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2023 AUSTRALIA DAY CELEBRATIONS: Our region was blessed with a beautiful day on Thursday 26th January 2023, festivities in Albert Park Cootamundra and Carberry Park Gundagai were jumping with live music, and a party atmosphere.

Albert Park Cootamundra was a picturesque setting to celebrate the achievements of community members and the welcoming of new residents. Carberry Park in Gundagai, saw a great turn out to mark the achievements of community members who make a difference.

Citizenship ceremonies took place in conjunction with Australia Day awards, where eight new Australian citizens were welcomed. Six in Gundagai and two in Cootamundra.

Australia Day Award recipients included:

Citizen of the Year – Garry James, Cootamundra. Phil Smith, Gundagai. **Young Citizen of the Year** – Grace Hoey, Cootamundra. Indianna Cooper, Gundagai.

Sportsperson of the Year - Joshua Purtell Cootamundra. Braith Winner & Archie Wheaton, Gundagai. A special **Australia Day Award** went to Tanya and Jason Baldock in Cootamundra for their fundraising efforts with Chop the Mop, that saw over \$124,000 raised for Cootamundra Can Assist.



STRONGER COUNTRY COMMUNITIES FUNDING: For amenities upgrade at Cootamundra's Fisher Park, and Stockinbingal's Ellwoods Hall, was announced by Member for Cootamundra Steph Cooke on Australia Day. Steph met with Fisher Park user groups and members of Stockinbingals Ellwood Hall committee. Pictured also with CGRC Iterim General Manager Steve McGrath and Mayor Charlie Sheahan.



COUNCIL IS NOW HIRING. POSITIONS VACANT:
WATER & SEWER OPERATOR – FULL TIME POSITION BASED IN COOTAMUNDRA: PLANT MECHANIC – FULL TIME POSITION BASED IN GUNDAGAI: TRUCK DRIVER – HEAVY COMBINATION FULL TIME POSITION BASED IN COOTAMUNDRA: For more information on these positions and position descriptions please visit <https://www.cgrc.nsw.gov.au/positions-vacant/> Or call 1300 459 689. **CASUAL EMPLOYMENT? CGRC IS NOW INVITING EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FROM PEOPLE WHO WOULD LIKE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR CASUAL ROLES WITHIN COUNCIL.** All departments are keen to hear from people who have the skills or the passion for working in Local Government. Complete the EOI form found at <https://www.cgrc.nsw.gov.au/positions-vacant/> attach a resume and send it in.

AUSTRALIA DAY IN THE PARKS: (Left) A huge crowd turned out in Gundagai. (Top) Award winners with Mayor Sheahan and Australia Day Ambassador Bruce Whately in Cootamundra. (Above) Award winners in Gundagai.

2023 SENIORS WEEK: Senior citizens from across the LGA are invited to meet and greet local Councillors and Senior CGRC Staff at morning tea events to be held in: Gundagai on Wednesday 8 February at 10am, at Council Chambers building in Sheridan St. Gundagai. Cootamundra on Thursday 9 February at 10am, at the Town Hall Foyer in Wallendoon St. Cootamundra. Seniors Expo on Thursday 9 February at Gundagai. Information on Library activities, Road Safety Initiatives, Tourism and Mosquito borne diseases will be available. Please join us for a cuppa and morning tea. Check out the CGRC Website for more information on Seniors Week activities.

CONSTRUCTION WORK WARNING: Construction work is currently being undertaken at Gundagai Swimming Pool, Carberry and Palmer Parks and Gundagai Library. Please keep away from construction zones.

FEBRUARY ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL: The ordinary meeting will be held on Tuesday 28 February 2023 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.

TENDER OPEN SHERIDAN STREET GUNDAGAI MAIN STREET

UPGRADE: CGRC is seeking suitably qualified contractors to complete the Sheridan St Main St Upgrade (Block 3 Stage 2) from Homer St 120m easterly towards Virgil Street on the Southern side in Gundagai. The works have been compiled into six (6) construction packages. Respondents are invited to submit a quotation for one or all packages listed. There will be no further breakdown within each package. *Demolition and Bulk Earthworks *Water + Stormwater Drainage *Construction of Retaining Walls *Kerb and Gutter Construction *Footpath – Concrete Subgrade and Stencilled Concrete Footpaths *Footpath Stone Paving *Road Pavement Construction. **Tenders close Monday 13 February 2023 at 2pm.** All Tenders can be viewed at and submissions should be made through the VendorPanel Portal at [VendorPanel Public Tenders: Council](#) welcomes current and potential subcontractors to register with VendorPanel. Registration is free.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Cootamundra's Bradman Cottage and the Cootamundra Heritage Centre are looking for volunteers. Volunteering can be on a weekly, fortnightly, or monthly basis and expands social networks, provides new skills and makes a difference to your community.

REHABILITATION PROJECT - COOPER LANE COOTAMUNDRA: Residents and motorists are advised that rehabilitation works will commence on Cooper Lane Cootamundra from 6 February 2023 until April 2023. During this time the lane will be closed to traffic periodically. Please obey traffic signals in area whilst these works are underway.

PUBLIC SPACES (UNATTENDED PROPERTY)-VEHICLES: The NSW Government have introduced new laws, involving motor vehicles, caravans, boat and other trailers and cars, this is the Public Spaces (Unattended Property) Act 2021 and Regulations. The new laws enables Councils to remove any of these items that are causing an obstruction to a road user or pedestrian, or that is a potential safety risk and is impacting on the environment and the enjoyment of our Public Spaces. This law puts the accountability firmly on those responsible to manage their own vehicles/items and to do the right thing and remove their property quickly from public land. CGRC's Rangers will be commencing compliance checks from February and will be largely concentrating their patrols on the townships of Cootamundra and Gundagai, checking for vehicles/items that have been left parked on Public Spaces for too long. The Council will notify the owners that their Vehicle, Caravan, Boat, or other Trailer is causing a safety risk or an obstruction and is to be moved off the road and onto their property. For more information, visit <https://www.cgrc.nsw.gov.au/public-spaces-unattended-property/>

HEAVY PATCHING PROGRAM: Council has commenced the heavy patching program on the Olympic Highway at the Junee boundary and will progress over the next 2-3 weeks to the Hilltops boundary north of Wallendbeen, before moving onto Burley Griffin Way for another 2-3 weeks. These works are fully funded by TfNSW and managed by CGRC and will serve to improve our state road network. Please obey traffic signals and drive with care!

COOTAMUNDRA BEACH VOLLEYBALL CARNIVAL: Is back and will be held on the weekend of 17-19 February 2023. Motorists please proceed with caution in Murray Street Cootamundra during the carnival.

FROM THE MAYOR:

I will take this opportunity to congratulate all Australia Day award winners and those who were nominated. It was heartening to see so many brave the hot weather and join us in our beautiful parks in Cootamundra and Gundagai on Australia Day. A huge thank you to the respective communities volunteers, SES, Lions Club, Youth Council, Scouts, fellow Councillors and staff who came together on the day to celebrate the achievements of community members. Live music in both centres entertained the crowds and our Ambassadors, Bruce Whatley in Cootamundra and Katryna Robinson in Gundagai told their stories and assisted celebrating with us. We welcomed eight new Australians with citizenship ceremonies held in conjunction. Thank you to all residents who came along and passed on their appreciation.

Australia Day was busy with the announcement from Member for Cootamundra Steph Cooke of Stronger Country Communities Funding for projects within our LGA. Change rooms and amenities at Fisher Park and amenities upgrade at Ellwoods Hall Stockinbingal. Steph and I met with representatives from Stockinbingal's Ellwoods Hall, Fisher Park Cootamundra users groups in Fisher Park where the announcement and cheque presentation of \$569,400.00 from the Stronger Country Communities Fund Round 5 was made.

I would also like to invite the senior members of our communities to attend seniors week activities being held across our communities. Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council (CGRC) will host the annual Meet and Greet morning tea events at Gundagai on Wednesday 8 February at 10am, at Council Chambers building in Sheridan Street Gundagai and in Cootamundra on Thursday 9 February at 10am, at the Town Hall Foyer in Wallendoon Street Cootamundra. As we all settle back into our routines, I remind residents and motorists to take care on our roads, please obey traffic signals, slow down around road works. With school returning, remember school buses will be out and about, picking up and dropping of their precious cargo at roadside bus stops and at schools, remember you must slow down to 40km per hour when school bus lights are flashing. With the new school year, keep in mind that some very young and inexperienced bus passengers are just starting out on their school journeys. Slow down and be bus aware. Welcome to Steve McGrath our new Interim General Manager, Steve is settling into the role and has met many locals already. We are looking forward to a great working relationship.

News on the merger front is filtering through, messages from the Office of Local Government contained will be posted to Council website and in future Newsletters.

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

Charlie Sheahan Mayor.



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.

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