

Toora Bungles



Volume 28 Issue 4
January 2022

Tooraweenah Public School News with Principal, Karen Smith

Presentation Night and Year 6 Farewell

Our combined Presentation Night and Year 6 Farewell was a great night of celebration for our students. The location at the showground provided a scenic outdoor setting with views of the Warrumbungles. It was wonderful to have parents, grandparents and special guests attend this event. Our School Captain, Lily Smith, did a wonderful job as MC. Thank you to Leonie Harvey from The Little Gecko Coffee Shop for the beautiful meal and the Farewell Cake for Year 6. Thanks also to our staff and to Scott Quilter and Davis Schulz for all their assistance in preparation for the event.

Congratulations to all students who received recognition for their achievements in 2021. Award recipients follow:

Class Awards

Kindergarten Academic Achievement, **Harper Wykes**

Kindergarten Endeavour Award, **Hamish Jenkin and Bonnie Alison**

Year 2 Endeavour Award, **Sam Trickey**

Year 3 Academic Achievement, **Holly Wykes**

Year 4 Academic Achievement, **Daisy Wykes**

Year 5 Academic Achievement, **Lexi Trickey**

Year 5 Endeavour Award, **Lara Duff**

Year 6 Academic Achievement, **Lily Smith**

School Sports Awards

Juvenile Boy Cross Country Champion,

Hamish Jenkin

Juvenile Girl Cross Country Champion,

Bonnie Alison

Junior Girl Cross Country Champion,

Daisy Wykes

11 Years Girl Cross Country Champion, **Lara Duff**

Tooraweenah School Students

Presentation Night and Year 6 Farewell Dinner

December 15, 2021 Tooraweenah Showground

* Happy Faces, Lifelong Friends *

Special Awards

Zell Award for Academic Achievement, **Lily Smith**

Gilgandra Shire Trophy for Sporting Achievement,
Lara Duff

Premier's Sporting Challenge Award for Sporting
Endeavour, **Daisy Wykes**

Bendigo Bank Award for Contribution to School Life,
Lily Smith

CWA Lorna Jenkin Scholarship, **Lily Smith**

P&C Prize for Courtesy & Honour, **Indiana Brown**

Lester Thurston Tooraweenah Trading Award
Attendance, **Daisy Wykes**

Lions Club Encouragement Awards, **Ruby Ling**

Premier's Reading Challenge, **Sam Trickey,**

Hamish Jenkin, Bonnie Alison, Harper Wykes

School Leaders for 2022

Year 6 School Captain, **Indiana Brown**

Year 6 Vice Captain, **Lexi Trickey**

Year 6 Prefect, **Lara Duff**

Year 5 House Captain, **Daisy Wykes**

Year 4 Librarian, **Holly Wykes**

Year 3 Librarian, **Sam Trickey**

Further school news and photos pages 5 and 6



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Read the Toora Bungles at: <http://www.gilgandra.nsw.gov.au/Live/Your-Community>

Tooraweenah Preschool with Nominated Supervisor, Marie Jacobsen

We were delighted to host the Preschool Christmas Concert in the Tooraweenah Park recently for family and friends. Although it was a hot, humid evening there was a relaxed and festive atmosphere with a complimentary sausage sizzle cooked by our friends in the Tooraweenah Lions Club. The coffee van was also in attendance with the coolest slushies around! We were grateful that the storms kept clear.

The children sang a favourite song accompanied by actions or percussion instruments before sharing one of our favourite stories, "Witch, Witch, Come To My Party", with our version, "Come To My Party". Everyone did a terrific job before a short acknowledgement of our graduating students who were presented with a certificate. Then we showed everyone our dance moves, dancing to "The Stomp" and "Freeze". Having

shown the moves for the dances we added a surprise by asking family and friends to join with us to dance "The Freeze." (Some of our family members need to practise their dance moves a bit more...)

We sang our favourite Christmas carol, "Jingle Bells" with great gusto and were thrilled to see Santa arrive on the fire truck and spend time with us before the real Christmas, with treats for everyone, preschool friends and audience alike! Thank you Santa and also fire captain Kevin for driving Santa from the paddock where he left his reindeer.

We have also enjoyed more of the festive spirit with bags of goodies for each child from the Tooraweenah PA&H Association and their connections with the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW and Charity Goods 360. How lucky are we at Tooraweenah Preschool!



Showbags, Santa Claus, Singing, Super Setting

News from the Show Ring with Sue Armstrong

In December the PA&H Association received a pallet of Christmas gifts and goods from the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW (RAS). It was wonderful to receive this very generous gift. The toys were distributed locally to the Tooraweenah school and preschool. The show society was also able to gift some items to Barnardos to donate to children in need.

The show's Christmas Markets were a great success with stalls selling everything you could imagine including "Reindeer Food". It was a great place to buy Christmas gifts and the showground kitchen did a roaring trade.

The show committee looks forward to 2022 with wonderful plans for a rip-roaring show in October. The committee will update you each month with plans for the annual show.

Contact show secretary, Kristy Gale:
0429 780 323; e:toorashow@gmail.com



**Tooraweenah CWA
News with Cath Waller**

CWA is in recess until the first meeting for 2022 on the second Wednesday of March. However, members will enjoy a get-together on the second Wednesday in February at a venue to be advised and look forward to viewing a member's collection of teapots.



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Around the Traps With Lester

Rainfall at Tooraweenah for 2021

December readings at the Tooraweenah Local Post Office (LPO) were 68.4 mm over eight days to December 23 with a year-to-date total of 870.8 mm over 71 days. Wow, nearly 35 inches, a great season but far too much rain during harvest.

The rain will leave us in great stead for the 2022 year; hopefully supply of chemical, fertiliser and seed will be satisfactory to allow good crops and good stock prices.

Toora Lions Club

The Toora Lions Club was able to operate during December doing the Community BBQs at the Mountain View as well as some ham and cherry raffles. The club's year finished with a family BBQ lunch at President Kathryn Larkin's home.

It was lovely to get back to some normality for a while at least. Who knows where 2022 will lead us? It has been a long and tiring year for all members, very hard to keep motivated but we look forward to achievable goals next year. We thank Gilgandra Shire Council for its generosity in making the old fire shed in Tooraweenah available for the storage of the club's assets. These have for many years been stored by members and now will be easily accessed by the club.

Thank you to those who have supported the Christmas cake and pudding sales prior to Christmas. The Lions club would like to wish all its members and families a very happy Christmas and New Year. We wish the Tooraweenah Community and beyond, all the very best and thank them for their support of the club.

Greetings from Constable Iain Hayes

Merry Christmas to everyone. Hopefully everyone was able to spend time with loved ones over the holiday period.

Can everyone be mindful of speed limits through the township and take extra care on the roads with the additional traffic due to harvest and travellers.

During the holiday period please respect the road rules. While enjoying the festive season, if you are planning to consume alcohol please have a plan B to get home safely and not consider driving.

Happy New Year from Constable Iain HAYES
Tooraweenah Police Station

News from Tooraweenah Caravan Park

As we know, Covid has seriously affected travel over the past twenty months and with it, business for providers of accommodation and catering. Speaking to the editor, Scott Quilter of the Tooraweenah Caravan Park reported that "things have been very, very quiet" during that period. But with true Aussie humour he added that "things were looking good for the end of December". Shame that his rueful remark was issued on December 29! Having been a farmer, Scott philosophically accepts this state of affairs as one of those things that happen in life.

Although local roads have been busier in recent days, Scott indicated that travellers were heading to Queensland as quickly as possible once they had Covid clearance and were not prepared to delay unnecessarily on the way. He mentioned one hopeful traveller with a young baby, wanting to visit relatives in Queensland, but unable to continue with Covid test results still not available after three weeks' wait. With Queensland's cooperation, testing procedures could be streamlined after January 1 2022.

"All we can do is bank on next year," Scott concluded.

Here's hoping Scott's bank delivers the goods.

And a brief comment on harvest 2021

It was looking like the best harvest in many years with the planets all aligning to deliver a great result, with record yields and fantastic prices. This seemed like some payback for the years of drought, mice and Covid.

A few farmers managed to get some early crop off, beginning in late October, about 'normal' Toora Show time. Prices were great and yields five to six tonnes per hectare. Canola crops and price were exceptional.

But a slow start to summer, with temperatures in the high twenties and a very slow ripening, was followed by about 200mm of rain in November. Falling for fifteen days out of November's thirty, was to say the least, "frustrating". However falls of 260mm over November and December will be of advantage with the start of the new year. Producers will have to watch chemical and fertiliser prices, estimated to be double what they were last season. Even if you have the money, supply of product will be the issue.



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Tooraweenah Public School Farewell for Dennis White

The school held a farewell morning tea for our retiring general assistant, Dennis White. Dennis began working at the school in 2001. Since then he has seen the grounds transformed with a new classroom, relocated Tondeburine School building, fixed equipment in the preschool and school, pavers to replace asphalt, two water systems installed and the replacement of the failing underground galvanised pipes. Dennis was always ready to assist even if it was not his scheduled workday. We are truly thankful to him for his dedication to the role over such a length of time.

Students presented Dennis with a farewell gift and service medal before enjoying morning tea together. We wish Dennis and Marcia all the best for an enjoyable retirement.

Western Plains National Park Environmental Education Centre (WNPEEC) teacher Narelle, guided our students and staff through the Eucalyptus Forest experience while on the Wambelong Nature Trail. Highlights included spotting wildlife; games and mindfulness activities; enjoying the beauty of the Warrumbungles after a wet season; and of course, crossing the creek.

Class Awards 2021: Harper, Hamish, Bonnie, Sam



Class Awards 2021: Holly, Daisy, Lexi, Lara, Lily



School Leaders 2022: Captain Indiana, Vice Captain Lexi, Prefect Lara, Sports Captain Daisy, Librarians Holly, Sam



Excursion to Warrumbungles



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Lily Smith, Year Six, with her Awards



Daisy Wykes, Award for Attendance



Indiana Brown, Courtesy and Honour

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