



Issue Number 163
December 2018

## Barcoo Shire Community Newsletter

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#### Senator Ian Macdonald Visit To Windorah

On Thursday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November, Windorah Community had the opportunity to meet with Senator the Honourable Ian Macdonald, Queensland LNP member.

With community representatives from Business houses, Local Government, the Senior Sector, Health, Community groups and locally employed sharing an afternoon tea, and participating in discussion about where our region of Queensland is heading, and the issues faced by Central West Queensland communities.

When we have Politicians travelling to our unique part of the world, we continue to take the opportunity to represent our communities on the issues of health, the aged, tourism, agriculture, energy, employment and education, and associated costs to living in our remote areas, while reinforcing the Central West region as a proactive player and contributor in sustainable industry in the outback.

One issue raised by the senior community members, was Closing the Gap and pharmaceutical subsidies for the Indigenous population with chronic disease, and the inability for the RFDS to register patients for CTG due to the RFDS currently not being accredited under the GP Practice Program with the Commonwealth Government through Medicare, an issue that the Senator was unaware of. Senator Ian Macdonald would like feedback on the above issue for review, and any other issues community members may have.

To provide feedback or make enquiries on any issues to Senator Ian Macdonald, please contact via email at:

Senator.ian.macdonald@aph.gov.au



Left: Mayor Bruce Scott, Kathy Batey, Director of Nursing, Peta Geiger, Windorah Development Board & Cooper Arts & Crafts Association, Senator Ian Macdonald, Carolyn Gorringe, Seniors Group Representative, Marilyn Simpson, Western Star Hotel & Windorah Development Board, Necie Henney, Windorah Development Board, George Gorringe, Tourism and Community Advisory Committee member, Trudy Gorringe, Mithaka Aboriginal Corporation Director & **Community Information** Officer, Barcoo Shire.

## A Christmas Message From The Mayor

Dear Barcoo Shire Residents,

Christmas is here and so soon, and I am not sure whether it is good or bad depending on what is happening in your personal life or at work - as we all struggle to get our Christmas shopping done, plan holidays or brief trips to family and friends, finish work responsibilities or just praying for this dreadful drought to break.

But for all of us Christmas means many things. The Christian faith will celebrate the birth of Jesus and the son of God and what this means to their beliefs. Some will see it as a time for holidays and fun. Some will see it as a time to give a little back to those who are close or have done something special for them or to those who have done it a little tough. Some will get so much joy from giving to the children in their lives as the frenzy to open presents is observed on Christmas Day. And some will renew old friendships lost through the passage of time and busy lives of today's world.

But for everyone I think: it is a time to remember friends and family, some still with us and sometimes far away, some who are suffering illness and are in pain, and sadly some that have passed away and all we have of them is their memories.

Which ever it is for you, enjoy this special time of the year, and embrace the very thing Christmas means to you personally – do that thing that you have always wanted, and tell that special person in your life or friend lost that you do care greatly from them. Please don't waste the spirit and miracle of Christmas in 2018.

Barcoo Shire Council has had a busy year once again, with many roads resheeted and bitumen sealing works projects completed, town street and kerb and channel works progressing and building projects taking place. The 2019 year will be just as busy with the Jundah Roadhouse to be hopefully operational by the tourist season, after finally receiving planning approval, a new house for Jundah will be erected by mid year. There is also many other social and community projects being planned in the towns and at the racecourse and rodeo grounds with support by the Queensland and Australian Governments through the Works for Queensland program and Drought Communities Programs.

The weather extremes continue with severe storms, hurricanes, flash flooding intense cold, and dreadful bush fires in the northern hemisphere. While the southern hemisphere has experienced prolonged droughts across large areas, cyclones and torrential rain in other areas - while the horrifying bush fires threatened vast areas of Queensland during the late spring and early summer.

Once again we have managed to change a sitting prime minister in Australia as Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull stood down, and Scott Morrison was elected leader of the Liberal Party and Coalition Government. Prime Minister Turnbull and his party was plagued with a period of backroom scheming and caucusing, media leaks, shifting alliances and a number of close spill motions against him as the prime minister.

These bizarre events have seen the sixth prime minister change since the fall of the Howard led Coalition Government, has resulted in both the Liberal and Labor Parties move to put rules in place to stop this behaviour of their members. I am certain that the general public are just so sick-and-tied of the self-serving conduct of our elected members, and are completely disillusioned and angry with the removal of a sitting prime minister, indirectly as it is - voted in by the people of Australia.

I am sure, and the polls agree, the Coalition Government will be punished when it goes to the people with an election sometime between now and May 2019 - for its lack of leadership and stability and continued infighting. As was the Rudd - Gillard - Rudd Governments were at the 2010 election, when they lost office after just one term.



### Mayor's Message Continued

The bit of positive news from the Australian Government in the lead-up to Christmas came with the announcement of a very positive mid year economic forecast of consecutive surplus budgets in the forward estimates – the first surplus budget since 2007. The Treasurer, Josh Frydenberg indicated that this positive fiscal result will potentially deliver personal income tax cuts and start clawing back the debt from the many years of deficit budgets. There has already been an announcement of increase of \$50 million in funding annually for the Roads to Recovery Program pushing Barcoo Shire's five-year funding to \$2.842170 million for road improvement works.

The Queensland Government has also delivered a positive mid year fiscal outlook with Deputy Premier and Treasurer Jackie Trad announcing the Mid Year Fiscal and Economic Review (MYFER) emphasised a strong economic plan and responsible fiscal management that provides the infrastructure and services Queenslanders need. The positive economic result in Queensland has enabled the Palaszczuk Government to bring forward the third round of the very popular Works for Queensland program with Barcoo Shire receiving \$1.02 million in funding for projects that fit the funding criteria.

This awful drought that is consuming much of Queensland and New South Wales has really disabled the economic base of many regional and remote communities. In many cases, the rainfall for 2018 has been closest to the lowest on record, which has been exacerbated by a really deficient 2017 year as well. Looking at the pattern for the past 6 years since 2012, and apart from the wet winter of 2016, these have been years akin to the millennium drought of the late 1800s and early 1900s or the period between 1964 – 1972 where there was a long period of very low rainfall across much of Queensland.

If you are struggling with making ends meet or you do not feel well in yourself due to the effects of this prolonged drought – there is help out there. Please reach out if there is a need – because there are many social services and wonderful people which are there and willing to help you get through for these types of situations.

As 2018 draws to a close, I would like to thank everyone in our communities for your support in making Barcoo Shire a special place to live and work. A community doesn't just exist - it does so by us all doing a little bit. And if we all do a little bit, collectively we can achieve a lot. Some of this is through your day-to-day work, some is the volunteer work you do, and some is through the care we take for our families and of one and other.

We have lost some of our friends during 2018, so let's take a moment to remember them and their family and friends. We have also greeted new arrivals in 2018 as a number of babies have filled their parents and their families and our communities lives with the joy of nature. There are also some babies on their way, and we wish their parents, particularly their mothers – a healthy and safe pregnancy and birth.

We should spare a moment and say thank you to those in the community who will be working or on-call during the Christmas and New Year period. These essential services (health, police, emergency services and council staff) whether a fulltime role or volunteer – we really appreciate what you do in keeping us all safe and well and our daily needs catered for.

I am always aware that there are some of us and our families will be traveling over the Christmas and New Year break. Please take extra care when driving and be acutely aware of your surroundings. You might be the safest driver, but in an instant the conditions will change, and you need to be ready to take corrective action to save lives.

Merry Christmas everyone, and the warmest and wet wishes for 2019,

**Bruce Scott** 



## **Stonehenge Christmas Tree**

Saturday 8th saw Stonehenge's annual Christmas tree celebration and school graduation. The Stonehenge State School students put on a fantastic concert which included a poem that the boys wrote themselves, a comedy act and a performance of 'Barcoowee', the song that Barcoo students created with Sara Storer.

Rotary club of Longreach donated and prepared dinner for the evening, which went down a treat. The big man in red also made an appearance, making lots of children very happy. Stonehenge State School and the P&C did an awesome job putting on this event, as usual.



Mayor Bruce Scott with Rory Miller



Mayor Bruce Scott with Blake Champion



Principal Corey Kempthorne & teacher Jenny Lindsay with graduating student Brodie Pidgeon



Mayor Bruce Scott with Harry Allen

### Windorah's Pink Party

## WINDORAH'S PINK PARTY IN THE PARK CANCER FUNDRAISER 2018

On Saturday night 10th November 2018, Windorah's park came to life with pink party dresses, girly games and fun to raise \$1800.00 for cancer.



Design a Dress Fashion Game



Survivor Pink Party Cake



**Fashion Speaker** 





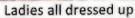








Face Painting & Dress ups











Vanessa's Head Shave For West N Breast







**Group Photo** 

Shopping

Costume Table Multi Draw Table

**Shopping Stalls** 

Ladies Relaxing











Nail Painting Live Singer Victoria Edwards Plants Stall

Bench Seat Raffle

Hamper Prize

Thanks to all the Ladies & girls who attended and supported a very worthy cause!!

### **SES Flood Boat Training Windorah**

This month has been a busy one for all, and with 2018 drawing to a close, and the hope of rain on the horizon, Barcoo Shire now has 4 newly qualified Flood Boat Operators. Brian Dayes, Peter Weston, Butch Gordon and Trudy Gorringe completed two weekends of training in Longreach, along with 16 other participants from the Central SES Region. This is a great outcome for our Shire, as the increase of competent operators means a higher level of safety within our communities, and back up for our current Flood Boat Operators.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Barcoo Shire in its ongoing support of our QFES Volunteers, many of whom are employed by Council, and also all our volunteers who give up their time and virtually "go back to school" in order to assist their community.

With fires in Northern Queensland currently wreaking havoc, and with many volunteers being both SES and RFS members, there is currently a shortage of trainers and members due to attending fire fronts and waterway operations. It is hoped that another round of Flood Boat Operator Training will be completed within the next few months, for those that were unable to complete the course this time around, so it's never too late to join!



## Silversmithing Workshop Jundah













## Silversmithing Workshop Jundah













## "COLOUR'S OF THE OUTBACK" ART EXHIBITION

BY DONNA RIVERS

ALL WELCOME TO THE

## Grand Opening

By Mayor Bruce Scott of Barcoo Shire Council

# 16TH FEBRUARY 2019 | 10:30 AM LONGREACH QANTAS FOUNDERS MUSEUM MORNING TEA INCLUDED



## My Community Directory—Barcoo Shire

Barcoo Shire has joined the online information service, "My Community directory".

Community groups, events, SES, QFES and health services are all listed in the directory.

If you have an event you would like listed or have had your committees annual general meeting and details need to be updated, please contact Maureen or Trudy at the Windorah Visitor Information Centre on 07 467563063 or <a href="windorahinfo@barcoo.qld.gov.au">windorahinfo@barcoo.qld.gov.au</a> and the listing will be updated. Also if you find any errors or missing information please contact us to have them corrected. To see listings in the directory following these steps.

#### Go to www.mycommunitydirectory.com.au

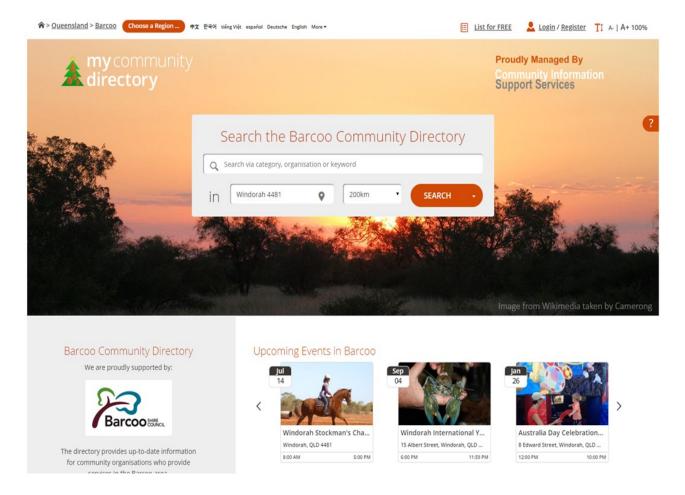
Search for your town, eg Windorah, Stonehenge or Jundah.

Type in the category you are looking for.

It should bring up a list of all items for Barcoo shire in that particular category.

The page also scrolls through events, including health visits, at the bottom of the page.

For more information regarding My Community Directory please contact the Windorah Visitor Information Centre.



## Community





# COMMUNITY NOTICE RADF FUNDING – 2018-19 ROUND ONE NOW OPEN

The Regional Arts Development Fund is a partnership between the Queensland Government and the Barcoo Shire Council to support local arts and culture in regional Queensland.

RADF promotes the role and value of arts, culture and heritage as key drivers of diverse and inclusive communities and strong regions. RADF invests in local arts and cultural priorities, as determined by local communities, across Queensland.

**ROUND ONE - IMPORTANT DATES** 

Round One Opens - 1st November 2018

Round One Closes - 31st December 2018

Application Assessments - January 2018

Council Approval, Community notification and payment – by **31st January General Meeting 2018** 

RADF FUNDING OBJECTIVES

Provide public value for Queensland communities

Build local cultural capacity, cultural innovation and community pride

Deliver Queensland Government's objectives for the community

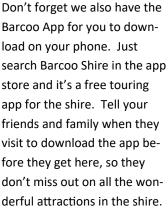
#### APPLY FOR FUNDING

To obtain application forms\*\* or for further information, please contact the RADF Liaison Officer, Doreen Pitman on (07) 4658 6941 or email <a href="mailto:doreenp@barcoo.qld.gov.au">doreenp@barcoo.qld.gov.au</a>

\*\* RADF Guidelines, Application Forms and Acquittal details can also be downloaded from the Council website <a href="http://www.barcoo.qld.gov.au/community-services/grants-and-funding/regional-arts-development-fund-radf">http://www.barcoo.qld.gov.au/community-services/grants-and-funding/regional-arts-development-fund-radf</a>

Michael Parker
Chief Executive Officer





#### Are you on Facebook or Instagram?

Make sure you share your photos & posts from our beautiful shire to the Visit Barcoo pages on both Facebook and Instagram. Use the hashtags of #visitbarcoo, #Windorah #Jundah #Stonehenge #barcooway and any other tag that you think will attract likes, shares and views to our pages.

Also using the @visitbarcoo on Facebook and Instagram will let us and your followers know you have mentioned us and we will get more hits that way also.

If you have an event, an interesting fact or a great photo that you would like the world to see, send them through to your relevant Visitor Information Centre at

windorahinfo@barcoo.qld.gov.au jundahinfo@barcoo.qld.gov.au stonehengeinfo@barcoo.qld.gov.au and we will put them up on our facebook page and Instagram and get your event a much wider audience.





Have you liked the Barcoo Facebook page?

Stay up to date with the latest news!





## Community





#### **COMMUNITY NOTICE:**

#### 2019 Australia Day

#### **Award Nominations**

Barcoo Shire Council in conjunction with the Australia Day Council, will be recognising outstanding contributions to the local community by presentation of Awards on Australia Day 2018.

All citizens and organisations are encouraged to support the Awards by considering nomination of suitable persons, this includes children.

Nominations can be in any of the following, categories:

- Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Community Event of the Year
- Volunteer of the Year
- Senior Sports Award
- Junior Sports Award
- Cultural Award

For further information please phone 46586930 or to obtain a nomination form, email <a href="mailto:barcoo-quinfo@barcoo.qld.gov.au">barcoo-quinfo@barcoo.qld.gov.au</a>; contact your nearest Visitor Information Centre or download the form from <a href="https://www.barcoo.qld.gov.au">www.barcoo.qld.gov.au</a>

All nominations should be marked "Barcoo Shire Australia Day Nominations" and can be forwarded via post- PO Box 14, Jundah 4736, email: <a href="mailto:ceo@barcoo.qld.gov.au">ceo@barcoo.qld.gov.au</a> prior to 5:00pm Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

Michael Parker
Chief Executive Officer
16/11/18

#### **COMMUNITY NOTICE:**

#### **Barcoo Shire Bursary**

The Barcoo Shire is investing in its future by continuing to run the bursary program to help its residents realise their potential.

The bursary program is an initiative of the Barcoo Shire Council to assist members of our community to access and excel in education and training, which without assistance, would be difficult or unachievable. Through this program, the Shire hopes to provide educational opportunities for residents of all ages and in so doing enhance the skills available in rural and remote areas, and our profile, as a community which develops and nurtures excellence.

The council is seeking applications from interested residents within the Shire who would like to commence study or training in 2019.

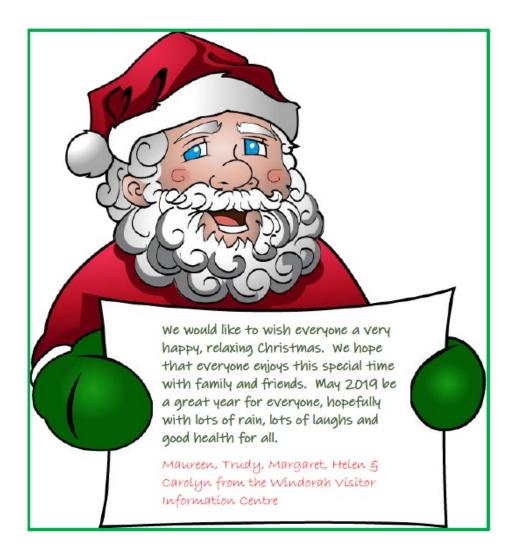
To obtain an application form or seek further details, please contact Doreen Pitman on

4658 6930 or email doreenp@barcoo.qld.gov.au.

Applications close Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

Michael Parker Chief Executive Officer 16/11/18

## **Community**



The Jundah P and C would like to thank everyone for their support in 2018. We wish everyone a very merry Christmas and all the best for a happy and healthy 2019.

Friends in Isolation Barcoo wishes everybody a wonderful Christmas and a happy and prosperous new year.







#### **Board Update**

#### November 2018

Strategic planning and priority setting was on the agenda for the November meeting of the Board. Members were joined by the Executive Leadership Team to conduct a performance review and look at the work required to deliver on investment made by the Department of Health. We also considered strategies required to achieve the outcomes identified. Value, safety and quality are at the forefront of all of our discussions.

The outcomes from this day will inform the draft 2019 -2023 strategic plan and we will look forward to engaging with staff and communities of the Central West in the refinement of this plan and development of operational business plans.

The month of November also saw our Safety and Quality Committee conduct their own planning session. The outcomes of this planning day were development of the 2019 forward work plan and an updated terms of reference for the Committee.

The comprehensive forward plan details the revised approach the Committee will take in supporting the Board seek and receive assurances relative to the delivery of consistent, safe and reliable care across all Central West Health facilities.

The Board's Finance Committee also met in November and look forward to progressing the work being undertaken to review the way in which the health service engages with its funding partners in the pursuit of value based healthcare.

The discussions are continuing and the Board is supporting our Health Service Chief Executive, Ms Jane Hancock, in the pursuit of resourcing an outcome based approach to healthcare funding that is flexible, agile and better able to respond to the needs of people of the Central West.

The Finance Committee also received a comprehensive update from the Building, Engineering and Maintenances Services department. This report will now become a regular inclusion in the workplan of the Committee to ensure that in-depth maintenance and infrastructure investment costs and needs are available to the Board for consideration.

Infrastructure provides staff with the tools to carry out their jobs and, as such, it is a critical facilitator of the delivery of safe, quality and consistent care to Central West Queenslanders.

This week will see each of our sub committees meet for the final time in 2018. This will be followed by our last Board meeting for the year which will be held in Brisbane following a State-wide meeting with other board members and chief executives.

The last edition of the Board Update will be published later this month but for those heading off early for a well-earned break – safe travels and best wishes for the festive season.

#### CONTACT US

Email - CWHHS-Board@health.gld.gov.au

Phone - (07) 4652 8031

Central West Hospital and Health Service

DATE: 5 November 2018



#### COMMUNITY NOTICE

## BARCOO SHIRE COUNCIL CHRISTMAS CLOSURES

## Jundah Administration Office, and Information Centres & Libraries in Jundah, Stonehenge and Windorah

CLOSING: Close of business on Friday, 21 December 2018 REOPENING: Wednesday 2 January 2019

Council advises that it will close for the Christmas break from close of business on Friday, 21 December 2018 and reopen on Wednesday, 2 January 2019.

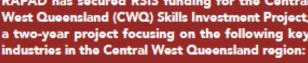
After Hours Mobile: 0475 946 937

Michael Parker Chief Executive Officer Barcoo Shire Council PO Box 14, Jundah Qld 4736 Ph: (07) 4658 6900



## Central West Queensland Skills Investment **Project**

RAPAD has secured RSIS funding for the Central West Queensland (CWQ) Skills Investment Project, a two-year project focusing on the following key





RAPAD is partnering with the Queensland Government to identify current and emerging jobs in our region and ensure there is a supply of skilled local people to meet this demand.

The Queensland Government's Regional Skills Investment Strategy (RSIS) is a \$9 million initiative funded over four years that supports selected regional communities to identify current and emerging jobs in key industries and ensure there is a supply of skilled local people to meet this demand. RSIS will bridge the gap between existing training opportunities provided through the Annual VET Investment Plan and current workforce skill needs in targeted regions.



To address local workforce issues related to skilling and training, the CWQ Skills Investment Project will work with local businesses, industry bodies and community stakeholders

- » identify available and emerging jobs in the target industries and the skills needed,
- » analyse current training options and identify gaps or issues in our region, and
- » collaborate with local employers and the Department of Employment, Small Business and Training (DESBT) to develop training solutions to address local skills and workforce challenges in the target industries.

The CWQ Skills Investment Project will be guided by local community and industry stakeholders through an engaged reference group.

This Regional Skills Investment Strategy project is proudly supported and funded by the Queensland Government.



## How can you help improve training pathways and build a skilled workforce across the RAPAD region?

The CWQ Skills Investment Project Reference Group will be chaired by the RSIS Project Coordinator and will include representatives from the seven local councils in the RAPAD region, representatives from the target industries, DESBT and other parties.

The CWQ Skills Investment Reference Group will:

- » Provide advice on the development, implementation, delivery and evaluation of the CWQ Skills Investment Project;
- » Provide advice and support regarding the local economic, social, environmental and geographic factors that affect proposed RSIS project activities;
- » Meet regularly to identify key project priorities, objectives and milestones, and drive the development of the project plan;
- » Provide specialist advice and support to identify possible training solutions, to be determined locally and in partnership with relevant stakeholders; and
- » Promote RSIS and the role of the reference group to stakeholders as a forum for collaboration, coordination and innovation.

We welcome volunteers for the CWQ Skills Investment Project Reference Group.

For more information on the Annual VET Investment Plan, including training opportunities, funding and support available visit:

https://training.qld.gov.au/docs-data/strategies/ vetinvest

For further information on the Regional Skills Investment Strategy visit:

https://training.qld.gov.au/employers/funding/rsis



#### RSIS Project Coordinator

Tamara Pearce has been appointed as the RSIS Project Coordinator to lead the CWQ Skills Investment Project. The RSIS Project Coordinator will lead community and stakeholder engagement activities; promote Vocational Education and Training (VET) pathways and training available under the Annual VET Investment Plan; and provide high-level project management and coordination of the CWQ Skills Investment Project. Tamara will engage with local businesses, industry bodies, training organisations and community stakeholders to support the RAPAD region's Agriculture (sheep and wool), Tourism & Hospitality, and Community Services sectors to train and skill workers needed to grow our economy, now and into the future.

#### Contact information

Tamara Pearce | tpearce@rapad.com.au | Ph. 0412 880 746





Windorah Christmas Tree: Windorah Rural Fire Brigade aka "Santa Express" and Windorah State School and Community

#### Christmas recipe

#### **Traditional White Christmas**

#### Ingredients;

- ¾ cup dried fruit medley (try to pick a mix with glacé cherries)
- 3 cups puffed rice cereal
- 1 cup desiccated coconut
- 3/4 cup pure icing sugar, sifted
- 1 cup skim powdered milk
- 1/4 cup chopped natural almonds, toasted
- 2 tsp grated fresh orange zest
- 250 g vegetable shortening



#### Method;

- ♦ Lightly grease and line the base and two longs sides of a 26cm x 16cm brownie tin with baking paper.
- Chop any large pieces of fruit or glacé cherries and place into a large bowl. Add remaining fruit, along with the Rice Bubbles, coconut, icing sugar, powdered milk, almonds and orange zest. Mix with a wooden spoon to combine, ensuring fruit is evenly distributed. Make a well in the centre.
- Melt the vegetable shortening in a small pan over a low heat. Cool slightly, then pour into the dry ingredients and mix well. Working quickly, press the mixture into the prepared tin.
- Chill for 20 minutes or until set. Remove from the tin and place onto a board. Using a sharp flatbladed knife, cut into 3cm squares. Dust with icing sugar.



