

## MAYORAL REPORT

Council Meeting:	27 October 2020
Report Date:	26 October 2020
Author:	Mayor
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October has certainly brought with it all the challenges that Spring can deliver. As we await, with optimistic expectation, a harvest that promises much, many are holding their breath that the extremes being experienced in the eastern parts of Australia will not adversely affect our Council footprint.

Our COVID-19 status, directed by the Public Health Orders, is cautiously moving forward - we still find parts of our business, trade, education, health, recreation and social access challenging - challenging is far more palatable than lockdown and adjusting and adapting to the new normal will be everybody's responsibility from now into the foreseeable future.

There is evidence of progress amongst our many projects in Murrumbidgee Council:

- The Swimming Pool rebuild is nearing completion in Jerilderie, as is the Lake Bank Remediation Project;
- The Coleambally Sports Precinct Redevelopment is mobile again and progressing - it is hoped the interruptions and barriers will minimise from here on in;
- The Darlington Point Lions Club display and amenities building is almost complete, and the boat ramp is showing slow but positive movement.

Coupled with our Town Revitalisation Projects, our communities can expect to see very visible signs of investment in the near future - these opportunistic funds, using local resources where ever possible, are enabling our communities to move forward and invest in our communities - to love where we live and make our homes and our towns the best they can be for ourselves and those that visit us.

On 8 October the CWA Sturt Group Conference was held in Jerilderie. Hosted by the Sturt Group Executive, this important body displayed informed and constructive discussion and advocacy for issues that need to be further progressed at State level.

The immediate past State President, Annette Turner from White Cliffs, was the guest of honour and was hosted by Jerilderie CWA.

On 10 October, Councillor Rob Black and I attended the "One Night At Warangesda" Celebration - this was part of the week long Yarruwala Wiradjuri Cultural Festival. It displayed cultural, historical and artistic interpretation of the Wiradjuri people and the important part that Warangesda played in this. It was entertaining and thought provoking.

On 11 October I linked into a Virtual Forum that saw Elders yarn about their culture and heritage.

Well done to Western Riverina Arts for producing and facilitating this Festival.

I have attended 2 SDLAM Stakeholder Water Advisory Group Meetings in the month, and slow and steady would be the most generous critique I could offer at this time.

Jerilderie held their initial Business Murrumbidgee - Jerilderie Chapter meeting on 14 October, with approximately 20 people in attendance. I am hopeful that we have some follow up information regarding progress in this area to the October Council Meeting.

On Friday 23 October, Councillor Smith and I both attended the launch of the Redneck River Run in Darlington Point. Co-ordinated and run by Tammy and Gavin Gilbert, this annual fundraising effort for Country Hope has, this year, taken a unique approach, with the Run being held on the Murrumbidgee River between Darlington Point and Hay.

A huge undertaking and a huge congratulations for a job well done.

Congratulations to Brooke and Ben Williams on the safe arrival of their baby girl Clancy Mae last Friday.

We offer our deepest sympathy to June Scammell, Councillor Faith Bryce and family on the loss of their husband, father and grandfather, Fred Scammell.

Below is a list of meetings I have attended during the month:

#### 23 September 2020

- Yanco-SDLAM Project - Stakeholder Advisory Group Meeting -Deniliquin
- Business Murrumbidgee - Jerilderie Chapter Meeting

#### 24 September 2020

- Wiradjuri Walk Project Meeting, Darlington Point
- General Manager/Mayor Meeting in Jerilderie

#### 28 September 2020

- OLG Webinar - Jerilderie

#### 29 September 2020

MDBA Water and Environment Meeting - Jerilderie  
Sir Angus Houston, Phillip Glyde and Matt Woodward led Roadshow  
YACTAC also attended and provided newly created 4 min promotional video.

#### 30 September 2020

- Jerilderie Town Revitalisation Committee Meeting - Jerilderie
- Meeting and lunch with Justin Clancy, MP, Member for Albury
- Citizenship Ceremony for Mr Joseph Lia

8 October 2020

CWA Sturt Group Conference - Jerilderie

10/11 October 2020

- One Night at Warangesda - Darlington Point
- Elders Luncheon -Yarning Session  
(Part of the week long Yarramula Festival)

13 October 2020

LEMC Meeting - Coleambally

14 October 2020

- RAMJO - Introduction To Waste Meeting - Kristie Muntz
- RAMJO - Extraordinary Meeting -Delegate to MRTB - NBN Advocacy - Andrew Cotterill
- Murrumbidgee Council Planning Workshop - Jerilderie (Councillors, General Manager, Manager Planning & Environment, Matt Johnson Habitat Planning)

20 October 2020

LEMC –Blue Jeans video conferencing –COVID-19 Summer Restrictions - Update Meeting

21 October 2020

Yanco SDLAM Project Meeting - Morundah

23 October 2020

Redneck River Run Launch - Darlington Point - Annual Fundraiser for Country Hope

26 October 2020

MDBA Regional Local Government briefing on Basin Plan - 2020 Evaluation



Ruth McRae  
**MAYOR**