

WHAT MATTERS? New England Electorate



Welcome to What Matters

Welcome to the first edition of the *What Matters? New England Electorate (WMNEE)* Newsletter.

As you probably know, the [WMNEE website \(https://wmnee.org.au\)](https://wmnee.org.au) is now up and running, so send the link to your friends.

Eleven Kitchen Table Conversations (KTCs) have been held so far: in Tamworth, Glen Innes, Inverell, Armidale, and Uralla, and 70 people have participated and had their answers recorded. There's been good feedback, "It's good to hear what others have to say, and have your say without interruption," said one Tamworth woman. "This was really worthwhile, learnt things," said a business owner at another KTC in the north of the electorate.

We're gathering community concerns and ideas, to place them at the centre of the political process.

We've been inspired by the grass roots efforts in other electorates [Voices4Indi](#), where the ideas of electors collected from all the KTCs, are made publicly available, and offered to sitting members and candidates.

The New England electorate stretches from the Queensland border, near Tenterfield, down to Scone in the Upper Hunter. To be able to capture the voices from all parts we need people to host KTCs in their own community, and to volunteer for other roles – such as being the local contact person, joining *WMNEE*, and contributing to this effort to do democracy differently in New England.

Let's capture the voices of people from all parts of New England, all parts of the community, all age groups, and all the local interest groups. You can help by holding a KTC: invite 6 or 7 friends, family, or workmates, and WMNEE will provide a facilitator and scribe and guidelines. Then you might like to facilitate or scribe for others.

To [host a KTC](#), or [ask a question](#), go to [the website](#).

Let's uncover What Matters to New England.