



Murrumbidgee COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER

MURRUMBIDGEE MAGAZINE

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Congratulations to Round 2 Recipients



Message from the Administrator

Congratulations to the recipients of the Stronger Communities Fund (SCF) Community Grants Program Round Two.

I'm glad that so many more groups will now be able to realise dreams that will be of benefit to the community.

The good news is that Council still has around \$8 million remaining in the Major Projects Fund to be allocated. Watch this space for more details.

As a Council focused on our residents we need to listen to what you say and continue to improve the way we do things. The Draft Operational Plan and Delivery Program demonstrates our commitment to continue to deliver quality services as we concentrate on the priorities of the former Councils. These documents are now on public exhibition and residents are invited to offer feedback.

Regards,

Austin

Round two of Council's Stronger Communities Fund (SCF) has been announced, with \$518,995 in funding going toward 24 worthy projects from across our three towns.

Congratulations to the following grant recipients:

-Coleambally Central School P&C - Outdoor settings \$18,800

-Coleambally Community Club - Laser level the bowling greens, upgrade to main bar and toilet areas \$24,100

-Coleambally Darlington Point Country Education Fund Coleambally - Looking Forward, Looking Back (an oral history) - (book production) \$3,000

-Coleambally Motorcycle Club Inc - Construction of Club House and install watering system to track \$50,000

-Coleambally Preschool Association Inc - Floor resurfacing \$14,900

-Coleambally Preschool Association Inc - Shade sails and shed storage \$13,500

-Coleambally Pony Club - Grounds revamp and upgrade \$6,600

-Fusion Drop-in Centre Coleambally - Youth Development \$5,000

-Coleambally Tennis Club - Replacement of synthetic courts \$50,000

-Lions Club of Coleambally - Jumping Castle and Trailer Project \$5,800

-St Peter's Catholic Church Coleambally - Replacement of chairs \$7,000

-St Peter's Primary School Coleambally - Multi-purpose Court \$5,000

-Jerilderie Men's Shed - Purchase of Property \$50,000

-Jerilderie Public School P & C Association - Development of Computer and Musical Skills \$8,700

-Jerilderie RSL Sub-Branch -Two Honour Boards and Glass Display Cabinet \$4,800

-Jerilderie Tennis Club - Upgrade Greens Flags & Putting Cups \$1,400

-Jerilderie Tennis Club - Disabled Toilet within the Jerilderie Sports Club \$30,000

-St Joseph's Parents and Friends Inc Jerilderie- Play Area Soft Fall and Shade Sail \$39,600

-APEX Club of Darlington Point - Flag pole installation and fingerling purchase \$9,000

-Darlington Point Club Ltd - Bowling Green and Club Grounds Irrigation \$50,000

-Darlington Point Club Ltd - Workshop for Maintenance Staff \$40,000

-Darlington Point Club Ltd - Machinery Storage Shed \$28,000

-Darlington Point Men's Shed - Installation of Solar Panels \$9,100

-Darlington Point Public School Parents and Citizens Committee - Classroom Board upgrade throughout the school \$43,900



Darlington Point Club Manager Michael Whelan on the bowling green.

Can you 'lead the way' for your community?

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION 2017

Are you passionate about your community?

Becoming a councillor is an exciting opportunity to 'lead the way' and represent the interests of local residents.

Energy and a 'can do' desire to make a difference are important qualities for councillors.

You will be inclusive, approachable and willing to work across communities and make decisions that benefit and provide opportunity for the whole Murrumbidgee Council area. Councils may be local in focus, but they're strategic in outlook.

As a councillor, you'll also be willing to balance good local outcomes with sound decision making to bring about long-lasting community benefits for current and future generations.

Important qualities of a successful councillor include:

- Team player who enjoys working with others to make a difference
- Problem solver who is willing to make courageous decisions in the interests of the community
- Organised and able to keep track of different meetings, events, information and timelines
- Good listener who is interested in understanding the views of all community members
- Ethical, open and accountable
- Respectful of community members, Council staff and other Councillors

Nominations open on Monday 31 July and close at 12 noon on Wednesday 9 August 2017.

Elections will be held on Saturday 9 September 2017.

Before deciding whether to nominate, make sure you are on the electoral roll for Murrumbidgee Council area and are eligible to stand for office.

For more information about local council election nomination and registration details, voting and key dates visit:

NSW Electoral Commission at www.elections.nsw.gov.au or www.votensw.info, Office of Local Government at www.olg.nsw.gov.au.

This year's local council elections will be administered by the NSW Electoral Commission.

Nominations, including a completed Candidate Information Sheet, can be lodged with the Returning Officer appointed by the NSW Electoral Commission.

For more information about how to nominate for your local council election—including nomination and registration details, voting processes and important dates—visit the NSW Electoral Commission website at www.elections.nsw.gov.au.

If you'd like to find out more about what is involved in being a councillor, visit the Office of Local Government at www.olg.nsw.gov.au or Local Government NSW at www.lgnsw.org.au.

Representation through until September

Residents will continue to have a voice on important matters affecting them in the lead up to the Council elections, with the Local Representation Committee (LRC) to remain in place until September.

LRC members are Chair Ruth McRae, Deputy Chair Robert Curphey, Christine Chirgwin, Robert Black, Gavin Gilbert, Terry Hogan, Faith Bryce, Gaila Smith and Gordon Beaumont. The committee meets monthly and will continue to exist and advise the Administrator on Council related issues until the elections.



WE'RE LOOKING FOR PASSIONATE PEOPLE
TO LEAD MURRUMBIDGEE COUNCIL INTO
THE FUTURE. PUT YOUR HAND UP!

NOMINATIONS OPEN
31 JULY TO 9 AUGUST 2017

Lead the way

www.elections.nsw.gov.au
www.murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au

Become a councillor



New uniforms and signs unveiled

Council has proudly unveiled its new uniforms and branch office signs.

The uniforms, complete with Council's bright new logo, will make it easier for staff to be identified while delivering vital services to the community.

The uniforms and signs are all part of building a strong and united organisation. As a new Council, uniforms and signage help create a cohesive sense of identity.

Staff are proud to be able to wear uniforms bearing the logo that was created using feedback from the community members they serve.

Residents will also notice that new signs are now in place at each branch office and have been rolled out across the Council depots in Coleambally, Darlington Point and Jerilderie.

Over the past few months we've been working to update all Council signage.

We think we've got all signs now but if we've missed any please let us know. If you spot any signs with old logos on them call 1300 676243.



Do you know about the Op Shop?

The Anglican Parish of Coleambally and Darlington Point (APCDP) Op Shop operates from the Murrumbidgee Shire Hall in Darlington Point. They provide quality second-hand goods at an affordable cost to the public.

The Op Shop is run by the APCDP, sourcing volunteers from parish and community members of Darlington Point and Coleambally. They can always do with more volunteers.

The Op Shop receives a high volume of donations to process, sort, recycle, dispose, store, display and sell. Goods are received at the doorstep, plus collected from Anglican blue bins located outside the Op shop, and kerbside at Coleambally Anglican Parish Church grounds.

In the past the Op Shop has provided emergency relief with food vouchers, and second-hand goods. It now also provides a relaxed "Drop in" corner with free tea and coffee. They recently hosted a free Pamper Day in partnership with Intereach Griffith and there are plans for further inclusion activities with the support of Anglican Parish, Murrumbidgee Council, Intereach and Western Riverina Community College (WRCC).

Soup Kitchen Saturdays will be held at the Op shop for lunch from 11.30am until 12.30pm. Donations of food would be appreciated and volunteers are also needed.





Solar PV for business

Have you considered installing solar and storage to reduce your operating costs?

Find out how your business can benefit from solar at a free information session presented by the NSW Office of Environment & Heritage. Learn from local case studies, finance and industry experts.

When: Wednesday 7 June
5:00 – 6:30pm

Where: 'The Coly Club'
Coleambally Community Club,
3 Falcon Street, Coleambally

Free independent analysis of your site with estimated system size and simple payback. Bring a copy of your electricity bill.

Register at colysolar.eventbrite.com.au
Or contact Council on 02 6954 4060

Hosted by Murrumbidgee Council & Coleambally Chamber of Industry & Commerce









BIGGEST MORNING TEA DARLINGTON POINT MAY 24



Marjie Honeyman, Rhonda Cox, Cancer Council's Brianna Carracher and Catie Purtell enjoy the Biggest Morning Tea event at the library.



Council's Shawn Smith & Kylie Heath with Trevor Hornery



Iris Cook & Brenda Maxwell at the Darlington Point Club.

BIGGEST MORNING TEA JERILDERIE MAY 25



Dawn McGrillen, Dawn Peel & Joan Kuschert



Jean Jones & Christine Jones got behind the cause.



Elaine McCoy & Verona Harrison



Karen Scheltinga



June Weymouth, Heather Agostino, Cindy Eldridge & Gaye Moore share a laugh.



Council plans for the future

Council's Operational Plan for 2017-18, as well as its Delivery Program for the next four years, went on public exhibition recently.

These documents outline the strategies and actions Council intends to take to achieve goals outlined in the Community Strategic Plans (CSP) of the two former Councils, which will be replaced by a new CSP after the elected Council is in place from September 2017.

In developing the Plan and Program Council wanted to strike a balance between essential services, stimulating the economy and new infrastructure.

The plan contains the annual budgets and details of proposed rates, fees and charges to be raised for the ensuing year.

There are more than \$13.8 million in capital works projects set down, including \$4.2 million for continuing roads and infrastructure maintenance.

Provision has also been made for the new position of an Economic Development and Tourism Officer together with programs which will increase activity in the region.

Delivery Program and Operational Plan key points:

- General rates increase overall by 1.5 per cent for 2017/18
- Increase of 7 per cent for water rates and usage charges for Jerilderie ratepayers
- Increase of 5 per cent for water rates and usage charges for Darlington Point and Coleambally ratepayers
- Provision for Carrathool Bridge approach works (\$1m)
- Upgrade of Boyd Street Intersection, Darlington Point
- Provision of Economic and Tourism Officer together with programs
- Continuing roads and infrastructure maintenance
- Darlington Point Water Tower and Treatment (\$800,000)
- Replacement of No 1 Water Bore at Darlington Point

The draft documents can be viewed via council's website www.murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au or in hard copy at Council's Jerilderie, Coleambally and Darlington Point branch offices. Written submissions can be forwarded to Council until Thursday 22 June 2017.

After considering submissions from the public the Operational Plan and Delivery Program will be adopted by Council at a special meeting to be held on Wednesday 28 June 2017 in Coleambally at 10am.



Tree lopping completed

Work to ensure the Darlington Point Caravan Park is a safer place to visit, has been carried out.

Council secured the services of Wade Ryan Contracting to undertake a thorough assessment of trees within the caravan park and around 100 trees were found to require attention.

This work is part of Council's management process and it is going to help make the park a safer and nicer place to camp.

Of the 100 trees examined, some had to be removed while others only required pruning.



DID YOU KNOW?

Driving an unregistered vehicle is illegal and potentially dangerous.

If you're caught driving an unregistered vehicle, you may be fined, and police may remove the number plates on the spot. Police may also seize the vehicle. (Source NSW Roads & Maritime Services)

Council has been informed that some locals have been driving unregistered vehicles including motorbikes, on public roads and walking tracks.

Council is working with local Police to address this problem.

New Levy put on hold

Introduction of the Fire and Emergency Services Levy (FESL) has been deferred.

The NSW Government will work with local government, fire and emergency services, the insurance industry and other stakeholders to find a better and fairer path forward. The Fire and Emergency Services Levy will continue to be collected via insurance policies until the NSW Government has completed its review of the policy, and the funding requirements of fire and emergency services agencies will be met in full.



Temporary closure of common area

The construction of the next stage (stage 4) of the Darlington Point Levee Bank has commenced.

As a result of these works, access to Darlington Point Common will be closed until further notice.

The location of the closure will occur at the following sites:

- King Street at the Ryan Street intersection; and
- Chant Street at the Levee bank

It is anticipated that these closures will be in place for an approximate period of 20 weeks.

Council apologises for any inconvenience this work may cause.



Group MAKE beautiful art for show

A talented group known as the Murrumbidgee Arts Kinship Enterprise (MAKE) will hold their first art exhibition in June.

Warangesda - Deep Waters, will be held at Rivadestra in Darlington Point on Friday 9 June before the exhibition is officially opened at the Griffith Regional Art Gallery on Friday 16 June.

They are part of Murrumbidgee Council's Creative Ageing Program, which started with a short-term arts project funded by a Country Arts Support Program (CASP) grant acquired by Waddi Housing. It was supported by Western Riverina Arts and delivered by Council's very own talented artist, Kerri Weymouth.

Council's Creative Ageing Program also includes ukulele lessons with Peter Taylor and Seniors Exercise and Movement classes with Faye Walsh. The program is open to all Murrumbidgee Council Community Service clients, but if residents are not registered they can apply through My Aged Care (MAC) www.myagedcare.gov.au

The arts program is an extension of the Respite Group and community transport is available to any client wishing to attend.



Artist Melanie Evans helps members of the Murrumbidgee Arts Kinship Enterprise (MAKE) prepare for their upcoming exhibition.

WHAT'S ON?

Upcoming events

7 June: Free 'Demystifying Solar' seminar for businesses and households from 5pm. (Coleambally Club)

9 to 11 June: Long Weekend League of Silent Flight 40th anniversary thermal glider competition tournament. This is the biggest thermal glider event in Australia and is a team selection trial for the Australian team to go to the World F3J World Championships in 2018 in Romania. (Jerilderie Racecourse)

22 July: Jerilderie Debutante Ball (Civic Hall)

12-13 August: The 13th Biennial Riverina Vintage Machinery Club Rally. Featuring car, truck, tractor, engine, machinery, quilting, and memorabilia displays, a vehicle trek and vintage tractor pull and the Bucyrus dragline will be started. (Coleambally)

2 September: B&S Roundup Ball (Jerilderie Racecourse)

9 September: Local Government Elections. This will be the first elections for the new Murrumbidgee Council. (Various locations)

23 September: Darlington Point Spring Festival is a fun-filled day out for the whole family offering a wide variety of market stalls and activities. (Darlington Point)

23 September: Jerilderie Gold Cup is a day of country racing at its best with a six race program including the famous Jerilderie Gold Cup. (Jerilderie Racecourse)

Contacting your Council

Council Branch Offices are located at:

Darlington Point - 21 Carrington Street

Coleambally - Brolga Place

Jerilderie - 35 Jerilderie St

Phone: 1300 MRMBGE (676243)

E-mail: mail@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au

Web: www.murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au

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