

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL | MAY 2020



Mayor's Message



Welcome to the new Mayor's Message in the Uralla Shire Council newsletter. Each month we'll be sharing with you some of the goings on and what's been happening at Council to help keep you connected and informed.

I was happy to announce the lifting of the Do Not Drink alert on Uralla's town water supply at the end of April and I would like to once again thank the community for their support, resilience and understanding over the last months.

Thanks must also go to Adam Marshall MP and the State Government for funding the bottled water costs during the alert and providing funding towards process modifications and improvements at the Uralla Water Treatment Plant.

There are so many people to thank including the amazing volunteers and I look forward to when we can gather again to show our

appreciation for the community's efforts.

We sincerely hope that the treatment process ensures that levels remain within the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines with Council continuing to monitor the issue.

The last month has been challenging as we find our way into a new normal.

From residents lighting up the dawn at the end of their driveway for ANZAC Day to hearing about Lucy, the adopted cat providing cuddles to the residents of McMaugh Gardens we've been heartened by the stories of support and connectedness throughout the Uralla Shire community.

We also welcome Kate Jessep to the role of General Manager in July and I look forward to working with her to deliver the best services we can for our community.

Myself and all the Councillors are here to help and I would encourage you to contact us if we can be of any assistance. Our contact details are on the back page of this newsletter.

Until next time - stay safe,

Mayor, Cr Michael Pearce

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We're still here to help!

Due to COVID-19 there are a lot of changes at the moment but we are still here for you. Get in touch with us:

 www.uralla.nsw.gov.au

 02 6778 6300

 council@uralla.nsw.gov.au

 @UrallaShireCouncil

COVID-19 Update

The safety and health of our community and staff is of utmost importance to us during the COVID-19 pandemic.

We encourage the community to keep up-to-date with the latest information, resources and advice on COVID-19 from the leading public health agencies. As restrictions change and evolve these are the best sources of information.

These agencies also provide many resources to support you during this time from getting

through isolation and mental health to recognising symptoms.

At council face to face services have been suspended as well as other changes and closures regarding some of our Council run services and facilities.

To check on the statuses of these services please visit the Council Services website here uralla.nsw.gov.au/Community/COVID-19-Information-and-Updates/COVID-19-Facilities-Update



Your Library At Home

Many of our library members are missing their regular visit to the library to find a good book.

With the library closed at the moment there are many resources Uralla Library members can access online. Both for adults and children.

Ancestry Library Edition

For the first time ever members can start the search for their family history from the comfort of their home.

Borrowbox

Thousands of eBook and eAudio titles directly through a computer, ereader, tablet or smartphone anywhere, anytime. Includes best-selling & popular fiction, classics, biographies and lots of fun and interesting topics.

Storytime Online

Story Box Library is an educational website, created

for children to view stories by local authors and illustrators, being read aloud by fantastic, predominantly Australian and New Zealand, storytellers.

Kanopy Movie Streaming

Thousands of movie titles are available including Australian and International films.

RB Digital - Free eMagazines, eAudiobooks and eBooks

An amazing digital collection of over 80 magazine titles and more than 1,000 audiobooks. Read and listen when and where you like!

For help accessing these resources please get in touch with our library team on 6778 6470.

Not a member? That's not a problem! It's free to join so give us a call and we can sign you up over the phone.

Need a chat?

If you, a neighbour or a friend would like to hear a friendly hello during this challenging time let us know.

You'll just need to leave your first name and a contact number with us and we'll call you during the week to say hello and ask how you're getting on. Call us on 6778 6300 to sign up.

We're here for our community and to make sure we all have a friendly smile at the end of the phone during this time.

Take a Tour

With cooler weather and shorter days approaching, now is the perfect time to learn more about Uralla Shire's rich history online.

Soundtrails

Take a virtual exploration of Uralla's history by visiting Soundtrails.com.au to get started.

Uralla Story Project

The Story Project brings people together to share the stories of their lives.

Conversations include personal and community history of Uralla and its surrounds, including Bundarra, Kentucky, Balala and more.

Take the tour by visiting urallastories.org

Other Info

Travelling Stock Reserves

With the closure of camping grounds and parks around NSW due to COVID-19, Local Land Services is reminding people not to camp on Travelling Stock Reserves (TSRs).

For further information contact Local Land Services on 1300 795 299 or fill in the online enquiry form at lls.nsw.gov.au/contact-us.

Don't Be a Tosser!

Roadside litter is one of the most unnecessary and preventable environmental problems. Reporting littering from vehicles helps to raise awareness, change behaviour, reduce clean-up costs and keep our shire clean.

Visit the Report to EPA website at epa.nsw.gov.au/reporting-and-incidents/reporttoepa or enter 'Report to EPA' in any internet search browser to register to report littering from vehicles.

Z-NET Uralla News

We might be social distancing because of COVID-19 but firewood collecting is still on!

It is important to consider what type of wood to collect and importantly how much wood to leave behind to protect the woodland ecosystem. The picture below is a White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland at Balala.

We did a biodiversity assessment and found about 1200 m/ha of dead wood. The benchmark is 260 m/ha so it is safe to harvest some of the wood.

Leave any standing dead trees for the wildlife, plus the trees that have started to decay – they don't burn well and are important habitat for insects and animals. And leave the bark behind as it is rich in nutrients.

You can find out more information on how to collect wood sustainably and the benchmarks for level of dead wood for different types of woodlands in our area. Visit Z-NET Uralla's website on zneturalla.org.au/sustainable-firewood.



Development Application & Complying Development Certificate Decisions March 2020

Approvals:

Application No.	Applicant	Property	Development
DA-43-2019	Ms G Alexander	1425 Bundarra Road, Invergowrie	Change of Use (Conversion of Shed to Dwelling)
DA-1-2020	Uniplan Group Pty Ltd	65 Rocklea Road, Invergowrie	Installation of Two Manufactured Dwellings
DA-4-2020	Public Works Advisory	1 Bombelli Street, Bundarra	Demolition & Replacement of Existing Amenities Building
DA-5-2020	Mr T Cooper	43 Rowan Avenue, Uralla	Shed
CDC-7-2020	Mr G & Mrs C Clark	59A Maitland Street, Uralla	Dwelling Additions & Alterations

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 101 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

CIVIL WORKS

Completed in April

- Myall Swamp Bridge - Bridge extension concrete works

Underway

- Invergowrie (from Store) - Footpath construction

Upcoming in May

- Thunderbolts Way Central ch22.65km to 23.65km - Rehabilitation
- King St - Kerb and gutter construction
- Leece Road - Drainage improvement and upgrade
- Barraba Road - Resheeting

Financial Hardship

We recognise that there are cases of genuine financial hardship which require respect and compassion in special circumstances. Council has policies and procedures in place which may help alleviate the immediate burden for those who are experiencing hardship.

Any ratepayer having difficulties paying their rates is welcome to contact our Revenue Officer on 6778 6307 for a confidential discussion about how we can help.

For more information visit our COVID-19 webpage online.

Council Meeting Changes

Until further notice all Council Meetings will be held virtually and Councillors will participate through an audio-visual link.

The public will be able to view a live stream of each meeting on Youtube with a link made available at the start of the meeting on the Uralla Shire Council Facebook page.

Our community can still have input on meeting agenda items. If you would like to provide comment on items in the business paper for the meetings please email submissions to council@uralla.nsw.gov.au four days prior to the meeting.

Meeting Dates

Ordinary Meetings

April's Ordinary Meeting of Council has been postponed to Tuesday, 05 May 2020.

May's Ordinary Meeting of Council is Tuesday, 26 May 2020

Budget Review & Finance Committee

Postponed until further notice.

Uralla Township & Environs Committee

Postponed until further notice.

Council meeting agendas, reports, and the meeting webcast can be obtained from the website uralla.nsw.gov.au/Council/Council-Meetings/Business-Papers-Agendas-Minutes

Your Councillors



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



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



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



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



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



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



Cr Robert Bell
rbell@uralla.nsw.gov.au
02 6778 4005



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



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



Acting General Manager
Mr Scott Phillips

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