



# Murrumbidgee COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER

MURRUMBIDGEE MAGAZINE

JULY 2018

Volume 3 Issue 5



### **Message from the Mayor**

*Coleambally celebrated its 50 very busy and productive years over the June long weekend. A weekend that covered formality on the Friday evening, with the "cutting of the cake" by Mrs Gladys Black and Mrs Margaret Sheppard. This was followed by a fashion parade-50 years of the most beautiful bridal gowns was a great way to start the weekend.*

*A packed Coleambally Community Club demonstrated the community's togetherness-the attribute that has enabled the growth, development, resilience and pride in this great town. Saturday and Sunday were jam packed with exhibitions of craft, art, sport, education, industry and entertainment. The bonfire and fireworks were a highlight, and the street parade and markets on Sunday showcased the depth of community engagement and resources that exist amongst us.*

*My congratulations to the organising committee. Your commitment, long hours and dedication were very evident. To the community, not only do you know how to work to make things happen, you know how to celebrate recognise and party. Jerilderie hosted its 41st League of Silent Flight Australia tournament over the June long weekend. A fantastic event covering 3 days of flying and 60 competitors. The weather proved challenging with beautiful rain on Friday and thick fog on Sunday, reducing the competition days.*

*Well done Murrumbidgee Council staff for their efforts to have our towns looking their best for these events.*

*The past month has seen us engage with stakeholders across:*

*Police-Area meeting in Griffith-addressing new roles and areas. We will be overseen by Inspector Wayne McLaughlin. We have stated our priority to have the vacancies at both Coleambally and Darlington Point addressed as soon as possible.*

*Local Emergency Management Committee-meeting in Coleambally with Fire Brigade, Police, Ambulance, Rural Fire Service, Murrumbidgee Local Health District and Murrumbidgee Council.*

*Roads & Maritime Services-Southern Zone Forum in Deniliquin.*

*We have fielded prospective industry and energy enquiries and opportunities.*

*Our projects continue to progress, with the completion of the playground and exercise circuit in Jerilderie. The Master Plan for the cemetery in Darlington Point has been finalised, and construction of the Cinerarium will commence shortly.*

*Councillor Ruth McRae  
Mayor*

## **Opening and running a café, small bar or restaurant in Murrumbidgee Council just got easier!**

Supporting and growing our local business economy is a priority for Council. We are delighted to partner with Service NSW and the Office of the NSW Small Business Commissioner to launch **Easy to do Business** in Murrumbidgee Council.

Through one online portal you will receive step-by-step guidance and support across local, state and federal government requirements, to open and grow your business. Easy to do Business is free of charge and gives you peace of mind by letting you know upfront the time, fees and effort involved.

Mayor, Cr Ruth McRae, says, "The Easy To Do Business Program initiative is one of those great connections that will give Murrumbidgee Council impetus and credibility. Though small in size, we find ourselves at the coal face of a myriad of business and industry opportunities. What better time than now to encourage collaborative growth. With support and mentoring, we see this as real support and warmly embrace the initiative."

With streamlined forms and one phone number to remove complexity when opening a café, small bar or restaurant, you can spend less time on paperwork and more time on your business. And, for added assurance, **you will be supported by a dedicated personal Business Concierge through the process.**

Easy to do Business has already reduced the time it takes to open a café, small bar or restaurant making it faster to set up your business. With new industries such as housing construction and retail being added in the future, we are looking forward to more ways to make it easier for you to do business in Murrumbidgee Council.

"Murrumbidgee Council is delighted to be able to continue our support of local business by joining this program. We encourage anyone interested in opening a café, small bar or restaurant to take advantage of this service," adds Mayor McRae.

For more information on the Easy to do Business initiative visit [www.service.nsw.gov.au](http://www.service.nsw.gov.au) or call 13 77 88.





## STAFF RETIREMENT—DENIS GELLE



Council has reluctantly accepted the resignation of Operations Manager, Denis Gelle, effective from 20 July 2018.

Denis' career started with Sydney Water, and for four years he worked mainly on water and sewage projects, including constructing a tunnel for a large water main under the Georges River. For the next 22 years he was employed by The Hills Council in their Engineering Department, carrying out most aspects of Local Government engineering, progressing to Subdivision Engineer where, for 10 years, Denis was responsible for approvals and supervision of construction for major subdivisions within the Shire.

On leaving The Hills Council, he ran his own property and development consultancy for 12 years, which provided a great insight into the complexities of private developer projects, including some major cases in the Land and Environment Court.

After 38 years in the work force, Denis decided a change of direction was needed, and managed a major caravan park on the Hawkesbury River for three years, virtually a seven day a week job, and managing up to four hundred guests on holiday weekends. The Park was a town within itself, with its own road network, water, sewage treatment and power reticulation.

Time for another change of direction, and this was when Denis applied for, and was successful in obtaining, the Jerilderie Shire Council's Design Engineer position. Denis commenced with Council on 12 September 2005. He is currently Operations Manager with Murrumbidgee Council. Denis has been integral in bringing together the works staff from both the former Murrumbidgee and Jerilderie Shire Councils. He has managed many major projects during his time with Council, including the refurbishment of the main CBD of Jerilderie, the creation of Memorial Park, including the relocation of the Cenotaph, and the construction of the Jerilderie Rural Fire Service Station, Wunnamurra Estate Stage 2 subdivision and the North Jerilderie sewerage system.

Now, after 53 years in the workforce, Denis has decided to resign and pursue other ventures (maybe including retirement).

Denis has enjoyed his time with Council, saying "Council has given me the opportunity of working with many talented people in the Jerilderie indoor and outdoor staff. The Coleambally and Darlington Point staff have provided me with much appreciated help and assistance in the new amalgamated Council".

We will be very sorry to lose Denis from our employ, but wish him well in his retirement.

## NEW BUSINESS GIVING BACK

One of Darlington Point's newest business ventures is setting a benchmark in 'giving back'.

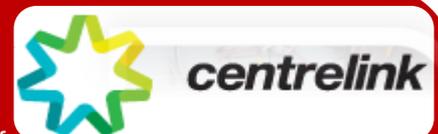
Hygge Living and More opened its doors in December 2017. It is a 'concept café', providing light foods and a fine array of home and gift-wares. The venture is the brainchild of local businesswoman Kylie Paige. Kylie's other business is the delightful Hawkesbury Cottage, an accommodation venue on the Sturt Highway strategically located between Darlington Point and Altina Wildlife Park. Since opening her café and retail store, Kylie has had a Tips Jar prominently placed on the counter. It has been jam-packed full of tips from very satisfied customers. Kylie and her staff have opted to donate the proceeds of tips to a worthy cause.

Riding for the Disabled Griffith has received a \$160 donation through Kylie at Hygge Living and More. 'Well done' Kylie and team for challenging us all to give back.

Pop out to Darlington Point and grab a coffee and cake as you browse through the shop - and leave a TIP. At Hygge Living and More your token of appreciation for good service will go to a good cause.



### CHILDCARE INCREASED SUBSIDIES



Did you know from July 2, families could be up to \$1333 a year better off, but only if they update their details through myGov. The changes include rebates targeted towards families working, looking for work, studying or volunteering. Means tested rebates would also see low-income earners receiving increased subsidy for their child-care costs.

How average families will benefit:

- A family on \$50,000 – both parent/s working, with two children aged under 6 in long day care two days a week at \$100 a day will be around \$2,000 better off a year;
- A family on \$80,000 – both parent/s working, with two children aged under 6 in long day care three days a week at \$100 a day will be over \$3,000 better off a year;
- A family on \$150,000 – both parent/s working, with two children aged 6 and under in long daycare three days a week at \$100 a day will be more than \$1000 better off a year

Contact the Australian Government's Department of Human Services for further information, phone 136 150 or go to the website: <https://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/child-care-benefit>



# 50 AND FABULOUS!!!



## CONGRATULATIONS

To the 50th Birthday Celebrations Committee and the community of Coleambally, we say "well done!"

What a fabulous weekend of events.





## FREE: FULLY FUNDED TRAINING FOR SMALL BUSINESSES IN MURRUMBIDGEE

Accredited training in small business is available to Murrumbidgee businesses and their employees. On-line learning can connect you to the skills you need to grow your business.

An initiative by the NSW Government and TAFE NSW, Skills for Business offers fully subsidised business management, digital or financial skills training for NSW small businesses - and you don't have to do a whole course. You can pick and choose accredited units that fit your needs.

If you are in small business, Skills for Business could be the right fit for upskilling yourself and your employees in vital areas of digital literacy, financial literacy and general business management. The initiative is open to all small businesses operating within NSW. Priority will be given to businesses with fewer than 19 employees.

Eligible business owners and employees can choose to complete:

- Financial and Digital Literacy Skills for Small Business;
- Certificate IV in New Small Business; and
- 'Business Bytes' tutorials.

You can build a training program that suits your needs. Select from the units on offer in either Financial Skills or Digital Literacy Skills. Or choose the complete Certificate IV in New Small Business. The choice is yours.

Go direct to TAFE NSW [www.tafensw.edu.au/skillsforbusiness](http://www.tafensw.edu.au/skillsforbusiness)

*Have a business training need and this doesn't suit? Call Murrumbidgee Council's Economic, Tourism & Community Development Manager Gerrie Carr-MacFie to discuss. Gerrie will help you find a solution.*

the  
power of  
humanity



## AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS, JERILDERIE BRANCH

Henry Dunant was the founder of Red Cross, because of the wounded left to die on the battlefields of Solferino, Italy in 1839. His catchcry was "all men are brothers". The Australian Red Cross is a volunteer based organisation, and it was founded in 1915 to respond to the needs of soldiers in WW1 and WW2, and now it is there to help people through disasters, operate Blood Banks and provide a wide range of community services. On 17 July 1915 the Jerilderie Branch of the Red Cross was officially formed. In 1939 there were 40 members. 1941 reports showed that the branch chose to "Adopt a POW", sending £1 weekly for each nominated Prisoner of War. The group sent £17 each week—in today's figures \$480 per week.

Jerilderie Red Cross has 10 members - a big difference to the early days. We have raffles for Mother's and Father's Day, concerts, Big Cake Day, our 100th birthday celebrations (in 2015) plus a Christmas Party. We plan to change our communications and be there for our community, plus any disasters that happen in our community and surrounding areas. We will be approaching the Hospital to see if we can have a morning tea or bbq every 2 months for residents, approach both schools to donate books, and explore other things. The Entertainment Night at the Sports Club is in aid of the Drought Relief Appeal, and proceeds will be sent direct to Dubbo Regional Office, a decision made at our June meeting.

New members are always welcome. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month, commencing 2.00pm at the Community Rooms of the Jerilderie Hospital.

Thank you for your support Jerilderie.

Annette Kelly, President





# HOLIDAY CLINIC

## School Holiday Program

### Tuesday 17 July 2018

### Darlington Point Sports Oval



**DETAILS:** The PlayNRL Holiday Clinic is a day program for kids aged 6-14 years of any gender. The Clinic focuses on fun, fitness and participation. Cost \$40 per child, which includes NRL Holiday Pack. Please bring runners and water bottle. Sign in from 10.00am. Clinic commences 10.15am and finishes at 1.00pm.

**CONTACT:** Andrew Lavaka, Program Co-Ordinator, P: 0428 302549 E: alavaka@nrl.com.au

**Online registration form** can be found at: [PLAYNRL.COM](http://PLAYNRL.COM)



Marjie Honeyman, Phillip Purtell, Rhonda Cox and Catie Purtell



Afternoon tea on the lawns at the rear of the Library



## Cancer Council

## Biggest Morning Tea

The Cancer Council Biggest Morning Tea, held on 24 May at the Jerilderie Library, raised \$2322.35 to fund research, prevention and support services for those affected by cancer.

Congratulations to Bob Adamson, who was the winner of the beautiful crocheted rug made and donated by Catie Purtell.

Thank you to all members of the community and business houses that:

- ◆ Donated their time for the morning tea deliveries
- ◆ Donated goods for the raffle (95 raffle drawn on the day)
- ◆ Made cash donations
- ◆ Baked and donated goods for morning and afternoon tea
- ◆ Attended the event

We also thank Librarians Rhonda and Catie for their continued support and promotion of this important event.



# June in Jerilderie

Blue skies shone above the Jerilderie Racecourse and businesses were 'soaring high' for the June Long Weekend. A big part of the influx of visitors was the League of Silent Flight annual event. The town was also alive with travellers on the Newell Highway and The Kidman Way stopping to walk the Lake or take a main street stroll.

The Jerilderie Bakery was a magnet for coffee drinkers, with hotels and the Sports Club particularly busy each evening. Accommodation throughout the weekend was in high demand.

The Royal Mail had a multicultural feel, with  travellers taking advantage of stopping on the way to the Griffith 2018 Sikh Games. New owners at the Jerilderie Caravan Park reported excellent patronage, with cabins and vans booked well in advance. Vintage wares retailers reported an influx of browsers on Saturday and Monday, whilst Sticky Fingers Candy Shop was kept busy with Visitor Information inquiries. The ladies at St Vinnies also opened the doors to a busy Saturday morning.

Jerilderie hosts a model aircraft soaring competition each June Long Weekend. The skies did not disappoint visitors from League of Silent Flight. A wet start on Friday and a foggy morning on Sunday gave way to clear blue skies. Perfect thermals for this *model* bunch of enthusiasts.

Jerilderie community and businesses will be pleased to welcome back the League of Silent Flight and other visitors next June Long Weekend.



Nick Chabrel, Theo Arvanitakis and Peter Williams  
Successful competitors in the Annual Jerilderie F3J Open Thermal Contest



Weekend Competitors



## Exercising with a View At Lake Jerilderie



## Jerilderie Debutante Ball 23 June 2018



Over 200 family and friends enjoyed the 2018 St Joseph's Debutante Ball in Jerilderie on Saturday evening 23 June 2018.

Debutantes and their partners were presented to School Council Chair, Mrs Karen Sleeman and Mrs Carmen Lawton.

*Pictured left to right*

Back Row: Zachary Rochford, Jack Hatty and Jordon Anthony

Middle Row: Zoe Barlow, Anna Pinnuck, Olivia Mauger

Flower Girl: Tiana Patu Page Boy: Matthew DiLullo



**Taste Art Prize 2018**  
Entry Form 26 October - 28 October

Taste Coleambally-Food and Farm Festival invites artists and creatives of the region to enter their original art piece/s in the Taste Art Prize 2018. The theme is "Growth and Change in Rural Australia". All creative mediums are welcome: paintings, drawings, photography, mixed media, sculpture and fabrics. Entries are required to be delivered to the Coleambally Community Hall by 4.00pm on Monday 22 October 2018. Further details will be available on Taste Coly-Food and Farm Festival Facebook Page or Council's website under the Public Notices section.

## CTP GREEN SLIP REFUNDS

Do you know you may be eligible for a refund on your CTP insurance? If you were the registered owner of a private vehicle as at midnight 30 November 2017, you may be able to claim a CTP Green Slip refund for insurance policies bought or renewed before 1 December 2017.

**CTP refunds are currently available between 7pm and 7am Monday to Saturday and all day Sunday up until 30 September 2018.**

To apply or for more details visit:

<https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/claim-ctp-green-slip-refund>

For further assistance call **13 77 88** or visit a Service NSW service centre.



## VALE SHAWN SMITH

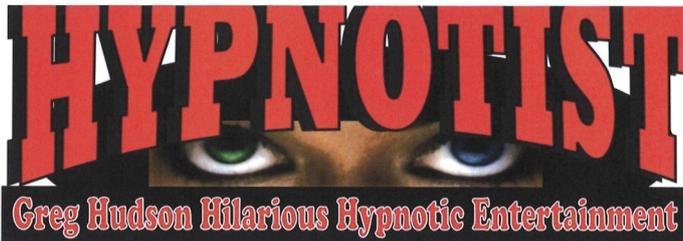


Murrumbidgee Council farewelled former workmate and friend Shawn Smith, who passed away on Saturday 2 June after losing a hard-fought battle with cancer.

Shawn became a Council staff member in early 2011. He worked with the Darlington Point outdoor staff as a labourer, and later tallyman. He also worked in parks and gardens in Coleambally.

Staff were inspired by Shawn's courage. After being diagnosed in late 2016, Shawn could not return to his full-time position. He refused to let his illness stop him from working and he spent a few hours a day in the Darlington Point office, helping in any way he could.

A church service for Shawn was held at St Paul's Anglican Church, Darlington Point on Friday 8 June. Councillors and staff attended the service as a mark of respect for a valued colleague and friend. Council and community extend sincere sympathy to his family.



Raising Funds for Darlington Point Coleambally RLFC

**Darlington Point Sports Club**  
**13th July 2018**  
**Doors Open 6.30pm**  
**Limited Seats**  
**Tickets \$25 inc Light Supper**

Come and See the Show or BE THE SHOW!

**Book Now**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE @**  
**Heaths Butchery & Tim's Meats,**  
**Contact Kylie 0415 221 147 or**  
**Cindy 0407 614 923**

## WHAT'S ON?

### Upcoming events

- ◆ 30 June - Red Cross Jerilderie Entertainment Night with Rodney Vincent , 7.30pm Jerilderie Sports Club, \$15 pp for bookings. Contact Annette Kelly 0428 885601 or tickets available at the door
- ◆ 13 July-Hypnotist-Darlington Point Club, 6.30pm
- ◆ 18 July-Jerilderie Library Movie Session - Gifted, 1.00pm
- ◆ 15 August -Jerilderie Library Movie Session - The Glass Castle, 1.00pm
- ◆ 22 September 2018-Jerilderie Gold Cup Race Meeting
- ◆ 16 to 19 October 2018 - Murrumbidgee Council Community Services-Great Ocean Road Trip
- ◆ 22 October, 4.00pm-Entries close in Taste Art Prize 2018
- ◆ 26 to 28 October -Taste Coleambally Food & Farm Festival

### Council Meetings - 10 am

- ◆ 24 July 2018-Darlington Point
- ◆ 28 August 2018-Jerilderie
- ◆ 25 September 2018-Darlington Point

### Contacting your Council

Council Branch Offices are located at:

Darlington Point - 21 Carrington Street

Coleambally - 39 Broлга Place

Jerilderie - 35 Jerilderie St

Phone: 1300 MRMBGE (676243)

E-mail: [mail@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mail@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au)

Web: [www.murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au](http://www.murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au)

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# AIDER Program

## Assistance for Infirm, Disabled and Elderly Residents

### A one-off free service to reduce bush fire hazards

### AIDER SERVICES MAY INCLUDE

- ✓ Thinning vegetation.
- ✓ Removing leaves, sticks and fallen branches.
- ✓ Trimming branches from around and overhanging the home.
- ✓ Mowing or slashing long grass.
- ✓ Cleaning gutters.

An assessment of your property will be completed by NSW Rural Fire Service staff. Advice will be given about completing your Bush Fire Survival Plan. All works are completed by Rural Fire Service teams.

Call  
**(02) 8741 4955**  
to request an  
assessment of  
your property



## What is AIDER?

AIDER is a once off **FREE** service, supporting residents to live safely and confidently in areas where bush fires may start. The property must be bush fire prone, meaning an area of land that can support a bush fire or is likely to be subject to bush fire attack.

## Who is eligible?

Aged residents and residents with disabling conditions who have limited domestic support from family, relatives, friends or other services.



**Are you prepared for a bush fire?**  
Aged and disabled people in the community may be at higher risk during a bush fire. The NSW Rural Fire Service recommends that you have a Bush Fire Survival Plan.

EMAIL: [aider@rfs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:aider@rfs.nsw.gov.au)

WEB: [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au)



PREPARE.

ACT.

SURVIVE.

| BUSH FIRE INFORMATION LINE | 1800 679 737