

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



April 2023

Mayor's Message

Congratulations to the event organisers including many volunteer hours for a very successful Seasons of New England. As many of you may be aware, Back Roads ABC TV program visited Uralla Shire last month where a number of residents and businesses have been profiled for a segment to air sometime in 2024. The presenter, Heather Ewart was very complimentary of our town's services, businesses and overall friendly welcome. We look forward to having our lovely Shire showcased.

Working closely with our General Manager, key staff and neighbouring Mayors, I have been busy attending a number of energy meetings to shore up the future planning for any renewable developments within Uralla Shire to make sure that the community receives a reasonable level of funding that can be put towards our community services and community infrastructure. We are also making sure that developers cover the cost to maintain the Council infrastructure that they use during construction such as roads, as well as making submissions on development

applications to seek better outcomes.

Staff at McMaugh Gardens are to be commended for passing their recent audit and gaining a further three-year accreditation. Council has approved the allocation of \$12,000 for investment in the master plan for a staged expansion of McMaugh Gardens. Council has engaged Coverite Projects to prepare the master plan to enable Council to pursue funding for construction of stage 1 of the expansion.

It has been identified that the Uralla Shire community is not on top of best practice with the recycling of our waste products. A Waste Awareness Brochure has been developed by ZNET in collaboration with Uralla Shire Council to raise local awareness on how to reduce waste going to our landfill. The brochure will be available to the community through council's website and Facebook, along with hard copies being produced by ZNET.

In the second half of this year Council will be initiating the research to develop its next long term waste strategy which will guide the creation and structure of the Shire's next waste, recycling and resource recovery system. That work will involve considerable community consultation and we will value the input of all interested parties, so please keep an eye out for future announcements.

NBNCo project for Kentucky is one of the 46 locations in regional NSW to look forward to enhanced nbn broadband services as announced by NSW Government and NBNCo early March.

The exponential growth in data usage in regional areas over the past decade has highlighted the necessity for services to meet future growth.

In late March NBN Co also announced the trial of a new Sky Muster® Plus plan that it hopes will allow it to provide faster speeds and even more unmetered data to satellite customers from late 2023. Good news for our region.

Over the past 24 months Council has had major success in gaining more than \$11m in State and Federal government grant funding to assist in repairing infrastructure damaged during floods and to enhance and upgrade other public roads and public assets. Some of this work includes for example: upgrades to Hawthorn Drive, and Northeys, Gostwyck, and Kingstown Roads.

Whilst the support from government has been greatly appreciated, the intensity of the flood recovery work has consumed a significant part of Council teams' time and effort over the past several months, and has necessarily required some of the more usual work we had planned to be held over.

We are catching up, and over the next 12 months a further \$860,000 in grant funding will be spent on Open Space and Sporting infrastructure upgrades.

Mayor, Robert Bell

WATER METER READING IN MAY – RESIDENTS REMINDED TO CLEAR THE WAY FOR METER READERS

Water meter reading is conducted in May & November each year in Bundarra and Uralla. Water bills will be sent out at the end of the following month.

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

Community Energy Evening in Uralla

It was a full house at the Uralla Community Centre for a recent event held on 20 March 2023 by ZNET Uralla in conjunction with non-profit organisation Community Power Agency (CPA) and locally-based solar developer Meralli Solar. The aim was to consider ways in which the Uralla Shire can participate more fully in the clean energy transition.

Participation for Uralla Shire Residents could include having more say in the design, opportunities and impacts of large-scale projects that are planned for our area as well as identifying long lasting community benefits, to local projects which will increase our energy resilience.

With the shift to renewables happening across the country and around the world, there are lots of examples available of other communities like ours being proactive and getting good results.

If energy is an area you are interested in, you are welcome to join the mailing list by emailing coordinator@zneturalla.org.au.



Kim Mallee from CPA talks about community energy models

Water meter reading

Water meter Reading will begin 1st of May 2023



Please make sure your water meter is easy to access



Say "NO" to Recycling Contamination

Council needs your help in keeping out unnecessary items from recycle waste to prevent harm to staff and reduce recycle contamination. Please refer to the "Recycling Right" chart to improve our recycling efforts.

Simply put, contamination is when the wrong items are placed in either the yellow-lidded recycling bin, or the green-lidded garden organics bin. This includes items such as e-waste, food waste, plastic bags, soft-plastics, garden organics and materials that are not currently recyclable at all like nappies and textiles. Contamination of recycle waste is not allowed for a variety of reasons:

- High levels of contamination may result in increased disposal of recycle to the landfill. Textiles in the recycling bin can get tangled in the sorting machinery.
- Food and liquids can damage cardboard and paper to the point they are no longer viable for reprocessing.
- Bagged recyclables get picked out manually and end up in landfill
- Nappies are not recyclable, and a hazard to material recovery staff

Recycling Right

Keep it Clean

- ✓ Wipe out and empty containers of leftover food or drink before recycling.
- ✓ If you have washing up water in your sink, use this to rinse bottles and containers.

Keep it Loose

- ✓ Place recycling items loose in your recycling bin (don't bag or box your recycling).
- ✓ Plastic bags do not belong in the recycling bin.
- ✓ Remove lids from bottles and jars.

Keep it Safe

- ✓ Protect our MRF workers – do not dispose of food waste, dirty nappies or dead animals in the recycling bin.
- ✓ Nothing hazardous that can damage machines such as netting, hoses, wires, building materials, broken glass, chemicals or other hazardous materials.

Keep it Simple

- ✓ Recycle hard plastic bottles and containers.
- ✓ Glass bottles and jars.
- ✓ Steel and aluminium cans.
- ✓ Paper and cardboard

Keep it Flat

- ✓ Flatten cardboard to get the most out of your recycling bin.

Keep it Plastic bag-free

- ✓ Put plastic bags in the red lidded garbage bin, they don't belong in the recycling bin.
- ✓ Soft crunchy plastics such as chip packets, biscuit packets and bread bags can be dropped off at *Coles* or *Woolworths* in the REDcycle Program or put in your red lidded garbage bin.

Keep it Certain

- ✓ Rethink your waste and see recyclable materials as a valuable resource.
- ✓ Recyclable items can be manufactured into new products.
- ✓ Resource recovery is much better for our environment and our economy.

Source: [Recycle Right - Northern Inland Regional Waste \(nirw.org.au\)](https://www.nirw.org.au)

Strategies to reduce contamination

Bin checks by waste collection driver and council staff

JR-Richards collection vehicles are fitted with cameras, to allow the contents of the bins to be viewed as they are being emptied into the trucks.

At other times, Council staff may check the contents by lifting the lids on the bins.

Residents who place incorrect items in the recycling or garden organics bins, may receive a letter to remind them of the materials which should be placed in the bin.

Heavily contaminated bins may not be emptied as the contents are not suitable for processing.

In these instances, residents are required to remove the contaminants from the bin, before it can be emptied.

Where ongoing contamination of a bin occurs, and where the resident has received several letters addressing the issue, Council may suspend the service.

Uralla Working on Waste (Uralla-WOW)

Uralla-WOW is an upcoming project by ZNET aimed at raising awareness through education on how to reduce waste going to the landfill and workshops on recycling.

Council recently endorsed a Waste Brochure “Let’s get wise about waste in Uralla Shire” that was developed by ZNET in connection with USC for use in the Uralla-wow project.

More information on the project will soon be posted on Council Website.

Privacy Awareness Week NSW 2023

Privacy Awareness Week is a global campaign that involves both public sector agencies and citizens and aims to improve understanding and awareness of NSW privacy legislation, and to raise awareness of a person’s privacy rights and agency obligations.

Privacy Awareness Week NSW takes place from 1 – 7 May 2023 and this year’s theme is Back to Basics: Privacy foundations in NSW.

Uralla Shire Council is a proud Champion of Privacy Awareness Week NSW 2023 and is committed to protecting the privacy of NSW citizens.

For more information please visit our website using the link below;

<https://www.uralla.nsw.gov.au/Council/Council-News-and-Media/Public-Notices/Privacy-Awareness-Week-NSW-2023>

STREET STORE SCHEDULE

Located at 60 Bridge St, Uralla

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Uralla

17 May

Uralla Historical Society

8-14 May

New England Lapidary and Fossicking Club Inc

Development Application and Complying Development Certificate Approvals January 2023

Withdrawals and Refusals: Nil

Application No.	Applicant	Property	Development
DA-59-2022	Croft Surveying & Mapping	340 Kingstown Road, Uralla	2 Lot Subdivision
DA-70-2022	Ambrose Building Development Solutions	20 Queen Street, Uralla	Eight Lot Strata Subdivision
DA-2-2023	New England Sheds	164 Rifle Range Road, Rocky River	Dual Occupancy Dwelling/Shed
DA-6-2023	Ambrose Building Development Solutions	Lot 35 Hill Street, Uralla	Demolition of Existing Office Building
DA-7-2023	Miss P Matthews	Shop 1, 51 Bridge Street, Uralla	Change of Use – Food and Drink Premises
CDC-3-2023	Ms W Davison	13 Devoncourt Road, Uralla	Garage & Freestanding Patio

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

March

- Completed base course final trimmed on Hawthorne Drive, awaiting fine weather to bitumen seal.
- Completion of forklift access and loading slab at Uralla Landfill – also ramp section for travel within the facility.
- Commence drainage works within Bundarra village.
- Commence grading in the Gostwyck area, Balala area.
- Paint medians gardens and islands throughout Uralla.
- Extensive renovations on the median gardens in Bridge Street Uralla.
- Backfill of road and verge at completed kerb and guttering on Roman St, west side.
- Completed concrete pedestrian footbridge Bendemeer St, Bundarra.
- Gravel and grade Gostwyck War Service Road.

Upcoming in April

- Commence work on Dog Trap Road Causeway
- Commence work on Plane Avenue shared Footpath/Cycleway
- Commence work on Gostwyck Road Rehabilitation – 3km
- Construct kerb and gutter on east side of Roman Street, Uralla.

Ongoing

- Tar patching on MR73 Thunderbolts Way and Bundarra Road MR124
- Mowing and slashing of sportsfields/ park/cemeteries and reserves respectively, Uralla and Bundarra.
- Pothole repairs.

Catch up on your Council Meetings

At the March Ordinary Meeting, Council resolved to:

- Publish the Waste Awareness Brochure “Let’s get wise about waste in Uralla Shire”.
- Demolish and dispose of the old play equipment outside the Grace Munro Centre in Bundarra and rehabilitate the site.
- Receive the updated information on the Asset Management Plans and implementation progress
- Endorse grant funding for a further \$855,223 for road transport assets.
- Approve the preparation of a Master Plan for a Staged Expansion of McMaugh Gardens.
- Authorise the General Manager to proceed with an upgrade to Council’s existing IT systems.
- Accept NEOEN planning agreement proposal terms.
- Refuse Winterbourne Wind Farm terms of agreement.
- Authorise the Mayor and General Manager to negotiate Planning Agreements for developer contributions to renewable energy developments affecting Uralla Shire.

Meeting Dates

Meetings are open to the public subject to current COVID guidelines. Agendas, business papers, minutes, and meeting webcasts are published on Council’s website at uralla.nsw.gov.au/Council/Council-Meetings

Ordinary Meeting of Council

Tuesday, 26 April 2023, 4:00pm Council Chambers

Council Workshops and Public Forums

Refer to Public Notices on the Council website for details



Bendemeer St footbridge, Bundarra – completed for use.

THE GLEN PROJECT UPDATE

The first stage of the **Constellations of the South** project is proceeding at pace at The Glen. The installation of obelisks is underway and should be open to public viewing within 2 weeks. We're thrilled to offer visitors the chance to witness the intricate and captivating constellations brought to life in this exceptional project.

Your Councillors



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