**PLACES TO EAT**

Junction City Hotel  
Burren Junction Sporting & RSL Club  
Burren Junction Service Station

**ACCOMMODATION**

Junction City Hotel  
*Cabin Style Accommodation*  
Cnr Coruna & Slacksmith Streets Ph. 02 6796 1440  
Burren Junction Bore Baths  
*Camping*  
Kamilaroi Highway

**ATTRactions**

Burren Junction Bore Baths  
*Entry is FREE*  
3km east from Burren Junction  
Facilities include: Toilets, Showers, BBQ, Sealed road into Bore baths, Flood lighting, Amenities block with electricity. Gravelled caravan and camping area.  
Opened 24 hours, 7 days.  
Burren Junction Community Pool  
Alma Street  
Burren Fishing Club Ph. 02 6796 1374

**Information**

Visit the Burren Junction Servo in Alma Street for visitor information or contact  
Walgett Visitor Information Centre  
88 Fox Street, Walgett 2832 Ph. 02 6828 6139  
E. tourism@walgett.nsw.gov.au www.walgett.nsw.gov.au  
Lightning Ridge Visitor Information Centre  
Lions Park Morilla Street, Lightning Ridge  
Ph. 02 6829 1670 E. lvic@lightningridgeinfo.com.au  
Collarenebri Agency  
Corner Wilson & Herbert Street, Collarenebri Ph. 02 6756 2104

Photography by Sean Hardy, Bruce Williams and Emily Howie.
**HISTORY**

The community at Burren Junction takes great pride in its history and the optimistic attitude maintained by its people.

The settlement of Burren junction came into being in 1902 as a large railway camp, during an extension of the railway line from Narrabri west towards Walgett.

The name Burren was probably chosen in deference to nearby Burran Station which had been settled in the 1860’s and already supported an inn and store.

Burren is said to be a Kamilaroi word meaning boomerang, and the junction was added when the railway was extended towards Walgett and Collarenebri. Most of Burren’s streets were named after British war victories.

In its hey day Burren was a bustling town that supported a busy railway station with daily goods and passenger trains from Sydney, a hospital, bakery, butchery, several stock and station agents (with one of the busiest trucking yards for loading stock to market), two general stores, fuel depots, a court house, bank and a school with over 150 students.

The north west hard-court tennis championships were held in Burren for almost 60 years. Nowadays it is still a large agricultural area busy with wheat and cotton, cattle and sheep.

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**BURREN JUNCTION BORE BATH**

The Burren Junction Bore Bath was first sunk in 1921. Water ran from the bore into a series of bore drains (ditches) which distributed the water around the district for various agricultural and domestic uses.

The water found in bore baths such as Burren Junction, Walgett and Lightning Ridge comes from the Great Artesian Basin and is approximately two million years old. Bore depth is logged at 689.8m (2262ft) and natural pressure sends the water to the surface through an artesian bore and it maintains a constant temperature of approx 41.5 degrees Celsius.

The Great Artesian Basin is one of the world’s largest freshwater basins in the world; it contains approximately 8,700 million mega litres of water and underlies 22% of Australia and 26% of New South Wales. The Basin supports 200,000 people and underpins $3.5billion of production annually.

The water now runs into the pool from the bore and then out into the holding ponds where it evaporates into the air. If the evaporation ponds fill up the bore flow must be turned off until the water level goes down. Water originally flowed continuously at 20litres/second, 450 million litres was wasted annually. Water flow has been reduced saving 11 litres per second.

The bores supplying these baths are only a few of hundreds being rehabilitated; replacing bore drains with underground pipes. The NSW and Commonwealth Governments Cap and Pipe Bore Program will save the equivalent of 450 Olympic sized pools annually. It will assist to reverse artesian pressure decline and reduce soil salinity. The program intends to conserve biodiversity and to help control feral animals.

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**FISHING**

Locals fish out of the Namoi River and catch Yellow Belly and Cod from the Bugilbone Bridge on the Burren-Pilliga Road. The Burren Fishing Club holds an annual Carp Muster in March, it’s great fun for the whole family.

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**BIRD WATCHING**

In 2006 the first Australian recorded sighting of a Grey Headed Lapwing was made at Burren Junction, this migratory bird native to Eurasia was observed by passing birdwatchers in a field near the silos.

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**ANNUAL EVENTS**

March – Burren Junction Carp Muster
June Long Weekend – Gyro Copter Muster
September – Burren Junction Camp-draft