

Balranald Shire Council Community Newsletter

Issue 09/2020 — September/October



Pictured: Committee members induction in Euston - 14 September 2020

FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

Next Ordinary Meeting of Council: 5pm, 20 October 2020

Thank you to the 52 people who registered to join one or more of Council's new local advisory committees. Positions on the advisory committees have now been filled with the committees inducted at sessions held last week. Every person who registered by the cut-off date has been offered the committee position(s) they requested. First advisory committee meetings have started and will roll out over the next few weeks.

Continue reading on page two for the committee introductions and an update on the General Manager recruitment

OFFICE CLOSURE: MONDAY 2ND NOVEMBER

Council Offices (excluding the Visitor Information Centre) will be closed Monday 2 November for Union Picnic Day, reopening Tuesday 3 November.

SUCCESSFUL GRANT APPLICATIONS

Council has been successful in obtaining funding for two major projects from the Stronger Country Communities Fund (Round Three) grants program:

- Balranald Tennis Upgrade Project - Stage 1 [\$287,504]
- Balranald Cultural & Creative Learning Centre (BCCLC) [\$284,378]

Balranald Tennis Upgrade Project - Stage 1 the first stage of the Tennis Club Upgrade Masterplan seeks to upgrade four out of the six lawn courts to synthetic turf hard courts.

Balranald Cultural & Creative Learning Centre (BCCLC) This project will involve the construction of the building alongside the Balranald Art Gallery. The building will include a creative space with two large floating workbenches, furniture, cabinetry, sinks, and a smart provision for art storage – vertical ceiling-to-floor sliding panels/frames for mounted works. There will also be off-street parking and associated landscaping/drainage central to both the BCCLC and the main art gallery building.

ADVANCE NOTICE OF ROAD CLOSURE

The Marna-Box Creek Road between Bidura and Iona corners will be closed to all traffic for two days in coming weeks while bitumen works are carried out. A detour via Langley Dale will be in place during the closure. More details and exact dates will be published on the Council website in advance of the closure.

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FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR (Cont.)

The makeup of each committee is as follows:

Growing Business, Industry and Tourism Advisory Committee Adrian Gorman, Guy Fielding, Bronwyn Brougham, Dianne Williams, Gaye Renfrey, Hank van Apeldoorn, Iain Lindsay-Field, Linda Nelson, Peter Lawler, Robyn Davis, Sam Papa, and Simone Carmichael.

Strengthening Community Access, Inclusion and Wellbeing Advisory Committee Emma Moore, Hank van Apeldoorn, Helen Murphy, Jedda Kelly, Lea Lawrie, Lyn Flanagan, Mandy Haley, Michelle White, Natalie Lay, Rachael Williams, and Robyn Davis.

Ageing Well, Aged Care and Facilities Advisory Committee Doreen Clare Greenham, Helen Murphy, Guy Fielding, Karen Norfolk, Rebecca Stevens, Sue Balshaw, Therese Committi, Toni Tyrer, and Tony Conway.

Balranald Beautification Advisory Committee Lea Lawrie, Karen Norfolk, Toni Tyrer, Lynn Carter, Penny Jolliffe, and Gaye Renfrey.

Sport & Recreation Advisory Committee Bronwyn Brougham, David Lockhart, Donna Renfrey, Gavin Lloyd, Guy Fielding, Jack Gervasi, Jacob Shannon, Jayne Farnsworth, Kane Farnsworth, Kate Harper, Karen Norfolk, Kristy Helgeland, Lisa Jolliffe, Richard White, Russell Roberts, and Tony Conway.

Euston Progressive Advisory Committee Bill Vandenberg, Garry Mannix, Geoff Windmill, Glenn Stewart, Gray Woodhead, Guy Fielding, Luigi John Zaffina, Russell Roberts, Santina Zappia, and Shane O'Bryan.

Youth Council Jackson Bialobrzkeski, Ben Johnstone, Mason Dalton, Philipa Gaston, Ashlyn Mitchell, Kyarah Hines, Caleb Hines, Matthew McIvor-Kepa, and Sheridan Dalton.

GENERAL MANAGER RECRUITMENT

One of the immediate tasks for twenty of the advisory committee registrants was to provide input into the process of selecting Council's new General Manager. The search has already commenced and I am confident the job will attract high quality candidates. The recruitment of a new General Manager is expected to take 2 to 3 months. The recruitment process follows the NSW Office of Local Government's Guidelines for the Appointment and Oversight of General Managers with Local Government NSW Management Solutions (LGMS) as facilitator. LGMS is a management consulting company that specialises in providing recruitment and human resource services to local government.

The General Manager is responsible for managing Council staff and will work closely with me to plan, deliver, and review a broad range of services to our Shire. The General Manager develops and implements strategies which will support the growth and development of the local government area and ensures that Council services are customer-centric. The role is responsible for the efficient management of Council's finances and for inspiring innovation and creativity within the organisation to address diverse and complex issues. The General Manager plays a major role in liaising with the community, government agencies to seek grant funding, and representing the organisation to stakeholders.

I believe that the current complexities facing the Shire require the experience and expertise of a senior local government manager who understands the legislative and statutory framework of local government, the issues and challenges facing rural councils in NSW, and who is willing to work collaboratively with me as the Administrator and Council's governing body, and with the community to deliver quality, affordable and efficient services to the community and to develop Council's long term strategic plans.

As an initial step towards this recruitment, twenty of the people who are now appointees to Council's advisory committees met recently with Mr Mark Anderson from Local Government Management Solutions to describe what they believe are the specific attributes required in the new General Manager to be successful for this community. This input was then incorporated into the position description and information pack. Two community members will join me on the selection panel, with ultimate statutory responsibility for appointing the General Manager resting on me. I anticipate that the immediate challenges facing the new General Manager with Council being under administration for the next four years will appeal to a strong community builder with the right set of talents and strengths to work with me on restoring community confidence and launching the Council back onto the right trajectory.

| Mike Colreavy ADMINISTRATOR |

FROM THE YOUTH MAYOR

I was humbled to have participated in a mentoring programme with Administrator Mr Mike Colreavy. I would like to thank him for his expertise in briefing me on the September Council Ordinary Meeting agenda, running me through what such and such means, and how he would go about making decisions on each respective agenda item. I would like to thank him for inviting me to the Council Ordinary Meeting for September to watch and listen.

Recently I was invited to participate in the advisory committee training session at the Theatre Royal in Balranald. It was a very informative evening, and I thank Rachael, Gavin, Mike and Peter for their expertise in running the session.

In my last report I stated that you should have seen the Youth Council Facebook page up and running by then. I would like to clarify this comment by saying that due to some development issues, we have further suspended the publication of this group. We will inform you all as soon as we intend to launch, so stay tuned!

The Youth Council has been running a survey monkey through the Balranald Schools, with the help of the Balranald Shire Council. I would like to thank all those who have participated, and I would like to encourage those who have yet to complete the survey, to immediately do so please.

| Jackson Bialobrzewski
YOUTH COUNCIL MAYOR |



COUNCIL MEETING NEWS

The following matters were dealt with at the 15 September 2020 Ordinary Council Meeting:

- Council adopted the Local Strategic Planning Statement. This is a document that draws together and summarises planning priorities identified within state, regional, district and local strategic work.
- Council will initiate the process to amend the Balranald Local Environmental Plan 2010 so as to provide for the approval with conditions of caravan parks and manufactured homes estates on land less than one hectare in size. This would have the effect of giving Council the flexibility to consider on their merits proposals for multiple transportable dwellings on holdings. This should help with affordable houses for temporary and seasonal workers.
- Robinvale Waste was granted an extension of its management contract for the Euston Landfill for a period of 5 years. The decision will result in improved security and site management infrastructure.

For more information check out the Council agendas and minutes on the website. On Facebook you can check out video coverage of the meeting. If you want more information about the matters listed above contact Carol at the Council Office and you will be directed to the most appropriate staff member for your enquiry.

COUNCIL NEWSLETTER REVIEW

Council is reviewing the current format for the Shire Newsletter. Our objective is to make the newsletter informative, convey important relevant community messages from governments and agencies, and provide updates of where projects are up to. The newsletter will continue to be one of our main avenues to consult with the community. We are keen to hear from you. If you have feedback to provide, please email, call or mail Council to let us know! **Do you have information of community value you wish to share?** Please do not hesitate to contact Council office for more information about including your information in our newsletter. Due to production cost constraints we may not be able to publish all submissions, but we endeavour to include as much as possible! **Do you want to receive this publication direct to your inbox?** Council maintains a digital distribution list of interested individuals and organisations who have nominated to receive an e-copy of our monthly newsletter. To be the first to receive each edition be sure to contact Council and register your email address with us today! If you have subscribed to Council's e-newsletter but are missing editions please check your junk/spam folder. If you're having any trouble with this please call our office for assistance.

PREPARING FOR THE WARMER WEATHER

As spring sets in we are experiencing some amazing weather but soon after the gorgeous spring comes the blistering summer. As much as we love the long days and warm nights it is important think ahead to ensure we all get through the summer safely!

Hazard reduction please be sure to clean up your yard and gutters now to reduce potential burning material and snake hiding places!

Remember, fire permits are required for most types of fire during the Fire Danger Period and heavy penalties apply for breaches of the NSW Rural Fires Act. A permit sets out the rules around how a fire is lit and maintained, and lets firefighters know when you are conducting burning activities on your property. Fire permits are available for free from the NSW RFS. Please contact Dareton Fire Control Centre 03 5027 4422 for more info!

ARE YOU PREPARED FOR THE BUSH FIRE DANGER PERIOD?

Thursday the 1st of October 2020 will mark the official start of the statewide statutory Bush Fire Danger Period (BFDP) and the NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) is urging residents to prepare for the fire season now. The NSW RFS is encouraging property owners to protect their assets from bush fires by creating and maintaining fire breaks on their land. NSW RFS Superintendent Steve Walker said Asset Protection Zones (APZs) should be maintained all year round as they are a critical part of property preparation. "A properly constructed and maintained Asset Protection Zone can help slow or even stop a fire from reaching a home or other important assets, such as crops, sheds, homes and expensive equipment" "Livestock should also be part of a farmers' planning for Asset Protection Zones," Superintendent Walker said. "A stock rotation plan can help keep paddocks near buildings well-grazed and a clear area should be set aside as a refuge for livestock if a fire breaks out".

FRUIT FLY

Blossoms are on gorgeous display all over the shire, but as trees begin to bear fruit it is time to start thinking about how you will manage pests and harvest. Fruit fly infests summer ripening produce such as stone fruit and strawberries, tomatoes and capsicum. Now is the time to start thinking about implementing your control strategies to minimise the impact of this pest. Sanitation, such as picking up and destroying fallen fruit, is a very important part of any control strategy. This can work hand in hand with fly baiting and removal of any unwanted host plants.

WATER QUALITY

Blue green algae has begun blooming upstream. Council's water team are well prepared to respond to the situation and have already commenced the necessary additional water treatments to mitigate the affects of the algae. These additional treatments and increased testing will continue throughout the summer to ensure Council's drinking water supply remains safe for consumption.

As in previous years, the additional treatments can reduce most of the impact upon taste and odour from the algae, however it cannot be fully eliminated. While this reduced amenity is unfortunate the changes are cosmetic only. Our skilled water technicians are hard at work monitoring and managing our water supply to be safe and should any issues arise these will always be communicated to community without delay. Council thanks our water team for their dedication and commitment!

Council reminds residents that the Raw Water supply ("outside water") is an untreated supply. Algal blooms can cause waters to be unsafe for recreation. Algal alerts are issued by Regional Algal Coordinating Committees (RACCs) who are responsible for local management of algal blooms. Algal alerts are reported on the WaterNSW website <https://www.watarnsw.com.au/water-quality/algae> or you may call the NSW algae hotline on 1800 999 457 for information.

Algal alerts will be shared as they are received however Council encourages water users to keep themselves informed as the summer progresses and check with the above sources for the most current alerts prior to entering the river or using the raw water supply

JOIN OUR TEAM

Have you considered a career in local government? Working for Council is a rewarding role with unlimited potential. Council is currently recruiting for the below vacancies:

- General Manager (external recruitment)
- Executive Assistance/Finance Officer
- Personal Care Attendant (Carer - Bidgee Haven)
- Swimming Pool Supervisor (2020/2021 swim season)

For position descriptions and application instructions please visit our website:

<http://www.balranald.nsw.gov.au/job-vacancies/>

or contact Phil Ruddick (Human Resources/Governance) at Council Office, Phone 03 5020 1300



AUSSIE BACKYARD BIRD COUNT 2020

This annual event is a great opportunity to get involved in citizen science. Download the app or visit the website for more info. Don't have tech access at home? Visit our library to use a public computer or to connect to our WiFi

DO YOU WANT TO SPEAK WITH THE A/GM?

Acting General Manager, Peter Kozlowski, is available for appointments should you/your group have a need to speak with him. To make an appointment please contact Carol at the Council Office. Your conversations will be treated as confidential where necessary.



BALRANALD SHIRE COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION

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
12/08/2020	DA 11/2021	Entegra	Cheriton, Kyalite Road, Kyalite	Workshop Shed
19/08/2020	DA 06/2021	JG King Homes	18 Murray Terrace, Euston	Dwelling
19/08/2020	DA 09/2021	Danson & Blaby	5 Bates Drive & 7 Bates Drive, Euston	Boundary Realignment
19/08/2020	CDC 02/2021	Mr Peter Murphy	153 Ballandella Street, Balranald	Dwelling Extension
25/08/2020	DA 10/2021	JG King Homes	174 Harben Street, Balranald	Dwelling
25/08/2020	DA 08/2021	Mr Shaun Ross	28 Mayall Street, Balranald	Veranda
26/08/2020	DA 13/2021	Brent Williams (BW&A)	36 Leslie Drive, Euston	Offices & Accessible Toilet

The development consent is available for public inspection, free of charge, during normal office hours at Balranald Shire Councils Office, 70 Market Street, Balranald.

Peter Kozlowski, Acting General Manager
PO Box 120, BALRANALD NSW 2715
03 5020 1300
www.balranald.nsw.gov.au



INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT HEADLINES

Marma Box Creek Road Reconstruction of Marma-Box Creek Road to extend the bitumen seal has commenced, with the expectation that about 10km of new seal will be constructed this year. Pictured above - Road being prepared for seal.

Main Road 296 - Kyalite – Moulamein Road From the Kyalite Caravan Park entrance to the Shire boundary section has received approval by Regional Road Repair ("REPAIR") programme for road widening. Works should be completed before Christmas.

Football/Netball Club Detailed design of new change rooms is in hand after final consultation with the Football Club. This project will be delivered through packages prioritising local trade contractors, under Council coordination.

Bidgee Haven Hostel Detailed design and contract documentation for the new high dependency wing is in hand. It is hoped that tenders for the works can be invited by the end of this month.

Euston Cemetery Installation of the new toilet is now complete, together with a new rabbit-proof perimeter fence. Tree planting and irrigation can now proceed when resources permit. Picture right - new toilet facility.

Integrated Water Cycle Management (IWCM) Strategy The final "Issues Paper" report has been received from Public Works Advisory (PWA).



WHY LEAVE TOWN (WLT)

Council extends congratulations to Balranald Inc and Balranald Club for their success in implementing the Why Leave Town (WLT) program in Balranald.

Council's Visitor Information Centre has joined the network of more than a dozen local businesses now accepting the prepaid gift cards.

These versatile gift cards work just like an EFTPOS card and can be redeemed at any participating Balranald business.

The cards can be purchased at the Balranald Club or online <https://www.whyleavetown.com/product-page/balranald-gift-card>

The WLT program is a fantastic initiative and encourages people to think local first, supporting our community!

Pictured right - Le'-Gee's entryway with the WLT sign



GALLERY NEWS

We have some exciting news to announce, The Gallery has received a government grant to build a new Community Creative Learning Centre. This building will have storage space to house our permanent collection when not on display, a large work area for creative kids and adult workshops. The Gallery committee would like to thank Gavin Helgeland and Shire for obtaining the grant. Tenders will go out soon and work will be completed by 2021. This will be celebrated with our building being 140 years old and The Gallery being est. for 40 years.

Kids Korner is on again but with limited numbers due to distancing rules, contact Jan or Ben for further info. All being well we will run a weekend workshop, school holidays program free of charge where kids will be able to access their vouchers.

There are lots of fantastic events coming up in the coming months, drop in or call The Gallery for more information!

GAMBLING HELP

Robinvale District Health Services provides a Gambling Help Counselling Service that is available for Balranald Residents. The Gambling Help Counsellor outreaches to Balranald on Fridays. Our intake phone number is 03 5051 8160. Referrals can also be sent via email gamblinghelp@rdhs.com.au



REGIONAL YOUTH TASKFORCE

2021 Applications for membership

If you want to help make a difference for young people living and working in regional NSW you are encouraged to apply to become a member of the second NSW Government Regional Youth Taskforce. Up to eighteen members who reflect the diversity of young people in regional NSW will be selected. For more information visit <https://www.nsw.gov.au/regional-nsw/regional-youth-taskforce>



Applications for community grants now open

TransGrid's Community Partnerships Program is offering grants for community groups and non-for-profit organisations within your region.

Applications must be received by 5pm on Monday, 2 November 2020.



More information
www.transgrid.com.au/partnerships
Free call 1800 222 537

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT TRANSPORTING HORSES IN NSW

A Transported Stock Statement (TSS) is a form which records the movement of a horse/s from one property to another. A TSS is a requirement of the Local Land Services Act 2013 and Local Land Services Regulation 2014 for the purposes of tracing horse movements for biosecurity purposes. A TSS is also useful in helping the NSW Police identify stock theft. A dedicated TSS for Horse Movement is now available online. This free PDF can be downloaded from the Local Land Services website and used repeatedly. It needs to be printed and completed with the details of the individual journey, including date and signature. This document has no serial number so CAN NOT be used for transporting any other type of livestock (eg. cattle, sheep, pigs or goats) as it does not meet National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) requirements. You can download the TSS for Horse Movement at www.lls.nsw.gov.au/horseTSS

INTEREACH SERVICES IN BALRANALD

Intereach has recently opened an office in Balranald, located in the Bes Murray Community Centre at 95 Court Street, Balranald. The office will be open from Tuesday to Friday, 9am to 5pm. On hand will be an Intereach Community Linker which, as the name suggests, is the person who will 'link' local people to the supports and services they need. With a thorough understanding of communities in which we operate, Intereach is able to support linkages to services provided by a range of organisations. In Balranald this includes:

Aged Care Services: Home Care Packages are available across the entire Intereach footprint. The Commonwealth Home Support Program helps senior Australians access entry-level support services to live independently and safely at home. Eligibility is based on your support needs and age, but could be appropriate if you are having trouble with everyday tasks and feel a little support could improve your health and wellbeing. Services which may be accessed through the program can include meals and other food services, personal care, domestic assistance, nursing, allied health and therapy services, specialised support and respite care. CHSP may also be able to help with domestic assistance including basic chores around the house, home maintenance or modifications, items to make you more mobile or assist in everyday living, community transport and homelessness support.

Reach Out And Relax (ROAR): supports young people aged 12 to 18 and their families who are showing early signs or are at risk of developing a mental health issue. The program works with children, young people and their families to improve their emotional health and wellbeing. Seek ROAR support if you are a young person finding things a bit tough, a parent worried about your child or teenager's mental wellbeing, or you need someone to talk to.

Family Services: Families are the fabric of our communities. Sometimes, however, keeping your family healthy, happy and well can feel like the hardest job in the world. In Balranald, Intereach can work with you as a parent or carer to build your skills, be strong and help take the stress out of caring for your children. Intereach can talk to you about why you are finding life tough to deal with, and this helps us understand the type of support that will suit you and your family, and what problems you want to tackle. We can provide information and referral to other services, counselling, court support and help with little things that can make a difference, like time management, budgeting, household management and personal development.



Meet our Community Linker in Balranald

Josephine Wright

Why do you love working with Intereach?

Intereach has opened my eyes with its diversity and the many ways it can link community members to the supports they require. Also, the kindness shown by fellow work colleagues.

What do you love about the community you work in?

Balranald has a great community spirit – the town bands together through thick and thin. We're a small community and I'm looking forward to helping establish Intereach's services here.



Intereach is a not-for-profit community services organisation providing information, services and support for children and families, people with disability, mental health, and older people in *Your* community.

The Intereach Community Links team are trained to link you to services and supports that you require in your local area.

P: 1300 488 226
www.intereach.com.au

Intereach is located at Bes Murray Community Centre, 95 Court St, Balranald
Intereach Balranald operating hours are 9am - 5pm Tuesday - Friday

COVID-19 UPDATES

Applications open for a new grant to support small businesses in southern border communities

If you are a small business owner in Balranald LGA, you may be eligible to apply for the new Southern Border Small Business Support Grant.

The grant is designed to provide immediate, short-term assistance to help businesses adapt to impacts of the NSW/Victoria border closure.

How much can I apply for?

The grant amount is based on the business's decline in turnover.

- \$5,000 (tier one): Small businesses (including non-employing businesses, such as sole traders) that have experienced a decline in turnover of at least 30 per cent

- \$10,000 (tier two): Employing small businesses that have experienced a decline in turnover of at least 75 per cent.

What can I use the grant for?

The grant can be used to pay bills, to get financial and legal help, or to diversify business offerings to stay open in the new environment.

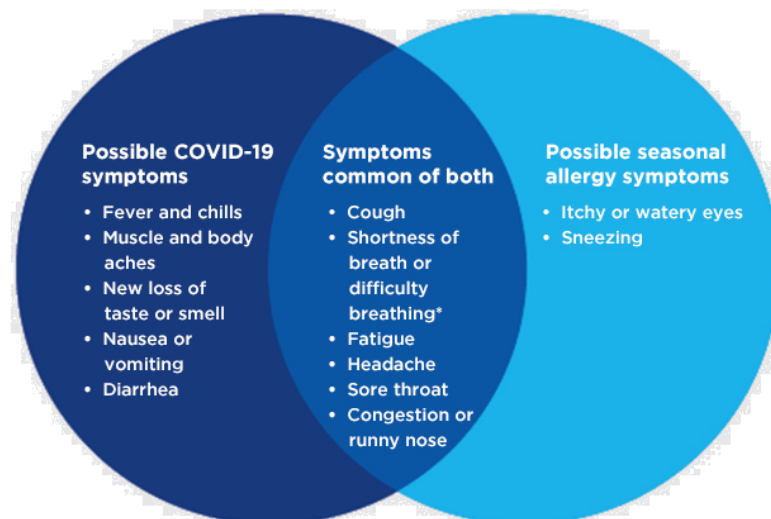
The funds can only be used for eligible expenses incurred after the NSW/Victoria border permit scheme was introduced on 8 July 2020, and for which no other government support is available. For example, the grant cannot be used to pay wages for staff eligible for JobKeeper.

To see a list of eligible expenses, view the grant guidelines.

How can I apply?

Visit Service NSW to find out more and to apply. You can also call 13 77 88 to speak with a Service NSW Business Concierge, or head to the website to request a call back.

COVID-19 & HAYFEVER



*Seasonal allergies do not usually cause shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, unless a person has a respiratory condition such as asthma that can be triggered by exposure to pollen.

What should you do if you suffer from seasonal allergies (hay fever)?

Since some of the symptoms of COVID-19 and seasonal allergies are similar, it may be difficult to tell the difference between them. If you are unsure about what might be affecting you, please contact your GP. Most GPs are currently able to provide telehealth consultations for problems like these.

If you suffer from seasonal allergies, you should continue your current treatment regime to minimise your symptoms. You should also consider talking with your GP about having an effective treatment plan for your seasonal allergies and/or asthma before the hay fever season begins.



However, if you have any possible COVID-19 symptoms (even if you suspect it's just your first allergy attack of the season) you need to immediately get tested for COVID-19 to confirm your diagnosis. If you normally have seasonal allergies and you experience any new symptoms or a change in your symptoms, you should also get tested for COVID-19 straight away.

If your COVID-19 test result is negative, and you continue to have symptoms or recurrent allergies, talk with your GP about a management plan during the COVID-19 pandemic.

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19>



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 balranald.nsw.gov.au
 Balranald Shire Council
 @balranaldshire

Other Council Services

Balranald Library - M/F - 9am - 5.30pm, W 9.30am-5.30pm
(closed for lunch 12pm-1pm)
Balranald Landfill - T/T 4pm - 6pm, Sat 10am-1pm, Sun 10am-3pm
Euston Landfill - T/T 1pm-6pm, Sun 9am-3pm

Currently on Exhibition

Draft Documents

For most current list and full details please visit <http://www.balranald.nsw.gov.au/council-documents/exhibition-of-draft-documents/>

Development Applications

For most current list and full details please visit <http://www.balranald.nsw.gov.au/environment-and-planning/developments-on-exhibition/>

DA 16/2021 – Proposed Two (2) Lot Subdivision
(Applicant: Duxton Vineyards Pty Ltd)

View this newsletter in colour online!

<http://www.balranald.nsw.gov.au/notice-board/general-notices/>

Want to receive an e-copy each month? Email to subscribe: council@balranald.nsw.gov.au

DISCLAIMER

Balranald Shire Council reserves the right to edit or rewrite submissions for grammar, style and clarity or to conform to restrictions of space. Council makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of this information and does not accept responsibility for errors or omissions contained within this publication. If you are aware of errors please notify Council by email: council@balranald.nsw.gov.au or phone 03 5020 1300. This document is compiled some weeks prior to delivery, while all due care is made to ensure information is accurate matters are subject to change due to time passage between print and delivery, please contact Council for most current details on a subject if concerned.



Invitation to participate in a water quality survey and testing for the Balranald Shire Council Increasing Resilience to Climate Change (BSC IRCC) Project

Balranald Shire Council is committed to ensuring that all people in the Shire have access to adequate safe domestic water supplies. This commitment applies to pastoral properties and to those living in our towns who use tanks for drinking water.

Council is undertaking a survey of private water sources, water treatment and water use in order to:

- better appreciate the dimensions of the water supply problems being confronted by residents in the Shire living on rural properties or using rainwater tanks
- identify any possible health risks that may be present due to the quality of the water that people are using
- help to ensure that everyone can have adequate and safe domestic water supplies

For this survey, domestic water is:

Water used day to day by people for indoor and outdoor household and commercial purposes including drinking, preparing food, bathing, washing clothes and dishes, brushing teeth, watering gardens, swimming pools and children's play.

Securing adequate safe domestic water for the people of Balranald Shire goes beyond potable/drinking water supplies. It is more than water from your kitchen tap.

Domestic water encompasses all uses by which you and your family and friends or employees or visitors or guests (if you are operating a commercial activity), can come into physical contact with the water resources being used on your property. And, because of its poor quality, the water may or may not be a risk to the health of people who use it every day.

Council are inviting people on rural and remote properties in the Shire who are dependent on private sources of water for their household use to participate in this collaboration. Private sources include: surface water from farm dams or creeks or rivers; ground water from deep or shallow bores; and rainwater tanks that capture runoff from roofs. Separate tests will be undertaken for each source of supply being used.

People in Balranald and Euston who have rainwater tanks for domestic use (eg drinking, cooking, showers, bathing and children's play) are also invited to participate in the project.

We will forward further information on how you can participate in the water quality questionnaire survey and testing in the week commencing 5 October 2020.

We would like to have your completed questionnaire by 16 October 2020.

You will be able to respond either on-line via a survey monkey or return a hard copy of the questionnaire to the Project Team. Your contribution will help Council better understand the domestic water supply issues across the Shire and how we can work together to address them

For further information on this important initiative please contact:

Peter Waterman

Email: pw.ems@bigpond.net.au

Mobile: 0418 628 431

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.



**Planning,
Industry &
Environment**



**LOCAL
GOVERNMENT
NSW**



Planning,
Industry &
Environment



LOCAL
GOVERNMENT
NSW

Thanks to the NSW Government, Balranald Shire Council has secured funding under the Increasing Resilience to Climate Change (IRCC) Grant for: **Adaptive Private Domestic Water Supplies on Rural & Remote Properties**

Question: As Balranald Shire residents, are you dependent on sourcing your domestic water from:

- rainwater tanks,
- dams,
- waterways (rivers, lakes, etc) and/or
- bores?

If you answered **yes** to any of these, then this Council-based project aims to specifically help you!

What are we seeking to do?

We are seeking to work with you to:

- understand your domestic water challenges;
- reduce your associated health risks; and
- investigate cost-effective measures that improve domestic water quality and security of supply.

Specifically we will:

1. collect baseline data from our Shire residents (questionnaire/water samples)
2. identify households for demonstration projects
3. report on risks and solutions
4. provide remote and rural residents a private domestic water blueprint for increasing resilience to climate change.

Building resilience is what it's all about!



Are you interested in being part of this initiative?

If you are, please contact:

Peter Waterman (Project Lead)
Adjunct Professor (and all-round nice guy)
Institute for Land, Water and Society,
Mobile: 0418 628 431
Email: pw.ems@bigpond.net.au