

COUNCIL CATCH-UP

Message from Councillor Glen Andreazza



Griffith has been a hive of activity over the last few weeks, providing our community with some wonderful Festivals and events while creating thriving tourism in our town.

Griffith Spring Fest has come to an end and I hope everyone took the opportunity to visit the stunning open gardens and our unique and creative Citrus Sculptures. Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who were up bright and early on the Sunday mornings to put up the sculptures and then again to take them down. It was a wonderful atmosphere of community spirit and makes me feel proud to be part of Griffith.

The LINX Launch party was a great success where everyone

enjoyed the delicious paella, local wines and great company of friends. As a town we should be proud of these events, creating opportunities where we can showcase Griffith and bring people to our town, to enjoy such creative artworks and gardens.

Griffith's Biggest Lap brought visitors from all across Australia and gave the car enthusiasts in our community the opportunity to "show off" their pride and joy and enjoy a good old fashioned "lap" down Banna Avenue. Thank you so much to everyone who entered vehicles, especially knowing they were helping a good cause with all money raised going to Can Assist and Griffith Riding for the Disabled.

The organisers of the Multicultural

Festival again did an amazing job. It was wonderful to see so many people enjoying the day and sharing their beautiful culture with so much pride, on our newly built stage in Memorial park. I congratulate everyone involved and look forward to next year.

I would like to invite everyone to the Community Consultation Session regarding Stage 2 of the Yambil Street upgrade to be held on 6th November from 6pm to 7pm at the Griffith Ex-Serviceman's Club.

With Christmas just around the corner we are working toward decorating our main street with music, lights and decorations and a full schedule of activities which will be advertised as the dates draw closer. But save the

dates for the Rotary Christmas Carnival on 29 November, Yenda Rotary Carols by Candlelight on 1 December, and Griffith Carols by Candlelight on 14 December.

While we all work together to bring tourism to Griffith and coordinate these wonderful festivals, we all need to look out for each other and keep an eye on our friends and family as we continue to survive through the difficult drought and government policy due to the MDBP. With this in mind I was pleased to be invited with Councillor Zappacosta to attend the Annual Conference of the Murray Darling Association just last week, where we were briefed on where the MDBA is up to.

Lastly, applications are now open

for the 2019 Australia Day Awards and I would like to encourage everyone to complete an online nomination to acknowledge someone they feel deserves recognition for the contribution they make to the Griffith Community. Please go to griffith.nsw.gov.au/australiaday and nominate before 6 December.

Although it is a little early, this will be my final Council Catch up for 2019, so I will wish everyone a Safe, Healthy, Happy Christmas and New Year.

Regards,
Councillor Glen Andreazza

Griffith City Council urges residents to be water wise

As the warmer months approach, Griffith City Council is reminding the community to be 'Water Wise' by doing their bit to conserve water.

Director of Utilities, Graham Gordon, said, "Given the current climatic conditions and severe drought we are encouraging our customers to be water wise to ensure the longevity of our water supply."

"There are a number of simple ways you can minimise water use in the home, from keeping cool water in the fridge to taking shorter showers.

"It's easy to implement a water-savings plan. Every drop that doesn't go down the drain is a drop that is saved for someone else. Also, minimising water use can reduce your household water costs," Mr Gordon said.

Council is committed to encouraging water saving practices throughout the City area.

"Through a water savings education program, providing tips and tools on how to save money, we can all start to conserve this country's most valuable and scarce resource," Mr Gordon said.

"We have a program of water management for the City's parks and gardens, and encourage all residents to also think about what they can do."

Water Rebate Scheme

Griffith City Council provides a rebate for the replacement of existing single flush toilets and for older model shower roses. To qualify for this rebate, start by purchasing a toilet or shower rose from a local supplier (Griffith). If the toilet or shower rose falls into the correct water efficiency category (toilet must be 4 stars and shower rose must be 3 stars) the local supplier will provide you with the water rebate form for you to complete and forward to Council so Council can process

and pay the rebate to you.

Water Wise Tips

- Turn off the tap when you brush your teeth
- Put a plug in the sink when shaving rather than rinsing your razor under running water
- Take shorter showers. Time yourself and take a three minute shower
- Install a water saving showerhead. Consider installing a AAA rated water saving showerhead and save on water and energy costs
- Dual flush toilet - using the half flush button on your dual flush toilet saves up to 5 litres per flush
- Check for leaks in your toilet by adding food dye to the cistern. If colour appears in the bowl within half an hour it is time to do some repair work
- Wait for a full load of washing before reaching for the detergent as every load less saves 17 buckets of water

- Keep a container of drinking water in the fridge so that you don't run water down the plughole waiting for the water to cool
- Washing vegetables: Save water by washing vegetables and rinsing dishes in a plugged sink or basin - not under a running tap
- Cooking vegetables: Microwave, steam or use a pressure cooker to cook vegetables, to retain more flavour and use less water than traditional boiling
- Take the time to learn to 'read' your plants. Many gardeners apply more water to plants than is needed and this in effect creates a need or 'habit'
- Gradually withdraw the frequency of water application. If you are currently applying water every five days and the plants look good, then stretch it out to 10 days before applying the next bucket of water, then maybe 15 days

- Before applying water test the ground. Scratch the soil with your finger and if it is damp, it doesn't need water
- Plants will go into a dormant state over the summer period, then revive once the season changes. If a plant dies in your garden, consider replacing it with a more tolerant species suitable for where we live
- Look at mulch suitable for the application
- If you have a 'no-dig' area consider the use of scoria or gravels
- For an area where plants change with the seasons, such as roses, annuals and perennials, an organic mulch is more suitable
- Wash your car on the lawn - this will water and fertilise your lawn
- Use a rake, broom or blower to clean up leaves, grass clippings, dirt, or dust on paths or driveways instead of hosing

Community art exhibition Mother Love set to inspire

Griffith Regional Art Gallery will open its 2019 community art exhibition Mother Love on Friday, 1 November.

This exhibition explores the concepts of maternity, nurture, wisdom, guidance and any other themes evoked by the words 'mother' and 'love.'

Griffith Regional Art Gallery Coordinator, Ray Wholohan, explained the genesis of the theme: "Last years I was approached by a group of local women who had been discussing an event or exhibition that celebrated both creativity and maternity. I thought this was an excellent suggestion as we are a community with very strong family bonds and both themes are very accessible and fundamentally important to all of us."

Manager of the Art Gallery, Raina Savage, said, "The community art exhibition is a very important part of our calendar,

as we have many talented artists in the region and want to support and expand their practice through themed exhibitions that are thought-provoking and stimulate creativity. The Art Gallery team and I are really looking forward to seeing what the artistic community of the Western Riverina will produce in response to this very engaging and emotionally moving theme."

Mother Love will open at Griffith Regional Art Gallery on Friday, 1 November at 6pm. This is a FREE event and all are welcome to attend. Refreshments will be provided and wines from the Art Gallery sponsor McWilliam's Family Winemakers.

Griffith Regional Art Gallery is located at 167 Banna Avenue, Griffith. Open Wednesday to Sunday. Ph 6962 8338. Find us on Facebook or at www.griffithregionalartgallery.com.au



