



# COMMUNITY NEWS



AUGUST, 2022



## RATES AND WATER NOTICES

# NOW ONLINE

**Customers can now opt to receive their water and rates notices by email rather than post.**

Council has partnered with Payreq Mybills to electronically deliver rates and water notices directly to your preferred email account.

As well as email, customers can also opt to receive their notices via online banking (BPAY View) or their preferred accounting software. Electronic notices save on time and paper, and help customers to easily track and manage their bills more effectively, as well as helping businesses with reconciliation, making payments quicker and easier. To register to receive your rates and water notices via

email, visit Council's website or scan the QR code below. You'll need: the registration number (located on the front page of a previous notice) and the customer name that appears on the notice.

**\$45m** Total rates and annual charges levied per year

**\$5.5m** Total water notices levied per year

**15,795** Number of properties in the region

**48,000** Number of rates notices each year, including instalments

**34,000** Number of water notices each year



[midwestern.nsw.gov.au/rates-sign-up](http://midwestern.nsw.gov.au/rates-sign-up)

Follow the QR code to register

### FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Planning is well underway for Flavours of Mudgee next month and we're expecting a big crowd for the first event in three years. Whilst Flavours is a free event, make sure you purchase your tasting tokens to sample from our amazing stallholders. Token packages on sale from 1 September. More information inside.

The major rain event experienced early last month has caused extensive damage to the region's road network. There will be delays as our teams assess the network, and resources are allocated to undertake repairs based on priority. We ask for your patience as we work to make repairs as quickly as possible.

We've recently had some questions about movies screened at Mudgee Town Hall Cinema. The theatre is a community sub-run theatre, which means it must screen movies following their distribution in commercial cinemas (generally two months after their release). The benefit of this means we're able to offer more affordable ticketing prices. The cinema is a wonderful community initiative and I'd like to thank both Rotary clubs and their volunteers for their work to ensure this cinema experience is available for residents.

Mayor Des Kennedy

# TASTING PACKAGES ON SALE THURSDAY 1 SEPTEMBER

# FLAVOURS RETURNS



## Flavours of Mudgee Tasting Packages will be available for purchase online from 1 September.

Flavours of Mudgee is a free event however a tasting package allows you to sample offerings from the stallholders. A tasting package includes five tasting tokens and a souvenir Flavours of Mudgee glass for \$25.

The \$10 kids package includes three tokens to select food vendors as well as a souvenir cup.

Both packages can be purchased online from 1 September.

Flavours of Mudgee will be held on Saturday, 24 September between 4pm and 8pm in Church and Market Streets. More information, including packages and stallholder details are available at [flavoursofmudgee.com.au](http://flavoursofmudgee.com.au) or by following the event on Facebook.

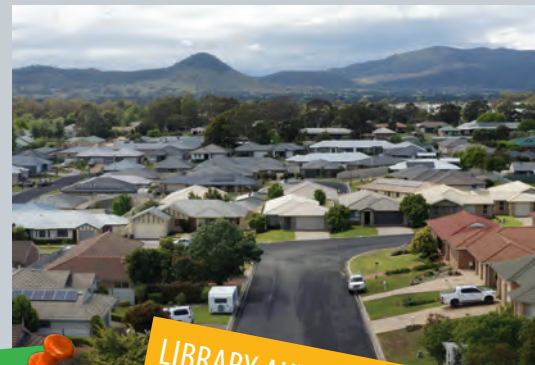
## TRENDS AND CHANGES REVEALED IN NEW LOCAL CENSUS DATA

2021 Census data has been released from the Australian Bureau of Statistics to reveal key changes in the region's population and demographics over the last five years.

Since 2016 the region's population has increased 6.8 per cent (an additional 1,637 people) to 25,713. The number of families in the region has increased 11.9 per cent (723 families) to 6,800.

The number of standalone houses in the region has increased 10 per cent (an additional 806 houses) to 8,811. The region's median weekly household income has increased 31 per cent to \$1,486 whilst

the median monthly mortgage repayment has increased 2.5 per cent to \$1,733. Median weekly rent in the region has increased 22 per cent to \$330.



### PREPARE FOR SMOKE TESTING

Council will be undertaking smoke testing in parts of the region next month. Smoke testing of sewerage systems is a technique Council utilises to detect cracks, leaks or faulty connections that allow rainwater to enter the waste water treatment plant. The process involves pumping non-toxic, odourless smoke into the sewer system during dry weather. If Council is testing in your area you will receive a notice in your mailbox.

### BUSHFIRE RECOVERY GRANTS

Funding is now available for community projects as part of Round 2 of the Bushfire Community Recovery and Resilience Fund (BCRRF). The grants are provided to not-for-profit organisations or individual applicants to support community recovery following the 2019-20 bushfires. More details and applications via Council's website.

### LIBRARY AUTHOR VISIT

Join three prominent Australian authors – Annie Seaton, Fiona McArthur and Darryl Fraser, at the beautiful Putta Bucca House on Sunday, 11 September, 2pm-4pm. Hosted by the Library, this in-conversation style event will be facilitated by Jenny Nicholson. Tickets \$40 each, with afternoon tea included. Book online at [mwrclibrary.eventbrite.com](http://mwrclibrary.eventbrite.com)

NEWS IN BRIEF

# CONSERVING OUR LOCAL HERITAGE FUNDING AVAILABLE

Applications for Council's Local Heritage Grants are now open.

The grants are available to assist with small maintenance and conservation projects for significant buildings listed in local heritage conservation areas.

Applications can be made for minor repairs and maintenance such as external painting, roofing, restoration of timber windows and awning replacement across heritage sites in the region. Grants between \$1,500 and \$5,000 are available, with

matched funding to be provided by the applicant. Any proposed works are to obtain appropriate approvals, and applicants are required to supply two quotes for the proposed work.

Council currently recognises more than 450 individually listed heritage items and four heritage conservation areas in the Mid-Western Region. Applications close 2 September.

For more information and to apply, visit Council's website at [midwestern.nsw.gov.au/heritage-grants](http://midwestern.nsw.gov.au/heritage-grants)



## TRACK YOUR WATER CONSUMPTION WITH YOURWATER

Have you signed up for YourWater? Monitor and track your daily water consumption and detect leaks in real time with Council's Smart Water Meter Portal.

Along with daily data on the amount of water being used in the home, customers can review water charges and set up email and SMS alerts to notify of possible water leaks and high consumption periods.

Monitor your water consumption anywhere, anytime. Save water, save money and register for free at [yourwater.midwestern.nsw.gov.au](http://yourwater.midwestern.nsw.gov.au).

You'll be prompted to provide some personal details and information found on your latest Water Notice.

## MUDGEES ARTS PRECINCT LAUNCHES NEW EXHIBITION

Mudgee Arts Precinct's latest exhibition, *Mating Dance* by Anna-Wili Highfield was unveiled last month, and will be open until 26 September.

The exhibition celebrates Australia's principal dancing bird - the brolga, and features unique sculptures sewn from waxed cotton of the Australian native birds suspended like marionettes. The exhibition is accompanied by an original sound composition by composer Bree Van Reyk, which will intermittently join

the dancing birds with instrumentals inspired by the brolgas bold trumpeting.

Anna-Wili studied fine art at the National Art School, Sydney and worked for many years as a scenic artist for Opera Australia, before establishing herself independently as a practising artist.

Mudgee Arts Precinct is open seven days a week from 9am to 5pm. Entry is free.



### AUGUST TOWN HALL CINEMA

*Lightyear* (PG), *Elvis* (M) and *Top Gun: Maverick* (M) will hit the big screen this month on 5, 6 and 7 August. Tickets at Council's website or at the door (unless sold out prior) from \$15 for adults and \$10 for children and concession. Entry is free for children under 5 years. Be sure to buy your tickets early to avoid missing out.

### NOTIFY PLANNED BURNS

Are you planning a burn-off on your property? You must first do the following to minimise fire risk: Check whether it is a total fire ban/no burn day, notify your neighbours and the Cudgegong District Fire Control Centre at least 24 hours prior and obtain any necessary approvals, have appropriate fire-fighting equipment on hand, and monitor the fire until it is completely extinguished. For more details, visit [rfs.nsw.gov.au/notify](http://rfs.nsw.gov.au/notify)

### PRIORITY WEED FIREWEED

There has been an increased appearance of Fireweed (*Senecio madagascariensis*) throughout the region, particularly on Ulan Road, Mudgee. Fireweed reduces productivity, is poisonous to livestock and can be difficult to control. Each plant can produce up to 18,000 seeds and can spread via wind and animals. Contact Council's Weeds Team for more information on 6378 2935.

### WOLLAR ROAD COMPLETE

The most recent stage of Wollar Road upgrades, including road sealing and line marking, will be finalised over coming weeks. Temporary speed limits have been removed and traffic can now travel this road with no interruptions. The road has been made significantly safer with the realignment of two dangerous curves as part of the three-year road safety upgrade.



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MAYOR  
6378 2850



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DEPUTY MAYOR  
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CR PAUL CAVALIER  
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CR PETER SHELLEY  
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CR PHIL STODDART  
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CR PERCY THOMPSON  
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6374 0226

## EVENTS CALENDAR



5-7  
AUG

### Town Hall Cinema

Mudgee Town Hall

Adults \$15, children/  
concession \$10 and  
children under 5 free.  
Bookings and screenings  
on Council's website.



17  
AUG

### Mid-Western Regional Council Meeting

Council Chambers,  
Market Street, Mudgee  
From 5.30pm

Meeting live-stream  
available on Council's  
website.



20  
AUG

### Gulgong Polocrosse Carnival

Pony Club Grounds,  
Gulgong

Competition horse sport  
played across all grades  
and divisions. A fun day  
out for the whole family.



21  
AUG

### Mudgee Running Festival

The annual event includes  
a marathon, half marathon,  
5km and 10km fun runs,  
all held on the one day.  
Jumping castle, massage  
service, food and drinks.



1-30  
SEP

### Mudgee Wine and Food Month

Various venues

A variety of events  
including Twilight Tasting,  
Go Tasting, Wine Trivia,  
Meet the Maker, Go Grazing  
and Flavours of Mudgee.



24  
SEP

### Flavours of Mudgee

Church and Market  
Streets

The region's biggest food  
and wine street festival  
from 4pm to 8pm. More  
than 60 stallholders offering  
wine, food and more.

All information correct at the time of publication. Events may be subject to change based on COVID-19 Health Orders. Please contact event organisers for further details.



Stay up to date with Council news as it happens...

like 'Mid-Western Regional Council' on Facebook  
follow '@choosmudgeeregion' on Instagram



### Mid-Western Regional Council

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## Live.

The speed limit on Putta Bucca Road, Mudgee has now changed from 80km/h to 60km/h. The existing 50km/h zone on Putta Bucca Road (via Castlereagh Highway) remains, with the speed limit change in force from the end of this zone through to Henry Lawson Drive. The speed zone reduction was introduced by Transport for NSW following a safety review requested by Council and community members. For more information visit [www.saferoadsnsw.com.au](http://www.saferoadsnsw.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 'Careers' on Council's website.

## Invest.

Council has provided more than \$10,000 to support local events in our region, including \$500 to Mudgee Bridge Club for the 2022 Mudgee Bridge Club Congress in November, \$2,500 to the 2022 NSW PSSA Boys Softball Championships in August and \$2,000 for the 2022 Kandos Street Machine. Mudgee Gulgong Wolves FC and Mudgee Race Club each received \$2000 as part of multi-year funding for their events, as well as support for Gulgong Swap Meet, Cudgegong Cruisers, and Mudgee Junior Rugby League.

## Visit.

September is Mudgee's annual Wine and Food Month. The event is now one of New South Wales' longest running wine and food festivals and features a diverse range of events including tastings, trivia, dinners and more. A variety of signature events will take place over the month along with unique winery experiences ranging from food and wine pairing, to special tastings, platters, and tasting flights.