

Jerilderie Shire Council - Coat of Arms

Following the establishment of pioneer cattle stations in the district about the years 1840 -45 the township of Jerilderie came into being in 1858, and the site for the village was gazetted on 14th March, 1865. A Progress Association was formed in the 1870's from which evolved the Municipality of Jerilderie in 1889. The Wunnamurra Shire Council established in 1906 was in 1918 united with the Jerilderie Municipal Council and named the – SHIRE OF JERILDERIE

The Jerilderie Shire Council ceased to exist on 12 May 2016 when it was merged with Murrumbidgee Shire Council to create Murrumbidgee Council.



The symbolism of the Shire insignia is interpreted as follows:-

- The Shire is named from the aboriginal word meaning **“reedy place”** and this is remembered heraldically by the **green charges** in the base of the Shield.
- The **wavy blue chevron** symbolises the **Murrumbidgee and Murray Rivers** and alludes to the fact that the **irrigation** works in this Shire are served by the Murray-Murrumbidgee arms of the Snowy Mountains scheme.

- The **ram's and bull's heads** in the natural colour together with the garb of **ripe wheat** represent the **principal pursuits** of the district.
- The **bull's head** also refers to the Polled Shorthorn cattle which type was evolved from a sport cow bred at Bundure in this Shire in the year 1874.
- The **brown colour in the shield** symbolises the **bare soil** rendered barren by the periodic **droughts** of the area, while the **green colour** symbolises the verdant **pasture of good season** and the **wine red** colour symbolises the abundant **harvests of good years**.
- In the crest the **water wheel** signifies the importance **irrigation** has become to the Shire whilst the **mural crown** is the emblem of **Local Government**.
- The **original inhabitants** of the country are represented by the supporters to the shield.
- During the last century, Jerilderie attained lasting notoriety due to the unwelcome visit of the **Kelly Gang** of Bushrangers on 10th February, 1879 and the historical episode is perpetuated by the **helmet above the shield** which is similar to the hand forged helmet of Ned Kelly and which resembles the ancient esquires type of helmet usually assigned in armourial bearings granted to corporate bodies such as the Shire.
- To commemorate the struggles of the **early settlers** who finally succeeded, the motto "**Per angusta ad augusta**" and translated "From difficulties to honour" seems appropriate.

The following is an extract taken from the Letters Patent Under the Hands and Seals of Garter Clarenceux and Norroy and Ulster Kings of Arms Granting and Assigning Armourial Bearings to the Council of the Shire of Jerilderie.

"Tierced per pall reversed Sable Vert and Gules a Sun issuant from the base Or on a Chevron wavy argent another wavy Azure between in chief a Ram's Head to the sinister erased Argent armed Or and the Head of a Polled Cow erased Or roped Gules and in base a Garb Or and for the crest On a Wreath Argent and Azure Issuant from a Mural Crown Gules masoned Argent a representation of a Dethridge Water Wheel proper as the same are in the margin hereof more plainly depicted And by the Authority aforesaid I the said Garter do by these Presents further grant and assign unto the Council of the Shire of Jerilderie the supporters following that is to say:- On either side an Aboriginal Native proper wearing a Loin Cloth Argent and supporting in the exterior hand a Spear also proper, as the same are also in the margin hereof more plainly depicted the whole to be borne and used for ever hereafter by the Council of the Shire of Jerilderie on Seals or otherwise according to the Laws of Arms"