

SPECIAL RATE VARIATION —FORMER GUNDAGAI SHIRE COUNCIL

At its November Council Meeting, Council resolved to make application to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) for the 2008/09 special rate variation of the former Gundagai Shire Council to be made permanent. The former Gundagai Shire Council was granted a special rate variation of 12.89% for a period of ten years from 1 July 2008. The current financial year is the final year for the application of the special variation. Should the proposed application to make the special rate variation permanent be unsuccessful, an amount of \$263,530 will need to be deducted from Council's general income. The former Gundagai Shire Council had been relying on the continuation of the special variation as a permanent adjustment to its rates income and this was reflected in the ten year planning period of its long term financial plan. Council must continue to ensure that it is financially sustainable into the future and the community expects Council to provide them with services that meets their needs. If Council was required to deduct \$263,530 from its annual income, there will be a severe impact on the service levels being able to be provided to the community. Should Council be successful in its application to IPART, it is important to note that ratepayers will not be paying any more for their rates in 2018/19 other than the rate peg amount, which has been fixed at 2.3% by IPART. However, it will mean that Council can continue to deliver services, maintain existing infrastructure and expand infrastructure to meet community needs. Council is seeking Ministerial approval to submit the application and if approval is granted, Council will further consult with the community as part of the application process. Council has developed a survey to gauge community opinion. The Survey is available from Councils website <http://www.cgrc.nsw.gov.au/connect-with-us/connect-with-us-council-directory/rates/special-rate-variation/> or Council Offices.

MINISTER FOR SPORT HAS A HIT ON FISHER PARK

The NSW State Government Minister for Sport the Hon. Stuart Ayres and the Member for Cootamundra Steph Cooke visited Cootamundra on Thursday 30 November 2017 and met with Cootamundra Cricket Association members at Fisher Park. The busy members of parliament took time out to enjoy a quick backyard cricket match with a collection of Cootamundra's junior cricketers. Mr Ayres and Ms Cooke rounded out the visit with a meeting of representatives from the Cootamundra Rugby Union Club, the Tricolours at Country Club Oval, where plans of the proposed new amenities block were discussed. The new amenities block will be funded under Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council's major infrastructure projects, from the Stronger Communities Fund.



WIN A SWAG!

Tell us your name, phone number and your PLAN B for getting home tonight for a chance to win a swag to the value of \$250.

Entry at participating licensed venues.



Carols in the Park
Sunday 10 December
Jubilee Park
Cootamundra 5.30pm

OPENING OF GUNDAGAI GYM AND POOL UPGRADE

The NSW Minister for Sport the Hon. Stuart Ayres MP, Member for Cootamundra Steph Cooke MP and Mayor Abb McAlister officially opened the newly redeveloped Gym and Heated Pool in Gundagai on Thursday 30 November 2017. Construction was recently completed after \$316,242 in funding was secured from the NSW Government Department of Trade and Investment under the Club GRANTS Category 3 fund.



COUNCIL MEETING

An Ordinary Council meeting will be held **6pm, Tuesday 12 December 2017**, at Stephen Ward Rooms, Cootamundra Library. Members of the public are invited to address Council on any local government issue at the commencement of the meeting. The Agenda can be obtained from Councils offices or website or prior to the meeting.

COUNCIL EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Roads Trees and Other Emergencies
Cootamundra Area - 0408 278 956
Gundagai Area - 02 69440200 Ext 3
Water and Sewer Emergencies
Cootamundra Area - 0407 019 258
Gundagai Area - 0419 980 498
Animal Control / Regulatory
Council Area—0428 288 478

GUNDAGAI CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL
17 December 2017 Carberry Park
Photos with Santa from 5pm-6:30pm
Carols By Candle Light from 7pm



VILLAGE STRATEGY

The Draft Coolac, Stockinbingal and Wallendbeen Strategies are now on exhibition for the community to make comment on. Until the 5th of January 2018, Council encourages the community to take a look at the strategies which can be viewed on Council's website, in either office or library. It is hoped that through exhibition, Council receives confirmation that the strategies accurately reflect the communities aspirations, that projects are realistic and that any deficiencies or opportunities not covered in the draft strategies have the chance to be raised. In conjunction with the exhibition of these strategies a photo competition is being run. Budding photographers are encouraged to capture and enter images which capture the essence of the villages of Coolac, Stockinbingal and Wallendbeen. A winning photo from each village will take home \$100 and that photo will be the cover image for the final strategy. A grand prize of a family photo package or mentor session with Forever Rose Photography will be awarded to an overall winning photo from all six villages. A number of other noted photos will receive judge's prizes such as pool vouchers. Photos can be entered online by emailing planning@cgrc.nsw.gov.au and must be accompanied by a signed Villages Photography Competition entry form available on the CGRC website.

STREET SWEEPER REPLACED



Council recently took delivery of a new Rosmech Mistral road sweeper which will replace the 2008 Rosmech sweeper previously based in Cootamundra. The unit will be utilised in both Cootamundra and Gundagai areas to ensure both towns streets are cleaned and presented to the highest possible standard.

LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

Calling all book lovers. Would you like to join a book group? There are openings for people to join an existing men's and ladies club. Any organised groups are also welcome to join the Cootamundra library's book club system. If you are interested please contact the Library on 69402200 or drop in and speak to one of the Library Assistants.

Story Time Xmas Party

Wednesday December 13, 11am

Special guest: SANTA!!

Carols, craft, presents!

Please bring a plate to share :)



ROTARY PEACE PARK OPENING COOTAMUNDRA

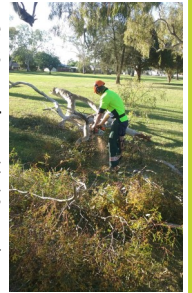
A large crowd gathered in Albert Park on Thursday 28 November to celebrate milestones with members of the Rotary Club of Cootamundra. Dignitaries included Member for Cootamundra Steph Cooke, Commanding Officer of Kapooka Army Recruit Training Centre, Colonel Michael Garroway, Rotary District Governor George Weston and local Rotarians. Local man Peter Beath gave the Welcome to Country address, which was followed by Murray Izzard playing a moving piece on the Didgeridoo. The celebration of Rotary's 80 years of service to the Cootamundra community also coincided with the official opening of the Peace Path and Garden project, situated on the corner of Adams and Copper Streets in Albert Park. The path and garden are incorporated into the existing Peace Pavilion, another outstanding Rotary project. The Stronger Communities Fund, an initiative of the NSW State Government and administered by Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council, granted the Rotary Club of Cootamundra funds to complete the precinct by constructing the path and landscaping the area around the pavilion. The path also incorporates bricks which have been purchased by local organisations, individuals and families. MP Steph Cooke and Colonel Michael Garroway cut the ribbon. Both spoke on the importance of the work Rotary do in our communities and spreading the Peace message globally.



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OPERATIONS REPORT

Roads - Following the recent rainfall, crews have been undertaking repair work and clearing of drainage structures around the council area. is progressing. Pavement stabilisation has been completed at the Cowcumbra Street/Gundagai Road Intersection. The next stage of the work will involve the placement of the upper pavement layer. Sealing of the project is expected in the coming week pending suitable weather conditions. This work is being partially funded by the NSW Government under the Restart NSW funding and Council from Roads to Recovery Program. The heavy patches on Gobarralong and Adjungbilly Roads are expected to be sealed within the next week. These works are a combination of flood restoration works and general pavement repairs. The crew will then move onto drainage works on Reno Road and Finlay's lane. General road patching and other routine maintenance continue to be completed as required on the state highways and shire road network. **Cootamundra Sewer mains relining** - Progress with the relining of sewer mains in Cootamundra has been affected by the recent wet weather. Currently the crew is undertaking excavation and repairs to the existing mains. This work is expected to carry on until mid-December. **Parks & Gardens** - Staff completed routine jobs including CBD Street sweeping, litter removal, mowing, whipper snipping, edging, hand weeding, cleaning barbeques, tree maintenance and actioning on customer requests. Additional works included staff cleared a large fallen tree branch in Jubilee Park that took out power lines. Staff set up road barriers for 4 causeways in Cootamundra in preparation for water over the roads. The flag pole was removed from the Parker/Wallendoon Street roundabout for the Christmas tree installation. Irrigation repairs were carried out at Bradman Oval. Construction of the new amenities building Owen Vincent Oval continues with block work completed and roof trusses installed. It is expected that the building will be to lock-up stage prior to Christmas. Gundagai Library / Mirrabooka Centre retaining wall is currently under construction and will be completed by mid-December.



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OWEN VINCENT OVAL

Gundagai Men's Shed Retaining Wall is now in place. Stage one being installation of the lower walls has been completed. Stage two will include drainage and completion of the higher walls.



LIBRARY / MIRRABOOKA

CDC Street Christmas Party - Thursday 14 December 5-9 pm. Extended business hours, entertainment, FREE kid's zone sponsored by the Cootamundra Ex Services Club with free rides, face painting, and more! BBQs, stalls and a special visit from Santa!



Enter your home or business in Gundagai's Christmas Lights Competition. Entry is FREE. The entry form is available from the Gundagai Visitor Centre. Entries close 12 noon Monday 18 December 2017. For further information please contact Gundagai Visitor Centre 6944 0250 or 0403 305 402

www.cgrc.nsw.gov.au

Email: mail@cgrc.nsw.gov.au

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Cootamundra Office:

81 Wallendoon Street, Cootamundra NSW 2590

Gundagai Office:

255 Sheridan Street, Gundagai NSW 2722