

Balranald Shire Council

New Residents Package



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Welcome to the Balranald Shire

Dear new residents

Welcome (to our Shire) and congratulations on choosing Balranald Shire as your preferred place of residence.

Moving into a new community is an exciting and busy time. To assist you, Balranald Shire Council has developed a New Resident's Package.

The New Residents Package contains all necessary information on services and facilities available within our Shire. This package is designed to allow you to easily access your required information.

Balranald Shire Council takes great pride in our Local Government Area and its ability to provide quality facilities and services for our residents. We are a united community and want you to feel welcome amongst us and to become an active part of our community.

We congratulate you on your decision to live in our community and wish you every happiness in your new home.

Yours sincerely

Mayor, Councillors and staff of Balranald Shire Council

Council's Vision Statement

*Committed to Balranald Shire,
Providing for our people
Protecting our heritage, and
Planning for our future*

Our Community Vision Statement

Our Community Vision Statement is a vivid description of what our community aspires to become, without its current barriers, but tied to what we value. The statement below is the intended outcome for our Balranald Shire and its communities through the implementation of our Balranald Shire 2022:

"To create a better, more vibrant, more resilient and more engaged community, by capitalising upon its human, cultural, environmental and business assets and encouraging a strong sense of civic participation and pride".

About Balranald Shire

The township of Balranald was gazetted on the 4th April 1851, and is considered the oldest settlement on the Lower Murrumbidgee. The town was established by the primary rural industries - harvesting wheat, wool and red gum timber. Agriculture is still a strong factor for the economy of the town with farmer's now also growing canola, rice, wheat, fruit and vegetables.

Covering approximately 21,400 square kilometres and surrounded by the Murrumbidgee, Murray, Lachlan, Wakool and Edward Rivers, Balranald Shire encompasses a diverse natural landscape which includes the world famous Mungo and Yanga National Parks. The Shire, culturally rich in Aboriginal and European heritage, is surrounded by rich agricultural lands and the unique townships and hamlets of Balranald, Euston, Kyalite, Oxley, Hatfield, Clare and Penarie (Homebush).

Today the population of Balranald Shire is approximately 2,340. The main centre, Balranald, is located on the Sturt Highway along the Murrumbidgee River. Euston, the Shire's second town located 80kms west of Balranald on the Sturt Highway, is on the Murray River.

Kyalite, on the junction of the Wakool and Edward Rivers, and with the Murray and the Murrumbidgee Rivers in close proximity, is a small country village of about 30 people. Small villages of Oxley, Penarie (Homebush), Hatfield and Clare are considered the social hubs for many of the outlying properties within Balranald Shire.

The average summer temperature is around 30 degrees centigrade without the humidity prevalent in coastal regions. Winters are usually mild with cool to cold nights and fine days.

Balranald

Balranald is a potential geographer's living classroom. It is a pivotal place of two great Australian landscapes, to the east the Riverina Plain and to the west the Murray Darling Depression. There is much to see and do in and around Balranald. With a thriving main street there is everything you would expect in a township of this size.

There are many good restaurants and eateries around town and the two supermarkets can supply you with all your grocery needs.

As you get acquainted with Balranald Township you will notice some of the locals are rather green! These are of course our famous frog sculptures, renowned with visitors and locals alike. Balranald has adopted the Southern Bell Frog as its mascot in order to raise awareness of the plight of this endangered species that resides right here in the town.

The Southern Bell Frog (*Litoria Raniformis*) is also known as the Growling Grass Frog because of the sound of its call. Once wide spread and abundant in our region, it is now listed on the NSW Endangered Species List.

Euston

Situated between Mildura and Swan Hill, Euston and Robinvale are nestled on opposite banks of one of the most user-friendly stretches of the Murray River. The township of Euston grew in 1846, and from the 1850's the land was devoted to wool production, with the town developing as a river port with a wharf, ferry, courthouse, police station, hotel, a boiling-down works, wool scouring plant and eucalyptus factory.

Euston was proclaimed a town in 1885, but virtually ceased to exist when the river trade declined. The building of a railway and road traffic bridge across the Murray River - joining Robinvale in Victoria to Euston in New South Wales - saved Euston from certain extinction.

Today Euston's economy revolves around extensive vineyards, fruit and vegetable production, cropping and sheep production, with a main industry being tourism.

The Murray River is the hub for recreation with water skiing, kayaking and house boating popular activities. Of course the fishing is also great, and there is easy access to the river by a sealed boat ramp. Euston also boasts a four star resort in The Euston Club. The club caters for all your needs from tempting meals to tennis and bowls.



At a Glance

Population: whole of Shire 2,343 (ABS, estimated resident population Quickstats 2012)

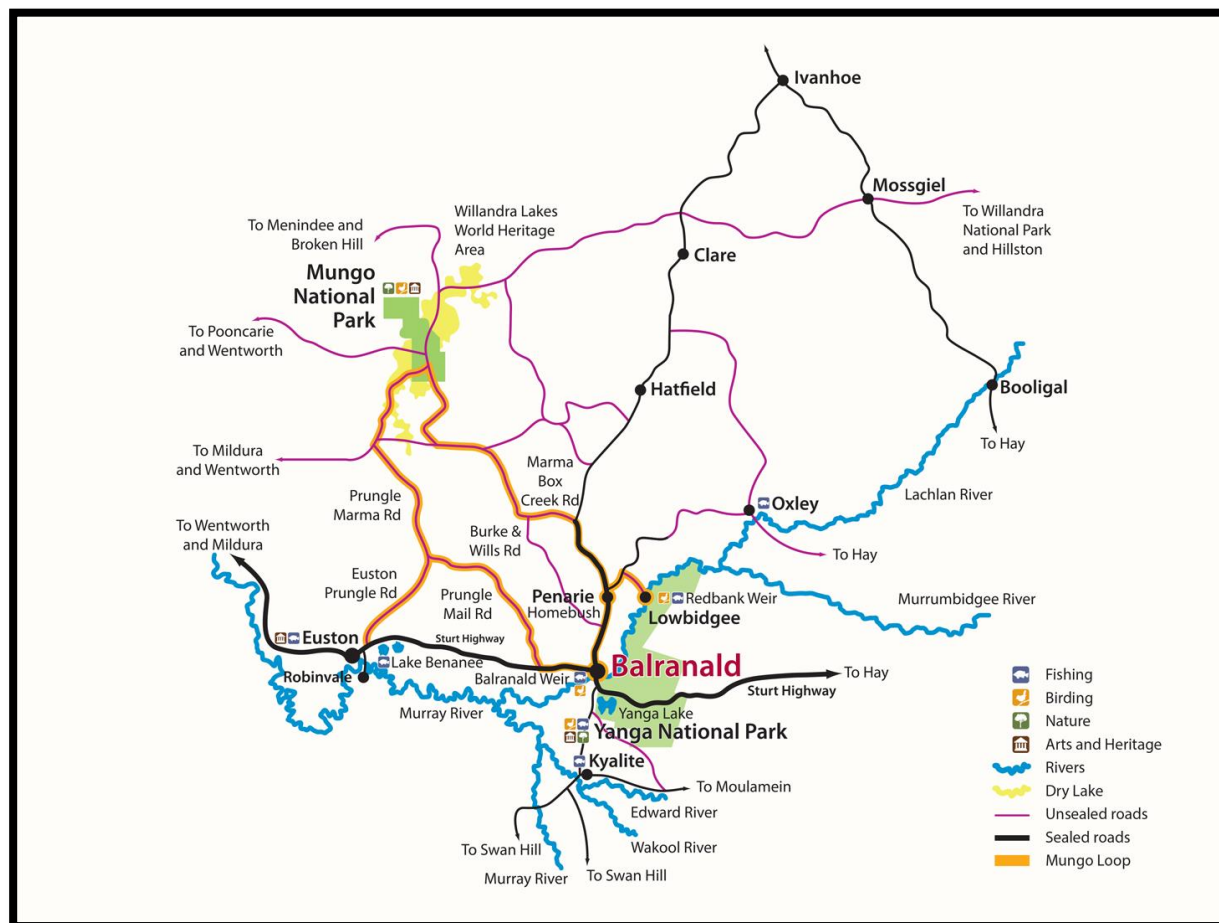
Area: The Balranald Shire LGA covers 21,693 square kilometres

Median Age: 42.3

Families: 591

Average children per family: 2

Map of Balranald Shire



Distances by car

From major centres		In and around Balranald	
Adelaide to Balranald via Euston	550km	Balranald to Clare	150km
Canberra to Balranald	638km	Balranald to Euston	79km
Hay to Balranald	132km	Balranald to Hatfield	97km
Melbourne to Balranald via Bendigo	482km	Balranald to Homebush (Penarie)	40km
Mildura to Balranald via Euston	162km	Balranald to Kyalite	37km
Swan Hill to Balranald via Nyah	99km	Balranald to Mungo National Park	156km
Sydney to Balranald	853km	Balranald to Oxley	89km
		Balranald to Yanga National Park	17km

Key Industries

Balranald Shire is rich in agriculture and the economy thrives on its main productions being wheat, rice, sheep and cattle, grapes, citrus, nuts and vegetables.

Key Industries

Balranald Shire's economy has traditionally relied upon dry-land and irrigated agricultural production of grains, wool, sheep meat and beef (valued at more than \$80 million in 2006). However primary production is diversifying to encompass horticulture, viticulture, organic agriculture and the growing of fruit and nut trees. Tourism is also now recognised as an important economic driver.

Balranald Shire boasts a progressive well serviced and vibrant community that is committed to continued regional growth and sustainability.

Council is a forward thinking organisation that has identified and pursued opportunities to foster strong economic growth through the development and implementation of the Balranald Shire Economic Development Strategy.

Significant developments include:

- The construction of a \$1.3 million Visitor and Interpretive Centre (the Balranald Discovery Centre) in Balranald that has grown the tourism industry and links with other tourism assets including Yanga and Mungo National Parks.
- The construction of the Balranald hospital and the continued development of aged care facilities have created investment opportunities.
- The opening of the '*Balranald Central School Trade Training Centre*' has provided an opportunity to up-skill the current workforce and attract trainees seeking new skills.
- Extensive mineral sand exploration will continue within the Shire during 2016 with the potential extraction phase envisaged to create up to 200 jobs. This will provide diversification to the region and significant add-on support industries.
- Council has a strong partnership with the National Parks and Wildlife Service of NSW to develop and promote Yanga and Mungo National Parks as tourism destinations, to build upon the existing popularity of the area as a place to camp and fish.
- The continued growth of the Euston horticultural industry and the expansion of the Euston Club continue to provide businesses opportunities.



Employment Opportunities

Council is the largest employer within the Balranald Shire

Employment Opportunities

The latest ABS Statistics show that relative to its population size, Balranald has an active labour force with a participation rate of 60% and average household income of nearly \$845.00 a week.

Although Balranald is a small town it is nevertheless an enterprising town that has around 289 businesses with around 60% being employing businesses. The Balranald Shire Council is the largest of these employers, employing over 50 staff. Within the township of Euston, the Euston Club is the largest employer.

The Retail trade has the most number of businesses followed by Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing and Construction. With the current advancement of extensive mineral sand and exploration and extraction taking place within the Shire, this will bring employment opportunities to Balranald with the potential of creating around 200 jobs for the local community.

With the recently opened \$1.5m Discovery Centre complex in Balranald along with the strong commitment the Balranald Shire Council has made to growing tourism and thereby creating further business and employment opportunities, these are exciting times for the Balranald Shire.

Health and Medical Facilities

Balranald

Balranald Shire offers modern health services and amenities with a new, well equipped district Hospital located at 41-43 Market Street Balranald, housing a doctor's surgery, dental surgery, emergency unit and 25 bed hospital, (comprising acute, residential aged and respite facilities).

The Balranald District Hospital (pictured below) offers other medical, health and wellbeing services within Far West Local Health District. Information of all services available, such as Home and Community Care (HACC), Homecare, Meals on Wheels or Transport services can be sourced from the hospital or the Community Service Directory on Councils website.



Homecare

The Home Care Service of NSW assists people to live independently in their own home. Frail older people, younger people with a disability in NSW and their carers who are having difficulty managing in their own homes are eligible for help from the Home Care Service. Services include Domestic Assistance, Personal Care and Respite Care. A referral is necessary to access this service, not necessarily from a doctor – a family member can refer or you may refer yourself and you will be assessed for eligibility.

Meals on Wheels

Nutritional support is provided to frail aged people. Hot meals are delivered ready to eat from Monday to Friday, including public holidays. A referral is necessary to access this service.

Day Care

Adult Day Care is held on Monday's and Thursdays from 10am to 2pm, and Day Care participants will be collected from their residence by the Day Care bus from the Hospital.

Activities include games, entertainment and craft and one Monday per month, day Care participants enjoy lunch at the Balranald District Ex Servicemens Club.

Non meals on wheels customers will incur a fee to participate in Day Care activities.

Bes Murray Community Health Centre

Balranald Township boasts a Community Health Centre. Located on the corner of Court and Mayall Streets, this facility offers health and wellbeing services, as well as Centrelink and Mallee Family Care.

Euston

Euston residents utilise the facilities in Balranald Township and Robinvale (Victoria). Robinvale District Health Services are located at 128 Latje Road and offer a range of services including primary health care, hospital (acute), aged care, home nursing and support services.

Housing

Within Balranald Shire as a whole, housing prices are well below those of capital and major cities, and major regional centres.

Land is also available both within town boundaries or acreage in the areas categorised as rural.

Education

Balranald

There are three educational facilities in Balranald Township:

- St Joseph's Catholic school caters for kinder to year 6
- Balranald Central Public School caters for kinder through to year 12.
- Balranald Early Learning Centre offers education and care for children 8 weeks to 12 years of age, as well as the implementation of the early Learning Years Framework.

Euston

Euston offers pre-school (early childhood education program for eligible children) and primary public school facilities (K – 6).

Children's Services

Balranald

Centre Based Day Care

The Early Learning Centre, located in Harben Street offers full day-care facilities, vocational care and after school care from Monday to Friday 8.30am through to 5.30pm.

The centre incorporates education and childcare for children 8 weeks to 12 years of age, as well as the implementation of the early Learning Years Framework.

The Early Learning Centre closes for 3 weeks over the Christmas period.

Playgroup

There are two playgroup options offered within Balranald:

- **Little Bunyips**, located in River Street
- **Mallee Family Care** Mobile playgroup visits Balranald and operates only on "event driven" occasions

Euston

The Euston pre-school is located in Perry Street and offers an early childhood education program for eligible children, three to 5 years of age prior to enrolling at school. Euston Beginners (three years of age), attend on Thursdays from 9am -12.00pm. Robinvale children are able to attend on Thursday afternoon. Pre-Schooler's (4 – 5 years of age) attend on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 9am – 2pm.

Aged Care

Balranald Manor

Balranald Manor is a small housing-estate type of facility for older people who wish to downsize. Designed for the 55+ market, all units are superbly appointed and located conveniently within easy walking distance to all of Balranald's facilities, shops, clubs, bakery, post office, bank and hotel.

Bidgee Haven Retirement Hostel

This modern aged care facility can be found in Mayall Street Balranald.

Bidgee Haven is a fully accredited 15 bed residential aged care facility providing all levels of care including low, high and dementia residential care facilities for older people who find it difficult to live at home for a variety of reasons such as illness, disability, reduced mobility, isolation or the problems of maintaining a large property.



Above: Bidgee Haven Retirement Hostel

Sport and Leisure

Balranald Shire offers residents and visitors an array of sporting and recreational facilities.

Balranald

There is a wide range of sporting facilities in Balranald, with football (AFL), swimming, tennis, bowls, cricket, netball and a 9-hole golf course.

Greenham Park Sporting Complex

Picturesque Greenham Park, located in the centre of Balranald accommodates Australian Rules football, Cricket, Netball, Tennis and Horseracing.

With an entrance located off Church Street, Greenham Park offers two sporting ovals. The main oval is superbly grassed and offers around oval parking for spectators. This oval is utilised for senior AFL and cricket, while the smaller oval is used by the juniors.

The main user of the oval facilities is Balranald Football / Netball Club who are affiliated with Central Murray Football Netball League. Competitions run on Saturday's from April through to August with finals in September.

Netball courts

The complex boasts two new Netball Australia Standards courts. The courts are available for everyday use to non-members on days other than Central Murray Football Netball League competition days.

Cricket

Balranald Cricket Club is affiliated with the Swan Hill District Cricket Association through Cricket Australia, and have a seasonal competition October through to March.

Tennis courts

Located within the Greenham Park sporting complex with entrance off We Street, Balranald Township boasts outdoor tennis courts - four grassed and two hard courts. Lighting is available for early evening / night games on the hard courts only.

Balranald Tennis Club holds an annual competition for children and adults from October through to March, with a break over the Christmas school holidays.

Horse Racing

The Balranald Racing Club hosts two annual racing carnivals each year; the Balranald Cup in February / March – a family orientated day out and Derby Day Races in October / November which hosts fashions on field.

Swimming Pools

During the warmer months Balranald Shire Council operates the swimming pool complex located within Greenham Park in Church Street. The complex consists of 3 swimming pools, ranging from a wading pool for babies and young children, a mid-sized and depth pool for the not-so confident swimmers and a 33 metre long pool with a depth from a shallow 1.2m to a deep 1.8m.

The swimming pool also holds a hydrotherapy pool facility. This pool is 7m x 3m in size ranging from 1m to 1.6m deep and is used mainly for rehabilitation with a doctor/specialist, although it has been utilised for swimming lessons. Other users are able to use the pool on a user agreement basis through Council.

The pool facility opens seasonally, generally from October through to April depending on the weather. Opening hours are Monday to Friday 3.30pm to 6.30pm, and Saturday and Sunday 11.30am to 6.30pm. The pool does not open if the temperature is less than 26°, although will stay open later on hot days. The hydrotherapy facility is generally available from September through to May depending on the weather.

Single entry is accepted, or alternatively season tickets are available for regular users. The hydrotherapy pool is operated via a user agreement basis.

Balranald Golf Club

Located adjacent to Greenham Park at the corner of We and O'Connor Streets, the facility boasts 9 grass greens and clubrooms. The Balranald Football Club utilise the club rooms for social functions on Friday nights.

Non-members can utilise the greens on non-competition days.

Lawn Bowls

The Balranald District Ex-Servicemen's Memorial Club, located in Market Street has two bowling greens. The Balranald District Ex-Servicemen's Bowling Club holds men's and ladies pennant meetings and is affiliated with the Murray Valley Bowls Division.



Social bowlers are able to utilise the facilities on non-competition days if they are members of the Club and young adults / children should be accompanied by a parent / guardian.

Balranald Pony Club

Balranald Pony Club Inc., located in O'Connor Street West, is affiliated with Pony Club Victoria and meets on the first Sunday of the month. Disciplines offered are Riders without Horses, Show Jumping, Cross Country, Dressage, Grooming, Horse Trials and Gymkhana Camp.

Water Sports

Balranald is popular for water sports, including swimming, water skiing, canoeing or kayaking and fishing on the Murrumbidgee River that meanders through the township. Travelling to 'The Bend' from We or Cally Streets, you will find the perfect spot for a picnic, some fishing or a casual swim.

If you enjoy throwing in a line, there are many areas for you to choose from. Please ensure you purchase a fishing licence. If you are a keen fisherman, then the Balranald Anglers Club might be of interest to you.

Boat ramp

There are two conveniently located boat ramps within Balranald Township. One is located behind the Balranald Caravan Park, while the other is at "The Bend" off Cally Street.

Regatta Beach, (known to locals as Yanga Lake), located within Yanga National Park, also has a boat ramp for those wishing to gain access to the lake. Enjoy swimming, boating, water skiing, bird watching and paddling in this picturesque picnic area.

Parks / Recreation Reserves / Attractions

Council maintains various parks and playgrounds within the Shire and a number of reserves for recreational use ie sailing, water skiing, fishing, canoeing and other water activities.

Swing Bridge and River Walk

A recent attraction in Balranald Township is the swing bridge and river walk. The construction of the swing bridge and river walk provides an attractive walk across the Murrumbidgee River to a Red Gum forest walk. The walk begins at the swing bridge and meanders over the river, coming up to the main bridge and with pedestrian access you can walk back through the Caravan Park and back to the swing bridge.

Yanga National Park

Yanga National Park, located outside of Balranald is managed by NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service. Yanga NP offers camping, fishing, walking and cycling trails, canoeing, bird watching and historic attractions, or simply relax by the river or Lake and take in the magic of nature. Campgrounds (Mamanga or The Willows) are located at different areas within Yanga National Park.

Mungo National Park

In 1981 three places of stunning natural beauty became Australia's first World Heritage List sites. The Northern Territory's Kakadu and Queensland's Great Barrier Reef were obvious choices. The third was Mungo National Park – right on our doorstep and located in our Shire.

The most dramatic formation is the Great Walls of China, which run along what was the eastern shoreline of the largest lake/. Almost 35km long and reaching 30m high, the “walls” were formed over thousands of years by sediments deposited by winds as the lakes dried.



*Pictured top: Yanga Park's unique 1870's Homestead,
Left: Part of the spectacular landscape at Mungo National Park
Right: Swing Bridge and River Walk*

Euston

Euston Recreation Ground

Located off Carey Street, the Euston Recreation Ground offers a sporting oval and a netball court complex.

In 2015 the Euston and Robinvale football clubs merged, creating the Robinvale Euston Football Netball Club in the Sunraysia league. Presently, the Robinvale Euston Football Netball Club will play at least two (competition) home games at Euston on Saturdays.

There are grassed and concrete netball courts available for everyday use to non-members on days other than Football / Netball League competition days.

Lawn Bowls

Euston Club Resort, located in Nixon Street caters for both competitive and casual players with a well maintained grass green and a synthetic carpet green.

The greens accommodate a regular pennant competition, with social games held on Thursday's and Sunday's.

Visitors may utilise the facilities on non-competition days by calling in at reception to sign in, receive a kit, including bowls and kitty, and instruction if necessary.

Water Sports

Euston is a popular location for water sports, including swimming, water skiing, canoeing or kayaking and fishing. The recreation reserve on Murray Terrace is the ideal location for a picnic on the banks of the Murray River.

If you enjoy throwing in a line, there are many areas for you to choose from. Please ensure you purchase a fishing licence. If you are a keen fisherman, then the Euston Resort Fishing Club might be of interest to you. Please contact the Euston Club Resort reception for more information.

Boat Ramp

Conveniently located in Murray Terrace, the boat ramp accommodates those wishing to gain access to the mighty Murray River from Euston. The Murray River is very wide and serviceable, and is a potential fun filled area for you to explore.

Euston Regional Park and Kemendok National Park are managed by NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, and located just outside Euston Township, offers camping, fishing, walking and cycling trails, canoeing, bird watching or just a relaxing place to take in the magic of nature.

Euston Weir and Lock 15

Located within Euston Regional Park, the Lock was originally built in 1934 to allow safe passage for Paddle Steamers and house boats. It is a popular location for locals and visitors alike.

Lake Benanee

Lake Benanee is a large freshwater lake 13 kilometres east of Euston on the road to Balranald (Sturt Highway). It covers, when full, an area of around 750 hectares and is a popular water-sport area. The lake has a beach area and public toilets and is easily seen and accessed from the Sturt Highway (pictured below).



Pictured above and right: Euston Recreation Reserve grounds and buildings, including football oval and netball courts, Club rooms, playground and amenities block.



Balranald Shire Library

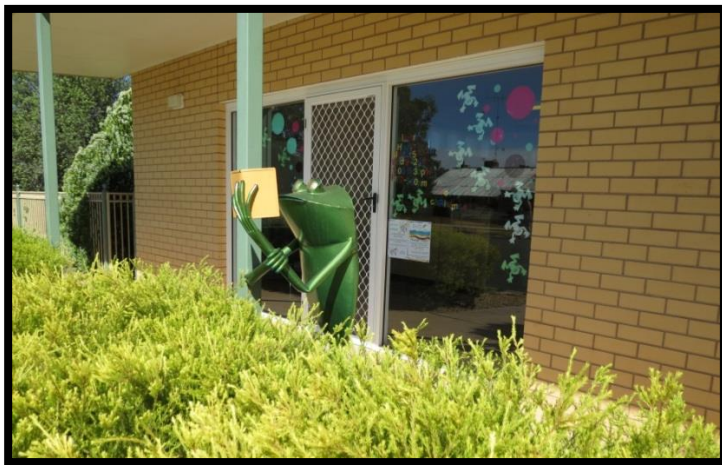
Located on the corner of Market and We Street Balranald is the town library. Contact details are: Phone / Fax: 03 5020 1388
Email: balranaldlibrary@bigpond.com

Membership is free to all persons living or working within the Shire.

Services provided include hard copy and talking book loans, (2 week borrowing), genealogy, faxing, photocopying, computer usage and free internet access.

Opening hours for the library are:

Monday 2.00pm – 5.30pm,
Wednesday 9.00am – 5.30pm (closed over lunch 1.00pm – 1.45pm)
Friday 2.00pm – 5.30pm



*The Balranald Town
Library entrance, located
on the corner of Market
& We Streets*

Garbage Collection

Garbage is collected in village zones within Balranald Shire Council. Designated collection days are:

- Balranald: Monday
- Euston: Friday

Please ensure you put your bin out the night prior to collection or you may miss the service.

Although Balranald Shire doesn't offer a full recycling facility, Council's landfill site uses separate areas for waste materials, and encourage residents to separate their materials for ease when visiting the site and assistance to landfill sites.

Landfill is categorised into the following areas:

Mixed waste is your general household materials

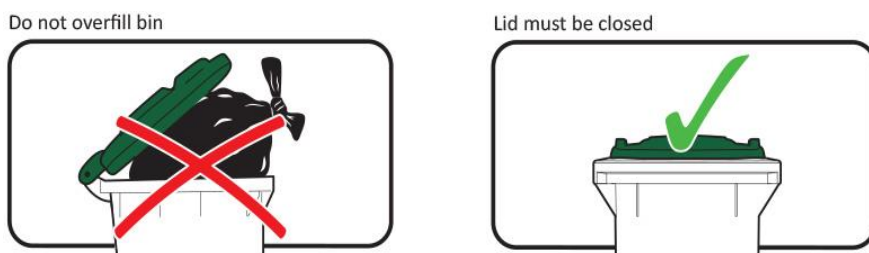
Green waste is free to Council residents at local landfill sites, and Council encourages residents to transfer their own green waste during opening hours.

Plastics and Aluminium cans may be deposited in the receptors provided at the entrance and are also free to Council residents.

Metals have their own area and may be deposited in a specific site

Builder's materials have their own area and may be deposited in a specific site.

Please don't overfill your bin. Your help is appreciated to keep waste confined to allow the bin lid to fully close at the kerbside pickup. Overfilled bins result in littering and will not be collected by the contractor.



Landfill Sites

Waste sites and opening times for Balranald Shire are as follows:

Balranald	
1 May to 31 July	1 August to 30 April
Tuesday & Thursday 4.00pm - 6.00pm	Tuesday & Thursday 5.00pm - 7.00pm
Saturday 10.00am - 1.00pm	Saturday 10.00am - 1.00pm
Sunday 10.00am - 3.00pm	Sunday 10.00am - 3.00pm
Euston	
Tuesday 1.00pm – 6.00pm	
Thursday 1.00pm – 6.00pm	
Sunday 9.00am - 3.00pm	

Transport Services

A taxi service does not operate from the Balranald Shire Council area, although taxi services are available from Robinvale for Euston residents. A local Balranald operator offers a shuttle service for short or long trips within and beyond the Shire area.

Balranald Health Bus

The Balranald Health Bus is a service for aged, frail and disabled people and their carers. The service also has a *spare seat capacity* which is only available when the bus has empty seats. The bus travels to Swan Hill and Mildura twice a month. For bus dates and bookings, please phone the Balranald Health Service on 03 5071 9800.

Balranald Community Transport

If you are frail, have a disability or are a carer, then CareWest Community Transport can make it easier for you to get around.

CareWest Community Transport offers the Balranald Community safe, easy-to-access travel for people who have difficulties using mainstream transport. This affordable door-to-door service will allow you to maintain your independence and lead your best life. Whether it's attending a medical appointment, going shopping or enjoying a social outing with friends, this service is on hand to make the journey simpler. Community Transport is open to a wide range of people and made up of a variety of different vehicles, including small buses that are wheelchair accessible.

Please phone the Balranald Health Service on 03 5071 9800 to discuss your eligibility, or for more detailed information.

Euston

Euston residents have the opportunity to utilise the facilities in Balranald Township, or alternatively take a short trip over the bridge into Robinvale to the Health Service there. Robinvale District Health Services are located at 128 Latje Rd and offer a range of services including **Primary Health Care, Hospital (Acute), Aged Care, Home Nursing and Support Services.**

Animals

Responsible pet ownership

Owners of dog and cats are required to comply with the Companion Animals Act 1998. Under the Act, pet owners are required to:

- Microchip all dogs and cats
- Lifetime register all dogs and cats
- Keep your animal(s) under effective control at all times.
- Clean up after your animals.

Animal Pound

Balranald Shire Council operates an animal pound at Councils Depot's in Balranald and Euston.

If your animal has been impounded, you are required to call in to the Council office in Balranald and pay the fee prior to your animal being released. A staff member will request to sight a receipt before your animal is returned. Council's fees and charges can be obtained by contacting the office during business hours or on Councils website.

Council Contact Details

Council Office

Operates from 8.30am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday

Street Address

70 Market Street, Balranald NSW 2715

Postal Address

PO Box 120, Balranald NSW 2715

(All correspondence to be addressed to The General Manager)

Phone 03 5020 1300

Facsimile 03 5020 1620

Emergency after-hours 0418 322 902

Email: council@balranald.nsw.gov.au

Website: www.balranald.nsw.gov.au

Facebook: Balranald Shire Council



How Council Works

Council is a local statutory authority with delegations and responsibilities directed from State and Federal Parliament, and all local Councils operate under legislation of the Local Government Act 1993.

Council provides a range of day-to-day services for our community and is responsible for issues that affect our daily lives. Balranald Shire Council is committed to delivering the best outcome throughout our Shire by working in partnership with our community to achieve this.

Councillors

Balranald Shire elects eight councillors for a 4 year term. Throughout their tenure as a Councillor they work towards a vision for the Shire, while considering their obligations to the community, through developing policies, procedures and objectives to protect both the heritage and plan for future generations. Their role is to ensure the adopted policies, objectives and strategic direction is being met and adhered to within Councils Management Plan.

All councillors can be contacted on matters of concern, and their contact details are available on Councils website, or monthly newsletter.

Current Councillors are

1. Cr Leigh Byron, Mayor
2. Cr Ken Barnes, Deputy Mayor
3. Cr Jeff Mannix
4. Cr Trevor Jolliffe
5. Cr Steve O'Halloran
6. Cr Alan Purtill
7. Cr Lynda Cooke
8. Cr Elaine Purtill

Council's Corporate Structure

Council's corporate structure consists of two directorates, being:

- Corporate & Community Development
- Infrastructure & Development

Ordinary meetings of Council are held on the Third Tuesday of each month, (excepting January) commencing at 5.00pm. Requests for inclusion in Councils agenda or any correspondence is to be received at Council by the First Monday of each month. Council's business paper (agenda) will be available from Councils website or at the Council Office upon request from the Thursday prior to the meeting. Council meetings are open to the public, excepting items included in closed (confidential) Council.

Communications

Internet services (broadband) are available as ADSL and ADSL2. Wifi is available at selected businesses in Balranald.

ADSL2+ is currently available in Euston and the NBN is now planned to start in Balranald around July – September 2016. This will be a FTTN (Fibre To The Node) service.

Optus and Telstra have 4G service available in Euston; this is sourced from Robinvale as Euston itself does not have 4G signal. Vodafone is only 3G.

Telstra's 4G service in Balranald and Robinvale is the 4GX service and to be able to access this you would need a newer 4G phone - iPhone 6 and the latest Samsung S5 phones will receive the Telstra 4GX service.

Mobile area coverage (Telstra, Optus and Vodafone) is available within urban areas of the Shire, although some rural areas have limited access; Vodafone is the only carrier that has coverage on the Sturt highway, (both Telstra and Optus don't have full coverage of the Sturt highway), although if someone had to make an emergency call it would go through as it would go through Vodafone.

Radio / TV Stations

Balranald Shire doesn't have dedicated radio or television stations, although receives the following main radio and digital television stations for this area

FM radio

107.7 MIXX FM,
105.3 (Tripple J Swan Hill)
101.1 (Tripple J Mildura)
103.7 ABC Classic FM
106.7 FM Mildura
104.3 FM Mildura ABC Radio National,
95.9 FM ABC News Radio

AM radio

1332 AM 3SH (Swan Hill)
1467 AM Easy Listening Mildura

Digital TV Stations

Balranald receives most digital stations feeding in from Bendigo; they are (to date):

Station	Channel	Station	Channel	Station	Channel	Station	Channel	Station	Channel
ABC	2	SBS One	3	SC10 Bendigo	5	Prime 7 Bendigo	6	WIN Bendigo	8
ABC	21	SBS 3	33	TVSN	54	Prime 7 Bendigo	60	GEM	80
ABC2 KIDS	22	SBS HD	30	Eleven	55	Prime 7 Bendigo	61	Gold 2	82
ABC 3	23	SBS Two	32	Aspire TV	56	7Two	62	Gold	84
ABC News	24	NITV	34	One Bendigo	50	7Mate	63	Go	88
Double J Music	200	SBS Radio 1	37			4ME	64		
ABC Jazz	201	SBS Radio 2	38			ishoptv	65		
		SBS Radio 3	39			Racing.com	68		

Euston receives digital feed from Mildura, so channels differ slightly; they are (to date):

Station	Channel	Station	Channel	Station	Channel	Station	Channel	Station	Channel
ABC	2	SBS One	3	SC10 Mildura	5	Prime 7 Mildura	6	WIN Bendigo	8
ABC	21	SBS 3	33	TVSN	54	Prime 7 Mildura	60	GEM Mildura	80
ABC2 KIDS	22	SBS HD	30	Eleven	55	Prime 7 Mildura	61	Gold 2	82
ABC 3	23	SBS Two	32	Aspire TV	56	7Two Mildura	62	Gold	84
ABC News	24	NITV	34	One Mildura	50	7Mate Mildura	63	Go Mildura	88
Double J Music	200	SBS Radio 1	37			4ME	64		
ABC Jazz	201	SBS Radio 2	38			ishoptv	65		
		SBS Radio 3	39			Racing.com	68		

Rates

Rates for Balranald Shire are levied annually in July, and can be paid in full or by quarterly instalments on August 31, November 30, February 28 or May 31. Payments can be made in person via cash, cheque or credit card, or alternatively Bpay, direct deposit or posted to council (cheque only). Euston payments may be made at the Post Office in Murray Terrace by cash or cheque only.

Complaints Policy

Balranald Shire welcomes complaints, constructive criticism and compliments, and strives to ensure every comment is received courteously, investigated and acted upon efficiently and in an appropriate manner.

Please contact Council during normal business hours or call in and talk to our friendly staff with any issues you may have.

Events

Council relies on individuals and groups for advice of regular and upcoming events and will list these on its website <http://www.balranald.nsw.gov.au/events/>

Please see the list over the page for your information.

Business and Community Directory

Please find below a limited list of services for your information. A comprehensive business and community directory can be found on Councils website <http://www.balranald.nsw.gov.au/notice-board/business-directory/>

Emergency / Health Services

Balranald Shire offers modern health services and amenities with a new, well equipped district Hospital located at 41-43 Market Street Balranald, housing a doctor's surgery, dental surgery, emergency unit and 25 bed hospital (comprising acute, residential aged and respite facilities).

Balranald

The Balranald District Hospital offers other medical, health and well-being services within Far West Local Health District. Information of all services available, such as Homecare, Meals on Wheels or Transport services can be sourced from the hospital or the Community Service Directory on Councils website

The Balranald Shire is well supported by a variety of Emergency Services.

Emergency Services include NSW Police, NSW Fire and Rescue, Ambulance NSW, State Emergency Service, NSW Rural Fire Service and the Balranald Rescue Squad.

Contact: Emergencies – 000
 Ambulance – 000
 Allied Health -Balranald MPS (Hospital) – 03 5071 9800
 Doctors Surgery – 03 5020 1055
 Dental Surgery – 03 5071 9808

Balranald Township boasts the Bes Murray Community Health Centre. Located on the corner of Court and Mayall Streets, this facility offers health and wellbeing services (presently in hiatus), as well as Centrelink and Mallee Family Care.

Contact: Bes Murray Community Health Centre - Phone: 03 5020 0330 – Presently closed
 Mallee Family Care - Phone 03 5020 2700

Euston

Euston residents utilise the facilities in Balranald township and Robinvale (Victoria). Robinvale District Health Services are located at 128 Latje Road and offer a range of services including primary health care, hospital (acute), aged care, home nursing and support services.

Phone: Allied Health (Balranald) 03 5071 9800
 Robinvale Health Service 03 5051 8160

Essential Services

Water – Balranald Council is the Shire's water authority and provides core services to the Balranald and Euston Communities. Both Balranald and Euston Townships have the luxury of dual (filtered and raw) water supplies.

For water emergencies, please contact Councils Balranald water department on 0418 322 902 or Euston on 0419 693 956. For all other enquiries (such as billing, connections etc) please contact the Council Office during business hours.

Origin Energy - Phone: 13 24 61 or 13 24 63

AGL Energy - Phone: 13 12 45

Telstra - Phone Customer service 13 22 00

Optus - Phone Customer service 1800 780 219

Roads and Maritime Service

The RMS office is located within the Balranald Shire Council building at 70 Market Street Balranald. Hours of business are:

Tuesday to Friday 9.30am – 4.00pm

(Closed for lunch between 1.00pm and 1.45pm)

Phone Customer service 12 22 13

Banks

Westpac – In Store Branch 93 Market Street Balranald Phone: 03 5020 2600

Commonwealth - Agency through Australia Post 117 Market Street Balranald
Phone: 03 5020 1150

Bendigo Bank - Agency through L.V Bodinnar hardware
94 Market Street Balranald Phone: 03 5020 1633

Australia Post

Balranald Branch

117 Market Street, Balranald, New South Wales 2715
Phone: 03 5020 1150

Euston Branch

Euston Post Office & Take away
39 Murray Terrace, Euston, New South Wales 2737
Phone: 03 5026 3667

Business and Legal

Balranald Local Court

70 Market Street, Balranald, New South Wales 2715
Phone: 03 5020 1670
Fax: 03 5020 1008

Balranald Shire Council

70 Market Street, Balranald, New South Wales 2715
Phone: 03 5020 1300
Fax: 03 5020 1620

Service NSW

70 Market Street, Balranald, New South Wales 2715
For enquiries,
Phone: 03 5020 1300

RMS (Roads & Maritime Service)

70 Market Street, Balranald, New South Wales 2715

Electoral Commission

Each time you move, you must update your address on the electoral roll or your name could be removed and you will be unable to vote. You are eligible to enroll for your new address if you have lived there for at least one month.

Balranald Shire Local Government area
State Electorate - Murray
Federal Division - Farrer

Update your address on the electoral roll - <http://www.aec.gov.au/enrol/change-address.htm>

Local Government Enrolment

Under the Local Government Act 1993 a person entitled to vote at Federal or State elections is entitled to be enrolled as an elector if they are:

- a resident of the council/ward (residential roll)
- an owner of rateable land in the council/ward (non-residential roll)
- an occupier or rate paying lessee of rateable land in the council/ward (non-residential roll).

Local Government enrolment website -

http://www.elections.nsw.gov.au/enrol_to_vote/local_government_enrolment

For more information visit NSW Electoral Commissions: <http://www.elections.nsw.gov.au/>