

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Published 1 February 2021

Mayor's Message

While our Australia Day celebrations were a little different this year due to COVID Safe guidelines, the community spirit was strong as ever as we gathered to reflect, respect, and celebrate what it means to be an Australian. This year Council proudly sponsored the Bundarra Lion's Club Australia Day Committee with a \$2,500 sponsorship for celebrations into the future via the Federal Government's Drought Communities Extension Programme. I was honoured to introduce Ambassador Mr Corey Payne and welcome four new Australian citizens to our Shire in our annual Australia Day citizenship ceremony. On behalf of all of Council, I'd like to thank the Uralla Australia Day Committee for all the work they do each year to make this day a special event for our community.

Council will be kicking off the month of February with several listening posts held at the Uralla Community Street Store and the Bundarra General Store. This will be a trial run and depending on its success, may turn into a regular part of Council engagement with the community. We hope many individuals take this opportunity to stop and have a chat with Councillors and senior Council staff.

Council has opened Councillor workshops and briefings to the public with the aim to increase Council's transparency and facilitate more effective communication between Council and the community. Workshop schedules and agenda items for these information sessions will be published on the Council website and I hope any interested members of the community will take the opportunity to attend these informal gatherings.



On Australia Day we welcomed four new Citizens to the Uralla Shire. From left: Ruth Davis, Susan Burney, Mila Lavrushkina, and Dylan Knox with the Mayor, Michael Pearce.



Ambassador Corey Payne with Uralla Senior Citizen of the Year, Robert Crouch



Ambassador Corey Payne with Uralla Citizen of the Year, Maryann Munsie

Anyone who has driven past the Uralla Visitor Information Centre would have noticed the construction barriers now in place as work progresses on the VIC improvement project. This project has been made possible by significant grant funding provided by the NSW State Government's Drought Stimulus Package and the Australian Federal Government's Drought Communities Extension Programme. Over the next few months internal and external renovations will be completed along with landscaping works and the installation of a pergola.

Round 2 of Council's Community Grants Program opened this month and I would encourage community groups and organisations to apply. Community grants of up to \$3000

will be awarded to eligible projects, activities, or events. Applications should demonstrate activities which build community capacity or initiatives with social, cultural, recreational, educational, and environmental outcomes.

I hope everyone is enjoying the last of the summer before we head into autumn. Remember to maintain COVID Safe practices, keep up to date with the current restrictions for regional NSW online at www.nsw.gov.au, and as always stay safe to protect our community.

Until next time,
Mayor,
Cr Michael Pearce

ZNET News

Do you help run a business in Uralla? You're invited to a free business breakfast at the Top Pub on Wednesday, 24 February from 7-8:30am. Together with Regional Australia Bank and the Uralla Shire Business Chamber, who will be discussing options for water security, sustaining business through drought, and other challenges.

Registration is essential: <https://uralla-business-breakfast.eventbrite.com.au>.

ZNET's Sandra Eady says "It has been really valuable running our water security workshops – great feedback on a range of options from water recycling to rainwater tanks to bores! It is important that everyone has the chance to have their say. If your club or group would like ZNET to host a short water security workshop, please email us at water@zneturalla.org.au to arrange."

Want to know more about water efficiency, rainwater tanks, or water recycling? ZNET is building a library of information flyers to support community feedback, visit zneturalla.org.au.

Councillor workshops and briefings now open to the public

In a move to increase transparency and effective communication with the community, Council has opened councillor workshops and briefings to the public, with the exception of agenda items of a confidential nature as set out under Section 10A of the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*. The decision to open workshops to the public reflects Council's strategy to provide open, accountable and transparent decision making for the Uralla Shire community.

Agenda items to be considered at councillor workshops or briefings will be published by way of public notice three business days prior to the workshops. Agenda items to be heard in closed briefings will still be listed on the agenda, with the reason for closing the item.



Sandra Eady (ZNET) speaks with Stuart Khan and Matt Kearnes (UNSW) and Mr Adam Marshall MP about possible water options to back up our supply from Kentucky Creek Dam for the next drought. Make sure you have your say!

org.au/water. While you are on the webpage, you can complete ZNET's short polls to have your say on Uralla's water future.

Drop in to the Uralla street store in the last week of February and speak with ZNET members about local water, energy, food and sustainable firewood.

Friends of McMaugh Gardens Inc. Annual Charity Bowls Day

The Friends of McMaugh Gardens Inc. thanks the community for support at the committee's fund-raising events during the year. Funds raised go toward equipment and services to enhance the lives of residents and to assist management and staff to deliver the appropriate care required for all residents.

The Friends of McMaugh Gardens Annual Charity Bowls Day is scheduled for Tuesday, 9 March 2021 at the Uralla Bowling Club, commencing at 12 noon for lunch and registration.

Cost is \$20 including sausage sizzle lunch and dinner. COVID Safe practices will be in place.

Fun Day – Open Triples

Single Entries Welcome

“Hawaiian” Dress up Theme

Prize for Best Dressed Team

Please contact Friends of McMaugh Gardens Secretary, Rosemary Reading on 0412163444 or email rosemary.reading@bigpond.com for more information.

Construction commences on the Bundarra Sewerage Scheme

Construction has now commenced on the Bundarra Sewerage Scheme. Council is pleased with the rapid commencement of construction on the project and we are working with Ledonne Constructions so that the works go as smoothly, safely, and as quickly as possible. Assuming no unforeseen delays, Council anticipates the scheme will be commissioned by late 2021.

Funding has been provided by the NSW Government through its Restart and Safe and Secure Water Program to enable the \$8.81 million project to go ahead. Council was awarded grant funding of \$3.675 million towards the project from the Restart NSW Water Security for Regions Program, this has now been increased to \$6.354 million from the Safe and Secure Water Program. Council will fund the \$1.97 million balance from Council reserves and annual sewerage charges.

The Bundarra Sewerage Scheme project is a key component of Council's commitment to provide efficient and environmentally-sound sewerage services in Bundarra. The project will provide reticulated



Mr Adam Marshall MP, Mayor Michael Pearce and community member John Layton inspect the site of the future Bundarra Sewerage Treatment Plant.

sewerage infrastructure and services to approximately 165-171 properties within the Bundarra area.

The project consists of the construction of a low pressure sewer reticulation network within the township, a sewage pumping station and rising main to deliver Bundarra's wastewater to the treatment plant, and a sewage treatment plant including ponds,

storage lagoons and an irrigation system for the treated effluent. There should be no discharge of wastewater from the site.

Council is committed to the successful delivery of the project, which will provide numerous public health, economic, and environmental benefits to the Bundarra community and across the region.

Development Application and Complying Development Certificate Approvals / Refusals December 2020

Approvals:

Application No.	Applicant	Property	Development
DA-87-2019	Mr C Hull	51 John Street, Uralla	Dwelling, Garage and Strata Subdivision
DA-49-2020	Mr R & Mrs D Newman	308 Wollun Road, Wollun	Dual Occupancy
DA-50-2020	Ms B Banister	73 Macleay Way, Saumarez Ponds	Conversion of Shed to Games Room
DA-51-2020	Mr C & Mrs A Smith	96 Green Gully Road, Uralla	Dwelling & Shed
DA-52-2020	Mr D Wooster	9 Oliver Street, Bundarra	Shed
DA-53-2020	Ms N Turner	25 Eastern Avenue, Kentucky South	Shed
CDC-26-2020	Mr N & Mrs P Paliadelis	51 Park Street, Uralla	Ensuite, Bedroom, Internal Staircase, Kitchen Renovation, Verandah Extension & Spa
CDC-35-2020	Mr D Percival & Ms C Horton	104 Marble Hill Road, Saumarez Ponds	Shed

Withdrawals:

Application No.	Applicant	Property	Development
CDC-41-2020	Ms A Wolfenden & Ms M Hogan	87 Devoncourt Road, Uralla	4 Bay Carport

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

Commenced in January

- Commenced Torryburn Road rehabilitation construction
- Resheeting Program – Unsealed Rural Roads

Upcoming in February

- Retreat Road: Continue base course construction and sealing
- Thunderbolts Way South (Tarana Curve): Commence road widening under the Safer Road (Blackspot) programme
- Rural Road Resealing: Continue Kingstown Road
- Uralla Street rehabilitation: Continue asphalt overlay
- Roadside mowing
- Unsealed rural roads maintenance grading



Completed guard rail installation on Myall Swamp Bridge - Bingara Road Construction

Councillor expenses to be declared

To increase Council's transparency and accountability, Councillors will now table a statement of all claims made under the Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy at each Ordinary meeting as part of their monthly delegate report.

Councillor expenditure is public and tabling the information at Council meetings will make it more accessible by the public. Further, Council's intention is that the decision will bolster community confidence in the amounts councillors are reimbursed for undertaking their official duties.

The key objectives set out in Council's Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy state that councillor expenses and facilities are acceptable to and meet the expectations of the local community, and that Councillors are not financially disadvantaged in undertaking their civic duties. By increasing awareness of the policy, Council encourages all residents to run for public office in the upcoming Local Government elections, including those who may not reside in the Uralla township and would need to travel to Council meetings or other official functions.

Meeting Dates

Consistent with current physical distancing directions and COVID Safe guidelines, there are measures in place at Council and Committee meetings to protect the health and safety of our community. For more information please visit our website at uralla.nsw.gov.au/Council/Council-Meetings

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



Budget Review & Finance Committee Tuesday, 9 February 2021, 12:30pm Council Chambers.

Uralla Township and Environs Committee Tuesday, 9 February 2021, 6:00pm Council Chambers.

Ordinary Meeting of Council Tuesday, 23 February 2021, 12:30pm, Council Chambers.

Your Councillors



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Emergency Contacts

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Water / Sewer: 0427 784 304
Report all Fires: 000
SES (Flood/Storm): 132 500