre's accessibility, identity and overall appeal.

Council will engage with the community, businesses, State govn.

and relevant stakeholders, providing opportunities for residents to input and shape the future of the town.

Council also received \$76,000 from the NSW Govn. to conduct a Flood Study review to ensure flooding risk of any future development zone is reduced.

In addition, council has been advocating for better roads & infrastructure, and the NSW Govn. is working towards matching the funding provided by the Federal Govn. so we can proceed with the new Clarence Town Bridge.



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Rainfall Report* (mls)

2023

Jan 158.4

Feb 38.3

March 123.7

April 65.2

May 37.7

Jun 7.0

July 42.9

Aug 60.7

Sept 11.2

Oct 97.2

Nov 81.4

Dec 132.2

2024

Jan 66.2

* Source: BOM, Clarence Town Rainfall Station 061010

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*See back page for pricing, sizing and inclusions

✦ CLOSING DATE FOR NEWS & ADS IN OUR NEXT ISSUE IS 10TH APRIL ✦

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Community Events Calendar

Welcome to the heart of Clarence Town!
Discover local happenings, cultural events and opportunities to connect with neighbours in our vibrant community.

To list your local event for free, email thesentinel2321@gmail.com

MARCH

Fri 1 4-6pm : Dungog Shire Council, Meet your Mayor 'John Connors' at Clarence Town School of Arts Hall

Thurs 7 6.30pm : Clarence Town Progress Association Meeting at the Clarence Town Community Hall, Prince Street

Mon 25 6.30pm : Youth Forum with Dungog Chamber of Commerce (see article page 9)

Fri 29 **GOOD FRIDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY**

APRIL

Mon 1 **EASTER MONDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY**

Thurs 4 6.30pm : Clarence Town Progress Association Meeting at the Clarence Town Community Hall, Prince Street

Sun 7 **DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS – WIND YOUR CLOCKS BACK 1 hour**

Sat 13 Public SCHOOL HOLIDAYS START

Thurs 25 **ANZAC DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY**

Mon 29 BACK TO SCHOOL, Term 2 starts for schools

SAVE THE DATE! – UPCOMING

May 11 Progress Assoc. Events Committee Cruise on William the Forth (see ad right)

May 12 **MOTHERS DAY**

May 18 7pm: Wallarobba Hall, 'Prawn and Chicken Night'. Check Facebook for details or book here: www.trybooking.com/CFLJL

May 25/ May 26 The Knitters Picnic Dungog. For more info: www.theknitterspicnic.com.au



I would like to invite you all to attend the CLARENCE TOWN ANZAC DAWN SERVICE

THE MARCH LEAVES THE BOWLING CLUB AT 05:30am SHARP

The march makes its way to the Cenotaph on the cnr. of Grey and Queen Street. If you don't wish to march just make your way straight to the cenotaph.

We always have a beautiful service and many of our organisations and hundreds of residents are always there to pay their respects.

After the service we head back to the Club for breakfast, prepared by Maria's Kitchen for a very small fee.

Bowls 10:00am ~ Two Up 12-3pm (Both Hosted By Club)

IN CASE OF RAIN THE DAWN SERVICE WILL BE HELD AT THE BOWLING CLUB

If you have any questions or you would like to lay a wreath on behalf of a club or organisation, please don't hesitate to email me. Di – dinkydi@iinet.net.au



Cruise on 'William The Fourth' & Explore Newcastle Museum

Join the Progress Assoc. Events Committee for a day trip featuring a scenic 2-hour cruise on Newcastle Harbour aboard 'William the Fourth', followed by lunch and an exploration of Newcastle Museum.



Date: Sat. 11th May 2024

Time: Coach departing 8.30am

Cost: \$60 pp incl. return trip via coach and boat cruise (lunch at your expense)

For more info, contact Joe Foley on clarroculture@outlook.com

Clarence Town & District Historical Museum Assoc.

Young Citizen Recognition...

In late 2023, despite the heat, over 30 members of the Maitland and District Historical Society visited our Museum. They enjoyed morning tea and tours led by our young helpers, James and Jack, and were impressed by Clarence Town's permanent building for our collections.

The beginning of 2024 saw several members attend the Dungog Shire Australia Day Ceremony and Awards Presentation at the James Theatre. The Museum nominated James Ryan in the category of Young Citizen of the Year for his commitment via presentations, tours and cooking – all at the age of 12!

Work is underway to move some of the collections around to refresh and be able to present a themed display in the future. Now, there's a challenge!

Chris O'Neill, Museum Committee Secretary
 CTmuseum@outlook.com, 0491 346 491

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Clarence Town Pharmacy

Opening Hours

Did you know you can now order your medicines through an app?

Clarence Town Pharmacy has partnered with MedAdvisor, an app in which you can see all your prescriptions in the one place and order them with just a few clicks!

You can order your medications at any time and set reminders to take your medication.

To get started bring your phone and prescriptions to the pharmacy and we will supply your unique sign up code.



Monday to Friday
8:30 – 5:00pm

Saturday
8:30 – 12:00 noon

Shop 2, 116 Prince Street, Clarence Town, Phone: 4996 3300
 Fax: 4996 3344

Clarence Town First Responders (CFR)

Join Our Community First Responder Team Today...

The Clarence Town CFR's started 8 years ago to give urgent medical aid to our community before paramedics arrive on scene. In that time, we have helped over 1000 people responding to 000 calls.

We have a couple of new members who will begin training soon. We need more members - Would you like to join our crew? You will become a member of the RFS and receive full training by NSW Ambulance. However, please note, you'll need to live reasonably close to town as the response time is critical.

Please call me if you like to know more about our CFR team.

Brad Elloy, CFR Coordinator
0417 651 577

Clarence Town Op Shop and Treasure Centre

Donations needed...

Visit our Op Shop from 8:30am to noon every Wednesday. Join us for a cuppa and explore our clothing and goods!

At the moment we have a sale on soccer and football boots at \$3.00 per pair. The cotton waste (white or coloured) is \$22.00 for a 10kg bag (incl. GST). If you're gearing up for the colder weather, we'll be transitioning to Winter fashions on the 27th March.

We're seeking donations of postage stamps for Missions, 8 ply wool for 'wrapped with love', white T-shirts for rag sales, rugs and can ring-pulls.

As always, a huge thank you to our volunteers (without whom we could not operate) and a special welcome to our new volunteer, Curly. If you'd like to volunteer and have spare time every 6 weeks, please phone me on 4994 9168 or come in any Wednesday morning at the Op shop. Thanks everyone for your patronage!

Gillian Finch 4994 9168 / 0477 326 142
St. John's Anglican Church, Cnr of Grey & Queen Sts

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**OUR SERVICE:
MONDAY - THURSDAY**

New South Wales Rural Fire Service

Stay Ahead of the Danger: Fire Safety Tips for Rural Landholders

Please do not let the wet weather give you a false sense of security. Brigades have been to numerous fires already so you do need to prepare your property whether it be a farm, acreage or a house block.

If you live on a rural property/acreage, there are simple tasks you need to complete to prepare your property for fire. A well-prepared property can:

- Be easier for you or firefighters to defend.
- Give you more protection if a fire threatens suddenly and you cannot leave.
- Reduce the possibility of a fire spreading.
- Increase protection for valuable assets, such as stock, crops, infrastructure and machinery.

TOP 5 ACTIONS TO MAKE YOUR PROPERTY SAFER

1. **CLEAR/SLASH:** Clear flammable materials (e.g. gas cylinders) and slash areas of long, dry grass around structures like the home and sheds.
2. **BURN:** If you have the required permit / approval and training, conduct a controlled burn on your property to reduce fuel.
3. **PLOUGH:** Plough firebreaks around each paddock boundary to prevent the spread of fire.
4. **ROTATE:** Rotate stock across the property to ensure paddocks are well grazed.

5. **PREPARE:** Prepare and maintain hoses and water pumps in case you need to defend your property.

MORE PERMANENT PROTECTION FOR YOUR PROPERTY

1. Prepare a property map and action plan.
2. Clean and maintain machinery such as tractors, slashers, harvesters, welders and chainsaws.
3. Fit an approved spark arrestor.
4. Carry a working water fire extinguisher (min. 9L liquid or 0.9kg dry powder) or knapsack (min. 16L).
5. Prepare a safer location for livestock.
6. Remove overhanging branches from power lines.
7. Ensure that a fire truck can access your property.
8. Place water pipes from dams underground and install a pump to the house.
9. Make sure hoses have spray nozzles attached.
10. Keep water tanks full and connected to pumps.

The Bush Fire Danger Period commenced on the 1st October 2023 and runs through to 30th March 2024. **Permits are required to light a fire during this period.** Contact your local Clarence Town RFS Brigade 4996 4454.

Owner/Occupiers are reminded that pile burns can only contain vegetation from your property. It is illegal to burn household or building waste. These must be disposed of through Council services or facilities. **The following link to Dungog and Port Stephens Councils show their burning policies. www.dungog.nsw.gov.au/live/open-burning-dungog-shire-council-area**

PREPARE, ACT, SURVIVE.

Stay safe until next time,

Di Bennett OAM, J.P., CMC.

*Lower Hunter District Community Engagement Team.
www.rfs.nsw.gov.au for more information.*

CLARENCE TOWN CARAVAN REPAIRS

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1st Clarence Town Scouts

Kicking Off 2024 with Exciting Ventures...

Clarence Town Scouts (Joeys/Cubs/Scouts and Ventures) have returned for the year. We meet every Tuesday at 6:30pm.

During the Christmas break our 4 Ventures had a great 10 days in Victoria attending 'Venture 24'. We have started planning our activities for the new year starting with a bush walk for our cubs and scouts. Our Ventures are planning an overnight hike in preparation for Dragon skin which is a 3 day camping competition.

We are always on the lookout for more youth members to join our group to start their adventure!

Please contact Robyn (0400 033 873) or Mark (0408 425 092) for any further information.



Clarence Town Tennis Club

Summer Social Nights, Memberships and Hotshots

We are back into the swing of things for 2024. Our Summer Social night competition has kicked off on Thursday nights.

Club memberships are due as well for many members and can be paid online here (www.play.tennis.com.au/clarencetownanddistricttennisclub/Membership/Join) and direct transfer. Hotshots for the kids has started back on Saturday morning and it's great to see our regulars returning plus several new members! It is also good to see a bit more social court hire as well.

We have a great little club so it is good to see the courts being used. Contact Gai or I to gain access to the courts. Thanks Brad.

*Brad (0417 651 577)
Gai (0419 600 219)*



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is
Open every Tuesday for
morning tea and lunch from
9.00am

Contact Owen Giggins mob:

The Dungog District Chamber of Commerce

A Call to Action to Address Youth Disengagement

The Dungog District Chamber of Commerce (DDCC) committee, have been concerned for some time about the often spoken about “youth disengagement” in the Dungog Shire, and particularly in the Clarence Town area.

While we are the Chamber and represent business, we strongly feel and have feedback on to support, that this is affecting both the business and the community of this Shire. This disengagement has reportedly manifested itself by incidents of repeated vandalism and anti-social behaviour.

This is not only concerning for residents, but will greatly affect our wonderful image of community, rural and healthy lifestyle, and low crime rate that is associated strongly with the Shire. Once a reputation is damaged, it is very hard to reverse and repair.

We don't have all the answers and we don't want to assume what should be done to help, so we are calling a public meeting with special invitations to organisations such as yourselves plus community, sporting, schools, police, community services and political representation.

We are hopeful and strongly believe that discussion will ignite interest, bring forth some ideas and plans, and generally engage the whole community to find solutions. It's like the adage – it takes a village to raise a child – so lets see if we can help to raise a teenager or two.

This meeting of like-minded and invested in community people – will be an opportunity to focus on the positives and produce some ideas of how we can bring about positive behaviour through community driven actions. We are proposing a time and place for this forum to be on **Monday evening, 25th March 2024 at the Clarence Town Bowling Club with a 6.30pm start.** We will have an Agenda ready and will keep to task to ensure that the evening is structured and has outcomes.

We hope you can join us and please encourage others to come along.



Clarence Town Bowling, Sport & Recreation Club

Ph- (02) 49964222
Email - Admin@clarrobowlo.com.au

Socials – FB: Clarence Town Bowling Club
IG- @clarencetownbowlingclub_

- Tuesday- Euchre 6:30pm
- Thursday- Bingo 11:30am
- Friday - Meat Raffles & Members Draw (tickets on sale at 6pm and drawn at 7pm)
- Saturday - Meat Raffles (tickets on sale at 2pm)
- Last Sunday of every month- Meat Raffles & Members Draw (tickets on sale at 5pm and drawn at 6pm)



OPENING HOURS:
Monday - From 2pm
Tuesday-Sunday - From 11am

Maria's Kitchen Opening Hours:
Lunch: 11:30-2:30 Thursday- Sunday
Dinner: 5:30-8:30 Wednesday- Sunday

Courtesy Bus runs Thursday - Sunday from 5pm, call the club and follow the prompts to book a ride!

Parvo Virus Outbreak – Protect Your Pets with Vaccinations

There has been a recent outbreak of Parvo Virus in the Metford, Maitland and Raymond Terrace areas. Parvo Virus causes severe bloody diarrhoea in dogs. It is especially dangerous for puppies, but can also affect adult dogs.

People often think their dog is safe from Parvo (as it never leaves the yard or farm), however the virus can survive in grass and soil for over 5 years and can be brought to your property on shoes. If your dog is overdue for a Parvo vaccination, we highly recommend an annual booster.

For puppies, it's recommended they have 3 vaccinations, the 1st at 6 weeks, 2nd at 10 weeks and 3rd at 14 weeks of age. Parvo virus is different to other diarrhoeas, as it's often fatal. Without treatment, the majority of dogs will die. With treatment, there are still many that do not survive. Vaccination is the only way of protecting your dog. Please call us if you would like to discuss further.

Alex Merrick & the Williams River Vet Team 4996 4441

IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM WILLIAMS RIVER VET CLINIC

As many of you know, we are struggling with a nationwide veterinary shortage. This is impacting ours, any many other local clinics severely.

Due to this, we have had to cease our after hours service. However, we hope this isn't permanent and are looking to find more vets in the near future.

Although short staffed, we ARE still servicing both small and large animals. Of course emergencies take priority and are unpredictable, but we are doing our best to accommodate everyone. We ask that you book routine appointments/procedures in advance, rather than at short notice.

We have reduced our opening hours to Monday-Friday 9am-5pm and opening on SOME Saturday mornings.

We have had some great locum vets helping us over the past few months, and we thank you for being so welcoming to them. Although we have downsized in staff, you will still see many familiar faces in the clinic. Please give us a call with any questions/booking enquiries, and we thank you all for your patience and support during this shortage.

Phone: 49964441

Email: Williams.river.vets@gmail.com



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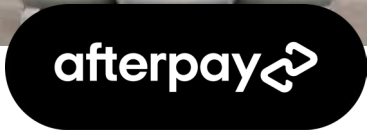
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Dungog Council Report

New Clarence Town Bridge and Infrastructure Updates

As previously reported, the Commonwealth Govn. increased its commitment to \$9,581,000 for the new bridge with the expectation that the NSW Government would match it.

This shift from an 80/20 to a 50/50 funding split affects various NSW projects. Minister for Roads, Jenny Aitchison MP, surveyed Dungog Shire's roads, aiming to facilitate tender calls soon.

Road Works

The Duke Street rehabilitation totaled \$863,500. The road's unusual profile near Rifle Street accommodates its significant slope to aid water dispersion. Queen Street's rehabilitation, costing \$766,755 (including \$200,000 from SRV), will commence post-Easter due to

project delays. Grant funding from the Commonwealth's LRCI Program will facilitate footpath construction on Queen Street's eastern side and Durham Street, completing the "School to Pool" project near the Rugby/Cricket oval.

Grant Applications Submitted

The Clarence Town Progress Association has agreed to co fund two grant applications seeking NSW Government funding to install exercise equipment at the Village Green and solar lighting at the Cenotaph. The Clarence Town ANZAC Committee will also contribute towards the lights.

Review Local Govn. Financial Sustainability

The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) will assess local government finances to tackle rising costs and ensure sustainability. They'll engage with councils and the public to produce a report for the Government by mid-2025. Draft review terms are open for public feedback until March 15 at www.haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/local-government-tor.

Your Local B Ward Councillors:

Jessica Clark 0421 451 716

jessica.clark@dungog.nsw.gov.au

Steve Iow 4996 4022

steve.iow49@gmail.com

VISION 2030 PLAN
Dr David GILLESPIE MP
Federal Member for Lyne
He Listens. He Cares. He Delivers.

In updating our Vision 2030 Plan for the area, I'm seeking your ideas about local projects important to you.

Fill out the survey in the mail, visit **davidgillespie.com.au** or scan this QR Code

Wauchope: 📍 Shops 2&3, 43 High Street, Wauchope NSW 2446 📞 02 6586 4462
Taree: 📍 144 Victoria Street, Taree NSW 2430 📞 02 6557 8910
✉️ david.gillespie.mp@aph.gov.au 🌐 davidgillespie.com.au 📺 DavidGillespieMP

THE NATIONALS
for Regional Australia

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



Dave Layzell MP
MEMBER FOR UPPER HUNTER



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www.service.nsw.gov.au/campaign/savings-finder

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THE NATIONALS
for Regional NSW

From the Parson's Pen

I read a fascinating article recently in the Myall Coast 'News of the Area'. It was a valid attempt to provide a secular rationale behind what is important and makes us happy in life.

The author included a meme that is quite amusing on a superficial level, but underscores a deeper problem. I reproduce it here, *"The next time you dislike your life, remember it's all about perspective. I have a friend who reads two to three books each week, works out twice a day, has no financial worries and has people who want to have sex with him all the time. And yet he constantly complains about how much he hates being in prison."*

The author outlines a list of things he is convinced will ensure a happy fulfilled life centred around having friends who are available for us in our time of need. He calls them 'quality friends' – and claims they are the source of a perfect, safe and satisfying life. And yet at the end of the article one can't help feel empty. Why is that?

I'd argue it's because each one of those 'friends with benefits' may or may not be present, which adds to the stress of the situation. What if there's a falling out? Or one of them dies or is no longer on the scene to help? The absence of those friends has the capacity to unhinge the best of us, if that is where all our hope lies.

The article was about as good as it gets – that is, it was all the secular response can hope to achieve. Get friends (doesn't say how) who do stuff for you to make you feel fulfilled. The secular world cannot escape the prison of majoring merely in levels of personal individualistic satisfaction, a predisposition to a consumer mentality so to speak. Like the prisoner in the meme above, secularists are trapped in the limited perspective of the here and now, without true hope for an eternal future.

But there is more to what was presented. Christians are members of a citizenry, who gather together (and this is what the article really misses out on) **to serve others** who are serving us. Our horizontal relationships are a vital manifestation of our vertical relationship with God himself, and our identity, that which makes us who we are, that spiritual connection can never be severed by any means.

Absolutely we miss our Christian friends and grieve when they die, but not like those who have no hope because Jesus died and rose again, and those who have

believed will also rise again with him (1 Thessalonians 4:13,14). There is something totally unique, rich and attractive about the Christian community gathering together as his people, not just being served, but serving each other in self sacrificial ways. There is a joy and level of certainty the secular world has a hard time competing with, and from a spiritual and eternal perspective, isn't even in the race.

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

Rev Allan D Welch, Pastor
Clarence Town Presbyterian Church.

St. John's Anglican Church

36 Grey St, Clarence Town
Pastor: Rev Kimbalee Hodges

Service Times: Every Sunday, Holy Communion at 10am

The current church of St. John's, will be 118 years old this year. Quite an achievement for a small band of faithful worshippers, I think. Thank you to all who care the church and grounds in any way. Your efforts are very much appreciated.

I want to pass on our grateful thanks to Brian and Norma Pearce from our Parish's Bendolba Centre, who donated a load of gravel for the Glen William Cemetery driveway. It has made a great difference for those parishioners who visit the cemetery.

We had a lovely Pancake night on the 13th February with 30 people attending. Thank you to those who helped with the evening. We welcomed a new "cook" on the night, my great grandson, Caleb, who did a great job for his first night and he seemed to be enjoying himself too. Well done Caleb. The toppings provided were delicious with a comment from a parishioner that they were the best he had tasted.

Our prayers and sympathy to the Gorton family with the passing of Larry. Also to the Leayr family at the passing of Noel, and the Evans family at the passing of Terry and to any others who are mourning the loss of loved-ones. May God give you comfort and peace and we are so sorry for your loss.

With Lent being early this year, our Harvest Festival will be on Sunday 10th March following our 10am service. The proceeds from the auction of produce and cooking will go to Missions, as usual. This is a great event for a great cause, so do come along and join in. Any donations of produce or cooking will be much appreciated.

Sue Flannery

Christ Church, Dungog

Dowling Street, Dungog

Service Times: Every Friday 10.30am, Sunday 8.30am

Sunday night service: 4th Sunday of every month at 5pm

Exciting news! Our Church hall is finally getting a new roof after years of preparation. Let's hope for dry weather as the work progresses.

The Op Shop is open every Friday 8.30am to 2pm, except on Good Friday, opening instead on Thurs 28th. Also, don't forget our Markets on the 1st Sat of each month from 8am.

Our next Mother's Union meeting is on Thurs March 14th, at 1 pm in our Church Hall. All are welcome. Mother's Union is a global organisation supporting mothers through the challenges and joys of family life.

Join us for a combined service on March 17th at 9am in Christ Church, followed by our Parish AGM at 10.30am in the hall, with lunch at Dungog RSL.

Join us for a Garage Sale on Sat April 13th at 78 Mary St Dungog, featuring electrical goods, tools and more. Also, don't miss Cuppa-N-Chat every Friday in our Church hall from 9.30 to 11am – everyone is welcome!

Margaret Flannery

St. Patrick's Catholic Church

41 Rifle St, Clarence Town

Pastor: Rev Andrew Doohan

Service Times: Every Sunday 8am

The Easter Season, believe it or not, is fast approaching. Shrove Tuesday, as usual at the Anglican Church Hall, hosted by our Anglican brothers and sisters in Christ, and what a great job they do. The pancakes are delicious!

This was followed, on Ash Wednesday morning, by Mass at 8am at St. Patrick's together with the signing on the forehead with the Holy Ashes. We are also holding a Lenten discussion group each Thursday evening during Lent, commencing at 5.30pm for about 1 hour. All welcome.

Praise the Lord for the lovely rain we have had recently. Hopefully more will come. My garden is very grateful. May this Holy Season bring us all blessings and happiness.

We also welcome Deacon Solomon who is staying at Dungog Presbytery for 12 months as he studies towards priesthood. We pray that God will bless his journey.

In Christ, Marilyn Amos

Clarence Town Presbyterian Church

29 Marshall Street, Clarence Town

Pastor: Rev Allan D. Welch

Service Times: 10am Every Sunday

We've been diving into the later chapters of Genesis and exploring the Joseph narrative, witnessing God's hand at work in inspiring ways.

Despite our experiences, whether blessings or challenges, it's comforting to remember that the Creator is orchestrating His will for our well-being and eternal prosperity.

At CTPC, we hold bi-monthly services that include the Lord's Supper, a remembrance where we follow Jesus' instructions by partaking in bread and wine. Following the service, we enjoy a fellowship lunch, fostering community beyond Sunday formalities.

As Easter approaches, join us for a Good Friday service on March 29th at 10am and an Easter Sunday service on March 31st at 10am. Everyone is welcome!

Mainly Music resumed on Feb 7th and runs every Wed during school terms. To register, please contact Mrs. Lesia Bignill, our Coordinator at 0419 205 755.

In Christ, Rev Allan D. Welch 0402 387 690

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Clarence Town Primary Public School

New School Bus and Celebrations Ahead!

We've had a fantastic start to the school year with everyone settling in smoothly at Clarence Town Public School.

Our enrolment stands at a healthy 150 students, including 30 Kindergarteners and 5 from other grades. A warm welcome to all new and existing families as we anticipate a year of learning and growth.

Exciting news! Transport NSW approved a school bus for Clarence Town Public School after years of collaboration with Sheltons Bus Service and NSW Transport. Now, residents can live in Clarence Town and catch a bus to their local school. Currently, 52 students from 37 families use one of the three bus routes giving families more enrolment options in public education.

Our academic year is off to a strong start, focusing on Reading, Numeracy, High Potential and Gifted Education, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education, Science and Environmental Studies.

Our successful bee program yielded 7kg of golden honey over the holidays. We're now planting our gardens for another bountiful harvest, providing opportunities for cooking and promoting healthy food choices.

Our Student Leadership Program is thriving with Shea Egan and Jordynn Martin as Captains, and Laura Bagnall and James Hile as Student Leaders. Our Sport House Captains were elected and led at our recent swimming carnival. We've also acknowledged our Sound Room Monitor, and upcoming assemblies will honor our Computer Monitors, Library Monitors and Junior AECG leaders.

Last week, we hosted our annual swimming carnival with our students showcasing great performance and admirable behaviour! We have a team of 5 students going to the Zone Carnival: Matilda Booth, Piper McColl, Mali Metham, Jordynn Martin and Evie Gentle.

Plans for our 175th Celebration are in progress, with a school committee meeting to establish a timeline and collaborate with the Progress Society for town-wide festivities. We're excited to honour our school's achievements and anticipate the future. Please contact us if you have memorabilia to contribute.

Louise Blakemore, Principal. Phone: 4996 4156

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Glen William Primary Public School

New Syllabus & Daily Reviews...

Welcome back to school for 2024! It's heartening to witness the growth of our students and the smiles that have filled the first two days.

A warm welcome to our new families and Kindergarten students; we understand this can be a nervous time. At Glen William, our staff prioritize nurturing and prioritize student well-being.

This year, we're implementing the new 3-6 syllabus for English and Mathematics. Our dedicated staff have spent the last twelve months adapting to these changes and finding the best ways to implement them. Additionally, our students will engage in Daily Reviews for Mathematics, a program I'm proud to lead across the Hunter Network of schools.

At Glen William Public School we strive to provide high quality inclusive education where all students are challenged in a supportive environment to achieve their

personal best. Through the provision of educational experiences we remain connected to culture. High expectations and a strong community supports student well-being and increases individual success in literacy and numeracy.

In the coming weeks we will be opening our Outside of School Care through the provider Thrive Kids. If you are wanting to enrol your child into before or after school care please phone the office on 4996 5507.

Crunch & Sip® is a time for students to 'refuel' on vegetables, salad and fruit and 'rehydrate' with water. Students who are not hungry and are well hydrated perform better in the classroom, show increased concentration, and are less likely to be irritable and disruptive. Student's have this daily after PE. Breakfast Club will also run every day this year.


The students at Glen William will be doing Frisbee for Sport this Term.

We are taking Enrolments for 2024. Please contact the school office for an information pack, visit the school website to complete an online enrolment.

Phone: 4996 5507

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

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Matty from Glen Oak	0407 151 946
Dylon from Medowie	0466 694 540
Ryan from Medowie	0431 100 177

Community Contacts

Country Women's: Carol Johnstone	0438 213 477
Clarence Town Scouts: Robyn Keller	4996 4061
Fire Permits Clarence Town	4996 4454
Fire Permits Flat Tops: Brian Atkins	0457 979 073
Lions Club: Bill Pitkin	0448 428 087
Neighbourcare Bus	4992 3348
School of Arts Hall: Michael Duffy	0420 757 656

Church Contacts

Anglican: Pastoral Ministry	0491 007 193
Dungog Baptist	4992 2122
Dungog Uniting: Joy Shelton	4992 1508
Presbyterian: Allan Welch	4025 5638
Roman Catholic:	4992 1477

Medical/Health Contacts

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Prince Street Surgery	4009 5991
Clarence Town Pharmacy	4996 3300
Health Services	4931 2003
Beyond Blue	1300 224 636
Lifeline	13 11 14
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