

# COMMUNITY NEWS



SEPTEMBER, 2022

# PACKAGES ON SALE



## With less than a month to go, tasting packages are now on sale for Flavours of Mudgee.

The region's largest food and wine event is free to attend, but a \$25 tasting package allows you to sample from stallholders and includes five tasting tokens and a souvenir Flavours of Mudgee glass. The kids package includes three tokens to select food vendors as well as a souvenir cup for \$10.

More than 60 stallholders will be serving up the region's best food and wine in Church and Market Streets on a gorgeous

Spring afternoon.

Tasting packages are available for purchase at [flavoursofmudgee.com.au](http://flavoursofmudgee.com.au). Packages will be available for pick-up in The Stables car park (next to Council's Mudgee Administration Building) the week of the event and on event day. Collection times can be found on the Flavours website.

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

**\$25**



Cost of five tasting tokens and a souvenir wine glass

**\$10**



Kids package – three tokens and a souvenir cup

**24**



September from 4pm to 8pm – save the date!



## FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Understandably, there have been a lot of questions within the community about major projects that are currently under construction through the NSW Government's Renewable Energy Zone. Council continues to advocate on behalf of residents to ensure all impacts are mitigated as much as possible. More details inside.

Last month, Council's General Manager and myself met with NSW Planning Minister, Anthony Roberts to discuss how Council and the NSW Government can work together to ensure more affordable housing is made available in the region. I am pleased to say Council has secured \$1.4 million from the NSW Government to install infrastructure to support the release of a further 22 lots at its Saleyards Lane affordable housing development. These

lots have the potential to accommodate an extra 30 homes.

In response to the community's concerns in relation to the 2021 Flood Study, Council has formed a Floodplain Risk Management Committee. This advisory committee will include representatives from the community, emergency services and Council. More details inside.

Council was awarded Highly Commended for Excellence in Communications by Local Government NSW last month. The award recognised Council's communications with the community during boil water alerts, in particular the Charbon-Clandulla alert in July 2021, where residents were contacted directly by SMS.

**Mayor Des Kennedy**

# MUDGEE ARTS PRECINCT NAMED FINALIST IN WORLD ARCHITECTURE AWARDS



Photo supplied: Elise Hassey and BKA Architecture

**The Mudgee Arts Precinct has been named a finalist in the 2022 World Architecture Festival Awards.**

Designed by BKA Architecture, the Mudgee Arts Precinct seamlessly combines the original Victorian 1885 Cudgegong Chambers, with a brand new, purpose-built addition that houses gallery spaces and the Mudgee Visitor Information Centre.

Now in its fifteenth year, the World Architecture Festival (WAF) is the world's largest festival and live awards competition

dedicated to celebrating and sharing architectural excellence from across the globe. It is the only awards where designers pitch their work to a panel of expert judges and their peers.

The awards will be announced in Portugal at the end of the year.

The building was officially opened in August last year after Council secured funding through the NSW Government's Regional Cultural Fund and the Australian Government's Building Better Regions Fund.

## RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS IN OUR REGION

The Mid-Western Regional Local Government Area is located within the Central West Orana Renewable Energy Zone (REZ). This is one of five Renewable Energy Zones across the state identified by the NSW Government.

Within our region, there are currently 13 renewable energy projects that are at various stages of the planning process, with the NSW Department of Planning and Environment, from investigation through to construction and operation. Council continues to advocate for the community to ensure these projects meet necessary requirements, and mitigate the potential impacts of waste management, water usage, sewer, roads and other social impacts. Information on the respective projects can be found on the NSW Planning Portal at [www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects](http://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects)



## NEWS IN BRIEF

**MAGPIE SWOOPING SEASON**  
Please be aware of magpies this Spring when walking or cycling in any of our local parks and open spaces. For most of the year magpies are not aggressive, but for roughly eight weeks (between August and October) during nesting they will often defend their territory vigorously. Magpies are very protective parents and may swoop anyone seen as an intruder who might harm their chicks.

**VOLUNTEERS PLANT 550 TREES**  
Council held its National Tree Day planting event at Broadview Estate on Sunday, 31 July. With the help of 40 volunteers, 550 native trees, shrubs, groundcovers and grasses were planted. A special thanks to Lions Club Mudgee who kindly provided all volunteers with a sausage sizzle at the end of the day. Thanks to all our volunteers.

## GET IT RIGHT ON BIN NIGHT

Help us ensure your bins are collected each week by following the below steps:

- Do not park in cul de sacs on bin night
- Place bins well away from poles and trees
- Place bins away from cars, or ensure you park at least 1m away from bins on bin night
- Space bins half a metre apart from each other
- Place bins on the nature strip behind the kerb
- Do not overfill your bins (max weight 60kg)

To check your collection day or learn more about Council's waste services, visit [midwestern.nsw.gov.au/bins-and-waste](http://midwestern.nsw.gov.au/bins-and-waste)

# FLOODPLAIN UPDATE

In July, Council distributed a letter to approximately 2000 Mudgee property owners in relation to its Floodplain Risk Management Plan. The intention of the letter was to seek feedback from property owners within the Flood Planning Area (that includes overland flow) on the next stage of the flood planning process, the Flood Risk Management Plan.

Council has received numerous submissions and calls on the flood study that was adopted in 2021, expressing concern with the study and the consultation process. Council has heard the community feedback and has agreed to undertake a detailed

technical review of the adopted 2021 Flood Study including further community engagement to inform the study. Council also established a Flood Risk Management Committee at its August meeting. This committee is made up of two Councillors, technical staff, two members of the community, emergency services and representatives from the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. The advisory committee will help oversee the process moving forward and assist Council to further develop the Flood Risk Management Plan. More information is available on Council's website [midwestern.nsw.gov.au](http://midwestern.nsw.gov.au)



Mayor Des Kennedy and Chris Stephens from Rotary Club of Mudgee



## COUNCIL RECEIVES LOUISA LAWSON MAQUETTE

The Rotary Club of Mudgee last month presented a maquette of the Louisa Lawson sculpture to Council. Council purchased the miniature as part of the Rotary Club's fundraising efforts to install a life-sized version cast in bronze outside Mudgee Library. Council has contributed a further \$40,000 to the project. The Louisa Lawson sculpture is expected to be installed in February 2023 on the 175th anniversary of Louisa's birth date. Born in Mudgee, Louisa Lawson was an author and pioneer for Women's Rights, including the right to vote.

## POOLS OPENING FOR SWIM SEASON THIS MONTH

The region's three pools will open on Saturday, 24 September for the summer swimming season.

All swimming pools are fully supervised by qualified staff and offer a range of facilities, including the Mudgee Water Park at Mudgee Pool. Mudgee, Gulgong and Kandos pools are open seven days a week, excluding Christmas Day and Good Friday. From time to time, the pools may close to the public to accommodate school and swimming club carnivals. Details on

these closures and standard opening hours are available on Council's website. Season passes start from \$83 for children (2-16 years old), \$117 for adults, \$243 for a family of two adults and three children and \$83 for pensioners/seniors. Applications are available on Council's website. Council is continuing its investigations into an indoor swimming facility in Mudgee. A Feasibility Study is currently under development.



### FUNDING FOR NEXT YEAR'S EVENTS

Funding and in-kind support is available for local events through Council's Events Assistance Program. The program is open to not-for-profit events that are being held from 1 January to 29 June 2023. The fund is designed to provide assistance to community events which benefit the local economy and attract visitors to the region. Applications on Council's website and close 1 October.

### FIRE DANGER RATINGS UPDATE

Fire danger ratings are being simplified from 1 September. The new Australian Fire Danger Rating System is being developed using the latest science to be more accurate and relevant to where you live, and will be used nationwide. The new Fire Danger Ratings have four levels (instead of six) - Moderate, High, Extreme and Catastrophic. When there is minimal risk, Fire Danger Rating signs will be set to 'NO RATING'.

### BUSHFIRE RECOVERY GRANTS

Funding is now available for community projects through Round 2 of the Bushfire Community Recovery and Resilience Fund (BCRRF). Grants are available to not-for-profit organisations or individuals to support community recovery by funding projects that promote community well-being, social and broader recovery following the 2019-20 bushfires. Applications on Council's website and close 16 September.

### SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

Venture down the rabbit hole these school holidays at your local library. Make absurd hats, card soldiers, pencil birds and garden ornaments, design your own tea cup, go on a scavenger hunt, and even attend a mad hatters tea party! A small fee of \$5 is charged for each activity to cover craft supplies. For ages 3-12. Bookings at: [mwrclibrary.eventbrite.com](http://mwrclibrary.eventbrite.com)



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## EVENTS CALENDAR



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.



21  
SEP

### Mid-Western Regional Council Meeting

Council Chambers, Market Street, Mudgee From 5.30pm

Meeting live-stream available on Council's website.



23  
SEP

### Ngayirr Ngurambang: Sacred Country

Mudgee Arts Precinct

Exhibition of 14 artists responding to The Drip Gorge as a place of great significance.



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.



7-9  
OCT

### Town Hall Cinema

Mudgee Town Hall

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.



8  
OCT

### Sculptures in the Garden

Rosby Wines

Exhibiting sculptures in the surrounds of a Mudgee vineyard. Each year works are acquired as part of Council's public art collection.

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



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## Live.

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. 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. You'll need an old rates notice with your unique reference number.

## 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.

The latest consumer expenditure data (SpendMapp by Geografia - 2022) has revealed that a total of \$732 million was spent in the Mid-Western Region by residents and visitors in 2021-22. Residents increased spending by five per cent, while visitor spend increased 28 per cent on the previous financial year.

## Visit.

Mudgee Arts Precinct's next exhibition *Ngayirr Ngurambang: Sacred Country* opens on 23 September and runs through to 11 December 2022. Curated by Wiradjuri leader and artist, Aleshia Lonsdale, the exhibition features 14 artists responding to The Drip Gorge, a place of great significance to the local Wiradjuri community. Each artist has been immersed on country and created artworks addressing the effects of environmental and social issues, colonialism and water cultures.