

Balranald Shire Council Community Newsletter

Issue 12/2020 — December/January



In this edition

Youth Mayor Column	Page 2
Australia Day Ambassador	Page 2
"Swampy" Launch	Page 4
Library News	Page 5
Infrastructure & Development News	Page 6
Agency & Community Submissions	Page 7
COVID19 Holiday Advice	Page 9

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO OUR COMMUNITY

Council extends kind holiday wishes to all our residents and visitors.

As 2020 draws near its close, we look ahead to a prosperous and peaceful 2021. May this Christmas bring your families joy and wonderful memories and the New Year bring fresh hope and opportunities to all.

Council will be reducing to essential services only for the time from Christmas Eve to the Sunday after New Year's Day. Offices will reopen 4 January 2021. Full details of closures are provided on page 3 of this publication.

Council looks forward to working with our community in 2021 to continue deliver the actions set out in the Operational Plan. Council will commence the process to develop the Operational Plan for 2021/22 early in the new year.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMPETITION

All across the Shire lights are adorning residences in a beautiful display of holiday spirit.

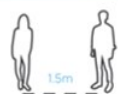
Judging will take place in the coming days for our annual lights competition, watch for our Facebook announcement ahead of the January newsletter.

Congratulations to all those who have decorated their homes. The number of light displays far exceeds those registered and Council wishes to acknowledge and thank all the families who have infused the Shire with vitality and celebratory arrays.

Tips to keep you, your family, friends and the community safe this summer



If the weather moves your party inside open doors and windows



Take extra COVID Safe precautions



Make this year's gathering easier, ask guests to BYO food and drinks



Say no to hugs



Keep a list of your visitors and guests



Give a personalised COVID friendly welcome present



Have the kids run temperature checks on your guest

| From your Leader |

FROM THE YOUTH MAYOR

I'd like to begin my column by thanking the Acting General Manager Peter Koslowski, for his contribution to our community. His wisdom and kind words of advice are greatly appreciated, and will be sorely missed. On behalf of the Youth Council and I, we wish Peter and his wife Christine all the best in their future endeavours. Good luck Koslowskis, it's been great!

Something really exciting is in the works, and I call it "The Balranald Shire Youth Council – Youth Summer Programme". This is an incredibly exciting series of events. We wish to engage as many young people from all over our Shire as possible

The Summer Programme kicked off with "Movie Night". On Friday 18th December 2020 we screened two Christmas Films, "Santa Clause" and "Santa's Little Helpers" at the Theatre Royal. With about 60 in attendance it was a great turnout - chilling on the beanbags with popcorn, lollies and slushies to enjoy the full cinema experience.

We have four more fun events in the planning process, so save these dates:

Saturday 9th January – Disco Night;
Saturday 16th January – Beach Party;
Saturday 23rd January – Mildura Day Trip;
Saturday 30th January – Games Night!

Each event will have a ticket cost, but each event will provide food/drink/snacks from the cost of that ticket. Stay tuned for further details!

We have this along with many more plans in the works. It has been a long year, now let's have the best holiday season that the Balranald Shire has ever seen!

On behalf of the Balranald Shire Youth Council, Merry Christmas, and have a safe and very Happy New Year. May the true spirit of Christmas guide you and your families this Christmas!

Jackson Bialobrzieski
YOUTH COUNCIL MAYOR



| Breaking News | From your Council |

ANNOUNCING OUR AUSTRALIA DAY AMBASSADOR: BRUCE ELDER!

Balranald Shire is excited to celebrate Australia Day in style, and we are fortunate to share these celebrations with Australia Day Ambassador, Bruce Elder, set to join our festivities.

Known for his fame as a print and radio journalist, Bruce Elder is proud to be an Australia Day Ambassador and to visit Balranald Shire on Australia Day.

We are excited that Bruce has taken the time to join our community for this day.

Australia Day is such a wonderful day. We have all different experiences of Australia, but it's an opportunity to remember how fortunate we are to live, together, here in Australia. I know that Balranald Shire will put on a memorable day and having Bruce here just makes it all the more special.

Australia Day Ambassadors volunteer their time and energy to inspire pride and celebrate in hundreds of local communities where they become a guest of honour and participate in activities as diverse as the communities themselves. Get involved in the Balranald Shire's 2021 Australia Day celebrations, join us 26 January 2021 in Balranald or Euston or both!



Balranald **Commencing 8AM** **Greenham Park Hall**

BBQ Breakfast followed by Citizenship Ceremony, Ambassador Address, and Balranald Award Winners for Australia Day.

Euston **Commencing 12.30PM** **Recreation Reserve**

BBQ Lunch followed by Citizenship Ceremony, Ambassador Address, and Euston Award Winners for Australia Day.

For more information please visit australiaday.com.au or www.balranald.nsw.gov.au



COUNCIL SERVICES OVER CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR

Balranald Shire Office: closing 4.30pm Wednesday 23 December 2020, reopening 9am Monday 4 January 2021. To report emergencies call:

Water/Sewer Balranald 0418 322 902

Water/Sewer Euston 0419 693 956

All other matters 0427 273 741

Service NSW (Balranald) closing 4pm Wednesday 23 December 2020, reopening 9.30am Tuesday 5 January 2021. Enquiries 13 77 88.

Balranald & Euston Depots: closing 4.30pm Wednesday 23 December 2020, reopening 7am Monday 4 January 2021.

Balranald Library: closing 5.30pm Wednesday 23 December 2020, reopening 9am Monday 4 January 2021. Don't forget to grab some books for holiday reading!!

Balranald Pool during school holidays is at public holidays hours: 11am to 8pm Tues-Sun.

Balranald Visitor Information Centre closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day, all other days trading usual hours.

Balranald Landfill will be open regular hours.

Euston Landfill hours as follows:

Christmas Eve Thursday 24th - 1pm - 5pm

Sunday 27th - closed, however bins will be placed outside the gates for public use.

Tuesday 29th - 1pm - 6pm

New Year's Eve Thursday 31st - 1pm - 5pm

Garbage bin collection Balranald Businesses & Euston Residents who have their bins collected on Fridays are advised that the collection will be Thursday 24 December 2020 (instead of Christmas Day) and Thursday 31 December (instead of New Year's Day) Balranald Businesses & Residents bins collected on Mondays as usual.

BALRANALD SOUTHERN BELL FROG PLAY-SCULPTURE LAUNCH

On 30 November 2020 students from local schools along with a host of delegates and locals, congregated at the newly revitalized Senior Citizen's Plaza to celebrate the launch of Balranald's new giant southern bell frog play-sculpture: Swampy.

The play-sculpture is a unique art piece made of stainless steel standing five metres long and two metres high. It is designed and constructed by Artist Xavier Pinnard from Yackandandah. "I'm very pleased that the Balranald community has given me the opportunity to create something unique and fun for their CBD" Mr Pinnard said.

Late last year, local children were given the opportunity to participate in a colouring in and naming competition about the play-sculpture. Assessed by a panel of locals, ten year old, Archie Alderuccio from St Joseph's Parish Primary School won best colouring-in; eight year old Jyziah Wilson from Balranald Central School won the naming rights – and so the play-sculpture is now affectionately known as Swampy, the Southern Bell Frog. Both the winners and their classes attended the launch.

"The Plaza is now a fun, safe place for youth to hang out" said Youth Mayor Jackson Bialobrzewski who was also one of the panelists who assessed the colouring in and naming competition.

Mr Lindsay-Field, Chair of Council's Growing Business, Industry and Tourism Advisory Committee, spoke to the crowd of onlookers about the significance of the event. He sees the launch as marking a coming-of-age for Balranald's local economy and tourism branding. "Word is really starting to spread on the quality and diversity of Balranald's offerings for locals and visitors and it shows with the increased number of visitors we're now seeing – it's truly remarkable" he said.

Pictured below are guests surrounding the Swampy interpretive signage, in the background local children climbing to the frog summit.

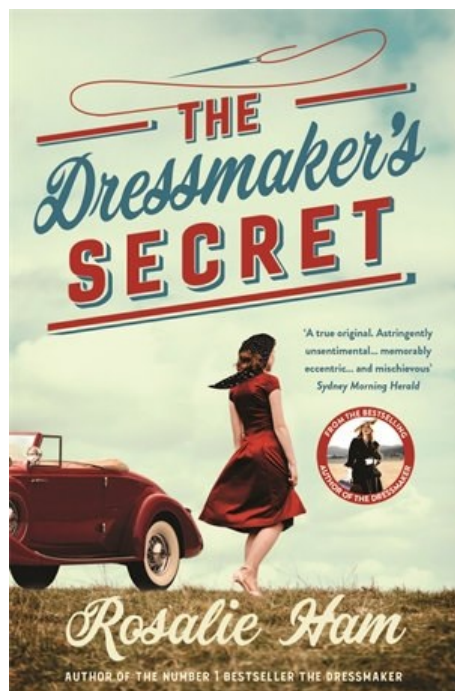


Guests around the newly unveiled interpretive sign.

Back L-R: Xavier Pinnard, Julie Jewell, Ron Murray, Iain Lindsay-Field, Jackson Bialobrzewski

Front: L-R: Archie Alderuccio, Jyziah Wilson.

Photo credit: Gavin Helgeland



LIBRARY NEWS

Our library is continually updating our collection for your enjoyment. We have recently acquired a copy of the sequel to the highly acclaimed novel *The Dressmaker* (2000) by Rosalie Ham; *The Dressmaker's Secret* (2020).

***The Dressmaker's Secret* by Rosalie Ham**

Australian classic of revenge, small town secrets and high fashion set in the 1950's. Glamorous, blackly funny and full of unforgettable characters!

Are you in need of a book recommendation? Is there an item on your to read list you would love to borrow? Drop in and speak to Angela with any queries or requests to see if the library can help you.

Be sure to pop in to check out all our new books!
We look forward to helping you with all your reading needs.



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
03/11/2020	DA 18/2021	Mr Greg McCalman	Mendook, 810 Euston Prungle Road, Euston	Machinery Shed
12/11/2020	CDC 04/2021	Karen Johnstone	152 Market Street, Balranald	Veranda
18/11/2020	DA 19/2021	Mr David Walker	Kilpatrick Road, Euston	Twenty (20) Lot Subdivision
26/11/2020	DA 20/2021	Mr Wayne Beer	149 Ballandella Street, Balranald	Shed with amenities
30/11/2020	DA 20/2020	Clare Smith	Crown Land on southern bank of the Murray River, Robinvale Mooring Zone	Single Vessel Mooring
30/11/2020	CDC 06/2021	Mr Steve Haines	45 Moa Street, Balranald	Veranda
02/12/2020	DA 21/2021	Condely Construction	151 Ballandella Street, Balranald	Dwelling

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

INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The first stage reconstruction of **Marma-Box Creek Road** to extend the bitumen seal has now been completed with a further 15km of seal placed. A further extension will be carried out in early 2021.

Reconstruction of a badly damaged section of the **Wooranbara – Corrong Road** has been completed. Funding submissions have been submitted for the reconstruction of **Benanee Road** and the widening of **Leslie Drive** under Round 2 of the Fixing Local Roads programme.



Contract maintenance grading has been completed on the **Euston to Marma Road**, the **Prungle Mail Road**, **Tammit** and **Gulthul Roads** and a section of the **Clare-Freshwater Road**. Due to budget constraints, further maintenance grading work will now be confined to dealing with safety issues for the balance of the financial year.

Funding under Round 1 of the **Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Programme** was confirmed at the November Ordinary Council Meeting for the following projects:

PROJECT	ALLOCATION
Traffic signs and road furniture	\$180,000
Traffic calming, Bertram & Taylor Roads, Euston	\$120,000
Enhancements to Euston Forest Eco-trail and Euston-Robinvale walking trail	\$50,000
Euston town approaches	\$100,000
Toilet at Balranald Cemetery	\$60,000
Enhancements to Kyalite Riverside Reserve	\$30,000
Theatre Royal heating	\$100,000
Footpath construction	\$60,000
Anzac Park fencing	\$20,000
Euston Recreation Reserve playground upgrade	\$40,000

Bidgee Haven Hostel tenders for the new high dependency wing closed on 27 November 2020, with five tenders received. These are currently undergoing technical evaluation prior to a formal evaluation process leading to the selection of a preferred tenderer and a recommendation to Council for options relating to the award of a contract.



Planning,
Industry &
Environment



LOCAL
GOVERNMENT
NSW

Increasing Resilience to Climate Change (IRCC) Project Progress Report

Council has submitted the Progress Report for Phases II of the NSW Government funded *Climate Change Adaptive Private Domestic Water Supplies on Rural and Remote Properties* project. Although Covid 19 has imposed considerable constraints on activities the questionnaire survey has been successfully undertaken, Environmental and Social Baselines have been documented, and information sheets prepared and disseminated.

Key points from the survey are:

- 201 rural properties were identified in the Shire with 162 having discreet occupancy
- 106 properties with contact details were identified and all have been phoned
- 45 surveys have been submitted accounting for 42% response rate and if all properties are included this is a 21% response rate

This survey seeks information that will assist rural householders in ensuring that their domestic water supplies are adequate and safe.

As part of the IRCC Project Communications Strategy Council has released two information sheets.

- Information Sheet 01: How safe are your household water supplies?
- Information Sheet 02: Who is responsible for ensuring that private household water supplies are secure and safe?

And the following will be released in the coming months.

- Information Sheet 03: Changing climatic conditions
- Information Sheet 04: Do-it-yourself water quality testing
- Information Sheet 05: Managing your household water storage
- Information Sheet 06: Best practice for rainwater tanks
- Information Sheet 07: Optimising household water supplies
- Information Sheet 08: Drought proofing: Anticipating a 'Water Crisis' and planning for 'Day Zero'

'Do-it-yourself' water quality testing of rural household supplies and rainwater tanks in towns is planned for March 2021.

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

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.

Are you under 25 & starting your career??

The **Country Education Foundation of Balranald** has opened its annual grants round **for all young people** living within the Balranald Shire (including the towns of Euston, Balranald and beyond).

If you are transitioning from school (or a gap year) into your career, are aged 16-25yrs and **need some financial support in meeting your career goals** then go to the Country Education Foundation Australia website: <https://cef.org.au/apply-for-a-grant/> and select the 'Student Registration' button to complete an application form for the **Country Education Foundation of Balranald**

For questions or concerns call / email Rachael Williams 0416 201643 / rachael@locallogicplace.com.au

Applications must be completed online and received by COB **5pm Saturday 30th January 2021** (late applications will not be accepted).

Grants to our local young people are made possible with financial support from key local sponsors including Balranald Shire Council, Balranald Inc., Balranald ICPA,

Can Assist Executive Committee wish everyone a very Happy Christmas & prosperous New Year

Thank you for all the support given to the Branch in 2020

A huge thank you to all the Can Assist Book Shelf Sponsors:

Angela Harben, the Linnett Family, David Chaston & Jan Barker, Anton & Shirley Linnett, the Giansiracusa family, Kit Formosa, Michelle Gervasi, Vicki Murray, Howley Pastoral, Smithers Transport, Balranald Race Club, Balranald Football Club, J & L Jolliffe, L Gerken, M Lowry.

Thank you also to:

Nelson's Transport for transporting new book shelves and delivering to the bookshop, Balranald Central School students for making shelves and sorting books. Jack Murphy for making shelving secure.

The Can Assist Executive Committee – Jenny Blake, Tina Powis, Alison Linnett are extremely grateful to all those people who have assisted in any way to revamp the Book Shop.

Thank you to all those who donated prizes to the Can Assist Christmas Raffle Night



Body shop products Sam Lawn, Eskey Elders Balranald, Elders Balranald (dog nuts), Balranald Bakery-Fruit Cake x 2, Hair care pack Salon One One Five, Meal voucher Balranald Motor Inn, \$20 Voucher Balranald Sports, Painting Jan Lawler, 6 x wine Andrew Peace Winery, 2 x camp chair B&J Blake, 2 x backpacks P&S Johnstone, 2x \$50 meat vouchers Jim Smithers Transport \$20 voucher Balranald Newsagency, Meal voucher Kyalite Hotel, 2x Fuel voucher S&A Calleja, \$20 meat voucher Meat on Market, Voucher In the Garden, LeReve voucher K Linnett, Stampin'Up! voucher A. Linnett, Crocheted blanket A Harben, Voucher R Moore, Tea light stand H Pomroy

Can Assist Balranald Branch Charity Fundraising No 12748



RASF Community Futures Grant

The Royal Agricultural Society of NSW Foundation (RASf) is offering opportunities for community minded people to be awarded up to \$25,000 in funding for drought and bushfire recovery community projects in their local area.

Taking part is easy:

- Identify a need in your rural NSW community
- Partner with a local community organisation
- Create a project plan for your initiative

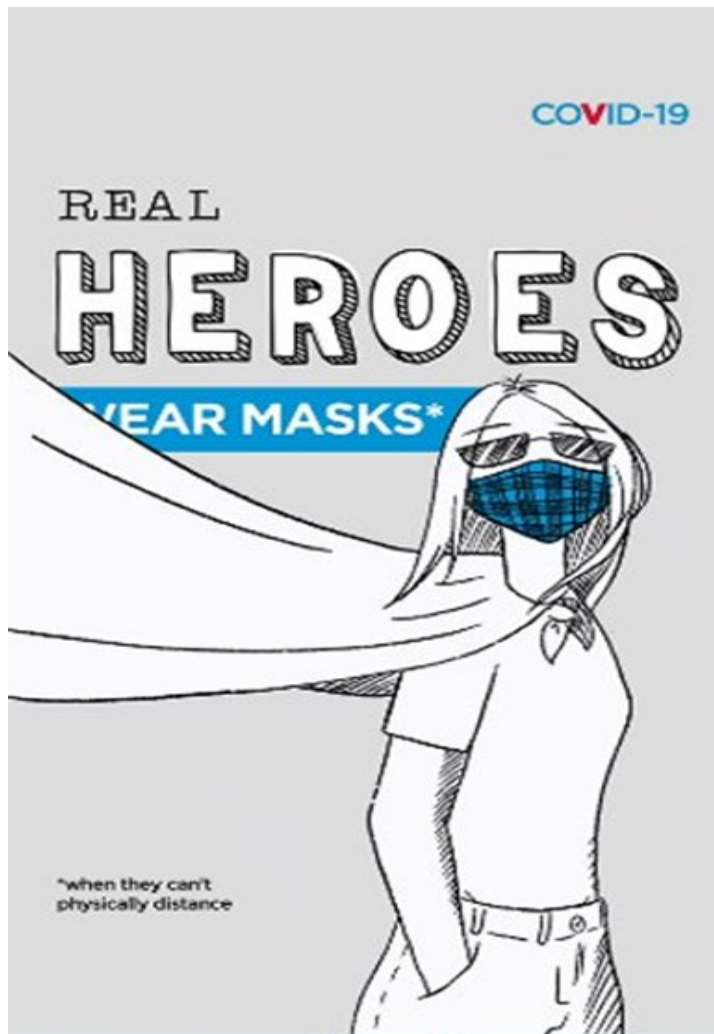
Eligibility criteria:

The 2021 Grants will focus on bushfire and drought recovery projects. To be eligible, applicants must also be a resident of the rural NSW community the project will benefit. Applications close on 7 February 2021.

What types of projects are eligible?

The RASF invites ideas that deliver strong community benefits and result in enhanced economic and social outcomes for your community. This year projects should assist the recovery and rebuilding of drought and bushfire affected towns. Projects that involve collaboration between people in your town and deliver sustained and broad community benefits will be highly regarded. Applicants will be passionate about rural and regional NSW and have a good understanding of any issues affecting their community. For more information and to apply, visit:

<http://www.rasnsf.com.au/foundation/grants/community-futures-grant/>



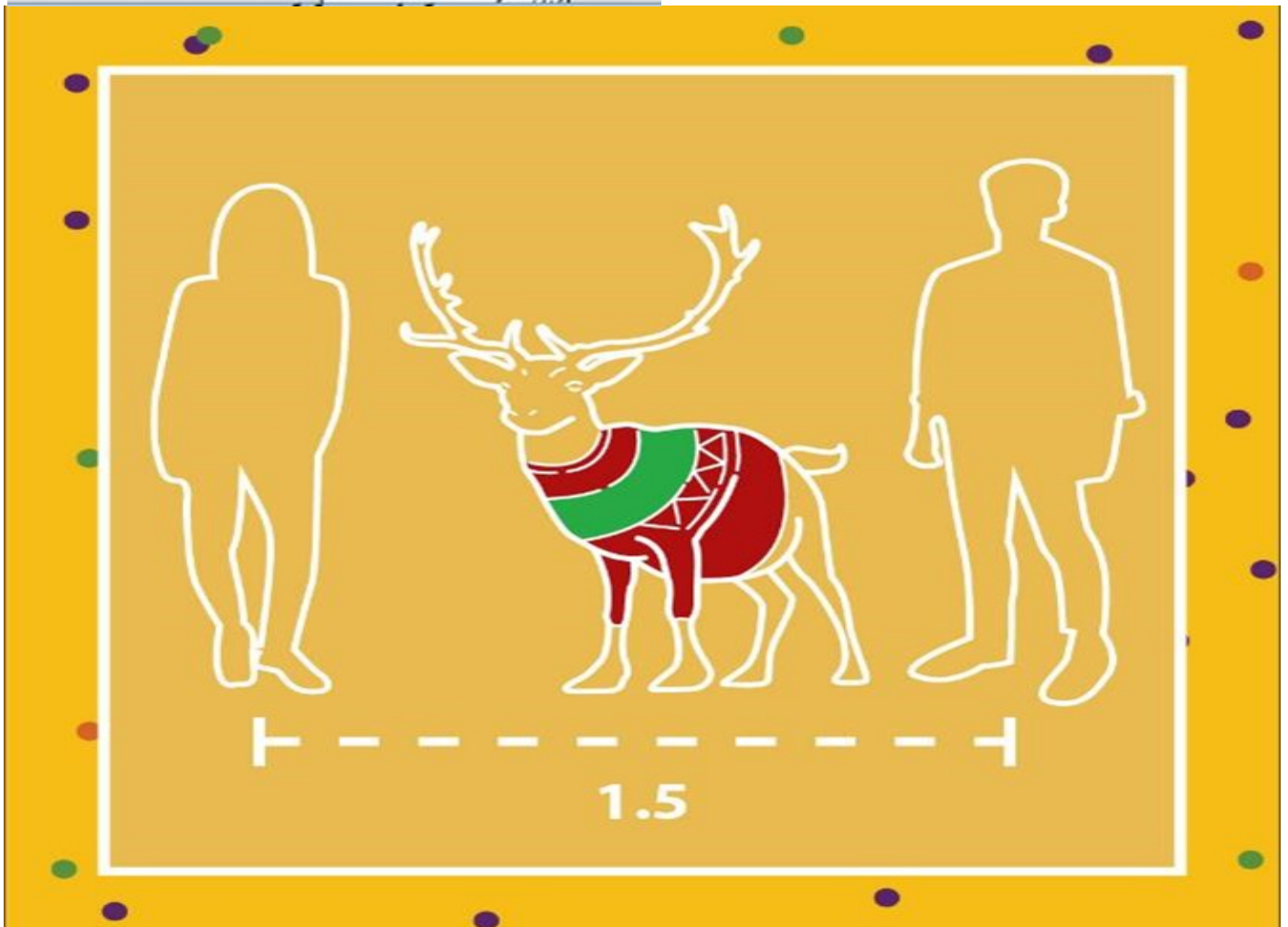
BE COVID AWARE

COVID-19 spreads easily through social gatherings, so it's important we continue to be COVID Safe with friends and extended family.

The pandemic is not over. NSW is not immune from the risk of renewed outbreaks, so we have to remain vigilant and COVID aware.

Limit the number of people you entertain at home. Find the latest information and advice on allowed numbers at gatherings. Plan outdoor gatherings at home to make the most of the season and be COVID Safe. (If the weather moves you inside, choose large, well-ventilated spaces and try and keep doors and windows open)

Stay safe, wash your hands regularly and keep 1.5 metres apart from people you don't live with.





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 to 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

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/

Subscribe to receive an e-copy

Would you like to receive a pdf copy of this publication each month, direct to your inbox? Subscribe via email to 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.