



CLARENCE TOWN • GLEN OAK • GLEN MARTIN • GLEN WILLIAM • LIMEBURNERS CREEK • WALLAROBBA • BROOKFIELD

Join the Fun - 175 Years of Education in the Making!

Join us on September 14th as we celebrate 175 years of education in Clarence Town and Glen William!

The roots of schooling in our community trace back to William Lowe, who established a small school at Deptford Shipyard to educate his children and those of his workers. As the settlement grew, several small schools emerged, leading to the founding of Clarence Town Public School in September 1849.

Glen William Public School also shares a rich history. According to their history, they first opened in May – though “Government Schools of New South Wales 1848-1983” by J. Fletcher and J. Burnswoods states the

date as being September 1849. After opening its doors to the children of Glen William, the school remained a full-time public school until September 1873, when it briefly closed. It reopened as a half-time school with Brookfield in April 1874, continuing in that capacity until September 1876, when it once again became a full-time public school. These schools have played a vital role in shaping our community, making this milestone all the more significant.

With both schools having such a long history of education it is only fitting that we as a community celebrate such a feat. The celebration kicks off at 9am with markets, followed by a street parade at 10am starting from the Green at the bottom of Grey Street. Enjoy activities, games, and sports throughout the day.

For more details and to grab a program, visit the information gazebo at the markets. Don't miss out on this historic event!

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Rainfall Report* (mls)

2024

July 46.6
June 94.8
May 166.8
April 140.4
March 68.8
Feb 98
Jan 66.2

2023

Dec 132.2
Nov 81.4
Oct 97.2
Sept 11.2
Aug 60.7
July 42.9

* Source: BOM, Clarence Town Rainfall Station 061010

ADVERTISE WITH

ANNUAL DISCOUNT

20%

*See back page for pricing, sizing and inclusions

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

Celebrating 175 Years

Join us on September 14th for a day of festivities to celebrate Clarence Town & Glen William Public Schools 175th Anniversary.

The day will feature a range of activities beginning with a Street Parade at 10 am. Starting at the Village Green and proceeding up and down Grey St.

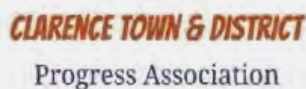
There will be all day markets at the Bowling club starting at 9am until 4pm.

Lego building activity in the School of Arts from 11am.

Petting Farm and Pony Rides
Nurf Gun Wars, Jousting, Jumping Castle, Mini Putt Putt Golf, Mini Merry Go Round, Laughing Clowns, Carriage Rides, and Camel Rides.

Victorian Games and Old School Sports.

Demonstrations and more.



From the Sentinel Editorial Team,

First off, a massively overdue but heartfelt thank you to Danny Shaw, his family, and the Shaw Bakery crew for 22 delicious years in Clarence Town! And let's not forget his parents, who kept the bakery across from the hardware store before him. Your dedication and service have been a cherished part of our community, and we are truly grateful for all you've contributed. Thank you!

Well... what a wild couple of months it's been! If you thought the weather was chilly, you're not alone – winter certainly arrived and brought its A-game. Temperatures have dropped faster than your phone signal during the Telstra outage.

With a rogue house frame making its own debut, the Teddy Bears' Picnic and a student horse parade through Clarence Town – things have been anything but dull. Toss in a tennis trivia night where even the rackets were stumped, the Le Tour Glen William bike ride that turned our streets into a peloton parade, and the community master planning meetings – it's safe to say boredom wasn't on the agenda!

Don't forget to vote at the or you'll be up for that dreaded \$55 fine. Last election, Councillor John Connors was re-elected unopposed as Mayor, but this year he has several challengers. Check out the ads from John and three of his contenders inside.

There's plenty coming up – get involved, pitch in, and help make Clarence Town and its surroundings a community we're proud to call home!"

Until next time x Cathy Schneider

Community Events Calendar

Welcome to the heart of Clarence Town! Discover local happenings, cultural events and opportunities.

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

SEPTEMBER

Sun 1st **Father's Day** – Celebrate the special people in your life who play a fatherly role!

Wed 4th - Sun 8th **The Annual Dungog Tea Party:** Tea cosy and trivet competition, Trivia Night, Mad Hatter's Tea Party, and more! For details, visit facebook.com/DungogTeaParty

Sat 7th **Spring Clean Markets** at Wallarobba Hall. Check their Facebook page for details.

Fri 13th 8.30am: **Celebrate 175 Years of Education with Clarence Town Public School.** Including a smoking ceremony, assembly and morning tea.

11am: **Celebrate Glen William Public School's 175th anniversary** with a ceremony, vintage games, picnic lunch and student showcase. RSVP for catering at gwps175@outlook.com

5.30pm: **'Back to School' Trivia Night** hosted by Clarence Town Public School. To book: eventbrite.com.au/e/back-to-school-trivia-night-fundraiser-tickets-883830790687

Sat 14th 10am: **'Celebrating 175 years' street parade, markets and activities** hosted by the Clarence Town Progress Assoc. Events Committee.

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE – Local government elections to elect the mayor and councillors.

Sun 22nd 10am - 2pm: **RFS Open Day** at Clarence Town RFS Station (25 Grey St). For more details, visit: facebook.com/clarencetownruralfirebrigade

Sat 28th From 9am: **Spring Fair** hosted by and located at the Clarence Town Courthouse Museum.

8am-12pm: **Clarence Town Markets**, hosted by the Lion's Club. Clarence Town Bowling Club.

OCTOBER

Sat 12th **Oktoberfest** at Wallarobba Hall. Check their Facebook page for details.

Clarence Town & District Historical Museum Assoc.

Curiosity and Community Building

Clarence Town Public School had a wonderful excursion to the Museum.

The students were inquisitive, polite, and completed school worksheets which kept them busy searching for various items in the museum. As usual, the well behind the Courthouse drew much interest, as did the locked machinery shed, where the corn shredder is kept – and still very much in working order!

Committee members attended the Upper Hunter Community Builders Program at Gloucester (for many the 3rd such meeting) and by the time you read this will have met again at Paterson, aiming to unite local volunteer groups and strengthen networks. The diversity of existing volunteer groups and interests across Dungog Shire is truly extraordinary.

The museum is planning a Spring Fair in September and an Arts Event in November—watch this space!

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

Clarence Town Op Shop and Treasure Centre

New Fashions, Farewells & Volunteer Call..

Our Spring and Summer fashions will be available from Wednesday, 4th September so get in early to browse through them.

Thank you so much to our retiring volunteers, Cynthia and Ruth. You have given many, many years of faithful service to our Op Shop and to the community. You will be greatly missed.

We're now in need of 2 or more volunteers to come from 9am to noon on a Wednesday, every 6 weeks. If you can lend a hand, please drop by for a chat.

8 ply wool is required for knitters (scraps acceptable) – also stamps for missions, and ring pulls. We also sell 10kg bags of white or coloured rag at only \$22 inc gst. Thanks to all our customers - your support means everything to us! Keep warm and dry. Blessings.

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



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Clarence Town Lions Club Report

From the Lion's Den



Lions love to support local communities and charitable endeavours. This month we thought we'd share some ideas on how you can help in little ways that can mean so much for others:

- Donations of pre loved glasses (**eyewear**) can be dropped off at Clarence Town Medical Centre in Grey Street or Clarence Town Bowls Club.
- Trying to **declutter or repurpose with good will** in mind? Consider posting on local social media pages like Buy Nothing Seaham/Raymond Terrace/Paterson/Clarence Town, NSW.
- **Attend a local meeting** with Lions or the Progress Association and share your ideas.
- **Volunteer your time** with Meals on Wheels, Clarence Town Lions, ADSSI Dungog and District Neighbourcare, or the Clarence Town Seniors Group.
- **Visit or donate** to Aussie Ark at the Barrington Tops who are focused on both animal and plant conservation efforts.
- **Plant** native trees and support local nurseries to boost our community environment.
- **Check in** with your neighbour and ask the question, "Are you okay?"

We can make a difference with all the small things that we do. Being kind costs nothing but is incredibly rewarding both for those who give and those who receive.

The Clarence Town Markets are held on the last Saturday of each month. Upcoming dates are August 31st and September 28th. In case of rain, the Markets will move to the Hall of Arts opposite IGA.

Upcoming events

- Father's Day Raffle draw is on Saturday, August 31st. Tickets will be sold outside IGA on August 17th and at the Markets on the 31st.
- Next year Clarence Town Lions Club will be celebrating their 30th Anniversary. Stay tuned for more about this over the coming months!

New members are welcome to come to the monthly meeting at the Clarence Town Bowls Club, held on the second Tuesday of every month at 6pm.

Ms Trudy Balstad, Public Officer

Follow us on Facebook: @Clarence Town Lions Club

20 Years Strong: Crafting & solving the world's problems

Fibreholics Clarence Town is celebrating two decades of crafting together. Starting as a small group of spinners and knitters at Glen William Scout Hall, the group has since grown and now meets every Tuesday between 10.30am and 2.30pm, at the Anglican Church Hall in Clarence Town.

Even COVID couldn't stop them from meeting—following all the rules, they gathered outside in parks and on the Museum grounds, bringing their own chairs and maintaining the required distance from each other.

While some members have moved on and new ones have joined, 20 years later, they are still spinning, knitting, crocheting, sewing, and solving the world's problems (as women do)!

New members are always welcomed. Just drop in any Tuesday or phone: Katherine Pitkin 0448 428 087 or Jill Harris 0427 372 909.

DO YOU ENJOY

- MEETING NEW PEOPLE
- PLAYING CARDS
- DOING CRAFT

AND HAVING AN AMAZING LUNCH?

CLARENCE TOWN SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTRE

is

Open every Tuesday for morning tea and lunch from 9.00am

Contact Owen Giggins mob: 0409 603995 for details

Clarence Town First Responders (CFR)

CFR Marks 8 Years in the Community!

As you read this we are celebrating 8 years of service to our greater Clarence Town community.

Our newest recruits are progressing through their training to become fully accredited team members. Anyone wanting to know more about our CFR, what we do and how you can get involved, please give me a call.

Brad Elloy, CFR Coordinator 0417 651 577







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4992 3348



Clarence Town Pharmacy

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.

Order medication from your phone



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Clarence Town Tennis Club

Aces All Around: Thanks for a Trivia Night to Remember!

Hi everyone. Let me just start by saying thanks to the Club committee, Claro Bowling Club, Maria's Bistro and every person who attended our Tennis Club Trivia night on the 10th of August. Such a fun night was had by all. Can't wait till next year.

Our Spring night competition is starting in Term three and I look forward to seeing lots of players hitting the tennis court. Very social with a great mix of abilities and fun.

Hot shots is continuing on Saturday mornings with our young ones and with other sports finishing up we are hoping for the return of some of our friends.

Brad (0417 651 577)

Gai (0419 600 219)



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
Bingo! 6:30pm start, \$12 for 20 games & 2 jackpot sheets

THURSDAY- Bingo 11:30am start, \$12 for 20 games & 2 jackpot sheets

FRIDAY - Meat & Voucher Raffles, Members Draw & Live Music
(tickets on sale at 6pm and drawn at 7pm)

SATURDAY - Meat Raffles
(tickets on sale at 2pm & drawn at 4pm)

LAST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH - Meat & Voucher Raffles + Members Draw
(tickets on sale at 5pm and drawn at 6pm)

HAPPY HOUR - Wednesday & Thursday 4-6pm & Saturday 2-4pm

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



Maria's Kitchen Opening Hours:
Lunch: 12:00-2:00 Thursday- Sunday
Dinner: 5:30-8:00 Tuesday- Sunday

Courtesy Bus runs Every Friday & Saturday from 5pm! \$5 per person return trip, call the club and follow the prompts to book a ride!

Clarence Town Post Office



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CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR INFORMATION AND REGULAR UPDATES!



A ride through time to celebrate 175 years!

Since 1849, Clarence Town Public School has welcomed generations of students through its doors. To honour this history, school students on Friday 28th June staged a horse ride to school, reflecting the mode of transport many past students and staff would have used prior to the advent of motor vehicles.

The students on horseback rode past several historic landmark buildings that still stand in Grey Street including the Courthouse Museum, School of Arts Hall along with the former post office and butcher's buildings. However, the sight of horse riders along the streets is not unusual for this rural town, as some locals even now often ride their horses to school!

Official celebrations for commemorating 175 years of continuous public education at Clarence Town Public School will culminate during Term 3. Community and alumni are all invited to attend the official assembly on **Friday 13th September** at the school, with gates open

from 8.30am. The day will include a smoking ceremony, unveiling of the engraved paver's and a presentation assembly, concluding with a cake cutting and morning tea.

Afterwards, Join us at Glen William PS for a picnic lunch at 11am, followed by a community celebration at noon, a formal ceremony at 1pm, and afternoon tea at 2pm.

The evening will be topped off with Clarence Town P&C's 'Back to School' trivia night fundraiser at the Bowling Club from 5.30pm. Community and alumni are invited for a fun-filled evening of trivia, games and prizes, in support of our growing local school. Bring your friends and family for a night of friendly competition and laughter. Tickets available via Eventbrite.

To round off the weekend, Clarence Town Progress Association are hosting a community day and street parade from 10am on **Saturday 14th September**. Alumni are welcome to march alongside our school cohort and enjoy the festivities celebrating 175 years of education.

Head to the Clarence Town Public School P&C Facebook page to stay updated with the latest details.

Below left: Students recreate the past with horseback ride to school. Below right: Students on horseback in front of the original Clarence Town school buildings. Credit: Shannon Richmond Photography.



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New South Wales Rural Fire Service

Stay Safe and Legal: Essential Tips for Backyard Pile Burns

Due to an increase in call outs to backyard pile burns over the past few months we would like to offer these handy hints before you light up.

Pile burning is permitted **without** a permit between 1st April – 30th September **unless otherwise stipulated by the NSW RFS.**

Everything is the same as during the fire season except you don't need the permit.

You will need to do the following:

- Contact NSW Rural Fire Service Lower Hunter Fire Control on 4015 0000 24 hours before you light up.
- Alert all neighbours 24 hours before you light up, this also includes neighbours across roads or rivers.
- An adult must be with the fire until it's totally extinguished. **DO NOT LEAVE IT!**
- You must have enough water at the ready to extinguish the fire if necessary
- Check the weather to make sure there are no strong winds forecast.
- Check to make sure it's not a Total Fire Ban Day.

TO BURN DURING FIRE SEASON (1st October – 31st March unless otherwise stipulated by the NSW RFS) you will require a permit.

Contact Clarence Town Brigade on 4996 4454 if you require permit information. Remember that all RFS

Firefighters are Volunteers so don't leave it until the last minute to ring for a permit or you may be disappointed.

IF YOU DO NOT PROVIDE NOTIFICATION TO THE NEIGHBOURS AND THE RFS, YOUR NEIGHBOURS MAY CALL 000 TO REPORT YOUR FIRE AND THE LOCAL FIRE AUTHORITY MAY TAKE ACTION.

Make sure you are aware of the standards for pile burning -Your brigade will have copies of this standard.

If your council is identified as Part 1 (commonly densely populated areas), then open burning is prohibited unless you obtain an approval from the NSW Environment Protection Authority. Ring your Council or go online to check on this.

Dungog and Port Stephens Councils spells out their burning policies here:

www.dungog.nsw.gov.au/live/open-burning-dungog-shire-council-area

www.portstephens.nsw.gov.au/services/community-safety (you need to scroll right down to the bottom for this link).

Property owners should be aware that the continual heavy rains have made access by RFS vehicles to properties problematic.

If you are planning to burn, make sure you have prepared the site and assets are in place to contain your fire within the prescribed area.

Despite the saturated ground, cured grass burns easily and fire spreads quickly. The owner could be legally liable for damage to neighbouring properties.

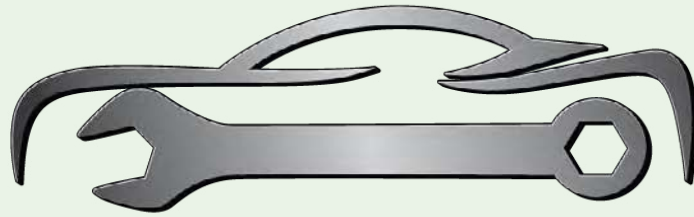
PREPARE, ACT, SURVIVE.

Stay safe until next time, Di Bennett OAM

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

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Dungog Council Report

Building the Future: Bridge and Growth Strategy in Motion...

New Clarence Town Bridge

Council expects to issue the bridge design and construction contract before Christmas, with work starting early next year and taking about two years. As part of this project, funding has been reserved to rehabilitate Limeburners Creek Road from the new bridge to the intersection with Glen Martin Road.

Fortunately, the recent traffic incident that closed the Brig O'Johnston Bridge caused no structural damage and Transport for NSW will continue holding off its complete restoration until the new bridge is completed.

Clarence Town a Future Growth Area

The NSW Government has provided grants totalling \$246,000 for Council to prepare a Structural Plan and Flood Study for Clarence Town and District.

Ethos Urban was awarded the main contract for this work, and after initial preparations, community

consultation occurred in August. A Draft Document will be exhibited in December/January to meet the March 2025 grant deadline.

Also, the Federal Government has accepted Council's request for a \$1.895 million grant to develop a shire-wide Growth Management Strategy and Infrastructure Delivery Program to address the community's needs over the next 20 years. The grant, the third largest awarded, will fund key planning documents like the Rural Lands Strategy and the Dungog Shire Infrastructure Plan. Community consultation will occur before these documents are exhibited and adopted. They will also address government targets for new housing, requiring an increase from 50 to 125 homes annually to meet the NSW goal of 2,400 by 2040. Council will seek additional grants to address infrastructure needs.

Your Local B Ward Councillors:

Jessica Clark 0421 451 716

jessica.clark@dungog.nsw.gov.au

Steve Low 4996 4022 steve.low49@gmail.com

It has been an honour serving our community and we hope to continue doing so after the local government election on the 14th September. There is much more that we hope to achieve...

WORK ON THE WILLIAMS RIVER EROSION MANAGEMENT

Hunter Water is working to stabilise eroding river banks on the Williams River, between Seaham and Clarence Town, to help prevent further erosion and improve water quality.

Work includes using logs, rocks and vegetation to help protect the river banks, weed removal and installation of stock management fencing.

Temporary boating restrictions will be in place to help ensure the work zone is safe.

Please use caution and follow the directions of signs, markers and buoys.



For enquiries please phone 0482 471 406 (business hours), email seahamweirpool@hunterwater.com.au or visit hunterwater.com.au



IT'S TIME FOR POSITIVE CHANGE

AS MAYOR I WILL:



Bring a fresh, proven collaborative leadership style



Focus on efficiency, effectiveness and a CAN DO attitude for Dungog Council



Work to attract investment into the Shire.



Build on our successes and champion the enormous potential of Dungog Shire



Continue to work on funding for our infrastructure backlog and build on our current progress.



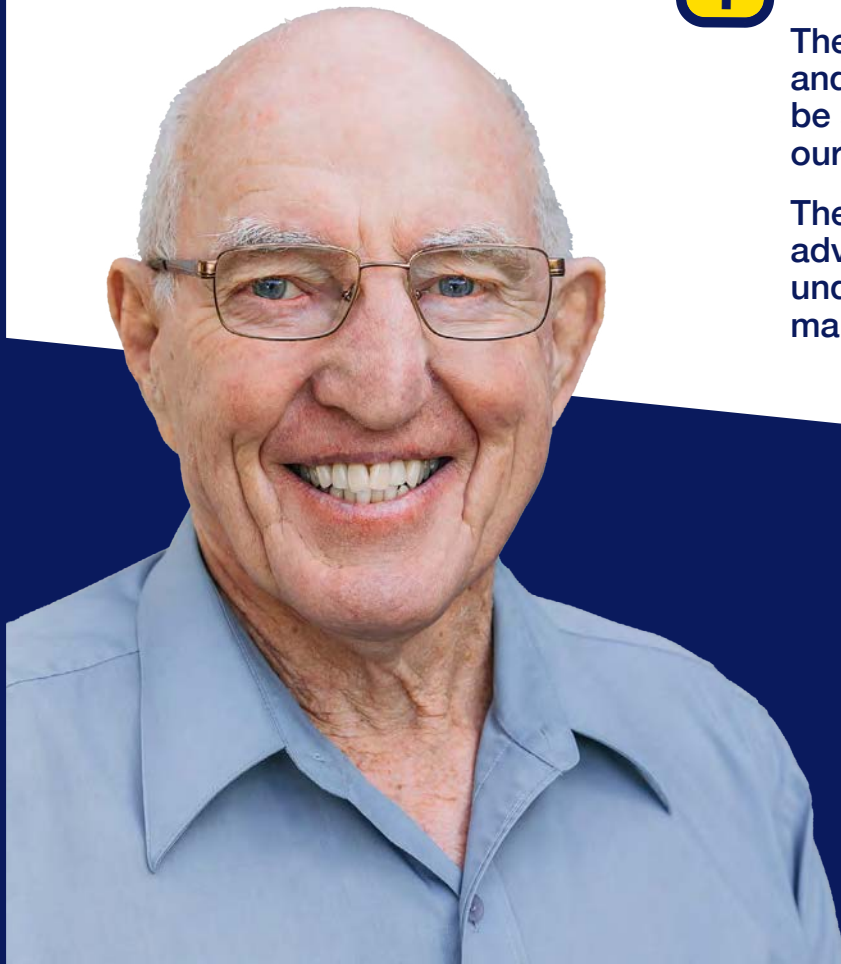
Encourage working together through collaboration and community building



Create community stakeholder reference groups.

These will enable rate payers and community members to be actively involved in shaping our future.

They will provide invaluable advice and opinions which will underpin councils decision making process.



VOTE 1 DIGBY RAYWARD FOR MAYOR

Paid Promotion

Vote 1 Karen Drinan, Dungog Mayor And Ward B Councillor

Who am I? I've lived in Clarence Town for 5 years with my husband Chris and our large blended family with 5 children.

I grew up in the Hunter before attending University and then joining the Australian Federal Police (AFP) where I worked for 13 years in various roles. During this time I also deployed to Timor Leste (formerly East Timor) as a Peacekeeper.

When my children were young I moved to a more family friendly role with NSW Government before starting my own childcare company with the aim of providing child care for shift working parents. I've now been running that company for 11 years and I employ over 35 people.

For the last 20 or so years I have also held various temporary electoral roles (NSWEC and AEC) including as Returning Officer. In these roles I was responsible for recruiting and employing up to 500 people, training and managing staff, managing resources and budgets and ensuring the elections ran smoothly and legally.

Last year I realised I missed serving the community and helping others so I joined the Clarence Town Rural Fire Service and I'm now a qualified volunteer Fire Fighter and trainee Community First Responder (volunteer Ambulance). I have also recently joined Disaster Relief Australia and am deployment ready should we be required to respond to a domestic disaster.

Why am I running for Council? I was disappointed when our Mayor ran unopposed at the last election and vowed to myself that would not happen again. I have always had an interest in politics from an early age and I believe that I am at a point in my life now that I have the time; business knowledge and personal life experience to contribute. I've built my company with an amazing team that now allows me to step back and pursue things that I am passionate about – volunteering with the RFS and DRA; volunteering in Timor Leste; becoming more involved in my local community and council area; and hopefully serve as part of our local council.

What am I passionate about?

- Sharing this beautiful area with the rest of the world, encouraging tourism, business, events and industry
- Fight for essential services including; better roads and infrastructure; and affordable housing



- Support our youth through engagement, education, employment, sporting and community involvement; support and recognise our community volunteers.
- Explore how we can better support and engage the vulnerable members of our community – such as our older population, those with physical or mental health issue and young people
- Support & encourage existing and future businesses
- Cutting unnecessary costs and waste and balancing environmental considerations with community needs

Why should you vote for me? I understand the importance of team work, consultation, people skills and honesty and these are attributes I practice in all aspects of my life. I have vast experience in managing people, budgets and resources through my various professional roles and personally through raising a large family. I'm the first to admit if I make a mistake or if I don't know something. I realise I can't be an expert on everything so I'm open to learning new things, researching or studying and asking for assistance from experts. I'm also a very determined, driven and passionate person who will bring fresh ideas, an open mind and a strong voice and who is not easily intimidated nor afraid to fight for what our community deserves.

I know change takes time, all our issues can't be solved overnight, though if want change we need new faces, new ideas and new energy.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/karen.drinan.for.dungog.mayor.and.ward.b

Instagram @karen_drinan_for_dungog_mayor

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- Commercial Pest Mangement
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From the Parson's Pen

The world it seems, is always in a mess of one kind or another. From race riots in the UK, the war in Ukraine, the dreadful attacks by Hamas (which in Hebrew interestingly is the word for 'violence') on Israel and the subsequent military conflict that has ensued in Gaza as a result; the rumblings of a wider war increases.

And keeping all that aside, we have the ever-present threat of natural disasters that still echo in our minds from recent times, so yes it seems there is a mess in the world. So messy in fact, some may be tempted to doubt the goodness of God, or that he even exists. But both the existence of war and natural disaster are poor arguments against the existence of God. Neither are they evidence that characterises God as mad or bad. When we experience suffering and pain from what some might call 'seemingly meaningless natural carnage,' or experience the ravages of warfare, it does not mean there is no sense to be made in these things happening at all.

This comment is not to diminish the very real trauma that people experience through these events, they hurt - and their affects are felt deeply (sometimes leaving scars for life, both physical and psychological), but seeing these events themselves as evidence for an unloving, insane or non-existent God is flawed reasoning. The Christian view accepts that God indeed has control over all things, and by his love the vast majority of our days are held together without such calamities (a point often overlooked; see Colossians 1:17), restraining evil as it were.

In the beginning God created the world, and everything in it was very good. (Genesis 1:1) When sin entered the world through the first act of human disobedience, it was not just our relationships between God and each other that suffered. All creation suffered with them. This corruption has led to God at times allowing certain natural disasters to come on the world for different reasons. Sometimes it is judgment on his people for wandering away, and to call them back (Deuteronomy 11:17; James 5:17 drought, Numbers 16:13-34 God caused sink holes).

Other times it is allowing the world to reflect on the serious consequences of sin on our relationships, in a

very similar way that he allows evil people to commit evil acts, including those situations where evil regimes are responsible for igniting wars of aggression and terrorism.

Many would be feeling the very real need to cry out as the Prophet Habakkuk, "How long, O LORD, must I call for help, but you do not listen? Or cry out to you, "Violence!" but you do not save?"

Also, Paul writing to the Romans in chapter 8:19-21 says, "...For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God."

The fact that natural disasters and wars cause widespread carnage, destruction and suffering, is demonstrating a deadly point - the seriousness of sin. But it also (mercifully) points us to the one, the saviour who defeats sin. Jesus Christ.

The coming of our Lord Jesus Christ set in motion a renewal that redeems all of creation.

Salvation has come into the world, not only saving people from sin, but from all the other side effects that sin introduced. Through faith in Jesus Christ the Son of Man, his life, death, resurrection, ascension and his promised return we look forward to a great and wonderful future.

Great because it will mean the renewal of all things in this world. For the time being creation groans as a woman in child birth. (Romans 8:22) We see this played out through all manner of natural disasters, actual wars and rumours of wars. These too, should give us pause to consider our own fragile mortality, what lies beyond, and what God might actually be communicating to us through them. He is calling loudly to us. And on that day, when the Lord Jesus returns, we shall have a new heaven and a new earth! The old one will have passed away along with its wars, Jesus will wipe every tear from every eye, death and hades themselves will be cast into hell (Rev. 20:14), and we shall find ultimate and eternal peace in the presence of God.

God is neither mad nor bad, but gracious and loving and has provided a brilliant future for those who respond to his call to have faith in him.

Rev Allan D Welch
Clarence Town Presbyterian Church
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Authorised by D. Gillespie, National Party of Australia, Shops 2&3, 43 High Street, Wauchope NSW 2446.

St. John's Anglican Church

36 Grey St, Clarence Town
 Pastor: Rev Kimbalee Hodges

Service Times: Every Sunday, Holy Communion at 10am

I think everyone will be looking forward to September and Spring. Also in September, our town will be celebrating 175 years of education with Glen William and Clarence Town Schools and a day of special events to support them. Keep an eye out in this edition of the Sentinel for information on these events.

At St. John's, we have been going through the book of Revelations recently. Some people over the years, have said they are afraid of it, but we are so blessed to have Reverend Kimbalee, who is a gifted speaker and a gifted teacher and she was able to explain the content so that even someone like me could begin to understand.

Our Diocese will be joining with other Diocese through Australia, promoting Hope25 which is a project seeking to empower Australian Anglican parishes and communities in an intentional season of sharing hope in Jesus, and it will occur from Easter to Pentecost in 2025 (20th April to 8th June, 2025).

If you are interested in knowing more about this, you can gain more information at hope25.com.au. We all need hope in our lives, don't we? It can inspire and transform lives and communities.

If you are in need of prayer or pastoral assistance, please don't hesitate to contact us on 0491 007 193.

Also our hall is available for hire. Please contact Barrie on 4996 4174 to arrange that.

Sue Flannery

St. Patrick's Catholic Church

41 Rifle St, Clarence Town
 Pastor: Rev Andrew Doohan


Service Times: Every Sunday 8am

In August, Father Andrew has been on a well-deserved vacation. For these four weeks, Di and Kerri have expertly handled the 'church service' in place of Mass. They are a well-oiled team and all went very smoothly – thank you ladies.

We have had our share of our dear church family missing over the past 5 – 6 weeks due to various bugs floating around. We wish them all a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing them back ASAP. There are also other parishioners having major surgery and treatments, and we pray for them also.

Our church grounds are slowly drying out, thank goodness and August was a special month for us as we remembered the Assumption of Our Lady on August 15th. We pray that the turmoil in the world will stop and pray for peace.

In God's love, Marilyn Amos



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Clarence Town Presbyterian Church

29 Marshall Street, Clarence Town

Pastor: Rev Allan D. Welch

Service Times: 10am Gathered Worship every Sunday.

From the pulpit we are well into our series on Paul's letter to the Philippians, where we are encouraged by the magnificent joy we find in being part of the fellowship of the Gospel!

Mainly Music (every Wed), SRE (Fri) and Growth Groups (Tue evenings – Bible study on Philippians currently) are all well underway again. Giving thanks to God for a new SRE teacher at Clarence Town Public School – welcome aboard Bruce!

The service leader training day went well on 3 July with participants discussing what it takes to be a good service leader. Then there was the Basecamp men's conference on 3rd August at UNSW Sydney. The theme was Building Brotherhood. Do you have someone you can call at 3am when things are rough? It was a great reminder for us blokes that as image bearers, we too are made for relationships. The more we can imbibe the brotherhood of Jesus, the more we will be able to have a brotherhood with others who will always be there for you!

The Teaching and Training for Women event is on at CTPC on Sat 14th September 9am-1pm. The theme this year is 'Reading for Meaning.' Please contact Leanne Welch for details 0428 549 792.

The men's Recharge event is on again this year (Sat 14th Sep, 9am-3pm – Grace Evangelical Church, Glendale). This year's theme 'How does the cross reinvent where power is found?' Please contact Allan for details and car-pooling if needed: 0402 387 690 or visit www.hgm.org.au recharge for further info.

"And what does the LORD require of you? To do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God."
Micah 6:8

In Christ, Rev Allan D. Welch 0402 387 690

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

We have been busy as usual, with Services, Op Shop etc. We thank all who continue to donate

to our Op Shop and come and purchase the goods.

We got to hold our outdoor Markets in August with 22 stallholders coming. They were all happy to come as for the last few months very few markets have been held. Our next Markets will be held on Saturday 7th September and Saturday 5th October which is the long weekend. **Stall enquiries to Margaret on 0427 921 839.** Our Church Services are on Friday 10.30am, Sunday 8.30am and the Fourth Sunday in Christ Church Hall at 5pm with Supper to follow. St Peter's Bendolba have a service on the First Sunday at 5pm with Supper that follows.

We also have Cuppa 'n Chat on Friday from 9.30 to 11am in Christ Church Hall, all welcome. As it says, it is a Cuppa and Chat with who turns up. Op Shop open each Friday 8.30am to 2pm and the First Saturday 8am to 1 pm.

Dungog will be celebrating all things Tea Cosy's and Trivets from 4th to 8th September at the James Theatre from 10am to 4pm. It's free entry so please come and have a look.

Margaret Flannery

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Spring Makeover: Breathe New Life into Your Yard...

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Tackle dead spots and address pesky weeds like clover and bindi by applying Lawn Repair and a good Weed and Feed. Use a targeted weed killer to eliminate selective intruders before they spread.

It's also an excellent time to aerate your lawn and don't forget to adjust your mowing schedule as your grass grows faster in the warmer months.

To boost garden health, use ActivGrow to enrich soil before planting. Fill pots or blend potting mix into garden beds for better aeration, and apply mulch around plants to retain moisture and enhance soil fertility. These steps will lay a strong foundation for your yard, ensuring it thrives and flourishes for seasons to come.

For more help with your garden and lawn needs, visit Clarence Town Home Hardware – Lana Batey

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Clarence Town Primary Public School

Education Week Highlights & 175th Anniversary Celebrations

On Monday 5th August, we kicked off Education Week with a day full of exciting activities and community engagement. We celebrated the occasion with a picnic lunch shared with families, followed by open classrooms where parents could see firsthand the fantastic work our students are doing.

The day was filled with nostalgia as students participated in old school games, wrapping up with a memorable assembly. During the assembly, we were treated to speeches by our students, and the day concluded with a dazzling Starstruck dance performance. **Congratulations to all our award winners and a special shout-out to our Stage 2 and Stage 3 public speaking finalists, Shea and Evie!**

We're also proud to announce that our school has sent a team of enthusiastic athletes to the zone athletics carnival. We have no doubt they will represent us with pride and enthusiasm.

This year marks a special milestone as our school celebrates its 175th anniversary. We are eagerly looking forward to our birthday celebrations on Friday, 13th September, which will culminate in a grand town parade on Saturday, 14th September.

In Term 4, our 175th-anniversary celebrations will continue with a special school performance in Week 4. Tickets will go on sale at the start of Term 4, with both a matinee and an evening performance scheduled. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Katie Bagnell and the Egan family for their invaluable support in helping our students prepare for this exciting event.

We look forward to celebrating with our community throughout the rest of the year!

Looking ahead, the school is now accepting enrolments for 2025. If you're considering enrolling your child in Kindergarten or grades 1-6, please contact the school office or complete an online enrolment through our website.

Kristy Bultitude, Acting Principal
02 4996 4156



Back to School

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Glen William Primary Public School

Dances, Awards, and Bees on Strike: Glen William Kicks Off an exciting Term 3

A very warm welcome back to Term 3 to all our families and I hope you all had a fun filled holiday with family. Many students have told me about their exciting adventures over the holidays. Term 3 looks busy with many activities happening.

Public Education Week Awards

Congratulations on a fantastic performance at the Public Education Week Awards at Dungog High School. Our students performed an incredible dance to a Texas Hold 'Em / Cotton Eye Joe mash up. We are so proud!

A special congratulations to the following award winners:

Community Member Award - Phoebe Cross
Student Achievement Award - Carla Bishop
Excellence in Teaching Award - Ms Forde
Non-teaching Staff Award - Mrs Keller
School Achievement Award - Maths Reviews

Each and every one of you deserve every recognition. You are incredible and our school could not be more proud of you.

Book Week

Reading is magic! Students celebrated Book Week at Glen William Public School by dressing up as our favourite book characters. We had astronauts, dinosaurs, wizards, cowboys and all sorts of creative

characters come to life before our eyes, and parade around our COLA area to the magical music of Harry Potter. We thank our wonderful parents, carers and community for celebrating this year's Book Week with us, and a special thank you to our P&C for organising our BBQ lunch. Our Book Fair was a great success. Thank you all!

Leader Reader Preschool Program

Stage 3 students will join the Leader Reader program this term, visiting local preschools to share storybooks and build connections. This initiative aims to strengthen ties with preschools, develop leadership skills, and introduce our 2025 Kindergarten friends before orientation. Leaders will visit preschools with Miss Parr each Thursday morning.

Small Schools Athletics Carnival

Congratulations to all students who competed at the Small Schools Athletics Carnival! Our students showed persistence and determination, earning 3rd place overall. Special kudos to Carla, Owen, Kyron, Dezzy, Jason, Bella, Annabel, and Vinnie for qualifying for the Zone Athletics Carnival next Friday!

STEM Day – The Bees Are On Strike!

GWPS students took on the 2024 STEAM challenge during Science Week, focusing on Species Survival and bee conservation. Tasked with creating a comfortable, functional hive and a mite shaker, the students excelled. The competition was fierce, resulting in a tie between two groups. Congratulations to Jazzy, Vinnie, Xavier, Daisy, Priseis, and Owen, and to all students for their fantastic teamwork and innovative hives!

We are taking Enrolments for 2025. Please contact the school office for an information pack or visit the school website to complete an online enrolment.

Glen William Public School 4996 5507
E-mail: glenwillia-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Calling all former students, teachers and the wider community of Glen William Public School.

Join us to celebrate our schools
175th year serving the community.

On Friday, September 13th, join Glen William P&C for a Picnic Lunch at 11am, followed by a community celebration at noon, a formal ceremony at 1pm, and afternoon tea at 2pm with vintage games and a student showcase. 1849-style costumes are encouraged! For more info and to RSVP for catering email gwps175@outlook.com.



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