



Murrumbidgee COUNCIL

COMMUNITY NEWS

Message from the Mayor



Welcome to our latest issue of Community News.

I would firstly like to congratulate our Australia Day award recipients and nominees.

Each and every one of you make an amazing contribution to our community.

Congratulations also to John Stuckings from Coleambally who was awarded the Australian Fire Service Medal for his contribution to fire fighting in the Australia Day Honours. This was a well-deserved honour for John's enormous dedication to keeping our community safe.

I was fortunate to attend all three Australia Day ceremonies in our Council area and it was a wonderful day.

Australia Day provides us with the chance to reflect on our past and look to the future. It is day where we can celebrate our sense of our community and acknowledge our strengths.

It's also a good time to reflect on our past year. Despite the ongoing drought, it was pleasing to see progress across the whole area. These diverse projects include the new junior change rooms at Coleambally, the striking new entrance signs at Darlington Point and the new amenities block at Jerilderie Racecourse.

Further Government grants will allow us to continue our improvement works throughout 2020. You will see an exciting range of projects, such as the upgrade to Coleambally's Sports Precinct, the new boat ramp at Darlington Point and the upgrade to the Jerilderie Swimming Pool.

Government drought funding has allowed us to continue the employment of Samantha Star as Council's Drought Support Officer. It's terrific that we have Sam on board.

With the new school year underway, I remind you to slow down in school zones and around school buses. If the flashing lights are activated, you must slow to 40 km/h.

With February upon us, we're on the home stretch with the heat. I thank the Jerilderie community who has embraced the raw water restrictions. We have had a 30% reduction in water use compared to this time last year. I encourage everyone to be waterwise where you can and save our most precious commodity.

In the meantime, if you need to cool off, head to our local public pools and enjoy a free swim at the pool!

Kind regards, Ruth McRae

Wanting to make a difference?

Are you passionate about our local community? Would you like to make a difference to our area? Would you like to represent the interests of others?

If you're ticking all of these boxes, then why not run for Council? Local Government elections for the whole of NSW will be held on **Saturday 12 September 2020**.

If you would like further information about becoming a councillor, you can contact the Office of Local

Government (OLG). Their email address is olg@olg.nsw.gov.au and telephone is 02 4428 4100. Have a look on OLG's website (www.olg.nsw.gov.au). It has lots of useful information, including a "Stand for your Community" guide which gives all the details about becoming a Councillor.

For more information go to www.votensw.info or www.elections.nsw.gov.au.

Murrumbidgee Council has a Rates and Charges Hardship Policy. We encourage you to contact our Rates Team if you are experiencing financial hardship and having difficulty paying your rates and charges.

T: 1300 676 243





Congratulations - Australia Day 2020

Congratulations to John Stuckings who was awarded the Australian Fire Service Medal (AFSM) as part of the 2020 Australia Day Honours.

This is well deserved recognition for John who is incredibly devoted to the fire service, not only as a fire fighter, but also in mentoring the younger volunteers, training and administration.



(L-R) Australia Day Ambassador Warren Potent, John Stuckings and Mayor Ruth McRae.

Also part of the day was the presentation of Australia Day awards across the Murrumbidgee Council area.

Murrumbidgee Council Mayor Ruth McRae congratulated all of the recipients and the nominees.

Australia Day Award recipients for Coleambally

- ✦ Citizen of the Year: Monika Burgess
- ✦ Young Citizen of the Year: Danielle Mannes
- ✦ Sportsperson of the Year: Phoebe White
- ✦ Junior Sportsperson: Laura Mannes
- ✦ Sub-junior Sportsperson: Dallas Hickey
- ✦ Sporting Team of the Year: Coleambally Bowling Club Men's Pennants Team
- ✦ Cultural Award: Lucy Bolton
- ✦ Event of the Year: Toby Price Challenge



(L-R) Back, Australia Day Ambassador Warren Potent, Danielle Mannes, Stephen Hardy representing Toby Price Challenge, Cr Ruth McRae, Ian Sutherland representing Coleambally Bowling Club Men's Pennants team, Laura Mannes. Front, Phoebe White, Dallas Hickey and Lucy Bolton. Absent: Monika Burgess.

Australia Day Award recipients for Darlington Point

- ✦ Citizen of the Year: Tegan Volleberg and Annie Mitchell (tied)
- ✦ Young Citizen of the Year: Shania Hughes
- ✦ Junior Sportsperson of the Year: Thomas Fattore
- ✦ Sporting Team of the Year: Darlington Point/Coleambally First Grade Rugby League Team
- ✦ Event/Group Achievement of the Year: 2RG Sunshine Club – Darlington Point Branch



(L-R) Back, Australia Day Ambassador Warren Potent, Sue Porter representing 2RG Sunshine Club, Tegan Volleberg, Cr Ruth McRae, Cindy Eldridge representing Darlington Point Coleambally RLFC, Annie Mitchell and Shania Hughes. Absent: Thomas Fattore.

Australia Day award recipients for Jerilderie

- ✦ 2020 Citizens of the Year: "The Wednesday Group" of Anne Hardie, Joan Kuschert, Elaine Forbes and Joan Atkinson
- ✦ Young Citizen of the Year: Ben Neessen
- ✦ Little Aussie Awards: Jerilderie Public School - Dan Eldridge and St Joseph's Primary School - Lachlan Wells.




(L-R) The Wednesday Group members Elaine Forbes, Joan Kuschert, Anne Hardie, Joan Atkinson, with Ben Neessen.

Also on the evening, the late Ian Sneddon was posthumously named as the Patron of the Jerilderie Australia Day Committee.



(L-R) Little Aussie's, Lachlan Wells and Dan Eldridge.



Don't be a tosser! Cigarettes tossed from vehicles can start bush fires. With the dry conditions at the moment, it's more important than ever to refrain from throwing your cigarette butts out the car window. You can report littering from a vehicle on 131 555 or online at epa.nsw.gov.au.

Noisy neighbours?

If your neighbour is causing noise that is annoying you, it's best to talk to them and try to resolve the issue. If you still can't resolve the issue, contact Council for assistance.

Noise restrictions are in place for the use of tools and other things which can disturb the neighbourhood. During these times, your noise should not be able to be heard inside someone else's residence. This applies to:

- ✦ Power tools, pumps, lawn mowers - not before 8 am or after 8 pm on any Saturday, Sunday or public holiday, or before 7 am or after 8 pm on any other day.
- ✦ Musical instruments or electrically amplified sound equipment - not before 8 am or after midnight on Friday, Saturday or any day immediately before a public holiday, or before 8 am or after 10 pm on any other day.
- ✦ Motor vehicles (except when entering or leaving residential premises) - not before 8 am or after 8 pm on any Saturday, Sunday or public holiday, or before 7 am or after 8 pm on any other day.

What is a Neighbourhood Safer Place?

Neighbourhood Safer Places are a place of last resort during a bush fire. They are to be used when all other options in your bush fire survival plan can't be put into action safely.



Neighbourhood Safer Places in our Council area

- ✦ Monash Park, corner of Bolton and Mahonga Streets, Jerilderie.
- ✦ Yamma Hall, 1334 Gilbert Road, Coleambally.
- ✦ Coleambally Community Club Car Park, Falcon Road, Coleambally.
- ✦ Darlington Point Sports Ground, King Street, Darlington Point.

You should note your Neighbourhood Safer Place in your bush fire survival plan before a bush fire occurs. You should also know how to get there, as well as alternate routes in case the road is blocked or too dangerous to drive on.

For more information as well as other vital fire safety information, head to rfs.nsw.gov.au.

What's on

29 February - Jerilderie Working Dog Auction, 8.30 am - 4.00 pm, Jerilderie Racecourse. T: 0429 445 964.

5 April - Youth Week Bus Trip to Griffith - bowling, laser tag, arcades and rock climbing. T: Eden at Murrumbidgee Council on 03 5886 1200.

22-24 April - Jerilderie Holiday Youth Program, Jerilderie Racecourse. T: Jacqui Robertson 0429 861 560

29 April - Seniors bus trip to Morundah Hotel for lunch. T: Kerri at Murrumbidgee Council on 0427 600 971.

17-24 May - Jerilderie Show 'n' Shine Art Exhibition, contact Roslyn Lockhart. T: 0427 275 886.

Spreading the word

Murrumbidgee Council staff have been out and about promoting tourism offerings from the region on the Kidman Way Promotions Committee stand at the Victorian Caravan, Camping and Touring Supershow.



The show attracts over 50,000 people interested in all things caravan and camping and runs from 19 to 24 February in Flemington. It is a fantastic way to liaise with potential visitors to our area.

Council's Economic Development and Tourism Manager Kellie Dissegna at the supershow.

TransGrid survey activity

Work crews from TransGrid will soon be carrying out environmental investigations, including soil surveys and ecology assessments. The work is part of Project EnergyConnect, a new transmission line linking SA, NSW and Victoria. T:1800 490 666, E: pec@transgrid.com.au, W: www.projectenergyconnect.com.au. Information and feedback sessions will also be held.



**FOCUS
ON
SENIORS**



Services for seniors

Who can benefit from this service?

- ✦ People aged 65+ who need assistance to manage in their own home (or over 55 for Aboriginal people) and their carer.
- ✦ Younger people with a disability and their carer (only for Coleambally and Darlington Point residents).

Services available

Minor home modifications and home maintenance

Contact: Coleambally and Darlington Point: Cindy Eldridge, Murrumbidgee Council. T: 02 6960 5500.
Jerilderie: Berrigan & District Home & Community Services. T: 03 5883 2044.

Meals on Wheels

Contact: Coleambally: Kerri Weymouth/Cherie Chirgwin, Murrumbidgee Council. T: 0427 600 971.

Darlington Point: Cindy Eldridge, Murrumbidgee Council. T: 02 6960 5500.

Jerilderie: Berrigan & District Home & Community Services. T: 03 5883 2044.

Community Transport

Weekly bus to Griffith (every Thursday) and **monthly bus service to Wagga Wagga** (last Tuesday) for Coleambally and Darlington Point residents.

Contact: Kerri Weymouth/Cherie Chirgwin, Murrumbidgee Council. T: 0427 600 971.

Access to car/bus transport to attend appointments.

Coleambally and Darlington Point, Kerri Weymouth/Cherie Chirgwin, Murrumbidgee Council. T: 0427 600 971.

Jerilderie: Valmar Support Services. T: 02 6920 4162.

Weekly bus service from Jerilderie to Shepparton (first Thursday); Cobram (second Thursday); Yarrowonga (third Thursday); Albury (fourth Thursday) and Corowa or Deniliquin (fifth Thursday).

Contact: Valmar Support Services. T: 02 6920 4162 (please book a week in advance).

Respite Group – Coleambally Respite meets each Wednesday at the Coleambally Community Club. Darlington Point meets each Wednesday at the Darlington Point Sports Club.

Contact: Coleambally: Kerri Weymouth/Cherie Chirgwin, Murrumbidgee Council. T: 0427 600 971.

Darlington Point: Cindy Eldridge/Kylie Heath, Murrumbidgee Council. T: 02 6960 5500.

Community Social support in Jerilderie – practical support, such as visiting, shopping and other activities.

Contact: Berrigan & District Home & Community Services. T: 03 5883 2044.

Seniors trip to Morundah

Celebrate Seniors Festival with a bus trip and lunch at the Morundah Hotel on 29 April 2020. More details to follow. Contact: Kerri or Cherie at Murrumbidgee Council on 0427 600 971.

Regional Seniors Travel Card

Eligible seniors living in regional, rural and remote areas of NSW can now apply for a \$250 prepaid card to help ease the cost of travel. The card can be used at certain retailers to pay for pre-booked NSW Trainlink Regional trains and coaches, fuel and taxis. For more information visit www.service.nsw.gov.au/regionalseniorstravel, phone 13 77 88 or go to a Service NSW Service Centre.

Intereach - a service for the whole community

Intereach provides support to anyone in the community through the Community Links program.

It assists people to link with the local community, connect with like-minded people and develop new skills

and knowledge. Support is also available for people who need assistance to apply for NDIS support.

Connect with the Community Links team on 1300 488 226 or email community@intereach.com.au.



Drought funding in our area

The Australian Government has provided \$1 million in funding to many local councils, including Murrumbidgee Council, to help alleviate the impact of the drought. Our Council is using some of this money to support events throughout the area, including:

- ✦ AFL "Tackle your Feelings" Coaching program at Jerilderie (5 March) and Coleambally (6 March).
- ✦ Farm budgeting Masterclasses.
- ✦ International Women's Day luncheon (6 March).
- ✦ "Cork, Canvas and Create" Wellness in the Park.
- ✦ Wellness activities in Jerilderie and Darlington Point – FloYo in the Pool (Yoga and HIT class).
- ✦ Women on Wheels training days in Yanco.

Other news

- ✦ One off payments are still available through St Vincent de Paul, Rural Aid and the CWA.
- ✦ Visit the Drought Hub website to keep up to date with all the latest initiatives. <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/climate-and-emergencies/droughthub>
- ✦ Contact Rural Financial Counsellor, Airlie Hoskins for financial counselling. Airlie is located in the Coleambally Council office. T: 0429 396 729 or airlie@rfcsnsw.com.au
- ✦ Contact your bank for information regarding their Hardship Policies.

Contact Samantha Star for more information on 0400 321 016.

Drought support for small business

The NSW Government has a number of support programs for small business including:

- ✦ Skills training for drought-affected business owners
- ✦ Rural Adversity Mental Health Program
- ✦ Professional business advice
- ✦ Dealing with business to business disputes

Also available are some excellent resources and tips on promoting your business. More details: www.smallbusiness.nsw.gov.au.

Small Business Drought loans up to \$500,000 are available. They are administered by the Regional Investment Corporation (RIC). Contact RIC on 1800 875 675 or go to www.ric.gov.au.

Have your say on the future development of our area

Council is currently undertaking a review of planning controls that affect the social, economic and environmental development of our area. This includes looking into things like:

- ✦ Any constraints, issues and opportunities that might affect future development
- ✦ The need for any rezonings and controls that affect development
- ✦ Whether additional residential, business, industrial and recreation areas are required
- ✦ The adequacy of our services, facilities and infrastructure
- ✦ Ways to promote the liveability of our towns and communities and measures to encourage population increase and business investment

If you have any views or wish to make suggestions, please contact the Environmental Services team at Council on 1300 676 243.

Welcome to Darlington Point!

Take a drive along the Kidman Way at Darlington Point and you'll be greeted by the impressive new entrance signs! They were funded by the NSW Government.



If you have a project in mind that would be a great asset for our area, drop us a line at [mail@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au](mailto:murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au) or phone us on 1300 676 243.

Spray drift and its impact

Spray drift is when pesticide dust or droplets move through the air when they are applied or soon after to somewhere other than where they are meant for. It can damage our health, animal health and the environment, nearby crops or land on other property. The EPA regulates mismanagement of spray drift and works with communities to reduce spray drift by providing guidance and advice. Go to epa.nsw.gov.au for more details.



Council info

Meetings will be held at:

- ✦ Tuesday 24 March, 10 am at Darlington Point
- ✦ Tuesday 28 April 2020, 10 am at Jerilderie

All welcome!

Waste Depot hours

Coleambally: Tuesday and Thursday: 9-11 am and Sunday 2-5 pm. Darlington Point: Tuesday and Thursday: 2-4 pm and Sunday: 8-11 am

Jerilderie: Monday and Friday: 8-11 am, Wednesday: 3-6 pm and Sunday 2-5 pm.

Bendigo Bank Agencies

Both the Darlington Point and Jerilderie offices provide Bendigo Bank Agency services from Monday to Friday, 9 am-4.30 pm.

Library hours

Jerilderie Library: Monday, Thursday and Friday: 10 am-5 pm. Wednesday: 10 am-6 pm. Closed for lunch from 12-12.30 pm.

Movie - 3rd Wednesday of each month.

The Mobile Library visits Coleambally every Wednesday and Darlington Point every Thursday.

Recycling facilities

Community Recycling Stations are located at Murrumbidgee Council offices (Darlington Point's is coming soon). Items that can be recycled: mobile phones and accessories, fluorescent light bulbs, smoke detectors, household batteries and toner cartridges.

The next rates instalment is due at the end of February

Waddi Regional Cultural Heritage Arts Centre

Construction has begun! Keep the June 2020 long weekend free for the opening!

If you would like a personalised commemorative paver in the community garden, come along to the Punt Hotel on 29 February from 11 am - 2 pm to place your order. No cash will be accepted, debit or credit card only. A single paver will be \$27.50 and a family triple paver will be \$100.00. More details: Tamileigh: 0428 681 398.

The MPHNS Murrumbidgee Youth and Murrumbidgee Community grants are now open: www.mphn.org.au. Check out Council's e-news for details on grants. Subscribe at www.murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au

War on weeds

A \$40,000 grant from Murray Local Land Services (MLLS) has helped in the ongoing war on weeds. Council allocated the money to nine landholders who used it for the control of African boxthorns, Horehound, Galvanised burr and Bathurst burrs along the Yanco Creek area. Funding was extended by twelve months due the dry conditions. Council would like to thank MLLS and all landholders involved.

Your Councillors

Jerilderie Ward



Cr Ruth McRae (Mayor)
0428 861 767
ruthm@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au



Cr Faith Bryce
0438 108 803
faithb@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au



Cr Gaila Smith
0428 861 513
gailas@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au

Murrumbidgee East Ward



Cr Robert Black (Deputy Mayor)
0428 696 102
robertb@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au



Cr Christine Chirgwin
0467 544 724
christinec@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au



Cr Pat Brown
0427 546 151
patb@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au

Murrumbidgee Ward



Cr Robert Curphey
0448 629 502
robertc@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au



Cr Gavin Gilbert
0439 255 448
gaving@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au



Cr Phillip Wells
0408 445 339
phillipw@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au

Contacting Council T: 1300 676 243

Follow us on



PO Box 96 Jerilderie NSW 2716 | E: mail@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au | www.murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au

Darlington Point Office

21 Carrington Street
Darlington Point NSW 2706
T: (02) 6960 5500
Office hours: 8.30 am - 5.00 pm (Monday to Friday)

Coleambally Office

39 Brolga Place
Coleambally NSW 2707
T: (02) 6954 4060 or (02) 6954 4179
Office hours: 9.00 am - 5.00 pm (Monday to Friday). Closed for lunch 12.30 - 1.30 pm

Jerilderie Office

35 Jerilderie Street/PO Box 96
Jerilderie NSW 2716
T: (03) 5886 1200
Office hours: 8.30 am - 5.00 pm (Monday to Friday)

For emergencies out of hours: Coleambally and Darlington Point T: 0427 684 166 and Jerilderie T: 0428 579 095

Information is correct at the time of printing. February 2020.