

## 9.7 Naming of a bridge on Burrendong Dam Road over Meroo Creek, Yarrabin

REPORT BY THE REVENUE OFFICER  
TO 18 OCTOBER 2023 ORDINARY MEETING  
GOV400103, ROA100071

### RECOMMENDATION

#### That Council:

1. receive the report by the Revenue Officer on the naming of a bridge on Burrendong Dam Road, over Meroo Creek, Yarrabin;
2. formally approve the name of Flynn Bridge; and
3. advertise approved name and submit name to Government Gazette.

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### Executive summary

Formal approval is requested to name a bridge on Burrendong Dam Road over Meroo Creek, in the locality of Yarrabin, Flynn Bridge.

### Disclosure of Interest

Nil

### Detailed report

Council received a request from a member of the public for the bridge over Meroo Creek on Burrendong Dam Road to be named. Council wrote to the neighbours of the bridge requesting their naming suggestions and public consultation was also invited in an advertisement in the 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023 Mudgee Guardian.

From submissions received, Council provisionally approved the name of Flynn Bridge at their 15<sup>th</sup> August 2023 meeting.

Flynn relates to 3 generations of the Flynn family who owned and resided at Merrendee Station located adjacent to the bridge to be named. The family was well known and very active in the area.

The new bridge name was advertised in the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023 issue of the Mudgee Guardian and on Council's website with 9 additional submissions received. Of these, 8 submissions were in support of Flynn Bridge, and 1 was an objection with an alternate suggestion of Sarah Lowe Bridge. This name was evaluated via the Geographical Name Board, and an issue was found with road names with a similar sounding name of Lower Piambong Road and Lowes Peak Road, as well as Lowe Lane and Lowe Street in Gulgong.

Notices of the new bridge name were served on Australia Post, the Registrar General, the Surveyor General, the NSW Ambulance Service, NSW Fire & Rescue, NSW Rural Fire Brigades,

NSW Police Force, NSW State Emergency Service and NSW Volunteer Rescue Association with no objections received.

Council has the authority to name bridges and the naming of this bridge will assist in identifying locations along Burrendong Dam Road when reporting incidents to the Emergency Services Call centre (000).

In accordance with Council's Road, Bridge & Place Naming Policy, should Council formally endorse the naming of this bridge, notice of the approved name will be:

1. Published in the Government Gazette, the Mudgee Guardian and on Council's website.
2. Concurrently, notice of the new name will be sent to Australia Post, the Registrar General, the Surveyor General, the NSW Ambulance Service, NSW Fire & Rescue, NSW Rural Fire Brigades, NSW Police Force, NSW State Emergency Service and NSW Volunteer Rescue Association, and, in the case of a classified road – Transport for NSW.

## Community Plan implications

<b>Theme</b>	<b>Connecting Our Region</b>
Goal	High quality road network that is safe and efficient
Strategy	Provide traffic management solutions that promote safer local roads and minimise traffic congestion

## Strategic implications

### Council Strategies

Not Applicable

### Council Policies

Road, Bridge and Place Naming Policy

### Legislation

Not Applicable

## Financial implications

The cost and installation of two name signs is currently within existing signage budgets.

## Associated Risks

Nil

SARAH PRINGLE  
REVENUE OFFICER

LEONIE VAN OOSTERUM  
DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES

21 September 2023

- Attachments:*
1. Submission.
  2. Submission.
  3. Submission.
  4. Submission.
  5. Submission.
  6. Submission.
  7. Submission.
  8. Submission.
  9. Submission.
  10. Submission.
  11. Submission.
  12. Objection.
  13. Map.

APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION:

BRAD CAM  
GENERAL MANAGER

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**From:** Debbie Bradly  
**Sent:** Monday, 18 September 2023 4:30 PM  
**To:** Council  
**Subject:** Proposed Bridge Name - Burrendong Dam Road over Meroo Creek.  
**Attachments:** Flynn Bridge name proposal.docx

Mid Western Regional Council.  
PO Box 156,  
MUDGEES NSW 2850

Attention: General Manager  
12/9/2023

BRIDGE NAME PROPOSAL

I write in support of the proposal submitted by Michelle Flynn to name the bridge over Meroo Creek on the Burrendong Dam Road, Yarrabin, "Flynn Bridge" – reference Mudgee Guardian, September 2, 2023.

My grandfather Thomas Lowry Flynn, purchased the property Merrendee Station, located on the Meroo Creek and on Burrendong Dam Road and my father Neil Thomas Flynn, along with my mother Beverley Rosina and I lived and worked on the property from 1959 until 1979. During this time the Burrendong Dam was created and formed part of Merrendee Station. The Flynn family greatly improved the property and grazing lands during their ownership.

On a personal level, my mother and father were well liked members of the community, and I am proud to say that they were very involved with building the local community over this time by hosting local cricketing and picnic family days on the property, they were also members of the local tennis club. I have wonderful memories of families from neighbouring properties visiting and enjoying these days. Still to this day I visit Mudgee regularly and have been out to the old homestead on many occasions.

In summary, it would mean a great deal to me and my family and its heritage if the proposal to name the said bridge Flynn Bridge was sanctioned.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Deborah Bradly (nee Flynn).

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**From:** Peta Flynn  
**Sent:** Thursday, 14 September 2023 6:56 PM  
**To:** Council  
**Subject:** Submission to Support the Proposed Bridge name: Flynn Bridge

To whom it may concern,

I support the Mudgee council's proposal to formally name the bridge over Meroo creek on the Burrendong Dam road in the locality of Yarabin - Flynn Bridge.

As great granddaughter of Thomas and Rose Flynn the former owners of Merrendee Station at the time of resumption by the WC and IC, I feel it would be appropriate to name the bridge after the family.

I have many fond memories of spending school holidays at the station, in particular swimming and fishing for catfish on the Burrendong Dam.

Reference

The notice in the Mudgee Guardian "proposed bridge name" Sept 2, 2023

Kind Regards  
Peta Flynn

Lawrence Fraser

19 September 2023

Attention: Diane Saywers  
Manager Revenue and Property  
Mid-Western Regional Council  
PO Box 156 Mudgee NSW 2850

Via email: [council@midwestern.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@midwestern.nsw.gov.au)

RE: SUPPORT FOR BRIDGE NAMING PROPOSAL - FLYNN BRIDGE

Dear Ms Sawyers,

I write to support the Mid-Western Regional Council meeting of 16 August 2023 whereby Council agreed its intent to name the bridge over Merro Creek on Burrendong Dam Road *Flynn Bridge*.

My support of Michelle Flynn's proposal of 14 July 2023 for the naming of the Bridge in honor of my wife, Nicole Fraser's family warrants progression.

My brother resided in Mudgee for some time. Frequently, visits always lead to my wife's family property Merrendee, where memories are abundant. It would be a great honor for the family to be remembered through this initiative.

Kind regards

Lawrence Fraser

Nicole Fraser

18 September 2023

Attention: Diane Saywers  
Manager Revenue and Property  
Mid-Western Regional Council  
PO Box 156 Mudgee NSW 2850

Via email: [council@midwestern.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@midwestern.nsw.gov.au)

**RE: SUPPORT FOR BRIDGE NAMING PROPOSAL - FLYNN BRIDGE**

Dear Ms Sawyers,

I write in full support of the Mid-Western Regional Council meeting of 16 August 2023 whereby, pursuant to Section 162 of the Roads Act, 1993: as amended, proposal to name the bridge over Merro Creek on Burrendong Dam Road *Flynn Bridge*.

My support continues from my sister, Michelle Flynn's proposal of 14 July 2023 for the naming of the Bridge in honor of my Great Grandparents, Thomas and Rose Flynn, Grandfather, Neil Flynn and Father Michael Flynn.

I have many childhood memories I hold dear to my heart, in particular panning for gold at this bridge. In recent years I have taken my own children to show them our history and when driving past the bridge, I had visions of my family rounding cattle at the cattle yards at the base of Merrendee. I have a strong connection to the land that we once nearly called home.

I have numerous photos including revisits over the years and welcome any feedback you may require.

Thank you for supporting the application in its preliminary stages and I look forward to hearing updates in relation its progression through the naming process.

Kind regards

Nicole Fraser

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**From:** Dianna Griffiths  
**Sent:** Friday, 15 September 2023 10:57 AM  
**To:** Council  
**Subject:** Bridge over Meroo Creek

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I would like to add my support to the proposed naming of the bridge over Meroo Creek on Burrendong Dam Road, Flynn's Bridge.

I think, given the Flynn's connection with the area it is most fitting for the bridge to be named after the Flynn family

Diana Griffiths  
Sent from my iPad



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**From:** Jessica Manclark  
**Sent:** Thursday, 14 September 2023 8:06 PM  
**To:** Council  
**Subject:** Submission to Support the Proposed Bridge name: Flynn Bridge

To whom it may concern,

I support the Mudgee council's proposal to formally name the bridge over Meroo creek on the Burrendong Dam road in the locality of Yarabin - Flynn Bridge.

Reference

The notice in the Mudgee Guardian "proposed bridge name" Sept 2, 2023

Kind regards,  
Jessica Manclark

**From:** [Michelle Flynn](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Bridge name - Burrendong Dam Road over Meroo Creek  
**Date:** Friday, 14 July 2023 12:09:22 PM  
**Attachments:** [image0.jpeg](#)  
[image0.jpeg](#)  
[image1.jpeg](#)  
[image2.jpeg](#)  
[image3.jpeg](#)

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Attention  
General Manager

I'm writing to put forward my family name for the proposed Bridge naming of the Burrendong Dam Road over Meroo Creek .

My name is Michelle Flynn I have strong connections to the Mudgee area via both my mothers and fathers line .

My mother Diana Stafford's line is a well known family from the Cooyal area .

The Blackman's my mothers lineage is from Aboriginal Thomas Henry Blackman son of Thomas Harley Blackman and Aboriginal Gomerai woman known as Mary Ann .

My father Michael Neil Flynn's father Neil Flynn owned and lived at Merrendee station at the historical time of the resumption of land for the Burrendong Dam .

Merrendee Station is very close to the Meroo River and considering the history it would make me very proud to have the Flynn family name considered as a name for the bridge at the Burrendong Dam road over a Meroo Creek .



I have used some quotes from Dale Edwards book Ghosts of Burrendong to show my connection to the area below .

“ Merrendee Station was originally owned by the Webb family and later leased by Gundowda's C.E Suttor. For the years C.E Suttor had control of Merrendee, the big old homestead was lived in by Bert and Mary McGrath .”

“Merrendee station was later sold by the Webb family and purchased by the Flynn family.”

My great grandfather Thomas Flynn and his wife Rose purchased the property and his son.

“Neil Flynn and his wife Beverley moved to live in this lovely old homestead and at that time had carried out renovations to improve and modernise this very impressive building that still stands gracefully looking out over the Burrendong waters where old Yarrabin village once stood .

The Flynn's were still the owners at the time of resumption by the WC and IC

They had some country along the river totally resumed including some of their best flats and the old Merrendee woodshed where so many thousands of sheep had over the years passed through to be shorn .

Merrendee was later sold by the Flynn family and is still a very successful grazing property today . “

My grandfather Neil Flynn is buried at Mudgee .

I recently had his grave restored .

I visit the area regularly and hope that my proposal will be favourably considered .

A few photos of my family at Merrendee and a more recent visit where I was shown through the homestead by the current manager .

Michelle ( granddaughter of Neil Flynn ) and Deborah Flynn ( daughter of Neil Flynn ) on the

Burrendong Dam at Merrendee around 1971



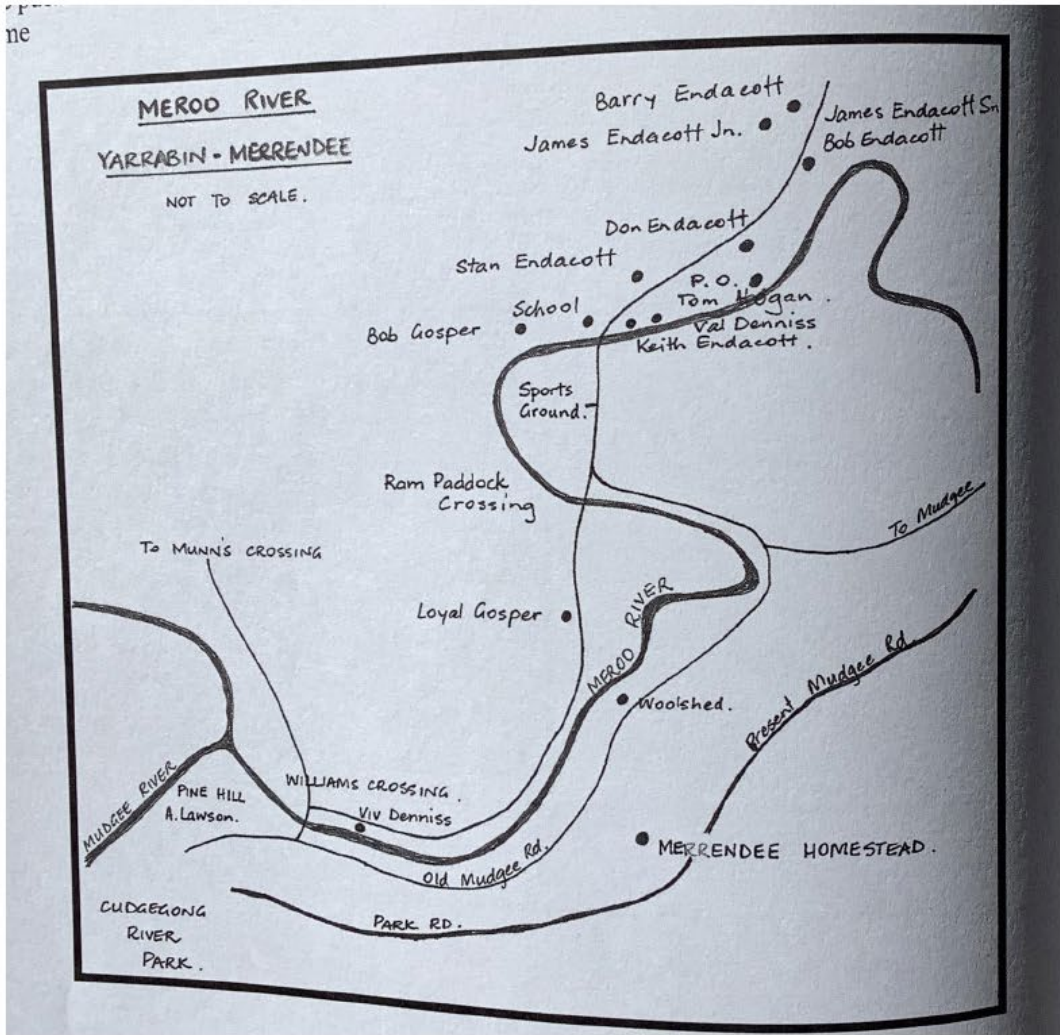
Michael Flynn with daughters Nicole Michelle and Peta Flynn at Merrendee .



Pictures of the Dam and homestead at Mudgee 2022 .

Kind regards  
Michelle Flynn

Sent from my iPad













TO THE GENERAL MANAGER  
MID WESTERN COUNCIL  
MUDGEE



SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SUBMISSION RE PROPOSED  
NAMING OF BRIDGE ON BURRENDONG  
DAM ROAD OVER MEROO CREEK AS  
ADVERTISED MUDGEE GUARDIAN 23/6/23  
I HAVE TWO SUGGESTIONS FOR NAMING  
THAT BRIDGE

(1) AUB EDWARDS BRIDGE - HE WAS A FORMER  
OWNER OF WORLDS END AT THE BRIDGE,  
PRIOR TO CURRENT SUBDIVISION

OR

(2) NEIL FLYNN BRIDGE - HE WAS THE FORMER  
OWNER OF MERENDEE STATION ON MEROO  
CREEK

OR

EDWARDS OR FLYNN BRIDGE.

REGARDS OWEN FITZSIMMONS

23/6/23

**Sarah Pringle**

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**From:** Rhonda Mellor  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 24 May 2023 1:03 PM  
**To:** Council  
**Subject:** Naming a bridge crossing

I would formally like to put in a request on behalf of Merrendee Station Burrendong Dam Rd Yarrabin to have the bridge over the Meroo River named MERRENDEE BRIDGE.

(Photo included of point of interest)

Please let me know if this is possible and how we go about it. Many thanks

Andrew Mellor

Manager

Merrendee Station



Sent from my iPhone

Amelia Eveston

19 September 2023

Attention: Diane Saywers  
Manager Revenue and Property  
Mid-Western Regional Council  
PO Box 156 Mudgee NSW 2850

Via email: council@midwestern.nsw.gov.au

**RE: SUPPORT FOR BRIDGE NAMING PROPOSAL - FLYNN BRIDGE**

Dear Ms Sawyers,

I write to support the Mid-Western Regional Council meeting of 16 August 2023 whereby Council agreed its intent to name the bridge over Merro Creek on Burrendong Dam Road *Flynn Bridge*.

My support of my Aunty, Michelle Flynn's proposal of 14 July 2023 for the naming of the Bridge in honor of my Great Great Grandparents, Great Grandfather and Grandfather Michael Flynn.

My mother has shown us the family property Merrendee, with heartfelt memories and souvenirs held to this day. I hope this naming can come to fruition.

Kind regards

Amelia Eveston

**Elsie Atkins**

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**To:** [Redacted]  
**Subject:** Flynn Bridge

My family lived just on the Mudgee side of the bridge crossing the Meroo river. I agree with the name Flynn bridge. When the river was in flood one time we got home one night just after dark and was unable to cross the course way just before the bridge spent the night in the car with 4 young children. At daylight we were able to get to the bridge no trouble and there was Neil Flynn on the tractor to check the river and see if any one needed help. The water was still going over the bridge a little, Neil pulled us across. I believe in the years he lived out there we were not the only ones he helped. Many stuck on the Dam side not being able to get back into town.



MID WESTERN REGIONAL COUNCIL council@midwestern.nsw.gov.au

**NOTIFICATION OF BRIDGE NAME PROPOSAL**

SP: ROA100071 28 August 2023

1<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023

**NOTIFICATION OF BRIDGE NAME PROPOSAL OVER MEROO CREEK**

Following their 16/8/23 Council Meeting, notice is hereby given that Mid-Western Regional Council, pursuant to Section 162 of the Roads Act, 1993 as amended; is intending to name the bridge over Meroo Creek on Burrendong Dam Road:

Proposed Name: Location:

Flynn Bridge Burrendong Dam Road YARRABIN

ATTENTION : Carolyn Atkins or Sarah Pringle of Council's Revenue & Property Dept  
18/10/2023 Council meeting.

Our submissions for against this intention is as follows:

The Bridge name over the Meroo Creek should be called the

**SARAH LOWE BRIDGE**

SARAH LOWE OWNED MERRENDEE IN THE MID 1800'S. HER DECEASED HUSBAND ROBERT ACQUIRED MERRENDEE BUT HE DIED SO SARAH AND HER 11 CHILDREN LEFT THE CAMDEN AREA OF SYDNEY AND TRAVELLED TO MUDGEE TO BEGIN A NEW LIFE.

SARAH DID FARM MERRENDEE AND OTHER PROPERTIES IN THE MUDGEE/GULGONG AREAS.

FLYNN WAS AFTER HER AND WE STRONGLY OBJECT TO THE NAME AS I BELIEVE SARAH HAD A GREATER AND STRONGER CONNECTION TO THIS AREA THAN FLYNN DID.

LOWES WINERY IS A DECENDANT OF SARAH LOWE AS I BELIEVE I AM TOO HAVING LOWE AS MY MAIDEN NAME AND SIMILAR RELATIVES TO DAVID.

OUR PROPOSAL IS: NO TO FLYNN BRIDGE...

**YES TO SARAH LOWE BRIDGE OVER THE MEROO CREEK**

MANY THANKS

ANDREW AND RHONDA MELLOR

