



Community Strategic
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AND MORE...

Moulamein 'Big Tree'.
Pic: We are Explorers

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Message from the Mayor

As the weather warms up and restrictions ease, we will all be heading outside more, enjoying the sunshine and utilising our local parks and spaces.

Which makes it the perfect time for people to share their feedback on our community parks and the facilities within them.

As part of our assets and service planning, we are currently focusing on our local playgrounds and park spaces. We want to make sure we get a good understanding of how they are used and how often they are used.

We want to make sure that we are hearing from as many people as possible to ensure we have the information we need to help guide our maintenance and planning priorities. We want to understand not only how people use these spaces, but also how they feel about the condition of our parks and the facilities within them.

That's why you will see some QR codes pop-up at local playgrounds and recreation spaces in the coming month. If you're using one of these spaces, I encourage you to scan the code and complete the quick 3-question survey so that we have the info we need to plan for maintenance or replacement works.

We know that some of our larger riverside playgrounds are important tourism assets for our region, but equally as important, are



the smaller local parks dotted around our communities.

Whether it is taking the kids to the playground, getting in some exercise, having a BBQ, or holding a birthday party, we all use these spaces for so many different reasons.

But we need to get some more accurate data around this.

Are spaces used often? Or only occasionally?

We want to get some accurate feedback and data, so please, if you use a park space and see our QR code sign, scan it and let us know!

Cr Chris Bilkey



Love the local park space you use?



Or are there things you'd like to see improved?

Keep an eye out for QR codes at our local spaces so you can have your say!



The project updates...

Here are some updates on just a few of the community infrastructure projects we are continuing to deliver!

Moama Recreation Reserve: Zone Two

Funded under NSW Government's Stronger Country Communities Fund Round 2.

Council recently completed the enhancement of the Moama Recreation Reserve's Zone 2 Area.

The Project included the installation of a car park, drainage, sports field lighting, solar lighting, BBQ area, irrigation and additional landscaping surrounding the BBQ area. Council was also successful in using saved costs to increase the scope of works to construct an additional car park entry to ensure the smooth flow of traffic!

As a result of the completed project, users of the Moama Recreation Reserve (including Council staff using the Staff Car Park) have benefited extensively from the enhancements!



Key beneficiaries include local sporting clubs such as the soccer club and little athletics, as well as various members of the public who utilise the recreation reserve.

Moulamein Centenary Reserve upgrades

Funded under NSW Government's Crown Reserve Improvement Fund.

The Moulamein Centenary Reserve received \$266,000 to renovate the existing administration building and toilet.

The addition of a new outdoor shelter will provide important amenity and shade for the community to enjoy events at the reserve. The joint project is being managed by Council and a small project team from the Moulamein Race Club who have contributed to the works by donating their time to assist the renovations.



■ The admin building is about to have an overhaul. Watch this space!

The old building was in poor condition with uneven flooring, white ant damage and poor lighting. The toilet was small and had no disabled access. The renovations will provide new toilet amenities with an increased capacity, flooring will be replaced, minor building repairs and fresh internal painting.

Works have begun and are expected to be complete prior to the upcoming Moulamein Race event in December!

Barham Recreation Reserve-finishing touches

Funded under NSW Government's Crown Reserves Improvement Fund and Showground Stimulus Fund, Phase 2.

Works have continued at the Barham Recreation Reserve with multiple projects expected to be completed in the coming months.

The final works will complement the completed pavilion and landscaping and will see the re-sheeting of the roads around the reserve and refurbishment of the existing toilet block behind the Lawson Pavilion.

There will be lots of movement at the reserve as our local contractors get in and deliver the finishing touches!



■ The internal roadways are about to get a facelift!

Wakool Hall upgrades

Funded through Council's capital works budget.

Our Parks and Gardens Staff have completed much needed works at the Wakool Hall to install a new access ramp into the building. They also recently installed and upgraded the irrigation system surrounding the Hall and will be laying new turf to complete the works.

The landscape works will beautify the area and provide a more welcoming environment for the Hall. In July this year, the BBQ was also upgraded and the furniture was modified to be more comfortable for users.

Now complete with the fitness equipment and a playground, the whole area provides a green space and something for the community to enjoy!



LIKE US ON
FACEBOOK

Keep an eye on updates or community information via our Facebook Page: Murray River Council.



Australia Day Awards: who will you be nominating?

Not long left to nominate someone for our 2022 Australia Day Awards!

If you've ever thought someone you know deserves a little extra pat on the back, this is the perfect way to do it.

The nomination process is simple- you just need to tell us why the person or group deserves an award. Easy!

You can nominate someone for:

- Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Sportsperson of the Year
- Young Sportsperson of the Year
- Community Event of the Year
- Community Group of the Year
- Arts/Cultural Award (person or group)

Nominate today at yoursay.murrayriver.nsw.gov.au

Nominations close November 5.



Australia's largest sustainability and community festival, the Garage Sale Trail, is back next month, remodelled for COVID and bigger than ever!

To accommodate our land of pre-loved shop-a-holics, Garage Sale Trail 2021 will take place online or in the community (restrictions allowing) over three glorious weekends from 6 to 21 November. The festival encourages residents to sell, shop and learn about the circular economy.

A circular economy means 'stuff' is kept in use for as long as possible, delivering the highest value it can, for as long as it can.

That's something we can all get behind!

Find out more and register to get involved at www.garagesaletrail.com.au

New website- launching soon!

We're excited to announce that we are soon launching a new website!

The new website has been designed to offer the ultimate user-friendly experience with improved navigation and functionality

Created with the user experience in mind, our site includes new features to ensure customers can find the information they need!

Watch this space, as it will go live in the next month or so.

Water standpipes go digital

Council has been digitising all filtered water standpipes across the council area, with the upgrades to the remaining standpipes in Barham, Wakool, Moulamein and Tooleybuc soon to be complete.

Standpipes become critical infrastructure during droughts to help deliver safe drinking water to rural communities when there is insufficient rainfall to keep the tanks full.

These recent upgrades will improve control over access and ensure water is accounted for if any issues arise.

So what is changing?

If you are someone who makes use of the standpipes - regularly or even just on the odd occasion - you will need an electronic fob to get access.



You will no longer be able to pull up and write your name down.

You can arrange an access fob by contacting council on 1300 087 004 and ask to speak to one of our Water Team Coordinators.

It's heating up: Have you removed your hazardous vegetation?



With summer just around the corner, Council Officers have been undertaking property inspections across the region with the aim of reducing fire fuel loads.

With the first round of inspections now complete, letters have been sent to property owners requesting removal of vegetation. Follow-up inspections are now also underway and it is great to see many properties have already been slashed and cleared before the weather really heats up.

This is an important activity that we need to do every summer to keep our properties- and our neighbours' properties - free from fire hazards. Failure to comply can result in penalties so let's get mowing!

Community Strategic plan

The overview

The Community Strategic Plan (CSP) is our 10 year plan that outlines the community's aspirations and long-term vision and goals for Murray River Council.

The plan will soon be developed through extensive consultation with the community and Council, and will form our blue-print for both short-term projects and a longer-term program of works to be delivered across our Local Government Area.

The CSP will be developed over the coming months; with rigorous community engagement sessions planned for February 2022. The sessions will be held at key locations across the region, as well as virtually, to allow direct feedback from our broader community.

Keep an eye on the local papers, our website and our Facebook page for updates and opportunities for you to participate in the development of the plan.

As part of developing the CSP, community members will be provided an opportunity to suggest projects (one-off projects) and programs (a series of small projects like bike paths or walking tracks) which will form part of Council's one-year operational plan that will meet the objectives of the overall CSP.

Stay tuned for more info. We can't wait for you to join the conversation!

Join the conversation

Don't miss your chance to have your say.

Register now on our Your Say platform to stay in the loop and share your big ideas!

.....
yoursay.murrayriver.nsw.gov.au



Community Strategic plan

the timeline

Sept– Nov 2021



Internal review of the current 2018-2028 Community Strategic Plan.

The Your Say Murray River Community Strategic Plan webpage will be developed and go live. Here you can sign up and provide feedback on the plan, programs and projects!

Nov - Dec 2021

Workshops with Councillors (existing) and Murray River Council's Leadership Team. Here we will review and update the themes and goals of the Community Strategic Plan for 2022-2032.



January 2022



The Your Say Murray River Community Strategic Plan webpage will be updated with the themes and goals. Here you can provide feedback and options for the projects and programs of work across the council area.

February 2022

Community Engagement 'Pop-In' sessions will be held at key locations across the region as well as virtually, to allow direct feedback and options for projects and programs of work across the council area.



March 2022



Council will review the community projects and programs against budget options and the overall direction of the Community Strategic Plan.

April 2022

The Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 (excluding the 1-year operational plan) will be provided to Councillors for final review and adoption. Once adopted, the plan will be placed on display for public comment.



May 2022



Council staff will provide the 1-year operational plan to the Councillors for review and adoption. The plan will also take into account budget requirements for implementation of the projects and programs.

June 2022

Display of the final adopted Community Strategic Plan including the 1-year operational plan (the 2022/23 budget)



Let's talk weeds

New ID Guide

Council has released a new Priority Weeds Identification Guide for local landholders to help them identify and prevent problem weeds becoming established on properties.

The guide has been developed in collaboration with NSW Local Land Services and the Biosecurity Teams at Murray River, Edward River and Berrigan Shire Councils.

The guide is a great identification tool and includes descriptions and images of weed species through a range of growth stages to make the identification process as easy as possible for our landholders.

The priority weeds identification guide is available for free from any of council's customer service centres or by calling 1300 087 004.

Landholders are also encouraged to contact the Biosecurity Team directly for delivery of a guide: they can drop a copy at your property, discuss all things weeds and even complete a property weed inspection while they are there!



The current targets

Our Biosecurity Team are now starting to focus on warmer month weeds, such as Khaki Weed, Silverleaf Nightshade, Spiny Burrgrass, St. Johns Wort and catheads.

In the on-going battle against the weeds, prevention needs to focus on stopping weeds entering and becoming established on properties.....and now is the optimum time for control! Contact the team if you spot anything.



Residents from right across the Council can expect to have a Food and Garden Organics waste collection service – known as FOGO - from mid-2022, after Council received funding under the NSW Environment Protection Authority's Waste Less Recycle More program.

This means all customers who currently have access to kerbside waste collection will have a green bin service introduced to their collection schedules from mid next year!

This will also expand the green bin service currently operating in Moama and Mathoura to include both food and garden organics.

The 3-bin service will provide residents with more options for separating their waste, with the aim of improving recovery rates, increasing diversion from landfill and reducing costs of processing material.

Residents can expect a comprehensive education program so there is no confusion around what goes in which bin!

Households can expect to start receiving the caddies, liners, information packages and green lid bins (if they don't already have one) early-mid next year.

FOGO collection will begin across the entire Council area for residential kerbside customers on the 1st of July 2022.

There will be no changes to collection schedules until this time.

Why not check-out our Y Hubs?!

We have recently launched local youth drop-in centres with games, music, Wifi, PS4's, art supplies....you name it!

We run these in Moulamein, Moama and Barham, with transport options available for youth from other towns too.

We suggest you follow our Youth Engagement Program pages on Facebook or Instagram to keep up to date with the schedule. Or here is a quick snapshot below to get you started!

Moulamein

Where: at the Community Services Office

When: weekly on Fridays: 3.30pm – 6.30pm

Barham

Where: at the Barham Rec Reserve Pavilion

When: fortnightly on Fridays: 3.30pm – 6.30pm (commenced 8 October)

Moama

Where: Moama Community Centre, 1-3 Martin St

When: fortnightly on Fridays: 3.30pm – 6.30pm (commenced 15 October)



Volunteers wanted!

We need your help to facilitate our Youth Hubs in Moama, Barham and Moulamein.

If you're aged 18-25, are available Friday afternoons and have a passion for helping your community then please get in touch!

Contact Elisha on 0427 736 094 or Karen on 0429 991 841.

Guess what's coming back in December?

When the sun is set and the sky nears dark take a trip to the local park.

And when you're there you'll be sure to see dazzling light displays in the trees.

Then head down the road, you know the direction; you'll be sure to discover more light projections.

Wonder and magic without fail, take the whole family on our pop-up lighting trail!

Stay tuned for more details soon!



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Local Government Elections

Saturday December 4

Key dates:

Candidate nominations open:

Monday 25 October

Closing of nominations:

Wednesday 3 November

Pre-poll voting period opens:

Monday 22 November

Election Day:

Saturday 4 December



To the Householder