

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



December / January 23-24

Mayor's Message

As we wind down for Christmas, it's natural to reflect on the year that passed. Though 2023 was not without challenges, I'm left feeling optimistic.

This year Council set out to re-engage widely with our community. At the end of the day we are a community-based organisation, we've got lots of balls in the air, and we want to work together to help guide our decision making. There really is a positive feeling in the air when you walk up the street or go to a function.

It should not be understated that Council ends the year in a stable financial position with an unqualified audit. Our new General Manager is in place, and there's a sense we are ready to move everything forward.

A test for Council in the coming year will be taking advantage of opportunities that come from investment in our region as part of the Renewable Energy Zone. We really are at the forefront in our negotiations with all the major players.



Others are looking to us for a way forward that balances business and community benefits.

One of the next steps for us is consulting widely with our community to see what the legacy outcomes of this once in a lifetime opportunity should be.

A feature of the year has been seeing so many wonderful community events reinvigorate themselves after the interruptions of COVID. They are a credit to the people who work tirelessly behind the scenes to bring them to life.

Once again, the Fairy Festival was a highlight of our calendar. Even though this year we had wet weather, the kids just loved it. It's such a unique idea and brings so many visitors to town.

Earlier this year, the ABC television program Back Roads spent over a week in Uralla. I know the Seasons of New England event was a big focus. The episode will air on 23 January, and personally, I can't wait to see it! I hope there is a huge influx of visitors and spending to follow, because when our local businesses do well, we all benefit.

Closing out the year, we've had councillors attend each school end of year presentation day. It's a great way to acknowledge our hard working teachers and congratulate students on their progress.

I'd like to conclude by thanking my fellow councillors and all our council staff, and on their behalf, wish everyone a safe and very merry Christmas. We look forward to working together again in 2024.

Mayor, Robert Bell

New sculpture installed at
The Glen



"Stargazer", Artist - Nicole O'Regan

Over recent months, The Glen has been undergoing a major transformation. Together with other infrastructure upgrades, the first of 8 newly-commissioned sculptures has just been installed.

This sculpture is titled "Stargazer", and artist Nicole O'Regan – a structural steel fabricator by trade – says she is excited to create work for people who may never step foot inside an art gallery.

Collectively, the sculptures will be known as "The Constellations of the South" each set on granite monoliths representing the southern night sky.

The project has been made possible with the support of the State Government, with this grant funding also enabling upgrades at Rotary Park and Pioneer Park. These works are currently under construction and expected to open in the New Year.

EVENTS

Learn to Swim

SWIMVAC 2024



Swim and SURVIVE

Enrol your kids for summer!

Bookings Open - 1 October 2023

www.drowningprevention.org.au

ROYAL LIFE SAVING

The Royal Life Saving Society of NSW is running Vacation Swimming Classes at Uralla Pool in the weeks of 8-12 January and 15-19 January 2024. BOOK NOW <https://aus.iclasspro.com/portal/rllswimvac/classes>

URALLA

Australia Day 2024



26

January

2024

Join us for a day of reflection, respect, and celebration of all things Australian! New Aussies find belonging in joyful citizenship ceremonies.

Uralla Street Store

Schedule

- 8-14 January Uralla District Show Society
- 15-21 January Uralla Australia Day Committee
- 22 Jan - 4 Feb Available for your Organisation

Call the VIC for information on how to apply. (02 6778 6420)

UPCOMING

Uralla Swimming Pool

Party

POOL PARTY



27

January

2024

Grab your board shorts and get down to the pool. We'll even be running free buses to and from the pool.

Youth pool party
This January, dive into the ultimate summer event!

We've partnered with the State Government's Youth Holiday Break Program for a week-long pool party in Uralla.

From Monday, January 22nd to Saturday, January 27th, our pool will be free for anyone aged 12 to 24.

Get ready for a tidal wave of good times! Crank up the tunes, tackle giant inflatables, and conquer epic pool games. Fuel up with sizzling free snags and icy treats throughout the day. Don't worry about a ride – we'll be running free buses to and from the pool. So grab your sandals and sunnies, and prepare to make a splash!

This is just the tip of the iceberg – stay tuned after Christmas for even more pool party surprises!

So, mark your calendars, Uralla – your summer just got seriously upgraded!

Protect yourself and your community from smoke: free masks available at uralla shire council

Bushfires and hazard reduction burning can generate smoke that impacts the health of our community, especially individuals who are older, children, pregnant women, and those with heart or lung conditions. To help protect ourselves and each other, Uralla Shire Council is offering free P2/N95 masks to residents courtesy of NSW Health.

Staying Safe from Smoke:

- Limit outdoor activity: When smoke levels are high, staying indoors with windows and doors closed is the best way to avoid harmful particles.
- Consider wearing a P2/N95 mask: These masks can help filter out fine particles and reduce the risk of smoke inhalation, particularly for those who must be outdoors.
- Consult your doctor: If you have a chronic breathing condition, consult your doctor before using a P2/N95 mask.

Residents can collect their free P2/N95 mask at the Uralla Shire Council administration building located at:

32 Salisbury St, URALLA NSW 2358 - Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm (excluding public holidays)

Development application and complying development certificate approvals

Development applications and complying development certificates currently under assessment by Uralla Shire Council can be found on our website by typing the following address into your internet browser <https://www.uralla.nsw.gov.au/Council-Services/Building-Development/Development-Application-Tracking>

Notices of Determination for finalised Development Applications and Complying Development Certificates are available for public inspection, free of charge, during office hours at Uralla Shire Council.

Uralla Library Events in January

Tuesday 2 January 10am - The Library reopens after the Christmas break and resumes normal operating hours.

Monday 1pm - 5pm
Tuesday 10am - 4pm
Wednesday 1pm - 5pm
Thursday 1pm - 5pm
Friday & Saturday 9:30am - 4:30pm
(closed 12pm - 1pm)

Saturday 6 January 10:30am - local author, Bridget Van der Eyk will be signing copies of her new book, 3000 Words. Come and meet Bridget and chat to her about her writing journey.



Thursday 11 January 3:30pm - information session with local Pokemon expert, Matt. Free weekly after school tournaments will begin in the library during first term and this is an opportunity to learn how to fine tune your deck, and strategies for playing. There will be giveaways for all who register.



Wednesday 17 January 10.30am - the Science of Magic. Numbers are limited and bookings are essential for this event.



Uralla Shire Library 106 Bridge Street Uralla ph: 6778 6470 e: library@uralla.nsw.gov.au

CIVIL WORKS

Upcoming & ongoing over the
next quarter

- Commence gravel overlay Kingstown Road
- Continue tar patching regional and rural roads
- Commence slashing Rocky River/ Arding Roads
- Continue maintenance of footpaths parks and cemeteries
- Continue Kingstown Road Rehabilitation
- Continue slashing Arding and Invergowrie Roads
- Continue grading Baldersleigh Road
- Commence grading Dog Trap Road



Newly Sealed Bergen Road Wollun

CATCH UP ON YOUR COUNCIL MEETINGS

At the November / December Ordinary Meeting,
Council resolved to:

- Adopt the recommendations in the minutes of Uralla Local Traffic Committee held on 10 October 2023
- Receive and note the recommendations from the Uralla Township and Environs s355 Committee meeting held 6 November 2023;
- Adopt the draft Renewable Energy Community Benefit Policy;
- Place on public notice the Draft Guidelines for Tree Management for 56 days;
- Approve the amended Uralla Shire Council contribution for 2022/2023 and 2023/24 of the Central Northern Regional Library;
- Adopt the 2022-23 Annual Report and submit to the NSW Minister for Local Government and
- Receive the first Quarterly Budget Review Summary for 2023/24
- Defer DA-57-2023 19 Lot Subdivision to February 2024 Ordinary Meeting.
- Undertake a comprehensive community engagement program on rationalisation of waste services areas in early 2024.
- Defer Draft Trade Waste Policy till February Ordinary Meeting.
- Continue negotiations on Thunderbolt Wind Farm Voluntary Planning Agreement.
- Terminate the exclusive marketing contract at the end of the current contracted period – 24 January 2024.

Council Ordinary Meetings

Meetings are open to the public, except when confidential items are being considered.

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

The next Council Ordinary Meeting will be held on 27 February 2024.

**Uralla Shire Council
wishes all its residents
a safe and happy festive
season. We look forward
to supporting you in 2024.**



Your Councillors

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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