



Imagine Griffith art competition winners announced

Rockets, rainbows, cherry blossoms and even an underwater world featured in the winning artworks submitted to the Griffith City Council Imagine Griffith Kids Art Competition.

The artworks were created by local primary school artists who were asked to 'Imagine' Griffith of the future. The competition received close to 100 entries.

Griffith City Council Mayor, Councillor John Dal Broi congratulated the six winning artists and thanked all those who entered.

"The winning artworks reflect the wonderfully creative imaginations of our younger residents, I am really impressed with the work submitted," he said.

“The aim was to get the kids thinking about the future here in Griffith because that’s what our Community Strategic Plan is all about, the

future and how we can achieve what residents want to help make it an even better place to live.”

With so many excellent entries received, Griffith Regional Art Gallery Coordinator, Ray Wholohan had a difficult task choosing the winners.

"I want to congratulate everyone who took the time to create a masterpiece thinking about what our future might look like," he said.

"We certainly received some very imaginative ideas."

The art competition was just one of the engagement exercises Council ran as part of the review of the Community Strategic Plan – Guiding Griffith 2040. Artworks will be used in an exhibition at Griffith Regional Theatre’s ArtSpace.

The Imagine Griffith Art Competition was open to all primary school students in the Griffith Local Government Area, with Verity Christian College, Griffith North Public School and Griffith Public School taking part.

The two winners from each school, who will each receive a gift card, are listed below:

Griffith Public School

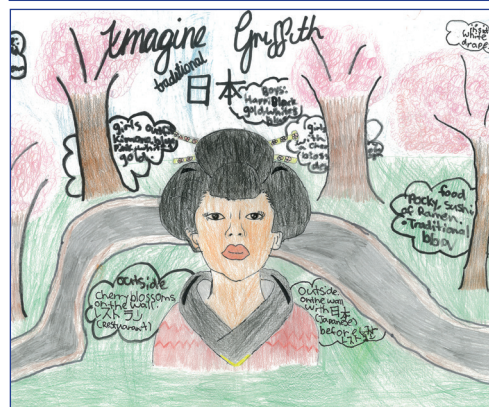
- Azaan Jan, 5/6G
- Darlene Sogi Tasila, Year 5

Verity Christian College:

- Cole Potgieter, Year 4
- Nikara Little, Year 1

Griffith North Public School

- Xavier Atkins, 4D
- Gureesh, 3M



Council reminds pet owners of their responsibilities

Recent issues with aggressive and/or roaming dogs in the Griffith Area has highlighted the need to remind pet owners to make sure their four-legged friends are safe and secure. Environmental Health & Compliance Coordinator, Merryn Benham said Council has a zero tolerance towards wandering animals and it is important for owners to ensure pets, especially dogs, are kept under effective control.

"If a dog escapes from its yard or runs off, any damage or harm it causes is the owner's responsibility," Ms Benham said.

"Dog owners are liable if their dog attacks a person or another animal. Active measures need to be taken to ensure yards, fences and gates are secure at all times. Neglecting this basic responsibility as an owner could land dogs and owners in trouble as Council Officers and police have had to tend to 40 dog attack investigations since 1 July 2020.

"These attacks vary from less serious to serious incidents involving both people and animals," she added.

In order to protect the community from aggressive dogs, under the Companion Animals Act 1998 Council Officers or Police can declare a dog to be 'dangerous' or 'menacing' if they attack or threaten a person or animal – placing strict control requirements on keeping a 'dangerous' or 'menacing' dogs, and increased penalty amounts.

The Companion Animals Amendment Act 2013 introduced the concept of 'fault' in relation to dog attack offences, meaning significantly higher penalties for the owner or person in charge of the dog. An owner or person in charge of a dog which 'rushes at and attacks, bites, harasses, chases any person or animal' is guilty of an offence, and a Council Officer can issue an on-the-spot fine of \$1320. Courts can impose a maximum penalty of \$22,000 or 2 years imprisonment, or if a dog which had been previously declared 'dangerous', 'menacing' or 'restricted' is involved, a maximum penalty of \$55,000 or up to 4 years imprisonment could be imposed. Pet owners are also required to notify Council if they change their

address or telephone number, if the pet is re-homed or has died, or if the animal has been missing for more than 72 hours.

Under the Companion Animals Act 1998, cat and dog owners must take two steps to meet their responsible pet owner obligations under the Act. These are Permanent Microchip Identification and Lifetime Registration.

"It is a legal requirement that dogs and cats are permanently identified through microchipping before 12 weeks of age or if you are rehoming or selling the cat or dog – whichever comes first" Ms Benham.

"Microchipping is often carried out by a vet, but can also be done by other authorised implanters including Council Compliance Officers. It is a very safe and low-cost procedure that inserts a rice-sized microchip containing an identification number in between your pet's shoulders."

At the time of microchipping, a Permanent Identification form must be completed and will be provided to you by the microchipping implanter. It's important your microchip identification details are up to date so we can get your pet home to you safe and sound should they go missing.

Only after the animal is microchipped, can it be Lifetime Registered with Council.

"It is the responsibility of pet owners to provide the correct microchip information when completing the Lifetime Registration form" added Ms Benham.

Registration is easy to do and is a one-off, lifetime payment for your cat or dog in NSW.

Reduced registration fees are eligible for desexed animals - before 6 months of age in the case of a dog, and 4 months of age for cats. Pension card holders and animals adopted from a pound or shelter receive a further discount for their desexed pets.

Lifetime Registration can be done at petregistry.nsw.gov.au or by visiting Council's Administration Office. Registration will link your pet's microchip identification number to your contact details on the NSW Companion Animals Register. For more information, visit griffith.nsw.gov.au

Bringing the Black Dog to heel with a Red Centre tour



More than 100 motorcycle enthusiasts from across NSW will depart from Griffith on Saturday 7th August 2021 for an epic adventure to raise awareness of mental health and suicide prevention.

The NSW leg of Black Dog Ride's Red Centre 2021 mental health campaign will roll out of Griffith at 9am and cover around 3400 kilometres over seven days before reaching Alice Springs, where they meet with hundreds of like-minded Black Dog Riders from around Australia to celebrate the power of conversations in mental health awareness.

Black Dog Riders, ranging in age from 21 to 80, pillars from the age of 13, will be meeting with communities in Wentworth, Broken Hill, Woomera, Coober Pedy, Erldunda and Alice Springs, fostering a safe space to talk about mental illness and suicide and encouraging help seeking behaviours.

On Thursday 12th August 2021, the NSW Leg of Black Dog Riders converges in Alice Springs with more than 300 other Black Dog Riders from around the country, 2021 Finale Celebration will be held at the Heli Pad, Double Tree

by Hilton, Alice Springs.

Black Dog Ride began in 2009 as a ride to raise awareness of depression, and has evolved into a national health promotion charity involving thousands of Australians with lived experience of mental illness and suicidal ideation who inspire the nation with their passion for preventing suicide.

Black Dog Ride's community health projects are amongst the largest of their kind in Australia that are organised, conducted and involve participants with lived experience. Black Dog Ride does not receive any government funding.

Funds raised during the Red Centre 2020 will be used to benefit grassroots community mental health projects throughout Australia. So far Black Dog Ride has raised more than \$2.5 million for mental health and suicide prevention programs nationwide, including Lifeline Australia's Crisis Support Chat service, Men's Sheds, training 1000 youth in teen Mental Health First Aid, Samaritans Crisis Support Service, and local Headspace Centres.

For more information or to donate to Black Dog Ride visit the website <http://www.blackdogride.org.au>



Splash Swim School - Term 3

Now taking enrolments for Term 3 swimming lessons. Visit gralc.com.au for more information or call us on 6962 8228 to make a booking

Message from Director Infrastructure & Operations, Phil King

The Infrastructure and Operations Unit has had a busy start to 2021, with a number of projects nearing completion.

A key focus has been the improvement and upgrade of transport networks around our LGA. Council has been able to leverage an unprecedented amount of investment by the NSW State Government through grants, in addition to the with the annual allocation from the Commonwealth Government.

Staff have obtained grants through the Fixing Country Roads, Fixing Local Roads, and Blackspot Program, just to name a few.

Works are nearing completion on the Jones Road causeway upgrade between North Lake Wyangan and South Lake Wyangan. This has seen the widening of the road to accommodate oversize and overmass heavy vehicles.

Works have continued on the Griffith Southern Industrial Link (GSIL) between the Yoogali

intersection and 'Lavender Bend' (the intersection of Bromley Road with the Kidman Way). The realignment of the intersection at Brown Road, Brogden Road and Bromley Road has been completed. These works will facilitate a safer movement for heavy vehicles onto both the Kidman Way and the GSIL. Staff will be focusing on the last two remaining intersections in the next six to twelve months, which includes the realignment of the intersection of Walla Avenue and Thorne Road and the installation of a roundabout at the intersection of Murrumbidgee Avenue and Thorne Road.

The anticipated upgrade and sealing of Boorga and Dickie Roads has commenced. This road is well known for drainage issues, and the recent wet weather has hampered initial works on the table drains. Council is very appreciative of the support from businesses and residents and ask that everyone drives with caution on the detours.

Council has also started works towards sealing Barbar Road over the next six months. This project has benefited from the contribution from Grainlink and the farmers in the western part of our LGA towards the grant application in the NSW Government's Fixing Local Roads Program.

In addition, Council has regular and systematic maintenance to undertake on the rest of the road network. The wet start to winter has meant the catchment is full and there is water everywhere throughout the network. This has impacted our roads and the maintenance crews who are working their way around to areas that they can get to. Please be patient with staff as some roads can be too wet to work on.

The pedestrian and cycle network around our urban areas has been the result of careful implementation of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Strategic Plan. Consultation has been



completed on the latest iteration of the Plan, which will be finalised shortly. Projects like the Hanwood cycleway, and the Village Pathways Project would not happen if we didn't have the strategic vision documented in these plans.

The construction being completed on Council's roads in and around Griffith over the past 5 years has changed the face of transportation for our City. The vision shown by Councillors, staff and those in the community that laid the foundation way back in the 2013 Heavy Vehicle Strategy has highlighted the key areas for the southern and northern links in and around our city and provides us a way to take all the incredible produce out to the marketplace.

Kind regards, Phil King



Justine Schofield cooks up a storm in Griffith with Everyday Gourmet

Celebrity chef Justine Schofield cooked up a storm for her television show *Everyday Gourmet* with Justine Schofield during a recent trip to Griffith, thanks to Visit Griffith partnering with three local industries Almond Board of Australia, Aus Prunes (APIA) and Stahmann Webster, to showcase the local area as an agricultural powerhouse.

For the first feature, Visit Griffith partnered with the Almond Board of Australia, the peak industry body for the almond industry in Australia, which facilitates the development of the industry, seeks to maximise the viability of stakeholders and ensure its sustainability.

Joseph Ebbage, Market Development Manager, Almond Board of Australia, said the Australian almond industry is very excited to work with such a wonderful Chef in Justine Schofield to showcase the healthy versatility of Australian almonds.

"Our growers take enormous care to produce high quality almonds that can be enjoyed as a nutritious snack or as a great-tasting ingredient in sweet or savoury dishes," said Mr Ebbage.

"The versatility of almonds plays an important role in ensuring that nothing grown on an

almond farm is wasted. This 'zero waste' approach to growing almonds is a key tenet in our industry's sustainability commitment."

The segment was filmed among the almond trees of Mandolé Orchard, a family owned and sustainably operated almond orchard nestled on the fringe of Griffith. Justine spoke with Tom Stefanovic, Co-founder of Mandolé Orchard.

"As the producers of Australia's first and only single origin almond milk, it is our mission to provide the very best almond-based products available," said Mr Stefanovic.

"At Mandolé Orchard, we believe that good food should always begin with fresh, quality, traceable ingredients which is why all our products are made by our family with our very own almonds. Australian almonds are not only super tasty and versatile, they are an incredibly sustainable and nutritious product.

"It was a pleasure to host Justine at our orchard to share this with her and to see our almonds come to life in her delicious cooking," he added. Justine demonstrated the versatility of almonds, cooking a mouth-watering Linguini with Almond & Tomato Sugo with the picturesque almond orchard in the background.

Griffith City Council Tourism Manager Mirella Guidolin said we were thrilled to take up this opportunity to collaborate with the Almond Board of Australia and showcase Griffith as the agricultural powerhouse that we are.

"Justine and the crew were blown away by the diversity and the hospitality they were shown when they came to Griffith for filming and they certainly all went back a little heavier with all the wonderful local produce they consumed," she said.

The *Everyday Gourmet* with Justine Schofield almond recipe will air on Monday 12 July 2021 at 4:00pm AEST on Network 10.

Griffith will feature on four episodes in season 11 of *Everyday Gourmet* with Justine Schofield. "I would like to thank our three industry partners, Almond Board of Australia, Aus Prunes and Stahmann Webster and to the many hosts, local producers and other industries involved," said Ms Guidolin.

"You will see them when the other episodes air on Channel Ten between July and November." Season 11 of *Everyday Gourmet* with Justine Schofield airs weekdays at 4pm AEST on Network 10.

Public Notification

Expressions of Interest for the Construction of Twenty Townhouses – Griffin Green Affordable Housing Project - EOI No: 31-20/21

Griffith City Council invites expressions of interest to be lodged for the constructions of twenty (20) townhouses as part of the Griffin Green Affordable Housing Project. **EOIs close on Friday 23rd July 2021 at 4pm.** EOI documents may be obtained by contacting Tenderlink on www.tenderlink.com/griffith. Please contact Tenderlink Customer Service by telephoning 1800 233 533. EOIs may be lodged by online at www.tenderlink.com/griffith, hand delivered to Council Offices at 1 Benerambah Street, Griffith NSW 2680 or by post to PO Box 485 Griffith NSW 2680.

Canvassing of any Council members or officers will disqualify tenderers from the tender process.

Expression of Interest: Construction of a Community Hub and Four Townhouses in Griffith for Argyle Housing

AU-976406: Type of Notice: Expression of Interest

Region: Murrumbidgee (New South Wales)

Contract Value: \$1,000,000 - \$5,000,000

View: www.illion.tenderlink.com

Closing Date/Time: 15 July 2021, 4PM

Argyle Housing are seeking Expressions of Interest from suitably experienced and qualified builders to undertake the construction of four Townhouses in Wakaden Street Griffith to be used as Affordable Housing, plus a Community Hub as part of the Griffin Green Affordable Housing project with Griffith City Council.

Interested parties should also view and consider submitting a response to "EOI No. 31-20/21: Griffin Green Affordable Housing Project Construction of 20 Townhouses" currently being run by Griffith City Council. These 20 Townhouses are also for Argyle Housing and form part of the Griffin Green project that is a partnership between Griffith City Council and Argyle Housing, with support from the Building Better Regions Fund. It is currently proposed that a shortlist of four selected tenderers are invited to submit tenders for the above projects.

Notice of Temporary Road Closure

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

Palla Street between Wyangan Avenue and Koorlingal Avenue, Koorlingal Avenue between Cutler Avenue and Animoo Avenue and Binya Street between Koorlingal Avenue and Anzac Street will be closed on Sunday 18 July 2021 from 8am until 3pm for the replacement of a condemned power pole by Essential Energy. Detours around the site will be provided. The Southern lane of Palla Street will be manned at the closures and left open at the roundabout to provide access to heavy vehicles and emergency services.

Campbell Street between Goondooloo Street and Cutler Avenue to southbound traffic is planned from Thursday 1 July until Saturday 10 July 2021 from 6am until 5:30pm. Campbell Street will only be closed when machinery and workers are required to work within 1.2m of the traffic lane. Road will be closed for the period detour signs are in place.

Councillor Candidate Information Session

Griffith City Council is hosting a Councillor Candidate Information Session on **Thursday 15 July, 6pm** at Griffith City Council Chambers, 1 Benerambah Street Griffith.

Registrations are essential - participants may attend in person at or via Zoom, please indicate your choice when completing the registration form.

Register at: <https://bit.ly/3dMlrBf>



RETHINKING THE WINTER SOLSTICE A Community Art Exhibition

SAT 3 JULY - SUN 1 AUGUST

Winter is a season of recovery and preparation. – Paul Theroux.

An exhibition showcasing local artists, who have been asked to reflect upon what it's like to experience the Riverina winter and what makes our winter like no other time of the year.

**COMMUNITY OPENING EVENT
6PM FRIDAY 16 JULY**

Isis-Rae Ronan, *Metamorphosis*, Acrylic on Canvas

COUNCILCAFE

Bringing Council to You

Join us for the next Council Cafe on **Thursday 15 July 2021 from 10am - 11.30am** at **Griffith City Library.**

Join the Council team!

We are currently seeking applications for a number of exciting positions.

For more information or to apply visit our website: www.griffith.nsw.gov.au

Women from all walks of life are being encouraged to stand for their community

Are you ready to make a difference and run for your local council?

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS
4 September 2021
www.olg.nsw.gov.au**

