Principal’s Report – Mr Kerry Kurtz

Parent Information Night
It was good to see many of our parents attending our information night last night. It is important to be aware of the procedures and organisation of your child’s class and to have the opportunity to ask your child’s teacher any questions you might have. It was also important to share the school’s strategic directions (that you as the community have had an input into) at the start of the evening.

Our three strategic directions that we have set for our three year school plan are:-
1. Equipping 21st Century Learners with the capacity to succeed.
2. Collectively building teacher and leadership capacity to ensure quality learning for all.
3. Building community partnerships through effective communication and collaboration.
These will be also talked about briefly at our P&C meeting tonight.

School Excursions
It is important to let you know some important information about school excursions.

1. If you have outstanding payments from a child’s excursion that has already taken place, then your child will be unable to attend any new excursion until the outstanding payments are made.
2. We offer some student assistance for students who may find it difficult to find the full amount for the cost of an excursion. Parents need to contact me at school to discuss assistance in this way. These conversations are completely confidential.
3. Payments must be made by the final date on the excursion note that is sent home. If you are having difficulty paying by the cut-off date you MUST contact the school. The reason that a final date is given is because often final numbers must be given to the excursion providers.
4. A payment plan can be organised for you so that an amount is paid off each week leading up to the excursion.

Zone Swimming Carnival
Congratulations to our students who represented the school at the Zone Swimming Carnival at Werris Creek last Friday. I have heard wonderful feedback regarding the behaviour of our students and the fantastic effort all of our students put into their swimming. Zone champions and runners up from Quirindi are listed further in this newsletter. Well done kids!

Michael Grose
The article from Michael Grose, our parenting expert is titled, 5 golden rules to guide you along your parenting journey in 2015. I hope you find it a worthwhile read.
Encouragement

At Quirindi Public School we acknowledge effort and success.

Student of the Week
KS   Luke Norvill
K-1T Ruby Owen
1M   Ryder Milligan
1/2S Ruby Uptin
2WM  Lucas Percy
3D   Peter Campbell
3M   Ellie Greenland
4-5A Arabella Scanlon
4-5C Brianna Clark
4-5W Nikylah Cowen
6D   Grace Cowan
6R   Sophie Payne
K-6S Brianna Swan

Merit Awards
KS   Jhiyla Nean
K-1T Regan Thistle
1/2S Harry Parker
2WM  Taylah Bowley
3D   Lucy Scanlon
3M   Jayden Etheridge
4-5A Sara Allan
4-5C Lachlan McGuckin
4-5W Darcy Robinson
6D   Angel Craigie
6R   Kyran Shaw
School Captains
Thomas Boorer, Mark Batterham, Sarah Bradfield and Isabella Pursehouse

K-2 Officers
Isabella Davis & Marty Charters

School Community Officers
Daniel Cox & Bridie McGuckin

PBL Officers
Millie Slade & Samuel Fechner

House Captains
Cunningham
Shelby Porter & Scott Batterham

Oxley
Lacie Quigley & Riley Richardson

Liverpool
Bridie McInnes & Cameron Frear

Taylor
Steven Smith & Finne Saunders
PBL Reward Water Fun day – is on again.
The Term 4 Water Fun Day was postponed last year due to the cold weather. We are going to try again next Thursday 26 February.

This is a day to say THANK YOU to our students with one or less behaviour referrals for this year.

Children are able to wear mufti clothing, suitable for getting very wet and drying fairly quickly and closed in shoes - no sandals or thongs.

If raining, still wear mufti and we will have an alternative reward activity.

K-2 Swimming Fun Day
Next Friday 27 February, the students in Kindergarten to Year 2 will be participating in their swimming fun day at the Quirindi swimming pool.

Children are to travel to school as normal and will travel to the pool by bus after roll call, permission notes have been checked and the age they turn this year is written on their hand. Each child will be given a coloured band to wear according to their swimming ability.

The cost per student is $2.00 each for the bus and $3.00 each for the pool entry (season pass holders cover pool entry only and they need to bring the pass with them on the day). This money is to be paid to the class teacher before next Friday.

The fun day should commence by 10.00am and all parents and carers are welcome to attend. The carnival should conclude by 1.30pm where the children will then travel back to school by bus and remain there until the school day ends. Should you wish to take your child home direct from the pool please ensure they are signed out with their teacher.

We are looking forward to a fun day of activities at the pool.

Positive Behaviour for Learning Merit System
As part of our PBL at school we have a merit system where students can ‘trade up’ their awards for a higher award and ultimately receive a Blues Award.

Please find attached the flow chart that shows how the children can trade up their awards. All Banners and Blues Awards are given out to students at our bi-weekly assembly.

We ask parents to encourage their children to bring in the awards to their teachers as they can be traded.

School Office Hours
We would like to remind parents and carers that the school office hours are 8.30am to 3.30pm.
Moving into Year 7 in a NSW Government school in 2016?
All Year 6 students have received an Expression of Interest form for Year 7 in 2016.

This form should be completed by parents and carers of all students requesting placement in Year 7 at a NSW Government school next year. It is not an application to enrol at the school.

Even if your child is not attending Quirindi High School you still need to fill in section A and section E of the EOI.

After this Expression of Interest has been processed, your child will be offered a place at a Government school. The school will send you an Application to Enrol, which you should complete and return to the school your child will be attending.

Volunteering in class
Parent helpers in classrooms are very welcome but first you must complete a Working with Children Check prior to starting. Each year a new form is to be completed so if you have not completed one for 2015 please call at the office to complete the necessary paper work. You will also need to bring suitable identification at the same time. All parent helpers need to sign in the Visitor’s Book each time they are at school.

P&C Update
AGM
Just a reminder that our P&C AGM will be held tonight at 7.00pm in the school office building.

All representative positions will be declared vacant and nominations are open for all of the following positions:
• President
• Vice President
• Secretary
• Treasurer
• Canteen Co-ordinator
• Canteen Treasurer
• Fundraising Co-ordinator
• Groundforce Coordinator
• School Council Representative

If you have any questions, or are interested in learning more about the P&C you can contact P&C President Tammy McGuckin via the school office, or Kate Hallman, Secretary, on 0413 946 704 or katehallman@me.com

Authority to Publish
We recently sent home a pink note to all of our families (except Kindergarten) for our Authority to Publish. These notes need to be returned to the school as soon as possible otherwise your child will not be able to have their photos or names in our newsletters, website, local newspapers etc.

If you have any questions with regards to this please feel free to contact the school office.

Notes home this week
1. Year 6 Quirindi Recreation Centre
2. SRC elections Years 1 to 6
3. The Young Leaders Conference
4. Year 6 shirt order form
5. Year 6 Welcome back
6. Ethics Class Guidelines
7. Zone Basketball Trials
8. Quirindi Zone Tennis Trials
Year 5 Aussie Bush Camp Excursion
Year 5 students will be attending Aussie Bush Camp from Wednesday 29 April to Friday 1 May 2015. This will be during Week 2 of Term 2.

If you would like your child to attend this excursion, please return the EOI form along with a non-refundable payment of $50.00 to the office no later than 25 February 2015. The school needs a firm number of interested students to be able to allocate the cost of the excursion evenly.

Ms Katie Cherrington

Claim the Date!
Clean up Australia Day at Quirindi Public School will be on Friday 6 March 2015.

Stephanie Alexander Kitchen & Garden
How to make a pizza dough.
Get a measuring cup and put yeast and warm water in it and wait for it to rise. Knead dough with your hands and then spread it out on a tray. Next put topping on the pizza base. First spread the base with pizza sauce and then add cheese, tomato, salami and capsicum. We cooked the pizza in our new pizza oven and then we ate it. It was a very yummy pizza!

All the vegetables we used were grown in our school garden.
By Dustin Kelly & Jasper Thistle
Road safety
With the beginning of the school year, Munro Street and Nowland Avenue have become busy roads once again in the mornings and afternoons.

Last year there were a number of concerns regarding safety on the roads around the school and bus areas. For the safety of our children, please take note of parking signs and consider others when dropping off and picking up children.

Zone Swimming Report
Last Friday thirty seven students attended the Zone Swimming Carnival at Werris Creek pool.
It was a fantastic day. A special thank you to the parents, zone staff, Werris Creek Swimming Club, Quirindi Swimming Club, Werris Creek P&C and friends who supported the children and those who volunteered their time as officials. It made everything go so smoothly.
Champion and runner up results are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Junior Boy Champion</td>
<td>Keenan Davis</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Quirindi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Boy Runner up</td>
<td>Mitchell Taylor</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Quirindi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Girl Champion</td>
<td>Brianna Clark</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Quirindi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Girl Runner up</td>
<td>Bella Pollard</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Quirindi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11yr Boy Champion</td>
<td>Nash</td>
<td></td>
<td>Werris Creek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11yr Boy Runner up</td>
<td>Rowan O'Reilly</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Quirindi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11yr Girl Champion</td>
<td>Annabelle</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Willow Tree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11yr Girl Runner up</td>
<td>Paige</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Blackville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Boy Champion</td>
<td>Scott Batterham</td>
<td></td>
<td>Quirindi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Boy Runner up</td>
<td>Archer Thistle</td>
<td></td>
<td>Quirindi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Girl Champion</td>
<td>Sarah Bradfield</td>
<td></td>
<td>Quirindi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Girl Runner up</td>
<td>Isabella Davis</td>
<td></td>
<td>Quirindi</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

A number of children received 1st, 2nd and 3rd places and achieved PB times. As a result we have twenty one children who qualified for the Regional Carnival in Armidale on Tuesday, 3 March 2015. We wish them every success.

Mrs Jennifer Alcorn
Zone Swimming Convenor

NRL Zac Russ Rugby League Development Officer
Zac talked about fitness and the importance of eating well and getting a good nights sleep. Sport is a wonderful way to make friends and develop your confidence in playing a sport.
Michael Grose - 5 golden rules to guide you along your parenting journey in 2015:

1. Build confidence

With so many parents reporting that they have a child experiencing anxiety it would seem that we are currently experiencing a crisis in children’s confidence. It would also seem that we have somehow forgotten how to absorb children’s fears, insecurities and anxieties, and instill a sense of confidence that these can be overcome. Using a mixture of coaxing, coaching and cajoling parents need to find a way to impart in children a sense of courage to put themselves in new or potentially awkward social situations; to have a go at activities where failure is a real option; and to contribute to the wellbeing of others, which reduces anxiousness and fear.

2. Build developmental knowledge

Many challenges parents experience with their children are due to a developmental mismatch. That is, parents raising their ten year old as if they are eight. The nuances of parenting are age-related, yet due to inexperience we so often don’t read the cues. Recently, I witnessed a mum and dad tearing their hair out trying to communicate with their nine-year-old son. For the first time he was saying no to them. They thought him stubborn and disobedient. I thought him normal, as nine can be a problematic age, where usually malleable children suddenly start changing. Puberty is stirring. When this couple’s second child turns nine she will experience the benefits of her elder brother paving the way and breaking her parents in for her.

3. Swim against the tide

Listen to talkback radio, read the headlines of a newspaper or watch a current affairs TV program and you’ll realise that, right now, we live in an incredibly judgemental society. Parents are harshly judged as well. Allow your kids to walk to school and you risk being judged as negligent. Drive your kids to school and you risk being told that you are spoiling them and neglecting their physical wellbeing. It takes a strong parent to swim against the tide of popular opinion. It also takes a strong parent to deny her child say a mobile phone when every other child has one. It helps to say “This is the way we do it in our family.”

4. Be brave

Perhaps the biggest challenge facing parents, and their children, is the ability to let go of their parental reigns and give kids the freedom they need to develop autonomy. It’s relatively easy to develop children’s independence at home as the stakes aren’t as high. If they can’t cook a meal then you just have to do it for them. However, developing children’s independence outside the home is a different story. Granting kids freedom has an element of risk; that’s why parents need to be brave. Having the courage to let go is a basic requirement of parenting. It won’t stop you worrying, but that’s part of the game.

5. Add emotional intelligence to your parenting mix

With kids experiencing mental health challenges at a depressingly high rate it’s time to add some emotional intelligence to the parenting mix. While many schools are now introducing emotional and social programs on the curriculum, it’s important that parents develop a deep understanding of how emotions work: how emotions can be recognised; how they can work for us and against us; how we can regulate our emotions so they don’t overwhelm us; and how to recognise and respond to the emotions of others. These sound like life-changing skills that if learned, are capable of impacting significantly and positively on future generations.
### 2015 Term 1 Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Sat / Sun</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb 4</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21/22</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Parent Information Night – 6.30pm</td>
<td>P&amp;C AGM – 7.00pm</td>
<td>Friday assembly 1.00pm</td>
<td>K-65 Item</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>School Council Meeting – 5.00pm</td>
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<td>Feb/Mar 5</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28/1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>PBL Rewards Day</td>
<td>K-2 Swimming Fun Day</td>
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<td>Mar 6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7/8</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Regional Swimming Carnival</td>
<td>The Zookeeper performance</td>
<td></td>
<td>Friday assembly 1.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14/15</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kinder Parent Interviews</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 8</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21/22</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>School Council Meeting 5.00pm</td>
<td>Science &amp; Engineering Challenge Disco P&amp;C Meeting – 7.00pm</td>
<td>Harmony Day Willow Tree Horse Sport</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 9</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28/29</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Young Leaders Day - Sydney Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
<td>State Swimming Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar/Apr 10</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4/5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;A Swag Of Tales&quot; Performance 2.10pm Yr 6 Taster Day at QHS</td>
<td>K-2 Easter Hat Parade</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Community News

**Quirindi Junior Soccer Registration Is Open!**
Registration and payment must be completed online at [www.myfootballclub.com.au](http://www.myfootballclub.com.au) by Wednesday 11 March 2015. Registration enquiries may be directed to Rikki Tetley Ph: 0413 137079.

2015 Registration Fees are:
- 5-7yrs - $70
- 8-11yrs - $85
- 12-18yrs - $95

Players must be turning 5yrs in 2015 to take to the field and may register up to 18yrs (boys) or 19yrs (girls). Age ranges are based on the age your child turns in 2015. All 5-7yr old children will receive a free “small side” soccer ball and shin pads. Further information including details for the Grading Days will be in the Quirindi Advocate and via email to registered players.
AN INVITATION TO ALL YEAR 6 STUDENTS

Year 6 "Taster Day"

All Year 6 students are invited to attend an orientation day to be held at Quirindi High School on Wednesday April 1st from 10.30am until 2pm.

Students will experience learning in our state of the art Science labs, Industry Standard Engineering workshops and Trade Training Centre commercial kitchen. They will also visit our award winning Agriculture department and use a range of technology resources on the day.

For further information or to make an appointment to discuss future enrolment, please contact Quirindi High School on 07461177.

"There's always room at the top."
Quirindi Hospital Auxiliary
Stalls and All
Gumboot Throwing Championships

When: Sunday 26th April 2015
Where: Rose Lee Park (Quirindi Showground if wet)
Starting: 10am

Various stalls (by invitation only)
- Mask making for juniors
- Numerous raffle prizes
- Cakes Plants Books
- Catering: Lions Club

And Gumboot throwing events

Events
- Under 7 years Children
- Under 13 years Children
- Youth Girls (under 17)
- Youth Boys (under 17)
- Ladies Open (17+)
- Men Open (17+)
- Masters Ladies (over 50)
- Masters Men (over 50)
- Children’s Mixed Team
- Teams Mixed

Entry forms available from the Quirindi Hospital, Liverpool Plains Shire Council or Quirindi Town Library for registration on the day. Registration from 9am to 9:45am. Cost to enter Championships: $2 individuals

Late entry after 9:45am: $3.50

Quirindi Hospital Auxiliary
Stalls and All
Gumboot Throwing Championships
Gumboot Art Competition

Sections of entry
- Kindergarten, Year 1 & 2 (Stage 1)
- Years 3 to 6 (Stage 2 & 3)
- Years 7 & 8 (Stage 4)
- Years 9 & 10 (Stage 5)
- Years 11 & 12 (Stage 6)

Each section will be awarded 1st ribbon & $15.00, 2nd ribbon & $10.00 and 3rd ribbon & $5.00.

Exhibitors are responsible for obtaining their own gumboot to do their artwork on.

Entries can be one boot or a pair.

All entries are to have student’s name, school and section of entry on the sole of the gumboot.

All entries will be accepted at Quirindi Hospital Health One before Tuesday 14th April or between 3:00 and 5:00pm on Tuesday 14th April in the Quirindi Pharmacy and Emporium arcade. These entries will be on display in the Quirindi Hospital Auxiliary Photo and Gumboot Art Exhibition. Entries close on Tuesday 14th April at 5pm.

Quirindi Hospital Auxiliary
Photo and Gumboot Art Exhibition
WEDNESDAY 15TH APRIL TO FRIDAY 17TH APRIL
IN THE QUIRINDI PHARMACY AND EMPORIUM ARCADE

If you have any questions please contact Mrs Pam Tinner 0428862103
Exhibits can be collected on Friday 17th April at 5:00pm from the exhibition area.

Quirindi Junior Rugby League
Come & Try Days.
FRIDAY February 20th & 27th
No 1. Oval – Quirindi
4 – 5 pm

Bring your joggers and come and have some fun! Kick & catch some balls, meet our trainers and see if Junior Rugby League is for you.

***Boys & Girls welcome***

No obligation whatsoever - come for one afternoon or come for all three! This is great opportunity to have a trial before registering your child – existing registered children are also most welcome to attend.

Registration days will be held in early March - $50 per child, includes shorts, socks, ground fees, insurance and a special ‘new relate’ grassshopper hoodie!

Phone: Belinda Perkins - 0428 899 365 with any queries or check our Facebook page.
# Events in the Liverpool Plains

**January - March 2015**


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Royal Theatre Movie Weekend</td>
<td>1.30pm: Penguins of Madagascar (PG)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4.00pm: The Hobbit 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Royal Theatre Gala Screening</td>
<td>UNBROKEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Red Carpet Event</td>
<td>7.00pm for 7.30pm. Tickets $20 - including drink on arrival and canapes ph: 6747 1226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Royal Theatre Movie Special</td>
<td>1.30pm and 4.00pm: UNBROKEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Werris Creek Swimming Club hosts</td>
<td>2015 Long Course Area Championships and Speedo Sprints</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Werris Creek Memorial Pool. Contact: Tammie 0428 474 602</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Royal Theatre Movie Special</td>
<td>1.30pm and 4.00pm: UNBROKEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 &amp; 15</td>
<td>QUOTA Markets</td>
<td>Fresh produce, arts and crafts at Rose Lee Park, Loder Street, Quirindi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Contact: Jan 6747 1490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 &amp; 15</td>
<td>Royal Theatre Movie Weekend</td>
<td>Find out what's on by visiting the website <a href="http://quirindroyaltheatre.com">quirindroyaltheatre.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Quirindi Akubra Cup Race Day</td>
<td>Throw on your race outfit and bet up high at the Quirindi Cup! Fashion</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>on the Fields and fast racing action! Quirindi Race Course gates open</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>at 11.00am. Contact: ph: 6746 2476</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Quirindi Village Miniature Railway</td>
<td>Scenic rides for young and old from 10.00am to 3pm. Other days and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>birthday party bookings by arrangement with Roger on 6747 1264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 &amp; 1</td>
<td>Royal Theatre Movie Weekend</td>
<td>Find out what's on by visiting the website <a href="http://quirindroyaltheatre.com">quirindroyaltheatre.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>