



Community NEWS

74th EDITION
11th December 2020

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PH. 1300 459 689

CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR CLOSURES – All Works Depots: Close on Wednesday, 23rd December 2020 at Midday and reopen on Monday, 4th January 2021. Administration Offices: Close Thursday, 24th December, 2020 at Midday and reopen on Monday, 4th January, 2021 at 9:00am. Cootamundra Library: Close Thursday, 24th December, 2020 at Midday and reopen on Monday, 4th January, 2021 at 9:00am. Gundagai Library: Close Thursday, 24th December, 2020 at Midday and reopen on Monday, 11th January, 2021 at 9:00am. Gundagai Visitor Information Centre: Close Thursday, 24th December, 2020 at Midday and reopen on Tuesday, 29th December, 2020 at 9:00am. Cootamundra Aquatic Centre: Closed on Friday, 25th December, 2020 and reopen on Saturday, 26th December, 2020 at 10am. Gundagai Swimming Pool: Closed on Friday, 25th December, 2020 and reopen on Saturday, 26th December, 2020 at 2pm.

RED AT NIGHT! A fantastic photo taken by CGRC's Nicky Godber, the pups are enjoying a dip in the dam on a summers evening.



A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR ABB MCALISTER – 2020 has seen us all face challenges, and have opportunities before us that we never thought possible. Where we faced adversity and hardship, we have all risen to embrace what has been put before us, adapt, accept changes and be open to new ideas. The year certainly has been a tough one, hard decisions have been made, and more are to come. We have all come through a global pandemic on a scale which has never been seen in our lifetimes. Our community rallied and held fast to ensure the impact on our communities health was the priority and I congratulate you all for that. On behalf of my fellow Councillors and the staff of Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all residents a very merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.

SPECIAL RATE VARIATION (SRV) – Council is currently finalising details for the special rate variation (SRV) it will be presenting to the community prior to making its application to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) in February 2021. In a few weeks' time every ratepayer will be posted a comprehensive Fact Sheet as well as a survey form. Council understands people are impatient to hear from us, but Council must abide by the rules of the SRV process as laid out by IPART and the Office of Local Government. For now, Council can confirm the SRV will be sizeable. Council also confirm the purpose of the SRV is to try to assure financial sustainability, with a view to maintaining service levels wherever possible, in response to very significant cost pressures imposed by the May 2016 forced amalgamation, subsequent rate path freeze and asset renewal priorities. Council will be conducting Community Meetings, Citizen Juries, and posting videos in an extensive community engagement campaign. The majority of these activities will occur in January. Please rest assured everyone will have the opportunity to have a say. Council has engaged Professor Joseph Drew to ensure there is genuine engagement and everything possible is done to ensure our final submission in February reflects the community's wishes and feedback.

Christmas Events

ACROSS COOTAMUNDRA & GUNDAGAI

Cootamundra

- 1st Dec-17th Dec- Sparkling Streets Competition
- 13th Dec- Combined Churches Carols Online
- 17th Dec- Community Christmas Party
- 21st Dec- Santa Slime
- 22nd Dec - Reindeer Craft
- 23rd Dec- Sequin Baubles

Gundagai

- 1st-15th Dec- Christmas Light Competition
- Every Wed in Dec- Late Night Shopping
- 19th Dec- Twilight Markets

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY

AUSTRALIA DAY AMBASSADORS – The Australia Day Ambassadors will be Mr Peter Herbert, Screenwriter & Producer (Acropolis Now, Skirts) and Ms Melanie Thomas, Journalist, Author & Founder of the KEYUP.

Mr Herbert began his career writing and producing for Crawford Productions with television classics such as Cop Shop, The Sullivans, The Flying Doctors, and Acropolis Now. He wrote Con the Fruiterer for The Comedy Company and Effie in Acropolis Now. In 1991, produced the inaugural Comedy Festival Charity Gala, which is now in its 27th year. Peter also produced The TV Week Logies in 1992 with Steve Vizard hosting. He is currently Head of Screen Business and Producing at the Australian Film Television and radio School and teaches in the Master of Arts programs and will be attending the Cootamundra Australia Day Awards.



Ms Melanie Thomas is the mother of two young girls and a writer, speaker, media commentator and self-defence educator with more than 15 years martial arts experience. Ms Thomas is a champion for change. KYUP! Project is founded on her passion for self-worth and self-defence and takes violence prevention and empowerment beyond awareness into strong-hearted action read on to discover her story. KEYUP is about Empowering Australian's to raise their standards and champion their safety and wellbeing. Ms Thomas will be in attendance at the Gundagai Australia Day Awards.

Did you know you can register your email address to Council and receive newsletters, media releases and other information delivered directly to your inbox? REGISTER VIA MAIL@CGRC.NSW.GOV.AU – Mark Send Me Media in subject line.

COUNCIL MEETING NOTES – At the Ordinary meeting held 9 December 2020 Council resolved a number of issues as listed below.

RATES AND HARDSHIP – DEBT RECOVERY POLICY Council resolved (ITEM 8.1.1) to have these documents on public display for at least 28 days in conjunction with community consultation for a proposed Special Rate Variation. Copies can be obtained from Council office or by visiting CGRC Website.

OLD GUNDAGAI GAOL HERITAGE LISTING AND MASTERPLAN AMENDMENT Council resolved (ITEM 8.3.1) to amend the Old Gundagai Goal Masterplan and seek funding to allow reactivation of the residence for onsite accommodation. If funding can be secured a matched contribution of up to \$30,000 will be made available from funds held in trust on behalf of the Friends Of Old Gundagai Goal.

PROPOSED PROJECT FOR LOCAL ROADS COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM Council resolved (ITEMS 8.7.2 – 8.9.1) to propose the following projects for funding totalling \$952,362.

Projects include:

- Muttama Creek Footpath Replacement.
- Bourkes Street Footpath Upgrade.
- Pioneer Park Access and Paths.
- Bradman Oval Cricket Nets.
- Missing Link Footpath – Nicholson Park.
- Stockingbinal Hall Footpath Disabled Ramp
- Cootamundra Art and Craft Centre Access.
- Gundagai Main Street.
- Gundagai Main Street Art Works.
- Carberry Park Shadesails.
- Palmer Park Shadesails.
- Lindley Park Carpark & House Removal.
- Sherwood Forest Dog Park.

“YOUR HIGH STREET” GRANT PROGRAM Council resolved (ITEM 8.10.2) to nominate completion of landscape works and associated civil works at the far eastern end of Sheridan Street Gundagai for the “Your High Street” Grant program.

DEVELOPMENT OF PROPOSAL RAIL TRAIL COOTAMUNDRA TO TUMBLONG Council resolved (ITEM 9.3) that all activities related to the development of the Proposed Rail Trail between Cootamundra and Tumblong be immediately ceased and the project be abandoned.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST - CGRC is calling for Expressions of Interest from all trades to supply quotes for the erection of toilet facilities, viewing area and completion of Clubhouse area at the AFL Grounds in Clarke Oval Cootamundra. Scope of works can be obtained by contacting Darrell Edwards or Andrew Brock at CGRC. EOI's closes on 14 January 2021. AFL building calling for quotes from all trades to for the erection of toilet facilities viewing area and completion of club house area. EOI to supply quotes close 14 January 2021.

WATER & SEWER ATTENDANT – COOTAMUNDRA. Applications are invited from interested persons for the above full-time position of **Water & Sewer Attendant** to be based at our Bradman Street Depot, Cootamundra. This role assists in day to day water & sewer operations, repairs and maintenance of Council's water & sewage treatment plants, pump stations, reticulation systems, and reuse facilities. **Key Responsibilities include:** Ensure the efficient operation of the Water and Sewage Treatment Plants, pump stations, reticulation systems and reuse systems, through ongoing monitoring, maintenance & repairs, and construction. Ensures water sampling, testing and recording is undertaken to meet required standards of treated and recycled effluent. Ensures the grounds of the Water & Sewage Treatment Plants facility and related work areas are maintained and presented to required Council standard. Ensure that all activity undertaken at Plant worksites is conducted safely. Attend to sewer and water supply emergency calls and ensure customer requests are attended to promptly and efficiently. Be available to respond to on-call activities on a rotating on-call roster. Deliver quality customer service to both internal/external customers. Applications, addressed to the General Manager should be submitted **by 5p.m. on Friday 18th December 2020** by post to Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council, PO Box 420, Cootamundra NSW 2590, delivered to Council's offices at Cootamundra or Gundagai or by email to mail@cgrc.nsw.gov.au. **NOTE:** Applicants must adequately address the selection criteria contained in the relevant Position Description. Failure to do so may result in your application not being considered. Applicants must also include a current resume. **Further information and a Position Description** for the above position is available by contacting Council on 1300 459 689 or Council's website www.cgrc.nsw.gov.au.

VOLUNTEER GARDENER - Bradman's Birthplace is looking for a Volunteer Gardener. If you have a love for gardening and want a project to work on, please contact the Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council for more information. Jobs will include weeding, pruning, watering and other small gardening activities.



THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL - will be held on Wednesday 27 January 2021 at the Gundagai Council Chambers, Gundagai. The meeting Agenda will be available from Council website prior the meeting. Livestreaming will commence at 6pm. Written Open Forum Submissions can be received by 5pm on Monday 25 January 2021.

RBT MEANS YOU NEED A PLAN B - Plan B is a road safety initiative between the Cootamundra Gundagai Regional Council (CGRC), Transport for NSW and the NSW Police and aims at reducing alcohol related crashes on our roads. The program proved especially popular in 2019, with venues across the local government area (LGA), coming on board to participate. The Plan B – WIN A SWAG campaign kicks off in the CGRC area on Tuesday 8 December 2020 with more than 8 licenced venues agreeing to host the program. This year bottle shops within the LGA have also joined the promotion. The venues participating are in Cootamundra: Albion Hotel, BWS, Big O Drive thru Bottle Shop, Ex Services Club; and in Coolac: The Beehive Hotel and in Gundagai: Criterion Hotel and BWS and in Tumblong at the Tavern.

Mirraboopa Christmas Closure
NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE & LIBRARY
CLOSED - 12.30PM THUR DEC 24TH
OPENING - 9AM MON JAN 11TH 2021

Wishing you a safe and happy Merry Christmas

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR GARBAGE COLLECTION - for the Christmas & New Year period is as follows:-
COOTAMUNDRA
If your Normal Collection Day is – Friday 25th December 2020, collection will be Saturday 26th December 2020.
If your Normal Collection Day is – Friday 1st January 2021, collection will be Saturday 2nd January 2021.
GUNDAGAI
If your Normal Collection Day is – Friday 25th December 2020, collection will be Monday 28th December 2020.
If your Normal Collection Day is – Friday 1st January 2021, collection will be Monday 4th January 2021.
NOTE: Normal collection times may vary. Please ensure that your bin/s are put out the night before as the service will start earlier than normal to enable two collections on the one day. Cootamundra and Gundagai Waste Depots will be closed 25 & 26 December 2020, and Friday 1st January 2021. Outside of these public holiday closures operation will be as normal.