



AUGUST
2026

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

BALRANALD SHIRE COUNCIL

📍 70 Market Street
✉ PO Box 120
Balranald NSW 2715
☎ 03 5020 1300
@ council@balranald.nsw.gov.au
🌐 www.balranald.nsw.gov.au

SHIRE OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday: 9am - 4.30pm

AFTER HOURS EMERGENCIES

Water & Sewer: 0418 322 902

Roads: 0417 151 798

Euston: 0419 693 956

TRAFFIC UPDATES

www.livetraffic.com

OR

<https://balranald.nsw.gov.au/infrastructure/roads-condition-report/>

SERVICE NSW

(within Balranald Shire Offices)

Tuesday to Friday: 9.30am - 4pm

CLOSED FOR LUNCH: 1PM - 1.45PM

BALRANALD LIBRARY

Monday to Friday: 9.30am - 5.30pm

CLOSED FOR LUNCH: 12PM - 1PM

BALRANALD SWIMMING POOL

Closed - Reopening October 2026

BALRANALD CARAVAN PARK

Daily: 8.30am - 6pm

BALRANALD LANDFILL

Tuesday & Thursday: 4pm - 6pm

Saturday: 10am - 1pm

Sunday: 10am - 3pm

CLOSED DURING WET WEATHER CONDITIONS

EUSTON LANDFILL

Tuesday & Thursday: 1pm - 6pm

Sunday: 9am - 3pm

CLOSED DURING WET WEATHER CONDITIONS

If you wish to receive an e-copy of
this monthly newsletter

please email:

council@balranald.nsw.gov.au

From the Mayor's Office



Bidgee Haven Extension Progress Update

The Bidgee Haven Extension project has had a challenging start, largely due to the incessant wet weather experienced in recent months. As the old saying goes, "If you want it to rain, just try to pour concrete." Unfortunately, that certainly seemed to be the case during the early stages of construction.

Despite the weather-related delays, I am pleased to report that significant progress is now being made. The concrete slab has been successfully completed, and the building frames have begun to be erected. It is encouraging to see the project moving forward and taking shape after a difficult beginning.

I have recently received an enquiry regarding the small parcel of land adjacent to the extension site and whether Council intends to use that area for staff accommodation. I can confirm that this is not the case. Council currently has no plans to develop that land for staff housing.

However, Council is considering a range of future possibilities for the site. These may include the development of additional aged resident units or potentially a further expansion of the Bidgee Haven Retirement Village. Any future decisions will be guided by careful planning and long-term community needs.

To assist with this process, the Government has provided access to specialist consultants who are undertaking detailed investigations and analysis. Their work is expected to provide

Council with valuable information, including:

- The optimum number and type of aged-care accommodation units required to meet our community's demographic needs.
- The constraints and challenges associated with future expansion. Workforce requirements, including the attraction and retention of qualified staff.
- Financial considerations, including operating income and expenses. Appropriate staffing and nursing ratios.
- Project costs and potential funding or grant opportunities. Realistic timelines for future development.

From the Mayor's Office Continued

This information will enable Council to make informed and calculated decisions regarding any future expansion of Bidgee Haven. Our priority is to ensure that any development is sustainable, financially responsible, and capable of meeting the needs of our ageing population for many years to come.

In the meantime, it is pleasing to see the current extension progressing, and I look forward to providing further updates as construction continues.



Flying High Exhibition Opening & Progressive Dinner

Friday 7 August, the opening of the Flying High Exhibition was held at the Balranald Gallery and from there, the Flying High Progressive Dinner which included the guests being “jailbirds” for the evening with the scrumptious main course (supplied by the Balranald Discovery Centre Café) being held at the Old Gaol/Lock-Up and all the jailbirds were entertained by a truly magical magician.

We are incredibly fortunate in the Balranald region to have such a wonderful Arts Gallery. The Flying High exhibition we're celebrating tonight is a perfect example of the vibrant, creative, and meaningful things that take place here. Whether it's an art exhibition, pottery, or the celebration of our unique birdlife, these events enrich our community and play an important role in shaping the identity of our town.

As we admire the beauty and diversity of birdlife showcased in this exhibition, I must also acknowledge a concern that weighs heavily on many of us – the bird flu situation currently unfolding in Australia. This is a serious issue with the potential to create significant challenges for birdlife and mammals across the country. With so many species already under pressure, the impacts could be far-reaching, and it's vital that this matter is addressed promptly and effectively. It will be a real challenge for governments and communities alike, and it's something we must stay informed about and prepared for.

I want to congratulate everyone involved in bringing the Flying High exhibition to life. Your dedication, creativity, and passion have produced something truly special for our town.



Mayor Louie Zaffina
Balranald Shire Council

STAFF AWARDS 2026

On 21 July, Council held its annual Staff Recognition Breakfast. This event celebrates the contributions of all staff members. The Norma Male Excellence Award is given to a staff member who has demonstrated strong commitment to their role with Council, and this year the recipient was Janaya Gaston.

Janaya has served as Council's Librarian since 2021 and has been a driving force behind the transformation of our library services. Her dedication, professionalism, and passion for community learning are evident in every aspect of her work.

Janaya has been instrumental in attracting significant grant funding, with her efforts directly contributing to the revitalisation of the library. The improvements achieved through this funding have reshaped the space into the vibrant, modern, and welcoming facility it is today.

During a critical period, Janaya also stepped into the Early Childcare Leader role to ensure the facility could remain open. Managing both positions simultaneously was an extraordinary achievement that demonstrated her resilience, leadership, and unwavering commitment to supporting essential community services.

In addition to her core responsibilities, Janaya delivers engaging senior programs and ensures the library remains a valued community hub by making the space available for meetings, activities, and local groups. She continues to develop high-quality school holiday programs and approaches every facet of her role with enthusiasm, creativity, and a consistently positive attitude.

Janaya is a valued team member whose contributions make a significant and lasting impact on our community.

" Congratulations Janaya!!!

A familiar face around Council, Adam McCartney was recognised for 20 years of service with Balranald Shire, while Dominee McCartney was also recognised for 10 years of service. Thank you, Adam and Dominee; you are both very much appreciated!



Out of Shadows Walk.

Sunday, 6th September. Start 10am.

The Robinvale Euston Suicide Prevention (RESP) Network is preparing for the Out of Shadows Walk on Sunday 6th September, a fundraiser for Lifeline.

The walk from Euston Club to Community Centre, Robinvale and return is 9km. This distance is to remember the 9 Australians lost to suicide every day. We are seeking your assistance to support the walk by encouraging your family, friends, and workmates to join for an enjoyable walk, or to organise a team for walking.

Every dollar raised from Out of the Shadows Walk will help Lifeline continue to provide 24/7 support to all Australians in crisis. Lifeline took 3500 calls on their busiest day.

We recognise that more proactive prevention is needed in our communities, and we are passionate about increasing mental health awareness to encourage others to speak up, support Lifeline and decrease the devastating side effects of mental health concerns.

Come and have a pleasant walk along the Murray River and then relax and chat on the lawns at Euston Club and enjoy a free BBQ. It is Father's Day; bring Dad for a walk.

You can register at outoftheshadowswalk.org.au or just come along on the day.

Sponsors: #R.E.S.P. Network (Robinvale Euston Suicide Prevention), #Euston Club

Harben St Spoon Drain



The Harben Street drainage project has now been completed and is functioning well, with water draining efficiently. The seal placed along the edge of the spoon drain has provided a neat finishing touch to the works. Overall, these improvements will make a significant difference to this section of the street, enhancing both drainage performance and appearance.



Grading has been completed on Marma Box Creek Road

Maintenance grading has been completed on Marma Box Creek Road, providing a safer and smoother journey for traffic travelling to and from Mungo National Park. A chemical additive has also been applied to a 2.7 km section of road that had become particularly boggy, improving the road's stability and performance.

To maximise the longevity of these works, travellers are encouraged to follow road closure guidelines and avoid using the unsealed road network during wet weather and rain events. By protecting recently maintained roads from unnecessary damage, Council can extend the life of these improvements, make better use of ratepayer funds, and continue maintaining other areas of the road network more frequently.



Infrastructure Updates!

Oxley Road Upgrade construction work Updates



Construction works on MR 514 are progressing steadily. Subgrade works have been completed and lime stabilised, and drainage pipes have now been installed.



While recent weather conditions have contributed to some delays, the team has worked through these challenges and is now gaining momentum on site. With conditions improving, construction is progressing well, and the project continues to move forward as planned.



Heavy Patch Market St

Council's road crew placed a Heavy Patch in front of Lee Gee's in Market St. They have done an excellent job. With the stabilisation implemented this should eliminate future failure of pavement.



Spraying

Council have sprayed the BMX track. Once the prickles die off we will road broom the surface to dispose of the tyre deflators as best we can. So our keen bike riders can get active on the track.



Smiles all around as we enjoyed watching the building works come to life!



We had a wonderful time celebrating two special birthdays this month! Happy Birthday to Marjorie and Jenny. We wish you both a year filled with happiness, good health, success, and many memorable moments. 🎂 🎉

Friday 7th August was Aged care Employee day. Marg did a lovely morning tea. Hdi generously acknowledged our wonderful staff with a potted pansy each. Daina made certificates and we gave all the staff a discovery Cafe voucher that was greatly received.

Thank you for turning up every day and doing what you do.



NEWS FROM Bidgee Haven Hostel



We enjoyed a relaxing bus drive to Yanga Homestead, taking in the beautiful scenery along the way.



Building Work

Our building extension project is moving ahead at an impressive pace. With the walls now erected, the new space is beginning to take shape, bringing us one step closer to the finished facility.



Councillors Visit Euston & Surrounds

On 18 August, Councillors visited Euston as part of Council's ongoing commitment to engaging with communities and hearing directly from residents. The visit provided an excellent opportunity to showcase the Euston settlement and surrounding township. Travelling by bus, Councillors spent approximately three hours touring the area, making the most of their time to gain a deeper understanding of local priorities and challenges. The tour included a stop at Lake Benanee and a drive through Euston Township, allowing Councillors to view local assets, infrastructure, and areas requiring attention.

Following the tour, Councillors joined residents for lunch at the Euston Corner Café. Residents from Euston and surrounding areas attended, taking part in valuable and detailed discussions on a range of local issues and priorities.

Topics raised included damaged roads, road grading and upgrade requirements, as well as several other concerns affecting the township. These conversations were extremely important and provided Councillors with first-hand insight into both the challenges and opportunities facing the community.

Mayor Louie Zaffina said the visit was highly worthwhile and was pleased that he and his fellow Councillors had the opportunity to visit Euston and engage directly with residents.

"This visit forms part of our broader program of community visits across the Shire," Mayor Zaffina said.

"Earlier in this Council term, following the election, Councillors visited Homebush, Hatfield and Clare. We are now looking forward to planning our next visits to Kyalite and Oxley as we continue our commitment to connecting with communities across the Shire and ensuring local voices are heard."



Balranald's Flying High Festival

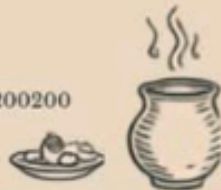
Community Art Workshops

September 12 — Pottery workshop

Tile making and hand building bowls, sculpture etc

\$85 per person

to book call The Gallery Balranald 0350200200



19-20 September

Ben Winsper,

2-day plein air workshop

for more details and to book call Jan 0488 728 986



Paint and Create with Debbie



28 August — Hatfield Hall
30 August- Balranald Gallery
31st August- Balranald Gallery



\$20 per person, includes nibbles

sponsored by the Strengthening Community
Access, Inclusion and Wellbeing Advisory
Committee

to book call The Gallery Balranald 0350200200



October 7th

Sue Grieves- Scratchboard Art

- \$35 per person Bookings 0350200200





Balranald Central School ART EXHIBITION OPENING

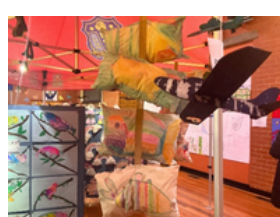
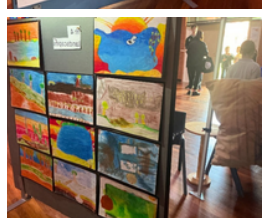


Tuesday 4 August the opening of the "Inspiring Excellence" Art Exhibition at the Balranald Central School.

The Exhibition was a WOW factor and was truly excellent! The quality of the exhibits at all class levels and the artistic and creative talent of the students was just simply overwhelming. All those who attended were also treated to the traditional dancing group of students which was wonderfully inspiring.



Balranald Shire Council's Mayor, Louie Zaffina was in attendance and along with the exhibition's coordinator, Mrs Alison Linnett and school Principal, Mrs Nadine Matarazzo, presented exhibition winners with their prizes. The canapes served were beautifully presented and were delicious!! ... Huge Congratulations to Mrs Alison Linnett and her team involved in putting the exhibition together and to all the amazingly talented students for an Art Exhibition that was both inspiring and excellent.



KERBSIDE PICKUP RETURNS!



KERBSIDE PICKUP IS FREE TO RESIDENTS OF BALRANALD & EUSTON TOWNSHIPS

**Pickup will commence on
Monday 21 September 2026 from 7.00am**

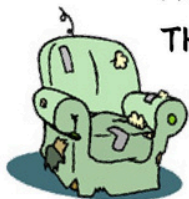
**Please place items out for pickup
NO EARLIER than the weekend of 19 & 20 September.**



WE WILL COLLECT LARGE ITEMS SUCH AS:

- FURNITURE
- WHITE GOODS
- LARGE DEAD TREE LIMBS
- ROOFING & FENCING MATERIALS
- ITEMS TOO BIG FOR YOUR BIN

THAT YOU CAN'T GET TO THE TIP



THINGS WE WON'T COLLECT:

- TYRES
- BATTERIES
- DANGEROUS GOODS
- SMALL PRUNINGS
- GRASS CLIPPINGS
- SMALL ITEMS WHICH WILL FIT
IN YOUR BIN



If you wish Council to remove large items from your yard, please contact Council on 03 5020 1300 to make a time for the item(s) to be inspected and access determined. A collection fee may need to be charged for some large items removed from within your property. Please ask at the time of inspection.

NORMAL TIP HOURS

BALRANALD

- Tuesday 4pm to 6pm
- Thursday 4pm to 6pm
- Saturday 10am to 1pm
- Sunday 10am to 3pm

EUSTON

- Tuesday 1pm to 6pm
- Thursday 1pm to 6pm
- Sunday 9am to 3pm

REMINDER

Don't over fill your bin.
The bin lid must be
FULLY CLOSED
for weekly collections.
Overfilled bins result in
littering and will not be
collected by the
contractor.



The Staying Home, Leaving Violence team
invite you to their

POP UP SHOP

CLOTHES

HOMEWARES

TOILETRIES



TOYS

BOOKS

AND MORE!

THURS 17TH SEPT 1:30PM - 3:30PM

BALRANALD CENTRAL SCHOOL
53-55 WE STREET BALRANALD

AFTERNOON TEA PROVIDED - ALL WELCOME

FOR ENQUIRES AND DONATIONS:

YEVA: 0484 791 029

CORALIE: 0428 892 167

JAIME: 0427 828 755

PLUS
COMMUNITY

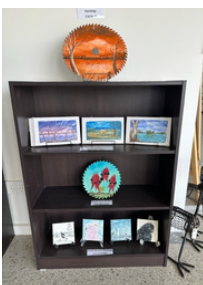
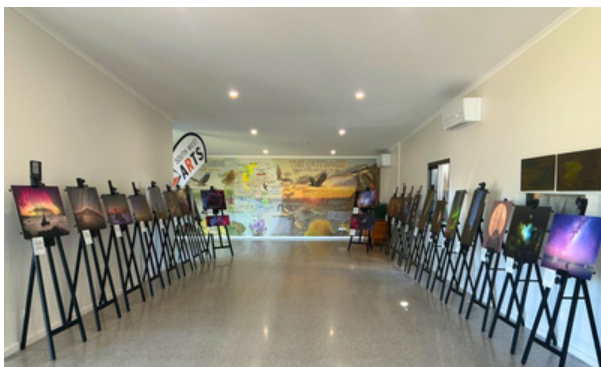
What's happening in the Tourism space?



The latest update on the Discovery Pavilion

Since the soft opening of the Discovery Pavilion in April 2026, we have continued to furnish this wonderful space as funding allows and the following is a summary of the happenings that have taken place at the new Pavilion to date:

- The stunning back wall mural designed by German Ugarte with the print preparation and print management by Zoe Griffiths
- New fish tank currently housing the native Purple Gudgeon fish. Other native fish will soon be housed
- Local Aboriginal Artwork (Currently we have artwork by Louise Murray & Robin Davis) Locally Made Woodwork & Scrap Metal Art (Items from the local Men's Shed) Artwork by local artist Jillian Hargrave
- Recent Art Exhibition at the Discovery Pavilion – The David Malin Awards Astrophotography exhibition. During its 3 weeks showing period at the Pavilion, over 500 visitors viewed the exhibition
- Staging of the Business Xchange event & the "Songs From the Southern Sky" event
- Increased visitor traffic & visitation to the Museum (entry via the Discovery Pavilion)



Upcoming activities at the Discovery Pavilion & the Discovery Centre precinct:

- Funding has been received for 12 wall banners promoting key attractions and sites across the Balranald Shire
- Series of "Culture by Candlelight" events (watch this space for future announcements)
- Regular exhibitions focusing on local talent and content
- More signage and infrastructure across the Discovery Centre precinct

BOOK WEEK 2026 SYMPHONY OF STORIES



This year we chose to focus on our youth Yrs7-10 and look at other ways they can tell stories. We would like to thank Ben Watson and his band (Sage and Luke) from WA for coming and sharing their experience .



AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

JOIN OUR FUN!

JOIN OUR FUN !

- Arts & Crafts
- Science & Exploration
- Homework Help
- Light afternoon snack

PROGRAM DETAILS :

- Monday & Wednesday
- At 03:00 pm- 5:00 pm
- @the Library Hub

MORE INFORMATION

- jgaston@balranald.nsw.gov.au
- FB: Balranald Library Page
- PH: 0350201388



What you need to know about H5 bird flu

Avoid:

contact with sick or dead wildlife and their environment

Record:

the date, time, location and take a photo

Report:

multiple sick or dead birds or other animals via the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline 1800 675 888



EMERGENCY ANIMAL
DISEASE HOTLINE
1800 675 888



Be prepared: dpird.nsw.gov.au/ai

FOODWORKS
BALRANALD

OUR TIMINGS

HAVE CHANGED!

WE ARE NOW OPEN ALL SUNDAY



WEEKDAYS



08:00am - 06:00pm



SATURDAY

9:00am - 2:00pm

SUNDAY

9:00am - 6:00pm

NOW
OPEN

FoodWorks Balranald - Market St

ARE YOU A 13-17 YEAR OLD BOY?



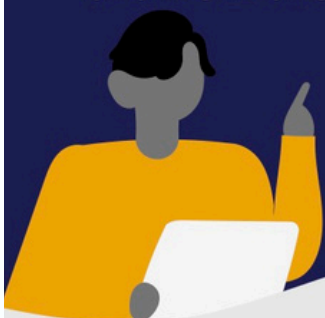
JOIN OUR STUDY

We want to know more about the impacts of the online space on boys' body image – the good, the bad, and everywhere in between! To take part, you need to be a teenage boy (aged 13-17 years), living in Australia.

The study involves:

- A brief online survey to see if you are suitable
- A 60-minute interview with a friendly researcher – online, private, and confidential
- A small gift as a token of thanks for your involvement

If you have any questions, please contact Luka Carr at the University of Sydney via digitalbodyimagelab@sydney.edu.au.



FIND OUT MORE:

<https://tinyurl.com/b-bi-online1>

Ethics Approval Number: 2025/HE001314



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY



JOIN OUR STUDY

ARE YOU A DAILY TIKTOK & INSTAGRAM USER?



Seeking **FEMALES** in Australia
aged 16-21 years for research

What's involved:

- Complete a brief screening survey
- Use TikTok and Instagram as usual for 2 weeks
- Complete short online surveys
- Securely share recent TikTok and Instagram activity data (optional)



For more info, click below or
scan QR code:
tinyurl.com/TikTokInstaStudy



Version 1.01, 13/05/2026

This study has been approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) of The University of Sydney 2025/HE001383.

ELLIS DIESEL

0401953302

- ON SITE SERVICE AND REPAIRS**
- MINING**
- CIVIL**
- AGRICULTURAL**
- ROAD TRANSPORT**
- CARS, UTES & 4X4s**
- CERTIFIED AIRCONDITIONING SYSTEM REPAIRS & SERVICES**
- FIELD SERVICE & BREAKDOWNS**

PHONE TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT!

CERTIFIED AIRCONDITIONING SYSTEM REPAIRS & SERVICES

FIELD SERVICE & BREAKDOWNS

ELLISDIESELBALRANALD@GMAIL.COM

kirinari Transport

Balranald Community Transport

Balranald Community Transport is now operating fortnightly!
Call 1800 590 590 to book your transport.

TRIP COST		
Local Trips	\$6.00	Each Way
Swan Hill	\$25.00	Return
JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER TIMETABLE		
14 July	Swan Hill	10.30am-3.30pm
15 July	Local Balranald	9am-2pm
28 July	Swan Hill	10.30am-3.30pm
29 July	Local Balranald	9am-2pm
11 August	Swan Hill	10.30am-3.30pm
12 August	Local Balranald	9am-2pm
25 August	Swan Hill	10.30am-3.30pm
26 August	Local Balranald	9am-2pm
8 September	Swan Hill	10.30am-3.30pm
9 September	Local Balranald	9am-2pm
22 September	Swan Hill	10.30am-3.30pm
23 September	Local Balranald	9am-2pm

Call us: 1800 590 590

Send an email: questions@kirinari.com.au

kirinari.com.au

ourplace
education is the key to the door

Tuesday's are WELCOME

Day's at Euston Public School

Tuesday's 9am - 4pm
*during NSW school term

Anna Kilpatrick
Community Hub/
Playgroup
Coordinator
Ph: 5026 3766

Amanda Healy
Community Facilitator
Our Place
Ph: 0412 730 226

Providing support with:
access to services, employment, adult education,
wellbeing, school & pre-school connection and much more.
*Private and confidential spaces available to chat

WELCOME TO ALL FAMILIES, PARENTS AND CARERS WITH CHILDREN AGED 0-5 YEARS

EUSTON PLAYGROUP

FREE

WHERE: EUSTON PUBLIC SCHOOL
PARKING & ENTRY VIA SHAILER TERRACE

TIME: 9:30AM - 11AM

DAY: TUESDAY'S
*DURING NSW SCHOOL TERMS

PLEASE PHONE: 5026 3766 FOR MORE INFORMATION

PLAY AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES, SONG & STORY TIME



Pottery Workshop 2

WORKING WITH THE BISQUE FIRED PIECES. LEARN TO ADD COLOUR AND EFFECTS TO OUR PIECES, USING UNDERGLAZES AND/OR MID-FIRE GLAZES.

\$85 PP BYO LUNCH

SATURDAY 12 SEP 11-4 PM
EXTRA FEE IF YOU NEED TO OUR BISQUE FIRED BUNDLES

Call Balranald art Gallery to book



Farms of the Future
Agtech Fundamentals Workshops

An introductory workshop for farmers keen to learn how **Agtech and connectivity solutions** can be used on farm to accelerate **productivity and profitability**

What you'll learn

-  **Understand your unique Agtech needs**
Identify current on-farm challenges and discuss opportunities for Agtech solutions
-  **Connectivity know-how**
Understand connectivity definitions and terminology
-  **Discover the Agtech Toolbox**
Explore and research the latest Agtech products from 50+ vetted suppliers
-  **Create your Agtech plan**
Build confidence in developing a plan to purchase, install and use Agtech on farm
-  **Unpack subscriptions**
Learn about subscriptions, and why they're an important part of your Agtech solution.
-  **Know the right questions to ask**
Plan your Agtech purchase and learn the right questions to ask your potential suppliers



Upcoming workshop dates

-  **Euston**
28 Nixon St  **29 September, 2026**
9.00 am to 2.30 pm
-  **Balranald**
2721 Ivanhoe Rd  **30 September, 2026**
10.00 am to 3.30 pm

Free workshop registration
agtech.dpi.nsw.gov.au





These events are in collaboration with Western Landcare NSW

SafeWork
This event is a SafeWork NSW eligible interaction. By attending, you may be eligible to claim the \$1,000 SafeWork NSW small business rebate for approved safety items.

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

E: agtech@dpi.nsw.gov.au
agtech.dpi.nsw.gov.au




TEXAS HOLD 'EM POKER

Nights

7pm 1st & 3rd Saturday's of each month at the Balranald Ex-Services Club

\$20 Buy In & \$10 Re-Buy

More Info: Chris.Camin@balranald.nsw.gov.au
0408053903



SAVE THE DATE

MELBOURNE CUP Luncheon

TUESDAY 3 NOVEMBER 2026

VENUE
RETREAT STATION

PROUDLY SUPPORTING
CLARE PUBLIC SCHOOL P&C

DONATIONS & SPONSORSHIP
Options Available
FOR BUSINESSES WISHING TO SUPPORT OUR ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

EMAIL ENQUIRIES TO
clarepsandc@gmail.com

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