

Centenary of Spears takes out prestigious award

Griffith City Council took home the inaugural Leo Kelly OAM Arts and Culture Award at the Local Government Week Awards held last Thursday in Sydney, for the Centenary of Spears project.

The Centenary of Spears project was a joint initiative of Council's Community Development team, Griffith Regional Art Gallery and the outreach program with Griffith's Youth Off The Street.

Council's Community Development Coordinator, Peta Dummett said the project focused on the importance of art, culture and cultural learning through social inclusion/cohesion, while fostering a sense of place and belonging and cultural pride. "Jo Southorn who was working with Aboriginal Youth through the outreach program was the creative genius behind Centenary of Spears," said Ms Dummett. "Approximately 50 young people worked under the guidance of Gallery staff and Alan McKenzie Snr from YOTS and decided to create an artwork that celebrated their traditional culture and the centenary of the City for the Murrumbidgee Marramarrarra exhibition, which resulted in the incredible Centenary of Spears."

Representing Council at the Awards last Thursday was Ms Dummett and Ray Wholohan, Regional Art

Gallery Coordinator.

Ms Dummett who procured the funds via a grant to sustain the project said she was delighted that a simple idea kept growing and developing into this striking artwork.

"I'm also appreciative of the acknowledgment we have received as an organisation that values the empowering properties that arts and culture can have on a community, especially with demographics such as young people." Mr Wholohan added "The Centenary of Spears is an exemplary example of how a simple idea can often be the best. The message the artwork conveys is clear and simple: young people celebrating the achievements of our collective history via their own culture in our Centenary year. The artwork is bold and articulate."

Griffith Mayor, Councillor John Dal Broi congratulated everyone involved, particularly the young people who put their artistic talents to work to demonstrate their culture and connection to Griffith.

"Council is pleased to see this project receive the recognition it deserved through this Award," said Councillor Dal Broi. "This bold and striking collection is now proudly on display at Griffith City Council's administration building to be enjoyed by all."



Murrumbidgee River Water back on line



Above: Roaches Regulator - Flume Gate installation 21 July 2017. Photo courtesy of Murrumbidgee Irrigation

Access to the Murrumbidgee River has been restored for irrigators and residents, advised Murrumbidgee Irrigation (MI) and Griffith City Council (GCC). NSW Water's works at Berem-bred Weir meant the MI network had no access to river water since early June with only water contained in the MI network available for town supply.

During the works, water was drawn from the channel network storage including Lake Wyangan and Yenda and was treated at Council's Water Treatment Plant to ensure it was safe for consumption, however the taste experienced was different from normal.

Mayor Dal Broi said now that works have been completed, the Hayes Reservoir (Council's off channel storage) has been topping up with canal water released from regulators and in MI's off channel storage in Yenda since 28 July.

"Hayes Lease Reservoir contains enough water for use and no further water will be drawn from Lake Wyangan. The normal water supply is expected to resume by the end of this week," said Councillor Dal Broi.

"Water users can expect a gradual return to the normal taste of our water. Council would like to thank the community for the cooperation in reducing water use during the canal shut down."

MI CEO, Brett Jones, said that MI had been working closely with WaterNSW to expedite water availability across the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area.

"With the continued dry weather and our extensive works program, it has been a real challenge to manage critical water needs this winter," he said,

"Our staff have worked closely with Council to ensure impacts to town supply were

minimal and to complete our works as soon as possible."

Mr Jones also acknowledged the cooperation of WaterNSW and the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), who are currently managing an environmental flow down the Murrumbidgee River, "They understand the situation and worked with us to open up the network sooner than expected to protect town and critical irrigation needs," he said.

Councillor Dal Broi congratulated MI on these works and the level of cooperation they provided to Council during the shutdown.

"MI worked very hard to complete the works as quickly and efficiently as possible and kept Council updated throughout the project," said Councillor Dal Broi.

"Council enjoys a strong relationship with MI which is important in a region which relies so heavily on irrigation and water management."



the fitness club 2017 spin marathon

Saturday 14 October at
Griffith Regional Aquatic Leisure Centre, 10am-4pm

Teams can raise funds for a charity of their choice with all registration fees (\$100 per team) being donated in full to Griffith Carevan. No team? No problem, join the GRALC Team!

Visit www.facebook.com/gralcAU for details on how to get involved.



What's on?

Every Sunday, 7am

Griffith Rotary Markets

15 Collier Street

Every Tuesday, 10am

Baby Bounce

Griffith City Library

Third Thursday of Each Month

Movie Club

Griffith City Library

Every Friday, 11am

Toddler Time

Griffith City Library

Friday 11 August, 6pm

Kalinda School Pearl

Party Fundraiser

Griffith Leagues Club

Wednesday 23 August

Thursday 24 August

A Splash of Colour, 6pm

Griffith Regional Theatre

Saturday 26 August, 10am

Sunday 27 August, 10am

Vino & Salami

Calabria Family Wines

Saturday 26 August, 11.30am

Annual Salami Festival Judging

Yoogali Club

Sunday 27 August, 11am

Festa delle Salsicce (Festival of the Sausage)

Griffith Pioneer Park Museum

More events: visitgriffith.com.au



Spring Fest Launch Party
13 October
5.30pm

Griffith Garden Festival
13 - 16 October

Real Juice Company Citrus Sculptures
8 - 21 October

Griffith Multicultural Festival
14 October
10.30am

Long Italian Table Dinner
14 October
6.30pm

Spring Market
14 October
8am

MY FRIEND THE CHOCOLATE CAKE

Sunday 20 August 5pm.

2pm: Songwriting workshop \$15

2pm: Strings workshop \$15

Sunday is smooth and family friendly at Griffith Regional Theatre with live music, workshops, sausage sizzle and open bar from 2pm. Australian Music legends and triple aria award winners, *My Friend The Chocolate Cake* – present their acclaimed new album, 'The Revival Meeting'.