

COUNCIL

CATCH-UP

Schools given a taste of Council during Local Government Week



Some of Griffith's youngest residents have been given a taste of Local Government this week, with special packs delivered to schools to help them understand the role and responsibilities of Council.

Local Government Week 2020 runs from 3 August - 9 August 2020. This year's theme is Councils Do.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and ongoing restrictions, the annual Mini Action Day for Year 4 students will not be held at Pioneer Park Museum. To ensure that students don't miss out, Griffith City Council has developed a resource pack being distributed to local primary schools throughout the week.

Each school will receive information on Council services, activity sheets and books.

Griffith Mayor, Councillor John Dal Broi said he hopes students and their teachers enjoy the packs created especially for them.

"We usually hold Mini Action Day as a way to help schools understand what Council does," Councillor Dal Broi said

"It's always well attended and lots of fun. We know how much the students enjoy coming along to the Museum to learn about Griffith's history and about Council so we didn't want them to miss out this year.

As part of the promotion, local

primary school students have been invited to complete the "If I Were Mayor" worksheet.

"I would love to hear what our students would do if they were Mayor," Councillor Dal Broi said.

"I think it's important to start teaching our younger residents about Council nice and early after all, these are our future leaders."

Mayor Dal Broi and General Manager Brett Stonestreet visited Hanwood Public School to present school leaders and Principal Monica St Baker with their pack.

Mr Stonestreet spoke to the students about some of the major projects being undertaken by Council around Griffith including the 50 metre outdoor pool.

Meanwhile, on Tuesday 4 August Council hosted the fifth 2020 School Leaders Civic Reception remotely via Zoom.

This event was previously scheduled for mid-March 2020 however due to COVID19 it had to be postponed. Deputy Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran and Acting GM Mr Max Turner hosted the event, with Mr David Lamb, Director Educational Leadership, Department of Education NSW and school leaders from around Griffith also joining them online. Certificates and pins will be posted directly to the schools.

Aboriginal artefacts unearthed at Lake Wyangan

Griffith City Council and the Griffith Local Aboriginal Land Council (GLALC) wish to advise Aboriginal artefacts have been unearthed at Lake Wyangan.

The artefacts were uncovered in soil located near the Lake's shoreline in late May 2020.

At the time, representatives from the NSW Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Department of Primary Industries (DPI) investigated the fish deaths at Lake Wyangan and gave Council staff approval to undertake clean-up work.

While carrying out this work, soft soil and damp conditions on the eastern side of the Lake hampered access, with Council staff grading a track adjacent to the eastern shoreline. During this process, concern was raised that the track may have disturbed existing Aboriginal artefacts.

Griffith City Council immediately engaged consultants including GLALC to survey the track and confirmed the presence of artefacts. As a consequence, remediation work must now be carried out to return the track to its previous condition. Applications for Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permits (AHIP) are being prepared and are required for the road rehabilitation and prior to the construction of planned wetlands and sedimentation traps at Lake Wyangan.

Griffith Mayor, Councillor John Dal Broi acknowledged the importance of the discovery for the Aboriginal community and the history of Griffith. "The utmost care is being taken to ensure all Aboriginal artefacts found at the site are

handled respectfully. It means that work on the sedimentation traps and wetlands will be postponed, but this is unavoidable."

"Council is working closely with Griffith Local Aboriginal Land Council on this matter," Councillor Dal Broi said. "I have invited the Chair of GLALC Ms Vickie Simpson and CEO Mr Stephen Young to become permanent members of the Lake Wyangan Catchment Management Committee and it's great that they have both agreed to contribute to solutions for the Lake through this forum."

Ms Simpson has welcomed the opportunity to work closely with Council on the Lake Wyangan Project. "While I am disappointed that the Aboriginal artefacts were disturbed, these will be reinstated in an appropriate location at the Lake under guidance of the GLALC. The CEO and I are pleased to participate as members of the Lake Wyangan Committee and provide input to development of the site respecting over 40,000 years of Wiradjuri culture."

Council's Lake Wyangan Catchment Management Committee met on Tuesday 4 August to consider a way forward to progress the future development of water quality and improvements to infrastructure and indigenous recognition. The Mayor has also welcomed Mr Mathew Ryan as a member of the Lake Wyangan Committee. "Mat is a Director of Aquana Sustainable Murray Cod, a locally based and multi award winning business enterprise. Mat will bring a wealth of knowledge to the Committee," Cr Dal Broi said.



Christmas 2020 in Griffith bigger and brighter than ever



Christmas in Griffith is shaping up to be even bigger and better than last year, with plans in place to expand the Bright Lights on Banna project.

Griffith City Council's Christmas Working Group met for the first time this year on Wednesday 5 August to discuss Christmas 2020. Christmas Working Group Chair, Councillor Dino Zappacosta said the meeting was an opportunity to start the ball rolling for the upcoming festive season.

"It was a very constructive meeting," Councillor Zappacosta said.

"Last year was a big success. We had really positive feedback from the community about the way Banna Avenue looked and we want to continue to build on that.

"We are investigating some exciting proposals for this Christmas."

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 9 June 2020, Councillors agreed to submit the Bright Lights on Banna Project, with an estimated cost of \$340,000, to the Federal Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

Impressive new design ideas put forward during the meeting included a total of 12 fairy light trees along Banna Avenue, coloured up lights at pedestrian crossings, an extra 12 shooting stars and a giant, 6m high walk-

through bauble with fairy lights.

If implemented, the new attractions will complement the 11 shooting stars, the Gothic Vault arch way, community Christmas tree and photo booths that were in place in Memorial Park last year. "If all goes to plan we are going to have an incredible display for our community and visitors to enjoy," Councillor Zappacosta said.

"It is wonderful to see this project continue to grow. Our main street is going to be amazing and although it takes a lot of work to set it all up, I truly believe it is worth the effort to see the smiles on the faces of our residents, particularly the children.

"If ever we needed something positive to look forward to, it's this year. The COVID-19 pandemic has put a dampener on lots of events, so if we can dress up the City it might bring us all some much-needed cheer."

The Christmas Light Display Competition, Christmas banners along Banna Avenue, carols and the ever-popular Christmas Light Bus Tours (subject to COVID-19 restrictions) will all make a return this year also.

The Committee is encouraging residents and businesses to participate by lighting up and decorating their homes and shopfronts to help set the scene for a bright festive season in Griffith.

Council's Community Grants Program opening 24 August 2020

The first round of Griffith City Council's Community Grant Program for the 2020/2021 financial year opens Monday 24 August 2020, with community groups, not-for-profit and charitable organisations or individuals encouraged to submit an application.

Applications are open for projects and activities that deliver new initiatives which align with Councils' Strategic Plan – Guiding Griffith 2040.

Chair of the Communities Committee, Councillor Dino Zappacosta said the Community Grant Program offers local organisations and individuals the opportunity to obtain funds to initiate new activities or support projects that benefit the community.

Two free information sessions will

be held at Griffith City Council on Wednesday 2 September, 12noon and Thursday 10 September, 5.30pm.

"We understand the application process can be daunting, particularly for those who are unfamiliar with grant writing," Community Development Coordinator, Peta Dummett said.

"These information sessions will guide applicants through the process and provide advice to assist in strengthening applications."

This round of the Community Grant Program will close Friday 2 October 2020 at 4pm. Late applications will not be accepted. Application forms including the program guidelines can be found at www.griffith.nsw.gov.au/grants or by contacting Council on 6962 8100.

Quick Response (QR) Codes in place at Council facilities

Griffith City Council has introduced an automated process for collecting contact tracing data of visitors to Council facilities.

Council now has Quick Response (QR) check-in codes in place at Council's main office, Library, Visitor Centre, Griffith Regional Aquatic Leisure Centre (GRALC), Westend Stadium, Griffith Regional Theatre, Art Gallery and Pioneer Park Museum.

The importance of contact tracing and QR Codes has been highlighted in recent weeks following the high levels of community transmission occurring in Victoria.

Using the camera on your phone, simply scan the QR Code and fill in your details when prompted. Data collected will be stored in an offsite Cloud data service and automatically deleted on a regular basis. A Privacy Statement is available on request.

Griffith Mayor, Councillor John Dal Broi said the QR Code system was just another way to help protect the community and visitors to the City.

"The impact of Covid-19 continues to change the way we live," Councillor Dal Broi said.

"We hope that nothing like what has been going on in Victoria happens closer to home, but this is about protecting our community and making sure we're set up and prepared."

The QR codes used at Griffith City Council facilities are convenient, with this system providing a hygienic, contactless way of signing in. If any residents are unable to use the QR code system, Griffith City Council will have an alternative check-in method available. You can manually check-in with a staff member.



Help create a beautiful hospital environment

Are you creative, innovative and interested in the arts?

Expressions of interest are invited for two volunteer community representatives to join the Griffith Base Hospital Redevelopment Arts Working Group (AWG).

The \$250m Griffith Base Hospital Redevelopment is underway. Creating a beautiful hospital environment is important to provide welcoming and comforting spaces for patients, carers, staff and the community. Creative and culturally appropriate spaces also help with wayfinding and ensure indoor and outdoor spaces complement health service delivery, and reflect the diverse cultures of the Griffith region.

Community members from non-English speaking backgrounds and the Aboriginal community are encouraged to apply.

The AWG is responsible for leading the integration of arts

elements into the Hospital Redevelopment project within a defined scope and budget. Representatives of the AWG will:

- Collaborate as part of an integrated team;
- Provide advice to enable arts in health settings;
- Identify possible funding or partnerships for projects and commissions; and
- Share and discuss arts in health strategies with colleagues and community to ensure opportunities respond to the interests and culture of our hospital community.

Community members are invited to complete the nomination form (on the website) and return via email to: HI-GBHRedev@health.nsw.gov.au Website: www.mlhd.health.nsw.gov.au/GBHRedev Please call the Redevelopment Team on 0436 911 753 if you have any questions. Nominations close 31 August 2020.



PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Temporary Road Closures

Notice is hereby given under the Roads Act 1993, Section 122, for the temporary closing of:

Gillmartin Drive and Rifle Range Road, Madden Drive between Gillmartin Drive and Tucker Street and Gillmartin Drive between Hardiman Way and Citrus Road will remain closed until 23 September 2020 as M.N.C Pipelines will be undertaking roundabout and road construction. Access for residents and detours around the worksite will be provided.

Frazer Road between Boorga Road and New Farms Road. Frazer Road will be closed from 27 July 14 August 2020 for the upgrading of culverts by Gradian Project.

Lake View Branch Road between New Farms Road and Nugan Road. Lake View Branch Canal Road will be closed from 27 July until 14 August 2020 for the replacement of a bridge by Murray Constructions. Access for residents will be provided.

Zandona Road between McDonough Road and Simpson Road and McDonough Road between Beelbanger Road and Simpson Road. Zandona Road and McDonough Road will be closed from 7am until 5pm on 12 August 2020 as Essential Energy will be replacing power poles. Access for residents and detours around the worksite will be provided.

Little Road between Foreshaw Avenue and Thorne Road. Little Road will be closed from 27 July until 30 September 2020 for the installation of a pipeline across a roadway by Watertek. Detours around the worksite and access for residents will be provided.

Yambil Street between Kooyoo Street and Ulong Street. Yambil Street will remain closed to West bound traffic until 9 September 2020 as part of the Yambil Street Stage 2 upgrade by Griffith City Council. Detours around the worksite and access for pedestrians will be provided. A 40km/h speed limit will also be in place.

Message from the Councillor Deb Longhurst



I hope that everyone is keeping safe and well during these challenging times.

At the time of writing, this week is Homelessness Week and it is important to raise awareness of the issues and to highlight some important facts.

Griffith is currently seeing considerable activity and as such, the availability of accommodation is an issue.

It is particularly an issue for young people who are currently being spared the difficult decision between rent and essential items due to the boost in the Job Seeker payment, but for those who are yet to find independent housing nothing has changed.

The availability of rental accommodation for anyone with a regular income of \$275 per week is non-existent.

Griffith City Council worked very hard to develop an affordable housing strategy and it is commendable that there is a commitment to this issue but this will take time to implement and there is still a need for the NSW Government to ensure the construction of more social housing properties in rural areas, and not just larger cities. It is also important that there is consideration of creating more youth housing within that mix.

I read a recent study conducted by Mission Australia of more than 25,000 young people which confirmed that 17.1 percent of young people had experience homelessness and 18.8 percent before the age of 12.

This has been an emerging issue for some time and it is often a hidden statistic.

Young people will generally couch surf with friends or family, spend time in refuges or have been homeless and sleeping rough as part of their family unit.

However it happens it is not right that children have nowhere safe to spend the night.

The study entitled Staying home: A Youth Survey report on young people's experience of homelessness, reveals that 51.7 percent of participants reported psychological distress, and this was pre-pandemic.

The issues of barriers to further success was also highlighted as 67.8 percent identified that their experiences had hindered their ability to succeed at school or work.

These are alarming statistics and it is important that we acknowledge the struggle faced by those in our community who do not have sufficient income and support to pursue their life goals and independence.

On a happier note, I am pleased that the construction of the new Community Centre in Olympic Street will commence this month and I look forward to seeing the finished result.

I must extend my gratitude to the Co-ordinator of Griffith Community Centre Inc who has worked tirelessly to contribute to this project.

Barbara Penninga has been relentlessly pursuing this ideal for more than 10 years and as she leaves her current position this month, I extend my respect for her professional expertise and her dedication to the task of providing valuable services to the Griffith Local Government Area.

I would like to also extend my gratitude and respect to Griffith Regional Theatre volunteer Veronica Collins who is currently completing a mural at the front of the Theatre, and as always Veronica is producing a beautiful piece of art which will not only enhance the landscape at the theatre but also acknowledge the Wiradjuri people and their contribution to the community.

I am certain that the finished work will, as always provide a pleasing visual element for members of our community to enjoy and highlight her considerable talent.

We are fortunate to have such a talented artist working on this project.

Until next time please stay safe and look after yourselves and others.

Regards, Cr Deb Longhurst



NOTIFICATION OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS DETERMINED JULY 2020

(Environmental Planning & Assessment Act, 1979, s. 101) (Environmental
Planning & Assessment
Regulation 2000, CL. 124)

Council advises that the following developments were approved in the month of July 2020

DA No.	Address	Description
42/2016 (3)	5-17 Wayeela Street, Griffith	Recreation Facility (outdoor) – construction of Olympic Pool and associated infrastructure
189/2018 (2)	403 Thorne Road, Griffith	Construction and use of a new light industry and commercial premises
39/2019 (2)	76 Harward Road, Griffith	Modification – Place of Public Worship
67/2019	9972 Kidman Way, Willbriggie	2 x Lot Torrens Title Subdivision
145/2019 (3)	124-126 Wakaden Street, Griffith	Alterations/Additions to existing Commercial Premises
267/2019	109 Calabria Road, Griffith	Two Lot Subdivision & proposed Manufactured Housing Estate with 129 moveable dwelling sites, community buildings and internal roads
287/2019	735 Old Willbriggie Road, Hanwood	Continued Use of Existing Buildings for Agricultural Produce Industry (Orange Packing Shed) and Upgrade of buildings in relation to fire services.
57/2020	124 Benerembah Street, Griffith	Change of use to a place of Public Worship
106/2020	63 Yarrabee Street, Griffith	Demolition of the existing shed and the construction of a new shed
113/2020	23 Hyandra Street, Griffith	Attached Dual Occupancies, two shed & front fence
124/2020	2 Todd Road, Lake Wyangan	2 Lot Torrens Title Subdivision
131/2020	85-119 Merrigal Street, Griffith	Removal or Demolition of a two Bedroom House
137/2020	68 Bishop Road, Griffith	Two lot Torrens Title Subdivision
139/2020	3 Foster Place, Griffith	New in-ground swimming pool
152/2020	Remembrance Driveway, Griffith	Storage Shed
153/2020	44 North Grove Drive, Griffith	Alterations & Additions to existing dwelling
157/2020	7 Cappello Close, Griffith	Single storey dwelling with attached garage
167/2020	22 Waugh Street, Griffith	Alterations & Additions to existing dwelling
171/2020	19 McCormack Road, Yoogali	Shed
172/2020	9 Stafford Road, Griffith	Increase in student numbers at an existing school and the continued use of a moveable classroom building
173/2020	660 Kurrajong Avenue, Griffith	Two lot Torrens Title Subdivision
175/2020	5 Holmes Crescent, Griffith	Alterations/Addition to existing dwelling
178/2020	12 Simona Close, Griffith	Shed
179/2020	159-161 Clifton Boulevard, Griffith	3 x Lot Torrens Title Subdivision
181/2020	84 Madden Drive, Griffith	Dwelling with attached garage
182/2020	33 Palla Street, Griffith	Alterations & Additions to an existing dwelling
190/2020	6 Henry Street, Yenda	Shed
192/2020	8 Hardiman Way, Griffith	In-ground swimming pool

Copies of the development consents for the development applications listed above are available for public inspection free of charge at Council's Administration Building, during normal business hours.

Council advises that the following development has been refused in the month of July 2020

DA No.	Address	Description
225/2019	18 Camellia Court, Yoogali	Centre-based Child care facility for 121 children, associated car parking, landscaping and business identification signage

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