

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



March 2022

## Mayor's Message

**T**he February Council meeting began with a Welcome to Country from representatives from Aniwan Elders Group, led by Aunty Pam Meehan, and I'd like to express my gratitude on behalf of all the Councillors for the warm welcome.

During the meeting, Council endorsed the Draft Community Strategic Plan 2022 - 2031 for public exhibition.

While the development of the document is coordinated by Council, the Plan belongs to the community, so we're keen to make sure the strategies reflect your activities and aspirations. Submissions close 8 April, with more details inside this newsletter.

Following last year's decision to increase the services of Council's Building Certifier to two days per week, Council has commenced the planned review of the development application process with an aim to improve processing timeframes.

Thank you to the Uralla Shire Business Chamber for hosting an open Developers Forum recently, at which valuable information was shared with Council about application processing delays.

This information will help Council to consider its resourcing and processes so that we can support timely development in our community.



*The boundaries of the New England Renewable Energy Zone, which was formally declared on 17 December 2021. Council will hold a public forum on the NERZ on 15 March to discuss the opportunities and challenges the NERZ presents for Uralla Shire.*

Council is hosting a public forum on 15 March to hear views from the community on opportunities and challenges posed by the recently gazetted New England Regional Energy Zone (NEREZ) and the development of wind and solar farms in Uralla Shire.

The NERZ is the second renewable energy zone to be declared in NSW, after the Central-West Orana REZ declaration on 5 November 2021. The NERZ will certainly be a key driver of activity in the Shire over coming years, and Council is committed to working alongside the community and its various stakeholders to be proactive and involved in shaping how these projects can benefit the Shire while reducing possible negative impacts.

If it's an issue that interests you, please contact Council to reserve your

place at the forum.

Bundarra Sewerage Scheme is nearing completion, with an official opening set for 17 March as the last properties are connected and the finishing touches are added.

The sewer has been a long time coming for Bundarra, and it is a great step forward for the town.

It is excellent to see our towns and villages coming back to life as COVID restrictions ease. It's tremendous, too, to see the many people out and about enjoying the beautiful nature reserves and parks we have in our Shire, at our famous markets, or out having a bite to eat in one of our fantastic eateries.

**Until next time,**

**Mayor, Cr Robert Bell**

## ZNET: GREENING URALLA THROUGH THE NOOKS & CRANNIES PROJECT

After the various challenges COVID brought last year, ZNET has had an active start to 2022.

With Council approval, ZNET has begun its Nooks and Crannies tree planting project beginning with the two areas of Salisbury St near the railway line and the corner of Warwick St and Barleyfields Rd, with more to come.

A delightful picnic for members and friends was held beneath the shady trees of Alma Park with lively discussion on topics such as waste, UV filters for rainwater tanks, getting rid of environmental weeds and much more.

All are welcome to join the conversation at the next picnic.



ZNET Nooks and Crannies tree planting on Salisbury St.

There was a lot of interest in the 'Future is Electric' stand at the Uralla Show, which showcased a Nissan Leaf Electric Vehicle (EV) and e-bikes which were kindly provided by Armidale Bicycle Centre.

### OUTDOOR DINING MEASURES EXTENDED

Changes to planning rules will allow pubs and restaurants to use privately owned car parks and open space (like bowling greens) for hospitality until 30 June 2022.

The NSW Government is offering \$5,000 rebates for hospitality businesses to get their outdoor dining ventures in a park or public space off the ground.

Visit [nsw.gov.au/projects/outdoor-dining](https://nsw.gov.au/projects/outdoor-dining) for more information.

### FORUM ON RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS

Council is hosting a public forum to hear views from the community on the opportunities and challenges posed by the recently gazetted New England Regional Energy Zone and the development of wind and solar farms in Uralla Shire. Mayor Robert Bell will chair the forum.

Topics for discussion may include optimal land use, securing community-wide benefits, waste and end-of-life for materials, local employment and impact on roads.

The forum will be held on Tuesday 15 March 2022 at 4.30pm and is open to the public (bookings are required, spaces will be limited to seating capacity) at the Uralla Community Centre, Hill Street in Large Meeting room. Please call 02 6778 6300 to register.

### FINISHING TOUCHES FOR BUNDARRA SEWER

March will see the final dozen or so properties connected to the new Bundarra Sewerage Scheme as the project nears completion.

An official opening for the project is planned for 11am Thursday, 17 March 2022. Bundarra Community members are invited to attend the celebration.

Please contact Council for more information on 6778 6300.

### STREET STORE SCHEDULE

Located at 60 Bridge St, Uralla

28 February - 6 March  
Rocky River P&C

7-13 March  
St Joseph's Parish Uralla

14-20 March  
Aboriginal Elders Group

21-27 March  
Friends of McMaugh Gardens

### WHAT'S ON AT YOUR LIBRARY

ACTIVITY	DETAILS
Storytime	Every Tuesday 10.30am – 12pm
Book Club	Third Monday of the Month, 21 March 2pm – 4.30pm <i>The Weekend by Charlotte Wood</i>
Movie Night	First Thursday 5.15pm 7 April, <i>Mao's Last Dancer</i>
Lego Club	Every Wednesday 3.30pm – 4.30pm
Chess Club	Every Saturday 1pm - 4pm
Craft Catch Up	Every Saturday 10am - 12pm
Youth Week	4 - 14 April 2022: The Youth Week program is coming along, with activities including Barefoot Bowls, Smartphone Photography, skating & ten pin bowling. For more details, see the events listing on the website or contact the Library on 6778 6470

## EOI: CONSTELLATIONS OF THE SOUTH

Uralla Shire Council is calling for Expressions of Interest (EOIs) from sculptors and artists to develop one of the six sculptures as part of the 'Constellations of the South' project at The Glen in Uralla. This project is part of a broader park upgrade at the Glen and is funded by the NSW Government's Public Spaces Legacy Program.

Constellations of the South is an art project initiated by local artists Carl Merten and Joan Relke, the Uralla Arts Council, and the Phoenix Foundry. EOIs close 4 April 2022. The brief is available from Council's website, or by emailing [council@uralla.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@uralla.nsw.gov.au)



## ON PUBLIC EXHIBITION

### DRAFT COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

The draft 2022 – 2031 Uralla Shire Community Strategic Plan offers a combined vision for the Uralla Shire's progression over the next 10 years.

It will help guide Council in its strategic decision making, as well as in the development of its Delivery and Operational Plans.

The aim of this consultation is to check back in with the community to confirm that the Plan captures the activities and aspirations of residents and rate-payers. Visit [uralla.nsw.gov.au/community/consultation](http://uralla.nsw.gov.au/community/consultation) to view the document and submit your feedback. Hard copies are also available at General Stores in the Shire and at the Customer Service Centre.

Submissions can also be made:

- **in writing**, addressed to:  
Office of the General Manager,  
PO Box 106, Uralla NSW 2358

- **by email** to [council@uralla.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@uralla.nsw.gov.au).

**Submissions close 5pm 8 April 2022.**

### DRAFT POSITIVE WORKING RELATIONSHIP & GENERAL CONDUCT POLICY

Council strives for a harmonious workplace where everyone is treated with respect, fairness, and dignity. This Policy applies to all employees of Council (including contractors, volunteers and committee members), Councillors and Administrators.

It includes customer service principles of:

- Respect
- Accountability
- Honesty
- Efficiency
- Equity
- Communication

Visit [uralla.nsw.gov.au/community/consultation](http://uralla.nsw.gov.au/community/consultation) to view the draft policy.

Submissions can be made:

- **in writing**, addressed to:  
Office of the General Manager,  
PO Box 106, Uralla NSW 2358

- **by email** to [council@uralla.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@uralla.nsw.gov.au).

**Submissions close 5pm 28 March 2022.**

## Development Application & Complying Development Certificate Approvals January 2022

Application No.	Applicant	Property	Development
DA-48-2021	Croft Surveying & Mapping	114 Barleyfields Road, Uralla	Subdivision of 1 Lot into 2 Lots
DA-70-2021	Rural Plan Consultants	9 Oliver Street, Bundarra	Demolition of Existing Dwelling/ Shed & Manufactured Building to be Converted to a Dwelling
DA-74-2021	Mr W Sellings	99 Bridge Street, Uralla	2 Lot Subdivision
DA-75-2021	Abode Building Design	8 White Street, Bundarra	Shed with Bathroom & Tank
DA-1-2022	Mr M Doran	20A East Street, Uralla	Dwelling with attached Garage
CDC-29-2021	Mrs L Whackett	19 John Street, Uralla	Conversion of Bedroom into En suite & Walk-in Wardrobe
CDC-27-2021	Mr R Davis	108 Tobruk Road, Invergowrie	Dwelling
CDC-28-2021	Mr A Ovenden	628 Warrabah Road, Kingstown	Dwelling Alterations & Additions

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*.

# CIVIL WORKS

## Completed in February

- Bitumen patching on Kingstown Road
- Slashing Thunderbolts Way – Central and North
- Grading and resheeting: Glenroy Road, Haynes & Martins Lanes
- Graded Dorlie Lane, Baldersleigh, Westvale & Brechts Roads

## Upcoming in March

- Start Hawthorne Drive Stage 2
- Rural reseals: Rocky River and Terrible Vale Roads
- Bundarra reseals: Dawkins, Darby, Court and Bowline Streets
- Uralla reseal: Rowan Avenue
- Maintenance Grading: Old Kingstown, Munsies, Hillview and Linfield Roads.

## Ongoing

- Tolleys Gully Bridge approaches (pictured)
- Bergen Road pavement construction



## Catch up on your Council Meetings

### At the February Ordinary Meeting of Council:

- Mayoral Minute – resolved to sponsor four community tickets to the International Women's Day event at McCrossins Mill
- Resolved to lease RSL Memorial Hall to Uralla Neighbourhood Centre for two years at the current rate of \$8,000 per annum
- Received councillor delegate reports for both the Winterbourne Wind Farm and New England Regional Energy Zone Reference Group
- Resolved to place the draft Positive Working Relationship Policy on Public Exhibition for 28 days
- Resolved to place the draft Community Strategic Plan on Public Exhibition for 28 days
- That the gravel roads upgrade prioritisation community submissions and survey results be returned to council during consideration of the Transport Asset Management Plan
- Resolved for Councillors to do further stakeholder consultation on the s355 Terms of Reference with members of these groups, prior to public exhibition
- Note the Bundarra Sewerage Scheme update, including proposed event opening
- Recognised that the Uralla Visitor Information Centre is designed to offer display space to promote the Uralla Shire inclusively; and undertake a workshop to further consider how the 'Visitor Information Centre Space' (VIC Space) could be used.

## Meeting Dates

Council 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](http://uralla.nsw.gov.au/Council/Council-Meetings)



L - R: Cr Lone Petrov, Cr Tom O'Connor, Cr Bruce McMullen, Cr Leanne Doran, Mayor Robert Bell, Deputy Mayor Bob Crouch, Cr Tim Bower, Cr Sarah Burrows, Cr Tara Toomey

**Council Workshops and Public Forums** (refer to Public Notices on website for details)

**Ordinary Meeting of Council**  
Tuesday, 22 March 2022,  
9:30am Council Chambers

## Your Councillors



**Mayor Robert Bell**  
mayor@uralla.nsw.gov.au  
02 6775 2520  
0434244774



**Cr Tim Bower**  
tbower@uralla.nsw.gov.au  
0421 704 598



**Cr Sarah Burrows**  
sburrows@uralla.nsw.gov.au  
0428 055 860



**Deputy Mayor Cr Bob Crouch**  
rcrouch@uralla.nsw.gov.au  
0428 616 885



**Cr Leanne Doran**  
ldoran@uralla.nsw.gov.au  
0488 559 928



**Cr Bruce McMullen**  
bmcullen@uralla.nsw.gov.au  
0419 013 560



**Cr Lone Petrov**  
lpetrov@uralla.nsw.gov.au  
0427 784 760



**Cr Tom O'Connor**  
TPOconnor@uralla.nsw.gov.au  
0460 649 700



**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](http://www.uralla.nsw.gov.au)  
Tourism Website: [www.uralla.com](http://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