



# Finley High School Newsletter

Principal: Mrs H McRae

Deputy Principal: Mrs P Jackson

15<sup>th</sup> February 2018

## KEY DATES

### February

- 16** NO SCHOOL  
Day off in lieu of swimming  
carnival
- 20** Years Seven, Ten and Eleven  
vaccinations
- 21** Breakfast Club
- 22** Zone Swimming
- 28** Breakfast Club

### March

- 7** Breakfast Club
- 14** Breakfast Club
- 15** Formal Assembly, 12:30pm in  
the school hall.
- 29** Year Twelve Half Yearly  
Exams
- 30** Easter Friday

### April

- 2** Easter Monday
- 3 – 6** Year Twelve Half Yearly  
Exams

## Principal's Report

### Happy Valentine's Day!!

I hope all reading this newsletter were remembered kindly on Valentine's Day yesterday by someone who loves them.

### Australia Day Awards

I would like to congratulate our students and staff who were nominated for Australia Day Awards this year.

Ben Ashley-Cooper, Tom Whelan, Georgia Lunn and Sascha Jones were nominated for Berrigan Shire Junior Sportsperson of the Year Award for their outstanding achievements in Football (for both boys) equestrian for Georgia and swimming for Sascha. We were excited to see Sascha winning this award, even while she was competing at a Victorian swim meet. Sascha has competed at a national level and goes from strength to strength with her swimming. We are proud of all of these fine ambassadors for our school.

Robyn O'Leary was nominated for Citizen of the Year for the many years of dedication to the students of Finley High School and for her contributions to supporting local community ventures. We are proud and grateful for the absolute dedication she gives to our school community and congratulate her on her nomination.

FHS Captain for 2016, Jorja Daniel was also successful in being awarded the Berrigan Shire Junior Citizen of the Year for her efforts in promoting and training girls' football in Finley and beyond. Congratulations. Jorja!

We are also excited to share that several of our new Year 7 students were also nominated for Australia Day Awards in the Berrigan Shire.

Matthew Whelan was nominated for the Junior Sportsperson Award for his efforts in swimming, football and cricket. He was also a part of the team of students from Berrigan who were nominated for their efforts in competing at the state level in the PP6 swimming mixed relay event. Patrick Waugh and Alyssa Denny were also a part of this team nominated for the Berrigan Shire Team/Community Organisation Award.

Congratulations must also go to the Tocumwal U/14's Football Team, which contains several of our students, who were nominated in the same category.

We are proud of the achievements of all of these students. Well done.

## **School Plan**

Last week, Mr Campbell, Miss Downey, Miss Allan-Georgas, Jodi Brown and Sheridan Mortlock worked with me to develop the first draft of the Finley High School Plan 2018-2020.

Based on the information gleaned from parent meetings last year, student and staff surveys, a plan was developed to move our school forward over the next three years.

The Strategic Directions for the plan continue to align closely with teaching, learning and wellbeing.

They are:

1. Leading a culture of successful learning
2. Wellbeing: connect, succeed and thrive
3. Innovative, collaborative teaching and learning

I presented this draft to the P&C last night and will use their input to further develop the plan.

## **AECG AGM**

The annual general meeting of the Finley Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG) will take place in the Finley High School Staff Common Room on Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> February at 11 am.

All parents and members of the Aboriginal community are invited to attend this meeting to make a contribution to the educational outcomes for our local indigenous students. I look forward to seeing you there.

## **Swimming Carnival**

The Finley High School Twilight Swimming Carnival is on today. Parents are reminded that the carnival will run to approximately 7:30pm and there will be no school on Friday and students and staff will have a day off school in-lieu of the late end to the carnival.

I hope all students get involved in supporting their house by attending and participating in the carnival. Many thanks to Mr Tooke for his organisation of this exciting day on our school calendar.

## **Immunisation for Years Seven, Ten and Eleven**

Immunisation of students will take place on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> February.

Year Seven will be immunised for HPV and Years Ten and Eleven students will receive a meningococcal vaccination.

As you can see, the start of the year has started with a rush. With so much happening at Finley High School, I can assure you, there is something for all students to get involved in to make their learning experience at the school enjoyable and special.

Helen McRae  
Principal

## **2016 DUX Speech from Presentation Night 2017**

Good evening everyone,  
Firstly, congratulations to everyone here tonight receiving an award.

During high school, I think it is fair to say that I was never really the favourite for an award like this. I'm not going to stand here and try and say I wasn't a good student, because I generally maintained good marks all throughout my high school life. However, I wasn't a perfect student. I got detentions and even a level – which I still maintain to this day, was

unwarranted but that is another story, just like any other student. I was never part of the SRC, debating or any other academic extracurricular activities. I barely passed my yearly yr 10 maths exam, scraping in with a 33/60 on a fully multiple-choice exam.

In no way am I encouraging this, but the point that I am trying to make here is that you don't have to be the perfect straight A student to do well and achieve something you are proud of in your HSC.

I was part of the last year group to complete my HSC in the college model, which meant I sat three of my HSC exams in year 11. This was extremely daunting at the time because I had no idea whether I was ready or good enough to sit what some call 'the most important exams of your life'. Thus, when push came to shove, I knuckled down for the last two years of my schooling. This was not always easy because of course there were times when I wasn't always motivated, as I don't think any 16-18 year olds want to be studying every day, however I am a big believer that my routine is what helped me get through it.

As one of the quotes that I used to have on my wall to keep me motivated says "success doesn't come from what you do occasionally, it comes from what you do consistently". I would get home from school each day and give myself until 4:30 to do whatever I wanted to do, but once it hit that time I was to be in the office starting the list of things that I had set for myself that night. Saturdays were my days off where I wouldn't even look at my school work. I'd go to the footy, spend time with friends etc and Sundays were my days to catch up on work and do assignments. Although it sounds like a lot of work, one thing I used to tell myself was that it was only one to two years of my life, which is tiny in the big picture.

This hard work then led to me achieving the results I needed to get into Monash University to study a double degree in Arts and Law. So for the past year I have been living on campus at Uni in Melbourne. It wasn't exactly all rainbows and butterflies to begin with, as moving away from home and all my friends was something that I found challenging. However, with time it got better. My relationships with people that I had met earlier in the year became stronger and I began to love being at university. In Semester 2, I made up for my lack of a social life in year 11 and 12, which by the time exams came around I was starting to regret.

Living in Melbourne has exposed me to many interesting people and experiences. From things such as having to ring mum or dad to find out what a certain road sign meant, or whether I was allowed to park in a certain spot, to having to break the news to a fellow law student that a large black and white dog they had spotted on law camp was not a baby cow. Overall, the past year since finishing school has been a blast and I am excited to commence my second year at uni.

One thing that has stuck in my mind is one of my law lectures last semester. We were having a discussion about whether judges are really a good representation of society. The lecturer went on to explain his opinion saying that the room of law students he was talking to were basically the cream of the crop. Quote "nearly all of you here have had a private school education, have at least one parent that is a professional and achieved the high 90s ATAR that was required to get in. Judges are then chosen from the elite of your group". Little did he know that I did not have the private school education, nor come from a background of professional parents, but still managed to get in.

I think this shows that, despite common beliefs, you do not need a private school education to get to where you want to be. I believe that it is up to you, the individual, to determine whether you will achieve something you are proud of. Finley High School has great teachers and resources that can enable anyone to achieve whatever they desire. When I was telling some of my friends this year that I used to email and message teachers after hours about assignments and other school work, they couldn't believe it.

So, one of my parting pieces of advice is, use the teachers and the resources that Finley High provides for you. They will always be willing to help if they know that you are putting in the effort, and that is something that I very much missed at university this year.

I wish you all the best for next year. Thank you

Alysha Knight

## English News

All classes have made a great start to the year. Our new teacher, Ms Sheldon is an experienced, wonderful addition to our faculty, and staff and students have made her feel welcome.

Students who are interested in debating and public speaking have been asked to submit their names to me and I have a long list of interested students, which is encouraging. Ms Begbie and I are looking forward to working with the debaters. Students who want to represent the school in public speaking will have the opportunity to present a speech so I can choose the two junior and senior representatives for the state competitions. Students who miss out now will be able to present their speech at our Public Speaking Evening in August.

This year we have introduced a writing lesson that we are calling WOW! (Wonder of Writing) Students in Years Seven to Nine are writing every Friday (this varies for some, depending on their timetable) so that we can improve their ability to write within a time frame and they can have fun exploring different ways of using language. Some students have already produced amazing pieces in these lessons. Students are writing in a journal which we supplied, or, if they bought a book pack, they are using their second exercise book.

I've included below a controlled writing exercise completed at the end of last year by Will Anderson, when he was in Year eight. Students were given different grammar and sentence structures they had to use in a specific order, as well as a visual stimulus, to write an orientation for a story. (I have permission to share this but I haven't had a chance, before the newsletter deadline, to ask relevant students if I could share this year's writing.)

We are looking forward to a great year of learning.

Veronica McNaught  
English Head Teacher

### Picture Stimulus – a ship wreck

Written by Will Anderson in class time.

The waves tumbled shore-wise. Loud, furious thunder riddled the sky and the cold ocean breeze waved a single palm tree. Beneath the rocks, the crabs hid from the storm, fearing the damage it may cause. Zach made his way out from under a pile of wooden planks and other rubble. He wrapped his fingers around the aching gash down his forearm. Pushing through the pain, he began to observe his surroundings. The ship he had arrived in was as crumbled and destroyed as a sandcastle too close to the sea. He made his way to the remains of the ship and built a small fire to warm him from the icy gale that surrounded him. Slowly, he recounted the battle.

### Tirkandi Inaburra Indigenous Education Program

Ben from Tirkandi Inaburra is coming to Finley High School this Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> February, at 12pm to deliver an information session to all the Indigenous boys at the school aged between 12 and 15 years. Family members of the boys are encouraged to attend as well to learn about the program and have Ben answer any queries. If interested, please come to the Front Office on Friday and you will be taken to the talk. A brochure is attached to the back of this newsletter with information about the program.

Mrs P Jackson  
Deputy Principal

## Skool Bag News

If you are having trouble locating Finley High School on the Skool bag App the easiest way to download it is to search "Finley High School" in either the App Store (iphone) or Play Store (Samsung device). It should come up directly.

Also remember once downloaded it will ask you to put in an email and set your own password for your use. From here you can then use the icons along the bottom of the screen to register for groups. You should register for news for any year group in which you have a student. Eg: If you have a student in both Years Eight and Eleven. Click on these two options so as you receive special news relevant to those year groups. You will still continue to receive all general updates and news.

Please feel free to contact the school if you need assistance with this process as once up and running it is very easy to use especially to return forms such as media release, general local excursion consent, absent notes and change of details. It will also keep you updated with things happening in the school.



## Permission Notes

For those families using our Skoolbag App please be aware that the App contains some general eforms that can be submitted from your phone or device. Simply go to eforms on the main menu. Here you will find forms such as Absentee forms, Media Release forms, a General Local Excursion Permission note and Change of Details forms. Change of detail form only needs to be completed if any of your details, such as address, email address or contact phone number change. You can complete a single form for multiple children and simply sign off the form on your device. The form is emailed directly to our front office staff for filing at school. This is a hassle free and quick way of returning notes. We hope you jump on board and enjoy using our new App. If you are having trouble finding it simply search for Finley High School in either your App Store (iphone) or Play Store (Samsung devices). Thank you to all parents who have already signed and returned these forms to the school office.

If you don't have access to Skoolbag and have not yet signed and returned your forms, please complete the attached form and return them to the school office as soon as possible.

If we don't have a signed media release form we are not able to include your child's name or photo in the newsletter or on our school webpage and may have to disguise your child's face if there is a group photo.

## Scholarships Closing 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018

The FACS SCHOLARSHIPS 2018 are currently open and applications will be closing on 23 February 2018.

Can you please circulate the attached information to any students that you think may be eligible to apply?

Who can apply for a scholarship?

Students are eligible to apply if they are:

- living in social housing (which includes public, community or Aboriginal housing), on the NSW Housing Register, receiving FACS private rental assistance, living in crisis/supported accommodation, or living in out-of home care
- studying in Year 10, 11 or 12 at a NSW high school or TAFE, completing a school based apprenticeship or traineeship, or studying a VET subject at school in 2018
- an Australian citizen or permanent resident
- not earning an income higher than the NSW social housing eligibility limits (if earning an income).

If students have previously been awarded a FACS Scholarship, they can still apply for the 2018 academic year. They will receive an email providing the details of how to apply again in 2018.

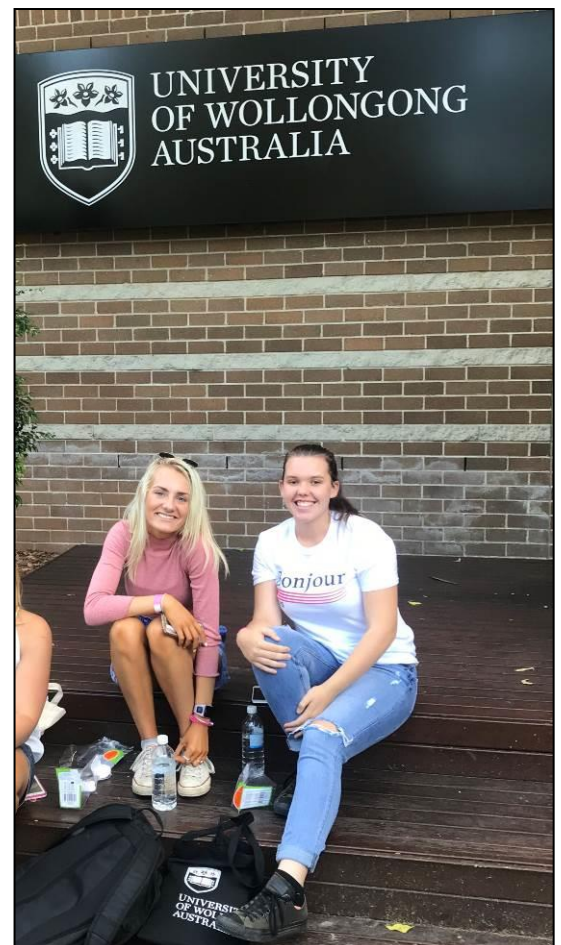
If any student would like further information, they can contact: Email: [education@facs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:education@facs.nsw.gov.au) or Web: [www.facs.nsw.gov.au/education](http://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/education)

## University of Wollongong Discovery Day 2018

This year saw sixteen Year Twelve students make the long trip to the University of Wollongong for Discovery Day. A quick stop for a walk along North Beach upon arrival had students inspired with all that the City of Wollongong has to offer a future student. Finley High School students were then lucky enough to be amongst the first students to live in the new on campus residential hall at Kooloobong Village. Here students were treated to all that University living has to offer including watching a movie in the outdoor cinema and investigating the facilities that included a gaming room, a yoga room, an indoor movie theatre, sound proof music rooms and so much more.

Discovery Day sees over 6300 students undertake workshops on campus ranging from what Uni is like to subject information sessions and tips for applying. Students were entertained at lunchtime by a local DJ and had many of their meals provided by UOW. Overall this was a great experience for our students to see another university campus outside our more local ones and to experience firsthand some of the experiences they have to look forward to.

Pictured right: Jessie Read and Madison Wooden at University of Wollongong Australia.



## Year Seven Report

Year Seven 2018 has been welcomed with open arms into Finley High School by all students and staff. The students have had a fantastic first few weeks and they are settling in nicely into their new classes.

In week one, some of the highlights included:

- The students experiencing their first classes of High School across a variety of subjects.
- Disability Awareness talks run by Jodi Brown and Jenny Wheeler. These talks were aimed at improving students' tolerance and understanding of people with disabilities.

During week two, students went on camp to Howman's Gap near Falls Creek. The students were away for three days and two nights. Their time was spent completing a variety of adventure and team building activities. The students' behaviour and participation was outstanding and they can be proud of the way they represented Finley High over the duration of the camp.



Above: Year Seven students and staff on the Howman's Gap excursion.



Left: Morgan Evans and Meg Marshall



Below right: Dan Barnes and Toby Hurd.



A selection of students opted to stay at school and these students participated in an adjusted timetable that focused on team building through a variety of subjects and activities. Once again, I had excellent feedback from staff. These students enjoyed their time over these few days and connected well with the other students in their group.

We are now in week 3 of term 1 and the students will finish their week by experiencing their first High School swimming carnival. The students have had house meetings during this week where they have learned their 'War Cries' and there is definitely a sense of excitement across the year group. I am sure that the students will have a great evening at the carnival and I wish all of the competitors the very best in their respective heats.

Coming up soon we will be hosting the 'Year Seven BBQ'. This event is a great way parents and carers to meet your child's teachers in an informal evening event. Please look out for more information on this event as it will be released in the next few days.

In the next newsletter, we will publish some students recounts of The Year Seven camp so please look out for this.

Simon Clark

Year Seven Advisor 2018



## *Whole School Assessment Due Dates*

Year	Class	Assessment Task	Teacher	Due Date
Twelve	12 CAFS	Groups in context	Miss Downey	26/02/2018

### CANTEEN ROSTER

Canteen Contact and Number  
Mrs Kaylene Dawe 5883 1105  
....LADIES, please note 10am start....

#### February

**16 NO SCHOOL**

**19** M Kleinschmidt

**20** C Alexander

**21** M McCaw

**22** T Anderson

**23** J Orro, K Arnold

**26** M Read, H Mortlock

**27** M Kleinschmidt

**28** J Chellew

#### March

**1** C Moloney

**2** L Bryce

## Finley High School P&C Meeting

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2018  
7pm in the staff common room  
(administration building)

The P&C meet the second  
Wednesday of the month.  
Everyone is welcome to attend.

[fhspandcassociation@gmail.com](mailto:fhspandcassociation@gmail.com)

## P&C Volunteers

Our P&C are looking for volunteers to help in the kitchen for St Joseph's Primary School Autumn Ball. It will be held on Saturday March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please call Kayleen or Bernadette at the Finley High School Canteen on 03 5883 1105 to put your name down.  
Thank you.

Respectful Responsible Learners



## PBL

Positive Behaviour Learning

# Outcomes

It is envisaged that Aboriginal Youth “Graduates” of the Tirkandi Inaburra facility will be equipped with the necessary tools and skills to:

- Become resilient and self-reliant
- Live a long life to achieve their Dream
  - Be successful in education and employment
- Actively participate in community and develop as Leaders
  - Be physically and mentally strong
- Be proud of their Aboriginal Culture and History

The Tirkandi Inaburra Cultural and Development Centre is a visionary initiative that for the first time ever will allow for all levels of Government, the Aboriginal community and the private sector to work in genuine partnership and ensure that another generation of Aboriginal male youth is not lost to the criminal justice system. Tirkandi Inaburra will encourage participants to re-engage with family, community, health, education and sport.



Education &  
Communities

# Client Population

Tirkandi Inaburra serves Aboriginal male Youth Aged 12 – 15 in the following and surrounding communities.

Albury	Lake Cargelligo
Balranald	Leeton
Bathurst	Moama
Condobolin	Lithgow
Cowra	Murrin Bridge
Cummeragunja	Wellington
Dubbo	Narranderra
Darlington point	Orange
Deniliquin	Parkes
Forbes	Tumut
Griffith	Wagga Wagga
Hay	West Wyalong
Hillston	Young
Junee	



Contact Us:

Free Call: 1800 759 040

Phone: (02) 69544800 Fax: (02) 69544855

ABN: 63 312 615 595

## Tirkandi Inaburra

Cultural and Development

Centre Inc.

Boys to Men:

Learning to Live their Dream



## History

Tirkandi Inaburra Cultural & Development Centre is a sub-regional Aboriginal community controlled organisation incorporated under the NSW Associations Incorporations Act 2009.

The Centre is culmination of some ten years of extensive research, planning and discussions with Aboriginal communities and other key stakeholders throughout the Region. All stakeholders were extremely concerned that for a variety of reasons Aboriginal youth were 20 times more likely than non-Aboriginal youth to be detained in a juvenile detention facility or fall behind in school.

## Location

Tirkandi Inaburra is located on 780 hectares of crown land between the townships of Coleambally and Darlington Point. Completed in late 2005, the Centre provides a range of culturally appropriate residential programs for Aboriginal male youth that is specifically tailored to improve their health, learning outcomes, cultural identity and increase their sense of responsibility and resilience



## Client Group

The Cultural & Development Centre provides 14 'sponsored' places for Aboriginal male youth aged from 12 to 15 years who are prepared to commit to the program for periods for a school term. The program has an intake of 14 participants per school term with other boys on a reserves list.

The participants reside at the Centre and are selected from within the catchment area.

Acceptance to the Centre is subject to the executive panel. The panel makes considerations to the participant's behaviors at home, community and school. The panel conducts risks assessments as the program is targeted at 'low-medium' risk applicants who want to make changes to their lives.

## Objectives of the Centre

The Centre provides individual assessment and quality case management for Aboriginal youth who have been 'sponsored' by families, communities or agencies.

Tirkandi Inaburra in partnership with NSW Dept. of Education, Health, FACS and Aboriginal Elders provides the following programs:

- School based Education
- Sport & Recreational Activities
  - Cultural Activities
  - Life & Living Skills

## Programs

### Culture:

- Aboriginal History
- Aboriginal Art & Mosaics
- Aboriginal Woodwork, Jewelry, Leatherwork
- Didgeridoo Playing
- Aboriginal Dance
- Aboriginal Language
  - Men's Group

### Life Skills:

- Personal Planning & Goal Setting
  - Behaviour Management
- Awareness of unacceptable behaviours
  - Strategies for self-control
- Awareness of forms of assault and offensive behaviours
  - Self-Advocacy

### Living Skills:

- Cooking
- Cleaning
- Washing & Ironing
- Personal Hygiene
- Personal Grooming

# ECIS SUPPORTED PLAYGROUP

**WHEN**  
15th February 2018  
Thursday  
10am-12pm  
Fortnightly



**WHERE**  
Early Childhood Intervention  
Finley Office  
223-229 Murray Street FINLEY NSW 2714

**FEATURING** • a supported playgroup for children 0 to school age, which will support families to understand the importance of early childhood development and assist with children's pathways to preschool and school enrolment.

Please contact us for more information  
t 03 5883 2585 m 0418 231 283  
f 03 5883 4235 e rbryce@kurrajong.com.au



**ALL FAMILIES  
CARERS, GUARDIANS,  
GRANDPARENTS**

**BENEFITING**  
Kurrajong Therapy Plus have an Educator, Speech Therapist and an Occupational Therapist as part of the team. They will be able to assess the needs of individual children and provide activities to improve their physical, communication and social skills within a group environment. This would also provide a great opportunity for parents to socialise, network and have some adult support conversations over morning tea.



Centacare South West NSW  
Wagga Wagga | Albury | Gilgih | Finley  
Phone 1300 619 379  
www.centacaresw.org.au



## BRINGING UP GREAT KIDS

A PARENTING  
PROGRAM FOR  
BUILDING GOOD  
RELATIONSHIPS  
WITH CHILDREN

This program is designed to promote positive, respectful parent/child relationships by helping you:

- Learn more about the origins of your own parenting style and how it can be more effective;
- Identify the important messages you want to convey to your children and how to achieve this;
- Understand the messages that children communicate to their parents and carers and how they do this;
- Discover how to overcome some of the obstacles that are getting in the way of being the kind of parent you would like to be;
- Learn about the importance of building self-esteem in children;
- Discover ways to take care of yourself and to find support when you need it; and
- Develop strategies to manage your parenting approach despite the mounting pressures on your time and role.

For further information or to register your interest, please contact Centacare South West NSW on 1300 619 379 or email [info@centacaresw.org.au](mailto:info@centacaresw.org.au)

The GREAT Kids Program has been developed by the Australian Childhood Foundation with the support of the Australian Government Department of Social Services.  
[www.kidscount.com.au](http://www.kidscount.com.au)



**Where:** Centacare South West  
2 Coree Street, Finley  
**When:** Wednesday 14th, 21st, 28th February  
7th, 14th & 21st March 2018  
**Time:** 10.00am - 12 noon  
Light refreshments included  
**Fees:** Free  
**Registrations:** Call 1300 619 379 or for more information call Tammy 0429 129 613

# Women in Rice Thursday, 22 February 2018

Learn about innovation and research involved in producing rice for a changing marketplace.

The free information and networking event will include a bus tour of Rice Research Australia Pty Ltd focussing on:

- Developing new rice varieties
- Producing seed
- On farm impact on grain quality
- Future technology for rice growing

Followed by lunch and presentation by Shannon Cumberlandidge, SunRice and Kari Cook, Riviana on **Understanding your consumer.**

**Old Coree, Jerilderie**  
Conargo Rd, 18 km West of Jerilderie and 34 km east of Conargo

10:00 am – 2 pm

To register or for more information go to:  
[womeninrice3.eventbrite.com.au](http://womeninrice3.eventbrite.com.au)

Numbers are limited.

## Supporters



This project is supported by the Murray Local Land Services through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Programme.

Follow us  
[@RiceExtension](https://www.instagram.com/RiceExtension)  
[#womeninrice](https://www.facebook.com/womeninrice)



**Rice Extension**  
funded by **AgriFutures**

AgriFutures Australia is the trading name for Rural Industries Research & Development Corporation.  
AgriFutures is a trade mark owned by Rural Industries Research & Development Corporation.

## BILLABONG CROWS FOOTBALL AND NETBALL CLUB

Invite all interested parties to join our club for the 2018 season.

The Crows are a family inclusive club and are looking to increase our memberships this season.

We have a variety of strategies in place to help with travel arrangements.



So, if your child would like an extra game of footy for the weekend or you just feel like a fresh start. Please contact us and to join our club.

**Auskick & Junior Football:** Ben Brndusic 0413780777

**NSG & Junior Netball:** Anna Ferguson 0429982291

**Senior Football:** Al Austin 0429964312

**Senior Netball:** Rebecca O'Connell 0408504174

WE FLY AS ONE!