#### WEE WAA NEWS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2016

# Helping find the answers

s an issue that comes up for school leavers and other young people at this time of year.

"What am I going to do next?"

The tools to help you answer that question could be find at workshops being held in Narrabri next month.

The Career Directions worships are being run by Narrabri Shire local Helen Dugdale, of Australian Brain

Mrs Dugdale said they focused on building the confidence of young

"A lot of school leavers are scared of the unknown," she said.

"They really don't know what they want to do, they get themselves all churned up and they feel that 'I'm the only one in the world going through this'. It might be in relation to money, or 'am I good enough?' or leaving home or those sorts of issues.

"These workshops will give them confidence, communication skills and skills for coping with difficult situations."

Participants would be given real-life

examples and would go through a few career choices and what might suit them, with goal-setting and action plans, all in a friendly non-threaten-

ing group situation. "I try to make it fun and interesting over the three hours and they learn a little bit about themselves too," Mrs Dugdale said.

"It's very rewarding to be able to help young people and help them with their sense of direction.'

One young man who has taken part previously said: "I would really like to thank Helen Dugdale for helping me start a new chapter in my life, refinding my confidence and drive to change what I thought was an impossible task at the time.

"As a young rural bloke, I couldn't recommend anyone more highly than Helen, to help out young rural Australians or anyone for that matter, who are stuck in limbo, who need some drive and direction."

For more information on the sessions, see the advertisement on this

advised that the Volunteer Grants for

2016 are now open and will close on

Grants between \$1000 and \$5000

are available for not-for-profit com-

munity organisations or groups to

The federal government has in-

vested \$10 million in the Volunteer

I would encourage any not-for-

profit organisation to have a look at

the application pack which is avail-

able from the Department of Social

help support their volunteers.

Grants 2016 funding round.

December 20, 2016.

## **Inspired** visit for **Abby**

By **PUBLICITY OFFICER** 

About 150 senior high school students attended the NSW Constitution Convention at Parliament House on Monday, November 7.

Selected from schools across NSW. Wee Waa High School 2017 captain Abby Downes was delighted to have been selected to take part in this auspicious day.

Conducted in the Legislative Assembly, often referred to as the Green Room, the hall was filled to the brim of enthusiastic students eager to learn more about referendums and plebiscites.

Guest speaker for the day was Ann Twomey, Professor of Constitutional Law at Sydney Law School, who Abby described as inspirational.

The day was designed to assist students studying Legal Studies.

Students worked in groups where they studied previous plebiscites and referendums.

Abby said that the opportunity



CONSTITUTION CONVENTION: Wee Waa High School 2017 captain Abby Downes at Parliament House in Canberra last week.

provided her with an amazing learning experience.

She also agreed with Professor Twomey's point that the really positive aspect of a referendum or

plebiscite was that no matter what the outcome, you know that that is what the majority of the population wanted, not just the government of

## From the Mayor's desk

# Storm clean up brings out the community spirit

**CR CATHY REDDING** 

Narrabri Shire Council Mayor



The wild storm over the weekend certainly unleashed a lot of damage across the district, in particular

I would like to thank all the volunteers for their assistance in the cleanup. Efforts will be continuing this

It is with great pleasure that Federal Member for Parkes Mark Coulton has

around Narrabri.

I recently attended the Country Mayors meeting in Sydney where Gary Whites was guest speaker.

Services website.

Mr Whites is the chief planner for NSW Planning Minister Rob Stokes.

Since returning to Narrabri from

Sydney, I have been fortunate enough to secure a four-hour workshop at Narrabri in December for Council's planning staff and Councillors with Mr Whites.

The survey will be widely distributed and I encourage everyone across the Shire to get involved and Think Big about our future.

The timing of this workshop will be very beneficial for Council with our Community Strategic Plan commencing and to provide information to the

NSW Planning Department of the immense opportunities within Narrabri Shire ahead of the proposed New England and North West Strategic Plan being developed by them.

Ahead of the development of the Community Strategic Plan, Council is preparing a number of community engagement workshops where you will have your chance to put forward your views and ideas that will help shape the future of Narrabri Shire. There will also be a survey which

will be widely distributed and I encourage everyone across the Shire to get involved and Think Big about our

The Community Strategic Plan sets out the 10-year vision for Narrabri Shire so it's important we know what the community envisage for our

I had the pleasure of attending the Remembrance Day Service in Narrabri on Friday, November 11, and do the reading of the 'Commemoration of the Fallen' at the RSL. The school captains, Olivia Bange and Harry Russell of Narrabri High School and Martha Harvey and Rory Taylor of St Francis Xavier provided a very thoughtful and well researched recollection of the events which lead to the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month.

It was a very moving service with a large number of wreaths and poppies being laid at the Memorial.

As always be mindful of the trucks travelling around and through the Shire during this busy harvest time. Enjoy your week.



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### A workshop for people under 25 years old



It may seem like there are so many options for a career that you are unsure where to start.

This workshop will discuss some career options; goal setting; confidence building and action plans to help you on your path.

SET YOUR OWN DIRECTION

Choice of 2 dates: Saturday 3rd December, 2-5 pm or Sunday 4th December, 10-1 pm Venue: 69 Maitland St Narrabri

Cost: \$50, includes light refreshments, and work folder

Please contact Helen Dugdale on 0417064507 or email: helen@australianbraincoaching.com.au

"A goal without a plan is just a wish"