

HOLBROOK HAPPENINGS

Issue 502

4 June 2025



GREATER HUME COUNCIL SEEKS DROUGHT DECLARATION

While our northern neighbours battle devastating floods, here in Greater Hume, we watch the sky and pray for rain that never comes. Dams are dry, paddocks are bare, and spirits are stretched thin.

Feed is becoming harder to source, with fodder supplies tightening and prices rising. For many local farmers, the cost and availability of feed is becoming a daily challenge. With over 30% of our workforce employed in rural industries, this is more than a farm issue — it is a whole-of-community concern that extends beyond financial burdens and can significantly impact mental health.

At the May Ordinary Meeting, Council moved a motion urgently calling for a drought declaration for our region. This is not just a declaration but a call to change the policy of drought declaration to include water, fodder and freight subsidies for our farmers.

This is about more than paddocks and rainfall — it is about people, jobs, and the future of rural Australia.

EXCELLENT SUPPORT FOR SHEEP SHOW

2025 saw 200 secondary students from 9 schools gather at the Holbrook Sporting Complex for the annual Holbrook Sheep & Wool Fair. During the first day these students rotated through different workshops where they learnt about assessing sheep and fleeces, auctioneering skills, sheep health and working and training sheep dogs.

The remainder of the event was taken up with the judging of sheep from both open exhibitors and participating schools, and the students competing in competitions where they were being assessed on their own judging skills.

Thanks to Holbrook Lions and Rotary for helping to feed everyone, our workshop presenters (including Seamus McKillop & Louis Simpson), Caity Thomson for checking that we were compliant with biosecurity, Brad & Dev Carman for cleaning out our sheds, and the table tennis and basketball boys who assisted with our set up.



HOLBROOK CENTRAL SCHOOL REUNION CLASS OF 1975

2025 marks 50 years since we finished at Holbrook Central School, and we'd love to celebrate this milestone with as many of you as possible. We've set the date for **Saturday, 18th October 2025**. Venue and time details will be shared closer to the event.

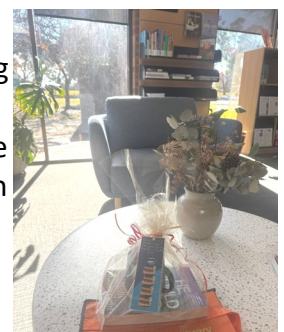
It's hard to believe it's been just over seven years since our last catch-up—it was so great to reconnect. Please spread the word to any fellow classmates and teachers you're still in touch with. If you know of anyone from our year who has sadly passed away since 2017, let us know—we'd like to honour their memory at the reunion. **Save the date—we hope to see you there!** Follow us on Facebook [Holbrook Central School Reunion 2025](#)

JUNE MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Are you a new resident of Greater Hume? Have you been thinking about joining the library?

During the month of June, become a library member at your local Greater Hume Council library branch and each new adult membership goes into the draw to win a library gift pack.

Culcairn – 40 Balfour Street, Culcairn, Henty – 32 Sladen Street, Henty
Holbrook – Library Lane, Holbrook, Jindera – 83 Urana Street, Jindera



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DEADLINE

**Next deadline 9.00am
Friday 13 June 2025**

We prefer articles to be emailed to:
holbrookhappenings@gmail.com

If you are a new advertiser, email us for
information & a booking form.

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COOKARDINIA MEMORIAL HALL REPORT

Improvements to the Hall are ongoing. This year we have been able to benefit, resulting in the Hall now looking very clean and well cared for. Greater Hume Shire replaced floor covering containing asbestos, with new coverings in the meeting room.

We also received funds upon the closure of the Cookardinia Recreation Ground Committee's bank account, which enabled us to do upgrades to the toilets. Thank you to the former committee for their thoughtfulness.

A very successful Working Bee and lunch was organised to trim grass and bushes and replace the verandah posts. Some painting of the furniture and fittings has been attended by committee. We gratefully received a donation of 23 chairs from the Uniting Church, Holbrook. Holbrook RSL visited to view our War Memorial Plaques. The Hall has now been placed on the War Memorial Register and was listed on the Heritage register in 2012. Cheryl Crighton (Sone) historian, has researched war service records of a few men who had been omitted. Plans are now underway to seek funding to have these additions made to the WW2 Honour Board. Thank you Cheryl.


Most recently the Hall Committee catered for a vintage tractor tour around the areas of Clifton, Pulletop and Cookardinia. Tour members expressed how much they enjoyed their trip and food provided.

Bike riders on a tour of NSW and Victoria dropped in for a toilet stop/break earlier in the year.

We are very excited yesterday, to receive and offer of table tops to repair our large trestle tables.

If you require equipment hire or Hall hire we located 23km from Henty, Culcairn and Holbrook in a rural setting. Contact Kym Hulme 0427 366 170.

The AGM and sausage sizzle was held on 2nd June 2025 @ Cookardinia Memorial Hall.

**Holbrook & District
Community Noticeboard**
Community Radio Station 2GHR
96.7FM ph: 02 6036 3428
Holbrook Community Website
www.holbrook.nsw.au

HOLBROOK LANDCARE

Invitation to join HLN's Soil Discussion Group: Do you have an interest in improving soil condition and plant production? Have you a suspected soil constraint that you want to investigate further? Are you interested in trialling novel products?

We are forming a discussion group of about 10 local farmers who may be looking for solutions to production challenges, particularly soil related. The group will experience peer-to-peer learning and provide input into the design of a local demonstration site.

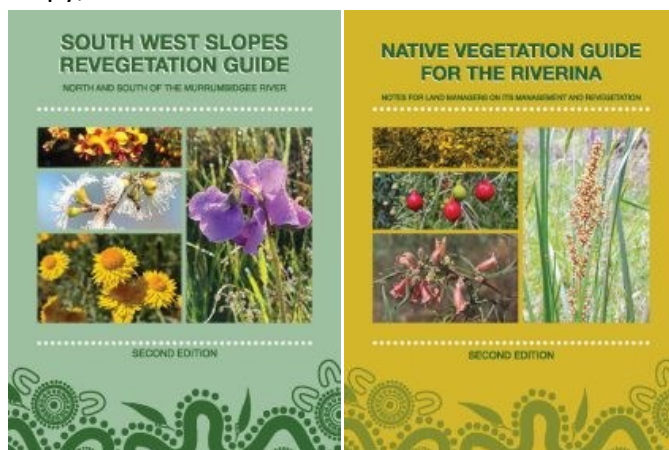
The first meeting will be held in June and occur twice per year. People of all ages and experience are encouraged to join. Contact Nick at the Holbrook Landcare Office for more information.

Drought Support: In terms of help and advice with your farm decision making, livestock health, biosecurity etc, Local Land Services are your main port of call. Over the coming months, we'll be working with LLS and other organisations to ensure all areas have access to services, information and whatever non-financial support you tell us you need and we can muster. There will also be some social events popping up that we encourage people to come along to.

Updated Native Vegetation Guides: HLN and Murrumbidgee Landcare Inc (MLi) have spent the past couple of years collaborating on updating the vegetation guides, plus developing a website (<https://revegetation.org.au>).

These resources ensure regionally based best practice guides are available to help ensure the resilience of revegetation and environmental restoration efforts in a climate uncertain future.

Hard copies are currently being distributed to those that have previously expressed an interest in receiving one. If you would like to receive a copy, call in to the office.



TECHNOLOGY AT ST PATRICK'S

Technology has become an indispensable part of modern education, transforming how students learn and how teachers teach. St Patrick's has embraced this form of teaching and learning, as we know it will transform the lives of our students well beyond their school years.

All of our students have their own Chromebook computer. This machine does not go home with the students, although they proved to be more than valuable when learning from home during Covid. The Chromebook computer only has one program on it, Google Chrome. Through this, students can access all the programs they require. Everyone has access to the Google suite of tools, including Gmail and docs with which they do their word processing.

A significant tool that is used by staff is Google Classroom. This program enables them to send lesson resources directly to students and provides them with assignments and grades. It also saves time, builds collaboration, and can enhance learning for students.

Whilst we are incredibly fortunate to have access to resources such as Chromebooks, students must be given the digital literacy skills they need to navigate technology in the modern world. These skills allow them to access information, communicate effectively, and collaborate efficiently. Paired with this are Cyber-Safety lessons where students are given the skills and knowledge essential to being online both at school and at home.

All classrooms are equipped with smart boards that allow students to have further interaction with their learning.

St Patrick's uses the Compass School Management system as our main point of communication with parents. The Compass app allows parents to receive school information and notifications, and is the main way for them to communicate their child's absence from school.



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HOLBROOK PUBLIC SCHOOL

Netball: Earlier in the month, Arabella P was selected to represent the Southern Riverina PSSA at the Riverina East Netball trials at Lauren Jackson Sports centre. She had a great day and tried her hardest. Congratulations Arabella!

Mortimer Shield: On Thursday, 3 April, Miss Hemphill took our Year 5/6 League Tag and Rugby (tackle) teams to Albury to compete in the Mortimer Shield Gala Day. Although scores were not kept, both teams did very well and made big improvements throughout the day. Special mention must go to our stand out players, Clare C and Logan M, who were both influential in our successes on the day. Both teams worked hard throughout the day and really came together as a team. A big thanks to Mr Liddell for his co-coaching of the girls team and to the many parents for their support on the day!

Rugby League Trials: Last term Zye, Zayne and Henry B travelled to Wagga to trial for the Riverina Rugby League team. All boys gave it their all scoring tries and showing a high level of skill. Congratulations to Henry B who was selected in the team to travel to Sydney next term to play at the State Championships.

Holbrook Public School is Celebrating 150 Years of Education: We are organising a week of celebrations at HPS in Term 4, week 4. We have a planning meeting on Wednesday 18th June at 3:30pm in our school library. We would love to have as many current parents, past parents and community members attend to help us plan for this celebration.

School Cricket Team: Our school knockout cricket team has made it through to the Regional Semifinals! Our team defeated Wagga Wagga by 33 runs and will now play Corowa PS in October. A big thank you to Mr. Liddell for scoring and Mr Cardile who helped keep the pitch playable throughout a very wet day last week.

NSW PSSA Hockey: Congratulations to Percy & Claudia who represented the Riverina at the NSW PSSA Hockey Championship in Newcastle last week. Both played in some very challenging conditions with heavy rain everyday. Our school was able to watch the livestream of both players playing which was very exciting for everyone back in Holbrook!

National Simultaneous Storytime: K-2 joined

Greater Hume
Children's Services
for National
Simultaneous

Storytime. This year
the story was 'The
Truck Cat'. Over 2
million other
participants across



Australia read this book at the same time, on the same day! Students then completed learning activities from the book. It was a wonderful opportunity to promote reading and literacy across our school and community.

GHSC MEETING - MAY

At the May Council meeting some key decisions for our community were made.

Council resolved to –

- ♦ Formally write to the NSW Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Emergency Services, and relevant Federal departments to urgently request a drought declaration for our region. Please find attached a media release for more information
- ♦ Restrict public access to the Carabost Hall due to safety concerns. Community consultation will occur in the coming months in order to determine the future of the Hall.
- ♦ Give public notice of its intention for the leasing of the road reserve adjoining 19 Shea Road Mullengandra. Have your say on this proposed road lease via - <https://shorturl.at/PXP24>.

For more information on these decisions and to read the full Council minutes from the meeting, go to – <https://shorturl.at/Rqwxxy>.



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HOLBROOK MOTORCYCLE CLUB

This year, the Holbrook Motorcycle Sports Club has established a new partnership with Rider Sport Australia, a newcomer in the field of insurance for motorcycle clubs, mountain and road bikes, four-wheel drives, camping providers, as well as tour operators and coaches. This marks a significant transition for our club after 47 years with ACU, which evolved into Motorcycling Australia and its state body, Motorcycling NSW.

The response to this change has been overwhelmingly positive, highlighted by a Minikhana event aimed at young beginners and riders seeking to enhance their skills at the Wangoola MX track, where they engaged in bending, flag racing, barrel racing, and figure-eight courses in April.

On Easter Monday, the MX track was once again active, attracting a substantial turnout of senior and junior riders for our well-received Ride Park Days (non-racing).

Moving forward to May 18, we witnessed the revival of the Green Lizard Enduro Series, which will take place over three rounds: Cross Country at 'The Pines', Sprint at 'Bendemeer' Cookardinia, and Enduro at 'Yaven Creek' Adelong.

The inaugural round was held on the Bickley's property, 'The Pines', on May 18. A light rain on Sunday morning helped to keep the dust down on Morgans Ridge for most of the day, although conditions near the finish line were still dusty. It was encouraging to see numerous locals, former residents, and their children participating in the cross-country event. Thomas Doake emerged victorious in the over 35's category, while Gary Wailes narrowly missed out on a podium finish. Tom Hicks and Colin Geddes also delivered commendable performances in the Over 35's class. In the clubman category, Daniel Morton, Nick Aberline, and club president Mitch Fenner

showcased their skills by successfully navigating the rocky terrain. Committee member Kris Quonoey and his partner Peter Leahy excelled to win the Pony Express and assisted one of the four female riders who had become stranded on a log.

The accolade for perseverance goes to Peter Sinclair, who, after participating in the Working Bee on Saturday morning, decided to walk the 15km track. Almost five hours later, he completed the course. The following day, he participated in the over 50's category.

With numerous positive remarks, the upcoming round at Cookardinia is expected to be even larger.

On June 15, the next Ride Day will take place at the Wangoola MX track, located 10km north of Holbrook along the Hume Highway. For further information, please visit the Holbrook Motorcycle Sports Club's website and Facebook page.



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HOLBROOK RS GOLF CLUB

The Holbrook Annual Ladies Tournament was held on May 21st. We had 42 women playing on our lovely course. Thanks to the RS Club for the delicious lunch and Chris Bale for donating the NTP prizes. Majorie Winnett and family kindly donated our major prizes. Marjorie is a Life Member and our Patroness. It was very special to have her three children present for the day and help hand out prizes.

Congratulations to our Winners.

A Grade Winner: Sandra Wilson, R/up - Sylvia Spring. **B Grade Winner:** local Sol Webb, R/up Cheryl Smedley. **C Grade Winner:** local Jane Quick, R/up local Liz Keogh.

Vets trophy: local Judy Jones.

Super Vets trophy: Margaret Tan.

Visitors trophy: Anne McDougall.

Thank you to our volunteers who make our day run smoothly.

51 Golfers played in the Holbrook Annual Men's Tournament. A big thank you to the RS Club for a fantastic lunch, to Holbrook Paddock Eggs for donating the eggs for breakfast, our volunteers who helped out and to Meralyn from the MDGA for looking after the scorecards and entering the results.

Scratch Winner: Travis Merritt, R/up Mathan Schneider, 2nd R/up Tony Castles.

A Grade Stableford Winner: Gordon Webb, R/up Mark Winnett, 2nd R/up Greg Kent.

Longest Drive Travis Merritt.

B Grade Stableford Winner: Hamilton Black, R/up Chris Spratling, 2nd R/up Richard Bennetts.

Longest Drive Joe Hardwick.

C Grade Stableford Winner: Nick Cottrell, R/up Kieran McCarthy, 2nd R/up Michael Hardwick.

Longest Drive: Justin Mohr.

Nearest to String: Graeme Quick.

NTPs: Nathan Schneider 3rd, 9th & 10th, Russell Jones 5th, George Murdoch 14th

HOLBROOK BASKETBALL CLUB

Results for the winter competition

Ladies' Round 4: Hoppers 43 d. BJ's 48.

Men's Round 3: Goodies 98 d. HVC 21.

Simco 50 d. Sonics 42.

Men's Round 4: Goodies 65 d. Simco 42.

Sonics 65 d. HVC 44.



WHAT'S ON AT HOLBROOK RETURNED SERVICEMEN'S CLUB

RESTAURANT OPEN 7 DAYS

Monday Mad Monday
Members' \$11 Meals
- lunch & dinner

Wednesday Burger Night

Thursday Pizza Meal Deal Night—
Members' \$39 for 2 large pizzas,
garlic bread & drink.



Saturday & Sunday

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COMMUNITY DIARY

June 2025

- Wed 4 Public meeting for proposal of 163
Wallace St - 5.30pm @ Holbrook Library
Complex
- Thu 5 **Dementia Friendly Morning Tea 10am @
Sporting Complex**
- Wed 11 Specialist Diabetes Care @ Vecare Health
- Thu 12 **Storytime 11.00am @ Holbrook Library**
Specialist Diabetes Care @ Vecare Health
**GHSC Settlement Strategy Plan public
meeting 5-6pm @ Culcairn Memorial Hall**
- Fri 13 OMNI
- Tue 17 **Holbrook Playgroup @Holbrook Library
Meeting Room**
- Wed 18 Public School Planning Meeting for 150yr
celebrations 3.30pm @ school library
- Mon 23 **Central Rural Fire Brigade AGM 7.00pm**
- Tue 24 Probus 11am @ Woolpack Inn Museum
- Thu 26 **Storytime 11.00am @ Holbrook Library**
- Fri 27 OMNI

July 2025

- Tue 1 **Holbrook Playgroup @Holbrook Library
Meeting Room**
- Fri 11 OMNI
- Tue 15 **Holbrook Playgroup @Holbrook Library
Meeting Room**
- Thu 24 Storytime 11.00am @ Holbrook Library
- Fri 25 **OMNI**
Special screening of "Just a Farmer" -
Holbrook Sporting Complex
- Tue 29 **Holbrook Playgroup @Holbrook Library
Meeting Room**

August 2025

- Fri 1 St Paul's College Discovery Day
- Fri 8 **OMNI**
- Thu 14 Storytime 11.00am @ Holbrook Library



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTRAL RURAL FIRE BRIGADE AGM

Monday June 23rd at 7.00 pm
AT THE FIRE SHED

PLANT PICK PLATE

I recently travelled to and visited the Adelaide Botanic Garden which houses a vast diversity of plants from Australia and across the world. The garden is also recognised for and plays an important role in conservation by growing and researching diverse collections of plants including threatened species. Although the varied range of Garden rooms, together with the architectural buildings onsite are enormously impressive and inspirational, this was not the reason for my visit. The Dale Chihuly's Garden Cycle Exhibition had been on display since last September. It had transformed the Adelaide Botanical Garden with 16 large scale glass artworks. Chihuly works with a team of skilled glass blowers to create his intricate and large scale glass art installations. He explores translucency, light and colour to create unique and organic, plant and sea inspired forms that have featured in museums, gardens and public spaces around the globe. Adelaide was the first city in Australia to host the garden exhibition by Chihuly. The exhibition had ended when I visited and the artworks were being dismantled. However, there were still 8 remaining glass masterpieces on display. All were organic forms, vibrant and captivating, dotted around the Botanic Garden. What would we see around the next corner? My favourite, the "Fiori Boat" – A small wooden boat over flowing with vibrant coloured flower and reed inspired glass artworks just simply floating on the pond, magical. Inside the circa 1877 Glass Palm House hung Chihuly's "Lapis Chandelier" – a dual vertical hanging artwork of spiralling tendrils reaching out from a central sphere adorned in the centre with glass cones and balls, magnificent. This one has been gifted and remains in the Gardens as a reminder of the extraordinary and unique exhibition created by Dale Chihuly.

Passionate Gardener, June.



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Wednesday 6-7pm

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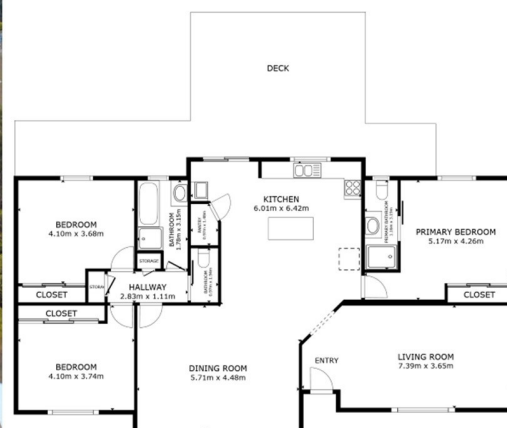
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\$850,000



SMALL ACREAGE, PERFECT FOR THE HORSE OWNER

A Lloyd's transportable home, 3 Bedrooms all with BIR's, 1 Ensuite, 1 Bathroom, Kitchen with electric cooking, adjoining dining area, 2 linen cupboards, lounge room & laundry. Front bullnose verandah, back deck/undercover entertaining area with ramp access and 2 vehicle carport. Bottled gas for ducted heating through floor. Evaporative Air Conditioning and Split system.

Property divided into 4 Paddocks - 3 with troughed water

Town Water, 1 x 22000-gallon tank, 2 x 7500-gallon tanks, 1 Dam

Divided Dog Enclosure & Chook House

Hay Shed & Feed & Tack Shed (Front and Rear access)

Covered Yards & Crush, Stable, lined with divided door & yard

Round Yard/Arena - bigger than a standard round yard

Large Shed (12.3m L x 10m W x 3m H at Front 2.8 m at rear), 240 vault power, 4 vehicles

Established garden, vegetable garden & citrus trees <https://nutrien.harcourts.net/L34716574>



179 Albury Street, Holbrook

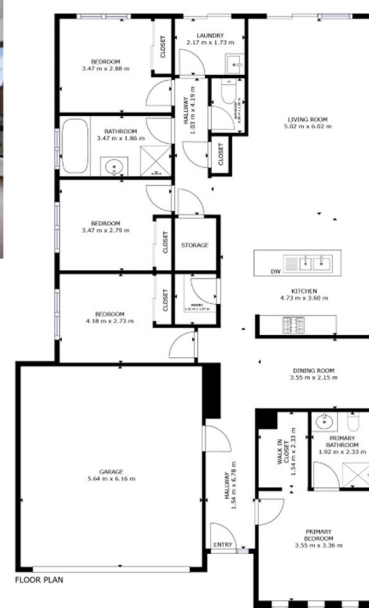
\$645,000



NEW FAMILY HOME—JUST BUILT

If you are looking for a home that offers something a little different then you'll certainly find it in the four bedroom Metricon Amira home.

Designed to complement family living whilst providing maximum flexibility, this home features a private master suite located at the front of the home and the three other bedrooms zoned at the back. The centrally located kitchen, which has a large walk-in pantry, looks out to the open plan living area. All the comforts of modern living with back veranda overlooking the garden area. New owners are able to landscape the property as they desire. <https://nutrien.harcourts.net/L34729462>



Nutrien Harcourts 02 6036 2033

Margot Pitzen 0407 658 401

156 Albury St, Holbrook