

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



1 August 2021

Mayor's Message

The proposed closure of the National Australia Bank is disappointing, as many community members and businesses rely on the Uralla Branch to do their banking. We are, though, fortunate to have the services of Regional Australia Bank in the Uralla Shire.

A year ago, Council successfully advocated—with the support of the community and the Local and Federal Members—to re-open the Uralla NAB branch following their temporary COVID related closure.

Once again, Council has written to the Hon. Barnaby Joyce and the Hon. Adam Marshall and to executive staff from the NAB, outlining Council's concern at the cessation of this critical service for the Uralla community.

Customers who use the NAB Uralla branch may also wish to lobby the bank to keep the branch open.

At July's meeting, Council also resolved to proceed to tender for its banking services should the closure go ahead.

I would like to thank the community for the continued efforts to keep the Shire COVIDsafe.

Given that it is a changeable situation, I won't include any updates here, other than to say that Council's COVID-19 page will keep you informed of any changes to Council services or activities and current requirements



Inspecting construction of the new Tolleys Gully Bridge: L-R Terry Seymour (USC Director Infrastructure & Development), Adam Marshall MP and Mayor Michael Pearce

when visiting a Council building, so please refer to uralla.nsw.gov.au/Community/COVID-19.

I was pleased to inspect the completed Tolleys Gully Bridge on Thunderbolts Way recently. The upgrade project has reached its first milestone with the completion of the new bridge.

With 8.5 metres between the guardrails, it will allow plenty of space for vehicles to pass each other safely.

The focus now shifts to stage 2; the construction of 800 metres of new road approaches to the new bridge which is expected to be finished within twelve months.

Annually, over 190,000 vehicle movements will benefit from the improved safety as a result of this project, made possible through \$1.075 million of State Government funding.

Wishing you good health,

Mayor, Cr Michael Pearce

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS DELAYED

On 24 July, the Minister for Local Government postponed all council elections to 4 December 2021 in response to the escalating outbreak of the Delta variant of COVID-19.

Current councillors and popularly elected mayors will continue to hold their civic offices until council elections are held on 4 December 2021.

The postponement of the next ordinary local government elections will not affect the timing of future council elections, and the subsequent ordinary local government elections will still proceed in September 2024.

For updated key dates visit:

elections.nsw.gov.au/Elections/Local-government-elections/Local-Government-Elections-2021

ZNET WRAPS UP ELEPHANT IN THE WOODLAND PROJECT



Visit zneturalla.org.au/firewood for more information.

ZNET Uralla recently completed The Elephant in the Woodland, its three-year project to encourage more sustainable firewood use in Uralla Shire.

Funded by NSW Environmental Trust, the initiative worked across the firewood supply chain.

It included 18 biodiversity assessments with land holders to look at the importance of leaving benchmark levels of dead wood in the environment, training workshops for more than a dozen firewood collectors and educational activities with four schools.

Over 60 home energy reviews were conducted, as well as nine curtain making workshops to improve thermal comfort in local homes and reduce the amount of wood needed for heating.

ZNET estimates nearly 700 tonnes of the firewood used in Uralla was sustainably harvested over the three years. The elephant is still in our woodlands but at least Uralla residents are now talking about it and taking steps to reduce the impact winter heating has on the Shire's precious woodland ecosystems.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

REDUCING DA PROCESSING TIMES

Median DA processing time in the nine months to June 30 was eight days, down from 26. Median determination time across all NSW councils in 2019 (the most recent published figures) was 40 days.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Thanks to strategic planning undertaken by Council over the past decade, the Uralla Shire is well placed for any future growth with around 45 years' worth of residential land stock available based on the 20 year trend to 2021.

This is supported by sufficient, yet to be developed, land within the business and industrial zones.

Subject to demand, one area that developers might seek to pursue is the provision of more primary production small lots which are not widely available within the Shire at this time.

DEVELOPERS FORUM

The next developers forum is currently scheduled for 1 September.

The forum is an opportunity for those in the industry to receive advice and updates on all matters pertaining to development.

ONLINE PLANNING PORTAL

All certificates relating to building and planning must now be submitted through the NSW Planning Portal.

A dedicated workstation has been set up in foyer of Council's administration building for anyone without home internet access who would like to submit a DA.

Free online training on how to use the Planning Portal is also currently available: <https://store.training.tafensw.edu.au/product/the-nsw-planning-portal/>

PRE-DA MEETINGS

Council encourages anyone who is looking to build to make use of our free Pre-DA meeting service. At the meeting you will be advised of what is permissible, what documentation you will need, how to source the documentation, and what specialist services you will need.

BUILDING CERTIFICATION

Council Building Certification services are now available Mondays and Wednesdays. Uptake of the Monday service has been slow and Council encourages members of the public to make use of the expanded hours. Private consultants can also

provide certification services for those who require inspections outside of these times.

Please contact Council to book a Pre-DA meeting or a building inspection on: 6778 6300

APPLICATIONS OPEN: COMMUNITY GRANTS 2021-2022

Uralla Shire Council's Community Grants program is now open.

Community groups and organisations can apply for grants of up to \$3000 for eligible projects, activities, or events which benefit the Uralla Shire community under the following categories:

- Community development
- Arts and cultural development
- Social services
- Environmental initiatives
- Sport and recreational activities
- Educational support

Individuals can also apply for a Community Grant for up to \$300 any time of year.

Guidelines and application forms are available on Council's Community Grants page.

Applications close 31 August 2021.

Street Store Schedule

2-8 August
Can Assist Uralla

9-15 August
CWA Uralla

16-22 August
Rocky River P & C

23-29 August
St Joseph's School Uralla

FALLS PREVENTION WORKSHOPS BUNDARRA

This free 10 week program will provide participants with information about falls prevention and a series of fun exercises to help improve strength, balance and co-ordination.

Starts: 1pm Thursday 2 September at School of Arts Hall Bundarra

Contact: Gillian Traise, physiotherapist on 0414 674 519

Development Application and Complying Development Certificate Approvals June 2021

Approvals:

Application No.	Applicant	Property	Development
DA-24-2021	Croft Surveying & Mapping	41 & 55 Rock Abbey Road, Uralla	Stages 2 Lots into 4 Lots Subdivision
DA-27-2021	Croft Surveying & Mapping	31 & 39 Maitland Street, Uralla	Subdivision of 2 Lots into 3 Lots
DA-32-2021	Mr B Cowling	418 Mihi Road, Mihi	Garage
DA-33-2021	Mr H Carlon	8 Faulkner Street, Uralla	Demolition of Existing Dwelling
DA-34-2021	Mr C Hamilton	6 Hill Street, Uralla	Demolition of Existing Shed, New Shed with Toilet & Hand Basin
DA-35-2021	Rosbuild Constructions Pty Ltd	3 McMahon Street, Uralla	Carport
DA-36-2021	Mr D Walters	38 Barleyfields Road, Uralla	Culvert
CDC-39-2020	Thomas Nelson Building	1666 Kingstown Road, Balala	Renovation & Additions to Existing Dwelling
CDC-17-2021	Mr M Rooprai & Ms J Urquhart	343 Rocky River Road, Rocky River	Internal Alterations for Ensuite
CDC-18-2021	Mr A Whackett	42 Rowan Avenue, Uralla	Dwelling Alterations - Internal Ensuite

Withdrawals: Nil

Refusals: Nil

The Notices of Determination for the above Development Applications and Complying Development Certificates are available for public inspection, free of charge, during office hours at Uralla Shire Council pursuant to Section 4.59 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 No. 203*.

ON PUBLIC EXHIBITION

Last Call for Submissions

- Gravel road upgrade prioritisation list, and
- Proposed project list for capital grant funding

Submissions for both lists close at 5pm on 20 August 2021.

Submissions to the lists may be made via an online survey, or in writing and can be submitted by letter addressed to the Office of the General Manager, PO Box 106, Uralla NSW 2358 or by email to council@uralla.nsw.gov.au.

For survey links and more information visit uralla.nsw.gov.au/community/consultation

Draft Media Policy

At its Ordinary Meeting held 27 July 2021, Council resolved to place the DRAFT Media Policy 2021 on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.

Submissions close 5pm Monday 30 August 2021.

Submissions or enquiries must be made in writing and can be submitted by letter addressed to the Office of the General Manager, PO Box 106, Uralla NSW 2358 or by email to council@uralla.nsw.gov.au.

To view the policy visit uralla.nsw.gov.au/community/consultation

WASTE & RECYCLING A-Z GUIDE

Uralla Shire Council's new A-Z guide answers all your waste and recycling questions. Check it out at uralla.nsw.gov.au/Council-Services/Waste-Recycling/A-Z

LIBRARY SURVEY

Uralla Shire residents are invited to complete a Library Customer Satisfaction Survey. Visit the Library for a copy or go directly to the survey: surveymonkey.com/r/TMS6CXD

CIVIL WORKS

Completed in July

- Resheeting of Bendemeer Road, Balala Road, Bullens Road
- Construction of shared path on Plane Ave

Upcoming in August

- Base course construction at Hawthorne Drive stage 1
- Construction of approaches to Tolleys Gully Bridge
- Unsealed road upgrade at Old Gostwyck Road, Harriet Gully Road and Corey Road
- Bundarra Town footpath construction

Ongoing

- Invergowie Road pavement repair



Plane Ave shared path construction

Catch up on your Council Meetings

July Ordinary Meeting of Council

- Received Bundarra Sewerage Project update report and resolved to further inform the Bundarra Community through letterbox drop and public information session about the use of project funds to pay for customers' private upgrade works
- Reviewed community survey results and endorsed to make an application to the NSW Geographical Names Board to change the name of Hampden Park to Sunny Jim Mackay Park.
- Resolved to offer to sponsor the Uralla Shire Business Chamber Awards 2021 as a Gold Partner
- Resolved to review and update the Backyard Burning Policy
- Resolved to put the Draft Media Policy on public exhibition
- Noted advocacy actions taken by Council on behalf of the community in response to notice given by NAB to close Uralla Branch in October 2021 and, should the NAB Uralla branch close, that Council proceed to tender for its banking services.

Meeting Dates

Meetings are open to the public but numbers are limited due to COVID-safe social distancing guidelines which are designed to protect the health and safety of our community. Face masks are currently required to be worn.

Agendas, business papers, minutes, and meeting webcasts are published on Council's website at uralla.nsw.gov.au/Council/Council-Meetings



General Managers sessions for Councillors (refer to Public Notices on website for details)

Ordinary Meeting of Council
Tuesday, 24 August 2021,
12:30pm Council Chambers.

Your Councillors



Mayor
Cr Michael Pearce
mayor@uralla.nsw.gov.au
02 6775 2520
0488 752 520



Cr Robert Crouch
rcrouch@uralla.nsw.gov.au
0428 616 885



Cr Tom O'Connor
tpoconnor@uralla.nsw.gov.au
02 6778 3684



Deputy Mayor
Cr Isabel Strutt
istrutt@uralla.nsw.gov.au
0424 299 614



Cr Mark Dusting
mdusting@uralla.nsw.gov.au
02 6778 4538



Cr Levi Sampson
lsampson@uralla.nsw.gov.au
0434 088 055



Cr Robert Bell
rbell@uralla.nsw.gov.au
0434 244 774



Cr Natasha Ledger
nledger@uralla.nsw.gov.au
0458 116 060



Cr Tara Toomey
ttoomey@uralla.nsw.gov.au
0434 408 163



General Manager
Ms Kate Jessep

Council Administration
PO Box 106 Uralla NSW 2358
Ph. 02 6778 6300 | Fax. 02 6778 6349
Email: council@uralla.nsw.gov.au
Council Website: www.uralla.nsw.gov.au
Tourism Website: www.uralla.com

Emergency Contacts
After-Hours and Public Holidays
Council Overseer: 0427 784 982
Water / Sewer: 0427 784 304
Report all Fires: 000
SES (Flood/Storm): 132 500