

Hunter New England Local Health District

Quirindi Information Booklet

March 2016



Health
Hunter New England
Local Health District

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Liverpool Plains Shire



Home of the Kamilaroi people, incorporating Quirindi, Werris Creek, Willow Tree, Premer, Spring Ridge, Currabubula, Wallabadah, Pine Ridge, Mount Parry, Ardglen, Caroon, Walhallow, Tamarang, Colly Blue, Bundella, Yarraman, Blackville, Old Warrah and Piallaway.

Strategically nestled in the foothills of the Great Dividing Range Liverpool Plains Shire is the perfect place for that well deserved vacation. A mosaic of colours displayed by the fields of sunflowers, sorghum, canola, corn, Lucerne and wheat provide the perfect backdrop whilst travelling through the picturesque hills, valleys and sweeping plains.

Visit the many great attractions including:

- The award winning Australian Railway Monument and Rail Journeys Museum
- Bird Routes of the Liverpool Plains
- The award winning First and Second Fleet Memorial Gardens
- Who'd A Thought It Lookout
- Quirindi Rural Heritage Village & Museum
- Quirindi Historical Cottage & Museum
- Quipolly Dam & Bird Hide
- Stock Brands of the Liverpool Plains

Take the trip to the Liverpool Plains and see why the locals are so proud of their flourishing communities. Experience the true rural lifestyle, friendly country charm and spoil yourself at our unique specialty shops and eateries – you can't go wrong journeying through the Liverpool Plains.

Be sure to check out the Quirindi Country Drives and Top Attractions brochures.

Quirindi Information

Quirindi is located a short distance off the New England Highway, a comfortable four hour drive from Sydney, 50 minutes from Tamworth and is situated midway between the famous wine growing area of the Hunter Valley and the cooler climate vineyards of the New England region. Quirindi is the 'Gateway to the North-West' with the Kamilaroi Highway commencing in the township and ending at Bourke.



The town itself offers riverside parks, great shopping and plenty of accommodation, but the real attractions are a short drive into the countryside. The Who'd-A-Thought It Lookout is a must, with full 360 degree expanse offers panoramic views of the town, the Liverpool Plains and the Great Dividing Range. It's the picnic perfect location to watch the sun set and contemplate how the region once supported oceanic coral reefs and beaches and now crops such as sorghum, wheat, cotton, sunflowers, Lucerne and corn.

The old Quipolly Dam and Bird Hide, just a short 10 minute drive from Quirindi offers a bird's eye view of the dam and its inhabitants. The all-weather viewing structure is snuggled amid reeds, and as the water gently laps at the pylons and the sun sparkles against a back drop of Cyprus Pine even the most disinterested feather watcher will become hooked.



Quirindi offers a host of recreational facilities, including an Olympic pool, 18-hole golf course, bowling club, tennis courts, camping and aquatic retreats. There are two primary schools, one high school and numerous child care centres. The town has a very active racecourse which hosts numerous meetings and the main event, the Quirindi Cup, is held in February. Equestrian sports are also particularly popular.

Getting to Quirindi from Sydney:

Approximately a 4hr drive (360klms) from Sydney – Get on to the M1 Freeway and head north following the signs for Newcastle. Follow the M1 to its termination and go straight ahead at the roundabout. At Beresfield, turn left for Maitland onto the New England Highway. Follow the New England Highway to Willow Tree, turn left onto Kamilaroi Highway.

www.travelmate.com.au/MapMaker/Mapmaker.asp will allow you to obtain printable driving instructions and approximate times between legs of the journey.

Getting to Quirindi from Brisbane:

From Brisbane, head west towards Ipswich, then via the Cunningham Highway to Warwick. At Warwick, follow the New England Highway south to Tamworth and then to Quirindi (approx. 8hrs)

Transport Links:

By Train [CityRail](#) offers daily frequent commuter rail services to Newcastle and the lower Hunter. [CountryLink](#) trains link to Quirindi on a daily basis.

By Coach [Greyhound Pioneer](#) operate daily between Sydney and the Hunter. [Rover Coaches](#) provide transport to the Hunter Valley Wine Country from throughout the region and Keans Travel Express provides transfers from Sydney to Hunter Valley Wine Country and the Upper Hunter Country.

By Air Tamworth Airport has a daily air service to Sydney and Brisbane. Quirindi is approximately 50 minute drive from Tamworth.

Health

Quirindi Community Hospital is a 20-bed community acute facility providing acute care, 24/7 emergency medical and part-time radiology services. HealthOne Quirindi is an integrated primary and community health service located on the same campus. Services include general practitioners, a comprehensive range of community health services, visiting medical services, private allied health and the Home Care Service of NSW. HealthOne Quirindi services work in partnership to provide client-centred, comprehensive and coordinated care to the local community, focusing the key strategies of:

- health promotion and illness prevention
- early detection and intervention
- chronic and complex disease management
- planned multidisciplinary care management



Rental or Permanent Accommodation

For a comprehensive listing of Australian rental properties, for sale and information relating to home loans and lending authorities, visit the Realestate.com website at: <http://www.realestate.com.au/> or try these local real estate agencies.

Julie Green Real Estate Pty Ltd

230 George Street, Quirindi NSW 2343

Phone: 02 6746 3133

Jim Greenland & Co

199 George Street, Quirindi NSW 2343

Phone: 02 6746 1044

Ray White Quirindi

26 George Street, Quirindi NSW 2343

Phone: 02 6746 1270

Davidson Cameron & Co

207 George Street, Quirindi NSW 2343

Phone: 02 6746 2177

Child Care

Playgroups

Playgroups

Playgroup Association of NSW Inc.

Email: admin@playgroupnsw.com.au

Phone: 1800 171 882

Childcare and Preschool

Quirindi Occasional Child Care Centre

Henry Street

Quirindi NSW 2343

Phone: (02) 6746 1271

Quirindi Eastside Child Care Centre

East Street

Quirindi NSW 2343

Phone: (02) 6746 3015

Family Day Care

9 day care homes in the Quirindi area

Phone: (02) 6746 3587

Quirindi Pre-School

Allnutt Street, Quirindi NSW 2343

Phone: (02) 6746 1894 Fax: (02) 6746 3266

Email: qdiPRESCHOOL@northnet.com.au

NewTrain Family Day Care

Shop 6 Tanya Arcade

63 Maitland Street

Narrabri NSW 2390

Phone: (02) 6792 4022

Education

A list of primary and secondary schools follows. Click on the links for more information.

Primary Schools

Quirindi Primary School

Munro Street, Quirindi NSW 2343

Phone: 6746 1565 Fax: 6746 2600

Web: www.quirindi-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Email: quirindi-p.admin@det.nsw.edu.au

St. Joseph's Catholic School

Thomas Street, Quirindi NSW 2343

Phone: 6746 1033 Fax: 6746 2606

Web: www.stjosephsquirindi.nsw.gov.au

Email: stjo_qui@arm.catholic.edu.au

Secondary Schools

Quirindi High School

Hill Street, Quirindi NSW 2343

Phone: 6746 1177 Fax: 6746 2648

Web: www.quirindi-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

Email: quirindi-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

TAFE

Located in the foothills of the Great Dividing Range, TAFE NSW New England Institute Quirindi campus provides courses and flexible learning options to meet the needs of the district's rural communities and small businesses.

Quirindi campus also offers courses in retail, aged care, business studies, child studies, information technology (computers) and general & vocational education.

For more information contact the campus.

http://www.newengland.tafensw.edu.au/services_and_facilities/campuses/quirindi.aspx

Quirindi Campus

Henry and East Streets, Quirindi NSW 2343

Phone: 6746 4100 Fax: 6746 4110



Things to See and Do

Quirindi Rural Heritage Village & Museum



The Quirindi Rural Heritage Village is set on 13 acres, just 3kms from Quirindi on the Gunnedah Road. The village has been designed to collect, preserve, restore, interpret and exhibit artefacts that relate to the history, heritage and culture of the regional area.

The annual Machinery Rally and Swap Meet held in the autumn attracts people and their machines from all over Australia and internationally. It showcases the restoration of machines from the past, ranging from tractors and steam engines, from collections of smaller items such as shearing gear, lawn mowers and also craft items to interest the ladies.

The Village has exhibits ranging from aboriginal heritage through to the explorers and early settlers; it demonstrates the trials and tribulations faced by the pioneers of this vast country. Take a journey in 50 year increments and see how your forebears lived in days gone by.

The Federation Pavilion, which houses the extensive museum and coffee shop is open, Friday, Saturday and Sundays, 10am - 4pm.

Quirindi & District Historical Society Inc and Historical Cottage & Museum

Quirindi's Historical Cottage & Museum display an array of themes from Victorian era to agricultural, to war time and lots more. They also house an enormous collection of records such as family histories, district archives and more. You can find just about anything you want to know about the region's history!



When the Quirindi and District Historical Society was formed in 1960 it set out to collect and record the history of Quirindi and district, and to publish this information for the benefit of local people and researchers. This important aspect of the Society's work began in 1965, and 12 journals ("Historical Notes") were printed before the society turned to publishing local history books. This important activity continues today, and publications are on sale at the Cottage and elsewhere in Quirindi. It was soon realised that it was also necessary to preserve and display items of historic value and local interest, for the better understanding of our heritage, especially for our young people.

The building at 44 Station Street Quirindi was constructed in 1887 from locally made sand stock bricks and had many close associations with Quirindi history, one of which being in fact that it was once the home of Quirindi's first Mayor and Mayoress. It was bought by the Society from Mr G.A. Wheeler in 1967, and opened as a museum by Mr Ross Symonds of the ABC on 26th April 1970. Additions to the frontage include wrought iron which was once part of the Commercial Hotel balcony, iron pillars were donated by Mr Muir Taylor, (Mayor of Quirindi 1966-1980), and window shutters from Mrs L P Wilson. Quirindi & District Historical Society Inc and Historical Cottage & Museum is open Wednesday, Friday 10am - 2pm.

Quipolly Dam & Bird Hide

A flora and fauna sanctuary, a "must" for the bird lover! The Liverpool Plains is known for its many and varied bird species such as the Diamond Firetail and Black-chinned Honeyeater. This dam is known worldwide and has a newly constructed Bird Hide on the edge of the dam. The Bird Hide overlooks this pristine flora and fauna sanctuary. According to some sources the dam filled with silt during the 1940's, attributed to the rabbit plagues and developed a habitat which attracts both water and woodland birds. The sanctuary continues upstream along the creek for about 1km.



Stock Brands of the Liverpool Plains



The centrepiece of the footpaths in the Quirindi Main Street celebrates the earliest known sheep and cattle runs on the Liverpool Plains. The brands are derived from the "Large Stock Brands Directory of NSW", 1954 and the "Sheep Brands & Marks Directory of NSW", 1954.

Evidence suggests that sheep and cattle were moving through the Liverpool Plains in the early 1820's.

Most of the Brands are those not originally associated with the properties but belong to known owners. Brands were required by law after 1866 and there are a number of stories relating to getting cattle inspectors drunk or driving off their horses so that property owners did not have their stock confiscated.

On a practical note: before the days of fencing and when cattle were driven to market, brands were the only way to separate mobs that may have accidentally been drawn together.

Brands or ear tags are mandatory to this day and are becoming more and more digitized and sophisticated. In some instances the classic branding iron has been replaced by a freeze dried brand which removes pigment from the hair follicles of the beast.

Who'd-A-Thought It Lookout

To embrace the full beauty of the area the Who'd-A-Thought It Lookout is a must. A full 360 degree expanse offers panoramic views of the town, the Liverpool Plains and the Great Dividing Range. It's the picnic perfect location to watch the sun set and contemplate how the region once supported oceanic coral reefs and beaches and now crops such as sorghum, wheat, cotton, sunflowers, Lucerne and corn. The Lookout also has a location compass providing distances to various places of interest as the crow flies.



Quirindi Recreation Centre

The YMCA managed Quirindi Recreation Centre offers a wide range of youth, family and community services, along with health and fitness and gymnastics. Opening hours are Monday-Friday 6am - 11.00am, Saturday 8am to 1pm and Sunday 2pm to 5pm. Closed Public Holidays.

Contact details

Recreation Centre Manager

Phone: 6746 3122

Fax: 6746 3255



Quirindi Royal Theatre

The Royal Theatre in Quirindi began showing its first films in 1930 to the delight of the local community and the big screen continued to light up for the next 76 years, albeit intermittently. While patronage was patchy



at times, it was with great disappointment to the community that the last movie was shown in 2006 by the then owners who had spent considerable time and effort over the years to bring the big screen to Quirindi. In 2008 the Liverpool Plains Shire Council purchased the building with the aim of restoring it to its former glory and grants from four different funding bodies were obtained to enable the project to proceed.

More than 50 volunteers also donated their time to clean up and paint the theatre to assist in keeping costs within budget. On April 13 2010 the Quirindi Royal Theatre officially opened and the following month the first live theatre performance was staged to a full house. With the assistance of one of the Theatre's former owners, John Mitchell, a group of volunteers was trained to operate the projection equipment and in the first week of September the Theatre resumed screening movies. These are now held every fortnight and on other weekends a variety of events are staged from live theatre to musical performances, school plays and fund raising activities. The Theatre is operated by volunteers and the community has rediscovered a timeless treasure.



Churches and Places of Worship

Anglican Church

Phone: 02 6746 2059

Harvest Christian Centre

Phone: 02 6746 2228

Roman Catholic Church

Phone: 02 6746 1133

Jehovah's Witnesses

Phone: 02 6746 1410

United Church

Phone: 02 6746 1111