

FEBRUARY 2018

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL CARAVAN PARK

From the 31st January 2018 the currently named *Uralla Caravan Park* in Queen Street will be operated by Uralla Shire Council; these interim arrangements will continue until a more permanent management option is determined.

The park is located at 17 Queen Street next to the historical and scenic Alma Park, and the park office will be staffed from 4.30pm until 8pm daily. Sites will be available on a first come first served basis and site bookings can not be accommodated at this time.

The current non-discounted rates for powered and unpowered sites will be maintained up to 30 June 2018.



Powered Sites

- up to 2 people - \$28.00 per night
- extra person- \$5.00 per night

Unpowered Sites

- up to 2 people - \$20 per night
- extra person- \$5.00 per night

Please call Council's Visitor Information Centre on 6778 6720 for any further enquiries.

UPDATE ON BRIDGES UPGRADE

Mihi Creek Bridge has been reopened to single lane traffic following the installation of the concrete deck panels. The earthworks and sealing of the approaches are scheduled for completion by the end of January.



Demolition of the **Munsie Bridge** timber deck will commence on Monday the 15th January 2018. Traffic will be diverted onto a by-track adjacent to the bridge. The bridgeworks are scheduled for completion by the end of April.

PUBLIC NOTICE – COMMUNITY GRANTS

Council is pleased to announce the opening of Round 2 Community Grants for local projects meeting the guidelines. Applications will be received from 1 to 28 February 2018. For further information, please refer to Council's website www.uralla.nsw.gov.au

COUNCIL CONTACTS

Mayor: Cr Michael Pearce
0488 752 520

Deputy Mayor: Cr Isabel Strutt
0424 299 614

Councillors:

Cr Natasha Ledger Cr Tara Toomey
Cr Levi Sampson Cr Robert Bell
Cr Mark Dusting Cr Bob Crouch
Cr Kevin Ward

General Manager:

Mr Andrew Hopkins

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

Bundarra Works Depot:

Ph. 02 6723 7262 or 0428 406 517

Emergency Contact:

After-Hours and Public Holidays

Overseer: 0427 784 982
Water / Sewer: 0427 784 304
Report all Fires: 000
Fallen Trees and SES: 132 500

COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next Council meeting is an Extraordinary meeting scheduled for **13 February at 12.00pm**, then the Ordinary Council meeting is scheduled for **27 February at 12:30pm**.

Council meeting agendas and reports can be viewed and downloaded from the Council website at: www.uralla.nsw.gov.au

PLANNING AND REGULATORY FUNCTIONS OF URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

Uralla Shire Council is involved in a broad range of regulatory activities, ranging from building development approvals through to animal control.

Development is defined as the use of land or the carrying out of work. Development can include subdivisions, boundary adjustments, building and demolition as well as signage and change of uses for retail premises.

While there are some forms of development which do not require Development Consent (approval) from Council, most do, and it is recommended that prospective developers/builders contact Council's planning staff to determine if the works proposed require prior written approval.

Property owners who are unsure as to whether all appropriate approvals have been obtained for their property can contact Council for clarification of existing and required approvals /certification. It is important to ensure that the necessary approvals are in place to ensure that all works are legal and that your insurance is valid should the development suffer damage through natural weather events or other unexpected occurrence.

Unfortunately there are occasions where property owners will not comply with legal requirements for approval, and Council is left with no option but to resort to fines and / or orders to ensure compliance with relevant laws or engineering standards. In these instances Council will consider the options for dealing with unlawful activity based on Council's responsibilities to the broader community.

In relation to other regulatory functions regarding complaints made to Council, every effort will be made to ensure that all Customer Service Requests or complaints about alleged unlawful activity are actioned in a timely manner. Where there is a dispute between two or more parties, Council recommends that in the first instance complainants should attempt to remedy the matter by approaching the offending party with their concern, as this is generally the most effective means of resolving any issue.

Response times to complaints may vary depending on staff availability, workload and relative severity of the alleged offence.

Should you have any queries in relation to the planning and regulatory functions of Council, please phone 6778 6300 so that you may be directed to the responsible officer.



Ages
0-2yrs

@ uralla.library

Babybooktime

Baby Book Time workshops are specifically designed for parents and their babies, 2 years and under. It gives parents an opportunity to share the love of reading with their baby. The program will also give parents ideas for using stories rhymes, songs and music to help babies develop early literacy skills.

Bookings Essential



Coming Soon

Please contact Uralla Library for more details.



MANAGING OUR BUSHLAND RESERVES

Council frequently receives compliments from travellers from all around Australia, remarking on how enjoyable our bushland reserves are to visit. Community feedback is appreciated as it helps council manage the reserves as they are intended, as a community assets to be enjoyed by everyone.

Many of our reserves are used for recreation and contain natural bushland; for example Mt Mutton, The Glen and the Wooldridge Fossicking Reserve. Managing these reserves is different from how a public park, like Alma Park, is managed.

Council has a small but dedicated Bush Regeneration Team to manage our bushland reserves. Our team ensures key threats like invasive weeds are controlled and natural processes are maintained. For example, preserving dead and decaying timber is essential to provide animal habitat (birds, bats and gliders) and recycle nutrients back into the soil. Council also manages potentially dangerous elements such as trees which are considered unstable and likely to fall close to marked walking tracks.

Bushland reserves might be perceived as “untidy” and a high risk of bushfires. These perceptions can result in pressure to “tidy up” the Bushland, to clear the understorey and mow the native grasses leading to potential loss of habitat for native animals and limited natural regeneration of native plants.

Of course, most of us would like to see these reserves preserved as natural environments for us and future generations to enjoy. To properly manage bushland reserves there are activities which are both unwanted and illegal like dumping of rubbish and removing timber from the reserve.

The best way to help manage our bushland reserves is to assist Council by reporting suspected noxious weeds such as Blackberry and St Johns Wort, or assisting our volunteer group. If you are interested in assisting our volunteer group contact Council on 6778 6300.



**Z-NET URALLA NEWS
LET’S TALK FIREWOOD**

Z-NET Uralla’s new project on firewood is now officially underway! One of the first steps will be to work with Uralla’s shire Landholders to look at how biodiversity assessments are done on-property. This includes doing free soil carbon testing to assess the impact of coarse woody debris on soil organic matter.

What is involved? If you would like to better understand biodiversity on your land and how dead wood contributes to it, Z-NET Uralla will organise for a professional assessment to be done. This takes approx. 3 hours with an on-site visit and sampling for soil carbon testing. This part of the project is to build knowledge for ALL landholders, not just those who provide firewood. If you would like to be involved, or would like more information please contact, projects@zneturalla.org.au or phone Sandra Eady on 0428 199 044 to discuss.



Caption: Z-NET and BackTrack team (Bernie Shakeshaft, Philip Pickford & Brendan Lowe) looking on as Bob Crouch (R) from Z-NET Uralla points out a good fallen tree to select for firewood to minimise biodiversity impacts, at the launch of “Elephant in the Woodland – Impact of Firewood” (NSW Environmental Trust Project).

MEMORY JOGGER

International Women’s Day Luncheon will be early March. Councillors are busy making plans, so keep your eyes peeled for the invitations. Our Facebook page will also be updated with information as it becomes available.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION AND COMPLYING DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATE Approvals / Refusals December 2017

Approvals:

Application No.	Applicant	Property	Development
DA-51-2017	Mr N & Mrs M Porter	23 Stringybark Ridge Road, Invergowrie	Dwelling
DA-60-2017	Dr J Gray	55 King Street, Uralla	Dwelling Additions & Alterations
DA-61-2017	Mr M Crawford	52 Budumba Road, Invergowrie	Secondary Dwelling
DA-62-2017	Mr T & Mrs B Barrett	21 Moffatt Road, Invergowrie	Workshed & Carport
DA-64-2017	Mr A & Mrs L McFarlane	19 Dangar Street, Uralla	2 Lot Subdivision & Relocate Sewer
DA-65-2017	Cr R Crouch	3 McDonald's Lane, Rocky River	Demolition of Existing Dwelling & New Dwelling
DA-67-2017	Mr P Doyle	1 Park Street, Uralla	Verandah Additions & Alterations
CDC-11-2016-2	Mr O Ward	18 Queen Street, Uralla	Additions & Outdoor Covered Area
CDC-31-2017	Service Stream	150 Retreat Road, Balala	Telecommunications Facility – 40m Monopole
CDC-32-2017	Mr C & Mrs G Burgess	3 Elizabeth Avenue, Uralla	Garage
CDC-33-2017	Mr P Dawson	30 Dumaresq Street, Uralla	Double Garage

Refusals: Nil

The Notices of Determination for the Development Applications and Complying Development Certificates are available for public inspection, free of charge, during office hours at Uralla Shire Council pursuant to Section 101 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

NOTICES BY EMAIL

Would you like to receive your Rates and Water notices by email? Council is seeking to implement functionality which will allow notices to be sent by email. This means you won't miss your notice if you're away travelling or your mail service is inconsistent, and it can be easily located if you require a copy for any reason. It will also allow us to reduce costs and contribute to environmental savings by reducing paper usage and the environmental cost of delivery.

In order to implement this functionality, Council will need a signed request from the ratepayer. Forms are will soon be available on our website under the rates tab, at Council offices, or can be emailed to you – call 02 6778 6300.

KEY COUNCIL ACTIONS DURING JANUARY

- Council held the first public meetings in Kingstown, Bundarra and Kentucky communities regarding the Open Space Strategy.

DID YOU KNOW

Did you know that Uralla Shire Council manages 26 parks and other public recreation spaces as well as 37 Crown reserves? Our planning staff are currently preparing an Open Space Strategy for these areas to guide future development and resource allocation. We know people love our open spaces, but we need to know more! Community consultation sessions for the strategy are being held throughout the Shire in January and February. Come along and tell us how we can make our open spaces even better. For more information visit Council's website at <http://www.uralla.nsw.gov.au/> or see the Uralla Shire Council Facebook page. Any questions about the strategy should be directed to Council's Manager of Planning and Regulation, Matt Clarkson, at mclarkson@uralla.nsw.gov.au or phone 6778 6300.



McMAUGH GARDENS

Residents were treated to some new entertainment with a very talented duo of Harp players that had everyone mesmerized with their soothing music and unique sounds. The residents were also encouraged to have a go at playing the harp for a unique personal experience with this beautiful instrument.

