



COOTAMUNDRA-  
GUNDAGAI  
REGIONAL  
COUNCIL

# COMMUNITY NEWS

99th EDITION  
W/C 12 December 2022

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Like us on Facebook: @CootamundraGundagaiRC or visit our website [www.cgrc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cgrc.nsw.gov.au)

PH: 1300 459 689

**CHRISTMAS NEW YEAR OPERATING HOURS:** Residents and ratepayers are advised CGRC Administration offices in Cootamundra and Gundagai will close from 12 noon Friday 23rd December 2022. Reopening on 9th January 2023.

CGRC emergency number 1300 459 689.

For information please check the CGRC Website @ <https://www.cgrc.nsw.gov.au/>

THANK YOU AND MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE ALL YEAR ROUND

## LIVVI'S PLACE HAS VICE REGAL VISITOR

A visit from Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC, Governor of New South Wales to Livvi's Place at Albert Park Cootamundra was received with excitement and honour on Wednesday 30 November 2022.

The Governor and her husband Mr Dennis Wilson travelled to Cootamundra to meet with various community and government organisations in the area and expressed a deep interest in meeting with the Cootamundra Youth Council and was very keen to visit Livvi's Place and meet as many people as she could who were involved in the development of the playspace.

Representatives from Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council (CGRC), Elouera School, Touched by Olivia Foundation and other stakeholders met on site with the Governor and guided her around the unique and interesting features within the park.



**ALL STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY:** Please be advised CGRC Administration Offices, Waste Facilities and Depots in Cootamundra and Gundagai will be closed from 11:00am on Thursday 15 December 2022 for a staff development day. Normal hours will resume Friday 16 December 2022. Apologies for any inconvenience.

*Left: William Polsen Captain of Elouera School, Harry Dickinson, and the Governor discuss the aspects of the park. Harry and William were involved in the parks design to make a space for children of all abilities.*

**POSITIONS VACANT:** Your career in local government is now closer than you think. Council is seeking expressions of interest from people who would like to be considered for casual employment. Casual positions are available across a number of departments both indoor and outdoor. Full time positions are being advertised in Cootamundra and Gundagai.

**PLEASE KEEP CHECKING THE CGRC WEBSITE FOR ALL POSITIONS VACANT:**

<https://www.cgrc.nsw.gov.au/positions-vacant/>

**NEW INTERIM GM APPOINTED:** Council will have a new Interim General Manager in 2023. Mr Steve McGrath has accepted the position and will commence duties overseeing Council operations early in the new year. CGRC mayor Cr Charlie Sheahan announced the appointment to staff and said he was very pleased that the position of interim General Manager had been offered to Mr McGrath. Mayor Sheahan went on to thank staff for their patience during difficult and uncertain times and extended his sincerest appreciation to the current interim GM, Mr Les McMahan.

Mr McGrath has a long employment history in local government and will bring a wealth of experience to the team.



**DECEMBER ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL:** The ordinary meeting will be held on Tuesday 13 December 2022 at the Alby Schultz Meeting Centre, Cooper St Cootamundra. Starting at and livestreamed from 6pm. Please refer to Council's website for meeting agenda.

Members of the public may address Council on matters related to an associated agenda item only, as part of the Public Forum.

## OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT DEMERGER UPDATE:

External consultants engaged by the Office of Local Government to assist with the demerger of Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council are finalising their reports, which will be considered by the Government.

Demerging a council is a significantly more complex process than merging councils and it will take time. There is no recent precedent to follow in NSW and the work of the consultants will help the OLG develop a process for the implementing the demerger.

The Government is also seeking to clarify whether changes to legislation will be required to demerge the council, which may be the case.

The Government's focus is not only demerging the existing council, but ensuring the two new councils are set up for future success.

More information will be shared with the Cootamundra-Gundagai community as it becomes available, including regular updates in this newsletter.



## ABOVE: PLANTING OUT THE A COUNTRY

**WOMAN ROSE:** Cultivated in 1997 to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the CWA of NSW and re-released in 2022 to celebrate a fabulous centenary of unwavering support. Pictured left to right: CGRC Parks & Gardens Erin Maskell is pictured with Carol Harris, Maxine Hayes and Heather Waldon planting in Carberry Park. Jo Morton from Goanna Graphics donated and mounted a commemorative plaque.

**JANUARY ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL:** The ordinary meeting will be held on Tuesday 24 January 2023 at the Gundagai Council Chambers, Sheridan Street Gundagai. Starting at and livestreamed from 6pm. Please refer to Council's website for meeting agenda.

Members of the public may address Council on matters related to an associated agenda item only, as part of the Public Forum.

## 2022/23 CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR WASTE

### SERVICES:

#### Cootamundra Waste Depot

|                           |                  |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| Christmas Day Sun 25 Dec  | CLOSED           |
| Boxing Day Mon 26 Dec     | CLOSED           |
| Public Holiday Tue 27 Dec | 10:00am – 3:00pm |
| Wed 28 to Fri 30 Dec      | 7:30am – 3:30pm  |
| Sat 31 Dec                | 10:00am – 3:00pm |
| New Years Day Sun 1 Jan   | CLOSED           |
| Public Holiday Mon 2 Jan  | 10:00am – 3:00pm |

#### Changes to Gundagai Waste Depot

|                           |                                   |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Christmas Day Sun 25 Dec  | CLOSED                            |
| Boxing Day Mon 26 Dec     | CLOSED                            |
| Public Holiday Tue 27 Dec | CLOSED                            |
| Wed 28 Dec                | 1:00pm – 5:00pm                   |
| Thurs 29 Dec              | CLOSED                            |
| Fri 30 Dec                | 7:00am – 11:00am                  |
| Sat 31 Dec                | 11:00am – 5:00pm                  |
| New Years Day Sun 1 Jan   | CLOSED                            |
| Public Holiday Mon 2 Jan  | 7:00am – 1:00pm<br>(normal hours) |

#### Changes to Stockinbingal Waste Depot

|                          |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Christmas Day Sun 25 Dec | CLOSED           |
| Wed 28 Dec               | 8:30am – 12:00pm |
| New Years Day Sun 1 Jan  | CLOSED           |

#### Changes to Wallendbeen Waste Depot

|                          |                 |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Christmas Day Sun 25 Dec | CLOSED          |
| Wed 28 Dec               | 1:00pm – 4:30pm |
| New Years Day Sun 1 Jan  | CLOSED          |

All kerbside collection services will be as normal over the Christmas and New Year period. Please have bins placed out for collection the night before collection day as services may commence earlier than normal.

**GUNDAGAI NETBALL COURTS CLOSED:** until further notice, whilst Clubhouse refurbishment is underway. Apologies for inconvenience caused, whilst this improvement to the facilities is underway.

### **PAYMENT OF EXPENSES AND PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS' POLICY:**

In accordance with section 253 of the Local Government Act, Council hereby gives notice of its intention to adopt or amend its Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for Mayor and Councillors policy. This policy is now on Public exhibition and is available to view here: <https://www.cgrc.nsw.gov.au/connect-with-us/have-your-say/documents-on-public-exhibition/> Council welcomes feedback up until the **3 January 2023**. Please email [mail@cgrc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mail@cgrc.nsw.gov.au) or post your submissions to PO Box 420, Cootamundra NSW 2590.

### **GUNDAGAI STREET STALL DATES FOR 2023:**

Organisations seeking a Street Stall Allocation for 2023 are requested to lodge a written application with Gundagai Administration Office no later than **4:00 p.m. on Thursday, 22 December 2022.**

**DOUBLE DEMERIT POINTS OVER THE HOLIDAYS!!**

### **WHAT'S YOUR PLAN B: Win a Swag**

**Promotion is a road safety campaign that targets drink driving awareness and encourages people to plan ahead and make safer choices when drinking alcohol. Patrons of hotels and bottle shops can enter the draw to win a double swag by simply nominating alternative options to drink driving.**

### **WIN A SWAG . . . . AND SAVE A MATE!**

**Participating venues in Cootamundra**

- IGA Bottle Shop
- The Olympic Hotel Bottle Shop
- The Central Hotel
- Cootamundra Ex-Services Club
- Woolworths Bottle Shop
- Wallendbeen Hotel
- Participating venues in Gundagai
- Foodworks Bottle Shop
- The Criterion Bottle Shop
- Lotts Family Hotel
- Gundagai District Services Club
- Tumblong Tavern

### **SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES:**

**New Years Eve Movie Night, Dec 31, 7:30 – 12:30 @ The Arts Centre, for ages 12-17** Featuring Hunt for the Wilder People, stream of Sydney fireworks on the big screen, food, games, dancing & more. **FREE EVENT**, for more info see Cootamundra Youth Council Facebook page. **Wagga Wagga Bus Trip** Monday 16th January. Leaves Mirrabooka at 9.00am and returns at 4.00pm. Make the most of the holidays with a few friends and a day out in Wagga. **Skate, scoot & grip tape workshops** Friday 20th January, 2023. Cootamundra 10:30-12:30. Gundagai 2:00-3:30. **CHECK COUNCIL WEBSITE**

### **REFLECT. RESPECT. CELEBRATE.**

See those words up there? That's what Australia Day is all about. You might choose to pause and reflect on our history – both difficult and beautiful. Perhaps you'll show your respect by attending a ceremony or trying something new. Maybe you'll celebrate with some great friends and great tunes! Whether you choose to reflect, respect, celebrate or do all three on Australia Day – you're contributing to our story. The story of Australia. And that's doing something Australian.

**BREAKFAST IN THE PARKS  
THURSDAY 26 JANUARY 2023.  
ENTERTAINMENT, PRESENTATION  
OF AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS &  
FRIENDSHIP.**

Mayor Cr Charlie Sheahan, Deputy Mayor Cr Leigh Bowden, Cr Abb McAlister, Cr David Graham, Cr Gil Kelly, Cr Penny Nicholson, Cr Logan Collins, Cr Trevor Glover, Cr Les Boyd. Visit <https://www.cgrc.nsw.gov.au/>

### **FROM THE MAYOR:**

Wishing our wonderful staff, fellow councillors, and amazing communities a wonderful, happy, and safe Christmas. It has been a challenging year, with major changes within the organisation, and the effects of challenging weather conditions on roads and infrastructure, and the impact on our communities with the recent major floods that have swept through our towns and villages.

I feel for all those residents who have been impacted by flood water and I assure you that Council is doing everything possible to assist in every way.

If you need help please do not hesitate to contact Council, our staff will assist or put you in contact with appropriate government support.

I wish to acknowledge the wonderful response from our volunteers over the recent weeks, SES, RFS, Community organisations, and just regular neighbours helping and supporting each other. We truly live in beautiful communities.

A special thank you to our staff. It has been a difficult period with the announcement of the demerger by the government in August creating more uncertainty and challenges in the workplace. In respect of the demerger process, the Office for Local Government is providing support for staff well-being and guidelines for councillors throughout the interim period.

I would also like to thank specially Les McMahon who joined us in March for a 3 month interim period, but with the Boundary Commission hearings and the subsequent demerger announcement he is still with us but unfortunately will be leaving to resume his retirement and greater time with family.

I thank Les for his commitment and leadership through a very difficult period. I wish Les all the best.

Please take care on the roads if you are travelling over Christmas and the New Year. The roads are in a terrible state and all councils are working as hard as possible to restore the road network.

Merry Christmas all, happy New Year and stay safe.

**Charlie Sheahan  
Mayor**



Last newsletter for 2022. Check CGRC website & Facebook for news over festive season.