The Ashford community commemorated Anzac Day on Friday, 25th April, with a well supported march and ceremony at the Memorial Hall.

The march was led by ex student, Steven Akhurst, a serving member of the Australian RAAF. The march included Bruce Fitzhammin and Berty Bryant who both served in WW2. Both men enlisted at Ashford during the 1940s. Bruce Fitzhammin, who is now 98 years old, is believed to be the oldest veteran participating in the march in NSW.

About 80 students from Ashford Central School participated in the march and service held at the Memorial Hall.

Our school captains, Dean Bentley and Bethany Cook, and last year’s vice captain, Katlin Beveridge, conducted the service and Mrs Cathy Irwin gave an address on the meaning of Anzac.

Our school choirs, both primary and secondary, sang with the assistance of Mrs Murray, Mrs Ballam, Mrs Irwin and Mrs Lewis. There were a number of out of town visitors to our ceremony this year and several of them approached me after the service and said it was the most moving and best service they had ever attended.

Congratulations to all involved!

The Ashford community celebration of Anzac Day is very much dependent on a significant turn out of school students. I ask all parents to encourage their children to participate each year and remember the importance of Anzac Day to Australian culture.
**School Dates - Term 2**

16th May - Athletics carnival  
21st May - Careers Expo  
22nd May - Central Schools Under 16s Touch  
23rd May - Central Schools Open Touch  
23rd May - Zone Cross Country - Ashford  
30th May - NRL Legends of League Years 5/6 Ashford  
2nd - 6th June - Dubbo Residential  
5th June - Zone Athletics  
11-12th June - Netball Vs Bowraville at Bowraville  
12th June - Under13 and Under 16 BABE Country Cup

**Science Competition**

Entries for the 2014 ICAS Science Competition are now open for students from Year 3 to Year 12. Cost is $8.00 which can be paid at the front office. Entries close on the 7th of May. The actual exam date is the 4th of June.

**Voluntary School Contribution**

In an effort to simplify the payment of money to the school for visiting performances, books and school contributions, the school introduced a system of a one off payment for all costs for the year. This system was introduced in 1995 with the support of the P & C and AECG. The big advantage to parents is that they get a considerable saving by paying the one off levy.

The advantage to the school is the reduction of interruption to teaching time and more effective use of clerical time.

The school benefits from Equity Funding and many programs in the school are subsidised.  
The Voluntary School Contribution does not cover the cost of excursions during the year.  
The contribution for each class is as follows: Kindergarten to Year 6 is $40.00 per year, Year 7 to Year 12 is $40.00 per year.  
Secondary Subject Contribution:  

There is a family discount for families with more than two children attending Ashford Central School. No family pays more than their eldest 2 children's levy. The levy can be paid off on a term basis if you wish. If there is genuine hardship and families cannot pay their voluntary contribution, they are asked to contact the Principal for an interview.

The contribution covers free ambulance, books, paper supplies, art and craft materials, text books, visiting performances (three per year), PSSA and CHS fees, Life Saving Awards and Life Education Van.  
At a P&C meeting at the end of 2007, a parent reported hearing a number of parents discussing “voluntary school contribution”. They were saying it was cheaper to pay for the visiting performers at the time of the show.  
This is in fact true, but, if you choose to do this you are making no contribution for books, paper supplies, art and craft materials, text books, Life Education van, PSSA/CHS fees etc. In 2012, the school spent $101,527 on such items or about $580 per student.  
Asking parents to contribute $40 per student does not appear unreasonable and represents exceptional value for money. Payments can be made at the office at any time. Several parents have already made payments for 2014.
National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy 2014

LETTER TO PARENTS

In May 2014 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy skills of students across Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. Each student’s level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student’s right to privacy is maintained.

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 13 - 15 May 2014.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TUESDAY 13 MAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY 14 MAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY 15 MAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Conventions (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Numeracy (Number, Algebra, function and pattern; Chance and data; Measurement and Space)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be two Numeracy tests: one where a calculator is allowed and one where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

Friday 16 May – A ‘catch-up’ day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day.

Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if:

- they are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or
- they have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments which reflect the student’s normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, Braille, coloured paper versions and electronic tests are available to meet the needs of individual students.

Access to disability adjustment or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the school Principal and a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents in consultation with the Principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Please make an appointment with the Principal of the school your child attends if you would like to discuss your child’s participation in NAPLAN.

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at [www.nap.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent_Carer_support/index.html](http://www.nap.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent_Carer_support/index.html).
Thought For The Week
When your only tool is a hammer, all problems start looking like nails.

Ashford Bushfire Brigade
Next meeting will be held on **Wednesday**, 7th May, 2014, 7.30pm at the fire station. All members are asked to attend.

Bonshaw CWA
A luncheon for cancer research will be held at the Bonshaw Hall. Wednesday, 14th May, 2014 at 12.30pm. Cost: $13.00 per person. Raffle and guest speaker.

Ashford Roosters’ RLFC
General Meeting
The next meeting of the Ashford Roosters’ Rugby League Football Club will be held on **MONDAY**, 5th May, 2014 at 7.00pm. The meeting will be held at the Ashford Memorial Bowling Club.

Ashford Presbyterian Church
Pastor: Trevor Ewart
Sunday Service - 9.00am
Bible Study - 9.30am Wednesday at the Manse.
All welcome. Stay for a cuppa and a chat.
Email: trevorewart@activ8.net.au
Phone 67258761
mobile 0448876161.

ASHFORD WOMEN'S BOWLING CLUB
**ATTENTION:** Ladies PLEASE NOTE. Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 30th April, 2014 at 4.30 pm. It will be held **BEFORE** we set the tables up for our President's Day. The meeting will count for our May meeting.

* All health care needs * Wound care
* Distance dispensing service * Baby care & nutrition * Sunglasses
* Health & beauty products
ASHFORD MEMORIAL BOWLING CLUB
FRIDAY, 2nd May, 2014.

Lucky Member’s Draw ? drawn 8:30pm
Progressive Members’ Draw starts 7.15pm @ $20. If not won increases by $10.00 every 15 minutes till 8.00pm.

Meat tray raffles starting at 6.30pm.
Saturday, 3rd May, 2014
Euchre 2.00pm start
Social Bowls: Wednesday, 30th April, 6.00pm start
Sunday, 4th May, 3.00pm start
Happy Hour: Fridays 8.30 - 9.30pm

CATERING ON FRIDAY NIGHT
6.30–8.30pm • Bookings desirable
Phone 67254202
Catering available on alternative days for private functions. Minimum 20 people. Bookings essential.

ASHFORD GOLF CLUB
4th May - Stroke
11th May - 1st Round Championships
18th May - 2nd Round Championships
25th May - 3rd Round Championships

Please be advised that membership is now due:
Adults $60.00 Juniors $30.00

ASHFORD SHOW SOCIETY AGM
15th May 7.30 pm
at the Bowling Club

At this meeting, office bearers and committee are nominated and elected for the coming year and the 2015 show.
Contact the Secretary, Lisa Heyer, on 07 4653 8183 for more information or to register your interest in a position.
The Show Committee meets once a month.
These meetings are open. All are welcome.

FOR SALE
Various household items
Phone 67 254 100

Bun Bun Playgroup
Ashford Bun Bun Playgroup held every Wednesday (except school holidays) between 10am and 1pm at the Ashford Memorial Hall.
All mums and bubs welcome.
ANZAC Day

Commemoration

Thank you to the Ashford community and visitors for your interest and support on Anzac Day.

The Dawn Service was followed by Gunfire Breakfast at the Bowling Club and were both well attended.

The Anzac Day march was held at 10.30am and had a great turn out of veterans, school students and the general public. The march was followed by the commemorative service in the town hall, then it was back to the Bowling Club for lunch and two-up.

Your support keeps the Anzac spirit alive. Mark “Shorty” Thorn

Altered Date

St Patrick’s Church Mass Time
Saturday, 3rd May, 2014 - 3.00pm

Inverell & District Soccer 2014
Season Registrations

Registrations are now open for the 2014 Junior Soccer Season. Registration and payment are to be made through myfootballclub.com.au. Age Groups 5/6 $80, 7/8 $80, 9/10 $90, 11/12 $90 and Youth 13-18 $100. Entry Level division 5/6 receive a free ball and shin pads with registration. Information day is Saturday, 29th March at Sporting Complex Soccer Canteen starting at 9.00am. Competition starts on Saturday, 3rd May, 2014, with a Gala Day commencing at 9.00am. For further information please contact Tammy Cabitza 0427 878 730 or Carl White 0427 774 019.

THE LIONS’ CORNER

Our Lions’ meetings are held the 1st Tuesday of the month at the Bowling Club 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. Our next meeting is 6th May, 2014.

LEOS

Our meeting will be held on Thursday, 8th May in the Science lab at lunch time. PLEASE LEOs bring your fees and membership form at the next meeting as I need to send the fees away.

BINGO

Held at the Bowling Club on the first Wednesday of the month. STARTING TIME: 1.00 pm. Our next day is the 7th May, 2014. Come along and have FUN with us as we all had a ball with all the new games and prizes. Cost of the books is $5.00 each and jackpot tickets are $2.00 each. Our jackpot is up to $65.00. Starting time eyes down at 1.00 pm.

MINI - LOTTO

Winning numbers: 3, 4, 6, 9, 16, 20. Draw Date 25/04/2014. JACKPOT is more than $6,028.00. The jackpot is getting up again. The Lotto helps us to put money back into the community.

DRIVER REVIVER

Driver Reviver is over for these holidays. Once again a BIG THANK YOU to my volunteers who help out with manning our Driver Reviver. Without these loyal people we could not run and I appreciate and thank you for your time.

Bye from the Den.

Yours in Lionism,
Lion Helen

NORTHWEST CHIMNEY SWEEP

Let me sweep before your smoke alarm beeps.

Phone Jason 0407658179
Reasonable rates.
Roosters Push Glen Innes All The Way

The Ashford Roosters first grade side played “out of their skins” to push the highly rated Glen Innes Magpies all the way in the match held at Ashford on Saturday, April 26. The Glen Innes team won the hard fought match 38-22 in the end but the score line was just 32-22 up until the last minute of the game. The Ashford team went close to scoring a number of times in the last 10 minutes and it would have been a major upset had Ashford won against one of the strongest teams in Group 19.

Corey Baker had another outstanding game for the Roosters and has been in wonderful form so far this year. Other strong performers for the Roosters were Mark Lewis and Sam Hewat who scored two tries. Charles Boney won the players’ player award playing on the wing which is very unusual but well deserved.

Kerrod Sampson and Shannon Duroux returning to the team added a bit of class to the team’s attack and Steven Akhurst, who was back in Ashford for the Anzac weekend, played strongly. The truth is Ashford had 17 players who played outstandingly. If they can continue in that form, this team will record another victory shortly.

Jason Luckett and Mark Lewis have taken over the coaching duties and there has been a remarkable improvement in cohesion and morale in the players.

After a disappointing first half, where they were down 34-0, the Roosters reserve grade team fought back in the second half to finish 40-6. Ashford drew the second half 6-6. Best of the Roosters’ reserve grade were Dean Beveridge, Aaron Burley, Todd Cleal and Robert Kennedy.

The Ladies’ League Tag team had a tightly fought game against the competition leaders. The Roosters’ girls are going to be a force in the competition this year and look likely to be a chance to make the semis. In the end the girls were beaten 30-12 but the contest was much closer than the score indicated. Best players for Ashford were Sasha Harrington, Vannessa Alexander and Ashleigh Falconer. Ashford have the bye this weekend and then play Uralla at Uralla on the 10th May, 2014.

The bus will leave from the rear of the Ashford Bowling Club at 8.00am. Cost is $15 for adults and $7.50 for under 18s.

EASTER DISCO A GREAT SUCCESS

Over the holidays, Ashford Memorial Bowling Club was the venue for the Ashford Youth Easter Disco. Jen & Louise would like to thank the following people for their contributions: the Bowling Club Committee for the use of the club premises and the kitchen, Freddy Minos & JR for representing the committee and overseeing the event, Kevin Stosssel for providing the funds for the eggs and prizes, Ashford Central School for allowing us to print the flyers, Janelle for providing extra sausages—without this we wouldn't have had enough, the two unknown visitors to Ashford who volunteered to cook the sausages and Laurel Thompson for supplying the lollies for the Lolly Scramble.

Many thanks also to: Kirsty and Kaitlin Beveridge for advertising, PR work, running the raffle and providing the music and Mal Allen for providing the lighting, Ray & Colleen Mallinen, Youth Group leaders for helping Annie & Tia, Lynn, Louise and Jen with the clean-up, Gary Thompson for the bar work and also Kylie who came as a parent and ended up helping and Gary behind the bar.

The Easter Raffle raised $360 for the Ashford Christian Youth Group and was presented to the Youth Group leaders on the night. Winner of the raffle was Alicia Julius who was absolutely thrilled.

A BIG THANKS to all the parents for supporting this event. We were thinking we might get 40 to 50 children but 126 turned up.

A GREAT NIGHT WAS HAD BY ALL and your support was greatly appreciated.
**ASHFORD LOCAL ABORIGINAL LAND COUNCIL**
25 Albury Street, Ashford NSW 2361
Ph (02) 67254411 Fax (02) 67254422
Email: landcouncil@ashfordlalc.com

**TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

Ashford LALC are pleased to advise that through their strong partnership with Tafe New England and Local Land Services we have been able to negotiate several training opportunities for the Ashford community.

- **Cultural Awareness** – 21st May 2014 – Local Land Services
- **First Aid** – 27th & 28th May 2014 – Tafe New England
- **Chemical Application & OHS General Induction for Construction** – 3rd, 4th & 5th June 2014 – Tafe New England
- **Aboriginal Site Identification** – 10th & 11th June 2014 – Local Land Services
- **Chainsaw Operation** – 17th & 18th June 2014 – Tafe New England

Spaces are limited and registration is essential.

Please note that fees apply to the courses marked with * for participants who do not receive Tafe concessions. If you are unsure of your concession eligibility please check the Tafe website www.tafensw.edu.au/courses/fees/tafensw or call Tafe on 1800 448 176 alternately contact your Job Search Agency.

To register complete the form below and return it to the Ashford LALC Office 25 Albury Street, ASHFORD 2361. Alternatively you can email the form to projects@ashfordlalc.com or fax it to 02 6725 4422.

| Name       |  |
|------------|  |
| Address    |  |
| Phone      | Email |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Awareness</td>
<td>(no fees)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Aid</td>
<td>$175</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemical Application</td>
<td>$395</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OHS General Induction for Construction</td>
<td>$130</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aboriginal Site Identification</td>
<td>(no fees)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chainsaw Operation</td>
<td>$370</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Where fees apply these will be paid directly to Tafe upon enrolment.

**NAIDOC Week**

The theme for NAIDOC week this year is ‘Serving Country: Centenary & Beyond.’ Ashford LALC are seeking information from our Members & the Ashford community on Aboriginal men & women from the Ashford area who have fought in defence of country to honour them in an exhibition at the LALC. Please come & see us at the LALC with any information you may have.

NAIDOC Week is fast approaching & Ashford LALC encourage all those who would like to be part of the committee to please register your interest at the ALALC as soon as possible so we can plan our NAIDOC Week activities.

**Dates to remember**

- **13th May 10.30am & every 2nd Tuesday** – Adult cooking class
- Tuesday’s 4pm-5pm – Youth exercise class
- Tuesday’s 5pm-6pm – Adult exercise class

**YOUTH FOR JESUS!!**

**DATE:** FRIDAY 2ND MAY

**WHERE:** ASHFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH JUBILEE ST

**TIME:** 6.30PM TIL 8.30PM

LIVE GOSPEL MUSIC, GOSPEL READING, GAMES AND SUPPER.

FOR STUDENTS FROM GRADES 5 TO GRADE 12 ONLY.

GOLD COIN FOR SUPPER APPRECIATED.
ASHFORD RURAL TRANSACTION CENTRE
30-32 Albury Street Ashford NSW 2361
Phone 67254455 (RTC and Post Office)
Phone 67254365 (New England Mutual)
Fax 67254445 Email ashfordrtc@ashfordonline.com.au

WHAT’S ON!

Joblink plus Wednesday 7th May

#Vet TBA

Accountant Thursday 17th April

Ashford Business Council meeting Thursday 10th April
Ashford Bowling Club 6pm

*Please contact the RTC on 67254455 for bookings and/or information.
#Please contact the Inverell Vet Clinic for bookings on 67210266

ASHFORD
Outreach
Hearing Clinic

Hearing tests appointments available.

Ashford Community Health Centre
9th May 2014

Please ring Inverell Community Health 0267219600 & book in.

There is no cost and no referral is needed.

Anyone over 10 months old can be tested.