

Balranald Shire Council Community Newsletter

Issue 1/2021 — January/February



Sand Dunes @ Mungo National Park



Service
NSW

In this edition

Youth Mayor Column	Page 2
Development Applications	Page 2
Operational Plan & Eco Trail	Page 4 & 5
Australia Day Celebrations	Page 6
Discover Balranald Visitor Guide	Page 8
Agency & Community Submissions	Page 8
Increasing Resilience to Climate Change	Page 10

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMPETITION WINNERS

Congratulations to the winners of Balranald Shire's 2020 Christmas Lights Competition! Prizes were awarded as follows

1st: Merilyn Williams

2nd: Lucas & Lennie Griffiths

Joint 3rd: Amber Williams & Mick Neyland

Thank you to all those who decorated your homes, your efforts in fostering Christmas spirit are greatly appreciated!



FROM THE YOUTH MAYOR

Hi everyone,

I would like to begin my column, by thanking the community for its recent mountain of support during our Youth Summer Programme. The work and effort that our volunteers and organisers have put in is phenomenal. Our volunteers have ensured that our events run as smoothly as possible, and they've done an amazing job. I certainly would be lost without their help and guidance! I thank them for their commitment to our events, particularly the long hours which they worked.

The process involved in running events like the Youth Summer Programme aren't as straightforward and as simple as people may think or believe. From many tireless hours of planning, designing, phone calling, poster making just to mention a few. It is a big process. Including set ups and pack ups, and even all those last-minute dashes. There is a lot that goes on behind the scenes. So, thank you all for your patience and support, as we

prepared for these events.

Recently I stumbled across The Australian Silo Art Trail Group on Facebook, and I couldn't help but think about what something like these designs would look like in the Balranald Shire. I think it could be a way to make our already beautiful town take that next step and possibly do a project like this somewhere in town. Some food for thought.

That would be all from me! Keep well, stay safe!

Jackson Bialobrzeski
YOUTH COUNCIL MAYOR



BALRANALD SHIRE COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

Pursuant to Section 4.59 of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979*, public notice is hereby given that the following development applications have been approved:

Approval Date	Reference	Applicant	Address	Description
15/12/2020	CDC 07/2021	Ms Leah Gillbee	54 River Street, Balranald	Swimming Pool
16/12/2020	DA 22/2021	Mr Agostino Comi	We Street, Balranald	Shed
23/12/2020	CDC 08/2021	Jordan Griffiths	48 Cally Street, Balranald	Dwelling renovation & extension

Development consents are available for public inspection, free of charge, during normal office hours at Balranald Shire Councils Office, 70 Market Street, Balranald.

Oliver McNulty, General Manager
PO Box 120, BALRANALD NSW 2715
03 5020 1300
www.balranald.nsw.gov.au

ROADWORKS UPDATE

Council has resumed construction and bitumen sealing works on the Marma – Box Creek Road towards Mungo National Park. The road will remain open to traffic during these works, but members of the public are urged to drive with caution and to reduce speed when driving over freshly sealed roads while the new seal settles down.

Advance notice is also given that works are expected to commence in mid-February on the construction of the mine haul road connecting the Atlas-Campaspe Mineral Sands Project to the main Balranald-Ivanhoe Road. These works are expected to run for 5 months and there will be progressive closure of some local roads while construction is in progress, with signposted detours in place. Roads affected will be sections of Magenta-Wampo Road, Boree Plains-Gol Gol Road and Hatfield-The Vale Road. Details of the dates and duration of any closures will be publicly notified in advance.

Council has incurred significant costs associated with repairs to unsealed roads damaged by traffic following recent rain.

Council reminds people that by default in Balranald Shire, when unsealed road is wet, then it is closed. This is even if there is no road closure signs out or the roads report is not issued on Council's website.

The public is urged to avoid using these roads until they are officially re-opened. Just one vehicle using a wet road can undo many thousands of dollars spent on maintenance.



CONGRATULATIONS, CAROL HOLMES!

Congratulations to Carol Holmes on winning the annual 'Norma Male Award' for 2020.

In 1944, Norma Male was appointed as Town Clerk for Balranald Municipal Council; she was the first woman to hold the office of Town Clerk in a NSW council. Miss Male has had a long and distinguished career in Local Government with many achievements accredited to her. Norma celebrated her 100th Birthday on 13 January 2016.

The Council established the Norma Male award in 2019, to recognise the employee considered to have made an outstanding contribution during the year.

Carol was the glue that held this place together throughout the turmoil of 2020 (dismissal of the elected Council, arrival of the Administrator, people having to work from home through the early stages of the pandemic, the departure of the former GM under difficult circumstances, two Acting GMs in fairly quick succession and then the arrival of a new GM). Carol was the "mother hen" figure for the female staff in particular, plus the fact that she is the absolute lynchpin of our governance processes (setting up our meetings, preparing agendas etc.) that keeps the place running, works incredibly long hours and generally makes sure that we all still have a smile on our faces.



COUNCIL'S 2021-2022 OPERATIONAL PLAN AND CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM

This is your opportunity to contribute towards the budgeting process by telling us what you would like Council to Consider as part of the development of the 2021-2022 Operational Budget for either Operating or Capital expenditure items.

You are asked to think about what you consider to be important and will add value to the Community you live in. When making submissions for Capital, consideration should be given to the 'whole of life' costs.

All submissions will be considered, evaluated and ranked based on their merits by Council and the outcome of this process will be communicated back to the submitter. Submissions received for 2021-2022 that may not make the budget will be recorded and might be budgeted for a future year.

The Funding Request Form can be downloaded from Council's Website www.council@balranald.nsw.gov.au.

If you require further information in regard to the 2021-2022 Operational Plan budget, please contact Council during business hours.

The completed Submission Forms must be received by Council by close of business on Friday, 19 February 2021 so please do not miss out.



ECO TRAIL PROJECT

Council is delighted to notify you that Balranald township's Riverfront Revitalisation Project – funded by the Commonwealth Government's Regional Growth Fund (with six other participating Councils called "Our Region Our Rivers") – is finally set to commence. The Project will kick-off with construction of three kilometres of ecotrails along both banks of the township riverfront (along the Murrumbidgee River - see red line on plan below) linking together a loop trail. These ecotrails will form a first stage of what will become Council's shire-wide ecotrail master plan. Other project objectives include a new suspension bridge and place-making along Wharf and Riverbend reserves.

Construction work is scheduled to commence in mid-February and will proceed for 6-8 weeks finishing sometime in April. Please be aware that, at times, this construction may cause disruptions (pedestrian/vehicular access in/around construction works and associated noise) but Council will be looking to minimise this.

Council will be regularly updating you on the progress of this project. We will be doing this via our Facebook page, our webpage, in our newsletter and on regular radio interviews (3SH).



AUSTRALIA DAY

Australia Day celebrations were well attended in both Balranald and Euston this year. We started the day with breakfast in Balranald at Greenham Park, and finished with a BBQ Lunch at Euston at the Recreation Reserve. Our thanks to Balranald Football/Netball Club and Robinvale/Euston Lions Club for your fantastic work and delicious food on the BBQs!

We commenced both ceremonies in both Balranald and Euston with Damien Aidon acknowledging the Country.

It was incredibly exciting to have citizenship ceremonies at both events this year! It is a privilege and an honour to conduct these ceremonies. Officiating citizenship ceremonies on Australia Day is one of the most humbling and inspirational civic activities that a Council has the privilege of being involved in. We take this opportunity to welcome Cathy Whitby of Balranald and Kasemsri Srimaleejoy of Euston to Australia and especially to our community as our newest Australian Citizens.

At each celebration an affirmation was recited by all in attendance, as well as singing the National Anthem. Our Administrator, Michael Colreavy led in the singing of National Anthem at both ceremonies. Bruce's presentations at both Balranald and Euston were inspiring; the crowd held in rapture as Bruce spoke of his life, telling stories of his experiences as an ambassador at over 40 towns since 1996. Bruce also spoke of the power and importance of communities like those in Balranald, and the part all our communities play in the Australian Story.

Australia Day awards were presented as follows;

Special Achievement Awards

Clive Williams, Peter Johnstone and Richard White (Balranald)
Chris Camin (Balranald)
Tim & Marianne O'Halloran (Balranald)
Jedda and Maxine Kelly (Balranald)
Ray Jones (Euston)

Environmental Citizen of the Year – Zaidyn McAlister
Young Citizen of the Year - Lani Wilkinson

And **Citizen of the Year** - Lynette Flanagan



Citizen of the Year - Lynette Flanagan



Crowd at Euston Ceremony



Environmental Citizen of the Year
– Zaidyn McAlister



Young Citizen of the Year
- Lani Wilkinson

CHANGE TO THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

As you may be aware the Prime Minister of Australia, the Honourable Scott Morrison MP announced an update to the lyrics of Australia's national anthem – Advance

Australia Fair. This change is to the second line of the anthem from "For we are **young** and free" to "For we are **one** and free." The change became effective from January 1, 2021.



THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

'ADVANCE AUSTRALIA FAIR'

Australians all let us rejoice,
For we are one and free;
We've golden soil and wealth for toil;
Our home is girt by sea;
Our land abounds in nature's gifts
Of beauty rich and rare;
In history's page, let every stage
Advance Australia Fair.
In joyful strains then let us sing,
Advance Australia Fair

Beneath our radiant Southern Cross
We'll toil with hearts and hands;
To make this Commonwealth of ours
Renowned of all the lands;
For those who've come across the seas
We've boundless plains to share;
With courage let us all combine
To Advance Australia Fair.
In joyful strains then let us sing,
Advance Australia Fair.

DISCOVER BALRANALD & SURROUNDS VISITOR GUIDE

Be sure to pick up a copy of our latest Visitor Guide from Balranald Visitor Information Centre or the Shire Office and share it with your family and friends!

Social Media

Let's spread the word about what we have to see and do in the Balranald Shire by tagging our photo's when we share them on social media.

Use the following hashtags and see how far we reach:

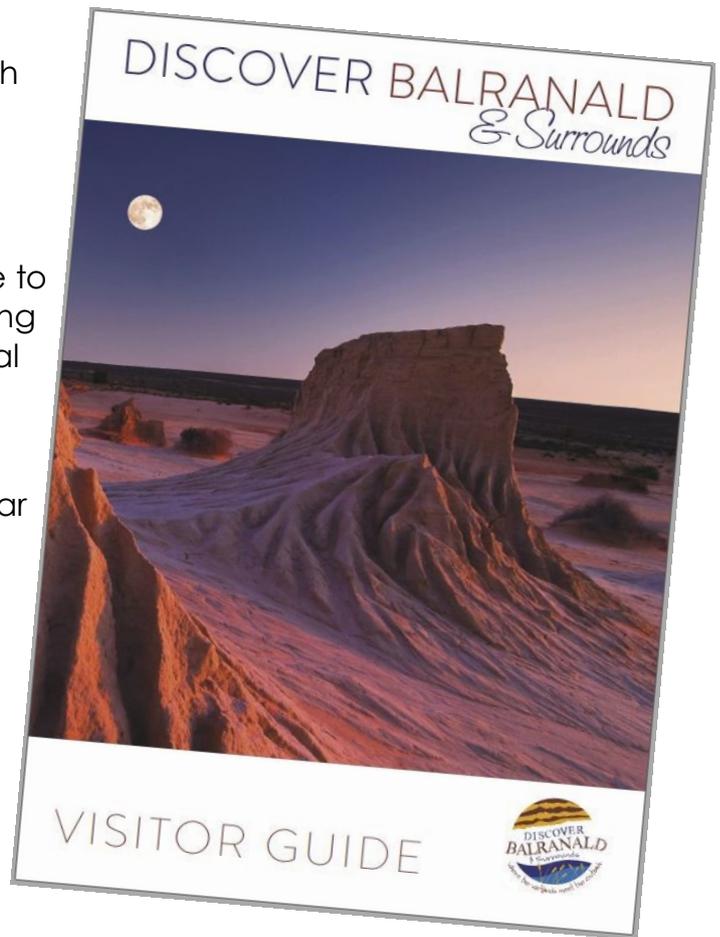
#visitbalranald

#balranald

#discoverbalranaldandsurrounds

#holidayherethisyear

#lovensw



BALRANALD ELDERS CUP 2021

Saturday 13th Feb | Gates open 11am
Family Fun Day Out | Live entertainment
Marquees available to book
Food/drinks/bookies all onsite
Country racing at its best

Strictly no BYO alcohol



Contact Donna for further info: 0439 990 911

BLOKE BREW REVIEW

Everything you need to know about brewing Beer @ Home.

When: Thursday 18th Feb @ The Gallery
51 Mayall Street

\$20.00 (includes drinks & Nibbles)

Also..

WHOLE TOWN GARAGE SALE is on again,
so start sorting your stuff!!!!

When: 6th March 2021

Bookings for both events

thegallery5@bigpond.com

or Ph. Robyn 0418316347

No Interest Loans for back-to-school costs



Borrow up to \$1500 Pay back \$1500
No Fees. No Charges. Ever.

Talk to the people you know and trust



Intereach
1300 488 226
community@intereach.com.au



For people on low incomes, see eligibility criteria at nils.com.au
NILS loans are supported by Good Shepherd Microfinance ABN 36 151 124 408

In partnership:



Supported by
NSW Fair Trading



Planning,
Industry &
Environment



Increasing Resilience to Climate Change (IRCC) Project *BSC IRCC Information Sheet 03*

Climate Change and Changing climatic conditions——What do they mean?

Water as an essential requirement for all lifeforms and it provides a start point to look at what changed climates can mean for people in Balranald Shire who are facing challenges arising from prolonged droughts, extreme weather events and changed climates.

Terminology being used in discussions on climate related issues can be problematic because the words 'climate change' can mean different things to different people. The following list of terms explain what *climate change* and *changing climatic conditions* mean.

- **Global Warming** is the heating of the earth's atmosphere by natural and human drivers
- **Weather** is what we are experiencing now, it changes every day and through the day
- **Climate** is 30 years of average weather, usually measured from the International Meteorological Organisation (IMO) baseline 1961-1990
- **Climate variability** is measured in terms of extremes such as conditions being hotter and colder or wetter and drier
- **Climate change** is measured statistically in terms of averages and variances from a 30 year baseline (usually the IMO baseline)
- **Changing climatic conditions** is the summation of long term statically measured changes in mean and variable temperature, rainfall and other weather parameters signaling that what is observed now is statically significantly different from the past and this trend is projected to continue.

Extreme weather events and climate change-are not the same and the two terms should not be confused. Far too often this happens in the media when reporting of floods, intense storms (eg cyclonic activity and monsoons), prolonged drought and bushfires.

For further information on this important initiative please contact:

Peter Waterman RFD, Adjunct Professor, Institute for Land Water and Society
Email: pw.ems@bigpond.net.au
Mobile: 0418 628 431



Planning,
Industry &
Environment



BSC is being assisted with this NSW Government Funded project by a Project Team from the Institute for Land Water and Society (ILWS) at Charles Stuart University (CSU) and the SEGRA Foundation.



Contact Council

Street Address 70 Market Street BALRANALD

Postal Address PO Box 120 BALRANALD NSW 2715

Office Hours 8.30am to 5pm, Monday to Friday

Reception Hours 9am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday

Phone 03 5020 1300

After Hours (Emergencies) 0418 322 902

Email: council@balranald.nsw.gov.au

Website: www.balranald.nsw.gov.au

 Balranald Shire Council

COUNCIL SERVICES AND OPENING HOURS

Balranald Pool

Tuesday to Friday 3pm to 6pm, Saturday and Sunday & Public Holidays 11am to 6pm. School holidays as above but closing at 8pm.

Balranald Library

Monday & Friday 9am - 5.30pm, Wednesday 9.30am-5.30pm (closed for lunch 12pm-1pm)

Balranald Landfill

Tuesday and Thursday 4pm - 6pm, Saturday 10am-1pm, Sunday 10am-3pm

Euston Landfill

Tuesday and Thursday 1pm-6pm, Sunday 9am-3pm

Join the Team

Council is recruiting the following positions:

- PCA (Carer) @ Bidgee Haven



Currently on Exhibition

Draft Documents

For most current list and full details please visit:

www.balranald.nsw.gov.au/council-documents/exhibition-of-draft-documents/

Development Applications

For most current list and full details please visit:

www.balranald.nsw.gov.au/environment-and-planning/developments-on-exhibition/

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