

MESSAGE FROM CR SIMPSON



In my current term as a Councillor I am fortunate to sit on a number of Council's Committees. These are the Lake Wyangan and Catchment Management Committee, Cultural Facilities Committee and I am the Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Committee. The first two are functioning committees with the later not having a single meeting after failing to attract any representatives from the local community to sit on it. If there is interest from the community for the environment in the local region Council would welcome you to participate in this area. Council has a very active department working in this area and having the input from the community would be in my opinion beneficial to the work they undertake. I took up this role as I would like to ensure that the local environment is managed appropriately.

The Lake Wyangan and Catchment Management Committee is a large committee with four Councillors and many community and interest group representatives. Murrumbidgee Irrigation also attends these meetings as they are the operators of the South Lake and have the licence for the water into the system. The Committee is tasked with the role of overseeing the work that is being managed by Council's environmental staff to primarily address the matters relating to the Lake water quality.

The community should be aware that this is not a quick fix nor any easy one, as the route being taken is following the recommendations of a scientific report that was undertaken into the issues at the Lake. Council are investing in this and are currently advertising for a suitable person to be employed for a three year term to manage the process. Council also has allocated in its budget funding for works to occur over future years – these are positive steps in the right direction. As the authority working on

this it cannot just start up the process of stopping inflows or creating wetlands to filter the water coming into the system, these need to be in the first instance monitored and measured. There is no sense in creating a wetland for storm water filtration when we currently have no measure of the type and amount of possible inflows. Expressions of interest have also been called for business to come forward to run a specific monitoring program that will measure and monitor the catchment. Only when this data is available will Council be able to get a full measure of the steps needed to treat the water coming into the system. As I said it is not going to happen overnight, suitable water plants for this environment need to be assessed and appropriate works to ensure that the system will be able to cope. The Cultural Facilities Committee is an interesting Committee that is made up of many members of the community that are interested in the many facilities owned and managed by Council. These are the Griffith Regional Theatre, Griffith Regional Art Gallery, Westend Stadium, Griffith City Library and Griffith Regional Leisure and Aquatic Centre. Managers for these facilities provide the committee with regular reports on the performance and use of these facilities. It is interesting to find out what is actually going on at these facilities and the amount of traffic and support they are given by the community. If any member of the public wants to find out more the minutes of all these committees are available for download on the Council's website. You would be amazed at what you can find on that website.

Kind regards,

Cr Brian Simpson

It's now easier to do business

Opening and running a café, small bar or restaurant in Griffith just got a whole lot easier with Griffith City Council partnering with Service NSW and the Office of the NSW Small Business Commissioner.

The joint initiative, titled 'Easy to do Business' was launched in Griffith on Wednesday 30 May 2018.

Through one online portal you will receive step-by-step guidance and support across local, state and federal government requirements, to open and grow your business. Easy to do Business is free of charge and gives you peace of mind by letting you know upfront the time, fees and effort involved.

Mayor John Dal Broi said that a thriving economy and creat-

ing more local jobs is important to Council.

"We understand the difficulty, hurdles and red tape that people go through just to get a business up and running, which is why we are excited to launch Easy to do Business here in Griffith City Council. This program is not only free of charge, it lives up to its name."

With streamlined forms and one phone number to remove complexity when opening a café, small bar or restaurant, you can spend less time on paperwork and more time on your business. And, for added assurance, you will be supported by a dedicated personal Business Concierge through the process.

Easy to do Business has al-

ready reduced the time it takes to open a café, small bar or restaurant making it faster to set up your business. With new industries such as housing construction and retail being added in the future, we are looking forward to more ways to make it easier for you to do business in Griffith City Council.

"Griffith City Council is delighted to be able to continue our support of local business by joining this program. We encourage anyone interested in opening a café, small bar or restaurant to take advantage of this service," Cr Dal Broi said.

For more information see Council's Customer Service team, visit service.nsw.gov.au/business or call 13 77 88.



Opening and running a café, small bar or restaurant in Griffith just got a whole lot easier.

Meeting to develop strategy

Wellways, in conjunction with Griffith City Council, is encouraging residents, stakeholders and organisations to participate in developing an after suicide response strategy by attending a community planning meeting.

The meeting, to be held Wednesday 6 June, 4pm at Griffith City Council Chambers, is the first step in creating a suicide response strategy, which aims to bring the community together to support those who are bereaved after suicide.

Carolyn Drinkwater, Suicide Prevention Coordinator for the Murrumbidgee Suicide Prevention Program for Well-

ways, said developing a strategy forms part of the recently launched Murrumbidgee Suicide Prevention Program which aims to support people following a suicide attempt.

"Often the community feels helpless following a death by suicide and sometimes those who have experienced a loss need a little extra support during a time of confusion and sadness," said Ms Drinkwater.

"It's not just individuals, but the whole community that feels overwhelmed following a death by suicide.

"Sometimes those who have experienced loss need a little

extra support - the creation of this response strategy will help guide stakeholders and the community to provide appropriate and timely responses during a time of need.

"We are working closely with families, friends, businesses and organisations to raise awareness, develop skills and increase knowledge to help create safer communities," said Ms Drinkwater.

If you would like to contribute to the strategy, please join us on Wednesday 6 June 2018, 4pm at Griffith City Council Chambers.

Can Assist Head Shave & Biggest Morning Tea

Two Council employees and one Councillor will brave the shave for Griffith Can Assist. Join us for morning tea on Tuesday 19 June, 2018 from 9.30am - 11.30am, Griffith Regional Theatre.

The \$5 entry fee includes delicious nibbles and cup of tea.

Lucky door prizes, raffle, Peeches Coffee van and Under the Arches scarf and hat stall.



Every Sunday, 7.30am

Griffith Rotary Markets

Showgrounds

Every Tuesday, 10am

Baby Bounce, Griffith City Library

Third Thursday of Each Month

Movie Club, Griffith City Library

Every Friday, 11am

Toddler Time, Griffith City Library

Friday June 1, 11am

Italian Week Storytime

Griffith City Library

Saturday, June 2

Italian Day Celebrations

Griffith Central

Thursday June 7, 6.30pm

Griffith Carevan Movie Fundraiser,

Griffith City Cinemas

Friday June 8

Stolen

Griffith Regional Theatre

Saturday, June 9 & Sunday, June 10

Griffith Tennis Club 2018 MIA Open

Championships

Saturday, June 9 & Sunday, June 10

Griffith Shaheedi Tournament

(Griffith Sikh Games)

Tuesday, June 12

Guy Sebastian

Griffith Regional Theatre

Friday June 15

Melbourne Comedy Festival

Griffith Regional Theatre

Saturday 16 June - Sunday 22 July

For Country For Nation Exhibition

Griffith Regional Art Gallery

Thursday, July 19

Melbourne Comedy Festival

Griffith Regional Theatre

Saturday, July 21

Letters to Lindy

Griffith Regional Theatre

See the full list of events online at

visitgriffith.com.au



Community Opinion Group

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