



THE COURIER

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BEST BUSINESS AWARDS FEATURE

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TOP STATE SALES AWARD MARKETPLACE

Clock ticks for Baan Baa water

The clock is ticking for Baan Baa residents to take up the offer of a long sought reticulated town water supply.

Tuesday's meeting of Narrabri Shire Council heard that Baan Baa has been offered a \$4.6 million water supply, at no capital cost to the community, funded fifty fifty by a Whitehaven Coal contribution and a government grant.

Many in the Baan Baa community have lobbied, on and off, for many years for a town water supply.

The offer is contingent on a majority of residents accepting.

The water supply scenario and costs of supply was outlined at a recent Baan Baa community meeting attended by the mayor, Cr Conrad Bolton, Cr John Tough, Cr Lloyd Finlay and Cr Cath Collyer and the director of engineering services, Mr Andre Kompler.

The 51 Baan Baa residents have been circularised with information about the proposal and have until the end of the month to respond 'yes' or 'no' to the offer.

If there is not a majority acceptance received by then, the 'brakes will be on the Baan Baa water supply' Mr Kompler said.

"It is entirely up to residents to make their minds up" said the president of Advance Baan Baa, Mr Des Barton.

"The opportunity won't come again."

Cr Tough said more than 50 percent of the community had to respond in writing, by the end of the month, accepting the offer, 'or it won't happen.'

"If the majority accept the offer, the water supply will be installed in two years."

"There is already a surge of interest in the purchase of blocks at Baan Baa in anticipation of a water supply, and the village will thrive" added Cr Tough.

"But the clock is ticking. If a majority acceptance is not received by the end of the month it won't proceed or be offered again."

Tommy Gardner comes to Australia!

Brings anti-bullying messages to Narrabri



Music with a message

FANS: Alex Hall, Jemma Hedley and Zara Foley were among the kids who joined in with visiting US guitarist/vocalist Tom Gardner when he entertained visitors to the Narrabri West Public School Fete on Friday night. Tom had arrived from

the US just the day before and was a big hit with his young audience. He presents music with a message to kids about the dangers of drugs, smoking, awareness of bullying and the need to respect each other. See page 3.

Tom drops in to the fete and strikes a chord with the kids

Tom Gardner stepped off his flight from the US on Thursday and was entertaining Narrabri West Public School pupils on Friday last week.

Tom is visiting his daughter Jacki Gardner, who is on the teaching staff for a year at Narrabri West.

In his home state of New Jersey, guitarist and vocalist Tom is one half of music group The Uncle Brothers, a duo which entertains and educates kids in life skills, including in their repertoire songs with messages about dealing with bullying, smoking, drugs, courtesy, kindness and respect for people and other issues - "generally kids taking care of themselves" says Tom.

"I'm just doing my part, a song at a time."

Tom entertained the school at the Friday morning assembly and was a big hit with his performances at the fete on Friday night.

The successful fete again drew a huge crowd this year. More photos on pages 8, 18 and 23.

RIGHT: Kids were drawn to Tom Gardner at the West school fete and enthusiastically joined in his performance.

