

COMMUNITY NEWS



NOVEMBER, 2022

KEY WORKER HOUSING



Council plans to construct up to 50 new properties at the former Mudgee Bowling Club site on Burrundulla Avenue as part of a major project to provide housing for key workers including teachers, nurses and police.

The need for more affordable housing throughout the region has been a concern for Council and the community over many years. Residential housing stock is expected to be further impacted by a number of current and future State Significant construction projects, including Renewable Energy projects, that will require workforce accommodation.

Council is aware that key worker positions are increasingly difficult to recruit as staff cannot find affordable rental

accommodation. To combat this, and ensure the community has adequate staffing in critical health and education industries, Council will construct studio, one, two and three bedroom properties on the 1.67Ha site. It is intended the development will further free up residential housing for other community members. Council has provided in-principle support to the project, which will now move into the design phase, with grant funding being sought from government.

50

dwellings will be constructed as part of the proposed project

25,713

current population of the region

13,388

estimated number of people in the region's workforce



Artist's impression

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

The region was hit with flooding last month that has caused extensive damage to our road network and associated infrastructure. I urge motorists to please be aware of Council staff on work sites when they are undertaking repairs and follow the speed limit. Driving above the limit damages the road further and winds back repairs. Council continues to assess and undertake repairs as a priority. Please be patient as we work through the region.

As you'll read, Council has supported a plan to address community concerns over

affordable and available accommodation. This Key Worker Housing project is only a part of the overall solution that will be needed over the next decade. However, it is a demonstration of Council's intent to seek solutions to the problems that are being faced and to utilise Council owned land for the overall benefit of the community.

It's fantastic to see the region's public art collection growing with three new works selected from the Sculptures in the Garden event. These new sculptures will be installed in coming months.

Mayor Des Kennedy

PUBLIC ART COLLECTION GROWS INTO NEW AREAS WITH THREE NEW SCULPTURES



'Familia' by Bridget Whitehead

Photos: Amber Creative



'The Bird Man' by Ludwig Mlcek



'Stallion' by Francois Jaggi

COUNCIL PARTNERSHIP WITH ART EVENT CONTINUES

Three new additions will soon be added to the region's public art collection following their selection at the annual Sculptures in the Garden event.

The new sculptures include 'Stallion' by Francois Jaggi from Armidale, recipient of the Mid-Western Regional Council and Sculptures in the Garden Acquisition Prize; 'The Bird Man' by Ludwig Mlcek from Rylstone, recipient of the Friends of Sculptures in the Garden Acquisition

Prize; and 'Familia' by Bridget Whitehead from Cardiff Heights, recipient of the Moolarben Coal Acquisition Prize. Council is proud to have been a partner of Sculptures in the Garden since its inception. Since 2013 Council has acquired works from the exhibition that are added to the Public Art Collection and will now expand the collection into other areas beginning with Rylstone.

INDOOR POOL BUSINESS CASE INTERIM REPORT PRESENTED

The business case for an indoor pool in Mudgee has progressed with an interim report presented to Council last month.

The report (which can be viewed in full on Council's website) provides capital and operational implications for four potential design options.

In order for the business case to progress, Council provided in-principle support to construct a new 50 metre (eight lane) indoor pool and fitness centre whilst retaining the outdoor water park on the existing site in Lawson Park, Mudgee. The option would enable access to leisure and long course swimming year round. The current Mudgee outdoor 50 metre and toddler pool are more than 50 years old, having already exceeded typical useful life expectancy. It is highly likely that significant

capital upgrade will be required in the near future to maintain industry standards. Any upgrade or new aquatic facility construction will require significant capital investment of up to \$60 million, in addition to ongoing operational and asset management costs. A further report will be brought back to Council to deliver the final business case document.



NEWS IN BRIEF

CHRISTMAS SHUTDOWN
Council Customer Service Centres, Works Depots and Libraries will close for the Christmas break from 12 noon on Thursday 22 December 2022, and reopen on Wednesday 4 January 2023. There will be minimal closures at other Council facilities and services will continue without interruption. On call staff will remain on duty and available during this period to respond to urgent enquiries on 1300 765 002.

RECEIVE COUNCIL NEWS ONLINE
Did you know you can receive Community News direct to your email inbox each month? Stay up to date with all the latest Council news, events and activities happening throughout the region. Sign up at midwestern.nsw.gov.au/community-news. You can also find Community News videos on Council's Facebook and YouTube channel.

LOCAL ROAD CLOSURES
Did you know you can view local emergency information online, anytime with Council's Disaster Dashboard? The online dashboard displays real time emergency updates such as road closures, power outages, fire and flooding incidents as well as useful information on disaster preparedness and recovery. View the Disaster Dashboard on Council's website.

\$2 MILLION INJECTION INTO LOCAL ECONOMY FROM FLAVOURS OF MUDGEES

Flavours of Mudgee made a spectacular return in September with 11,696 people making their way into Mudgee's CBD to enjoy the region's best food and wine.

Following pandemic-forced cancellations in 2020 and 2021, more than half of this year's crowd (53 per cent) were first-timers to the event, with the remaining 47 per cent having attended previously.

A strong contingent of visitors made up this year's crowd, with 71 per cent visiting from outside of the region and the remaining 29 per cent

living locally. Based on these visitor numbers, length of overnight stays and postcode data it is estimated the event has generated \$2 million for the local economy.

The major event is part of Council's strategy to drive economic development within the region.

Council secured \$20,000 through Destination NSW's Regional Event Fund to market the event locally and throughout the state.

Flavours of Mudgee will return in 2023 on Saturday, 23 September.



SACRED COUNTRY: LATEST ART EXHIBITION

Mudgee Arts Precinct's latest exhibition, Ngayirr Ngurambang: Sacred Country is open now until December. The group exhibition celebrates the importance of Country, featuring a group of First Nations and non-First Nations contemporary artists. Each artist has responded to place, Country and story in their creative artworks, addressing cultural, environmental, historical and social values that make up the water cultures of the Goulburn River and The Drip Gorge. The exhibition will close 11 December.



MUDGEES ARTS PRECINCT INAUGURAL PORTRAIT PRIZE

Mudgee Arts Precinct is now accepting entries to the region's first ever Portrait Prize. Portrait prizes have a long history in Australia, with the Archibald Prize renowned as much for its ability to accelerate an artist's career as the many controversies it has created over the years. The Precinct's inaugural Portrait Prize exhibition will take place from 16 December 2022 to 12 March 2023.

Artists at any level of their artistic practice, from beginners right through to arts professionals, are encouraged to enter in all mediums.

There are several prizes to be won, including the Gora and Ellie Singh Mann Best Portrait (open only to artists living in the Mid-Western Region), the Best Overall Portrait Prize, the Best Emerging Portrait Prize and the People's Choice Award.

Artists are invited to submit up to five artworks towards this exhibition. They can be in any medium of their choosing and in as many categories as they wish but all works must be delivered exhibition-ready. Entries are open now and close at 5pm on Friday, 18 November.

CALL FOR ENTRIES

CLOSING 18 NOV

2022 MAP PORTRAIT PRIZE

16 DECEMBER 2022 - 12 MARCH 2023

TOWN HALL CINEMA

Paws of Fury: The Legend of Hank (PG), *See How they Run* (M) and *Amsterdam* (MA15+) will hit the big screen this month on 4, 5 and 6 November. 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.

RECOVERY FUNDING AVAILABLE

A state of natural disaster has been declared for the Mid-Western Regional local government area (LGA) following September flooding. Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements are available to vulnerable people whose homes or essential household items have been destroyed or damaged, and for business owners and primary producers. Funding is delivered by the NSW and Australian Governments. More information at www.nsw.gov.au/disaster-recovery/natural-disaster-declarations

REQUEST NEW LIBRARY TITLES

Is there a recently published book you would like to read that is not available at the library? Using the Community Collection Manager (CCM) you can view all genres. The library will then look into sourcing a copy, and you will be the first to borrow it. Enter your library barcode number and PIN (day/month of birth) to begin making suggestions: <https://bit.ly/33TWXRO>

REPORT A PROBLEM ONLINE

Prolonged wet weather and flooding events are hampering Council's best efforts to undertake road repairs throughout the region. Council is prioritising repairs as weather permits, however this is hampered by successive La Nina weather events. If you notice a problem with a road, please report it immediately to Council. You can report a problem on Council's website or by contacting Council on 6378 2850.



CR DES KENNEDY
MAYOR
6378 2850



CR SAM PAINE
DEPUTY MAYOR
0407 225 285



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
6374 0226

EVENTS CALENDAR



4-6
NOV

Town Hall Cinema

Mudgee Town Hall

Generally held on the first weekend of each month. Adults \$15, children/concession \$10 and children under 5 free. Bookings and screenings on Council's website.



5
NOV

Rylstone Street Feast

Louee Street, Rylstone

Enjoy the beauty of Rylstone's main street and sample the diverse range of local foods, produce, wines, art, craftwork, street market and live entertainment.



12
NOV

Kildallon Education Centre grand opening

70 Court Street, Mudgee (old TAFE) 10am-2pm

FREE community day to officially open Kildallon Education Centre, with barbecue, kids activities, entertainment and tours.



16
NOV

Mid-Western Regional Council Meeting

Council Chambers, Market Street, Mudgee From 5.30pm

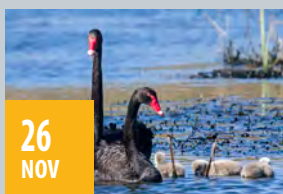
Meeting live-stream available on Council's website.



22
NOV

Australia Day Awards Nominations close

Visit Council's website to nominate someone for a 2023 Australia Day Award. Six categories to nominate. Australia Day 2023 will be held at Rylstone Showground.



26
NOV

Breakfast with the birds

Putta Bucca Wetlands

Learn from a Field Naturalist about local bird life. FREE event, RSVPs essential at Council's website.

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 '@choosmudgeeregion' on Instagram

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Live.

On 1 November, the following single-use plastics were banned in NSW: single-use straws*, stirrers and cutlery; single-use plastic plates and bowls without lids, expanded polystyrene foodware. This follows the ban on lightweight shopping bags in June. NSW generates 800,000 tonnes of plastics every year, with only 10 per cent being recycled. The NSW Plastics Action Plan sets out the first six actions to achieve four long term outcomes to better manage plastics and reduce the impact they have on the environment. *Exemptions apply to provide a plastic straw for people with a disability or medical need.

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 partnered with Mid-Western Mentoring to provide FREE online training as part of the NSW Small Business Month (this month). The Digital Wellbeing Series, a guided program comprising of short videos, will help local business owners build habits and change behaviours to benefit their business. Visit Council's website for more information. Council secured \$5000 in NSW Government grant funding to deliver the program.

Visit.

Council will host Breakfast with the Birds at Putta Bucca Wetlands on Saturday, 26 November. Field Naturalist, Mark Leary will discuss the various birds in the region as you relax in the peaceful surrounds of the wetlands and listen and watch incredible bird life. This is a FREE event however RSVPs are essential for catering. Information and registrations are available on Council's website: midwestern.nsw.gov.au