



Tooraweenah Public School

Special Thanks

I would like to acknowledge our amazing teaching staff who, with minimal notice, have been asked to flip their teaching programs and deliver them via learning@home during the COVID-19 pandemic. The teachers have embraced learning new skills in order to provide quality learning materials. We are very lucky to have such dedicated and flexible teachers. Thank you Mrs Penny Zell and Mrs Nadine Jenkin! Thanks also to our administrative staff who have been working hard from home or school.

Learn From Home

I would like to thank the parents who have supported their child's learning at home. We know this has been a new and challenging situation for everyone and greatly appreciate parents' help in promoting the importance of maintaining learning during the pandemic. Students have embraced learning from home by using a blended delivery including Seesaw and Google Classroom along with paper based lessons. It is wonderful to see students proudly sharing their work and encouraging each other. We are excited to get back to a normal pattern by the end of term and would like to thank parents and staff for their patience and support during the past weeks.

Virtual Easter Hat Parade

Students at home and at school participated in a Virtual Easter Hat Parade along with the Preschool students. We loved seeing the different creations students made! It helped us get into the Easter spirit.

New Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) Signs

Our new PBL signs were installed recently and look fabulous. They are located in various places around the school to communicate positive expectations on how we can be Safe, Respectful Achievers in all areas. The COVID-19 pandemic has made it difficult for us to get together for a PBL launch with parents but we look forward to organising an event later in the

year.

There have been a number of improvements happening including new water-saving taps in the bathrooms and trees removed for safety. We have also received some new furniture for the school including tables for the art room and library, chairs for the staffroom and new technology cupboards.

Surprise Book Packs

Our wonderful volunteer librarian Petria, has put together a surprise book pack from the library, hand-picked for each student. We thank Petria for pursuing this idea. The surprise book packs were very well received by our students.

Learning@Home

We have successfully trialled our first Zoom sessions. We have missed seeing our students and look forward to conducting more video conferencing lessons this way in the coming weeks.

Surplus items for purchase via tender

In the coming weeks we will have some items surplus to needs being sold via tender. These will be advertised through our school newsletter and *The Gilgandra Weekly*, as well as school website and social media channels.

Used items include:

- Ride on lawn mower
- Air conditioning units
- Push mower
- Various old chairs
- Screen doors
- Brush cutter
- Various old school desks

Karen Smith, Principal



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Gilgandra Shire Council General Manager's Update

Council continues to respond to the challenges rising from the COVID-19 pandemic, with up to date information available at www.gilgandra.nsw.gov.au/news. Some key updates and initiatives being undertaken by council include:

- Council now applying for natural disaster status through the NSW Government Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements 2018 (DRFA). This triggers funding opportunities to commence works to restore the road network and infrastructure.
- GLADIS from Gilgandra - Gilgandra Living & Delivering Innovative Services, Council's local multi service response to enable essential community services to be maintained. GLADIS draws on a small Community Care funding base to combine community care staff and the local volunteer workforce to provide essential services and extended support to those who need to stay at home. Key elements include: continuing meals and essential transport, providing essential shopping delivery services, collecting and delivering library and educational resources, offering a penpal program between seniors and youth and lastly a new telephone and potential video networking service. Council is keen to hear from anyone interested in volunteering for the phone tree service. If you would like to nominate someone to receive a phone call - contact council on 6817 8800 or enjoy@gilgandra.nsw.gov.au.

Council is seeking the community's feedback on new signage for the Shire. With 21 existing signs to be upgraded across highways and new major town entry signs to be

constructed and installed, all community members are invited to complete the survey to have their say on what they would like to see as part of this new signage.

Visit www.gilgandra.nsw.gov.au/Connect/Have-your-say/Signage-Project, with this project partly funded by the Stronger Country Communities Fund.

- Council projects team finalising upgrades to the Special Care Wing kitchen at Cooee Village, which have significantly improved use of the available space and inclusion of quality appliances.

Lions Roar with Lion Mock

Toora Lions Club is currently in recess due to COVID-19 restrictions and prohibition on gatherings, not forgetting of course that the Mountain View Hotel cannot host our meetings. We have not progressed into the whole new world of virtual ZOOM meetings yet. No doubt current President, Lord Lester Thurston and incoming La Presidente, Lady Kathryn Larkin, will share any changeover plans. Perhaps they can have a gathering of two and live stream the occasion on the world wide web.

While activities are on hold, Toora Lions welcomes any ideas for community projects. A request was recently received to help fund an emergency trolley bed for Gilgandra MPS. Any community contributions to assist in funding this project, estimated at \$10k, would be appreciated.



Sue's News with Sue Armstrong

TOORAWEEAH SIP AND SEW

COVID-19 has changed how the group meets but the ladies are definitely still in action. Sewing or craft projects are shared via social media or text or phone calls. A photo is worth a thousand words as it can show the beauty of the craft, help explain how to rectify a problem and be an ideal medium to teach a craft.

While in lockdown there have been many projects completed including several 'quillows' – the quilt which becomes a pillow and was our last combined project; quilts; table runners and place mats; clothing including blouses, PJ's and children's clothes; laundry bags for overseas military personnel; clothes for children in overseas missions; dolls clothes, hand towels and bags – to name but a few. Sharing and caring takes on a new meaning when physically at a distance but the group has built great empathy by staying in contact.

If you are interested in being part of the group why not ring? You do NOT need to be a CWA member. This is a community group with a fabulous group of locals. Gender or age is no barrier.

Eventually we will be able to meet physically in our CWA rooms. But for now, we sip and sew at home. For further information: Sue on 0427 359 926 or contact any of the locals who you may know in the group.

TOORAWEEAH PA & H ASSOC INC

So you think the show is in sleep mode? Not so. Behind the scenes our team is planning upgrades to the showgrounds, firing off loads of information for quotes and paperwork for grants. This is being done by Kylie Moppett, ably assisted by Brian Mockler, watched over by Kristy Gale and guided by new President Ben Gale. There is a mountain of paperwork with much time and energy expended on applying for grants. Some you win. Some you don't. An awesome effort is put into each application but the long term benefits to our community and show grounds makes it all worthwhile.

Remember last year's show when we battled dirt, wind and dust? After recent rain, we now have a sea of green and no-one to see and share it. But if you live locally, you can check it out. With COVID-19 restrictions you are allowed to exercise and so maybe you can check out the showgrounds when next you walk yourself or your dog.



Councillor's Corner with Cr Brian Mockler

Councillor Mockler reports: I have produced the following letter from Gilgandra Shire Council General Manager, Mr David Neeves, in relation to Council's decision concerning the Federal Government Drought Communities Programme. In summary there were 24 submissions with projects totalling \$1,605m. The organisations that submitted applications to fund projects are set out on page 31 of Council's April 21 Open Business paper, together with their respective project costs.

Letter below from David Neeves in response to an enquiry from a shire ratepayer:

APPLICATION - DROUGHT COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME EXTENSION

I am writing to you with the outcome from the April Council meeting regarding your application to Council for consideration of inclusion in Council's submission to the Federal Government under the Drought Communities Programme (DCP) Extension. Unfortunately at this time Council will not be including your project in its submission to the Federal Government.

As you are aware we are currently facing a pandemic situation with COVID-19, we are also coming off the back of a long and hard drought for our community, with the economic effects expected to reverberate through the community for some time to come.

With the unknown situation we are facing, and the impact this is currently having and expected to have on our local economy, Council is conscious of the need to maintain a strong financial position on behalf of our community into the future.

In line with this, Council has determined that the bulk of the DCP funding (\$840K) be allocated to partially fund the replacement of Lucas Bridge over the Castlereagh River at Breelong which is in a poor state of repair with this replacement scheduled to be completed in 2020/21.

The remaining \$160k funding has been allocated as follows:

- Speedway amenities and pathway completion

- \$45k to complete project from DCP Round 1
- Armatree Black Dog Ride - \$10k for recently completed initiative

- Economic stimulus for our local community with Council's Shop Local program & the GIL - \$105k

Council is proud of the success of the first round of Drought Communities Programme funding which saw 23 completed projects for community groups, engaging 137 contractors. These projects had significant economic benefit for our community, as well as many lasting legacies we will see utilised in our community for years to come.

Council would like to thank all community groups that submitted an application under this initiative. While the outcome may not be what you had hoped, please know that Council's decisions reflect current circumstances. A member of our Marketing & Communications team will be in touch with you to offer support in seeking other grant opportunities where available.

Yours faithfully

David Neeves, General Manager

And news from Councillor Mockler:

In the meantime Council is working on the budget process for 2020/2021 financial year and proposes to adopt a rate peg increase of 2.6 per cent. There will be a significant variation in some rural property rates due to Valuer General land classifications and analysis of increased property sales. This has resulted in increased UCVs as from July 1 2019, particularly in the Tooraweenah Heights region. Significant progress is being made with construction of Council's new works depot in Gilgandra. Tooraweenah's new bore water supply has been sunk (depth 151 metres), supply output projected to provide an independent water supply for Tooraweenah. A great outcome. Works to equip and make it operational are in progress. The walking track from the GK Rohr viewing platform to the tennis courts is almost completed. Hats off to Council management and staff who make this happen.



The queen's milliner would be jealous and the Easter Bunny tickled pink!

Anglican Church Tooraweenah

First Sunday at 11.30am

Morning tea

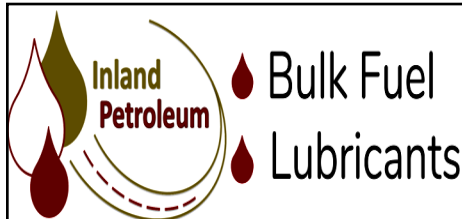
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Quick Knit Slippers from *The Weekly Times Farmers' Handbook 1978*.

Use scraps or new yarn. Warm, tough and comfortable. Adaptable to any foot but might be slip hazard for toddlers. Thick yarn, eg handspun, 12 ply or two strands of 8-ply. Number 4 or 5 needles. Consider knitting both slippers at once. **Cast on** 29 stitches. This edge folds to become the back of the heel. You can increase the number of stitches to suit the foot.

Row 1: Knit 10, purl one, knit seven, purl one, knit ten.

Row 2: Purl. Work this pattern until piece is the length of foot to about the base of the toes. Simply a rectangle.

Next row: Knit 4, purl one, knit one to last four stitches, knit 4.

Next row: Purl

Continue with this pattern until piece, slightly stretched, is length of foot. Don't make the slipper too long as it will become sloppy. Don't cast off; cut a length of wool (50-55cm) from the balls you are using for each slipper and thread the two together in turn onto a darning needle. Slip the stitches onto the darning needle and pull yarn up tight to form the toe. Secure this very firmly but don't cut off; use it to sew up the instep on the wrong side as far as desired, leaving an opening for the ankle. Fold and sew heel seam on the wrong side. Catch up the open edge and finish top of foot with a few rows of crochet or garter stitch if desired.



Thanks to Karen Smith and Petria Cameron From the Toora Bungles Manager

Toora Bungles editors express their appreciation to the Tooraweenah Public School Principal Karen Smith, for the donation of their old colour printer, fully serviced, and to Petria Cameron for arranging transport, servicing the printer and providing instructions for the its use.

The Toora Bungles can now be printed in colour and this facility will also be available for use by our community once the COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted. We do acknowledge this is a second hand printer, but we are very hopeful that it will last until a new colour printer is available in the Tooraweenah Community Technology Centre through Gilgandra Shire Council.

Thank you Karen and Petria for your wonderful community spirit.

Agreement will be forwarded to Tooraweenah CWA for review and signing.

When all these steps are completed we hope to receive confirmation that this project has been accepted by the Federal Government for funding support.

Tooraweenah Lions Club and Gilgandra Shire Council are fully abreast of progress with this very important project for our community.

Jill Blackman for Tooraweenah CWA

Tooraweenah Telstra Small Cell Co-Investment Proposal Progress

A firm proposal from Telstra has now been received, reviewed and accepted by Tooraweenah CWA. Letters confirming this direction were forwarded to Telstra by April 30 2020.

With the recent COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a delay with progress for this project. Once Telstra has received the confirmation letter for this project, a Works

FYI: A rural small cell is a low power mobile phone base station designed to bring mobile phone service to small pockets of population in remote rural areas ... Rural small cells ... are designed to be robust and operate in unsupervised outdoor locations.

See:

<https://exchange.telstra.com.au/ongoing-investment-regional-rural-australia/>

[Ed]

Indy, one excited little girl,
with her book pack
thoughtfully chosen and
compiled by Petria
Cameron, volunteer
librarian at Tooraweenah
Public School



Geoff and Bev Pike plan to
open a new business

THE TOORAWEEENAH TRADING POST

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**Due to the COVID-19 situation
Sarah, Western NSW Local
Health District, will not be
conducting clinics**

Tooraweenah Roundabout with Lester

Tooraweenah LPO

Currently with the COVID-19 virus, the Post Office is operating normal hours and we will try to maintain normal service, but in the eventuality we have to self-isolate the business will be closed. Please observe good hygiene and social distancing and hopefully we will remain well and virus free in Tooraweenah.

The rainfall for Tooraweenah for April 2020 was good, giving us 113mm over five days, with a year to date total of 396.6mm over 32 days.

Please ensure you use your correct mailing address to speed up sorting and delivery. Make sure your mail has been correctly addressed and you put the appropriate amount of postage on larger letters. Postage rates have changed and a standard letter is now \$1.10. A reminder that the Tooraweenah and Tondeburine post code is 2817.

Pub Community BBQs

The BBQs are not operating during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Lions Clothing Bin

Residents who take advantage of the Lions clothing bin are reminded that it is for clean clothing only. If you have

spare warm blankets or doonas they are required and welcome with the cooler weather approaching.

Toora Lions club.

Currently the club is in recess and we will advise when the situation changes. Support the club that supports your town. See Lion Mock's interim news this issue.

Anzac Day

The Anzac Service in Tooraweenah this year was cancelled, however town and district residents commemorated in their own way. The flag in the memorial recreation ground was flown at half mast and a number of wreaths were left at the memorial.

RIP

Mr Laurie Atwell of Melbourne passed away in late April after suffering a heart attack on Anzac Day. Laurie was the father of Tim Atwell (Tooraweenah) and Jodie Bruce (Dubbo).

Free hearing checks

These checks with Australian Hearing scheduled for May 12 in front of the CWA Rooms have been postponed and will be rescheduled once the social distancing measures related to COVID-19 have been lifted

IMPORTANT: Last call for \$15 payment for mailing Toora Bungles.

Currently there are eight (8) overdue payments for mailing the Toora Bungles for 2020. Due to increasing postage costs the Toora Bungles (T B) management is unable to continue mailing to unpaid subscribers. The May issue will be the last to be mailed to those who have overlooked their payment.

If you wish to continue receiving the T B by mail, please forward a cheque for \$15 made out to Toora Bungles and post it to: The Editor, Toora Bungles, "Gundair" 1137 Gunde Road TOORAWEEENAH NSW 2817. If you prefer, make a Bank Transfer to **Bendigo Bank** BSB: 633 000 Account No: 140339359. Your attention to this matter is very much appreciated. Thank you.

Not even a pandemic can quell the spirit of the Tooraweenah community. Leonie has opened a bright little shop with lovely hot coffee and other essentials in Aimee Street. Check it out.

Presbyterian Church Tooraweenah



Reverend Peter Tamsett
6847 2036



The Little Gecko Coffee Shop

16 Aimee Street Tooraweenah

PH: 6848 1089

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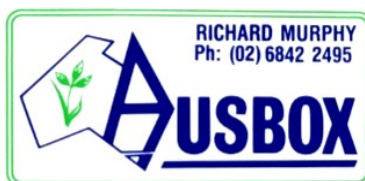
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