

COMMUNITY NEWS



MARCH, 2024



Glen Johnston Memorial Award - Arts and Music
Toni Behrens



Young Citizen of the Year
Ninoska Birchall



Volunteer Services Award
Robyn Jones

NOMINEES AND AWARD WINNERS RECOGNISED AT AUSTRALIA DAY IN MUDGEEE



Sports Person of the Year
Katarna Robinson



Citizen of the Year
Donna Collins



Community Event of the Year
Henry Lawson Festival Gulgong

Outstanding residents were honoured with awards in six categories at the Australia Day ceremony in Mudgee.

The official awards presentation was led by Mayor Des Kennedy, Australia Day Ambassador Professor Ron McCallum (AO) and local representative Dougald Saunders (MP). A large crowd gathered at Robertson Park, Mudgee to honor and celebrate the accomplishments of local nominees and winners.

Local charity volunteer Donna Collins was awarded the prestigious title of Citizen of the Year for her unwavering dedication to the We Care Charity Shop. Donna plays a pivotal role in supporting individuals and families in need within the region.

Other recognised categories included Young Citizen of the Year (Ninoska Birchall), Community Event of the Year (Henry Lawson Festival Gulgong), Music and Arts (Toni Behrens), Sports

Person of the Year (Katarna Robinson) and the Volunteer Services Award (Robyn Jones).

During the ceremony nine new citizens made a pledge of commitment and were presented with citizenship certificates, representing a shared dedication to the values that define the Australian way of life.

The 2025 Australia Day celebrations will be held in Gulgong.



FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

I would like to congratulate all Australia Day award nominees and winners for your outstanding achievements and dedication to the community. I would also like to welcome the nine new Australians who received citizenship on the day. Council hosts an Australia Day celebration every year which alternates between Mudgee, Gulgong and Rylstone.

It was great to see so many events on offer during the month of February. The NRL game between St George Illawarra Dragons and Wests Tigers saw a number of visitors

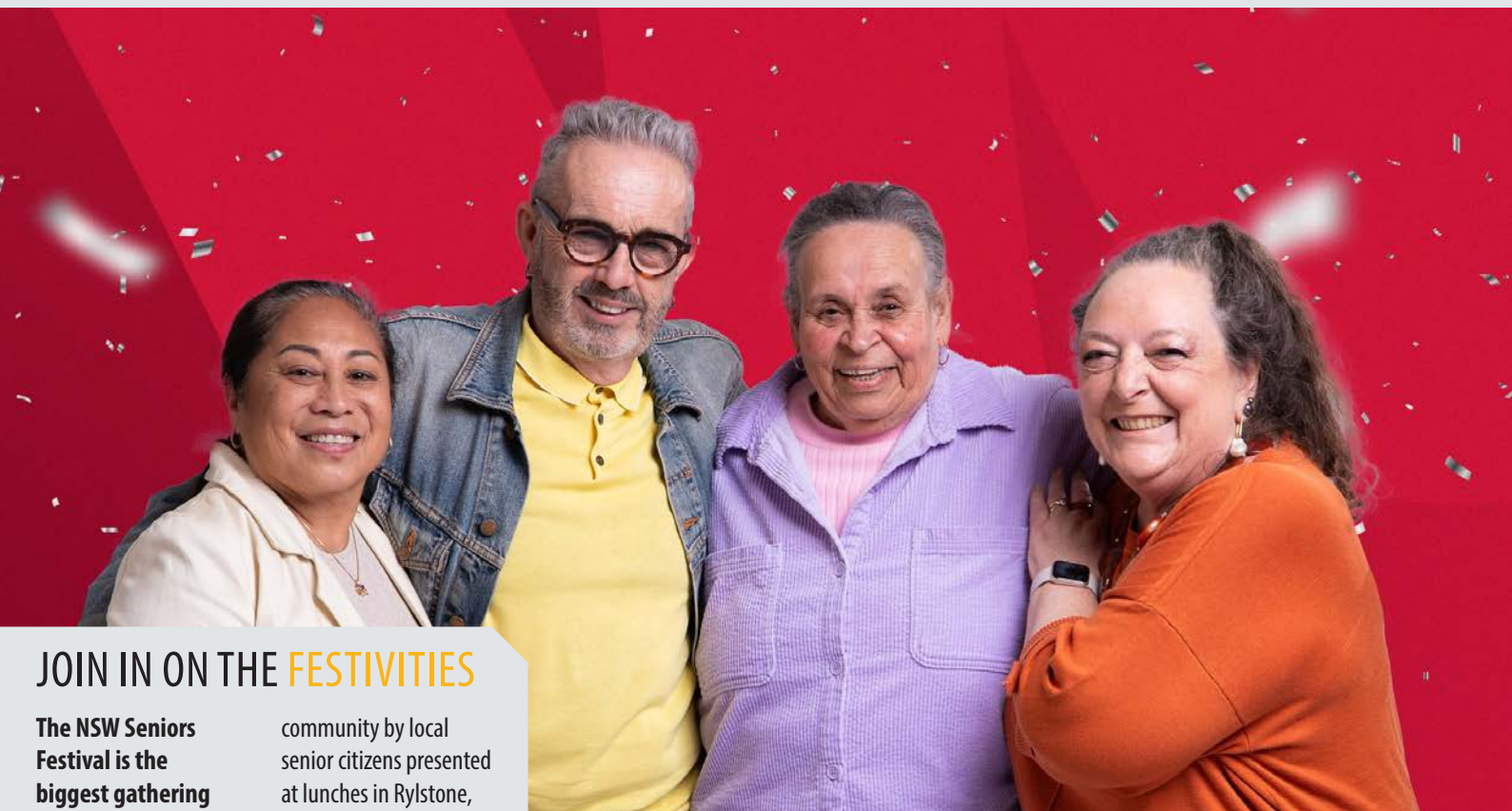
in the region who also had the opportunity to visit the Rylstone/ Kandos Show and the Country Championships horse races. Event filled weekends see big spend throughout our local towns, boosting the economy and promoting the region as a great place to live and visit.

Thank you to everyone who contributed their Community Plan Proposals. Each submission is being reviewed for inclusion in this years Operational Plan, guiding the projects to be undertaken in the next financial year.

Mayor Des Kennedy

2024 SENIORS

FESTIVAL CELEBRATIONS



JOIN IN ON THE FESTIVITIES

The NSW Seniors Festival is the biggest gathering for seniors in the state and provides an opportunity for older Australians to celebrate and connect.

This years NSW Seniors Festival will run from 11-24 March, festivities includes a range of free and subsidised activities being delivered across the region for residents aged 55 and over.

A feature of the festival is the recognition of outstanding contributions and achievements in the

community by local senior citizens presented at lunches in Rylstone, Mudgee, Kandos and Gulgong.

Other activities being offered include gentle exercise sessions, a guided sculpture walk, transport safety, one-on-one technology help sessions, community transport tours and an exhibition of seniors works at the Mudgee Arts Precinct.

For more information on other great activities during the festivities visit midwestern.nsw.gov.au.

LIBRARY

Council is delighted to be partnering with NBN Co for the Seniors Festival to deliver scams awareness presentations at the Kandos and Mudgee Library branches. Increase your awareness of common scams and ways to protect yourself. The NBN Co representative will also be holding 30 minute one-on-one Tech help sessions at both locations. Bookings are essential through mwrc.library.eventbrite.com.

ADOPT DON'T SHOP

Mid-Western Regional Council's website has current listings of animals in the pound that are looking for their forever home.

Council's pound has a capacity to house up to 14 dogs and 12 cats in comfortable conditions. The building is well insulated keeping its visitor's comfortable all year round.

Council encourages resident's that are looking for a furry friend to adopt don't shop. Adopting a pet can be a life-changing experience that not only transforms the life of an animal but also brings immeasurable joy and companionship to the adopter.

Choosing a pet from the pound is a great way to find a diverse range of animals from different

breeds to unique mixed breeds. The variety of option's ensures that you find a pet that suits your lifestyle, preferences and personality.

Council's pound takes great pride in facilitating successful adoptions for these deserving animals. For more information visit midwestern.nsw.gov.au.



NEWS IN BRIEF

CWA KANDOS GARDEN FAIR

Join CWA Kandos exploring ten private town and country gardens on 23 and 24 March from 10am until 4pm. Garden enthusiasts can wander through magnificent gardens in Kandos and Rylstone. Food and refreshments will be available as well as grazing boxes that can be purchased with tickets through 123tix.com.au.

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

Mid-Western Regional Council encourages volunteers to converge at Walkers Oval, Mudgee, 3 March from 9am until 12pm. Take part in helping to clean up the debris left by recent flooding events. Volunteers will need to sign in on the day to take part in this great initiative, a sausage sizzle and water will be provided.

COUNCIL SECURES NSW GOVERNMENT'S NSW FOOTBALL LEGACY FUND GRANT

Mid-Western Regional Council has been successful in securing funding for the second round of the NSW Government's Football Legacy Fund. The initiative is designed to upgrade football facilities and support infrastructure.

The Football Legacy Fund's objectives are to increase the utilisation of football facilities, and support the equitable provision of and access to facilities while growing the participation of female players.

Council submitted a proposal for

LED upgrades at the Glen Willow Sporting Complex. The LED upgrade will significantly improve the quality of lighting on fields 5 and 6, providing training-standard illumination.

The project involves the replacement of 16 light fittings on four 15 metre lighting poles providing a well lit environment for training activities.

The total cost of the project is \$140,000 with the NSW Government providing \$70,000 and Council contributing a further \$70,000 in funding.



SUMMER POOL PARTIES

Mid-Western Regional Council in collaboration with Real FM, recently hosted a series of summer pool parties across Kandos, Gulgong, and Mudgee.

The parties offered a refreshing escape for young residents during the school holidays. All of the regions pools featured inflatables and fantastic prizes. The team at Real FM provided up beat music adding an extra layer of enjoyment to the festivities.

Council's pool parties are held every year at all of the region's pools.



COUNCIL SOLAR ARRAY

Mid-Western Regional Council is constructing new solar array to meet Council's environmental and energy demands.

The new solar array will be situated at the Mudgee Sewer Treatment Plant on Blain Road, Carleon. The new project will help to reduce Council's operating costs. Council is considering options around offering local businesses access to excess energy at a low rate.

Offering low-cost energy to local businesses would enhance the regions appeal, fostering an

environment that supports existing enterprises and attracts investment from new businesses and industry.

The project will create 37 jobs in total, including 20 construction jobs and 17 indirect positions. This project underscores Council's commitment to local employment contributing to the region's prosperity.

It is estimated that the project will be completed by the end of 2024.



PUTTA BUCCA CARP MUSTER

Join Local Land Services and Club Mudgee Fishing Club for the Putta Bucca Carp Muster at Putta Bucca Wetlands on Sunday 24 March from 8am until 2pm. Join in on the fun and help rivers by reducing the number of carp that reside in waterways. There are prizes to be won and a free sausage sizzle for participants. Registration is free on the day.

EVENTS ASSISTANCE OPEN

Local event organisers are encouraged to apply for funding and in-kind support through Council's Events Assistance Program. The Program is open to not-for-profit events that are being held from 1 July to 31 December 2024. Organisers can apply for up to \$3,000 in assistance. Applications on Council's website and close 4.30pm on Friday, 31 March.

MUDGEE AIRPORT

Mudgee Airport is seeking expressions of interest for the lease of 13 fully serviced lots. The lots are tailored for airport industry and development, including aircraft storage, engineering services, flying schools and aircraft detailing. Council looks forward to engaging with stakeholders to maximise the potential of the airport. Visit midwestern.nsw.gov.au.

IRONED OUT

Mid-Western Regional Council's recycling, ironing and fancy dress service is an Australian Disability Enterprise which provides supported employment for people with a disability. Ironed Out has relocated to the Recycling Centre at 31 Blain Road, Carleon. The service will continue with drop off and pick up at the new location.



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DEPUTY MAYOR
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CR PHIL STODDART
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CR PERCY THOMPSON
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EVENTS CALENDAR



1-3
MARCH

Mudgee Show

Mudgee Showground

Scheduled for March 1-3, this event features a Rodeo, livestock, exhibits, side show alley, stalls, show jumping and much more.



11-24
MARCH

Seniors Festival

Mudgee Arts Precinct

Competition entries will be on display at the Mudgee Arts Precinct. Works on display include, art, craft, photography, poetry and prose.



16
MARCH

Can Cruise Car Rally

Mudgee Showground

One-day car and motorbike rally, starting at Mudgee Showground from 8am, travelling through Mudgee CBD on a road cruise through the region.



20
MARCH

Mid-Western Regional Council

Council Chambers, Market Street, Mudgee from 5.30pm

Meeting live-stream available on Council's website.



23-24
MARCH

CWA Kandos Garden Fair

Kandos, Rylstone

Explore ten magnificent gardens in Kandos and Rylstone from 10am to 4pm over 2 days. Tickets are available through 123tix.com.au.



24
MARCH

Putta Bucca Carp Muster

Putta Bucca Wetlands

A free event for all ages and fishing abilities, come along and have some fun from 9am to 12noon. Free registration on the day.

All information correct at the time of publication. Events may be subject to change. Please contact event organisers for further details.



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Live.

Council's River Restoration Seminar will be held at Mudgee Arts Precinct on 7 March at 9am until 3pm. The day will feature four guest speakers: Janine Koppell (Environmental Officer, Soil Conservation Service), Mike Ashelford (Land Services Officer, Local Land Services), Josh Frappell (Principle Advisor, The Regenerative), and Tony Miskle (Director, Miskles Earthmoving). Topics include river character, erosion causes, remediation methods, legislation, permits and available restoration services. Catering is provided and bookings are essential through eventbrite.com.au.

Work.

Mid-Western Regional Council is an award winning organisation offering a range of career opportunities in areas such as admin, planning and development, water supply, parks and gardens, libraries, operations and community services. Council is an equal opportunity employer and values diversity in its people. For current positions vacant, go to 'Employment' on Council's website.

Invest.

In December 2023, spending in the Mid-Western Region hit a new high at \$76.9m, surpassing the December 2022 figures by \$400,000. Of this total, residents contributed \$53.4m in spend while visitors accounted for \$22.6m. Throughout 2023, the region saw a total expenditure of \$815.6m, with residents spending \$562.4m and visitors contributing \$253.2m to the local economy.

Visit.

The Mid-Western Region is home to a wide range of stunning walks, from a bird lover's paradise at Putta Bucca Wetlands to Indigenous rock art at Hands On Rock located 2 kilometers past the popular Drip walking track. At Ferntree Gully there are 2 walking tracks through an incredible gully containing fern trees and breathtaking rock formations. Visit visitmudgeeregion.com.au for more information.