



## Narrabri celebrates Aus Day

### CRICKET

# Mayor XI takes honours in Australia Day match

Australia Day in Narrabri was rounded off by the traditional Mayor XI vs Aboriginal XI last night, with locals turning out to celebrate the finish to the day's celebrations at Collins Park.

Now into its ninth year, the evening's cricket match was more about coming together for a bit of fun, rather than to see who would walk away with the trophy.

Stormy weather around the area and the chance of an evening shower, looked to threaten the start of the match.

However the wind took care of that, blowing the dark clouds away as Narrabri Mayor Conrad Bolton won the toss and selected to go straight into bat.

The fabled tale of getting out first ball in the previous two years running by Les Knox was quickly quashed, with the Mayor getting off the mark via Knox's second delivery of the game.

Although breaking the dreaded streak this year, Bolton's opening partner Jono Phelps might have something to say to him later this week, after being run out at the other end.

The lively start to the match got even

better when young pairing of Nathan Trindall and Ryan Meppem came to the middle.

They both hit sixes, with one striking the roof of the grandstand.

Michael Miskle also hit the top of roof in his quickfire of 20.

The side completed its innings to set 104 for the Aboriginal XI to chase down.

Young Kynon-Harvey Knox was the pick of the bowlers, taking 2-8, a top effort by the 12-year-old.

In a turn of fate it was Bolton who snared Les Knox this time for a duck as the teams swapped over.

The Mayor finished with a tidy spell to pick up three wickets, the best figures for his team.

Chris Hartnett top-scored for the Aboriginal XI team, with a healthy knock of 24.

The side just coming up short at the finish of play to hand the trophy to the Mayor XI this year.

"It was great to see everyone enjoying the night," Les Knox said.

"It was played in the right spirit and typified what this day is all about.

"The match continues to get bigger and bigger which is what we want to see again next year."

**See inside for all the action**

**ABOVE:** Narrabri Mayor Conrad Bolton and Cr Les Knox with the all important Australia Day trophy last night. This year it was the Mayor who came away with the bragging rights. Below, both teams after the match. **See P13 for team photos.**

