



# COMMUNITY NEWS



FEBRUARY, 2022

## VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE



[midwestern.nsw.gov.au](http://midwestern.nsw.gov.au)

**Council's new and improved website was recently launched following extensive consultation with the community with a view to improve online services, mobile responsiveness and access to information.**

The new website was developed last year and launched in December following a four month testing period by staff and the community.

More than just a streamlined look, the new website is entirely mobile responsive, meaning you can access it anywhere anytime from your mobile. More services are available, forms can be completed online without having to go into a Customer Service Centre, venues can

be booked, payments and transactions can be made and more services will come online as the site continues to evolve. All of the content on Council's old site has been integrated with even more information available for the community, with a state of the art search tool ensuring residents will find the page they're looking for every time. Council's new website can still be found at [midwestern.nsw.gov.au](http://midwestern.nsw.gov.au)

46

number of online forms now available on the new site

33

number of venues available to book online

70+

number of business units Council manages with information about each available on the new site

### FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

I think by now most people have returned to work and school and I'd like to wish everyone in our region a belated Happy New Year and best wishes for 2022.

As you would be aware a new Council was announced by the NSW Electoral Commission last year following the December local government elections. As chosen by you, the community, congratulations to returning Councillors Paul Cavalier, Alex Karavas, Sam Paine, Peter Shelley and Percy Thompson, and welcome to new Councillors Katie Dicker, Robbie Palmer and Phil Stoddart. I would also like to recognise outgoing Councillors Esme Martens, Russell Holden and John O'Neill for their service.

I was proud to be re-elected Mayor by the newly elected Council last month. It is truly an honour to serve my community and lead the Council for my twelfth year as Mayor. Congratulations to Sam Paine who was re-elected as Deputy Mayor.

It is another big year ahead for Council as we undertake a robust capital works program to improve infrastructure and amenities around our region. Your input helps us set a plan for our future works and now is the opportunity to have your say as we prepare our Community Plan. More information inside.

Mayor Des Kennedy





Family Day Care educator Erin Constable, Family Day Care Coordinator Ann Kurtz, Federal Member for Calare Andrew Gee, Manager Community Services Fiona Shearman and Director Community Simon Jones with children Lylah, Lola and Georgie.

## \$240,000 GRANT SUPPORTS FAMILIES AND INCREASES SERVICE

**Council's Family Day Care Service has received a much-needed \$240,000 boost through the Australian Government's Community Child Care Fund.**

This funding will assist in recruiting and training additional educators, creating more places for local children and families.

Operating for more than 30 years, Mid-Western Regional Family Day Care currently supports 12 accredited educators in Mudgee, Gulgong,

Kandos, Rylstone, Wellington and surrounding areas who provide care for more than 90 children in their homes.

Family Day Care is a great option for young children requiring care, especially those aged 0-3 years, and those children in care four to five days a week.

To learn more about becoming an educator search *Family Day Care* on Council's website or contact 6378 2730.

## HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE LONG TERM PLAN FOR OUR REGION

Council is seeking your input and feedback this month as it reviews and updates the long-term plan for our region.

The local community plays a significant role in the development and review of the Mid-Western Region Towards 2040 Community Plan.

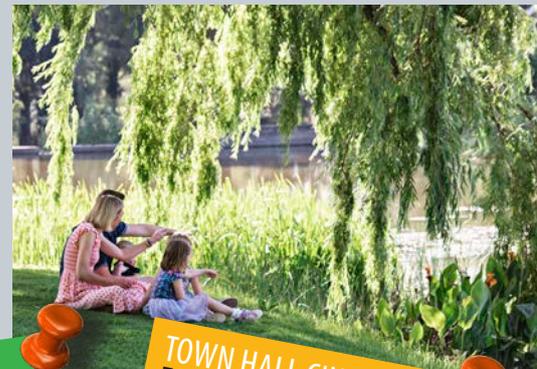
Towards 2040 sets out the community's vision for the future – where we are, where we want to be and how we will get there.

Council is embarking on a range of engagement activities to gain input and feedback from as many community members as possible.

Last month, each household will have received a submission form in the post along with the January edition of Community News. Please complete the form and let us know your priorities to inform Council on the actions it should set for the future.

Please return the form to Council either in-person, by mail or email.

There will be other opportunities to provide your feedback online via Council's website. Make sure you're following Council on Facebook to be the first to know when engagement opens.



## NEWS IN BRIEF

**WOLLAR ROAD CLOSURE**  
A section of Wollar Road is now closed from Castle Rocks (car park and walking track still open) to Cumbo Road (resident access available to Cumbo Road, from Wollar side). Detours via Ulan Wollar Road. The road will be closed for ten weeks to realign two dangerous curves as part of the three-year road safety upgrade and is expected to reopen in March. Updates at [midwestern.nsw.gov.au/wollar-road-upgrade](http://midwestern.nsw.gov.au/wollar-road-upgrade)

**SIGN UP TO YOUR WATER**  
Sign up to Council's new Smart Water Meter portal, YourWater, and keep track of your water use. 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. Register at [yourwater.midwestern.nsw.gov.au](http://yourwater.midwestern.nsw.gov.au)

**TOWN HALL CINEMA FEBRUARY SCREENINGS**  
The Mudgee Town Hall Cinema will open its doors on 4, 5 and 6 February for screenings of *Clifford the Big Red Dog* (PG) and *West Side Story* (M). Tickets at Council's website or at the door (unless sold out prior) from \$15 for adults and \$10 for children and 5 years. Entry is free for children under 5 years. Be sure to buy your tickets early to avoid missing out.

# GETTING TO THE GAME: 2022 CHARITY SHIELD RABBITOHS V DRAGONS

The South Sydney Rabbitohs will take on the St George Illawarra Dragons for the fifth annual Charity Shield at Glen Willow this month.

Gates for the Saturday, 26 February game open at 4pm, followed by the Knock-On Effect NSW Cup - Rabbitohs v Dragons curtain raiser at 4.30pm. Kick-off for the main game, Rabbitohs v Dragons will begin at 7pm.

Strictly no public parking will be permitted at the venue on game day. Patrons are encouraged to catch the free shuttle bus.

Buses will pick up and drop off in the CBD at the old Mudgee Region Tourism bus stop, Mudgee Skate Park/Victoria Park (Perry Street side) and St Matthews Catholic School (Lewis Street). More locations on Council's website and Facebook page. A low-floor bus will be available from the Mudgee CBD for patrons requiring assistance. Glen Willow Stadium is a short 1km walk from Mudgee CBD across Holyoake Footbridge. The Glen Willow Suspension Bridge will be closed. More game day information on Council's website.



## MUDGEE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT WINS AWARD

Council's Mudgee Community Transport Team received the Community and Volunteer Services Award as part of the Magnificent Mudgee Business Awards late last year. The team travelled more than 360,000km last year, conducting more than 4000 trips (5500 driving hours), transporting people in and out of the region. Twenty volunteer drivers give up their time selflessly each week to ensure our community members travel safely. These volunteers are the backbone of Community Transport and the service would not be available without them. If you'd like to volunteer visit Council's website or call 6378 2710.

Members of the Mudgee Community Transport Team, Kathryn Maloney, Alison Whittaker, Kellie Colley and Margo Mackenzie.

## HALF A MILLION DOLLARS FOR LOCAL PARK UPGRADES

Council will undertake 12 separate park upgrades throughout the region after securing \$566,000 in grant funding through the NSW Government's Stronger Country Communities Fund (Round 4).

The list of projects include:

- Kandos and Rylstone dog park upgrades
- New pathways and landscaping at Red Hill, Gulgong
- Construction of a car park at Gulgong Pool
- Construction of a car park at Mudgee Common
- Bridge and steps replacement at Rylstone Common
- Irrigation upgrades at Coronation Park, Gulgong
- Grandstand improvements at Victoria Park, Gulgong
- Fencing at Victoria Park, Mudgee
- New trees along Mudgee River Walk
- New seating along pathways in Mudgee
- Extra signage throughout region's parks
- Memorial Park Mudgee, pathway replacement

These projects are due to be completed later this year.



Victoria Park, Gulgong

### 2022 COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Ordinary meetings of Council are held on the third Wednesday of each month in the Council Chambers (86 Market Street, Mudgee) commencing at 5.30pm. The remaining ordinary meetings for the first half of 2022 will be held on: 2 February, 16 February, 16 March, 20 April, 18 May and 15 June. Business papers and minutes for each meeting can be found on Council's website.

### SCHOOL ROAD SAFETY UPGRADES

A pedestrian refuge will be installed at the intersection of Perry and Denison Streets near Mudgee Public School as part of a \$196,000 funding grant through the Australian and NSW State Government Roads Safety Program. As part of the funding Council will also complete new line marking at Kandos, Rylstone, Lue, Ilford and Ulan Public Schools. Works are expected to be completed by May.

### COMMUNITY PLAN PROPOSALS

Council would like to thank residents who submitted a Community Plan Proposal as part of the annual budgeting process. Submissions have now closed and are currently being reviewed. They may be included in the Draft Operational Plan that is due to be presented at the April Council meeting. For more information on the process visit Council's website.

### LIBRARY WRITING CIRCLE

Interested in developing your writing skills? Join Mudgee Library's weekly writing group, held every Monday from 1pm-3.30pm (during school terms only) beginning 7 February. Each term the group will examine a different genre or style of writing, with opportunities to give and receive valuable feedback and encouragement, to refine your writing process. Register for free at: [mwrclibrary.eventbrite.com](http://mwrclibrary.eventbrite.com)



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CR PHIL STODDART  
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## EVENTS CALENDAR



2 FEB

### Mid-Western Regional Council Meetings

Council Chambers,  
Market Street, Mudgee  
From 5.30pm

Two meetings will be held this month on 2 and 12 February.



4 FEB

### Town Hall Cinema

Mudgee Town Hall

Held on 4, 5 and 6 February. Adults \$15, children/concession \$10 and children under 5 free. Bookings and screenings on Council's website.



18 FEB

### Gulgong Show

Gulgong Showground

Gulgong Show Society will host their annual show on 18 and 19 February. Information at [gulgongshow.org.au](http://gulgongshow.org.au)



25 FEB

### Rylstone Kandos Show

Rylstone Showground

Rodeo, live bands, horse events, pavilion, sideshow alley and local food and wine taking place 25 and 26 February.



26 FEB

### 2022 Charity Shield

Glen Willow Stadium

Watch the South Sydney Rabbitohs and St George Illawarra Dragons for the fifth annual Charity Shield in Mudgee. Tickets at [123tix.com.au](http://123tix.com.au)



27 FEB

### Mudgee Races Country Championships

Mudgee Racecourse

An exciting day of regional racing at the seven-race meet in Mudgee.

All information correct at the time of publication. Events may be subject to change based on 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.

Local event organisers are encouraged to apply for funding and in-kind support through Council's Events Assistance Program opening Tuesday, 1 March. The Program is open to not-for-profit events that are being held from 1 July to 31 December 2022. Organisers can apply for up to \$2500 in assistance with multi-year funding available. The program is designed to provide funding assistance to community events which benefit the local economy and attract visitors to the region. Applications close 4.30pm on Thursday, 31 March.

## 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.

Council has contributed \$22,500 towards the construction of shade sail infrastructure at Kandos Pool, matching \$22,500 in grant funding received through the NSW Government's Community Building Partnership Program. The shade sail will provide extra sun protection for swimmers and visitors who use the pool for recreation, exercise, events, and social activities.

## Visit.

The Manly Warringah Sea Eagles will return to Glen Willow on Saturday, 2 April for the NRL Telstra Premiership Round 4 clash against the Canberra Raiders. Tickets available now at [123tix.com.au](http://123tix.com.au) starting from \$28 for adults, \$18 for concession card holders, \$18 for juniors (5-15 years old) and \$80 for a family of four. Gates open at 1pm followed by kick-off at 5.30pm. Check out new seating and ticketing options including crowd stands as well as a premium ticketing package in the corporate marquee. Tickets at [123tix.com.au](http://123tix.com.au)