



# COMMUNITY NEWS

100th EDITION  
W/C 16 January 2023

COOTAMUNDRA-  
GUNDAGAI  
REGIONAL  
COUNCIL

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## FROM THE MAYOR:

On behalf of Council I'd like to wish all residents a very happy new year. May 2023 bring you happiness and good health. 2023 will bring changes to CGRC I'm sure, with the appointment of the new Interim General Manager Mr Steve McGrath. Steve brings to the table a wealth of experience and knowledge and we welcome him. The demerger process will continue and we will see further updates from the Office of Local Government as the year progresses.

Council staff continued to serve their communities splendidly whilst faced with many challenges throughout the year. Flooding in particular saw the regions roads, parks and sporting fields damaged, the continuing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic saw staff shortages and supply chain issues.

Looking back over the last 12 months, Council has achieved some significant goals, and delivered on various projects that have enhanced our living experiences within the region.

I am very proud that Council and the Cootamundra Aboriginal Working Party (CAWP), have come together and now have a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). Together we signed the Bala-yanhi Miya, (Together We're Working), at the last Council meeting in December 2022. The Bala-yanhi Miya is underpinned by strong commitment from both organisations to realising long term benefits for the community through improved understanding and an enhanced working relationship.

Council also officially opened the \$20 million Gundagai Sewage Treatment Plant, this facility has been years in the planning and construction and the biggest infrastructure project ever undertaken by Council. It will meet the future needs of the Gundagai community and is packed with modern technology to monitor and control the treatment process. It can produce treated effluent that complies with current regulatory requirements and the wastewater quality has improved significantly.

Council's footpath replacement program progressed, along with the LED street lighting. One project that stands out as a great achievement for our region is Livvi's Place at Albert Park Cootamundra. This very special play space is something that we are very proud of and it's a place that encourages inclusivity, friendship and equality.

Until next month, stay safe, stay nice and be kind to each other.

**Charlie Sheahan**  
Mayor



**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/>



Above: The Rose Garden area in Cootamundra's Albert Park will be the venue for this year's Australia Day celebrations in Cootamundra. Due to the rehabilitation work currently taking place in Jubilee Park. Gundagai venue Carberry Park.

**FOR SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES: Check out CGRC Website, CYC & GYC Facebook Pages, Gundagai and Cootamundra Library Facebook Pages and Cootamundra Pool & Sports Stadium Facebook Page and on Instagram.**

Mayor Cr Charlie Sheahan, Deputy Mayor Cr Leigh Bowden, Cr Abb McAlister, Cr Gil Kelly, Cr David Graham, Cr Penny Nicholson, Cr Logan Collins, Cr Trevor Glover, Cr Les Boyd. To stay upto date visit <https://www.cgrc.nsw.gov.au> or like our Facebook page.

## CGRC & CAWP SIGN MoU:

Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council (CGRC) and members of the Cootamundra Aboriginal Working Party (CAWP) Peter Beath, Colina Meadows and Amanda Levett, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), Bala-yanhi Miya, (Together We're Working).

The purpose of the Bala-yanhi Miya is to formalise the agreement of The Parties to lay founding principles and set out specific commitments for the ongoing relationship and mutual cooperation with CAWP and Council. Both Parties share the desire and goodwill to work jointly to improve the presences and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander issues in planning and services provided by Council with a view to improved Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participation, employment, health, and wellbeing outcomes. Alongside this is the wish for broader understanding and recognition amongst the wider CootamundraGundagai communities of the regions' rich Aboriginal heritage and proud tradition. The Bala-yanhi Miya is underpinned by strong commitment from both organisations to realising long term benefits for the community through improved understanding and an enhanced working relationship.

Cr Sheahan said the members of CAWP, and Council had established the dialogue so into the future both organisations can grow and learn for each other.

Colina Meadows Chairperson made a statement on behalf of CAWP congratulating Councillors for taking the MoU onboard and is looking forward to a genuine partnership and working with Council into the future. Amanda Levett Deputy Chairperson for CAWP spoke and said CAWP appreciated that Council is prepared to work together and learn with them. "It's an ongoing conversation and an ongoing partnership. We look forward to working together, learning together," Amanda said.

Peter Beath (pictured left with Mayor Sheahan) marked the occasion with the presentation to Council of a Message Stick, as a reminder of the commitment made by both parties for this partnership between the two organisations.

**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.



Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

# Australia Day in the Park

YOU'RE INVITED TO

THURSDAY 26 JANUARY 2023

**CARBERRY PARK GUNDAGAI or ALBERT PARK COOTAMUNDRA**

FESTIVITIES START  
AT 8:00AM

WITH BREAKFAST

FOLLOWED BY

ENTERTAINMENT

SPEECHES

AUSTRALIA DAY  
AMBASSADORS

PRESENTATION OF  
AWARDS



COOTAMUNDRA  
REGIONAL  
GUNDAGAI COUNCIL



Mr Bruce Watley – Australia Day Ambassador for Cootamundra.

An art director and illustrator Mr Watley has written and/or illustrated over 100 childrens picture books.



Note Change of Venue in Cootamundra

AUSTRALIA DAY 2023

REFLECT. CELEBRATE. RESPECT.

See those words 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.



Ms Katryna Robinson – Australia Day Ambassador for Gundagai. Founder of charity, 'Every Little Bit Helps', Ms Robinson believes every Australian should have regular access to a toothbrush and a bar of soap.