



# COMMUNITY NEWS



SEPTEMBER, 2023

# CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS



Artist's impression

**Large Christmas trees will be installed in Mudgee, Gulgong, Rylstone and Kandos ahead of the festive season this year.**

Council allocated a \$200,000 budget towards the project this year following requests by the community for more Christmas decorations. At its July meeting, Council approved a proposal to install trees, wreaths and garlands at Council buildings in the four main centres. Pending logistical arrangements, it is expected a 10 metre tree will be installed at Mudgee Town Hall (pictured) and six metre trees will be installed in Coronation Park Gulgong, Rylstone Administration Centre and Kandos Community Hall (pictured). These tree heights have been selected in proportion to building heights. Christmas style banners will

be hung in Gulgong with Mudgee's banners allocated to the Rotary Carols event. These Christmas decorations follow the permanent installation of solar-powered fairy lights in Church and Market streets in Mudgee.

Each year Council provides funding through its Community Grants Program for Christmas events. This year Council provided \$9825 for the 2023 Mudgee Showground Carols and \$3000 for the Gulgong Christmas Celebration.

4

Christmas trees to be installed in Mudgee, Gulgong, Kandos and Rylstone

10m

height of the Christmas tree outside Mudgee Town Hall

\$11,655

provided for community Christmas events in 2022

## FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

We've listened to your requests for more Christmas decorations around our townships and I am pleased to say Council has dedicated a budget towards the program this year. As you'll read, \$200,000 has been allocated to the installation of large trees and decorations throughout the month of December to celebrate the festive season. The best way to request Council undertake a project or activity is to lodge a budget request, otherwise known as a Community Plan Proposal (CPP). Council will be calling for CPPs in December so keep an eye on social media and the website.

smaller projects now complete, including the Rylstone Adventure Playspace, Rylstone and Kandos Dog Parks as well as a new fence at Victoria Park Mudgee. These projects all enhance the liveability of our region.

As you'll read, Council has been engaging directly with local sporting groups, as well as the wider community, seeking their input on our long-term Sports and Recreation Strategy. This 10-year strategy will guide the future decisions made around sports and recreation infrastructure in our region. Thanks to everyone who has provided their feedback.

**Mayor Des Kennedy**

It's great to see multiple



Artist's impression





## POOLS OPENING FOR SWIM SEASON THIS MONTH

The region's three pools will open on Saturday, 23 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 \$87 for children (2-16 years old), \$123 for adults, \$255 for a family of two adults and three children and \$87 for pensioners/seniors.

Applications are available on Council's website.

## FLIRTATION HILL MUDGEE IMPROVEMENT WORKS COMMENCE

Improvement works have commenced at Mudgee's Flirtation Hill.

These works were outlined in the Flirtation Hill Master Plan that was prepared last year following engagement with a community working group as well as local community consultation. The plan guides the future use of the site with a long term conceptual layout to direct future growth and developments at the reserve.

Stage One of the plan has commenced, including installation of a viewing platform, car park, security infrastructure, exotic tree removal and replacement, drainage upgrades, park furniture and barbecue, water supply and amenities block.

A number of biodiversity improvements will also be undertaken including planting of additional food

sources for black cockatoo species. Stage One of the Flirtation Hill improvement works have been co-funded by Council with a \$375,000 contribution from the NSW Government through its Regional Tourism Activation Fund.

The Flirtation Hill Master Plan can be viewed on Council's website.



### 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.

### ROADSIDE WEED SPRAYING

Council's Weeds Team will be out and about from now until March undertaking roadside weed spraying. Residents are reminded not to eat any wild blackberries that have inhabited roadsides. When in doubt, people should assume the blackberries on Council's roadsides have been sprayed and are, therefore, unsafe to eat.

### COMMUNITY GRANTS

More than \$35,500 has been provided in the latest round of Council's Community Grants. Funding was provided to Western Region Academy of Sport (\$2500), Mudgee and District Kennel and Obedience Club (\$1005), Mudgee Readers Festival (\$480), Mudgee Lions Club (\$255), Mid-Western Region Community Music Association (\$2000), Gulgong Show Society (\$5000) and Kandos Rylstone Community Radio (\$12,000).

## NEWS IN BRIEF



# ADULTS AND KIDS TASTING PACKAGES ON SALE NOW FOR **FLAVOURS OF MUDGEE**

With less than a month to go, Flavours of Mudgee tasting packages are selling fast - don't miss out.

Whilst Flavours is free to attend, a tasting package allows patrons to sample the region's award winning wines. A \$25 tasting package includes five (30ml) tasting tokens and a souvenir Flavours of Mudgee tasting tumbler.

Kids packages include three treat tokens and a souvenir cup for \$15. 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](http://flavoursofmudgee.com.au)

Flavours of Mudgee is the largest food and wine event in the region. Last year, more than 11,000 people attended the festival. Flavours of Mudgee 2023 will mark 10 years when it returns on Saturday, 23 September 4pm – 8pm in Church and Market Streets Mudgee.



## RYLSTONE AND KANDOS ALL NEW **DOG PARKS**

All-new fenced dog parks have been installed in Rylstone and Kandos. Located at Rylstone Showground and Darton Park, Kandos the parks include seating shelters, bins and automatic refillable drinking bowls. The Rylstone park has created a recreation precinct at the showground, complemented by the skate park and newly completed Rylstone Playground. Council secured \$90,000 for the project through the NSW Government's Stronger Country Communities Fund.

## MESSAGES IN THE SKY EXHIBITION **OPENS 1 SEPTEMBER**

Mudgee Arts Precinct's forthcoming exhibition 'Messages in the Sky' opens on 1 September.

Artists Claire Healy and Sean Cordeiro, are renowned Australian contemporary artists known for their large-scale immersive installations, sculptures and mixed-media artworks that often incorporate found objects and re-purposed materials.

Working collaboratively since 2001, they have gained international recognition for their thought-provoking pieces that explore themes of consumerism. *Messages in the Sky* will continue

the artists' ongoing investigation of air transport. The exhibition includes a new collaborative artwork, *Wanderlust terra Firma*, created with the help of Mid-Western Regional Council Youth Services. The artwork uses salvaged Cirrus aircraft wings and comprises a découpage made from vintage National Geographic magazines kindly donated by members of the local community.

Image: Claire Healy & Sean Cordeiro. *Nami Usagi* (Detail), 2020, Kiowa helicopter FWD shell assembly, acrylic gouache paint, jute, tape, 157 x 125 x 14cm



### SEPTEMBER TOWN HALL CINEMA

*Barbie* (PG), *The Miracle Club* (PG) and *The New Boy* (M) will hit the big screen this month on 1, 2 and 3 September. 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.

### GET YOUR RATES EMAILED

Customers can now opt to receive their water and rates notices by email rather than post. Electronic notices save on time and paper, and help track and manage bills more effectively. To register to receive your rates and water notices via email, visit Council's website [midwestern.nsw.gov.au](http://midwestern.nsw.gov.au). You'll need an old rates notice with your unique reference number to sign up.

### AFTER-SCHOOL ANIME

Calling all anime fans. The Library has introduced a new monthly after school activity for high school students. From retro and classic to contemporary sensations, attendees will be watching a huge variety of films and series, while enjoying some tasty snacks at this free event. Book in at: [mwrclibrary.eventbrite.com](http://mwrclibrary.eventbrite.com)

### NEW FENCE VICTORIA PARK

An all-new fence has been installed at Victoria Park in Mudgee. The traditional white picket fence has improved the overall amenity of the park as a premier cricket facility. Council secured funding for the project through the NSW Government's Stronger Country Communities Fund.





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## EVENTS CALENDAR



1 SEPT

### Messages in the Sky Mudgee Arts Precinct

The exhibition features the artists' ongoing investigation of air transport with collaborative work with local youth.



1-3 SEPT

### Town Hall Cinema Mudgee Town Hall

Showing on 1, 2 and 3 September, *Barbie* (PG), *The Miracle Club* (PG) and *The New Boy* (M). Tickets and session times on Council's website.



1-30 SEPT

### Mudgee Wine and Food Month

**Various locations**  
A variety of events including Twilight Tastings, Go Tasting, Wine Trivia, Go Grazing and Meet the Makers. Details at [mudgeewinemonth.com.au/](http://mudgeewinemonth.com.au/)



11-15 SEPT

### 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.



20 SEPT

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



23 SEPT

### 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. Please contact event organisers for further details.



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## Live.

A ten-year Recreation Strategy is currently in development following consultation with local sports groups and the wider community. The strategy will provide a framework to guide decisions on recreation facilities and services across the region up to 2033. It is intended to identify priorities, enhance quality of life and help Council to support recreation development in the community. A draft strategy will be published on Council's website later this year with feedback encouraged.

## 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 691 new businesses were registered in the Mid-Western Region in the 2022-23 financial year. 604 businesses were de-registered in the region in the same period, and therefore a net increase of 87 businesses was seen in 2022-23. As at June 2023, the region had 7512 registered businesses. Source: Australian Business Register (ABR)

## Visit.

Mudgee Skate Park has an all new shade sail in time for summer. The large shade sail covers more than half of the park to protect children and adolescents using the facility. Council invested in the structure after a number of community requests were put forward. There are four skate parks throughout the region in Mudgee, Gulgong, Kandos and Rylstone.