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**Dubbo**

# Liberal Daily

MACQUARIE ADVOCATE

## The pharmacist who 'LOVES BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS'

Lisa Gibson reflects on 20 years at Orana Mall Pharmacy.  
**STORY - INSIDE**



Lisa Gibson, owner and pharmacist in charge at Orana Mall Pharmacy, loves working as a country pharmacist.  
Picture supplied

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**KEEP, SELL OR LEASE** Council outlines the future of the Dubbo Regional Livestock Markets

# Saleyards future decision

**Orlander Ruming**

"AS much information as possible" will be made public as Dubbo council decides the future of the saleyards on Thursday.

The councillors will decide

to sell, lease or retain the Dubbo Regional Livestock Markets at the June ordinary meeting. The meeting has been moved to the Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre because of the increased interest in the

proposal. The Dubbo Stock and Station Agents has been vocal in its opposition to the possible sale of the facility.

A public report which outlines the three different options to be considered by the Dubbo councillors - sell,

lease or a notified status quo - has been included in the June council business papers. However, the report that details the expression of interest submissions will remain confidential.

The report states changes

were needed at the saleyards because the council currently has risks under the Competition and Consumer Act 2002 in its current operating model as owner and part operator.

The issue stems from the

council not having the ability to allow another party to sell as a sales agent on sale days.

If the councillors decide not to lease or sell the saleyards, changes would need to be made.


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## NEWS

'CARES DEEPLY' From city-minded uni student to embracing country pharmacy

## An integral part of the community



Sarah Falson

WHEN Lisa Gibson was accepted into a Sydney university, she said goodbye to her parents and told them she was never coming back.

She was off to study pharmacy, and planned to live her life in the big city and start a career there.

Then, one university holiday, she came home for a visit.

"I needed help with an assignment and I came to my closest pharmacy which was Orana Mall Pharmacy and I asked Simon [Blacker] the pharmacist for help with my uni assignment," she told the *Daily Liberal*.

"He said oh you're a pharmacy student and are you interested in doing your registration here? I said no, I'm living in and loving Sydney and don't want to come back."

But, as university students do, she got to the end of her degree and was running short of cash, so she decided to do her registration year in Dubbo after all.

"I've been here ever since," she laughed.

Working as a pharmacist in the country is different to the work she did in the city. In Sydney, she didn't see familiar faces every day while in Dubbo, she serves people she's known for years.

"I love how over the years I've been building relationships with people," Ms Gibson said.

"You might first meet someone when they are pregnant and you're with them through the early years of the baby and children going through school and



Lisa Gibson, owner and pharmacist in charge at Orana Mall Pharmacy. Picture supplied

## I love how over the years I've been building relationships with people.

Lisa Gibson

growing up.

"Then people as they age get diagnosed with different conditions, and you're helping and supporting them throughout the years.

"We also do patients as they transition into aged care, we look after them there as well. It's quite nice we can offer a service from the beginning to palliative care - we can support them and their family through different challenges and their journey through life."

Ms Gibson is now the owner and pharmacist in charge at Orana Mall Pharmacy. She is also a diabetes educator and founder of the

in-store sleep apnoea clinic.

She said one of the biggest challenges with her job was supporting patients during the current shortage of health professionals. Pharmacies like the one at Orana Mall now provide an expanded range of services so patients with uncomplicated concerns don't use up emergency unit resources.

This includes servicing patients with uncomplicated urinary tract infections, providing travel vaccinations and diagnosing and treating sleep disorders.

Ms Gibson is proud of the sleep apnoea clinic, and claimed there was



Pharmacists Reena Maneklal, Lisa Gibson and Krystle Shepherd pictured in 2019. Picture by Belinda Soole

"nothing else like that within our region".

Pharmacy co-owner, Simon Blacker, said Ms Gibson was destined to be an integral part of the Dubbo community.

"I do recall the first day I met Lisa and from that first chat, I could see a bright, young, motivated student who was a local, and who

would be an asset to our team," Mr Blacker said.

"Over the coming years, this proved to be the case, with her intellect, work ethic, and commitment to her profession and community pharmacy being strong attributes. Most importantly, she cared deeply about helping patients to the best of her ability."

## 'Can't believe it': Trangie friends win \$86k jackpot

Sarah Falson

TWO friends from Trangie are stunned after striking the jackpot, winning \$86,000 in Keno. The Orana locals said they were too surprised by their luck to make any concrete plans for the money, however they would put the winnings to good use.

The friends won \$86,315.90 in draw 370 of the Keno Classic 8 Spot jackpot on Friday, June 21, and will split the proceeds between them.

The winning entry was purchased at Trangie United Services Memorial Club on Dandaloo Street in Trangie.

One of the pair told a Keno spokesperson she was in a state of shock.

"We couldn't believe it. We went to the local club to have some dinner and we decided to put on a game of Keno," the winner said.

"It was my second time ever playing the game in my life and we won the jackpot.

"We ended up celebrating with some drinks.

"To be quite honest with you, I'm not too sure how we'll spend our share of the prize. I'm still in disbelief. It will go to good use though.

"We really enjoy visiting the Trangie United Services Memorial Club and supporting them."

The big win comes 10 months after a Dubbo local nabbed a \$330,000 winning Keno ticket from Dubbo RSL. The man told Keno officials in August 2023 he started crying when he found out he won.

"I started crying. I was in shock. It still hasn't really hit me. We just went to the local club for a couple of drinks. I decided to put on a game of Keno," he said.

## Man, 33, flees scene after drunkenly crashing car into signs

COURT

Ciara Bastow

A MAN has fled from police after crashing his car into numerous signs along Fitzroy Street.

Ananda Mahendran, 33, of Gipps Street Dubbo, pleaded guilty to drive with middle range PCA in Dubbo Local Court on Wednesday, June 19. Documents tendered to the court state on Saturday, April 28, 2024 at 3.10am Mahendran was driving along Fitzroy Street when he left the road and collided with

street signs before coming to a stop at the intersection of Belmore Street.

Mahendran left the car and began walking along Belmore Street before being stopped by police.

Police told Mahendran he was being stopped because he had been involved in a car crash. Mahendran told the police he had drunk two beers at a friend's house earlier in the night.

Police conducted a breath test and Mahendran recorded a positive reading of 0.191. Mahendran was placed

under arrest and taken back to Dubbo Police Station for a further breath analysis.

Following a 15 minute observation period, Mahendran took a secondary breath test which returned a positive reading of 0.142.

Mahendran told the officers he had two beers and had not eaten any food that day.

Mahendran's licence was immediately suspended.

Mahendran's solicitor Thomas Eckersley told the court despite his client coming to Australia in 2013

he still had an international licence.

"He has been driving in Australia for nine years and this is his first offence," Mr Eckersley said.

"He has a strong need for a licence because he works two jobs and financially supports his family in India."

Mr Eckersley told the court that his client had worked a 13 hour day, hadn't eaten and had a couple of drinks while hanging out with friends.

"He is working on his citizen application and doesn't

want this to affect future work he may try to attain in Australia," Mr Eckersley said.

Police prosecutor sergeant Adam Corrigan told the court that drink driving was prevalent in Dubbo and this particular matter was brought to attention because it was a collision.

"There needs to be a deterrent to stop this from happening in the community," he said.

Magistrate Garry Wilson told Mahendran he understood it was his first offence but he would still need to be

convicted. "It appears you lost control of the vehicle and have had a collision, you've then left the vehicle and were found by police sometime after," he said.

"This does not offer you the favour of a non conviction."

Mahendran was disqualified from driving for three months, fined \$500 and will have to implement an interlock device for 12 months.

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