



MEDIA RELEASE

Grants approved for Delungra, Merriwa and Tamworth community groups

13 Nov 2018

Member for New England Barnaby Joyce, has congratulated organisations on receiving funding under the latest round of the Stronger Communities Program for a range of projects from mechanical cows to new community kitchens.

“Delungra Sports Association will receive \$7,368 to buy a [Wazz-a-cow](#) – a portable mechanical cow used in cutting horse instruction - as well as improvements to the sports ground’s water storage capabilities,” Mr Joyce said.

“The dry conditions forced the association to scale back its usual busy campdraft schedule but there is hope on the horizon with a stockman challenge planned for New Year’s Eve in Delungra. So I’m sure this new equipment and water infrastructure will prove invaluable for local competitors and the association moving forward.

“Tamworth Mountain Bike Park has been awarded \$3,250 toward the purchase of a dedicated container to store park equipment and assets and also includes purchase of a box trailer to enable soil transfer for track repairs.

“Meanwhile Merriwa Tourist Welcoming Centre has been successful in its \$6,000 grant application to install a new kitchen and tea room in the local men’s shed, away from the dust of the workshop where it’s currently located.”

Merriwa Men’s Shed committee member Stephen Gowlland said the funding will be a significant benefit for the comfort of the local membership.

“At the moment we’re making our tea and coffee in the workshop, which is not ideal, so having this new kitchen will be a big help for us,” Mr Gowlland said.

The world champion Merriwa wool-spinners will also utilise the new kitchen facilities.

“This is real delivery for the New England, investing in local projects for local people to strengthen and secure our rural and regional communities for generations to come,” Mr Joyce said.

The grants are among the first to be awarded under the \$22.5 million Round 4 of the Australian

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Hon **Barnaby Joyce** MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR NEW ENGLAND

Government's highly successful Stronger Communities Program. The Coalition Government is funding up to 50 per cent of costs for successful projects from a pool of \$150,000 in each electorate.

(ENDS)

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