



COMMUNITY NEWS



▲ AUGUST, 2023

\$15M ON ROAD SEALING



Council has invested almost \$15 million on all new sealed local roads within the 2,445 kilometre network.

As part of these works, 39km has been sealed with a further 21.3km to be sealed over the next two years.

Among the projects is the sealing of 6.4km of Queens Pinch Road, which is partially complete and due to be finalised in 2024.

A 4.6km section of Coricudgy Road (to the Wollemi National Park Ganguddy turn-off) is also expected to be completed in December 2024, with a further two kilometres (funded through the Office of Local Government Severe Weather

and Floods program) due to be completed next month.

Bus routes have been a major focus of works with 2km of Lower Piambong Road complete, 9kms of Coxs Creek Road and 5.8kms of Botobolar Road are under construction and due to be finished in June next year.

Completed in August last year, 22.4km of Aarons Pass Road was sealed after Council secured \$2m in grant funding.

Each of these projects was jointly funded by Council and the NSW Government's Fixing Local Roads fund, with a contribution from the Australian Government in Round One of the program.

\$2.3m

sealing Queens Pinch Road (75% grant funded and 25% Council funded)

\$1.9m

sealing of Coricudgy Road (75% grant funded and 25% Council funded)

\$5.7m

sealing on Coxs Creek, Botobolar and Lower Piambong Roads

16.8km

of local bus routes will be sealed by the end of mid-2024

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

As our community grows, we're growing services to meet the demand, and as you'll read on page three, that includes construction of a new landfill cell at Mudgee Waste Facility. This new cell will service the community for an additional eight years. Where possible though, please always try to utilise your recycling and Food and Garden Organics bins so items can be transformed into sustainable products like compost.

Roads are a top priority for many residents and understandably so. I am pleased to report that more than 50 kilometres of previously unsealed roads

will be sealed by the end of 2024. This has been a major initiative of Council and our Roads Team and some major progress has been made as a result of successful grant funding. This financial year, almost \$15 million of Council's works budget has been committed to upgrades of roads, bridges and footpaths.

Planning is well under way for the tenth annual Flavours of Mudgee next month. This event grows in popularity each year so don't miss out on securing your souvenir 10th anniversary glass - on sale now (details on page two).

▲ Mayor Des Kennedy



NEW FLAVOURS TUMBLER GLASS UNVEILED

An all-new tumbler glass has been unveiled for the tenth anniversary of Flavours of Mudgee.

Tasting packages, including the new stemless glass and five tasting tokens, are on sale now at flavoursofmudgee.com.au

Packages will be available for pick-up in The Stables car park (86 Market Street, Mudgee - next to Council's Mudgee Administration Building) the week of the event (from 16 September) and on event day. Collection times can be found on the Flavours website flavoursofmudgee.com.au

Flavours of Mudgee is the largest food and wine event in the region. In 2022 more than 11,000 people attended.

Flavours of Mudgee 2023 will be held on Saturday, 23 September 4pm – 8pm in Church and Market Streets, Mudgee.

CARAVAN PARKS INCREASE NUMBER OF ACCOMMODATION BEDS

Thirty-one new cabins have been installed at the Council-owned and managed Mudgee Valley Park.

The new cabins have increased the number of accommodation beds in the region by 60, and are part of a major expansion at the caravan park that includes upgrades to internal roads, and electrical infrastructure. An additional 20 cabins will be installed at the park (pending development application approval) as part of a Stage Three development.

Last month, Council took over the management of Mudgee Riverside Park on Short Street. Council has been the owner of this facility for some time, however now manages operations.

Council owns and manages a number of commercial assets, including caravan parks and

accommodation services, to diversify its asset portfolio and revenue streams.

In addition to this, by increasing the capacity of these sites, Council intends on increasing the number of beds for the region's tourism industry which is worth \$131.6 million to the local economy annually.



Mudgee Riverside Park in Short Street

NEWS IN BRIEF

RYLSTONE PLAYGROUND OPEN

Rylstone's all-new inclusive playspace is now open. Located at Rylstone Showground, the playground features inclusive carousel, swings, climbing tower with slide, flying fox, sensory play stations, nature play stations, shaded seating, and picnic area. Council secured \$146,000 towards the project through Round 4 of the NSW Government's Everyone Can Play in NSW grant program. Council contributed matched funding for the community project.

CHEMICAL CLEANOUT

Safely dispose any household chemicals you have lying around on Friday, 18 August at Mudgee (3pm-6pm) and Gulgong (10am-1pm) Waste Facilities. Household quantities of garden chemicals, pool chemicals, household cleaners, hobby chemicals, poisons, batteries, paint, motor oils, fluids and fuels, fluorescent lights, gas bottles, fire extinguishers and smoke detectors will be accepted.

DON'T WASTE YOUR SCRAPS PLACE THEM IN YOUR FOGO BIN

Did you know that over one third of all food produced is lost or wasted? That's around 1.3 billion tonnes a year. Uneaten leftovers and household food scraps can be disposed of in your green-lidded Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) bin, so it can be turned into a valuable resource – compost! For a list of what you can place in your FOGO bin visit Council's website.

EXCAVATION BEGINS ON NEW LANDFILL CELL AT MUDGEE WASTE FACILITY

Excavation has begun on a new landfill cell at the Mudgee Waste Facility to extend its use a further eight years.

More than 80,000 cubic metres of fill will be excavated to create a void that will become the new landfill cell. The void will be laid with engineered lining materials and drainage to protect the underlying ground and groundwater from the eventual waste that it will be filled with. The new cell will have an anticipated lifespan of eight years and construction is

expected to take approximately ten months.

As a result of these works, customers will notice some changes to drop off areas at Mudgee Waste Facility and are asked to keep clear of the fenced construction area.

Council is committed to reducing landfill waste with more than 11,200 tonnes of organic waste diverted from landfill and processed into valuable compost since the implementation of the kerbside Food Organics and Garden Organics Service in 2018.



Photo: Col Boyd

PHOTO FINALIST FOR CURRAWONG

Council was named a finalist in the National Australia Day Council photo competition recently.

The image was captured by local photographer Col Boyd, at Council's Australia Day celebrations in Rylstone in January.

This currawong became very friendly with the crowd, including Mayor Des Kennedy (pictured) and stayed by his side for the ceremony. It doesn't get any more Aussie than that!

GRANT MONEY AVAILABLE FOR HERITAGE PROJECTS

Applications for Council's Local Heritage Grants open on Friday, 4 August.

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 replacements 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 1 September. For more information and to apply, visit Council's website at midwestern.nsw.gov.au/heritage-grants



AUGUST TOWN HALL CINEMA

The Little Mermaid (PG), *The Flash* (M) and *John Farnham: Finding the Voice* (M) will hit the big screen this month on 4, 5, and 6 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.

FREE MICROCHIPPING DAY

Council is extending its thanks to everyone who made use of the free Microchipping Day last month. The event was a great success, with 64 companion animals microchipped over the three hours. In response to the encouraging community support, Council is considering another free microchipping day later in the year.

NEW AMENITIES BUILD

An all-new amenities building has been completed at Rylstone Caravan Park. The new build contains toilets, showers, disability amenity bathroom, store room, laundry, camp kitchen and an office with kitchenette. Council secured \$154,525 through the NSW Government's Stronger Country Communities Fund (SCCF) to deliver the project.

LIBRARY VIDEO STREAMING

Library members are now able to access Kanopy and Kanopy Kids. Stream movies, series, documentaries, foreign films, classic cinema, independent films and educational videos for free! Enjoy ad-free content on your TV, mobile phone or tablet. Access now from the Library's E-resources webpage.



CR DES KENNEDY
MAYOR
6378 2850



CR SAM PAINE
DEPUTY MAYOR
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CR PAUL CAVALIER
0403 995 533



CR KATIE DICKER
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CR ALEX KARAVAS
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CR ROBBIE PALMER
0407 246 381



CR PETER SHELLEY
0403 156 405



CR PHIL STODDART
0407 208 730



CR PERCY THOMPSON
0428 740 226
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EVENTS CALENDAR



4-6
AUG

Town Hall Cinema Mudgee Town Hall

Showing on 4, 5 and 6 of August, *The Little Mermaid* (PG), *The Flash* (M) and *John Farnham: Finding the Voice* (M). Tickets and session times on Council's website.



18
AUG

Household Chemical Cleanout

Mudgee and Gulgong Waste Facilities

Dispose of your household chemicals safely and freely. Details on accepted chemicals on Council's website.



19-20
AUG

Mudgee Readers' Festival

Various locations

Now in its thirteenth year, the festival shares the joy of reading with our vibrant community. Council's libraries are a proud sponsor of this event.



20
AUG

Mudgee Running Festival

Lawson Park

The annual event includes a Marathon, Half Marathon, 5km and 10km Fun Runs, all held on the one day.

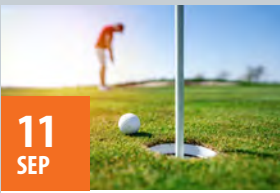


23
AUG

Mid-Western Regional Council Meeting

Council Chambers, Market Street, Mudgee.

From 5.30pm Meeting live-stream available on Council's website midwestern.nsw.gov.au



11
SEP

Veterans Week of Golf

Mudgee Golf Course

The annual veteran golfer's tournament has been running for over 20 years. It is anticipated that in excess of 200 visiting golfers will be participating.

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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follow '@choosemudgeeregion' on Instagram
follow 'mwrCouncil' on TikTok

The **Bluett** AWARD
2022 WINNER

Mid-Western Regional Council

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T 02 6378 2850 or 1300 765002 | F 02 6378 2815
E council@midwestern.nsw.gov.au
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Live.

Council received an overwhelming response from the community as part of its engagement on the proposed Gulgong Natural History Museum. More than 400 residents submitted feedback on the facility that is intended to provide locals and visitors the opportunity to explore both local and international natural history collections. In 2022, Council successfully secured NSW Government grant funding to establish the museum in Gulgong. Council will continue to engage with the community on this project in coming months.

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.

Latest data has revealed that the region's unemployment rate decreased to a new low of 1.7 per cent for the March 2023 quarter. This is the region's lowest unemployment rate in over 12 years. Mudgee's unemployment rate remained at 1.6 per cent for the March 2023 quarter, however the Mudgee Region West (Gulgong and surrounds) statistical area decreased to a new low of only 1.5 per cent. This is also Gulgong and surrounds' lowest unemployment rate in over 12 years. Source: National Skills Commission

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. This culminates with Flavours of Mudgee on 23 September.