

Item 11: Community

11.1 Community & Cultural Services Quarterly Update - July to September 2023

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR COMMUNITY
TO 18 OCTOBER 2023 ORDINARY MEETING
GOV400103, COS300010

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **receive the report by the Director Community on the Community & Cultural Services Quarterly Update - July to September 2023; and**
 2. **note the recent services provided and activities coordinated by Council's Community & Cultural Services Team.**
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Executive summary

This report aims to familiarise Council with services and activities provided by its Community & Cultural Services Department and to inform it of issues and events of note that arose during the period July to September 2023 (inclusive).

Disclosure of Interest

Nil

Detailed report

Details of Community & Cultural Services quarterly activities, events, milestones and points of note are contained in the attachment to this report. Of particular interest:

- Successful NAIDOC Week celebrations held across the region
- Family Day Care has secured additional funding over the next two years to support the recruitment of additional Educators that are desperately needed to manage demand for the service
- Meals on Wheels is looking for a new hot meal provider after the existing provider has decided not to continue; and
- Mudgee Arts Precinct hosted a successful ArtExpress exhibition between June and August with nearly 8,000 visits to the exhibition.

Attached to this report is a summary report from Arts OutWest on the services provided to the Mid-Western region throughout 2022. The report demonstrates the value for money gained through Council's membership in Arts OutWest and the support provided to the cultural community across the region.

Community Plan implications

Theme	Looking After Our Community
Goal	Effective and efficient delivery of infrastructure
Strategy	Provide infrastructure and services to cater for the current and future needs of our community

Strategic implications

Council Strategies

Cultural Plan

Council Policies

Not Applicable

Legislation

Not Applicable

Financial implications

Not Applicable

Associated Risks

Not Applicable

SIMON JONES
DIRECTOR COMMUNITY

3 October 2023

Attachments:

1. Community Services Quarterly Report to Council Q3 2023.
2. Mudgee Arts Precinct Quarterly Report July September 2023.
3. Arts OutWest report for Mid-Western Region 2022.

APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION:

BRAD CAM
GENERAL MANAGER

Community Services Quarterly Report July-September 2023

Community Development

Mudgee & Gulgong Interagency

Monthly meetings for Mudgee & Gulgong Interagency members have continued to be consistently attended over the past quarter. Meetings have been held mostly via MS-teams with a hybrid meeting planned quarterly to provide attendees the choice of meeting remotely or face-to-face. Common themes and discussion from the group are regarding homelessness and housing shortage in the region, domestic & family violence issues and mental health services available, in particular to younger people in the community.

Attendance		Some types of services attending meetings
July	Meeting cancelled	Health NSW, Salvation Army, Transport NSW, Services NSW (Centrelink), Housing and Homelessness (Housing Plus), Mental Health (Marathon Health, TAFE NSW, Disability, Family Support, etc).
August	22	
September	24	

Kandos & Rylstone Interagency

Meetings have been held every 6 weeks via MS-teams. Common themes and discussion from the group include youth mental health services in Kandos/Rylstone, disability support and transport for education, training and employment.

Attendance		Some types of services attending meetings
July	10	Disability services, Health NSW, Transport NSW
August	10	

Wollemi Voices (Kandos Singing Group)

This group met weekly during the school term and has grown so much that a bigger venue has been sourced. Apart from weekly gatherings, the group is working towards a concert with Mudgee Concert Band and the Llewellyn Choir from Canberra on Sat 9th December at Rylstone Memorial Hall.

Wirambili-yanhi Wirambili walan Indigenous Plants Community Garden

Members of the working party are working on a further grant application to develop better access to the garden. One of NAIDOC Week's activities was a workshop with Pat Collins (Indigenous Plants for Health) making products with Indigenous plants at 28 Angus Ave, from 10am – 4pm. There were **26 attendees** not including children.

NAIDOC Week

NAIDOC Week had events across the region to celebrate the history, culture and achievement of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples. This year's theme is 'For Our Elders' and activities were held in the week of 2 July – 9 July 2023 and will include all communities nationwide.

A Flag Raising, Smoking Ceremony and performance was held at Kandos Museum on Thursday 6th of July with **60 people in attendance**.

The movie The Last Daughter screening in Mudgee at 6pm on Thursday 6th July at the Cultural Workshops at MAP, Mudgee with **12 attendees** and Friday 7th at Wirimbili Kandos with **19 attendees**.

Youth Services

Winter school holidays	11 activities	111 participants
Events included a Cyanotype Workshop, Flower Press Mailout kit, Rylstone Skatepark event, Level Up gaming session, 3D Printing Workshop and a Photography Competition.		
Two making sessions were also held with artists Clare Healy and Sean Cordeiro and Mudgee Arts Precinct staff. In these sessions, young people from the region collaborated with the artists to create a large-scale art installation as part of their exhibition at Mudgee Arts Precinct.		

Other Programs

Monthly programs, Crafternoon, Manga & Anime Squad and Level Up were held outside school holiday periods with regular attendance.

Youth Services hosted a Wear It Purple Day youth short film screening on 25 August. Wear it Purple Day celebrates diversity and shows support to young people from the LGBTQIA+ community. Although attendance numbers were low, there was positive feedback from the community regarding the support shown by hosting events such as these.

Youth Services have been advised that the Youth Services vehicle on order has been further delayed, with delivery expected in late November. This has impacted on some program planning for outreach areas.

Youth Council

The Youth Council met in August and discussed a number of issues including school holiday event planning, Wear it Purple Day activities and ideas on creating meaningful engagement for youth in our region.

Mudgee Town Hall Cinema

The Youth Council sponsored several movies as part of Town Hall Cinema's monthly movie weekends. These films included; Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse, The Flash and Barbie. Overall, these sessions were extremely well attended with 695 tickets sold across the three weekends.

Meals on Wheels

	Main Meals (including hot meals, chilled desserts, sandwiches & soups)	Frozen Meals
July	613	143
August	751	166
September	640	125
TOTAL	2004	434

Current number of clients for Meals on Wheels	
Active	32
New	8
Exited	13

Volunteers – 115
Volunteers are meeting demand for delivery. Appreciation for volunteers placed in July Community News for Volunteers Week.

Referrals through the My Aged Care System have been steady with many taking up the service when contacted, however there still remains those who register for the service but do not want meal services immediately. There has been an increase in clients receiving meals under home care packages.

Main meal supplier, Rollo's, was taken over by new owners who have withdrawn their provision of service. Meals are being sourced from a frozen meal supplier until another supplier is engaged. All clients have been contacted and are happy to receive frozen options in the interim.

Other potential suppliers have been approached with nursing homes, child care centres and the hospital reporting they are not interested or do not have the capacity to cater for Meals on Wheels. Club Mudgee have been approached with the proposal being taken to the board and costings evaluated by the club.

Family Day Care

Family Day Care Educators	
Mudgee	3
Gulgong	2
Kandos	1
Wellington	3
TOTAL	9

Changes to section 201B (1) of the A New Tax System (Family Assistance) (Administration) Act 1999, on 1 July 2023 means families using childcare must pay their gap fee using EFT, and therefore cash payments are no longer permitted. Mid-Western Regional Family Day Care will continue to operate under the decentralised model, where the educators act as an agent on behalf of the provider and collect the childcare subsidy (CCS) gap fees. Under the new requirements the Coordination unit has developed an internal auditing procedure to verify CCS gap fees are being paid on time and correctly. The Department of Education will undertake service provider audits to ensure compliance with the new CCS gap fee payment requirement.

Our waiting list has continued to grow as the demand for Educators across our region continues to be in short supply. The short supply of Educators in our region is causing all early childhood services to have similar waiting lists.

A grant has successfully been secured under the Community Child Care fund – establishing childcare in limited supply areas. The grant is for \$70,000 paid over two years for Mudgee surrounds – West. This grant will be used to assist prospective Educators located within the SA2 area (primarily Gulgong and surrounds) with the cost of training and resources such as cots, sleep mats etc. The money cannot be used for capital works.

Community Transport

Transport figures	
Commonwealth Home Support Program trips	562
Community Transport Program trips	137
National Disability Insurance Scheme trips	87
Department of Veterans Affairs trips	17
Health related transport trips	116
Full cost recovery trips	162
Non reportable trips	24
TOTAL	1105

Unmet requests for transport	
Requests made when service was already fully booked	22
Cancellations by clients and/or medical service	52
No drivers available for Sydney or long distance trips	11
TOTAL	85

Volunteers – 19 registered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Driver availability was reduced as some volunteers were on extended holidays. • Two volunteers resigned due to leaving the area. • A recruitment drive has been held on local radio for new volunteers resulting in one potential new volunteer.

Vehicles - 6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 x Kia Carnivals • 1 x Subaru 4WD • 3 x Camry sedans <p>Two vehicles have been approved by Transport NSW to be retained beyond contractual odometer limits.</p>

NDIS trip statistics are comparatively lower this quarter due to client’s health conditions and regular cancellations. Day Programs recommenced late in the reporting period and are continuing which will increase trip outputs. Social outings and promotion of services are ready to be distributed to clients to increase outputs.

Quarterly Report: Mudgee Arts Precinct July - September 2023

Programming:

ARTEXPRESS 2 June - 27 August 2023

ARTEXPRESS was MAP's first touring exhibition which featured exemplary artworks created by New South Wales visual arts students for the High School Certificate exams. This was the first time the touring exhibition had been exhibited in our region and featured 27 artists exhibiting in media such as sculpture, ceramics, painting, photography, time-based forms and drawing.

Around 150 people attended the opening of the exhibition, including six of the artists who were exhibited. One flew all the way from Norfolk Island to attend.

A very successful exhibition which drew many school groups through.

ARTEXPRESS visitation numbers

- 7,943 instances of visitation across the 86 days, making the average visitation 92 people per day.
- Instances of visitation during this period to the upstairs galleries was 2,754 - 35% of visitors to the main gallery also visited the upstairs galleries.

ARTEXPRESS Tours

We had 195 students attend organised tours of the exhibition and completed exhibition learning activities with MAP staff. This included the following:

Mudgee Preschool - 20 students
St Matthews Catholic School Mudgee - 85 students
Merriwa Central School - 10 students
St Michaels Catholic School Dunedoo - 15 students
Gulgandra High School - 5 students
Happy Days Preschool and childcare Gulgong - 20 Students
Kandos High School - 20 Students
Mudgee High School Support Unit - 20 students

Waste 2 Art 12 May - 19 June 2023

We had 28 entries for Waste 2 Art showing a strong growth in interest in being part of the exhibition. The Mudgee exhibition took place ahead of the Regional Showcase which was held at Blayney Railway Station from 23 July - 20 August 2023.

The Secondary 2D winner was Dominick Carpenter from Mudgee who won \$300 for his artwork 'City from Above'.

Waste 2 Art visitation:

1,102 instances of visitation

Note: Due to tampering of a people counter on the stairs complete visitation data was not collected during the first week of the exhibition.



**Waste 2 Art 2023 Mid-Western Competition
 WINNERS**

Class	Section	Artist	Artwork Title
Community	2 Dimensional	Kylie Whale	Qwerty Integration
Community	Functional - furniture, craftworks, wearable	'The Loft' after school activity program Kandos (Sandra Smith)	Free Fashion Forever
Community	3 Dimensional	Molly O'Byrne	Polly dog
Open	Functional - furniture, craftworks, wearable	Kirrily Duff	Waagan.
Open	3 Dimensional	Helen McLennan	"Cotton Waisted"
Primary School	3 Dimensional	Cudgegong Valley Public School	Crazy, Wired Animals
Primary School	2 Dimensional	Art by You Term 2 c/o Felicity Cavanough	Woof woof
Secondary School	2 Dimensional	Dominick Carpenter	City from Above
Secondary School	3 Dimensional	Piper Hannaford	Creatures

Highly Commended

Community	Functional - furniture, craftworks, wearable	Jenny Davenport	The Driftwood Yacht Club
Open	3 Dimensional	Felicity Cavanough	Shine
Open	3 Dimensional	Jayne Blake	Material Girl
Open	3 Dimensional	Barbara Gow	Yarn Bowl
Open	Functional - furniture, craftworks, wearable	Christina Tomlinson	"Nostalgia"

The Wynne Prize

Mudgee Arts Precinct will host The Wynne Prize 2023 exhibition touring from the Art Gallery of New South Wales for the first time since it began over 125 years ago. It will give our local community the chance to see the best of Australian contemporary landscape painting and sculpture much closer to home.

The \$50,000 Wynne Prize is an open competition judged by the trustees of the Art Gallery of New South Wales and awarded annually to the best landscape painting of Australian scenery or figure sculpture, alongside the Archibald and Sulman Prizes.

Funding

MAP has applied for some additional program funding in recent weeks. This included:

- Regional Arts Fund
- Create NSW Annual Funding
- Dobell Exhibition Grant (administered by Museums & Galleries NSW)

IMAGinE Awards

Mudgee Arts Precinct has been nominated for an IMAGinE Award which highlight the resilience, innovation and creativity of museums, galleries and Aboriginal cultural space and recognise the people who work in them. The prestigious award was won last year by Mudgee Arts Precinct in the category of Innovation and Resilience.



Summary for

Mid-Western Regional Council 2022

Arts OutWest

To accompany the Arts OutWest 2022 Annual Report

Arts OutWest is the regional arts and cultural development organisation for the Central West of New South Wales, covering the council areas of Bathurst Region, Blayney, Cabonne, Cowra, Forbes, Lachlan, Lithgow, Mid-Western Region, Oberon, Orange, Parkes and Weddin.

Established in 1974 as the first of the now 15 NSW Regional Arts Development Organisations funded to deliver services in regional NSW.

We receive operational funding from our 12 contributing local governments, the NSW Government through Create NSW and the Australian Government through IVAIS.



Mission:

To promote, facilitate, educate and advocate for arts and cultural development for the communities of the NSW Central West.

Goals:

from our 2021-24 Strategic Plan
Leadership
Facilitation
Advocacy
Promotion
Education
Management

12 Council areas

78,000km²

207,000 population

2022

9 permanent staff (4.6 FTE)

200 artists and facilitators employed

30,000 participants and audience

in Arts OutWest activities

50,000 digital audience



Watch online:

Our 2022 year in review video (6 minutes)

<https://artsoutwest.org.au/annual-review-2022/>



This council page accompanies the Arts OutWest 2022 Annual Report

<https://artsoutwest.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/AOW-Annual-Report-2022-with-links.pdf>



For a copy of our full audited 2022 financial statements

email us at artsoutwest@csu.edu.au

Summary

Arts OutWest working with your communities in 2022 (calendar year)

Mid-Western Regional LGA POPULATION: 21,516 (source: ABS 2020 ERP estimate)

Mid-Western Regional Council contribution to the regional arts program:
 On a per capita basis @ 69.42c per person **\$17,747 +GST**

Estimated value of Arts OutWest services to communities in Mid-Western Regional Council area 2022:

ARTS MEDIA PROGRAM **\$15,750**
 210 events promoted @ \$75 per event.

SPECIFIC PROJECTS **\$16,558**
 Country Arts Support Program, Culture Maps, While the World Waits exhibition,
 Virtual Art Snacks aged care program in Rylstone & Gulgong MPS,
 AOW Media Associates, Online networks.

WORKSHOPS **\$500**
 AARA & funding workshops

CORE SERVICES **\$3,755**
 Includes time spent giving advice and support in Mid-Western Regional and time
 spent on regional advocacy.

TOTAL ESTIMATED VALUE: \$36,563

This conservative estimate of services represents a 206% return on the council’s contribution to Arts OutWest.

Representaton

From the Mid-Western Regional LGA:
AOW ADVISORY COMMITTEE
 Cr Sam Paine



Return on investment to AOW in 2022

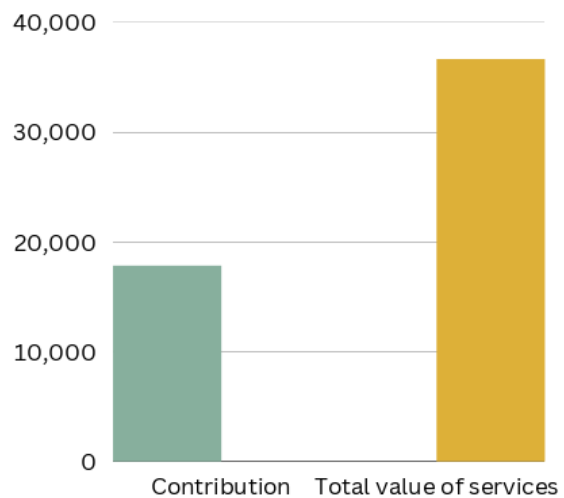
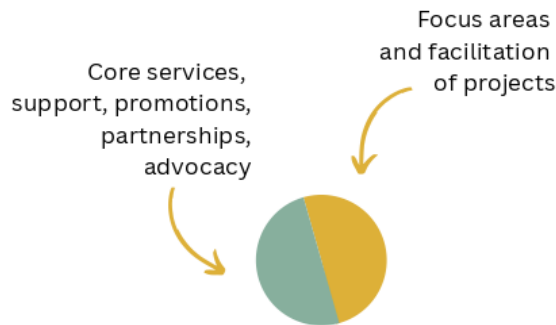


Image: Panel discussion as part of the While the World Waits exhibition at Mudgee Arts Precinct/ photo: Carolyn Hide.

In the Mid-Western LGA

Specific Projects



In our 2021-24 Strategic Plan we have four key focus areas:

ARTS AND HEALTH

Virtual Art Snacks program in Rylstone & Gungahlin.

MUSIC INDUSTRY SUPPORT

Support for music industry professionals with employment of a Music Industry Support Officer (2021-2022)

Live music program Live and Kicking presenting live original music at venues.

ABORIGINAL ARTS

Exhibiting and selling of work by Aboriginal artists through National Parks and Wildlife Service's Kew-Y-Ahn Gallery at Hartley, including Mid-Western Regional-based artists.

CULTURAL TOURISM

Culture Maps.

Arts OutWest's interactive map showing all the cultural tourism assets of the region continued.
www.centralnsw.com

Culture Maps:

Locations pinned on maps at www.centralnsw.com

552 total across the region

58 in Mid-Western Regional Council LGA including:

28 public art,

8 galleries and studios,

8 museums and heritage,

16 shop for handmade,

4 Aboriginal experiences

Support

KEY RELATIONSHIPS

Organisations that we worked with or assisted in 2022:

- Mudgee Arts Precinct
- Cementa
- Kandos Museum
- WAYOUT Artspace

Letters of support:

Arts OutWest wrote 9 letters of support for people in Mid-Western Regional Council area.

Paid artists:

6 artists from the Mid-Western Regional LGA were paid for professional practice as part of Arts OutWest projects.

WHILE THE WORLD WAITS EXHIBITION

Regional touring exhibition featuring 20 Central West artists, traveling to 8 venues in 2022 and 3 in 2023.

Exhibition was at Mudgee Arts Precinct with Smith & Jones performance and a public discussion panel.

Read more on page 12 on the Annual Report.

SMALL GRANTS

NSW Government's Country Arts Support Program (CASP)

- Fast Cars Yarners \$2000 (Jo Albany/Leanne Wicks)
- Leanne Wicks \$1058



Image: Arts OutWest's While the World Waits exhibition at Mudgee Arts Precinct/photo Carolyn Hide.

Support

SUPPORT

- Attended events such as gallery openings, performances, consultations sessions, judged art competitions, met with individuals and organisations, provided advice by phone and email.
- Promoted events, assisted people to promote their events

Promotions

see full stats on page 14 of the Annual Report.

Specific to Mid-Western Regional Council LGA in 2022:

210 events promoted via online What's On

200 individual events mentioned in radio spots

Regular spot on ABC Central West

Regular spots on 2MCE

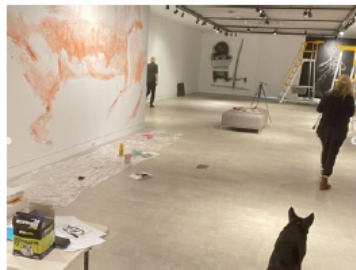
Regular spot on Orange Community Broadcasters

Regular spot on 2MMM

Occasional spot on 2LT

AOW Media Associates Program.

This program has established photographers across the AOW region who are available to document the work of Arts OutWest and other arts activity in the region. Arts OutWest provides.



*Image: Arts OutWest's
Steven Cavanagh
Assisting exhibition install
at Mudgee Arts Precinct.*

Representation and Advocacy

Arts OutWest worked regionally or advocated for the region in 2022 including:

- Attended Regional Arts meetings in Sydney and online with other RADOs, Regional Arts NSW and Create NSW
- Attended meetings with Western NSW Local Health District
- Member of the Arts and Health Network leadership team for NSW/ACT
- Attended meetings with the Central West JO's Tourism Managers group
- Attended consultation sessions with CSU; Executive Director a member of CSU's Macquarie Consultative Committee
- Delivered an ongoing cross-region project in aged care within the NSW Health System to investigate
- Provided advocacy through representing the needs of our area at meetings in Sydney to government and other key organisations, met directly with politicians and government workers (Create NSW, Office of the Arts within Australian Government) locally and in Sydney submitted to National Arts Policy, surveys and reviews, contributed to research making the case for regional arts, liaised with Regional Arts NSW and the RADO network in NSW
- Provided increased commentary in the media about the impacts floods.
- Contributed to the Regional Futures (RADO network)

More information and links about our projects, people and organisation are available on our website:
www.artsoutwest.org.au | artsoutwest@csu.edu.au | 02 6338 4657 | @artsoutwest on

Facebook, Instagram and Twitter
PO Box 8272 CSU LPO BATHURST NSW 2795

Arts OutWest acknowledges the traditional custodians of the county on which we work, the Wiradjuri/Wiradyuri people and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their elders past, present and emerging.

**bathurst | blayney | cabonne | Forbes | forbes | lachlan
lithgow | mid-western | oberon | orange | parkes | weddin**

