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Griffith Regional Aquatic Leisure Centre hosts NSW Regional Country Swimming Championships

Griffith Regional Aquatic Leisure Centre welcomed more than 800 participants, family members, officials and volunteers over the weekend, hosting the NSW Regional Country Swimming Championships for the first time. Officially opened by Griffith Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran and Chairperson of the Griffith Sports Council, Councillor Laurie Testoni, the event saw more than 360 competitors take to the pool.

Councillor Curran said the event was an overwhelming success, injecting an estimated \$600,000 into the local community over the weekend through accommodation, food, and shopping.

"Griffith City Council, along with the State and Federal Governments, have invested heavily in creating a sports precinct to not only provide state of the art facilities for residents, but to attract large sporting events to Griffith in order to boost our economy – this event has demonstrated how effective that investment has been and I look forward

to opening many more of these sporting events in the years to come," said Councillor Curran.

Griffith City Council partnered with the Griffith Swim Club to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) to host the event.

Leisure Services Manager, Alan Anderson said both Council and the Griffith Swim Club saw the merit in hosting the Championships and combined to submit the EOI demonstrating what community partnerships can achieve.

"It is exciting to have been able to host such a large event here in Griffith, not only injecting funds into the economy, but showcasing all that Griffith and the Griffith Regional Aquatic Leisure Centre has to offer," said Mr Anderson.

"The feedback was wonderful with families from all over southern NSW and parts of Victoria expressing a desire to have a facility such as ours in their hometowns. We were fortunate to host the CEO of NSW Swimming, Mark Heathcoate from Friday to Sunday who

took the opportunity to tour Griffith and take in the sights including local wineries.

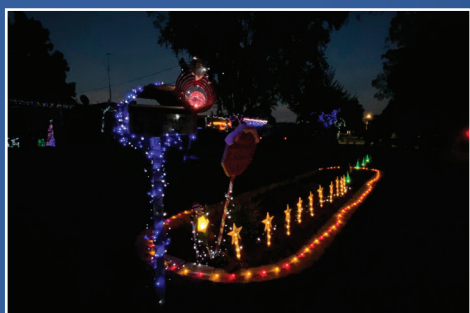
"The Championships were successful, with Griffith swimmers taking home 23 Gold medals, 21 Silver medals, 22 Bronze medals and an astonishing 84 Personal Best Times over the weekend. We cannot wait to host another event and would like to thank the Sports Council and Griffith Swim Club for their support," he added.

Peta Serafin, Vice President of the Griffith Swim Club expressed her thanks to those involved with the event, including organisers, volunteers, participants and the staff at Griffith Regional Aquatic Leisure Centre.

"It was such a relief for all Griffith parents and competitors to not have to travel and face the drive home on Sunday!" said Mrs Serafin.

"It was such a wonderful experience to be able to have our swimmers compete in their own backyards for the first time and we all look forward to having other titles held here in Griffith."

Christmas Lights competition winners crowned



New Mayor Doug Curran has congratulated residents in Griffith and the villages for their community spirit, crowning the light display at 3 Murphy Crescent his favourite for 2021. Mayor Curran said there were many outstanding light displays right across Griffith and the villages making it an extremely difficult decision.

"It was pretty tough choosing just one winner, but in the end this house with its colourful Christmas display really impressed me," Councillor Curran said.

"It is so bright and you can see that a lot of effort has gone into making it an enjoyable experience for the whole family."

"I haven't been around the lights for years as my kids are older now and I don't have any grandchildren. I was amazed. The amount of effort that has been put in is unbelievable."

Glenn Scott was thrilled to hear his Christmas

display had been selected by the Mayor.

"It is a pleasure for me to do this for everyone, I really enjoy it," said Mr Scott

"Once you see the smiles on kids' faces you know it's worthwhile."

The display consists of thousands of beautiful twinkling lights and a range of festive cut-outs.

This year's Best Street Award went to Macarthur Street Griffith, with a special mention to the Christmas Tree light display at McLeod Road in Nericon.

Meanwhile, the new Merry Mailbox category was added for the first time this year, sparking residents to light up their mailboxes. The cheerful mailbox at 54 Ledgerwood Street Griffith was named the winner.

Ms Samantha Hill was responsible for the well-lit display, saying it was a great competition which brings the community together.

Reflect, Respect and Celebrate this Australia Day in Griffith



On January 26, members of the Griffith community are invited to come together to reflect, respect and celebrate.

Griffith Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran said Australia Day 2022 will provide an important opportunity for Griffith to reflect on the challenges of the past year, respect the sacrifices and contributions of those who responded in a time of need and celebrate being together and being Australian.

"In the past year Australia has faced immense challenges – drought, bushfire, floods and the ongoing coronavirus pandemic," Councillor Curran said.

"Australia Day 2022 is a day for us to respect and thank those who worked hard to keep our nation going and reflect on the resilience of our community and the spirit of helping, giving and supporting that defines us as Australians.

"And we celebrate our proud multicultural nation built on shared values that allow us to enjoy the freedoms and opportunities that

other nations aspire to," he added. Councillor Curran said Australia Day is also a day to reflect on our nation's past – a history which began more than 65,000 years ago with the First Australians – the world's oldest living culture.

"This is a day on which we can respect and share the stories, histories and contributions of everyday Australians, because we're all part of the story of Australia," he said.

"Due to events being cancelled and lockdowns throughout 2021, our nominations are down however we do have some wonderful nominees to celebrate and I would encourage you to come along and show your support."

The official Australia Day celebration in Griffith will be held at Griffith Regional Theatre where 56 new citizens will be welcomed and worthy Australia Day Award winners celebrated.

Griffith's Australia Day Ambassador this year is Mark Warren, dynamic broadcaster, actor, voice actor,

MC, presenter, commentator and auctioneer.

An AFTRS graduate, NIDA trained, with media in his blood, there was no doubt that Mark Warren was always going to be in the media industry. A proven adman, experience his teacher. A highly skilled media buyer planner with experience across creative, production and talent management. Mark Warren is a dynamic broadcaster, actor, voice actor, MC, presenter and auctioneer.

Mark holds his Real Estate and Auctioneers licence. An Australia Day Ambassador 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 and travels to country areas, paraphrasing his family's bond to bush.

The nominations for 2021 are:

Citizen of the Year

- Jason Austin
- Theo Bollen
- Anna Colpo
- Richard (Stephen) Mortlock
- Tristan Sergi

Young Citizen

- Nayani Navaneethan

Community Project of the Year

- Griffith Curry and Jam
- Griffith Lockdown Fun Facebook Page

Environmental Citizen of the Year

- Hampers of Hope

Young Sportsperson of the Year

- Layla Codemo
- Pearson Kasawaya Jnr.
- Taine Moraschi
- Nicole Taylor

Sports Team of the Year

- U12s Griffith Academy Football Club

The winner of each category will be announced at the official ceremony at Griffith Regional Theatre commencing at 10am on Wednesday 26 January, 2021. (Please arrive by 9:30am to be seated). This will be a COVID-safe event.

For more information please visit griffith.nsw.gov.au

COMEDY

griffith
regionaltheatre

THE WHARF REVUE
CAN OF WORMS

GET READY FOR SOME RAZOR SHARP POLITICAL SATIRE!

THE WHARF REVUE: CAN OF WORMS SATURDAY, 12 FEBRUARY 8PM

Go on a journey of satirical discovery - the team will navigate the dire Straits of Covid, sail round the treacherous Horn of Scomo, steer well clear of the empty Cape of Pauline, only to be becalmed in the Nationals Bermuda Jacket Triangle before stumbling across a New World, filled with hope and promise! Or not.

Tickets: Adv. (before Fri 28 Jan) \$40, Member: \$35, Adult: \$50, Conc. \$45, Child \$30. Limone Dinner Package: Member: \$85, Non Member: \$100

Call the Box Office on 02 6962 8444
www.griffithregionaltheatre.com.au

Griffith City Council End of Term Report 2016–2021 released

Griffith City Council has delivered its End of Term Report 2016-21, highlighting achievements over the last five years and the delivery of services to the community.

Under the NSW Government's Integrated Planning and Reporting Legislation for Local Government, Council is required to produce a report on its progress in implementing the Community Strategic Plan during its term.

The report was presented at the last meeting of the outgoing Council, on 23 November 2021 and provides the community and the new Council with an overview of the state of the City.

Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran, said it is important to recognise the achievements of the last Council term.

"It was a very busy period for Griffith and a lot of excellent projects were realised. Despite the pandemic, Council continued to deliver core services and on top of that we had the largest expenditure I can ever recall on capital works in the City," he said.

"Our new Councillors will find this document helpful, in that it outlines what we are up to in terms of realising our community's aspirations for the future."

It also incorporates the State of the Environment Report.

Highlights of the End of Term Report 2016-2021 include:

- Partnering with St Vincent's to develop the new Community Private Hospital Griffith
- Council Cafe was implemented
- Western Riverina Country Universities Centre, 2019
- 22 CCTV cameras installed in City Park with a further 81 to be installed in the CBD
- Village sewer reticulation project connecting properties completed in 2018

- East Mirrool Regulator, Yenda - Installation of Flood Gates, Early Warning System and Breaching Protocols 2019

- Griffith Livestock Marketing Centre Truck Wash 2020

- Successful Glow2680 Christmas Campaign launched 2020

In addition, Council secured over \$70M in grants for community projects including:

- Griffith Regional Sporting Precinct (50m outdoor pool, Westend Oval and Jubilee Oval)

- Griffith Housing Strategy

- New Griffith Community Centre

- Southern Industrial Link Road

- Yambil Street upgrade

- Griffith Regional Theatre upgrade

- Griffith City Library upgrades

- Memorial Park Stage and amenities upgrade

- Enticknap Park upgrade

- Henderson Oval Yoogali play equipment upgrade

- Village shared pathways project

- Amenities block at Jubilee Oval

- Community Stage at Community Gardens

- Amenities block at City Park

- Skate Park and Pump Track

- Hanwood Cycleway

- Festive lighting Banna Avenue

- Railway Street Car Parks

- Upgrade of City entrance signs

- Boorga/Dickie Roads upgrades

- Kooyoo Street redevelopment

- Street Scapes and other events

- Lake Wyangan pipeline

Interested members of the community are encouraged to view the Annual Report in full, including the End of Term attachment, available on Council's website www.griffith.nsw.gov.au

Griffin Green Affordable Housing construction to commence



Civil works are in full swing on Griffith City Council's \$12M Affordable Housing Project, in partnership with the Australian Government and Argyle Housing. The construction contract to build the 20 townhouses adjacent to Walla Avenue has been awarded to Joss Group and construction will commence early in 2022.

Stage 1 (a) civil works are nearing completion with the sealing of the new road scheduled in the coming weeks. The detailed design for Stage 2 works received Development Assessment approval last month.

Griffith Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran said Council is committed to providing affordable housing for our residents.

"This partnership with Argyle Housing and the Australian Government is just one demonstration of working with Government and Non-Government Organisations to address the needs of our community," said Councillor Curran.

"Council and Argyle have extensively consulted with existing residents in the Pioneer subdivision, and we have committed to ensuring existing residents in the Pioneer Estate will have new playground equipment, a basketball court, and a large open green space within Dave

Taylor Park with consultation sessions being held over the last couple of months.

A new Community Hub will also be constructed by Argyle Housing - we recognise the importance of an inclusive space and look forward to continuing to work with the community to deliver a space residents - old and new - can be proud of," he said.

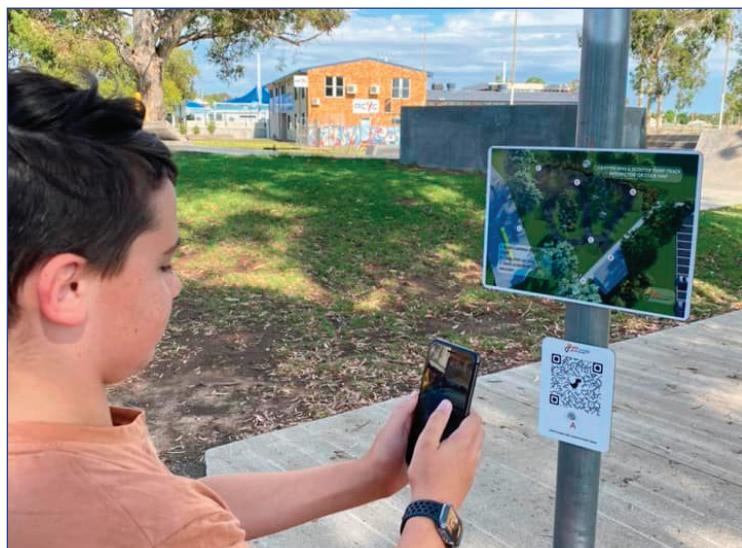
Griffin Green has been funded by the Australian Government's Building Better Regions Fund (\$6M), Griffith City Council (\$3M), and Argyle Housing (\$3M).

"Creating affordable housing has been a major priority for this Council, and we are proud to be able to work closely with Argyle Housing to not only provide the 20 townhouses, but the building lots which will provide options for new homeowners to get into this market. This is in addition to the land in Wakaden Street given to Argyle Housing by Council to build four townhouses," Councillor Curran said. "Argyle Housing and the NSW Government have committed funding to construct a Community Centre to further enhance the lives of residents in Pioneer."

Council appreciates the patience and support of residents while work is underway.



Tour the design for the proposed Pump Track



Griffith's newest recreational facility is in the planning stages, with the highly anticipated Pump Track!

Located between the existing skate park and the new Community Centre, the \$445,000 project is anticipated to be completed by the end of June. It will include a BBQ facility, seating and landscaping.

Council is encouraging locals to head to the site and use the QR codes to view the plans and take an interactive tour of the proposed design. Just scan using your phone at each of the 7 sites to experience what the features of the pump track are proposed to look like.

Feedback is welcome - email urbanddesign@griffith.nsw.gov.au with your thoughts, ideas and functionality of the proposed design.

Wood Park Playspace Open



The new Wood Park playspace has delivered significant improvements to the existing playground including a basket swing, climbing frame, picnic area, flying fox, accessible carousel with space for wheelchair and a seat for carer, and fitness equipment.

Wood Park boasts the largest shelter in any Council park, a double wheelchair accessible barbecue, water bubbler, seating and a climbing wall. Minor additions completed will be completed early this year, with an Official Opening being held in the coming months.

Griffith Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran said the new playspace is another excellent asset for the City.

"This wonderful new space has already been well used by children and their families throughout the school holidays," said Cr Curran.

"I'm sure our community will enjoy this neighbourhood playground where everyone feels comfortable playing and having fun in the outdoors."

The \$380,000 Wood Park project was funded through \$66,000 from the NSW Government's Stronger Country Communities Fund and \$12,000 from Lions Club Griffith to build the shelter and associated services, with an additional \$155,000 from the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment under the Everyone Can Play program, and \$155,000 from Griffith City Council.

Public Notification

Notice of Temporary Road Closure

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

Kooyoo Street between Banna Avenue and Banna Lane from Monday 22 November 2021 until Friday 27 May 2022 for the upgrading of Kooyoo Street by Griffith City Council. Access for local traffic and detours around the site will be provided. The pedestrian crossing will also remain open during the works.

Bromley Road and Butler Road between Bromley Road and Snaidero Road will remain closed until the end of June 2022 for the construction of the remaining section of Bromley Road and extension of Thorne Road between Bromley Road and Walla Avenue, Stage 5B of Griffith Southern Industrial Link Project. During the road closure motorists are advised to seek alternate routes.

Yambil Street between Ulong Street and Daines Street and Daines Street between Yambil Street and Canal Street will be closed to west bound traffic from Friday 24 December 2021 until Monday 17 January 2022 as part of the Stage 3 Southern Side Yambil Street construction works by Griffith City Council. Access for pedestrians and businesses will be provided. Detours around the worksite will be implemented for all other traffic.

Council Meeting Dates 2022

The First Ordinary Meeting of 2022 will be held Tuesday 25 January at Griffith City Council Chambers commencing at 7pm.

Meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month. Agendas and Minutes can be located on the Griffith City Council website at griffith.nsw.gov.au

Agendas are posted to Social Media each Friday prior to a Council Meeting.

Ordinary Council Meetings are livestreamed via Council's Facebook page at facebook.com/griffithcitycouncil

As the number of persons permitted in the Council Chambers is restricted under the current Public Health Order, members of the public who wish to attend a Council Meeting in person must book via eventbrite - <https://bit.ly/3JYEXt3> Tickets are limited and will be released on the Friday prior to the Council Meeting.

Council Meetings are available to view live on Council's Facebook page. Please note that comments on Facebook made by members of the public during the meeting will be moderated. The live stream will be stopped during Closed Council (confidential section) and recommenced after Open Council resumes.

The audio recording of the Council Meeting will be placed on Council's website the following day and the audio visual recording will be available to view on Facebook for a limited time.

For more information about Council Meetings, please visit griffith.nsw.gov.au



Join the Council team!

We are currently seeking applications for the following positions:

Assistant Engineer, Traffic and Civil - Permanent
Approvals Officer – Permanent

Trades Assistant, Water/Wastewater - Permanent
(Re-advertised)

Truck Driver, Team Leader Tar Patch Crew - Permanent
(Re-advertised)

Water and Wastewater Maintenance Officer/Relief
Pumpwell Operator - Permanent (Re-advertised)

Applications for the above positions close Monday 24 January 2022

For more information or to apply, visit: griffith.nsw.gov.au