

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



September / October 2023

## Mayor's Message

The last two months have seen a lot of diverse activity for our community. From progressing our legacy park projects to continuing the discussions on how we can achieve the best outcome for our community from the REZ development proposals.

In September I attended the Country Mayors Association meeting in Sydney. The focus of discussion was on climate change and the support required for regional areas to be ready to tackle the challenges of disaster management and recovery. As a community we have proven ourselves to be very resilient but with the projection for more frequent and more intense natural disasters it is important that we continue our planning and preparation efforts. It was encouraging to see the engagement and support of the Ministers that attended the meeting. More recent local events underscore the importance of being fire ready – please take the time to read more about Bushfire Preparedness inside this issue.

In August we held an Australian Citizenship Ceremony where we welcomed Sakulsri Wechakul. It was lovely to be able to share the moment with Sakulsri and her family and heart-warming to see the pride that Sakulsri expressed in becoming an Australian citizen.



Mayor Bell presenting the Australian Citizenship Certificate

Our work continues on the Public Legacy Space projects:

Pioneer Park - works have commenced on the Fibonacci spiral pathway. The Fibonacci sequence is a set of steadily increasing numbers where each number is equal to the sum of the preceding two numbers. The first few numbers in the sequence are 0,1,1,2,3,5,8. The park will showcase the unique Uralla postcode 2358 which is the only postcode in Australia that captures part of the Fibonacci sequence. An exciting component of the project is the proposed inclusion of stenciled artwork, using the conceptual designs by our local school children, as part of the pathway feature. What a wonderfully unique way to promote our town!

Rotary Park - is now open to the public. I encourage you to drop by and have a look at the new facility.

The Glen - the project includes seven sculpture artworks circled around a central spire. The park will also have an asphalt road and carpark, as well as two culvert creek crossings to enhance accessibility. A new wheelchair friendly BBQ and park furniture and an upgrade of the information shelter is also planned.



3D Renders of Fibonacci theme at Rotary Park

Courthouse Upgrade - Council received funding for restoration and adaptive reuse of the Uralla Courthouse. Works include repair and reinstatement of the verandah, a new roof and repairs and painting throughout.

We are now working on the relocation of a kitchenette, repair and rejuvenation of the original flooring, reinstatement of the original picket fence, wainscoting and the addition of disability accessible toilet facilities.

We will obtain heritage advice from our Heritage Advisor regarding the completion of the Courthouse Project. The goal is to have the Uralla Courthouse repurposed and available to the public as a multi-functional centre. The completed facility will be a fabulous addition to council's community venues.

Council continues to actively source updated data on Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations for Uralla. Since this relies on grants we are waiting for the release of key charge points the NSW government will fund that will be suitable to both residents and travellers. Watch this space.

**Mayor, Robert Bell**

## URALLA BIRD COUNT

The Aussie Bird Count is an annual citizen science project. Each year people of all ages head out to their front yards, backyards, courtyards, parks and play areas to count how many birds they see in a 20-minute period and provide a snapshot of Australia's more common bird species. Collecting this data at the same time each year shows the trends in our bird communities over time. Think of birds as a barometer for nature, as their health and wellbeing is one of nature's best indicators. Community members can participate in the bird count by registering at <https://aussiebirdcount.org.au>

## WATER METER READING IN NOVEMBER – RESIDENTS ARE REMINDED TO CLEAR THE WAY FOR WATER READERS

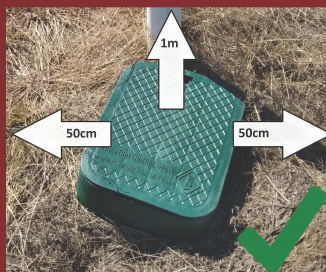
Readings are conducted in May & November each year in Bundarra and Uralla. Water bills are then sent out at the end of the following month.

You can help by allowing clear access to your water meter so meter readers can record your water use and repair or replace your water meter if required.

Council relies on accurate and timely water meter readings to make sure you are billed correctly for water use.

### Water meter reading Begins 1 November 2023

Please ensure your water meter is easy  
to access



Council staff may not be able to read your meter if:

- It is behind a locked gate.
- It is unsafe to enter the property.
- An aggressive dog is present.
- It is buried in concrete or dirt.
- It is inaccessible due to overgrown grass, garden or vegetation.

## GET YOUR COZZIES READY



*The Uralla Swimming Pool will open for the 2023-2024 season on Saturday, 21 October 2023.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

2023 Bundarra Lions Club Goat Races  
14 October 2023

Znet - Slip into Sustainability - 12 - 4pm  
21 October 2023 - Uniting Church Hall

Thunderbolts Festival  
28 October 2023

Spaces Make Lace II - Fashion Parade -  
Alternate Root  
3 November 2023

Spaces Make Lace II - McCrossins Mill Museum  
4 - 5 November 2023

If you are holding a community event please contact the customer service team (6778 6300) so we can include your event in the newsletter.

## AUSTRALIA DAY COMMITTEE

**WE NEED YOU!**



Australia Day is a wonderful time for the whole community to come together to celebrate our good fortune, acknowledge outstanding contributors to our community and to welcome our new Australian citizens. The amazing group of volunteers that make up our Australia Day Committee are responsible for the Australia day awards ceremony and festivities. The Committee is looking for new volunteers to join their team to help with the planning and running of this wonderful event.

If you can see yourself supporting the event by assisting with planning and setup, helping run the event on the day or assisting with clean up please talk to Bev Niland 0407 784 328 our Secretary or Robert Bell our Acting Chair M:0434 244 774 to find out more about joining this amazing team.



Spring has sprung, the bulbs are blooming, so sowing and growing is once again on our minds. In August the 'Slip into Sustainability' afternoon focussed on 'What to grow and When' with expert advice from Jane Pickard and Ray South from Banded Bee Farm. Znet also returned to the Uralla Highland Market on 3 September with a number of members bringing along seedlings to sell and free seeds and produce to share.

This spring and summer forecast is for a hot and dry season and with all the extreme weather events happening globally, FOOD SECURITY is an increasing concern. One way we can mitigate those \$13 lettuce events is to simply grow a little more in our own gardens and share with our neighbours or bring along to the ZNET market stall to swap or sell. FOODSCAPING our gardens helps to lower our cost of living, gives a little more peace of mind, and, it's fun.



This is called "Foodscaping." Each yard has a vegetable garden with fruit trees. Neighbors consult with each other so they can trade the food that is grown. Imagine if people did this everywhere?

### ARE YOU BUSHFIRE READY? GET READY IN FIVE SIMPLE STEPS

Do you have a 'Get Ready for Bushfire' plan from the RFS? Preparing a plan for your household, or updating one you've previously prepared, is not just about protecting your property, it will help keep your loved ones and your pets safe in the event of a bushfire.

## GET READY FOR SUMMER

1. Know your risk - Think about the area you live in and the types of disasters that could affect you.
2. Plan for what you will do - Sit down and talk with your family about what you will do in the event of a disaster.
3. Get your home ready - Carry out general home maintenance and check your insurance.
4. Be aware - Connect with NSW emergency services and stay updated.
5. Look out for each other and share information with family, friends and neighbours.

### IS YOUR HOME BUSHFIRE-READY?

A well prepared home is easier for you or firefighters to defend in the event of a bushfire, and is less likely to put your neighbours' homes at risk. It will also give you more protection if a fire threatens suddenly and you cannot leave. Here are some basic maintenance tips to prepare your property:

- Keep gutters free of leaves and debris, and install metal gutter guards
- Check your hoses are in good condition and are long enough to reach around the house
- Enclose the areas under the house
- Install fine metal mesh screens on windows and doors
- Keep lawns short and gardens well-maintained
- Cut back trees and shrubs overhanging buildings
- Regularly remove fallen leaves, twigs and debris around the property walls and fences

For further information visit the Rural Fire Service Website at [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au)

## COUNCILLOR CATCH-UP

Councillors regularly reach out to the community to get first hand information and feedback on community issues. They have commenced the latest round with a meeting at Invergowrie store where community members were able to make requests and provide feedback on issues that directly affect their part of the community. Further meetings are proposed at :

### **Barry Munday Reserve**

Date: Sunday, October 8th  
Time: 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Note: Sausage sizzle provided, BYO drinks

### **Kentucky Hall**

Date: Thursday, October 19th  
Time: 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Note: Sausage sizzle provided, BYO drinks

### **Bundarra Church Markets**

Date: Saturday, October 21st  
Time: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

### **Uralla Alma Park**

Date: Sunday, October 22nd  
Time: 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Note: Sausage sizzle provided, BYO drinks

### **Balala Schoolhouse**

Date: Sunday, October 22nd  
Time: 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM Note: Sausage sizzle provided, BYO drinks

### **Arding Reserve**

Date: Sunday, November 12th  
Time: 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Note: Sausage sizzle provided, BYO drinks

**Kingstown Tennis Courts** Date: Thursday, November 30th  
Time: 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Note: Sausage sizzle provided, BYO drinks

This is a great opportunity to meet your councillors and get first hand information about Council initiatives as well as have an opportunity to share your feedback. Councillors welcome all of the local communities to attend these events.

# CIVIL WORKS

## Upcoming & Ongoing over next quarter

- Grading of Lookout Road, Racecourse Road, Green Gully Road and Waterworks Road.
- Gravel resheeting on Warrembah Road.
- Carry out pavement works to access road and carpark area at The Glen. Tree pruning and vegetation maintenance at The Glen.
- Commence services location and repositioning on Warwick Street in Uralla.
- Pavement stabilisation and sealing of Ferndale to Pinetree 2km section of Thunderbolts Way at Torryburn.
- Prepare project rehabilitation of Bergen Road 1km, extending east of the railway line.
- Tar patching sealed regional and rural roads and town streets.
- Footpath and verge maintenance in Uralla and Bundarra.



1.8km new seal on Thunderbolts Way at Two Mile Creek at Abington

## CATCH UP ON YOUR COUNCIL MEETINGS

Some of the decisions made by Council at the ordinary Meeting in August and September included:

- Thanking outgoing General Manager, Kate Jessep for her service and commitment over the last three years and acknowledged her contribution to Council and the Uralla community;
- Approving a DA for LED business identification signage at the Uralla Bowling Club;
- Resolving to license the occupation of land at Depot Road Uralla to NSW Fire & Rescue;
- Approving artwork for the Constellations of the South project;
- Adopting the schedule of Ordinary Meetings for 2023-2024. Details can be found on Council's website at: [www.uralla.nsw.gov.au/Council/Council-Meetings/Council-Meeting-Schedule](http://www.uralla.nsw.gov.au/Council/Council-Meetings/Council-Meeting-Schedule)
- Deferring a Notice of Motion on Constitutional Referendum pending further advice from the Parliamentary Secretary.
- Endorsing the Draft End of Year Financial Statements 2023 for Audit processing
- Continuing sponsorship at end of year to Uralla Central School
- Supporting The Spaces Make Lace 2023 Event with in-kind support
- Waiving the development fee for Thunderbolts Festival
- Approving projects to be submitted for funding in the Local Roads and Community Program funding
- Endorsing a Renewable Energy Policy for public exhibition.
- Receiving a report on the operation of McMaugh Gardens and a decision to write to the Minister of Health on emerging critical issues.
- Approving the engagement of Mr Mitch MacKay as Heritage Advisor to council;
- Appointing Capstone Recruitment to undertake the recruitment of Uralla Shire Council's General Manager.

### Meeting Dates

Meetings are open to the public. 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)

Ordinary Meeting of Council

Tuesday, 24 October 2023, 4:00pm Council Chambers

## Your Councillors



### Mayor

**Robert Bell**

mayor@uralla.nsw.gov.au  
0434 244 774



### 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



### Interim General Manager

Ms Toni Averay

### Council Administration

PO Box 106 Uralla NSW 2358  
Ph. 02 6778 6300 | Fax. 02 6778 6349  
Email: [council@uralla.nsw.gov.au](mailto: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