



## Congratulations Madison, Bonnie & Eloise



Following the audition of over 4,400 students from the region, the Tooraweenah Public School is proud to announce that three of their talented students have been offered positions in Moorambilla's prestigious program, **"RIVERSONG 2025: SKYSONG."** Congratulations to Maddison Jenkin, Bonnie Alison and Eloise Jenkin, pictured above. These students demonstrated exceptional skill and creativity throughout the workshop, earning this incredible opportunity, as only one in ten students receives such an offer. The school is immensely proud of their achievement!

## Tooraweenah Lions Roar!



The Gilgandra Show was an enjoyable day out for Lions members on the BBQ, enjoying each other's company..... as much as they can! A certain co-secretary snuck off for more bump 'n' car rides than buttering bread, however!

We enjoyed a busy March and April with the Senior Citizens Day, and the start of our woodcutting!

And, congratulations to Life Member Kevin (Blue) Milgate, who

celebrated his 100th birthday at the Gilgandra Sporties Club with family and friends!

**SAVE THE DATE | 2025 Lions Changeover Sunday, 13 July** - Start freshening up your trivia skills as the Lions Long Lunch returns for another year! With prizes to be won for your chosen charity, sporting or community group!

We will welcome the new executive and hope you can join in our celebrations of achievements for the previous year, as we look forward to the year ahead!

## User Friendly Windows



Tooraweenah Showground canteen facility underwent a refresh recently with some new, more user friendly windows being installed, thanks to the Gilgandra Community Op Shop community grants program and the Gilgandra Shire Council.

We hope these new windows provide an improved ease of use for groups and individuals using the wonderful facilities at the showground.



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## Gilgandra Region — Live > Enjoy > Grow> !

Gilgandra Shire Council (GSC) has placed its **draft Community Strategic Plan 2035 (CSP)** and associated documents on public exhibition and is inviting residents to Have Your Say.

The CSP is GSC's highest-level planning document, serving as a blueprint that outlines the community's vision, outcomes, and strategies for the Region under the guiding themes of **Live, Enjoy, Grow, and Lead**.

Supporting the CSP is the **2025/26 - 2028/29 Delivery Program and 2025/26 Operational Plan, including the 2025/26 Budget**, and Fees and Charges to support these initiatives. The **10-year Long Term Financial Plan** to support these plans is also on public exhibition.

To view these plans, including a copy of the Community Satisfaction Survey Results, Community Consultation PowerPoint Presentation, and Q&A responses, visit GSC's website >>

[www.gilgandra.nsw.gov.au/connect/have-your-say](http://www.gilgandra.nsw.gov.au/connect/have-your-say)

Feedback and submissions close at **5pm Wednesday, 18 June 2025**.

Have Your Say by:

Completing the online form on GSC's website >> [www.gilgandra.nsw.gov.au/](http://www.gilgandra.nsw.gov.au/)

### connect/have-your-say

Providing feedback in-person at any GSC office.

Writing to the General Manager, 15 Warren Road Gilgandra

Emailing [council@gilgandra.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@gilgandra.nsw.gov.au)

### GOIN' TO GIL WEEKEND (3-6 OCTOBER 2025)

### WE WANT YOU IN OUR GOIN' TO GIL STREET PARADE!

Miller Street will come alive on Saturday, 4 October 2025 with a jam-packed street parade - a combination of local schools, vintage cars, our emergency services and much more will be marching through Miller Street, led by the funky Phat Brass!

Get creative and join us in bringing the street alive – whether that's by marching, singing, dancing or riding a float!

### IT'S GREAT!

The Goin' to Gil Weekend will transform Gilgandra, Tooraweenah, and Armatree streets with interactive art, parade, family entertainment, and vibrant lighting displays. We encourage you to be involved in the activations across the weekend!

If you or your organisation are interested in either of these activations, please contact the Under the Gums/Goin' to Gil Planning Crew on (02) 6817 8800 or by emailing .

### EOI14/25: THE GIL LIBRARY HUB > BUSINESS INNOVATION SPACE

**GSC is seeking Expressions of Interest (EOI) for the lease of the Business Innovation Space in the GIL Library Hub.**

Located in the front of the GIL Library Hub (with dedicated Miller Street access), the space is a future-focused and community-driven innovation hub. Created to encourage business growth in the Gilgandra Region, the space will promote and showcase businesses, new and existing. From start-ups to scale-ups, all are welcome to express their interest in utilising the space for up to six months.

EOIs must be completed on the EOI form supplied on GSC's website >> [www.gilgandra.nsw.gov.au](http://www.gilgandra.nsw.gov.au). Submissions will close at **11am Monday, 23 June 2025**.



## NEW TOILETS FOR HIRE

TOORAWEEAH LIONS CLUB

Contact:

Gary Gesell 0427 911 904 or Brendan Butler 0447 481 048



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## Around The Traps ☺

### Tooraweenah LPO

The rainfall for the month of May to date (23/05/25) was 9.6mm over 5 days. Total rain for the year 263.6mm over 25 days



### Tooraweenah Lions Club

The next club meeting will be Wednesday the 4<sup>th</sup> of June at the Mountain View Hotel, 7.00 for 7.30pm. All welcome.

We will be welcoming three new members to the club, Katherine Ashman, Wayne Bland and Sharon Cardwell. We hope you will enjoy your time in Lions and enjoy serving our community.

The Lions club will be holding a quiz

afternoon with \$5000 up for grabs for a local community group, get a table together and come in on the 13<sup>th</sup> of July to test your knowledge, enjoy a great lunch prepared by Megan O'Connor and win cash for your local community group.

Upcoming working bees are wood chop, catering at the Gulargambone races

### Tooraweenah War Memorial Hall

**Booking Officers:** Scott & Janelle Quilter (Bookings can be made at the Caravan Park office, or by phoning during office hours 6848 1133.

**Hire Fees:** Wedding Party (Bump in and out days) \$250. Meeting/Single day hire \$150. Single day hire (No kitchen) \$100. Table Hire: \$5 Chair Hire: \$1 each

### NOTICE:

**Tooraweenah PA & H Association Inc** has been made aware that the showground rodeo ground yards for stabled horses and other stock is not compliant with animal welfare standards and that stabling of horses with inadequate shelter for periods of more than 24hrs is an offence, Part 2 Section 8.3 Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1979, as amended.

It has therefore become necessary to notify users that their animals can no longer be kept in the existing yards and facilities for more than 24hrs.

The Committee regrets inconvenience that this causes to those users affected by these compliance matters. These issues cannot be fixed overnight, however, the Committee has resolved to be pro active and to source funding opportunities for the necessary infrastructure costs and expenses to ensure the showground facilities are upgraded and compliant with legal and animal welfare mandatory requirements.

There are also associated showground NLIS and DPIE stock movement notification requirements that will be advised in a further community notice.

## COMMUNITY BBQ'S

**JUNE - TOORA FIRE BRIGADE**

**JULY - ENDURANCE RIDE**

**AUGUST - TOORA PUBLIC SCHOOL**

**SEPTEMBER - TOORA GOLF CLUB**

**OCTOBER -**

**NOVEMBER -**

**DECEMBER - TOORA LIONS**

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## 👉 Diary Dates 2025 ☺

### June

**Take Time out!!  
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**Saturday 21st**

**Goddess Workshop  
CWA Rooms—10am**

### July

**Sunday 13th**

**Quiz Afternoon  
Lions Club Changeover**



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## Tooraweenah Preschool, 'Developing Wings of Independence' With Marie Gale (Jacobsen)



We have had a very busy few weeks with lots of exciting things happening at Tooraweenah Preschool!

We have been enjoying our weekly 'Bush Preschool' and discovered our creek is down and the water doesn't flow like it used too, so, we cannot find or catch yabbies like we have done, previously.

We discovered there are lots of prickles growing everywhere – we haven't been able to climb up our 'mountains' for our run down the 'running track' as there are just too many prickles growing. But, we have enjoyed exploring different parts of the paddock, finding some great houses for possums and birds in some newly discovered hollow logs. Each time we venture out, the children have enjoyed being the leaders' and trying to find a "better path" to our area so we can avoid as much umbrella grass as possible. Our newly purchased sock-savers have been great (thanks to Lily, Xanthe and Miss Kristy) as there have been many comments about the 'cheeky umbrella grass' and the 'burrs' that get in our socks!



We loved the Meerkat Productions Puppet Show "Good Things Come In Threes" that we saw on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May. We enjoyed three different stories, "The Three Little

Pigs", "The Three Billy Goats Gruff" and "The Three Bears" these were told in three different ways, using three different types of puppets: shadow puppets, hand puppets and marionettes. Our friends were spellbound with these amazing performances, and the presenters were wonderful with the children. This was such a great show to see, with lots of audience participation, much to the delight of everyone. It was a fabulous way for our friends to see and hear well known stories, and a great way to extend our imagination.



We were so very fortunate to receive a special parcel from "Books 4 Outback" when they came to Tooraweenah, leaving two boxes of goodies for our children. The boxes were full of pre-loved near-new books and some lovely toys. Each preschool friend now has 2 new books to keep, and preschool has some new books both on our inside book shelf and our outdoor 'Book Box'. We were also delighted with the new toys, including a ladybeetle cushion (like our ladybeetle Preschool logo!) and a big teddy bear, "Dusty" who enjoys preschool fun and listening to stories in our book area. A huge big 'thank you' to Neil and the team at "Books 4 Outback" for including Tooraweenah Preschool in their loop around Western NSW. What a kind and generous donation.

We've enjoyed National Simultaneous Story Time with Tooraweenah Public School friends, reading the story 'Truck Cat' together. The next day we had a fabulous



time with Josh and Healthy Harold when they visited. Our preschool friends were very good at helping Healthy Harold with various jobs and tasks he needed to do. We loved making the 'magic night sky' by closing our eyes briefly and clicking our fingers when we were sitting in the van. All our preschoolers were delighted to receive a small notepad and tattoo, even if they didn't see Healthy Harold. We now have our very own Healthy Harold toy to help us remember about staying healthy and safe.

Our current investigation is based on machines, engines and 'power' after a question from one of our songs "She'll be Coming Round the Mountain" and one friend wondering what it meant when we sang 'She'll be driving six white horses when she comes'?

We started looking up pictures of horses pulling carriages and farming machinery 'in the olden days', before there were cars and tractors and big engines'. This discussion has slowly morphed into chats about all the different machines, including various farming machines and implements, that we know about..... The word "horsepower" was mentioned which has made all of us think about horses and power and engines..... We will keep learning and researching, until we discover something else to investigate!

A HUGE "Congratulations" to our Educator, Kristy Hicks. We are very excited to announce that Miss Kristy has been nominated as a "Finalist for the 2025 NSW Vocational Student of the Year category in the New England region" after a successful interview in Tamworth in April. The winner from the finalists will be announced at a special dinner in Tamworth on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June.

Well done Miss Kristy – you are already a winner as far as Tooraweenah Preschool are concerned! We can't wait to hear all about your fabulous awards night in Tamworth and hope you have a great time. Best wishes from everyone at Tooraweenah Preschool: the children, staff, and families!





## Tooraweenah Public School with Principal Karen Smith

### Gilgandra Film Festival



This year's Gilgandra Film Festival was a resounding success, showcasing the incredible talent and creativity of our students and those from schools across the Gilgandra Shire. We are proud to highlight the remarkable films created by our students: Maddison Jenkin, Toby Jenkin, Eliana Smith, Xander French-Hughes, Ryder French-Hughes, Bonnie Alison, Rose Alison and Thea Harte. Each film reflected their unique perspectives, making for an inspiring viewing experience on the topic 'This is My Friend.'

The festival was made possible thanks to the Gilgandra Film Festival committee members, led by Sue Armstrong and her team. Their hard work and commitment ensured a wonderful event that celebrated student creativity and provided a platform for student voice.

### Cross Country & District Cross Country



Congratulations to all the students who competed in this year's Cross Country event! With an impressive turnout of spectators, including parents, grandparents, aunties, uncles, and community members, our students displayed grit and determination as they raced their best.

The following students **pictured**, came first in their categories and will receive their

trophies at Presentation Night:

**Juvenile Boy Champion 1000m:** Ben Larkin

**Juvenile Girl Champion 1000m:** Eloise Semmler

**Junior Boy Champion 2000m:** Hamish Jenkin

**Junior Girl Champion 2000m:** Eliana Smith

A special congratulations to Hamish Jenkin, Eliana Smith, and Billy Larkin, who qualified and competed in the District Cross Country on Wednesday 28th May in Geurie!

Hamish achieved a remarkable placing of 9th, demonstrating his dedication and hard work in training. Eliana had an impressive, strong run with a placing of 13th, while Billy also performed admirably amongst a large field of 50 students.

Thank you Mrs Jenkin for being the Dubbo Wellington Small Schools' Team Manager, and to the parents who assisted with transport and support for our students.

### Books 4 Outback



Books 4 Outback, is an incredible organisation dedicated to promoting literacy and a love of reading in regional and remote areas.

This year, they personally delivered a wonderful selection of pre-loved books to our students. They provide not only entertainment but also invaluable opportunities for learning and imagination. Books 4 Outback works tirelessly to ensure that children in regional and remote communities have access to quality reading materials. Their commitment to fostering literacy and a love for books is inspiring, and we are grateful for their generous support.

### Visiting Show—Good Things Come in Threes.

We had the pleasure of hosting Meerkat Productions, which presented an engaging performance titled 'Good Things Come in Threes.'

This delightful event entertained and

supported the delivery of the Creating Literature element of the English curriculum. Students were able to participate in the performance, making it a truly memorable experience. The show featured three beloved fairy tales: The Three Billy Goats Gruff, Goldilocks & The Three Bears, and The Three Little Pigs. Each story was brought to life using three different styles of puppetry—Hand Puppetry, Marionettes, and Shadow Puppetry—allowing students to see firsthand how song, sound, rhythm, and dialogue can enhance storytelling. The students were captivated by the creativity and skill of the puppeteers. This performance not only enriched their understanding of literature but also encouraged a love for the arts. We look forward to many opportunities for students to create their own puppet shows at school. We are grateful to Meerkat Productions for this wonderful opportunity and look forward to more enriching experiences in the future!

### Simultaneous Storytime

Our school participated in the 2025 Simultaneous Storytime, an event that brought together students and staff across Australia in a shared love for reading. This year's story, "The Truck Cat," written by Deborah Frenkel and illustrated by Danny Small, captivated the imaginations of everyone.

Before lunchtime, Preschool and school students alike joined together to share the delightful tale about cats and humans. Participating in Simultaneous Storytime allowed our students to connect with peers from all over the country, uniting in a celebration of storytelling.

### Life Education Van

Our students had the opportunity to participate in the Life Education visit, which provided valuable lessons focused on safety and well-being. The sessions were tailored to meet the needs of different age groups, ensuring that all students gained relevant knowledge and skills.

For our K/1/2 students, the theme was "Safety Rules." They learned to recognise safe environments, the importance of caring for others, how to stay safe online, and when to seek help if needed. The interactive activities engaged the young learners and helped them understand these crucial concepts in a fun and relatable way. Meanwhile, 3/4/5/6 students participated in the "Relate, Respect, ....**p6**



## Tooraweenah Public School — continued

Connect" program. This session focused on teaching students to respect themselves and others, build positive relationships, and stay safe both online and offline. They also learned how to respond to unwanted behaviours, equipping them with the tools to navigate social situations more effectively.

We thank the Life Education team for their engaging sessions and look forward to implementing these important lessons in our daily lives!

### Guest Speaker visit

This visit not only enriched the students' understanding of their curriculum but also reinforced the importance of real-world experiences in learning. We were thrilled to have James back at the school, and the engagement in the classroom was evident as students asked questions and extended their knowledge of space.

We extend our sincere thanks to James and Petria for taking the time to share their knowledge with us. It was a memorable day that will undoubtedly inspire our students for years to come!



On Thursday, 22nd May, our 3/4/5/6 classroom welcomed James pictured above and Petria Cameron as part of their studies on Space. James shared his fascinating experiences at Siding Springs Observatory, providing students with unique insights into the wonders of the universe.

The students were eager to learn from James, who brought along a wealth of knowledge about space and astronomy. His engaging presentation sparked curiosity and inspired many students to extend their knowledge.



**District Cross Country competitors: Hamish, Billy & Eliana**

### Cross Country Junior & Juvenile Competitors



**Junior Girls: Bonnie, Rose, Amelia, Maddison, Eliana.**



**Junior Boys: Jack, Toby, Cooper, Billy, Hamish, Xander.**



**Juvenile Girls: Maggie, Thea, Ally, Eloise.**



**Juvenile Boys: Hunter, Isaiah, Ryder, Ben, Charlie.**

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## Around The Traps continues ☺

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

On the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, ANZAC DAY 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2025 destiny allowed myself, Donna M.M. Brooker nee Buchanan, eldest daughter of the late Digger and Mignon Buchanan once of "Mt Terrace", Tooraweenah, husband David and son, Nathan, to participate on two momentous occasions:

\*I wish to sincerely thank Mr Michael Bowman and Mrs Jenny Sandford for the profound honour extended to recite "old family names" of the Tooraweenah District during wreath laying:

Major Donald Duncan Buchanan (Belgian) CdeG. Boer War, 3rd NSW Imperial Bushmen; WWI, 13th Light Horse: Gallipoli

and France.

Trooper John Donald Arthur "Digger" Buchanan 6<sup>th</sup> Light Horse/ 1<sup>st</sup> Armoured Brigade. One of 500,000 troops in North Australia. Total Period in Army: One thousand two hundred and seventy one days. Active Service 872days.

Trooper Jack West "Jock" Mitchell brother-in-law, 1<sup>st</sup> Armoured Brigade, one of 500,000 troops in Northern Australia. Total Period in Army: Seven hundred and ten days. Active Service: 641days

Driver Jean Mary Mitchell nee Buchanan AWAS. Australian Women's Army Service. Total Period in Army: Six hundred and forty days. Active Service: 601days.

Names may be found on Tooraweenah

and Gilgandra memorials.

\*It was with dismay that Mary Buchanan's family could not represent her on the day of CWA celebrations, Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> April due to extenuating circumstances. However, the memory of being present on the "official date" of inauguration: Anzac Day, 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2025 shall remain a treasured memory.

May Tooraweenah C.W.A. Branch, float onward into "uncharted" waters-of-time, like the gallant little ship that she is, stoic hearts on board, as always.

Representing: Mrs Mary Buchanan; Mrs Mignon Buchanan; Heather Meiners nee Buchanan; Diane Woods nee Buchanan - **David, Nathan and Donna M.M. Brooker nee Buchanan**

## Tooraweenah CWA Chatter



Hi to all, thanks again to everyone who helped at the Endurance Ride, it has been a very busy April and May.

Members decided in May, that our next meeting would include a visit to the

Royal Flying Doctor facility in Dubbo, which will include lunch. If you would like to go please let Jill know, as we have to make a booking. We will meet at the rooms at 9.30am then car pool. Looking forward to seeing everyone.

Beverley attended the Gilgandra Shire volunteer day at the Library Hub on June 20th, an outing she thoroughly enjoyed.

Don't forget to give Beverley a call if you wish to attend our CWA Saturday (instead of Sunday) Church service, 5pm Catholic Church on the 7th of June, afterwards tea at the Community BBQ.

If you see the 'Sip n Sew' sign out the front of our rooms Wednesday, please call in for a chat and a cuppa.

I look forward to catching up at our outing June 11, 9.30am at our rooms. Bye for now. *Cath Waller publicity officer.*



### Community Bus

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[www.yougotthismate.com.au](http://www.yougotthismate.com.au)

It provides tips and info to help rural men reach their best possible mental health and info you need to help you be the best possible support for a loved one who is experiencing tough times!

## **Veterinarian** **Nadine Allan BVSc Hons**

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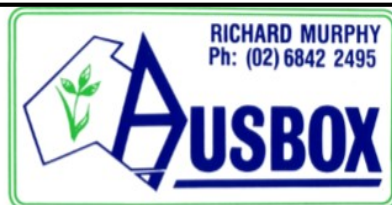


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