



There were some special visitors at the Canowindra Christmas Shopping night.

# Canowindra Christmas Town

On Friday night, the town of Canowindra came alive with the magic of its annual Christmas event - The Canowindra Progress Association's Christmas Markets, brought to you by Cabonne Council and the NSW Government Open Streets Program.

Attracting over 2,000 people to the heart of Gaskill Street, this year, the event was a festive celebration, bringing together locals and visitors for a night of holiday cheer and community spirit. The Christmas Markets are put on each year to provide a blend of local shopping, market stall holders, entertainment, and to provide an opportunity for the community to come together.

The shops were open late for late night trade and the stall holders offered a unique mix of products. Local artisans displayed beautifully crafted jewelry, handmade soaps, knitted goods, and seasonal decorations. Shoppers found everything from

locally produced jams and honey to beautifully crafted wooden toys, making it the ideal spot for unique Christmas gifts.

In addition to the fantastic shopping experience, live entertainment set the mood for the evening. Sik As, DeJaVu and Nerida Cuddy filled the air with party tunes, and children were delighted by the various activities, including the inflatable games of soccer darts, axe throwing and the jumping castle that was set up in the Canowindra Services Club.

Santa Claus, his elves and the Grinch even came along to enjoy the joyous night and join in on the festivities. The Grinch entertained the crowd with its mischievous antics.

The event was a joyful start to the Christmas season, offering an unforgettable experience that showcased the best of Canowindra's spirit.



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## University Scholarship On Offer For Local Girl

The Central West Branch of Graduate Women NSW Inc. is seeking suitable applicants for the Cowra-Canowindra Higher School Certificate Scholarships.

Year 12 female school leavers with University acceptance in 2025 (may be deferred to 2026) are invited to apply. Two scholarships are on offer, each valued at \$2500. These scholarships are financed by locally raised funds from the Central West Branch of Graduate Women and a generous grant from Club Cowra.

The scholarships are awarded to students who have shown commitment and consistent dedication to their education and would benefit from the scholarship.

Over the last ten years the scholarships have been awarded to local female students, from Cowra High School, St Raphael's School and Canowindra High School all of whom were highly motivated, but may not necessarily have had the highest ATAR among their cohort.

Interested students are invited to submit the following by Friday 17 January 2025: CV; letter of application; and be available to attend an interview on Wednesday 22 January 2025. Criteria are available from your School Careers Adviser or email the HSC Scholarship Coordinator gwcwhsc@gmail.com. Go to <https://gwsw.org.au/> for further information.

A panel will select a winner and the scholarships will be presented at the Graduate Women NSW Inc Central West Scholarship Morning Tea on Wednesday 5 February 2025.



Poppy Starr receiving her first in course award for Primary Industries from The Hon. Prue Car, MP.

## First In Course For Poppy Starr

Congratulations to local Cowra girl Poppy Starr on being awarded First In Course for Primary Industries in the 2024 HSC.

Poppy was among 131 students from 80 schools across the state who topped a HSC subject and were presented their certificates by The Hon. Prue Car, MP, Deputy Premier of NSW and Minister for Education and Learning at a ceremony at the University of NSW on Tuesday 17 December.

Poppy is a student at Scots All Saints College in Bathurst, and the school community are celebrating her wonderful achievement.

"Poppy has worked incredibly hard over her two years at Scots All Saints College and is deserving of this extraordinary result of First in Course for Primary Industries," said Head of College Mr Richard Ford.

Poppy was thrilled on Wednesday morning to receive her ATAR of 92.35 including a Band 6 result in four of her subjects.

## LETTERS

On behalf of all Canowindra Lions Club Members I would like to thank The Phoenix for your support during 2024. We also acknowledge the kind support from Lawrences IGA, Canowindra Butchery and Canowindra Country Bakery.

Of course, without the local residents and folk who attended our fund raising catering events throughout the year and indulging in our fabulous steak, rissole and sausages sandwiches we couldn't do what we do. Support our local community.

A big thankyou for all who supported our first Chocolate Wheel and Raffle; and for having a Santa posed on their business. We appreciate your involvement.

THANK YOU

## Have your say...

Have your say on the issues that affect you and your community. To submit a letter to the Editor email us at [editor@canowindraphoenix.com.au](mailto:editor@canowindraphoenix.com.au) or mail us at PO Box 251 Canowindra NSW 2804. Letters to the Canowindra Phoenix must carry the senders name, home address and day and evening phone numbers. Pseudonyms are not accepted. The opinions and views of readers are not necessarily the views of the staff and Management of The Canowindra Phoenix.

## A Message From The Editorial Team

As we close out 2024, we would like to take a moment to extend our heartfelt thanks to our loyal advertisers, readers and the Canowindra community as a whole for your continued support. Without the support of our advertisers each week, we would not be able to bring you The Phoenix on a weekly basis. It is these advertisers who keeps The Canowindra Phoenix free for all to read and we encourage every member of the public to get behind them and to shop local.

It has been an incredible year, and your engagement with The Canowindra Phoenix has made all the difference. Your involvement, whether through reading our stories, sharing our posts, or joining us on our live broadcasts, has helped strengthen our connection, near and far.

A huge thank you and swell of gratitude to Tommy Jeffs of Montrose House for his intrepid and roving reporting on the Canowindra Phoenix Lives. For the last two weeks, Tommy has got in front of the camera and delivered his own special sense of humour and personality to showcase Canowindra to a huge audience via social media.

We are also excited to share —our Facebook page has reached a milestone of over 130,000 views in just a 14-day period, with 50,000 views in the last 7 days alone and this number grows each day. This surge in page views is a direct result of your support and the growing interest in our live streams, which allows us to bring Canowindra's stories and events to a wider audience. This engagement is not only significant for our paper but for the town of Canowindra, as it highlights the vibrant and engaged community we have here.

We look forward to returning in 2025 with our first issue on January 16. Thank you again for being a part of this journey. Together, we'll continue to celebrate and showcase the best of Canowindra in the year ahead.

Warm regards,  
The Canowindra Phoenix

The Canowindra Phoenix

phone | (02) 6344 1846

web | [www.canowindraphoenix.com.au](http://www.canowindraphoenix.com.au)

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### Advertising

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### Advertising Deadline

Monday 10am if you require design

Monday 3pm for pre-designed ads

Editorial Deadline | Monday 3pm

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Sign up on our website to receive the Phoenix via email each week.



**PHOENIX OFFICE HOLIDAY CLOSURES**

**LAST PAPER FOR 2024**  
Thursday, 19 December

**THE OFFICE WILL RE-OPEN**  
Monday, 13 January 2025

**FIRST PAPER FOR 2025**  
Thursday, 16 January 2025

## SNIPPETS...



**Lions Christmas Lights Competition:** The streets around Canowindra are sparkling with Christmas lights as people embrace the Christmas spirit. Be sure to check out some of the entries in the inaugural Lions Christmas Lights Competition at:

- 56 Ryall Street
- 29 Ryall Street
- 37 Ryall Street
- 9 Ferguson Street
- 117 Rodd Street
- 27 Radnor Street

**Raffle Winners:** Congratulations to the winners of the Bowling Club Christmas Raffles, drawn by Frog Fliedner at 7:30pm:

- 1st Prize: Jan Weendas
- 2nd Prize: John c/o Kim Neville
- 3rd Prize: Norm

**Expression Of Interest - Little Athletics 2025/2026 Season:** We are excited to explore the possibility of bringing Little Athletics back to Canowindra for the 2025/2026 season and would love to hear from anyone interested in participating or supporting this initiative. Thanks to our fantastic facilities at the oval and the expertise of our top Throws Coach, Ernie Shankelton, who is also the Sports Trust President, we are in a great position to move forward. Ernie is keen to see Little A's return to Canowindra, and with

recent upgrades such as the top-quality throws cage and plans to improve the long jump pit, we're well on our way to creating a world-class environment for young athletes.

Next on the agenda is further developing other areas of the sports oval, including much-needed upgrades to the cricket club's net area to ensure a safe and high-standard facility for everyone. Please contact Annette Thomas at diggerdo187@gmail.com

**Christmas Church Services:** It's nearly Christmas and our local Anglican and Uniting Christmas Services will be:

- Sunday 22nd 3pm at St Matthew's Anglican Church Eugowra
- Wednesday 25th 9:30am at St Matthew's Anglican Church Woodstock
- Wednesday 25th 9:30am at All Saints' Anglican Church Canowindra
- Wednesday 25th 10am at Cranbury Community Uniting Church

Everyone is welcome to join us to celebrate this most wondrous event.

**13 Days Of Double Demerits:** Double demerit points will be in force from Friday 20 December 2024 to Wednesday 1 January 2025 inclusive for all speeding, seatbelt, motorcycle helmet and mobile phone offences. Please be careful on the roads this holiday season and ensure everyone reaches their destination safely.



Double demerit points come into force tomorrow.

## QUESTION of the week

What is your favourite thing about Christmas?



**Alastair:** The best thing about Christmas is the festivities and of course ... the presents.



**Heath:** My favourite thing about Christmas is being with family and friends.



**Toby:** The best thing about Christmas is all the delicious food. My favourite food is roast chicken.

## Keeping Our Kids Safe In The Water

Just Keep Swimming Canowindra (JKS) has been operating for 11 years, and during this time they have taught countless local children this life saving skill.

Just Keep Swimming will once again be running their intensive holiday program in January. This program is five or ten consecutive weekdays during the holidays.

Just Keep Swimming owner, Melanie Stanbury says, "The kids improve so quickly over the two weeks, coming each day and having the opportunity to keep practicing the skills they are learning is such an advantage. We often have kids who are visiting grandparents or other family, and friends enrol in these lessons. It has become a ritual for many families."

Week one lessons run from 6-10 January, and week two 13-17 January 2025. Fees are \$90 per child, per week. For more information head to facebook Just Keep Swimming Canowindra or contact Mel on 0413 314 520.

CANOWINDRA  
**TYRE SERVICE**

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# Trial Opens For Farm Firefighting Tool

Farmers are encouraged to nominate their vehicles to take part in a fresh trial now underway to help first responders fight bushfires.

As of Friday, private farm vehicles used for firefighting purposes known as Farm Fire Units – or Farm Fire Fighting Vehicles (FFFVs) – can be used unregistered under certain conditions, as part of a NSW Government trial in place until 31 March.

NSW Farmers Business Economics and Trade Committee Chair John Lowe said the scheme had come as welcome news to farmers across the state, who relied on Farm Fire Units to respond to bushfires quickly and effectively.

“Stopping fires as soon as we can is essential, and Farm Fire Units play a key role in these firefighting efforts in rural communities,” Mr Lowe said.

“These vehicles are often first on the scene to fight a fire, and so there’s no underestimating just how essential they are to first responders during bushfire season in NSW.

“Farmers need to be able to use these vehicles legally on the road when moving between farms and under the protection of third-party insurance, and we hope that through this trial, we can secure a permanent solution to make that possible.”

With bushfire season now well and truly underway, Mr Lowe urged farmers in NSW to nominate eligible vehicles to participate in the trial before it concluded on 31 March. “If you’ve got a vehicle that’s in a safe operating condition and has firefighting equipment permanently attached, then we strongly encourage you to nominate it for the trial as soon as possible,” Mr Lowe said.

To nominate a vehicle for the trial, submit the digital form and declare that your vehicle is in a safe operating condition at <https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/farm-fire-fighting-vehicle-nomination>.



The Guilty Dogs will be rocking the Bowlo this Sunday.

## Don't Miss The Christmas Sunday Session At The Bowlo

Canowindra's Sunday Session at The Bowlo is back this Sunday 22 December with a stellar line up of some of the best regional musical talent. Join the Guilty Dogs performing their traditional end of year sets, along with the central west's highly requested duo Toni & Lenny and the Whisky Appreciation Society.

A usual Christmas feature in town, the Guilty Dogs stepped out of their summer attire to wow the crowds at the balloon glow concert in Canowindra and have since etched their name on the street plaques as local favourites. The regional five piece came together several years ago during the pandemic and have honed their musical repertoire to bring crowds a unique blend of rock, blues and classic hits that resonates with audiences of all ages.

With music for everyone's taste during the afternoon, this free community event is family friendly, with a kid's arts table and snack packs on sale, BBQ sizzling thanks to the men's bowls team, Chinese restaurant open, Christmas ham, meat and voucher raffles plus the roll up jackpot. The courtesy bus is running in town.

For further information visit Canowindra Music & Event Co's Facebook page.

**ALIKINETIC DANCE CANOWINDRA**

# Christmas DROP N SHOP

8:30am - 5:30pm

Thursday 19th  
Friday 20th Dec  
Saturday 21st Dec  
Sunday 22nd Dec  
Monday 23rd Dec

\$42/Child/Day

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**SATURDAY 21st DECEMBER**  
**CANOWINDRA GOLF CLUB**  
**7.30PM**

SEE YOU THERE  
MERRY CHRISTMAS

LOVE, PEACE, JOY

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# New Cowra And Canowindra Visitor Guide

Cowra Tourism Corporation is pleased to announce the release of the brand new Cowra and Canowindra Visitor Guide, a resource designed to showcase the very best tourist experiences on offer within the region.

The Visitor Guide is Cowra Tourism's key destination marketing tool and is updated every two years. Cowra Tourism Corporation worked in partnership with design agency interactiVINK to produce a guide that features Cowra's unique tourist attractions and refreshed imagery by local photographers, including Farmpix Photography and Over and Above Photography.

The 40,000 copies of the guide will be distributed via the Cowra Visitor Information Centre, through member accommodation and hospitality venues, 160 Accredited Visitor Centres across NSW, and via various expos in both NSW and ACT throughout the next 18 months.

"We would like to thank all of our members that advertised with us, without their support this guide would not be possible" Cowra Tourism's Marketing Officer Stassi Austin said.

"The guide is an important tool to continue to develop our visitor economy. Each year Cowra welcomes more than 313,000 visitors, contributing an average of \$58 mil-



The new Cowra and Canowindra visitor guide has hit the shelves of Visitor Centres across NSW and ACT.

lion into our economy" she continued.

The updated guide features the iconic golden hues of Cowra's Fields of Gold on the cover, continuing the strong focus on developing agritourism within the region. The guide is the third in a suite of redevelopments, ushering in a new era for Cowra Tourism following a logo rebrand and a new website that was launched a few months ago.

The friendly team at the Cowra Visitor

Information Centre will gladly walk you through the Visitor Guide upon your visit or you can peruse at your leisure with the online copy here: [www.visitcowra.com.au/cowra-visitor-guide/](http://www.visitcowra.com.au/cowra-visitor-guide/) If you would like a copy of the Visitor Guide sent to you to assist in planning your trip or if you would like a box of guides sent to your business, please contact the Cowra Visitor Information Centre on (02) 6342 4333 or by emailing [info@cowratourism.com.au](mailto:info@cowratourism.com.au)

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## BE SEEN@ Canowindra Christmas Shopping Night



## WHAT'S On

19 Dec	<b>Canowindra Bowling Club</b> Thursday afternoon social bowls from 2pm.
19 Dec	<b>Canowindra Services Club</b> Thursday Members Badge Draw. 1st draw \$1,300, 2nd draw \$1,000. Happy hour 6 - 7pm.
20 Dec	<b>Canowindra Food Basket</b> at the Canowindra Connections Centre, Blatchford St from 9.30am - 12pm. All welcome.
20 Dec	<b>Canowindra Bowls Club</b> Friday badge draw \$1,000 up for grabs.
20 Dec	<b>Canowindra Services Club</b> Friday Night Meat Raffles 7pm to 8.30pm plus Members Badge Draw. 1st draw \$1,000, 2nd draw \$1,000, 3rd draw \$1,000. Happy hour 6 - 7pm.
21 Dec	<b>Canowindra Community Carols by Candlelight:</b> Presented by Canowindra Hospital Auxiliary. 7:30pm at the Canowindra Golf Club.
22 Dec	<b>Sunday Session at The Bowlo</b> from 4pm. Featuring Guilty Dogs, Toni & Lenny and the Whisky Appreciation Society performing their traditional end of year sets. Courtesy bus, BBQ, raffles and all the fun fair of a Sunday Session.
22 Dec	<b>Canowindra Bowls Club</b> Sunday badge draw \$600 up for grabs.
Ongoing	<b>Dance Practice:</b> for New Vogue and Social Dance Group every Tuesday afternoon at Canowindra Services Club, 1pm to 3pm, \$5 per person. Phone Gail 0417 747 338.
Ongoing	<b>Meat raffles at the Canowindra Golf Club.</b> Every Saturday from 6pm.
Ongoing	<b>Moorbel Markets</b> the first Saturday of the month, 9am - 12.30pm at Moorbel Hall. Great variety of stalls, BBQ and morning tea. To book a stall or for information call Christine 6344 2916
Ongoing	<b>Canowindra Progress Association meeting</b> third Monday of the month. All welcome. 6pm at the Canowindra Services Club.
Ongoing	<b>Bingo at the Bowly</b> every Thursday at 11am.
Ongoing	<b>CWA Friendship Morning Tea</b> is held every second Monday of the month at 10.30am at CWA Hall.
Ongoing	<b>Little Fishes</b> at the Age of Fishes Museum, 11 am - 11.30am on the first Friday of every month. Free event. For information call the museum on 6344 1008.
Ongoing	<b>The Adult Survivors of Child Abuse</b> - Cowra Support Group meets on the 1st Friday of each month from 12:30pm - 2:30pm and is open to survivors of all communities. All details online via: recover.itmmatters.com.au. Alternatively, call Pascale, the facilitator, on 0458 698 460.
Ongoing	<b>CWA Meeting</b> Canowindra CWA Branch meet on the 4th Thursday of every month at 6.30pm at the CWA Hall in Blatchford Street.
Ongoing	<b>Wrapped With Love:</b> 4th Thursday of month at Montorse House 10am-12pm.
Ongoing	<b>Storytime at the Canowindra Library,</b> 10.15am every Thursday during the school term for pre-school age children.
Ongoing	<b>New Vogue and Social Dance Group</b> Canowindra Services Club, 2-6pm every Sunday.
Ongoing	<b>Bingo</b> 12:30pm Tuesdays, Canowindra Services Club. Refreshments provided.
Ongoing	<b>Cabonne Family Day Care Playgroup</b> Fortnightly on Mondays at St Edwards School Hall, 10am - 12pm. Information on 6392 3219.
Ongoing	<b>Bambini Playgroup:</b> Parents of preschool age children meet at different venues fortnightly on Monday 10am-12pm. For updates, contact 0420 231 929.
Ongoing	<b>Canowindra Dementia Carers Support Group</b> meets on every second Tuesday of the month at the Canowindra Community Health Centre Ryall Street 10am - 12pm. Please RSVP to 6364 4350.
Ongoing	<b>Art and Craft Bar:</b> Wednesdays 3-5pm and Saturdays 10-12noon. Drop in and try lots of great inexpensive activities. No need to book.

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Chase Milton is looking for sponsors to help him reach the Australian Junior Kart Title in 2025.

## Chase Milton Living Life In The Fast Lane

Local Cargo based competitive Junior Kart Racer, Chase Milton is living life in the fast lane on the back of a successful, yet challenging 2024 season.

This year saw Chase progress into the Junior category and into a larger and more powerful kart. In the first few race meets of the year, Chase managed reasonable pace in the mid packs but constantly struggled for rear grip. Investigation revealed a bent chassis, and once this was replaced Chase got a feel for how the kart should really behave and started to challenge for podiums.

Chase entered his first ever Karting Australia event in Albury, which attracts drivers from across the eastern states of Australia. In the qualifying session Chase managed to qualify second which was really promising, and finished that first event in fourth place. Since then, Chase has competed in a further five Karting Australia events in Albury and Dubbo, finding himself in the top three at every event.

Unfortunately, things did not go to plan for Chase in the NSW 2024 State Titles at Manning Valley, but he was really happy with his efforts at a track he had never been to before. Fighting for second place in the final, Chase had a mechanical failure which dropped him back to fifth place.

Another great result for 2024 was second

place in the NSW Junior Southern Stars Series, which consists of five rounds. This was a tough class, and coming second in the series was a massive effort. Chase has also achieved four first, three second and two third place podium finishes, and a large number of quickest laps recorded against some tough competitors mostly from Sydney and the larger cities.

Chase is excited and confident heading into 2025 and has his eye set on winning the Australian Junior Kart Title. However, to progress to this level of competition Chase will need to attract some major sponsors. He will be up against kids from all over Australia who have huge race teams.

"This competition is the feeder to a career in either V8 Supercars or Formula 1 which has been my dream since I could hold a steering wheel," said Chase.

"I am really proud of what just my dad and I have achieved so far. I really appreciated everyone's support throughout this year and in helping get me to a point in my career where I can start racing some of the best in Australia. Thanks to everyone who helped out."

If you are interested in sponsoring Chase in 2025, please contact Chase Milton Motorsport on 0457 439 753 or email stuart.milton180@gmail.com.

*Parish of St Raphael's*

*Christmas Mass Services*

**Tuesday Christmas Eve 24 December**

- 6pm Mass St John the Baptist, Eugowra
- 8pm Mass St Edward's, Canowindra
- 6pm Mass St Raphael's, Cowra
- 9pm Mass St Raphael's, Cowra

**Wednesday Christmas Day 25 December**

- 9.30am Mass St Raphael's, Cowra
- 9.30am Mass St Edward's Canowindra

## CLASSIFIEDS

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Please contact our office on 63421021 or email resume to info@cowrabus.com.au

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CANOWINDRA POOL

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**Canowindra Community Bowls & Recreation Club**  
64 Ryall Street | Canowindra  
Phone 6344-1605 | stay up to date @canobowlingclub

**SUNDAY SESSION 4 PM 22ND DECEMBER**  
MERRY CHRISTMAS TO OUR MEMBERS AND GUESTS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

**OPEN 7 DAYS:**  
Mon from 3pm, Tues – Sun from 11am  
Wednesday Badge Draw \$750  
Friday Badge Draw \$1,000  
Sunday Badge Draw \$600  
Drawn 5 – 6:30pm

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Wed – Sun Lunch  
Takeaway & Dine In 12 – 2.30pm

## CANOWINDRA SPORT

### MEN'S BOWLS

What a great night on Sunday with our Christmas major jackpot. Thanks to all our members and guests for supporting our market giveaway. Well done to all who helped coordinate the prizes and worked on handing out the many different gifts.

This week we have the talented Guilty Dogs playing live music from 4pm. During the afternoon there will be many different activities for kids and members and guests. Its a joyous time of the year, so come along and enjoy a special night of entertainment.

On the bowls front the final of the major fours was played on Saturday. It started as a tense battle early, as finals tend to be. In the middle stage of the game Phil, Richard (sub for Brent, Tot and Clinka gained an upper hand on the game to forge ahead to defeat Teddy, Barney, Marc and Brad. Congratulations to both teams.

The semi-final on Sunday was a hard fought win for Bob, Nigel, Cristy and Caine. One side had the upper advantage early only to lose a few ends, allowing Jamie S, Mitch, Greg W and Jack back in with a fighting chance to win. With three ends to go the scores were locked together. Bob, Nigel, Christy and Caine stormed home to win.

The final is set down for Saturday morn-



Alexander Rice has secured a silver medal in the hammer throw at the recent All schools Australian athletics championships in Brisbane. Older brother Lachy came 9th in triple jump. Both boys extend their thanks to coach Ernie Shankelton.

ing, but can be played any time in the evening if all parties agree. The mixed pairs are into the finals. Well done to all players getting this event over in a month.

The anniversary open triples and the Ron Worboys Memorial Open Pairs are open and nominations are now being taken at the bar. It is a great tournament on 25-26 January. Get your teams in early.

We have great sponsors for these tournaments and ours bowls event during the year and we thank them for their support. We will be listing these sponsors early in the new year.

Merry Christmas and a happy new year to all bowlers, members and guests. You are the people that make our little club great!

**Alcohol-related crashes on regional roads are almost twice as likely to end in death or serious injury.**

**Say “Yeah...NAH”  
to drink driving.**