



# Murrumbidgee COUNCIL *Community Newsletter*

 **WINTER 2023**

## Message from the Mayor

**Winter is well and truly here and making its presence felt. I encourage you to have your vaccinations to minimise the impacts of both COVID-19 and the flu.**

Reading through this newsletter, you will see that there is a lot happening at Council and in the broader community. You will find information about projects that will be undertaken in this financial year, events coming up and more.

This includes the 17 new community projects that have been given the green light, following the annual community grant program. Encompassing the Coleambally Solar Farm Grants, Lions Club Grants and Council's grants, together, these grants inject \$42,000 into the community.

Our new and improved waste management collection service is now well underway. It is a steep learning

curve for us all with the introduction of organics (FOGO) collection across the whole Council area and recycling for Jerilderie. I urge you to take the time to familiarise yourself with suitable items for each bin. If you are unsure, consult our website, contact us at Council or err on the side of caution and put it in the red-lid garbage bin. I acknowledge the support of the NSW EPA for the grant we received to assist with the FOGO roll-out.

Still on the subject of waste, our travelling Waste to Art Exhibition will soon wrap up. Congratulations to the winning and highly commended entries and thank you to everyone who submitted an entry in the competition. Our Council footprint is rich in both talent and enthusiasm.

Lastly, I would like to take this



opportunity to thank many of the Murrumbidgee community who offered congratulations and acknowledged my King's Birthday 2023 Order of Australia Medal. It is a great honour and lovely to be acknowledged. It is my privilege to be involved in Local Government and has been an even greater privilege to represent and lead our local Council.

Regards,

*R. K. McRae*

## Gauging interest in roadside rural waste collection



We are currently surveying people who live on rural properties in our Council area to gather feedback on the demand for a roadside waste collection service. It is proposed to collect garbage (general waste) and recycling (glass, paper and cardboard, some plastics, household steel and aluminium items).

Indicative pricing is a maximum of \$495 per annum if this service is provided fortnightly using 240L bins or \$320 per annum if this service is provided monthly using 360L bins (based on current prices).

If there is sufficient support for the service, it will commence on 1 July 2024.

*The survey closes Wednesday 9 August.*

## Hidden Treasures Honour Roll 2023

**Now open!**



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# Toganmain project gathers momentum

It's said that Australia was built on the sheep's back, reflecting a time when shearing sheds were the centre of the community and wool played an integral part in our nation's development.

Historic old shearing sheds, such as Toganmain Woolshed, between Darlington Point and Hay, are precious links to a bygone era.

Toganmain's history dates back to 1875 and is the largest remaining woolshed in the Riverina region. The shed holds the Australian record, when in September 1876 a total of 202,292 sheep were shorn by 92 blade shearers.

Unfortunately, the shed fell into disrepair, but a dedicated restoration committee, aptly named the "Friends of Toganmain" have the vision to develop

an immersive curated museum for all to enjoy. The shed is not currently open to the public.

Would you like to help restore this unique part of history?

Their June working bee was an enormous success with the group succeeding in clearing the dining room (and managing a hearty meal to celebrate!).

The next working bee is set for 5 and 6 August, with people welcome to camp overnight. Please contact Christine Chirgwin on 0467 544 724 or email [info@toganmain.com.au](mailto:info@toganmain.com.au)

Donations to the project are appreciated. You can follow the progress of the restoration on the Friends of Toganmain on their Facebook page.



*This majestic old shed holds many tales of the days when Australia was built on the sheep's back. Credit Julie Clark*

## Back to the roaring twenties at Darlington Point

Sleek and sophistication were in abundance when the Roaring Twenties hit Darlington Point for the Murrumbidgee Shire Hall centenary and reopening celebrations.

A ceremony was held during the evening to mark the centenary and also the completed refurbishments made possible with \$400,000 from the NSW Government.

Murrumbidgee Council Mayor Ruth McRae said it was tremendous the hall was now restored to its former glory and can be used for its original purpose to host community and family gatherings and events.

"It now has a fully-fitted out commercial kitchen and catering supplies, which can be utilised by the community," she said.



*Celebrating in stylish 1920s flapper fashion (L-R) Sue Mitchell, Maggie Burns and Annie Mitchell.*

**YOUR PET. YOUR RESPONSIBILITY. KEEP THEM SAFE!**

**For both dogs and cats:**

- ✓ Microchipped by 12 weeks (or before if being sold/given away)
- ✓ Registered by six months of age
- ✓ Up to date registration details (in case your pet is lost)
- ✓ Not allowed to stray

**Doggie do's:**

- ✓ Under control at all times, whether on or off your property
- ✓ On a lead and under the control of a competent person when in public (except in a leash-free area)
- ✓ Not allowed to bark excessively

**Some useful tips for cats:**

- ✓ Identified with a collar, tag and cat bell
- ✓ Kept indoors at night to prevent hunting, cat calling and fighting
- ✓ Desexed to reduce straying, antisocial behaviour and unwanted kittens

Please contact us on 1300 676 243 if you are concerned about dogs or cats in your neighbourhood.

# Art for Waste's sake!

Innovative artworks showcasing reused and recycled materials meant nothing went to waste with our Waste to Art competition. Congratulations to all award recipients and thank you to everyone who submitted an entry.

## Preschool & Primary

**Winner:** Ryder Billing – Prime Eagle

**Highly Commended:** Milla Rorato – Winter Blooms

**Highly Commended:** Coleambally Preschool and Early Learning Centre – We Made Pink Paper

## High School & Community

**Winners:** Travis Lawton – Long Horns and Heather Goudie – Nestling's Feedtime

**Highly Commended:** Bridgett McNeilly - Wasted Fortune

**Highly Commended:** Gail Hibbert - Flying High

The exhibition has travelled to each of our towns and wraps up in Jerilderie on 8 August. Thank you to Western Riverina Arts for their support for this exhibition.



Joint winner of the High School/Community category, Heather Goudie, with her entry, Nestlings' Feedtime. Heather shared first place with Travis Lawton with his entry titled Long Horns.

## A triple celebration

It's a special year for Jerilderie's St Stephen's Anglican Church and parish.

With the congregation recently holding a service to mark 150 years since the creation of the Urana and Jerilderie Parish, 126 years since the foundation stone for St Stephen's Church of England was laid and, although a little early, the 125th Anniversary of the official opening of the Church on 20 December 1898.

Launched on the day was the History of St Stephen's book, researched and compiled by local historian, Laurie Henery. Copies are available for purchase from the Anglican Opportunity Shop.



Bishop Donald delivered the sermon from the pulpit with Father Walter Firth in the background and the historic Crozier (Crook) used by Bishop Ernest Augustus Anderson from 1895 to 1925.

## Congratulations Mayor Ruth McRae OAM!

Our warmest congratulations to Councillor Ruth McRae who was recognised for her long-standing commitment to local government and the Murrumbidgee community with an Order of Australia Medal in the King's Birthday Honours List.

Mayor McRae said she was deeply honoured to receive the award. "It is an unexpected honour and very humbling".

Councillor McRae entered public office in 2004 when she saw local government as a credible vehicle to represent the Jerilderie community and the wider region. This stemmed from her diverse interests in education, early education, health,

disability access and services, aged care, sporting clubs and water.

Councillor McRae paid tribute to her family who made it possible for her extended tenure in local government, "To have been able to be engaged for as long as I have has only been possible because I have been wholeheartedly supported by my family.

"And without sounding trite if you love where you live and your community works with and supports you, the very real challenges are just that", she said.

"To be nominated by someone from the community I love is probably the most thrilling aspect of this honour," she said.



Pictured is Cr McRae receiving congratulatory flowers from Deputy Mayor Robert Black on behalf of Councillors and staff.

**COLEAMBALLY SWIMMING POOL**

New shade shelter and upgrade amenities

Start	Complete	Project Cost
Mar 2023	Nov 2023	\$250,000

Tiling

Status	Project Cost
Subject to grant funding	\$60,000

**COLEAMBALLY NO. 1 OVAL**

Turf wicket and practice nets

Status	Project Cost
Subject to grant funding	\$175,000

**COLEAMBALLY COMMUNITY HALL**  
Upgrade

Start	Complete	Project Cost
Nov 2022	Aug 2023	\$565,000

**COLEAMBALLY CEMETERY**  
Fencing and irrigation

Status	Project Cost
Subject to grant funding	\$80,000

**COLEAMBALLY SPORTS PRECINCT**  
Civil works

Start	Complete	Project Cost
Sep 2023	Mar 2024	\$385,382

**CONARGO ROAD**

Rehabilitation of road pavement

Start	Complete	Project Cost
Sep 2024	Oct 2024	\$500,000

**CAMPBELL STREET**

Replace kerb and gutter

Start	Complete	Project Cost
Feb 2024	Apr 2024	\$80,000

**CALROSE AVENUE**

Stabilising and reconstruction

Start	Complete	Project Cost
Nov 2022	Oct 2023	\$584,700

**FOUR CORNERS ROAD**

Stabilising and seal

Start	Complete	Project Cost
Nov 2022	March 2024	\$2.2m

**CHANNEL NINE ROAD**

Reconstruction

Start	Complete	Project Cost
2021	Nov 2023	\$1.2m

**JERILDERIE SWIMMING POOL**

Solar blankets

Status	Project Cost
Subject to grant funding	\$80,000

**LUKE PARK PRECINCT REDEVELOPMENT**

Upgrade Civic Hall and Luke Park surrounds

Start	Complete	Project Cost
Feb 2021	Jan 2024	\$2m

**MONASH PARK**

Electrical Upgrade

Status	Project Cost
Subject to grant funding	\$150,000

**MONASH PARK NETBALL PRECINCT**

New change rooms

Start	Complete	Project Cost
Jul 2022	Jan 2024	\$750,000

**PUBLIC TOILETS**

Lift and Change facility

Status	Project Cost
Subject to grant funding	\$400,000

**CARRINGTON STREET**

(OPPOSITE GUM VIEW CAFÉ)  
New car park and off-street works

Start	Complete	Project Cost
Feb 2022	Feb 2024	\$750,000

**BENCUBBIN AVENUE**

Rehabilitation

Start	Complete	Project Cost
Oct 2021	Nov 2023	\$3.2m

**BROLGA PLACE**

Upgrade of pedestrian area and shade structure

Start	Complete	Project Cost
Apr 2023	Oct 2023	\$2.4m

**MORUNDAH ROAD**

Shoulder widening and reseal

Start	Complete	Project Cost
Feb 2024	Mar 2024	\$320,000

**COREEN STREET**

Replace kerb and gutter

Start	Complete	Project Cost
Aug 2023	Oct 2023	\$80,000

**BERRIGAN - OAKLAND'S ROAD**

Rehabilitation of road pavement

Start	Complete	Project Cost
Mar 2024	Apr 2024	\$400,000

**ADRIAN DOUGLAS PARK**

New public toilets and fencing

Start	Complete	Project Cost
Sep 2022	Oct 2023	\$348,930

**DARLINGTON POINT SWIMMING POOL**

Dosing plant and solar heating

Status	Project Cost
Subject to grant funding	75,000

**LEVEE REHABILITATION ROSS STREET PUMP**

Start	Complete	Project Cost
May 2023	Apr 2024	\$649,500

**RIVERSIDE CARAVAN PARK**

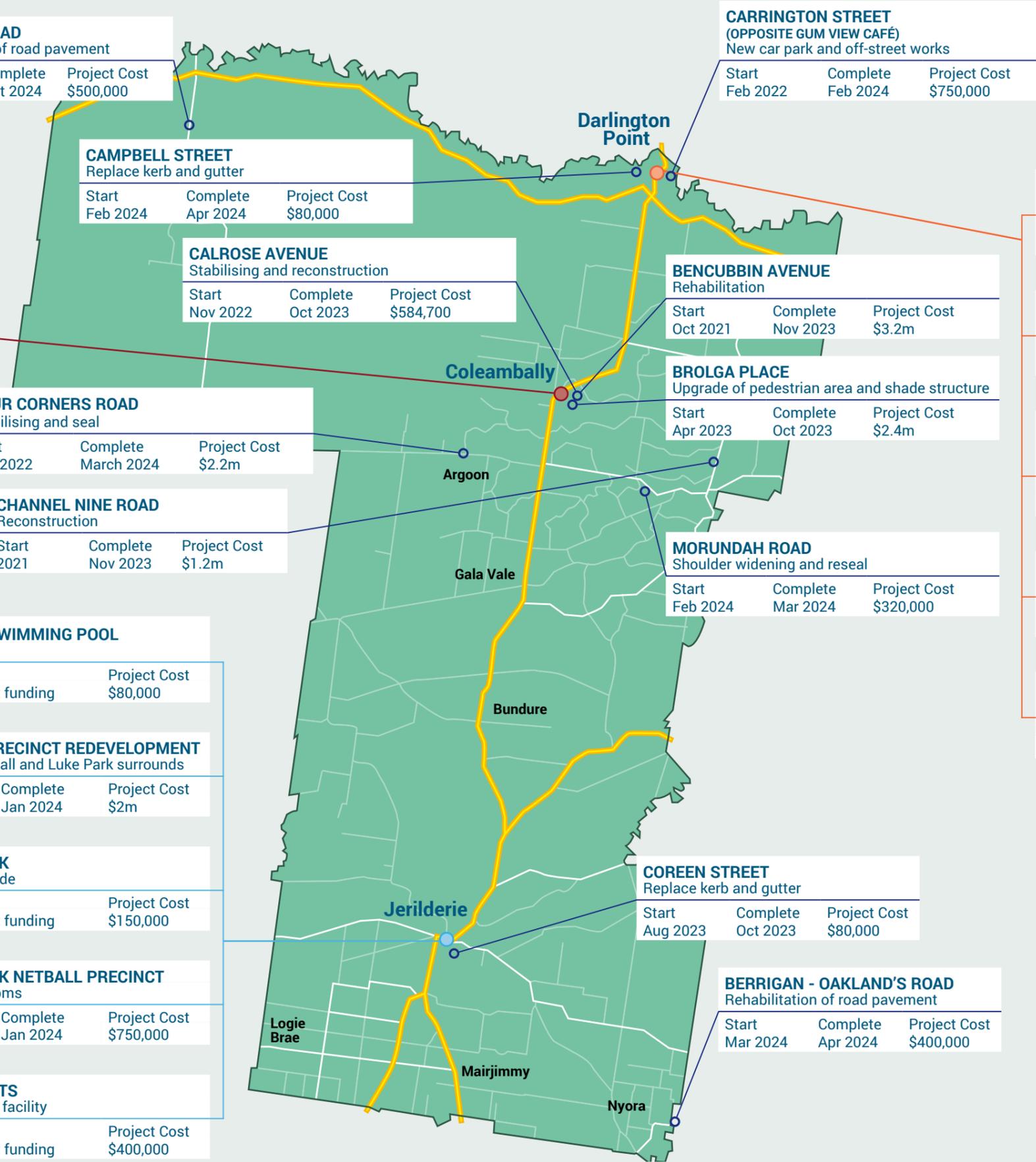
Cabin replacement

Status	Project Cost
Subject to grant funding	\$1m

**YOUNG STREET HOUSING SUBDIVISION**

Construction

Start	Complete	Project Cost
Feb 2023	Apr 2024	\$4.5m



More information will be released on road maintenance and construction allocations. Issued August 2023. Please note: Date range is indicative.



# What's on in the *Murrumbidgee*

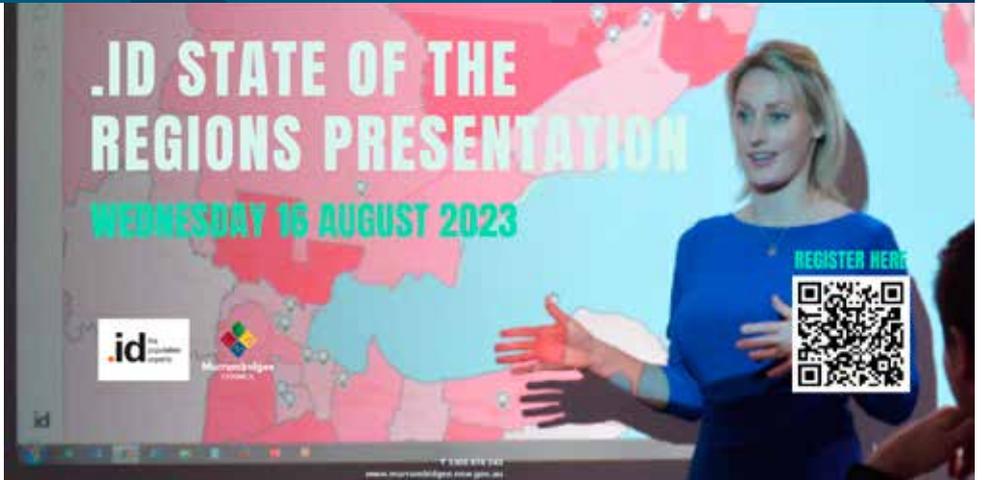


## Riverina Vintage Machinery Club Inc Rally and Tractor Pull

12 and 13 August 2023  
Coleambally

Featuring: Tractor Pull  
Car, truck, tractor, engine displays  
Starting the Bucyrus dragline (pictured)

More info: Riverina Vintage Machinery Club Inc Rally Coleambally Facebook page



## For Business

Learn more about the economic changes in our area, including local jobs, gross regional product and industry changes from Id State of the Regions

12pm to 1pm, Murrumbidgee Council Chambers, 21 Carrington Street, Darlington Point (including light lunch)

4pm to 5pm, Murrumbidgee Council Chambers, 35 Jerilderie Street, Jerilderie



## Jerilderie Gold Cup

23 September 2023  
Gates open at 11 am

More info: Jerilderie Gold Cup Facebook page



## Stress Management for Successful Business Workshop

Wednesday 18 October  
From 12 noon in Jerilderie  
[www.murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au](http://www.murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au)

Check out What's On in our Council area by visiting our website: [www.murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au](http://www.murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au). If you'd like your event added, send an email to Tourism and Events Officer, Eden Hercus at [edenh@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au](mailto:edenh@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au)



*How low can you go? The limbo was just one of the activities enjoyed at the recent Roller Discos held in Coleambally and Jerilderie, proudly funded by the NSW Government.*

# Great start to three bins!

Residents and businesses have generally embraced the move to the new three bin waste collection service.

The three bins we now have are:



## 1. Food Organics and Garden Organics FOGO (green lid) – Goes to Wormtech



### What goes in your FOGO bin?

- ✓ Food scraps
- ✓ Garden organics
- ✓ Compostable plastic kitchen caddy liners that comply with Australian Standard AS4736-2006 (for commercial composting) used to collect and transfer food waste to the FOGO bin

Make sure you remove the food waste from its packaging.

Common contaminants in the green lid bin waste collections are soft plastics such as plastic bags and food packaging. Initial contamination rates have been around 8-11%.

## 2. Recycling (yellow lid) – Goes to Kurrajong Recycling



### What goes in your recycling bin?

Please rinse items first and put lids in separately

- ✓ Aluminium trays, cans and foil (scrunched up to the size of an orange)
- ✓ Glass bottles and jars
- ✓ All paper, cardboard, newspaper, magazines and advertising brochures (not shredded) (no smaller than a business card)
- ✓ Steel cans and containers, including aerosols
- ✓ Rigid plastics in recycling triangle: 1, 2, 5 only
- ✗ NO items tied up in plastic bags.



## 3. Garbage (red lid) – Goes to landfill

- ✓ Over 4 tonnes of organic waste is being diverted from landfill every week and being made into high grade compost.



### Why is it important to sort right and reduce contamination?

By putting the correct items in each bin, we are keeping the life cycle of products going, meaning we are using products more efficiently. It also means we are avoiding additional sorting and disposal costs to get rid of unsuitable materials. We are also increasing the lifespan of our landfill waste cells. We have adopted this process as part of the NSW Government's strategy of developing a circular economy. The concept is that products are continually reused or recycled/composted, rather than sent to landfill where they may take many years to break down. The introduction of FOGO collection is mandatory for NSW Councils.

## Annual Bulky Waste Collection

Bulky Waste | Green Waste | Electronic Waste

**Coleambally:** Monday 9 October 2023

**Jerilderie:** Monday 16 October 2023

**Darlington Point:** Monday 23 October 2023

Visit our website for the list of items we can and can't collect.

Please note your entire load may be rejected if you put out a large number of items that are unacceptable.

To find out more about what goes in each bin, refer to the information sent to all households. If you didn't receive the information pack, please email [anel@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au](mailto:anel@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au) or telephone 1300 676 243. This information is also available on the website.



## New telehealth service available after hours

Residents in Murrumbidgee Council area can now use a free Health Access Out of Hours GP telehealth service.

### How does it work?

The service is able to treat presentations like abdominal pain, fainting, migraines, colds & flu, fever, sore throat, rashes, vomiting and diarrhoea, so you don't have to go to hospital.

You will be triaged and, if eligible, an on-call GP will return your call promptly and provide a consultation via video or telephone. If needed, an eScript will be generated electronically and sent to you. Your GP will be sent a summary of the presentation.

To use this service call the below number during opening hours.



**1800 272 767**



Weeknights – 6 pm to 10 pm

Weekends and Public Holidays – 12 pm to 4 pm

## Meet the General Manager



**John Scarce**  
General Manager  
Murrumbidgee Council

Is there a project, initiative or issue you would like to discuss?

### COLEAMBALLY

9 and 23 August  
from 1 pm to 4 pm

### DARLINGTON POINT

10, 17, 24 and 31 August  
from 10 am to 4 pm



More Information **1300 676 243**

## Our Councillors

### Jerilderie Ward

**Councillor Ruth McRae (Mayor)**

T: 0428 861 767

E: ruthm@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au

**Councillor Faith Bryce**

T: 0438 108 809

E: faithb@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au

**Councillor Troy Mauger**

T: 0460 291 739

E: troym@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au

### Murrumbidgee East Ward

**Councillor Robert Black (Deputy Mayor)**

T: 0428 696 102

E: robertb@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au

**Councillor Christine Chirgwin**

T: 0467 544 724

E: christinec@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au

**Councillor Tim Strachan**

T: 0428 544 441

E: tims@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au

### Murrumbidgee Ward

**Councillor Robert Curphey**

T: 0448 629 502

E: robertc@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au

**Councillor Gavin Gilbert**

T: 0439 255 448

E: gaving@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au

**Councillor Judy Saxvik**

T: 0427 684 114

E: judiths@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au

## CONTACTING MURRUMBIDGEE COUNCIL

**T: 1300 MRMBGE (676 243)** This number will direct you to your closest office.

E: mail@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au **Postal Address:** PO Box 96 Jerilderie NSW 2716 [www.murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au](http://www.murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au)



### Coleambally Office

39 Brolga Place  
Coleambally NSW 2707  
Office hours: 9.00 am - 12.00 pm –  
1.00 pm - 5.00 pm

**After hours emergencies only**

T: 0417 827 216

### Darlington Point Office

21 Carrington Street  
Darlington Point NSW 2706  
Office hours: 8.30 am - 5.00 pm

**After hours emergencies only**

T: 0427 684 166

Banking is available 9.30 am -  
12 pm and 1.00 - 4.00 pm

### Jerilderie Office

35 Jerilderie Street,  
Jerilderie NSW 2716  
Office hours: 8.30 am - 12.00 pm –  
1.00 pm - 5.00 pm

**After hours emergencies only**

T: 0428 579 095

Banking is available 9.30 am -  
12 pm and 1.00 - 4.00 pm