

10 June 2022

## Media Release

### HAVE YOUR SAY ON A PLACE NAME IN WARRUMBUNGLE LGA

The Geographical Names Board is seeking community feedback on a proposal by Warrumbungle Shire Council to name a reserve located on the corner of Hill and Gordon Streets in the suburb of Coonabarabran as Martin Reserve.

Acting Chair of the Geographical Names Board (GNB) Thomas Grinter said it was important place names reflected the character and history of the local area and community.

“We want to make sure everyone has an opportunity to provide their feedback on the proposed name,” Mr Grinter said.

The name seeks to commemorate David and Merlyn Martin who built, owned and operated the local Handee grocery store for many years along with other businesses in town.

The Martin family made a difference by forging positive relationships between indigenous and non-indigenous members of the public which strengthened the community and assisted in closing the gap. The family allowed vulnerable families to use store credit to feed their children.

The Coonabarabran Local Aboriginal Land Council said the Martin family were greatly respected in town for their commitment to reconciliation.

GNB is seeking feedback to gauge community sentiment for the proposed name. Suggestions for alternative names is not being sought at this time.

Details of the proposal can be viewed and submissions lodged on the Geographical Names Board’s [website](https://www.gnb.nsw.gov.au/): <https://www.gnb.nsw.gov.au/>.

Alternatively, written submissions may be mailed to the Secretary, Geographical Names Board, 346 Panorama Ave, Bathurst, NSW 2795.

The closing date for submissions is 15 July 2022.

**MEDIA: 0438 108 797**