



MURRUMBIDGEE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

ABOUT COUNCIL

MURRUMBIDGEE COUNCIL PROVIDES SERVICES AND SUPPORT TO A COMMUNITY OF OVER 4,000 RESIDENTS IN COLEAMBALLY, DARLINGTON POINT AND JERILDERIE

We are a relatively new Council as we were proclaimed on 12 May 2016 following the amalgamation of the former Jerilderie Shire Council and Murrumbidgee Shire Council.

Council has a strong presence in the Local Government Area. We are an employer of choice in the region and employ over 90 staff. Our offices and depots are located in Coleambally, Darlington Point and Jerilderie.

Covering an area of 6,880 square kilometres, agriculture is the backbone of our economy. The mix of temperate climate, rural location, food and fibre production, and the natural water assets makes our area ideally suited to agricultural production. This includes over 100 kilometres of natural river frontage to the Murrumbidgee River and also the longest creek in Australia, the Billabong Creek.

The Council plays a strong role in providing services and facilities to support those agricultural activities and the families and businesses within the respective communities of the region. We look after 1,721 kms of roads, along with a library and a mobile library, ten community halls and facilities, nine public toilet blocks, two skate parks, three sporting ovals, two sporting complexes, three swimming pools and three cemeteries.

Our area is part of two State electoral divisions of Murray and Albury, and the Federal electorate of Farrer.

Connected by the Kidman Way, the Murrumbidgee Council area is linked to major markets including Melbourne (approximately 420 kilometres south) via the Newell Highway and Sydney (approximately 640 kilometres north east) via the Sturt Highway. These links have the potential to drive major economic opportunities.

Murrumbidgee Council is one of 11 member Councils of the joint organisation RAMJO (Riverina and Murray Joint Organisation). [RAMJO](#) works collaboratively to establish strategic regional priorities and provide regional leadership for the joint organisation area and identifies and advances opportunities for inter-governmental cooperation on matters relating to the joint organisation area.

COUNCIL'S STRATEGIC PILLARS

OUR VISION

A community built by an innovative mindset delivering appropriate and reliable services.

OUR PURPOSE

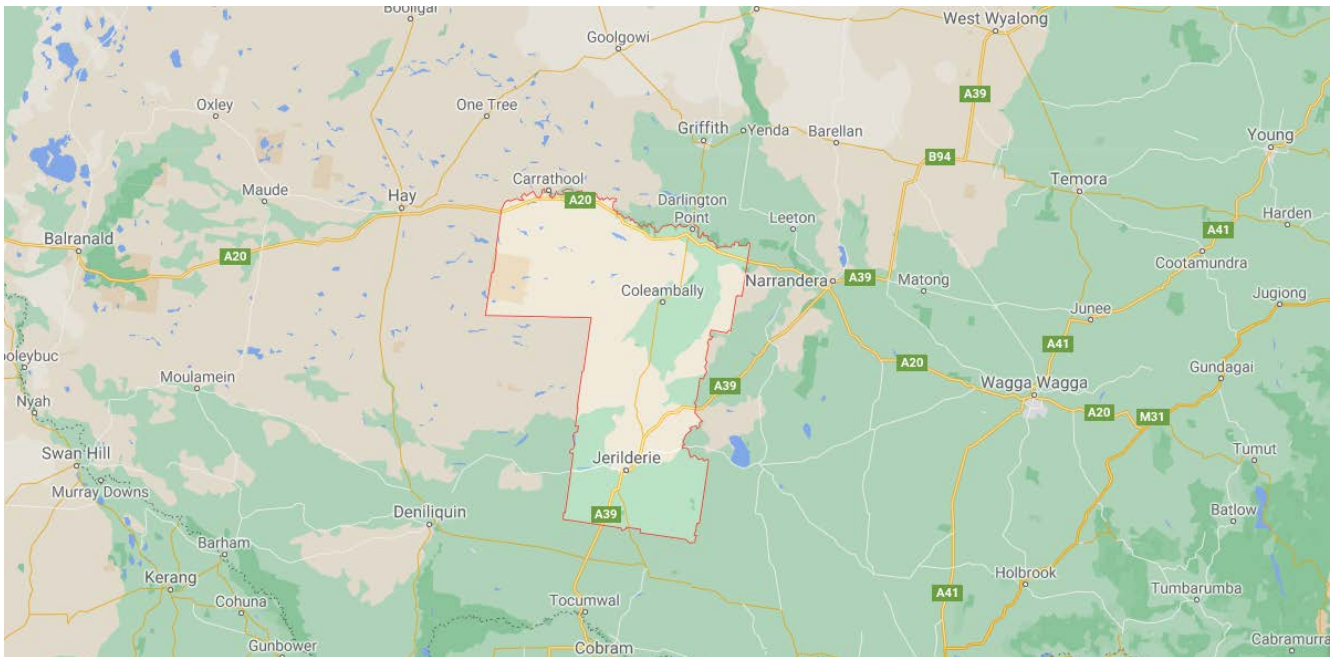
To deliver quality services creating a friendly, welcoming and engaged community.

OUR CORPORATE VALUES

At Murrumbidgee Council, we value creativity, teamwork and innovation. We always aim to reliably deliver quality services and well maintained facilities. Our strong, positive and trusted leadership is guided by both respecting traditional principles as well as forward thinking. These principles nurture who we are and recognise where we live and what we have built. Our community's welcoming and energetic approach is what makes where we live an appealing place for all.

OUR STAFF VALUES

As staff members, we support the adopted corporate values. We adhere to the values of trust, honesty, teamwork and respect.



ABOUT THE MURRUMBIDGEE

The Murrumbidgee Council area is located in the beautiful Riverina region of south-western New South Wales. It is bounded by Carrathool Shire, Griffith City and Leeton Shire in the north, Narrandera Shire and the Federation Council area in the east, Berrigan Shire in the south, and the Edward River Council in the south west.

At Council, we play a key role in providing services and facilities to support those agricultural activities and the families and businesses within the respective communities of the region.

Distances to major places – by road

Coleambally to	Darlington Point to	Jerilderie to
Sydney – 645 km	Sydney - 630 km	Sydney – 623 km
Melbourne – 390 km	Melbourne – 420 km	Melbourne – 324 km
Wagga Wagga – 190 km	Wagga Wagga – 160 km	Wagga Wagga – 165 km
Griffith – 70 km	Griffith – 35 km	Griffith – 146 km
Albury-Wodonga – 229 km	Albury-Wodonga – 226 km	Albury-Wodonga – 161 km
Shepparton – 203 km	Shepparton – 231 km	Shepparton - 133 km

Agriculture is the backbone of the Murrumbidgee Council area. The mix of temperate climate, rural location, food and fibre production, and the natural water assets makes our area ideally suited to agricultural production.



OUR COMMUNITY

We have a population of 4,047 people who reside in the three townships of Coleambally, Darlington Point and Jerilderie. There are also many surrounding rural localities in our LGA (or part): Argoon, Bundure, Carrathool, Coree, Four Corners, Gala Vale, Logie Brae, Mabins Wel, Mairjimmy, Nyora, Oaklands, Steam Plains, Waddi and Yamma.

The area has a deep connection to its namesake river, the Murrumbidgee, along with the beautiful Jerilderie Lake and Billabong Creek that supports a series of much loved and used nature trails and walks.

LIVING IN THE MURRUMBIDGEE AREA



AN ENVIABLE COUNTRY LIFESTYLE UNDERPINS THE HIGHLY PRODUCTIVE AND INNOVATIVE AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITIES THAT MAKE UP THE MURRUMBIDGEE COUNCIL AREA

SERVICES AND FACILITIES

Larger centres such as Griffith, Leeton, Wagga Wagga, Albury/Wodonga and Shepparton provide access to wider regional amenity.

Business opportunity is plentiful. Value-add in agriculture, solar farm and biomass investment is advancing prospects for further development.

The industrial areas provide the towns with automotive and tyre services, transport, hardware and building supplies, engineering and agricultural industries.

Coleambally

Coleambally has excellent schools. [Coleambally Central School](#) offers K to 12 education; [St Peter's Primary School](#) provides choice in the early years. [Coleambally Pre-school](#) also provides a great service for children. All adding to a town engaged with learning.

Coleambally residents are sports mad! Tennis, netball, basketball, football, bowls, cricket and squash are catered for in the sports precinct in the heart of town. The sports precinct is currently undergoing extensive improvements

and will be one of the premier sports facilities in the area. Other facilities include the outdoor swimming pool, clay target shooting, pistol club or the sand greens golf course.

Coleambally is serviced by a medical practice, a fully manned ambulance station, an aged care hostel and community health centre.

We have several large employers in the area, including Coprice Mill; Freedom Foods, who are Australia's premier processors of popping corn; as well as Coleambally Irrigation Co-operative.

Darlington Point

The town is only 30 minutes away from the City of Griffith. For daily needs, you will find a medical practice, pharmacy, NRMA garage, newsagent-hardware, supermarket, butcher, post-office, police station, Sports Club, hotel and Italian restaurant.

A preschool and playgroup is available. Children attend the [Darlington Point Primary School](#) and travel to neighbouring towns for their high school education.

Sport is popular in the community, with many opportunities to play team sport. There is a golf course and swimming pool.

A few kilometres east of Darlington Point is [Altina Wildlife Park](#) which is 207 hectares of natural bushland on the banks of the Murrumbidgee River. Altina Wildlife Park hosts a wide range of animals and has a mission to create and maintain memorable educational visitor experiences, inspiring conservation of wildlife and the environment.



Jerilderie

Services include a pre-school and two primary schools, medical facilities, units for the aged, pharmacy, supermarket and police station. Sporting precincts offer football, netball, tennis through to bowls and a gym.

Wunnamurra Estate offers a 'tree change for small change' in a majestic creek-side location.

Jerilderie Hospital (Jerilderie Multipurpose Service) is a 15 bed facility with 3 acute care beds and 12 residential aged care beds. Jerilderie MPS provides a 24 hour Accident and Emergency

Department. It also provides numerous clinical services to the community, including emergency care, palliative care, respite care and a range of community care and allied health services, supported by telehealth and specialty services on referral. Jerilderie also has an ambulance station.

The town also has medical centre which provides GP services as well as a dietetics service, mental health service, physiotherapy service, diabetic education service and podiatry service.

A BOUNTY OF PRODUCE

The area has a strong focus on agriculture and value added processing. Produced in our Local Government Area are: Billabong Produce, Saxvik Honey, Freedom Foods, Bonic Wines. Rice is grown for Sunrice and cotton is grown locally and ginned at RivCott.

Yarrow Park Olive Grove and Vineyard

Coleambally is home to the highly acclaimed and award-winning Yarrow Park Olive Grove & Vineyard.



This boutique family owned olive grove and vineyard has been operating since 2005 and is on Kyola Road off the Kidman Way, just a few kilometres from the town entranceway.

Bruce and Sandra offer tastings from their cellar door in hand crafted wine, olive oil and vinegars, in addition to a barbecue area in a delightful garden setting.

All products are grown on the estate.

NATURAL WONDERS

The unique river environment with majestic river red gums (*Eucalyptus Camaldulensis*) is a haven for bird and animal life. Birds include kingfishers, honeyeaters, parrots and waterbirds.

Kangaroos, wallabies, possums, and the occasional emu makes caravanning and camping an Aussie Bush experience, in town or out along the river.

The magic birdlife haven of the 2,000 hectare Murrumbidgee Regional Park near Darlington Point and bushland surrounding the township of Coleambally are other natural attractions.

We are spoilt for choice with beautiful camping spots along the Murrumbidgee River.

HISTORY

Established in 1859, Jerilderie is nestled on the banks of Australia's, and reputedly the world's, longest creek. Billabong Creek winds its way through Jerilderie and 321 kms of quintessentially Australian landscape.



Nothing quite so drastic has happened since the Ned Kelly Gang visited in 1879. Ned wrote his manifesto, The Jerilderie Letter, whilst the gang kept the town's prominent citizens hostage in the local Hotel. Today, the Kelly bank vault is on view in the Royal Mail Hotel. Sir John Monash also lived in the town as a child and holds an important place in Jerilderie's history.

Visitors can walk the heritage precinct, meander through the Powell St heritage precinct, or experience the serenity of Billabong Creek and Lake Jerilderie.

Darlington Point has a strong connection with our first Australians who are Wiradjuri people. The town was home to the Warangesda Aboriginal Mission from 1880-1884. During that time, it was the site of early political activism, including an Aboriginal community strike in 1883.

The town itself was established as a river crossing town with pastoral leases. From 1850, paddle steamers transported produce, with a redgum wharf being built in 1881. Old wharf pylons can still be seen 200 metres upstream from the caravan park. Travellers once crossed the river by punt. A single bascule bridge was later built to accommodate both road and river traffic and remained in use until 1979. This magnificent old bridge was later re-assembled and today sits at the entrance to the Darlington Point Caravan Park.

Coleambally is a vibrant and harmonious community with beautiful gardens and streets named after local birds. The town was established in 1968 to service the Coleambally Irrigation Area. It's the State's newest town and was fully planned.

FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

Riverina Classic Catch and Release Fishing Competition – Darlington Point

This highly popular event is held annually over three days in February each year. As a charity event, proceeds are distributed to a chosen charity each year and also used to re-stock the Murrumbidgee River with native fingerlings.

The restocking program is vital to securing a healthy and sustainable fishing future. The next event will be held on 12-14 February 2021.

Darlington Point Annual Spring Festival

The Spring Festival, held annually in September in CWA Park, attracts crowds from near and far. The day has a wonderful atmosphere with live music and food, craft and produce from over 40 stalls, and train rides

which takes passengers for a picturesque ride around town. There is also a highly popular car display with cars and bikes on show from the Expatriates Auto Club.





Jerilderie Gold Cup

Held in September each year, this event is a fabulous day out with fashions, fun and quality racing.

Jerilderie Ned Kelly Show 'N' Shine Markets

Held annually in May in the Lake Precinct, this event features classic cars, bikes and tractors.

League of the Silent Flight, Jerilderie

Each year in June, gliding enthusiasts converge on Jerilderie for this model gliding event.

Monash Dinner, Jerilderie

Murrumbidgee Council holds an annual Monash Dinner to honour the famous son of Jerilderie, Sir John Monash.

Taste Coleambally

Taste Coleambally is a biennial food and farm festival showcasing the unique Coleambally community and everything it has to offer, from farming and produce to country spirit and creativity.

The Festival grew from a dedicated group of locals wanting to show consumers how they grow food for Australia and the world in a sustainable and productive manner. Coleambally Irrigation is one of the most water efficient delivery systems in Australia and each year one average farm feeds an amazing 4,516 people.

Riverina Vintage Machinery Club Rally, Coleambally

This event is also held every second year in August (alternate years to Taste Coleambally). Held over two days, it features the starting of the giant Bucyrus dragline at Coleambally's entrance, a vehicle trek, vintage tractor pull and many display