

# COUNCIL CATCH-UP

## Councillor Brian Simpson



Welcome to my second community catch up for 2018. A busy time of the year for all of us, getting ready for the Christmas and New Year period. I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and happy festive season, it will be here before you know it. Take time to share some time and a laugh with your family and friends during this period if you are able, while it can be a stressful period for many.

I would like to use this edition to talk more on the matter of Lake Wyangan as it has been aired recently in the news, radio and social media and I believe that while solutions will take time to come to fruition the steps that are being proposed will work to assist in a positive outcome. I am very supportive of current proposals to seek funds to address the problems at the Lake and believe that with more available funds Council should be able to achieve better outcomes to the problem of water quality. I envisage the Lake precinct to become a real jewel of a public resource for the community but I urge patience. It is not a simple fix and financially

we need to be realistic.

Users of the Lake will understand that since water reforms have occurred the flows into the Lake have reduced dramatically all in accordance with better farming practices and working with a scarcer resource. Using water better is something that has had to occur and a consequence of less steady overflows into the Lake and changes in farming practices around the Lake catchment it has led to regular outbreaks of Blue Green Algae which has been undesirable to all users and the community. Council has been aware of this for a long time and commissioned a report with assistance from Murrumbidgee Irrigation into the problem with the aim of coming up with a long-term solution.

To maintain the Lake, Council allocates a portion of its town water supply resource pool. This is allocation that the City owns and provides to residents for consumptive purposes, it is a very secure resource. The amount of water allocation to the Lake may vary annually depending on evaporation and use, for example if the local boat club was

holding a significant event liaison between it and Council would occur for water top ups. This season, discussions are being held about the possibility of trading this allocation instead of placing it in the lake for capital gain (which Council is permitted to do) to be able to commence works at the Lake to have a positive impact on the condition of it, a start for its future. This matter has yet to go before Council formally however the word is out there and discussions held with members of user groups at the Lake have been quite positive to date and acknowledgment that this is a start to fixing this problem is promising. I trust that the community supports some positive action on this front. It is also important to note that recently a project officer Tom Ryan was appointed to manage and oversee works at the Lake precinct with regard to the Lake Wyangan Catchment Management Strategy Project which Council is using as a road map to create a solution for Lake Wyangan. This shows just how serious Council is taking the matter of correcting the Lake. The strategy project

identified more than 20 options for the Lake and a range of options will be investigated, including in Lake and catchment options. Each solution must address the three causes of algae, sediment (nutrient loading), circulation (residence time of the water) and sunlight (temperature). Understanding the issue was the first step toward this and the project delivered on that. Council now moves on to monitoring the conditions, it needs to understand the system of the Lake better to allow a thorough management strategy to be developed and resourced. In my discussions with members of the community I understand the frustration at the pace but Council needs to ensure the fix that it does will work, be reliable and beneficial to the Lake precinct and the community.

Regards,  
Cr Brian Simpson

## Groups given a helping hand



Above: (Back) Griffith North Public School students Skye Robinson, Millie Power, Jimmy Vaghasia, Jayden Bruce and Deepjay Kang. (Front) Griffith North Public School P&C president Cate Yates, vice presidents Steve Mitchell and Judy Peruzzi with Griffith Mayor John Dal Broi and Teacher Brett Angel. During the last round of Council's Community Grant Program the P&C received funds towards new play equipment.

A bike riding program for local children, training to support refugees and improved amenities for volunteers are just some of the projects that have been funded as part of Griffith City Council's Community Grant Fund.

More than \$29,000 was awarded to local groups when Council endorsed the Round One 2018/19 recipients at the ordinary meeting on Tuesday, 23 October.

Mayor John Dal Broi said it was good to see worthwhile applications received from community groups, not-for-profit and charitable organisations, as well as individuals. The successful grant recipients are:

- Griffith Shed For Men Community Gathering Area/Carpark under cover

- NSW Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors - (STARTTS) Cultural Competence in Working with People from Refugee Backgrounds
- Griffith Community Drug Action Team CDAT SMART Recovery Training
- Griffith Community FM Association Inc Toilet refurbishment
- Lady of Loreta Festival Committee Church Hall Resources - chairs and tables
- Prostate Cancer Support Group - Awareness and Support for Men (and their families) experiencing Prostate Cancer
- Dyirri-Bang-gu Aboriginal Corporation - Aged Care Service - Elders Day Out

- Tharbogang Public School P & C Association Riding For Focus - Pilot program to deliver a before school bike riding program
- Griffith Senior Citizens INC Chair Replacement Program. Griffith Senior Citizen's Centre
- St Patrick's Primary School Griffith Purchase and installation of playground seating
- Griffith Pony Club Inc Replacement of essential equipment to enable Griffith Pony Club to continue and expand its activities
- Leo Forner Participating in West of the Divide European Music Tour
- Tirkandi Inaburra Cultural & Development Centre - outs Defib Machine

## Busy November at the Library

Griffith City Library is living up to its reputation as a one-stop-shop for all your information and research needs, with a busy November ahead. Whether you're searching for ways to improve your overall health and wellbeing, you want to delve into your family history or you're simply looking for ways to keep the kids amused, Griffith City Library has you covered.

Local dietitian Jessica Amendolia and functional medicine practitioner Cassandra Irvin will join forces for a health and wellbeing Q&A style information session on Thursday, 8 November from 6pm to 7pm.

"My focus will be on nutrition and how stress can affect our hormones," Ms Amendolia said.

"We all lead busy lives and our diets sometimes reflect that. I'll share practical advice to help improve overall health and wellbeing."

Ms Irvin will concentrate on gut health and the impact of our food choices.

"I get a lot of people coming to me with different gut issues," she said.

"I'll be looking at how stress and our busy lifestyles can influence our gut health."

Children are welcome to come along, with activities available to keep them occupied. Light refreshments will be provided. To reserve your spot for the Health and Wellbeing Information Evening book online at [wrl.eventbrite.com.au](http://wrl.eventbrite.com.au)

With a little help from Griffith City Library and the Griffith Genealogical and Historical Society you won't have to dig too deep to reach the roots of your family tree.

Come along to the library on Wednesday afternoons throughout November, 3pm - 5pm to receive help researching your family history with local research professionals. Presented by members of the genealogical and historical society, volunteers will demonstrate how to use different search engines and research resources to help you find the answers to any

questions you may have.

Throughout November you will find all of the usual events, such as the Community Info Helpdesk on Thursday 1 November 2018 from 3pm - 5pm. Access information on immigration, education, disability services, housing, legal issues, mental health services, alcohol & drug support, employment and sexual assault services. Don't forget Rhyme Time is on Tuesdays at 10am. This is an early literacy program for children aged 0 - 3 years where children sing-a-long and play musical instruments to nursery rhymes and popular music. The ever-popular Storytime, held every Friday at 11am encourages a love of stories, books and reading and includes arts and craft. This is suitable for children aged 2 - 5 years old.

Seniors Saturday movie this month is The Book Shop on 24 November at 1pm and the Thursday Film Club movie is 'Tea with the Dames' on 15 November at 5pm.



# Calling all local performers



Following the sell-out seasons of its acclaimed productions of *Wicked* and *Beauty and the Beast*, Griffith Regional Theatre is proud to announce the 2019 community musical production of *Legally Blonde*. A fantastically fun, award-winning musical based on the extremely popular movie, *Legally Blonde*, follows the transformation of Elle Woods as she tackles stereotypes and scandal in pursuit of her dreams. Action-packed and exploding with memorable songs and dynamic dances - this musical is so much fun, it should be illegal! Manager of Griffith Regional Theatre, Raina Savage said, "We are so excited to finally announce our new musical - directed by Andrew Bartle - who has an extensive background in musical theatre production, backed by the team who brought you *Wicked* and *Beauty and the Beast*. This will be another high

quality, exhilarating theatrical romp and we want you to be involved." "We are seeking local performers, aged 15 years and over to be part of our next community production. "Auditions will be held over the weekend of 1 and 2 December 2018," Ms Savage said. An information evening will be held on Wednesday 14 November from 7pm at the Griffith Regional Theatre. Everyone is welcome to come along and find out more about this exciting community event. Director Andrew Bartle said, "This session will give you an opportunity to meet the production team, learn more about the show and to ask any questions you might have. "Our production team will discuss preparing for your auditions, and give performers lots of tips on how to show the panel what you can do," Andrew Bartle has worked

with numerous musical theatre companies including Sydney Youth Musical Theatre, Willoughby Theatre Company, Chatswood Musical Society, Hills Musical Theatre Company, on productions of *Mary Poppins*, *The Producers*, *South Pacific*, *Peter Pan*, *42nd Street* and many others. The highly experienced production team includes Matt Segrave Musical Director, 'Miss Mike' Di Salvatore Choreographer, Heath Neville- Set Design, and John Matkovic - Lighting Design. *Legally Blonde* will play at Griffith Regional Theatre from 5 June 2019 for a strictly limited season. For all further enquiries about *Legally Blonde* the musical, please contact Griffith Regional Theatre on 6962 8444. *Griffith Regional Theatre is a cultural facility of Griffith City Council and is proudly sponsored by Griffith City Volkswagen.*



## POSITIONS VACANT

Are you looking for a rewarding career? Then join our team and make a difference to your community. Griffith City Council offers the chance to work in a stable and secure environment while providing excellent opportunities to develop your skills and career potential. Council is proactive and passionate about creating ongoing opportunities for our growing population. Council is seeking applications from enthusiastic motivated individuals for the following positions:

### Gymnasium Instructor (Casual)

The role of this position is to provide advice and guidance to "the fitness club" patrons on the safe, fun and effective use of the equipment provided. The Gym Instructor will conduct health assessments and provide exercise programs for "the fitness club" users. They will also be required to assist with the daily duties necessary in maintaining a safe environment, ensuring the safety and well being of all GRALC patrons. The successful applicant must have a Certificate III in fitness. Please include copies of all relevant licences and qualifications with your application. To be considered for this position applicants must have a Working with Children Check Clearance Number for employment screening purposes. To apply for a Working with Children Check Clearance Number, log onto and complete the online application form [www.newcheck.kids.nsw.gov.au](http://www.newcheck.kids.nsw.gov.au) (in child related industry sector, tick education). Commencement ordinary hourly rate is \$25.2982 plus 25% casual loading Monday to Friday and penalty rates for any weekend work (Grade 5). This position is designated as a child-related position. It is an offence under NSW Legislation for a person convicted of a serious sex offence to apply for this position.

Applications close 4pm, Friday 16 November 2018. If you have any questions about the role please contact Vivienne De Valentin on 6962 8100.

### Indigenous Customer Service Officer (12 month term appointment, 3 days per week)

Customer Service Officers are the frontline customer engagement point, working in a team environment to provide efficient, responsive and courteous customer service across a range of Council's functions ensuring a positive customer service experience is provided to a diverse range of people. Please include copies of all relevant licenses and qualifications with your application. Hours of work are 21 hours per week with an annual hourly range \$30.6254 to \$33.6886 (Grade 8). This is a designated position for persons of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent. An applicant's race is a genuine occupational qualification and is authorised by Section 14 (d) of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977.

Applications close 4pm, Friday 16 November 2018. If you have any questions about the role please contact Trudy Kalteren on 6962 8100.

## Ozonation and Relief Plant Operator (Permanent)

The role of the Ozonation and Relief Plant Operator is to construct, operate and maintain Council's water, sewerage and stormwater reticulation systems to relevant standards in a safe, economical and proficient manner, using the plant, equipment and materials supplied. The successful applicant will require to hold a current drivers licence Class HR and a Certificate of Competence as specified by the Work Cover Authority for Front End Loader and Back-Hoe.

Please include copies of all relevant licenses and qualifications with your application. Hours of work are 38 hours per week, with an annual salary range \$53,670.24 to \$59,035.60 (Grade 7) and a rostered day off once a fortnight.

Applications close 4pm, Friday 16 November 2018. If you have any questions about the role please contact Steve Crombie on 6962 8100.

To apply or for more information about these positions, log on to [griffith.nsw.gov.au/jobs](http://griffith.nsw.gov.au/jobs) or contact Council's Workforce Planning Administrator on 6962 8100.

**Only those with current rights to work in Australia may apply. Council is an Equal Employment Opportunity employer and welcomes diversity in the workplace.**

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### Notice of Closure - Council Staff Day

The Griffith City Council offices, Griffith City Library, Griffith Regional Art Gallery, Griffith Regional Theatre, Griffith Regional Aquatic Leisure Centre and Griffith Saleyards will be closed on Tuesday, 6 November 2018 for a Council Staff Day and will re-open on Wednesday, 7 November 2018.

The Griffith Visitor Information Centre, Pioneer Park Museum and West End Stadium will be open as normal.

The emergency after hours numbers are 6964 1160 or 6969 4832. For all fire emergencies telephone 000. For emergencies relating to dog attacks and stock on roadways call the Council Ranger on 0429 142 363.

Waste collection and kerbside recycling will be collected as normal. The Tharbogang Waste Management Centre will be open as normal.

### New Residents Welcome Reception

Griffith City Council invites all new Griffith residents and their families to attend a Welcome Reception on **Wednesday 7 November from 5.30pm at Griffith Regional Theatre.**

While the adults will enjoy refreshments, socialising and meeting new people, the children will be entertained by Pete's Dragon and the Lego Batman Movie as well as pizza and popcorn!

Hear from Griffith Mayor, Councillor John Dal Broi and Council staff, and you will be provided with information packs to assist you settle into life in Griffith. RSVP essential.

Please visit [griffith.nsw.gov.au/welcome](http://griffith.nsw.gov.au/welcome) to reserve your free tickets.

For more information, please contact Council's Economic Development Officer, Leanne Austin on 6962 8100.

## Presentation of Financial Statements in accordance with Section 418 (3) of the Local Government Act

In accordance with Section 418 (3) of the Local Government Act, 1993, Griffith City Council advises that the ordinary Council meeting to be held on 13 November 2018 will include the presentation of the audited financial statements and the auditor's reports for the year ending 30 June 2018.

A summary of the financial statements is provided below:

	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
<b>Income Statement</b>		
Total income from continuing operations	64,163	63,826
Total expenses from continuing operations	53,804	50,006
<b>Operating result from continuing operations</b>	<b>10,359</b>	<b>13,820</b>
<b>Net operating result for the year</b>		
Net operating result before grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	10,359	13,820
	6,599	9,206
<b>Statement of Financial Position</b>		
Total current assets	57,750	48,349
Total current liabilities	(13,032)	(13,532)
Total non-current assets	689,551	708,319
Total non-current liabilities	(17,584)	(18,685)
<b>Total equity</b>	<b>716,685</b>	<b>724,451</b>
<b>Other financial information</b>		
Unrestricted current ratio (times)	2.86x	2.53x
Operating performance ratio (%)	10.7%	15.1%
Debt service cover ratio (times)	8.20x	7.95x
Rates and annual charges outstanding ratio (%)	7.5%	6.8%
Buildings and Infrastructure renewals ratio (%)	100.6%	73.4%
Own source operating revenue ratio (%)	79.8%	74.3%
Cash expense cover ratio (months)	8.55	7.1

In accordance with Section 420 of the Local Government Act, 1993, any person may make a submission in writing to Council with respect to the Council's Audited Financial Statements or the Auditor's Reports.

Copies of the Audited Financial Statements and the Auditor's Reports may be inspected at: [www.griffith.nsw.gov.au](http://www.griffith.nsw.gov.au), Council Chambers - 1 Benerambah Street Griffith NSW 2680, Griffith City Library - 229 Banna Ave Griffith NSW 2680. Submissions close one week after the above public meeting has been held.

Tickets available from [rewindinthevines.com.au](http://rewindinthevines.com.au)

# REWIND IN THE VINES

THE ANGELS  
DIESEL  
THE BLACK SORROWS  
CHOIRBOYS - RADIATORS  
PACIFIC AVENUE - HAPPY AVENUE - SIDE EFFECT

SATURDAY MARCH 23, 2019  
MIRANDA WINERY, GRIFFITH