

MAYORAL REPORT

Council Meeting:	27 September 2022
Report Date:	26 September 2022
Author:	Mayor
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I have had the good fortune to have had a 10 day break and reboot. Travelling to and through parts of Western Australia was a real eye opener. It is such a clean state, little to no litter/rubbish, and huge investments in social infrastructure.

A visible recognition for the importance of the tourist and visitor economy.

It is amazing to believe that it is the end of September already. The plentiful rains continue to fall and our agricultural season is so full of promise and, in turn, our region looks set to deliver in spades.

Our Nation was saddened by the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. A leader of the Commonwealth for 70 years, Her Majesty lead with a quiet but considered resolve, dignity and, above all else, integrity - her commitment was visible and unwavering right until the end - this loss will be felt deeply and Her Majesty's legacy will be enduring.

General Manager John Scarce and I attended the Daily Telegraph Bush Summit in Griffith on 26 August - to all intents and purposes all of the important people were in the room.

The Premier, the Prime Minister, the Water Minister, Health hierarchy, Local Members, Transgrid, etc etc. A few of the issues covered were:

- The crisis in health service delivery and workforce in the bush;
- The impact re the complexity and the politicised progress of the Murray Darling Basin Plan, its looming, delivered in full, bull-headed approach, which will undoubtedly have severe ramifications in our part of the world;
- The renewable energy push, at all costs;
- The continuing connectivity challenge;
- The crisis at the coalface for social and affordable housing.

Most Councillors attended the Councillor Training - "Financial Training Workshop" at the beginning of September - I hope you all found it as valuable as I did.

Councillors needs to be aware of our financial responsibilities and have enough insight to ask if we need further explanation.

Socially we have had a busy time with many of our sporting teams featuring in finals. To all of those who worked hard and successfully competed in the finals we offer congratulations.

For a small, but important, part of the world, we punch well above our weight and we recognise the important part these teams and their Clubs play in our communities.

The Jerilderie Gold Cup, set down for 24 September was unfortunately called off - the rain meant that the track was too wet to run. However the Race Club moved to plan B and very successfully hosted a day of community entertainment, attended and enjoyed by over 800 people. A big thank you and congratulations to the hardworking committee, and a huge thank you to all of the crowd who chose to still be present and enjoy the day.

Councillors Rob Black and Christine Chirgwin attended the RFS - MIA District Medal Presentations in Griffith on behalf of Council on 23 September 2022.

Many of our volunteers were recognised, and included: John Stuckings, Tom Rawson, Jeremy Mannes, Alistair Evans, Samantha Harris, Ellen Townsend, Cameron Townsend and Robert Black.

Council thanks all of the above and recognises the value of their contribution.

A little closer to home, commentary in the local media assures us that continued advocacy by Member for Murray, Helen Dalton MP, on behalf of our region will see nil out of pocket expenses attached to radiotherapy services that will be delivered by the redeveloped Griffith Base Hospital - this is a huge win for our area, allowing access and equity to our vulnerable who are walking this difficult journey

Below are a list of meetings/engagements since the August meeting:

25 August 2022

“ Do it for Daniel” Roadshow - Keeping Kids Safe Program
St Joseph’s Jerilderie

YACTAC AGM

Jerilderie

26 August 2022

Daily Telegraph Bush Summit
Griffith

29 August 2022

Upper Murray-Mid Murray- Community Water Forum, via Teams

30 August 2022

MLHD- NSW Health- Dr Kerry Chant
Japanese Encephalitis update, vaccine availability and rollout

1 September 2022

Meeting with Jennifer Connor SERVICE NSW Business Facilitator/Manager via Teams

- Engagement with 12 Business Concierges - Discussing the "Importance of Stakeholder Collaboration and where Local Government Fits"

2 September 2022

NSW State Library Visit to Jerilderie Library
Accreditation, Vision, Value Adding etc.

7 September 2022

Councillor Training - "Financial Training Workshop" Jerilderie
YCMP - Yanco Creek Modernisation Project Community Update, Jerilderie

8 September 2022

MDA Region 9 Meeting
Griffith

13 September 2022

Councillor Mid Monthly Workshop and Town Tour
Jerilderie

23 September 2022

RFS - MIA District Medal Presentation, Griffith
- attended by Councillors Robert Black and Christine Chirgwin

24 September 2022

Jerilderie Races - Community Day

26 September 2022

MLHD-LHAC Forum
Finley



Ruth McRae
MAYOR