



# Alstonville High School Newsletter

Developing future citizens and leaders of the community – life long learning!

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Issue 19

04 December 2019

## Alstonville High School

Our community values integrity  
in all aspects of life

### We value and support:

- A positive, healthy and safe learning environment
- Respectful attitudes and actions
- Diversity
- Pursuit of personal excellence
- Service to community
- Team work
- Quality learning and teaching
- Initiative, leadership and self-discipline

### We aspire to be:

- Life-long learners
- Creative and critical thinkers
- Effective communicators
- Skilled in literacy and numeracy
- Independent and organised
- Competent and innovative with technology
- Environmentally, socially and culturally informed
- Caring and compassionate



## AHS Cultural Festival

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December

Periods 3 and 4

\* 'Summer Days with a Twist'

Bring your  
money  
with you!

Music, face painting, Medieval games, bobbing for apples, sports arena and tug of war competitions, BBQ, photo booth, food stalls and trinkets, chalk art competition and lots more

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Term 4

12 Dec	Thursday	Cultural Festival
13 Dec	Friday	Year 9 Movieworld Excursion
16 Dec	Monday	Presentation Assembly
17 Dec	Tuesday	Movie and Lismore Pool
18 Dec	Wednesday	Last day of school for students

### Term 1, 2020

29 Jan	Wednesday	Years 7, 11 and 12 students start
30 Jan	Thursday	Years 8, 9 & 10 start

### Our strategic guiding question?

How can we ensure that our students achieve at least one year's worth of learning growth from one year's worth of teaching?

## Principal's report

### Correction

Firstly a correction from the last newsletter. The final school day this year is **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December**.

### Final Newsletter for 2019

It is hard to believe that we are coming to the end of another school year. 2019 has been a big year for Alstonville High School. Over the year we have seen:

- We have had a significant renovation to school facilities including new flooring coverings in L block corridors and Library, rejuvenation of wall surfaces and painting in L and J blocks, and upgrades to the kitchens. This work will continue in 2020 with further major works planned.
- We have increased time for Steps to Success, the Alstonville Certificate of Excellence and new syllabuses in year 12.
- We have continued our focus on improving the way we use assessment, with a particular focus on formative assessment (understanding student learning as they go about the task of learning new material rather than waiting until the end).
- We have surveyed students about the quality of feedback and looked at how we can respond to this information.
- We ran a senior conference for our 2020 year 12 students and aim to develop this initiative even further.
- We changed our 6 into 7 transition experience and the feedback has been very positive.
- We have continued our emphasis on consistent classroom practice – welcoming students to the start of each lesson, providing clear learning intentions and success criteria.
- Our literacy and numeracy team has worked hard all year to develop strategies that our teachers can use to continue to build the skills and knowledge of our students.

Our students have achieved marvellously well at national, state and local in the areas of Creative and Performing Arts, public speaking and debating, community service, sports and academic achievement. Our staff have demonstrated a single minded commitment to continuous growth, engaging with many hours of professional learning, opening classrooms to student before and after school, on weekends and over the holidays. Our data on students meeting school expectations has shown strong growth over 2019. Interest in enrolment continues to be strong and we are working with an increasing number of community partners so provide a diverse range of supports for our students.

I would like to thank all of our students for being part of another great year. I would like to thank our many, many school partners for all of your support. These partners include other government agencies, cleaning companies, building companies, community groups and non-profit organisations. We have many local businesses who support our students in numerous ways as well. We also cannot forget the vital role our local service or community groups, such as Rotary, SES, RSL, Lions, churches, Southern Cross University and sporting clubs, play in supporting the school.

I would like to thank all our staff for another year of stellar performance. Our cleaning staff, maintenance staff, student support staff, administrative staff, teaching staff, executive team and volunteers have collaborated to try to ensure that we work in the best interests of all of our students. They have worked hard and your efforts are appreciated.

Finally, I would like to thank our families. Without your faith in our school, we would not exist. Without your trust to work with you to steer our young people towards successful lives beyond school our impact would be significantly reduced. Partnerships take commitment and hard work to succeed and we are privileged to have enjoyed the support we receive on a daily basis.

It takes a village to raise a child and the extended village of Alstonville, and beyond, is working hard to be that village. I wish you all the best for the remainder of 2019, the upcoming festive season and New Year. We look forward to continuing the journey in 2020.

### Thank you to our P&C for 2019

On Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December, our P&C held their final meeting for 2019. On behalf of the wider school community, I would like to thank the P&C for all their hard work during this year. They have provided good advice around school policy and operational matters. They supported us during the large building program. They helped us with the significant task of providing breakfast for the Year 12 final assembly and they continue to operate two vital school services, the uniform shop and the canteen. They have also provided support for staffing decisions during the year. All of these activities make a direct positive impact on the lives of students who attend Alstonville High School. This kind of support requires donating time, effort and goodwill to the school and

this kind of commitment to our young people and to our community is greatly appreciated. I look forward to continuing our partnership in 2020.

*John Parker, Relieving Principal*

### Canteen Volunteers

Remember:

Please volunteer for our school canteen. We need you – our students need your support!



### Wanted Second Hand Uniforms

Our Uniform Shop is in need of any second hand uniforms.  
If your child has outgrown any of their uniform could you please donate to our Uniform Shop

### School Lockers Renewal for 2020

**Locker payments are now overdue. If they wish to keep the locker for 2020 payment of \$25.00 needs to be paid to the office ASAP.** If payment is not made the locker will be emptied by the General Assistant and offered to another student.

### Celebrating our outstanding Speak Off winners

On Thursday, the 28<sup>th</sup> of November, three of the Alstonville High School Speak Off Competition winners presented at an Alstonville Probus Club morning tea event. The three students involved were: Annie Tolman (Year 7), Ally Wenban (Year 8) and Clara Tolman (Year 9).

All three students presented an engaging and articulate speech in a confident manner. They represented the school to the highest standard. I am extremely proud of their effort and congratulate Annie, Ally and Clara.

Each student was presented with a certificate. Alstonville Probus Club also kindly donated a cheque to the English Department.

*Kelsey Knee - English Faculty / Speak Off Competition Coordinator*



### Aboriginal Secondary Leadership Workshop

On Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> of December four of our Year 11 students: Blake, Caroline, Lilly and Zane, attended the Aboriginal Secondary Leadership Workshop run by Ballina Coast High School.

Students participated in learning sessions that focused on topics such as owning stories, accountability, leadership, actioning and visioning to creating pathways for brighter futures, discipline, determination, respect, health and wellbeing.

Thank you sincerely to Ballina Coast High School for allowing our students to attend this meaningful program. We look forward to further school collaboration in the future.

*Kelsey Knee / Aboriginal Programs Coordinator*



- **End of Year Library Returns** Please return or renew all library books. If you are still using yours for the English task, remember to return it by the end of Week 9. If you do not know where it is, come and speak to the library staff. Thank you.
- **Battlebots in the Library** see post below!
- **ChessKid** Learn and play chess with other kids around the world. This website comes recommended and is cybersafe. [www.chesskid.com](http://www.chesskid.com)
- **Library Borrowers of the Month** We have had a busy run of borrowing with junior classes completing a wide reading unit. Sage Leard and Juliette Mills, BEING SMART and using the library catalogue to search for books and their location.



## Agriculture

Year 8 agriculture students are studying intensive vs extensive production. A fresh, salad sandwich product was enjoyed by some groups to extend the Paddock to Plate concept.

Year 9 agriculture students have been investigating native plants and are developing skills in production horticulture and a bonsai project. A chicken stir-fry was produced from fresh product in the vegetable crop and chickens from our broiler enterprise earlier in the year.



Year 10 students are in the final stages of maintaining, harvesting and marketing their enterprise projects with profit achieved with a number of different enterprises including sunflowers, potted basil and snacking tomatoes.

Year 11 students have been investigating the unit of competency “working effectively in the industry.” As part of the unit, we have incorporated the use of a range of technologies to develop an awareness of precision agriculture, data farming and analysis. A GPS unit was attached to Jan during the final stages of oestrus synchronisation for our Artificial Insemination (A.I.) program. The data is expected to demonstrate a period of high activity during her “heat” and show a decrease in activity after A.I. and can be analysed across a satellite image of the school farm using ARCGIS software.



Also a boom spray tank is being used to apply Seasol products to the school farm with the use of a tractor. Eloise Hagate attended the UNE Armidale National Agriculture day and investigated tertiary studies in meat and soil science, ruminant research, technology and Smart Farming as a potential future study option.

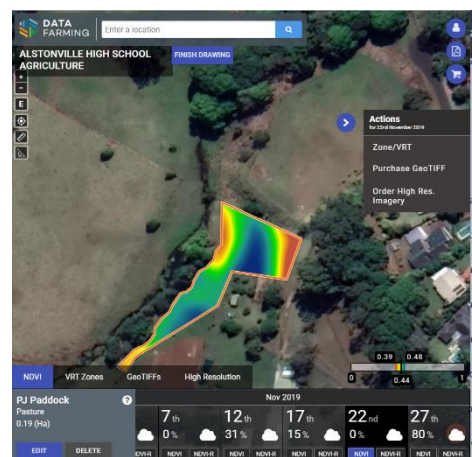
The school is very thankful for the technical skill/advice and A.I. procedure which was carried out by Paul Weir, local dairy farmer and business manager of the Best Spred fertiliser application company.



Finally, congratulations to Nellie Witt who achieved qualification for the state parader's finals to be held at the Sydney Royal show in 2020. Eloise Hagate performed well on the day with a small error costing her a place.

Year 11 students are analysing the school agriculture plot with satellite technology to apply precision agricultural techniques for the sustainable application of lime and fertiliser to individual cropping situations.

*Ben Holmes/Agriculture Dept*

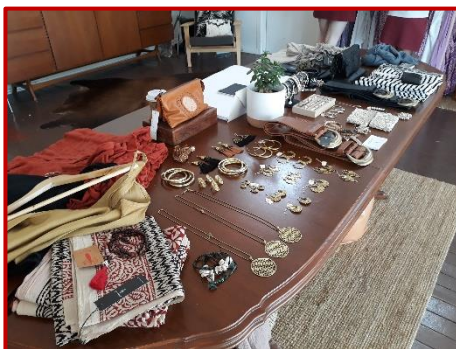
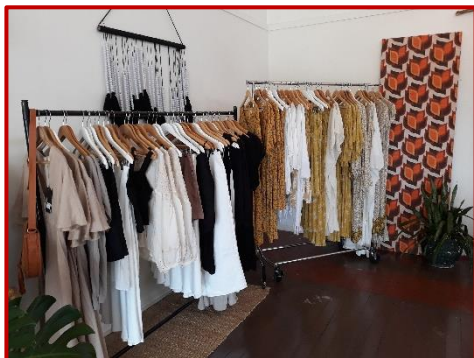


## TAS

Year 12 Textiles and Design are keenly learning about Indian cultures. We had Ms John come and visit our class and speak about Indian culture showing us many samples and even wrapping Dove up in a Saree to see the great intensity of all the folding and tucking to keep them in place. It was a very informative talk. We thank Ms John for her time.



We also took an excursion to a nearby business, Avaalia. It was an interesting visit learning, how the store came to be and how the fabric and clothing are produced. From mood boards to the end products sold in the shop. We thank Julianne Parsons for allowing us to visit and her time. These visits add to the inspiration of the upcoming Major Textile Projects to be made in 2020.



## CAPA night 2019 – Textiles Fashion Show Models

TAS had some lovely displays to highlight the projects they have been busy building in 2019. We thank the following models for their help on CAPA night to put on a wonderful fashion show. It was a fantastic fashion parade thanks to the great skills in fashion parading of these students. We would like to thank all those who attended CAPA night and the great positive feedback we received about the fashion show. It was a wonderful success and added to CAPA night with real flair.



### Year 6 Transition:

TAS had several students from surrounding primary schools come and visit Alstonville High School and created some amazing finger puppets. Testing their design skills and dexterity as for some threading those needles can be a bit tricky. From the pictures featured, you can see the students enjoyed their time in Textiles and walked away with some great finger puppet designs. We cannot wait to welcome them back in 2020.



### Year 9 Cakes



### LAST CHANCE TO BUY YOUR TICKETS:



## 'Designed to Inspire'

You are invited to a  
**Collaborative Exhibition:**  
Frock Club and Alstonville High School  
Technological Applied Studies (TAS)

Showcasing current students' work  
from Alstonville High School 2019 and  
select pieces from the Museum's Frock  
Club Collection. Support our TAS  
students. Delight in their potential.  
They are our future!

## Exhibition Opening, Fashion Show & Garden Party

**Venue:** Crawford House Museum  
10 Wardell Rd, Alstonville

**Date:** Saturday, 7 December 2019

**Time:** 1:30pm

**Cost:** \$10 per person (BYO chair or rug)  
Children under 18 years free  
Light refreshments will be served

**Payment:** Prepaid Tickets ONLY  
Eventbrite (online)  
Alstonville High School office  
9am to 3pm weekdays

Event will run rain, hail or shine – alternate venue  
**BOOK YOUR SPOT NOW!!!!**

Vanessa Christmas / Relieving TAS Head Teacher

## Sports News

### Water Polo

The NSWCHS Open Girls Water Polo Carnival was held from Monday 25 to Thursday 28 November at Wagga Wagga. The State Championships involved nine regional teams in a round robin competition over the first 3 days with every team playing every other team. On the 4<sup>th</sup> day of competition the play-offs and finals were held.

The North Coast Girls Water Polo team finished seventh, after they won the play-off for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> place against the team from the South Coast Region. Hannah Gilmour of Year 9 was awarded the tournament's Goal Keeper's Encouragement Award. The North Coast team played very well against some very strong metropolitan teams and they should be proud of their efforts. The fight and determination of the team was a credit to the whole school community.

Thank you to the North Coast Open Girls Water Polo Convener Mr Gus Moncrieff for managing the team and Mr John Hair for selecting and coaching the team.

Amy Bransgrove yr 9	Erin Bryce yr 10	Hannah Gilmour yr 9
Tess Gilmour yr 11	Grace Hadlow yr 9	Amalia Jobson yr 9
Eva Jones yr 10	Charlotte Lopes yr 11	Mikayla Nelson yr 11
Lilly Scott yr 8	Sieara Ware yr 9	

*Paul Francis/Sports Organiser*

## Careers Communication

Congratulations to Eva Jones Year 10 who was selected to receive a Southern Cross University DVCA Academic Excellence Award. The Award includes mentorship & support for Eva over the next 2 years of her Year 11/12 studies & a potential University offer after she completes her HSC. Here is Eva below, being presented with her award last week by Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic) Professor Tyrone Carlin.



Message to Parents/Carers and Students- If your child or yourself are considering enrolling in Vocational Courses at school, TAFE or other providers, including White Card, First Aid/ CPR, RSA and RSG in 2020 and beyond, they/you will need to create a mandatory USI number. This number stays with you for life and allows access of to a digital record of your academic results/transcripts to show future employers or education institutions. Students in Hospitality and Primary Industries for Year 11 2020 will have to provide a USI when they start the course Term 1 2020. To save time, log in to [www.usi.gov.au](http://www.usi.gov.au) and use ID such as Medicare card or birth certificate or passport etc. to create your own personal USI before you start your course.

If you are commencing work or applying for Centrelink you will need a TFN –Tax File Number. Use the link below or search “how to apply for a Tax File Number”. It can take up to 28 days to be sent your TFN.

How to get a tax file number (TFN) | Australian Taxation Office:

<https://www.ato.gov.au/individuals/tax-file-number/apply-for-a-tfn/australian-residents---tfn-application/>

Tax file number	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
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TAFE North Coast TVET have developed a booklet that outlines expectations of school students enrolling in TAFE as part of school studies. Click on the digital link below to find out more BEFORE you start TAFE in 2020....details of bus transport times and costs will be distributed early 2020 for students and families to be informed. The eVET website opens on 9<sup>th</sup> December for school to add late applications and closes 13<sup>th</sup> Dec. No guarantees of an offer. Make sure application forms have been handed to the Careers Adviser by the end of this week.

[https://www.dropbox.com/s/b44hsiyj6icx0ic/2020%20TVET%20student%20information%20package\\_North%20Region%20v1.pdf?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/b44hsiyj6icx0ic/2020%20TVET%20student%20information%20package_North%20Region%20v1.pdf?dl=0)



Final Reminder- Over the past few months a number of anonymous short surveys have been developed for Students and Parents. These are to assist with school and Careers Planning. They have been sent to student school emails and parent emails we have on our school records. If you wish to have your say please respond to email link or copy/paste to google on the appropriate survey monkey link below before the end of the term. Thanks in advance.

Years 9-11 Student Survey <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GZCK9YK>

Year 12 Student Survey <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JNR5BT9>

Parent and Carers Years 7-12 <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WXYGCSN>



Other useful websites and information:

<https://www.lifelauncher.nsw.gov.au>

<https://alstonvillehighcareers.com>

<https://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au>

<https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/vetinschools/documents/schooltowork/ParentsTalkingCareerChoices.pdf>

Information on School-based Apprenticeship and Traineeships -<https://sbatinnsw.info>



Karen Horne Careers Adviser

Email: [Karen.horne@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Karen.horne@det.nsw.edu.au)



**ALSTONVILLE ROTARY CLUB IS A PROUD CONTRIBUTOR TO A MALARIA VACCINE RESEARCH PROJECT**

*Professor Michael Good and his malaria research team, Griffith University (Gold Coast)*

Malaria is one of the world's killer diseases. More than 400,000 people, mostly children under five years die of malaria every year and at present there are about 219 million cases of malaria worldwide. Malaria is very prevalent in Africa, Papua-New Guinea, Indonesia, the Solomon Islands and South America.

People contract malaria when they are bitten by an infected Anopheles mosquito. The mosquito injects a powerful parasite that travels to the person's liver where it multiplies rapidly and matures. It infects both the liver and the blood stream and causes

headaches, fever, vomiting and even death. There are drugs like Chloroquine and Artemisinin that will prevent malaria on a short term basis and can be used to cure it with modern health technology. Nevertheless, if we are to save children's lives from malaria we must have an effective vaccine that works like current vaccines for measles and polio.

At present there is NO effective vaccine for malaria! However, Professor Michael Good at Griffith University (Gold Coast) has created a very promising malaria vaccine called PlasProtecT®. In evaluating this vaccine, Professor Good tested it first in animal studies. It was 100% effective and then he moved to test whether the vaccine was safe and whether it activated the human immune system. It passed both of these tests, so now he is assessing whether human volunteers injected with PlasProtecT® will be protected when they are injected with a malaria parasite. These are called Phase 1 Clinical Trials.

It costs an enormous amount of money to prepare vaccines and carry out clinical trials. The total cost for the Phase 1 trials will about \$2.5 million. Rotarians all over Australia (Malaria Vaccine Project) have banded together to raise this money so that the trials can go ahead. So far, with the help of the Australian Government and generous people throughout this country the Rotarians have raised \$1.1 million. There is a long way to go but the money raised has enabled the trials to start at the Gold Coast and they will continue in Brisbane and Melbourne. If these trials continue to be successful PlasProtecT® will be trialled in Africa and other countries.

How wonderful if that terrible death toll of young children began to disappear!

*Rotarian Dr Graham Jones, Chair, Malaria Vaccine Project*



**Term 4 Homework Centre ONLY!**

**When: Every Monday**

**Time: 3.20pm to 5pm**

**Where: AHS Library**

**Come along please bring your latest H/W and assignment tasks**

**Provided: Fresh fruit and biscuits**

***Mrs Christmas TAS Head Teacher***

## **Recycle 10c Bottles at school:**

Please encourage your children to use the new 10c bottle collection cages located in the school. Return their used bottles and poppers at the end of recess and lunch. The school environmental group will collect and ensure that money is then used to improve the environment at Alstonville High School.

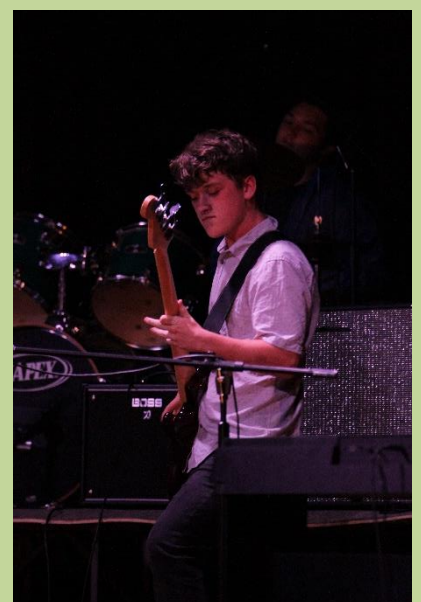
KEEP RECYCLING THOSE BOTTLES ☺

## **New Project – Compost bins around the school**

Please encourage your children to use the new bins around the school at recess and lunch. The school environmental group will collect the compost and take down to the school set up for composting in the Agricultural plot.

*The Environmental Group and Mrs Christmas/Ms Varela*

# CAPA Night





**Join us at  
Options Day  
to receive  
personalised  
advice**

**Register now**



**SOUTHERN CROSS UNIVERSITY**  
**Graduates can rest easy knowing we offer many pathways to university, which can even add credits to their degree.**

If your students have questions about how to finalise their enrolment, understand their unit list or plan for next year - [Options Day](#) is the place to find answers.

Tell them to come along for an individual consultation to begin their university journey with confidence.

**Register to attend Options Day**

### Options Day 2019

<b>Gold Coast</b>	<b>Lismore</b>	<b>Coffs Harbour</b>
Saturday 14 December 10am - 2pm (QLD time)	Tuesday 17 December 2pm - 6pm (NSW time)	Tuesday 17 December 2pm - 6pm (NSW time)
Tuesday 17 December 2pm - 6pm (QLD time)		

They've come this far, now help them over the final hurdle - [register to attend Options Day](#)

### Can't attend Options Day or interested in our online courses?

Make a booking for a personal consultation with a Southern Cross University study advisor

**1800 626 481**

[futurestudent@scu.edu.au](mailto:futurestudent@scu.edu.au)

## Community Announcements



Excellence in music education  
Imagination • Enjoyment • Skill

### Piano Vocals Drums Guitar

***\*\*Creative Kids Vouchers Now Accepted\*\****

University-trained and experienced local teachers  
Fun and engaging lessons held in a fully equipped  
studio in Alstonville

Music is VITAL to your child's education so what are  
you waiting for?

**Call NOW as places are limited**

web: [tipitinamusic.com.au](http://tipitinamusic.com.au)  
email: [tipitinamusic@gmail.com](mailto:tipitinamusic@gmail.com)  
phone: 0425241049

The Zonta Club of Northern Rivers would like to invite young women aged 16-19 who demonstrate leadership skills and commitment to public service, volunteering and civic causes to enter the YWPA Award 2020. Zonta is an international organisation/charity working to empower all women through service and advocacy.

The 2020 Application form can be downloaded from the website <https://foundation.zonta.org/Our-Programs/Educational-Programs/Young-Women-in-Public-Affairs-Award>

Entries close on the 6th March 2020 and entries/completed applications are to be posted to

PO Box 108 Alstonville 2477 by this date. The Awards Night is the 18th March at Alstonville Bowling Club.

For further enquiries or help with the application process please contact:

Lyndall Smith 0424427077 or [email lyndall907@hotmail.com](mailto:lyndall907@hotmail.com)

OR

Linda Grudnoff 0431622656 or [email lindagrudnoff@yahoo.com](mailto:lindagrudnoff@yahoo.com)



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# Christmas Market

We invite you, community, friends and family to the *Maranoa Christmas Market Day*.

A variety of stalls will sell Christmas goodies, puddings, sweets and handmade articles.

Entertainment by the *Ballina Christian Choir*

**VENUE:** Baptist Care Maranoa  
15 The Avenue  
Alstonville

**DATE:** Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December


**TIME:** 10am to 2pm



Stall holders please call Sam on 0466 447 230 or Reidy on 0418 663 871

## RiversideCarols

Ballina and District  
Presented by the combined Churches of Ballina and Lennox Head



# Jesus IS THE TRUTH

Jesus said, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the TRUTH, and the TRUTH shall make you free." John 8:31-32

**SUNDAY 8<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2019 . 6.30PM**  
**KINGSFORD SMITH OVAL, BALLINA**  
BALLINA SEAGULLS RLFC, BENTINCK STREET  
Gates Open 5.30pm  
Celebration and Fireworks . Alcohol Free Event  
[www.riversidecarols.org.au](http://www.riversidecarols.org.au)



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1 Owens Crescent, Alstonville NSW 2477