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PAGES 5, 8

Bard and berry time

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Sharyn finds balance in the vines

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BY TANIA PHILLIPS

Life balance – it’s something we hear a lot about but Japanese teacher and winery employee Sharyn Fujie believes she’s found it.

These days the semi-retired Warwick High teacher divides her time between working at the school, at the cellar door at Bent Road Winery in Ballandean and running her picnic basket business Cheese Witch.

It’s the best of all worlds for Sharyn, whose idea of the perfect meal is eating beautiful local produce and drinking equally impressive local wine in the shadow of the vines.

“I just like cheese and I like doing interesting food and wine matching with cheese and making cheese even more delicious than it already is,” she said laughing as she explained the name of her business.

“I’m a teacher by trade but I also work at the Bent Road Winery Cellar Door.

“The picnic baskets are the way we provide food to the customers that come for wine tasting. They can taste wine and then also have a picnic basket and sit out among the vines. The can grab a bottle of wine and have a picnic out there.

“Basically, I source the contents of the picnic hampers from local artisans.”

The hampers include products from: Choose Dairy Free vegan cheeses; Stanthorpe Cheese Co; Premier Meats Tenterfield; Ballandean Bakery; Jamworks Gourmet Foods as well as local fruits and greens.

“Premier Meats at Tenterfield do amazing smoked charcuterie” she said.

“We’ve got Stanthorpe Cheese, which is just the most delectable cheese, we have the whole range of their cheeses. We have condiments from Jamworks – sweet and savoury as well as bread baked by the local baker in Ballandean, which is where the winery is. And then there are fresh organic greens from local gardens.”

So how did she go from teaching to Cheese witchery?

“I just saw that there was a real need,” Sharyn explained.

“We’ve got something like 55 wineries in the area – within a 40–50-kilometre radius - but really not enough places for people to eat. A vineyard to me is the perfect spot for



Dining in the shadows of the vines.

a picnic, they’re gorgeous, they’re romantic and beautiful. The scenery is stunning and you’ve got the beautiful wines.

“If you’ve got a bottle of wine and you’re sitting under a grapevine with grapes on it that have been used to make the wine, you just can’t beat it.

“To sit there with a beautiful locally sourced picnic is my idea of heaven.

“It is just such a lovely way to relax. People don’t necessarily want to sit in a restaurant and have a formal meal. I just think on beautiful day when you are sitting outside under the vines just with one or two people, or a group it’s just so relaxing. You can lay on the ground, you’ve got your

picnic basket, you’ve got your blanket, you’ve got everything you need. You don’t have to be sitting in a restaurant, you can enjoy the vineyard.”

Sharyn said her business was going pretty well.

“Well, enough,” she laughed.

“It’s only a very tiny thing. It’s more like a hobby really but it’s just something I think we really need in the area and people really do love it.”

And while you can usually mostly find Sharyn’s Cheese Witch baskets at the winery, she will be providing food for this year’s Shakespeare Under the Stars.

“Again, because that’s an outdoor event,



Sharyn Fujie says her “hobby” business is going well.



Picnic time.

it’s perfect,” she said.

“I really like supporting locally made products and I think if people are going to come and visit an area they should try the local produce and we’ve got some fantastic local produce.

“Everybody has been really supportive and their products are absolutely beautiful. I’m really glad to promote them. And also, because I’m based at a winery and I work at a winery, I know the wines really well, I can match them. I know they wines are perfectly matched for picnics.”

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Dance group rises to the occasion

BY TANIA PHILLIPS

For those who danced as a child, there was something special about practising for weeks, perfecting a routine and then proudly getting up on stage in front of friends and family.

It was a great feeling and one that not a lot of people get to experience into adulthood. However, the adult dancers at the Warwick-based Rise - Freestyle Warriors know just what it feels like and a little later this month they will be experiencing it again but this time under the stars and as part of Stanthorpe Little Theatre's Shakespeare in Shorts.

The group, under the watchful eye of dance principal Kylie Wright, have learned medieval-style dancing to add an extra dimension to this year's Shakespeare event and add yet another style to their repertoire.

"It's been really interesting," Kylie laughed.

"The Shakespeare opportunity has been lots of fun, and quite interesting for us. It's been good

"We were very fortunate, we are working with Annie on a separate project at the moment and we got talking and she found out that I've been dabbling in medieval dancing."

Rise is a labour of love for Kylie.

"Rise has been operating in Warwick for about eight or nine years now," she said.

"We just a small dance studio. We don't do competitions and we just dance for the enjoyment of it. I have a class that's suited for kids and I've got a class for adults and we explore many, many, many different dance styles."

Rise came about when a friend of Kylie's approached her about starting a dance troupe.

"She convinced me to go along with her, so we started Rise in the Baptist Church Hall in Warwick and then when she moved to Hervey Bay, I took it over by myself," Kylie said.



Devilishly good fun.

The group currently now has between 20 and 25 dancers, around 10 kids and teens and 10 adults, give or take a couple. The group dance to have fun, to enjoy a laugh week to week and to enjoy performing. Though for many of them, Kylie's plan came out of left field.

"They laughed at first when I told them," she giggled.

"Then they went - what? But they are use to all my idiosyncrasies and all the weird things that I like to experiment with so they really weren't that surprised.

"We learn about nine dances a year and we also practise old ones as well. This particular number that we've been doing for the Shakespeare, we've been working on that for a couple of months now.

"It's not one of our more complex ones but it certainly looks really pretty when you sit back and watch it because traditionally ,your more medieval style was repetitive, so when I choreographed it I attempted to make parts of it quite representative of the time and then for fun I threw in some hip-hop right in the middle of it. It's a fusion of hip-hop and medieval time dancing," she sniggered.

Because of busy life schedules, the

dancers involved in the performances will vary from show to show.

"Over the course of the three to four performances about eight of my dancers are able to come but not all at the same time unfortunately. We will always about three to four of us but rotating. However, everybody has stepped-up and pitched in to try to make this the best we can. It's going really well, it's looking really good and we've got our costumes ready."

Rise will pop up mainly in the second half during the monologue section of the show.

"From what I understand we are pretty soon after the interval and then we are on again a bit later after some of the monologues.

"I haven't actually been privileged enough to get to Shakespeare Under the Stars before but I'm a massive history buff, we go to the Medieval Festival every year, my family and I. We enjoy going and seeing the re-enactors.

"So it was really lovely to get the opportunity to go down and not just see it, but experience it.

"We're really excited. November is a big performance month for us so we've just

been having a really quiet rest and then it's full tilt into November.

"We had a show in Warwick on November 4 which was called Time Vorp and we collaborated with the local burlesque studios from Warwick and Toowoomba under the banner of the Rose City Soiree to basically put on a variety concert for grown-up performers. There aren't that many opportunities for adults to learn and perform unless you are at the top of your field. There aren't a lot of chances for adults just to have a good time on a stage these days.

"Dance is for movement, it's for enjoyment and it's one of the most fun things you can do. I love dance so much, I'm so passionate about dance in all its forms."

Kylie herself has been dancing for more than 30 years, starting off as a young child, though her path to dance teaching didn't take the stereotypical ballet or jazz route.

"I started off with Highland Dancing as a kid and then when I hit my teen years I decided to branch out into a few different things like ballroom, salsa and belly dancing. Eventually when I hit my 30s I started ballet, jazz and tap and all of those sorts of things. I've just continued to add to my dancing knowledge.

"And now it's medieval dancing. I've been watching videos and doing research online and all that kind of stuff to find the types of styles and steps and things that they would have done at the time.

"It was really interesting to do the research. I'm very fortunate that a lot of re-enactors are very clever and they've done a lot of hard work. They've put the research out there on the internet so I didn't have to go crawling through old texts or anything to try and piece it together.

"A lot of the re-enactors are so thorough in what they do I was able to go in and tap into what I needed."

Find more information about Rise on their facebook page.

Bard under the Stanthorpe stars

BY TANIA PHILLIPS

To Be or Not To Be – there’s no question, Stanthorpe Little Theatre is definitely going to be performing Shakespeare this month.

This time around, if you hadn’t guessed, it’s Hamlet’s turn to grace the stage (if it rains) or the grounds of the Little Theatre in Connor Street, Stanthorpe, if it doesn’t.

The performance “Stanthorpe Little Theatre presents – In Shorts - Shakespeare Under The Stars, A delightful program of Hamlet directed by Annie Mitchell” will also include a second half of favourite Shakespearian monologues by well-known local performers directed by Chris Desgrande and Medieval Dance performed by Rise Freestyle Warriors.

It’s a welcome return for a much-loved part of the Southern Downs and Granite Belt entertainment calendar.

“It’s been going for 17-18 years, I don’t think it’s quite 20 years – but it’s a long time,” director Annie Mitchell explained.

“This time we’re doing it at the theatre itself – just outside the theatre. And this time around we are doing some shortened versions.

“We have a shortened version of Hamlet – Hamlet in just under an hour. Then we are doing monologues. Some of the prominent actors and actresses of the district have chosen favourite monologues from various plays. That will be in the second half. We are also very lucky to have Rise Warriors Dance Troupe. They’ve been studying different types of dances through out the ages and I happened to hear someone talking about this and I said “oh would you like to perform?” so they’re going to two medieval dances. It’s very exciting.”

Annie said rehearsals have been going “fantastically” and all the performers are looking forward to performing for the crowds later in the month.

“One of the reasons we chose to do some shortened versions was that Shakespeare is quite a dense performance to do as far as performance and the time commitment needed from actors,” she said.

“We start in July, and we’ve been going since then.”

She said with a big time commitment needed to rehearse and a lot of lines to learn they had been having trouble finding actors who were able to come the two to three nights for four months to rehearse.

“It’s a big commitment,” Annie said.

“We just weren’t able to do that. So, we



Beautiful costumes and lots of great young performers.

decided to do something that was shortened. It’s less time commitment and less lines and that was more attractive to people.

“They could commit to one night a week.” And there are a lot of new faces this time around too.

“In the Hamlet portion of the night, they are all new to Shakespeare, which is very exciting.

“And we have a lot of young people too.

“Shakespeare is something that we always encourage our younger actors to get involved with just to see if they like it. A lot of them maybe have one or two lines like “a message sire”, there may be some waiting, but they still get the whole experience of what It’s like being part of a performance, dressing up, putting all that make on, knowing when their lines and when their cues are. And can I just say our young actors are magnificent, everyone has learnt their lines beautifully, their projection is great, they’ve worked so hard, I’m very very proud of them.

“That’s where our life blood is, in all community groups you need young people to be involved and see the value in it.”

And what many people seem to forget when they watch performances of British actors in their 30s and 40s in the prime of their acting powers brood at a skull is that Hamlet was basically a university student.

“Our Hamlet is actually 17 which is exactly how old Hamlet was – just out of school,” she said.

The other interesting thing about the Little Theatre’s Hamlet, from the titular character to the bulk of the rest of the cast, is that it harks back to the original performances – but with a twist.

“Sky Fern plays Hamlet, it’s her first big production, she’s done magnificently, she committed to cutting her very short.

“The other thing is we haven’t been able to get very many men so there’s a lot of trousers roles. It’s quite the role reversal from Shakespeare’s time when lots of men were playing women. We’ve got lots of women playing men so that amuses me.

“A lot our women actors who are doing men’s roles have had to have boy training.

“How do you walk you like a boy, how do you stand?”



The body count is high in Hamlet but the words are beautiful.



Rehearsal’s for Hamlet - this year’s Stanthorpe Little Theatre Shakespeare Under The Stars. In the throne room.

“(When rehearsing) I will just yell out “girl” I can see a girl on a stage. That makes them laugh. Doing that friendly banter, how boys greet each other – they’ve all had to study that. I said don’t be creepy about it but go and watch how men greet each other, that’s what you’ve go to do.”

The second half of the shows will focus on some of the great monologues from throughout Shakespeare’s works.

“We have the St Crispin’s Day speech from Henry V, we’ve got Queen Margaret doing something, we have Shylock’s main speech we have Portia from Merchant of Venice as well,” Annie enthused.

“I’m going to do the witches monologue from Macbeth – there is a broad range.

“Christopher Desgrande is doing St Crispin and he’s always just magic.”

Shows will be held on November 11-12 and 18-19 with a VIP performance on Friday November 10. Show starts at 7pm. To book visit the Stanthorpe Little Theatre’s website stanthorpelittletheatre.org.au or visit Gracious Giving on High Street.

Who is who in Hamlet

HAMLET	
Prince of Denmark	Sky Fern
HORATIO	
Hamlet’s best friend.....	Eva Palmer
KING CLAUDIUS	
Hamlet’s uncle	Sharon Forbes
QUEEN GERTRUDE	
Hamlet’s mother	Catriona Davies
OPHELIA	Lauren Le Breton

POLONIUS	
Chancellor	Jim Allen
LAERTES	
Ophelia’s brother.....	Andreas Leonakis
GHOST	
Hamlet’s late father	Charlie Palmer
BARNARDO	
(a guard)	Siena Johnson
MARCELLUS	
(a guard)	Belinda Surch

ROSENCRANTZ	
(school friend of Hamlet’s).....	Erin O’Dea
GUILDENSTERN	
(school friend of Hamlet’s).....	Isabella Boyce
GRAVEYARD	
ATTENDANT	Charlie Palmer
PLAYERS.....	Charlie Palmer, Siena Johnson,
Belinda Surch	
FARON	
(Servant)	Fabio Nocera

JANE	
(Lady-in-Waiting)	Chira Edge
MARGARET	
(Lady-in-Waiting)	Erin O’Dea,
AGNES	
(Lady-in-Waiting)	Isabella Boyce
GILBERT	
(Guard)	Luigi Nocera
EUSTANCE	
(Guard)	Clara Nocera



Open for three months, Protea place is already seeing up to 15 women a week in it's eight hours of operation.



The opening of Protea Place three months ago was only the beginning of the centre's journey.

Help needed for centre's next phase

BY TANIA PHILLIPS

It opened back in August after 18 months of hard work from the community and volunteers but for Protea Place Warwick the real work is just beginning.

New sub-committee member, well-known Warwick community member Tracy Vellacott said even though it had only been opened just on three months the centre, housed in the old Uniting Church manse building, is already proving to be a valuable community asset.

Protea Place Warwick, which receives no government funding and is open eight hours a week, aims to provide an additional layer of support to women experiencing homelessness, disadvantage, isolation, and domestic and family violence.

"It is up and running and it's been going really well since our opening," Tracy said.

"The numbers are increasing each week, which is unfortunate in one sense but the word is definitely getting out and other services are referring vulnerable women as well as the word-of-mouth referrals.

"We are only open eight hours a week across two days, so four hours each day and all of that is dependent, moving forward, on how much we can raise to not only keep operating at the existing level and possibly extend those services to more days."

Protea Place is currently open Tuesdays and Thursdays between 10am and 2pm and lunch is served at noon.

While the centre does not offer on-site accommodation, one of its primary goals is to assist women in accessing housing solutions. Protea Place aims to provide practical support, including hot meals, laundry facilities, clothing, toiletries, and connections to relevant support services. The centre is there to offer a safe and caring environment where women can find respite and guidance during challenging times.

It is essentially a drop-in centre for vulnerable women.

"You have to knock on the door to be seen but at the moment we're seeing approximately 15 women on-site in a week, potentially those numbers are increasing as the word gets out," Tracy said.

"I guess it's important to realise that each case is unique and complex and they require a lot of time and expertise from Jo our staff

member to assist with, and achieve the outcomes that they need. This is particularly true with the way housing is in the current climate. There's a big shortage in Warwick as there is in many regional communities or any communities really."

The complexity of cases can require time as staff deal with anything from housing to DFV to mental health.

"Only being open eight hours per week across those two days means that we are trying to get through a high volume of complex work in a short amount of time," Tracy explained.

"We are definitely seeing a lot of older women who are homeless and, of course, women who are homeless as a result of domestic violence."

However, the centre is already having successes.

"One of the wins this week that Amanda (Toowoomba-based Protea Place's founder and CEO) and Jo were really excited about was an elderly lady, who has been homeless and in her car for almost 12 months. She visited Protea Place Warwick for the first time on Tuesday and within just a few hours our team leader Jo had secured some safe and affordable accommodation for her.

"We talk about dignity, and Amanda said we were able to wrap her up in a massive amount of integrated dignity, housing and health support."

And while the setting is up all done and dusted the centre is still on the fundraising bandwagon.

"We have secured funding to operate for our first 12 months but our on-going challenge is to raise those continual funds and awareness about the service, to be able to have longevity for this program in our community for those vulnerable women who need it," she said.

"And while money to operate is always front of mind, we also love donations of toiletries, nonperishable food items, toilet paper, all of those sorts of things which help .

"The other great thing that Protea Place Toowoomba have is what they call Rent Sponsors. We'd ask if there is anyone out there or any businesses out there who'd love to come on-board as rent sponsors. It means that the rent is covered and the funding that would ordinarily be set aside for rent can be diverted to other parts of our program in

Warwick."

Of course support is continuing from the community and of the big things that the committee was super-excited about in recent weeks the Warwick Show and Rodeo Society coming onboard during the rodeo and campdraft to run an art union initiative.

"The proceeds of that art union will go to Protea Place so there have been a lot of people out there selling art union tickets because the more we sold the greater the benefit to Protea Place," the sub committee member said.

"We're incredibly grateful to Warwick Show and Rodeo Society for choosing Protea Place as their inaugural Art Union recipient."

As well as raising much needed funds, the Art Union has also been a great PR exercise, with the committee working with the Warwick Show and Rodeo Society to get the Protea Place organisation, messaging and what they do out into the community.

Representatives spent time at the bottom of the escalators at Rose City Shopping Centre in the lead-up to the rodeo selling art union tickets and talking to the general public about what the service provides and how it can help.

"I had a conversation with a lady, she really wanted to know what we were providing on the ground and I spoke about the dignity services," Tracy said.

"We recognise that it's not an answer as such (to homelessness), it's not a shelter where people can stay but our team will work really hard so that we can try to find a solution to your housing issues.

"In the meantime, it's that safe place to come, it's that place to have a showers, wash clothes, have a hot meal, have companionship if you need it as well.

"Or there are beautiful spaces in the home to just break out and just be by yourself if that's what you need - some quiet time. The centre itself is very homely and gentle and quiet if you need it and there are clients coming through all the time, so perhaps there is a comrade there for some conversation as well.

"Amanda has said to me that Protea Place is there for women on probably one of the hardest days of their lives when they are having to acknowledge that they are in this situation and to put their hand up and ask for some help."

So why did Tracy put up her hand to help?

"I recognise that there for the grace of god go, I live a fortunate life and I don't have to deal with this but my empathy for the women who do, well I'm the greatest sook out," she said.

"When you think organisations like Protea Place get no government funding, they have to rely a hundred per cent on philanthropic support, grants or community donations. Why is our system this broken?"

"I think that's part of Protea Place's success, there is a very real emotional attachment to what is going on in the ground in our communities. I take my hat off to the incredible work that Amanda and her team are doing in Toowoomba and Jo and the team in Warwick are doing. I'm very, very grateful and if I can play a little part along with the rest of the people in our sub-committee and the Toowoomba committee - I guess our job in a way is to leverage the skills we have to try and help the organisation."

If you want to help, go to the Proteaplace.org.au just click on the donate button where you can choose Warwick for either a one-off donation or there's a possibly of doing a monthly pledge. Protea Place is a registered charity so donations are tax deductible. People are welcome to reach out to Jo Protea Place if they have toiletries or other donations. The email is Warwick@proteaplace.au.

"We have been very grateful for the Warwick Credit Union support, they've certainly taken us under their wing and were running community donation drops," Tracey said.

And while Protea Place is moving forward Tracy said the centre was very grateful to every one who got the centre to where it is now.

"We owe a huge thank you to all of the individuals, the businesses, the community groups that have jumped onboard the Warwick Protea Place journey so far because the reason that there is this incredible place for women to go is because the initiative received love and support from the community," she said.

"But as Amanda says we really need everyone to stay onboard, to keep supporting and advocating to their contacts to keep supporting Protea Place."

Win, just by Christmas shopping!

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There's a chance to win \$1000 in groceries at Rose City Shoppingworld, from Monday 16 October to Sunday 12 November.

Rose City Shoppingworld is once again running its major pre-Christmas campaign, offering not one, but four lucky winners the opportunity to pocket \$1000 in Grocery Gift Cards! Imagine the joy of heading into the holiday season with a thousand dollars to spend on groceries.

To enter, customers just need to make a purchase of \$30 or more at any specialty store or \$80 or more at Coles, Woolworths or Big W, then grab an entry form, attach their receipt and place in an entry box near Coles or Woolworths.

The campaign runs for an entire month, allowing customers to enter as many times as they like.

The lucky winners will each receive 10 x \$100 grocery gift cards, shared between Coles and Woolworths.

To be part of this exciting opportunity, visit Rose City Shoppingworld, start your shopping spree, and pick up an entry form to participate in the draw. For the latest updates and more details, be sure to follow Rose City Shoppingworld on Facebook and Instagram, and check out rosecityshopping.com.au



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Enjoy the barbecue fun.



Time for the berry festival again.



Pie competitions anyone?



Celebrity and local chefs will be on-hand with masterclasses and tips.

Berry high chance of a good time

The countdown is on to the 2023 Stanthorpe Berry Festival on Saturday 18 November at Weeroona Park, Marsh Street in Stanthorpe.

Event organiser Amy Torrisi said the event promised to be a lot of fun with plenty of new things to see and do and lots of returning favourites.

“Joining the Berry crew this year is none other than the celebrity chef and TV sensation, Dominique Rizzo, who will be teaming up with the culinary maestros of the Granite Belt - Christine Hood, Steph Ingall, and Tristan Pabst,” she said.

“Together, they’ll be creating culinary magic in the Jamworks Marquee all day long.

“The Shank Bros BBQ is back with a sizzling program that’s guaranteed to set your taste buds on fire.

“Prepare for a barbecue extravaganza featuring tips, adventures, and, of course, the legendary Chilli Wing Challenge that’s not for the faint-hearted.

“And in an unprecedented festival first, get ready for the epic Steak Cook Off, where the ultimate grill master will win their very own Weber on-the-go.”

Amy said foodie challenges were an integral part of the Berry Festival’s excitement.

“From the scones and jam showdown to the strawberries and cream extravaganza, the Hubba Bubba Bubble Competition, and the Fanta Throwdown, prepare for a feast of fun and flavour,” she said.

Jamworks will have their own marquee for masterclass sessions with renowned Chef and TV host Dominique Rizzo, the Jamworks crew and a collection of Granite Belt culinary professionals taking participants on a Berry interesting journey full of mind-blowing flavours and creations showcasing local produce.

There is also the very popular “Meet a Farmer” event, a chance to catch up with the regions farmers and find out why growing Berries on the Granite Belt is so successful. The farmers can be found at the interactive Strawberry Display during the festival.



It’s a berry exciting time in Stanthorpe.

But the festival is more than just food (though the region’s berries are front and centre during the day).

“The festivities don’t end with food,” Amy said.

“We’ve got a Strawberry Fields Forever art workshop led by the talented Sue Hamlet, a dynamic Sip Sesh featuring local vineyards and brewers, boutique market fair, farmers display and paint-a-pot, and a brand-new addition to the program, the Celebrity Pie Throwing event. Whose face will end up splattered with delicious pie? The suspense is real!”

Sue Hamlet said the art workshop promised to be a lot of fun – and although free – booking was essential on the day.

“I’ve been invited back by the Berry

Festival organisers after we had a wonderful time last year – we had a tent set up and we had four or five sessions, people could come in spend about an hour making a beautiful short and sharp painting for themselves,” she said.

“That’s what we are doing again this year, but a completely different design. It will be a berry-related design. It will be fun and very achievable for anyone. We normally do say over 15 just because of the skill sets and things involved. There are other children’s activities, it’s important to realise this one is for mid-teens upwards. You don’t need to bring anything except yourself.

“It is completely free but because we completely book out, you just need to pop in early and put your name in for one of the

sessions. We don’t take bookings before the event at all but it will be fun, pleasant and quick.

“I’m also excited that I’ve actually brought on a high school senior to help me this year. So there will be two of us running around with my art work and a very very able assistant.

“It will be fun, very simple art but not childish, something that they will enjoy and we’ve named it strawberry fields. It’s a contemporary little poster-style art piece but it will be on canvas. So people take away a small canvas with them.”

For more information www.berryfestival.com.au.



WEDDINGS



2023/01/02 18:07 T-W44-20

Family makes for a wonderful day

Gorgeous cars and a first dance mash-up were highlights of the wedding of Kaitlin Emily Smith and Stephen Coco.

The couple were married at St Joseph's Catholic Church, Stanthorpe on 21 October by Father Gonzalo Garcia Duran.

"We had an amazing and beautiful reception at the Stanthorpe International club," Kaitlin said.

"Stephen and I surprised all the guests with a first dance mash-up.

"Our family and friends made the day magical and one we will never forget.

"We were privilege to have David Smith's 1926 Oakland and 1984 XE ESP Falcon as

well as Mark Fernance's 1968 HT Premier with turbo Gen 3 Conversion as our wedding cars.

"They were definitely a highlight for us."

Kaitlin is the oldest daughter of Simon and Kylie Smith while Stephen is the second of Stefano and Josephine Coco's four boys.

The wedding party was a family affair with Kaitlin's younger sister Hayley Smith as maid of honour while Stephen's older brother Salvatore was the best man.

Stephen's younger brothers Michael and Anthony were the groomsmen while Kaitlin's cousins Samantha and Sophie Smith were the bridesmaids.



The happy couple Kaitlin and Stephen.



Family was the key for Kaitlin and Stephen with their wedding party made up of their siblings and cousins.



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Domestic violence in sharp focus

BY TANIA PHILLIPS

Vanessa Fowler OAM lived every sister and aunt's nightmare when she lost her sibling Allison Baden-Clay and Allison's children to domestic violence.

Now she is the co-chairwoman of the Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Council. She will be one of the keynote speakers and will be involved in a Q&A session at a series of events in Warwick and Stanthorpe this month aimed at discussing coercive behaviour.

Vanessa will be joined by former Queensland police commissioner Bob Atkinson for the four presentations and Q&A sessions.

The events are being presented by the Women's Action and Advocacy Team Southern Downs (WAAT) in collaboration with the State Department of Women's Safety and Violence Prevention, Warwick and Stanthorpe Zonta Clubs, Warwick Chamber of Commerce and SDRC to bring these important DFV Community Education sessions to our community on November 9 (Stanthorpe) and November 10 (Warwick).

Two free events will be held at Stanthorpe Civic Centre on November 9 at 11 am and 6pm and at Warwick RSL from 7am and Warwick Town Hall at 11am on November 10.

WAAT is the brainchild of Sue Hamlet, Kathy Payne and Judy Heffernan and was established in March 2021 from concern for the safety and support available to women in children. The group has actively lobbied at state and federal levels for the Southern Downs region to have more support services.

These events are just their latest initiative, but Sue Hamlet believes they are important for people from all walks of life.

"We have Vanessa Fowler and now Bob Atkinson – Vanessa is the headliner and I think people are familiar with Alison's story particularly the aspect of coercive control that was used long before violence became a part of the situation," Sue said.

Vanessa has a very powerful story and although the focus isn't so much on the story, WAAT believe she will draw on that experience and how to become an effective bystander and how to intervene."

The topic of coercive control is one hard to miss and has been very much in the news of late.

Sue said coercive control is the act of controlling a situation and doing controlling things even if there is no physical violence or a sense of someone being hurt.

"It's becoming well understood now that coercive control is very dangerous, and it can actual precede fatal events," Sue explained.

"It's going to be criminalised very shortly, it's currently going through the system."

Under the new laws, a person who repeatedly subjects their partner to physical, sexual, psychological, or financial abuse may face imprisonment for up to seven years. The bill was introduced into the Queensland Parliament in late September.

"It is important educate the community about this," Sue said.

"These are not just events for people who work in this field, it is for anybody who is



Former Queensland Police commissioner Bob Atkinson and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Council co-chair Vanessa Fowler are on their way to Stanthorpe and Warwick to discuss and inform locals about coercive control.

anybody. Just think about the impact of coercive control. A criminal record for a young person who is involved in coercive control – just imagine what that will do to a career.

"We know that coercive control is very damaging to victims, so we want to make people aware of what it looks like. It is a red flag.

"We are very fortunate that Vanessa is going to be joined by Bob Atkinson who is quite well-known. He was a Queensland Police Commissioner. We feel its very relatable for people to hear from someone from a legal perspective as well. It is very important, and we have a Q&A panel as well that will include Bob and Vanessa as well as Kathleen Turley who is the head of the Domestic Violence Action Centre. We will also have police representatives there too. People can bring their questions about anything to do with this sort of thing and we can put it to the panel."

WAAT are also on the panel and facilitating the event.

Sue said WAAT are part of a team of people who form a working party to address family and domestic violence across the Southern Downs.

"One of the things that has come up through that team is that we really want to shift – yes, we have some systems in place for victims and perpetrators. We have a bit more knowledge of what's going on in the

space and that is an ongoing work, but we all feel we want to be more proactive about prevention."

She said the events are all about prevention, knowing what coercive behaviour could look like, knowing what you can do.

"We feel it's going to be extremely important for employers to know, anyone who is part of a group – a service group – any type of group at all that might observe behaviours in themselves and others," Sue explained.

She said the events are suitable for everyone over 14 years of age.

"We are particularly keen for schools, sporting groups, businesses, and young people to hear from Vanessa, as we consider her message to be essential awareness raising in reducing violence to women and children.

"We hope that the schedule provides enough options so that everyone could attend one of the four stand-alone sessions."

Vanessa has been a guiding force in the formation of the Allison Baden-Clay Foundation and is instrumental in coordinating the annual Strive To Be Kind Day in schools, businesses, and community groups where she encourages others to share messages of kindness and respect. Vanessa and her family are on a journey to educate and raise awareness of domestic and family abuse and has turned a tragic family

circumstance into making a difference in the community The Foundation educates people to recognise the signs of domestic and family abuse and coercive control, and how to become an effective bystander, using tactics to intervene effectively. Vanessa was named as the 2019 Ipswich Citizen of the Year and the Queensland Winner of the Pride of Australia Medal. In 2021, was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia for her service to community organisations.

Bob Atkinson was the Queensland Police Commissioner from 2000 to late 2012. Bob's achievements include overseeing responses to Cyclone Larry in 2006 and the 2010–11 Queensland flood and cyclone disasters, reductions in crime and the road toll, enforcing welfare support, advocating for multiculturalism, and increasing Police Liaison Officer positions, including the first Sudanese and Muslim positions. In 2013, he was appointed as one of six Commissioners for the five-year Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

Stanthorpe:

- 11am – Stanthorpe Civic Centre
- 6pm – Stanthorpe Civic Centre

Warwick:

- 7am – RSL Club Warwick (there is a \$25 breakfast cost for this session)
- 11am – Warwick Town Hall

For further information, please email waat.sdowns@gmail.com



REAL ESTATE FOCUS

Multi-million-dollar views

This property is right on the Queensland-NSW border, only 20 minutes from Warwick, with sensational views back over the range.

The owners bought the property as a multi-generational family getaway and are not using it enough now.

Agent Helen Harm believes the opportunities are endless for innovative entrepreneurs.

"This could be a company training centre, vocational retreat, glamping destination, paintball park," she said.

"Border Fence Bar" will be a welcome for the intrepid travellers."

On 64.77 hectares, the home has accommodated more than 20 people in the past and is fully furnished as part of the sale of the property.

There are three, designated bedrooms, two bathrooms, a kitchen-dining combo plus a huge lounge entertaining. There is also a big three-bay garage and storage as well as three large water tanks and two dams.

The kitchen-dining area has a woodfire while the lounge entertaining area has reverse cycle air-conditioning.

There is a ride-on lawnmower going in the sale too.

"Seeing is believing," Helen said.



"Book an inspection today."

- 64.77 Ha
- Mains power
- Solar System (saves on costs!)
- Three bedrooms
- Three bathrooms
- Kitchen and dining with woodfire
- Lounge entertaining has reverse cycle air-conditioning

- Border Fence Bar, set up for entertaining
- Deck overlooks the play area and dam
- Three-bay shed
- Rainwater tanks
- Two dams
- Views that go forever ...

Contact Helen Harm on 0408 457 496 to arrange inspection. Go to www.helenharm.com for more photos

Address: 188 Border Fence Road, ELBOW VALLEY Q 4370 Description: 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 3+ car Price: \$890,000 Inspection: By appointment
Contact: Helen Harm 0408 457 496 Agent: HELEN HARM REAL ESTATE



.....

A bright, modern kitchen with white cabinetry, a black countertop, and a built-in oven. The kitchen features a large window above the sink, a gas stove, and a tiled floor.

Address: 61 Bisley Street, WARWICK **Description:** 4+ bedrooms, 2 baths, 1+ car **Price:** \$599,000 **Contact:** Helen Harm 0408 457 496 **Agent:** HELEN HARM REAL ESTATE

NOVEMBER 2023



Unique Style

- 4 Larger Bedrooms – built ins
- Master is king sized, en suite & aircon
- Formal lounge off the entry hall
- Aircon in large family living with sky lights
- Galley kitchen has electric appliances
- Laundry utility • 6.6 KVA Solar System
- Garage has remote • Lots of Storage
- North facing covered entertaining area
- Established gardens on 778 m²

\$ 575,000



Comfortable Home

- Excellent value for money in West Warwick
Walking distance to shops and schools
- 3 Built-in Bedrooms • Office/4th Bedroom
 - Large kitchen and dining area
 - Formal dining & ceiling fan
 - Lounge with Split system A/C
 - Bathroom bath/shower, vanity, storage & toilet
 - Front verandah • 1 car accommodation
 - Established gardens on 996 m²

\$ 350,000



Two Street Access

- 2 Street Entries • On City Bus Route
- 3 Bedrooms + office/4th- built ins in main
- Lounge has woodfire • Entry sunroom
- Dine-in kitchen has electric appliances
- Bath, separate shower • Separate toilet
- Laundry • Single tandem lock up garage
- Storage • Rain water tank on 637 m²

INVESTORS:- Leased till 8 October 2023.

\$ 350,000+



Quaint & Comfy

- INVESTORS: Lease end 17/11/23,
Rent is \$330 p.w.
- Freshly painted throughout
 - 2 Well sized bedrooms
 - Open plan lounge/dining/kitchen, aircon
 - Tidy bathroom
 - Separate laundry
 - Tandem garage • Storage room
 - Front verandah • Side street access

\$ 325,000



Elevated Position

- MARYVALE – Offers Invited
Enjoy the relaxed ease of country living!
- Air con + wood fire
 - 2 Bed, 2 built-in
 - Open Living areas with vinyl planks
 - Shower, vanity & toilet + laundry
 - Garage converted to Studio
 - Carport, shed, 3 Large rain water tanks
 - Fully fenced 2023 m² yard

\$ 375,000



Excellent Location

- 4 Built-in Bedrooms
- Ensuite & walk in robe in master
- Aircon in dual open plan lounge living
- Tidy kitchen has electric appliances
- Family dining accesses north entertaining
- Bathroom has bath, separate shower
- Powder room vanity, storage & separate toilet
- 2 Car remote garage with laundry facilities
- 944 m² backyard, side vehicle access

\$ 500,000



Home on ½ Acre

- Will suit multi-generation family needing space
- Aircon + Ceiling fans • VJ walls, high ceilings
 - 4 Bed, built ins • 2½ Bathrooms
 - Open plan living/dining
 - Large family lounge living
 - Well-appointed kitchen has mod cons
 - Laundry/utility/craft room • Carport 4-6 cars
 - 4 Bay lock up shed + skillion carports
 - Chicken coop, 20+ Fruit trees, Rainwater tank

\$ 825,000



Exclusive Address

- Aircon 3 Bed+ office, built ins
- Living has aircon + woodfire
- Dining opens to N patio
- Tidy kitchen has electric appliances
- Bathroom - bath, sep shower, vanity & toilet
- Second living/games (converted garage)
- Laundry/utility accesses 1750 m² backyard
- 2 Carports, garden shed, veggie patch & more

INVESTORS: Rent \$650 p.w. to 16/01/24

\$ 650,000+



Extra Comforts

- 4 Bedroom, built ins
- Master has en suite & walk in robe
- Family bathroom has bath & separate shower
- Open plan includes kitchen, family & dining
- Lounge • Rumpus/games/office
- Split system aircon + woodfire
- Single detached garage
- Garden shed & veggie gardens, fruit trees
- 969 m² backyard

\$ 599,000



Private Entry

Owners have removed the carpet for painting.
Quotes are in and you can get the work done or
DIY and save the money!

- 4 Built-in Bedrooms • Ensuite in master
- Aircon in dual open plan lounge living
- Tidy kitchen has electric appliances
- Bathroom has bath, shower, separate toilet
- 2 Car garage • N Entertaining 1222 m² backyard with side vehicle access

\$ 500,000



Simple Country Life

- Short drive to Warwick – 9 mins or 6.9k –
Livestock suits 11.8 Ha (29 Ac)
- Large 5 Bay Shed • Smaller 4 Bay Shed
 - Cattle Yards, Thompson Longhorn Crush/ Race
 - Dam, 3 paddocks, water troughs & more
 - 3 bed, built ins – main ensuite & aircon
 - Separate shower & bath, separate toilet
 - Kitchen/Dining –storage, electric appliances
 - Lounge media has fireplace + aircon

\$ 1,250,000

LAND

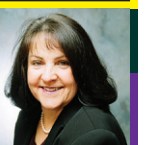
WARWICK - 25930 m², High profile, 2 street frontage, Zoned specialised \$ 2,210,000
 HENDON - 2023 m², power next door, rural fence \$ 65,000
 MARYVALE - 4047 m², power nearby, level block, VIEWS \$ 125,000
 MARYVALE - 4047 m², power available, level block, near Hotel \$ 200,000
 MARYVALE - 6637 m², power next door, level block, mountain VIEWS \$ 225,000
 MARYVALE - 8094 m², 2 Titles, power nearby, fenced, 2 x 1 Acre \$ 199,000
 MARYVALE - 4047 m², power nearby, level block, fenced \$ 220,000
 GREYMARE - 2251 m², bitumen road, power on street, on Greymere Ck \$ 150,000
 LEYBURN - 2023 m², town water available, power on street.....Under Contract \$ 65,000

See www.helenharm.com for more listing

www.helenharm.com

0408 457 496

Helen Harm
Licenced Principal





Simple country life

Located a short drive to Warwick – nine minutes or 6.9km – this 11.8ha (29 acres) property has a lot on offer to a buyer who has livestock, according to agent Helen Harm.

She said the farm includes a large five-bay shed with two roller doors, a smaller four-bay shed, cattle yards, a Thompson Longhorn crush and race, pig pens and three paddocks.

There are three water troughs, town water, a dam and one kilometre of electric fencing.

There is a comfortable ranch-style brick house which is air-conditioned and features three bedrooms with built-in wardrobes and two bathrooms.

The master bedroom has an ensuite and separate air-conditioning, while there is a fireplace in the lounge media off the entry hall.

The galley kitchen has good cupboard space, electric appliances with the laundry utility next door.

There is a powder room off the family bathroom with a separate shower and bath.

The house features a lot of storage throughout and down the hallway.

There is also a great outdoor, north-facing entertainment area, with established gardens.

There is a south-facing, full-length patio across the front of the home as well.

“Fastidious buyers will appreciate the attributes on offer at this property,” Helen said.

Contact Helen Harm on 0408 457 496 for inspection.

Go to helenharm.com for more photos.



Address: 82 Smelter Road, ROSENTHAL HEIGHTS Q 4370 Description: 3+ bedrooms, 2 baths, 5 +3 car Price: \$1,250,000
Inspection: Contact the agent Contact: Helen Harm 0408 457 496, HELEN HARM REAL ESTATE

ESSENTIAL PLUS HOME LOAN

5.89% p.a.
Variable rate*

6.04% p.a.
Comparison rate**

<70%LVR



Owner Occupied and Investment



Principal & Interest or Interest Only



Minimum Loan \$100,000



*Credit eligibility criteria, term and conditions, fees and charges apply. The discounted interest rate is 0.25% p.a. below the normal Essential Plus Standard Variable Rate, currently at 6.14% p.a. The discount commences on the 03/07/2023 and expires on the 31/12/2023. Warwick Credit Union Ltd reserves the right to amend or remove the promotion at any time. **This comparison rate is based on a \$150,000 loan over 25 years with Principal & Interest payments. WARNING: This comparison rate is true only for the example given and may not include all fees and charges. Different terms, fees or other loan amounts might result in a different comparison rate.

Warwick Credit Union Ltd trading as Warwick Credit Union, Gympie Credit Union & Dalby Credit Union
BSB 817-001 | ABN 98 087 651 116 | AFSL/Australian credit licence 240556



Multi-Million Views

On QLD/NSW border, 20 mins to Warwick
Training centre, retreat, glamping, paintball park
• 3 Bed • 2 Bath • Fully furnished
• Air conditioning in living
• Kitchen dining with woodfire
• Bar setup for entertaining
• Deck overlook dam & play area
• 64.77 Ha • 3 bay Shed • 2 Dams
• Solar + Mains Power • Rain Water Tanks

\$ 890,000



ARATULA Markets

Ideally suited to owner operator with family
• Highway corner frontage established 30 yrs
• 2 Satellite liquor licences
• 18 products on consignment
• Coffee, smoothie, juice, crepe & waffle bar
• Extensive product instore beside fruit & veg
• Cold rooms, refrigeration, display units
• Delivery truck & Forklift

Price Reduced to SELL !!

\$ 120,000

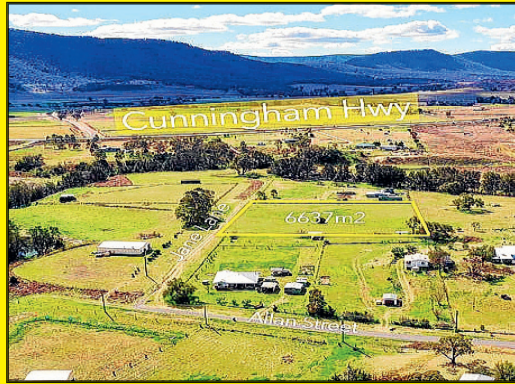


Country Acre

MARYVALE - Nestled in the Great Dividing Range near Cunningham's Gap.
Only 90 minutes to Brisbane or the Gold Coast.

- Level 4047 m² corner lot
- Power available
- All weather gravel road access
- New Fencing
- Mountain views in that fresh mountain air!

\$ 220,000



Scenic Views

MARYVALE - 6637 m² (1.6 Acres)
• Views of valley back to Great Dividing Range
• Flood Free and gently sloping
• Ideal spot, privacy, relaxed country lifestyle
• Escape the hustle & bustle of city
• Nestled in the mountains
• Direct access to main highway
• 20 Mins east of Warwick
• Well maintained acreage

\$ 225,000



Double Block

MARYVALE - Scenic Double block has 2 Titles.
Quiet country lifestyle only 90 minutes to Brisbane or the Gold Coast.

- 2 x 4047 m² (Total 8094 m²) - 2 Acres
- 2 Separate Titles
- Sloping from front to back
- Power available
- New Fencing

\$ 199,000



Affordable Land

INVESTORS here is an opportunity to purchase a half acre lot in Leyburn township, home of the historic Leyburn Sprints.
Option 1:- Lot 86 is for sale at \$65,000.
Option 2:- Lot 87 & Lot 86 for \$125,000.
Option 3:- Lot 86, 87 & 88 for \$200,000
ONLY Lot 86 is available as a single lot purchase.

There is a shed kit for \$15,000 available as an optional extra.

\$ 65,000

For Rent: 4661 3663

2 Brm, 1 bath, kitchen/dining, lounge, laundry, outdoor entertain, 2 car..... **\$ 300 p.w.**
3 Brm, bath, eat in kitchen, lounge, laundry, 1 car **\$ 380 p.w.**

FURNISHED, 3 Brm, 2 bath, kitchen/dining, lounge, outdoor entertain, 1 car **\$ 750 p.w.**
FURNISHED Townhouse, 3 Brm, 2 bath, 3 toilet, kitchen/dining/living, 1 car **\$ 750 p.w.**

URGENT !! WE NEED RENTALS IN GOOD REPAIR



HENDON Half Acre

Investors opportunity!!

- 2023 m² (½ Acre) with rural views
- Power in Street
- 23K (20 mins) North of Warwick

Half Acre Lot

\$ 65,000



On a Creek

GREYMARE - 2251 m² (.55 Acres)
• On the banks of Greymare Creek
• Level block, slopes gently to the creek
• Bitumen road frontage
• Ideal spot, privacy, relaxed country lifestyle
• Escape the hustle & bustle of city
• Live in picturesque Southern Down Region
• Direct access to main highway
• 20 Mins west of Warwick

\$ 150,000+



Almost 1 Acre

ALLORA - Boundary realignment allows for almost an acre, 3312 m² level allotment with 2 street frontages to Bennett Street and Erhardt Street (off Darling Street)
• Town Water available
• All city facilities
• Fenced

Settlement can occur once survey and paperwork is finalized.

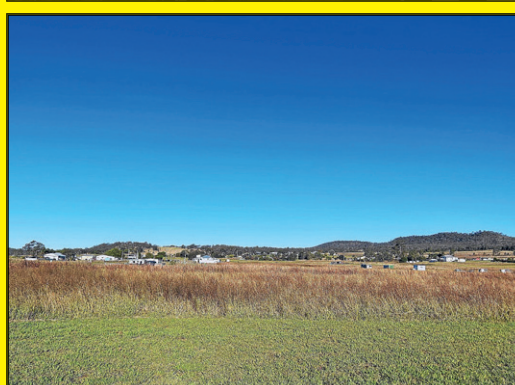
\$ 175,000+



2 Street Frontages

Great opportunity for a light industry venture, establish new business or upgrade to higher profile site near Black Toyota, Top Two Motorcycles, Betta Storage.
• Corner of Murphy Street & Ogilvie Road. Both are bitumen roads with 300m or more frontage.
• Power, water sewerage nearby.
• Zoning is Specialised Centre
• 2.6 Ha off Cunningham Highway.

\$ 2,210,000



Near Maryvale Hotel

- 4047 m² (1 Ac)
- Views are 360 degrees
- Survey pegs define property boundary
- Road - plans, soil test, survey are done and Paperwork prepared to be lodged with Southern Downs Regional Council

\$ 200,000

www.helenharm.com

0408 457 496

Helen Harm
Licenced Principal

