

BSC'S




NEWSLETTER

February/March / Vol 2

Street Address:
70 Market Street BALRANALD NSW 2715
Postal Address:
PO Box 120 BALRANALD NSW 2715

Phone: 03 5020 1300
After Hours (Emergencies):
Bal - 0418 322 902 Eust - 0419 693 956

Email: council@balranald.nsw.gov.au
Website: www.balranald.nsw.gov.au
 Balranald Shire Council

COUNCIL SERVICES OPENING HOURS

Shire Office:

Monday to Friday 9am-4.30pm

Visitor Information Centre:

Monday to Friday 9am-4.30pm

Saturday to Sunday 9am-1pm

Service NSW:

Closed - Mondays

Tuesday-Friday 9.30am-4pm

*Closed 1-2pm for lunch

Balranald Caravan Park:

Everyday 8.30am-6pm

Balranald Pool:

Tuesday to Friday 3.00pm to 6.00pm

Saturday, Sunday & Public Holidays

11.00am to 8.00pm

*Closed if forecast temp is less than 26 degrees

Balranald Library:

Monday & Friday 9.30am-5.30pm

Wednesday 9am-5.30pm

*Closed for lunch 12pm-1pm each day

Balranald Landfill:

Tuesday & Thursday 4pm-6pm

Saturday 10am-1pm

Sunday 10am-3pm

*Closed during Wet Weather Conditions

Euston Landfill:

Tuesday & Thursday 1pm-6pm

Sunday 9am-3pm

*Closed during Wet Weather Conditions

Please email council@balranald.nsw.gov.au if
you wish to receive an e-copy of our Newsletter
each month

The Balranald Shire Council Administrator, Mike Colreavy has appointed Mr Craig Bennett as the new General Manager. Mike has announced that Craig will commence his employment with Council on Wednesday, 1 March 2023. He will bring a wealth of experience to the position, having worked in local government for the past 28 years, including holding jobs at the General Manager, Director, or Manager level in New South Wales councils for 18 years. He commenced his employment in local government with Burnie City Council (Tasmania) in 1995, and since then he has worked in Western Australian, Victorian and New South Wales local government. Craig is a Certified Practicing Accountant (CPA), and he also holds a Bachelor of Business Studies. His main sporting passions are cricket and watching the Kangaroos in the AFL. He is very much looking forward to working closely with staff, the Administrator, and the community of Balranald Shire to ensure that great outcomes are achieved for the community. He will be joined by his partner, Rosemary in Balranald.



Council News

Job Vacancies at Council

- Permanent Personal Care Assistants (PCA) at Bidgee Haven Retirement Hostel

For more information about our Job Vacancies, please visit our Website www.balranald.nsw.gov.au

Infrastructure Report

BSC has been busy with sealing the construction work completed in 2022, seal was held up due to persistent rainfall. In saying this another 2 kilometres has been sealed on Tapalin Mail Rd also 1.4km on Marma Box Ck Rd. 2 carparks in Balranald were also sealed being the Tennis Crt and Art Gallery car parks. There will also be a resealing taking place in the coming weeks on Weimby Kyalite Rd. Maintenance grading has been taking place in different locations across council, the work taking place is focusing on formation and drainage to allow our road network to be of a higher standard, to allow the unsealed network to drain and dry off at a more rapid rate and assist in making the roads more user friendly. In saying this BSC unsealed network is dry weather only with an 80kmh speed limit. With more flooding in the north on MR67 "Ivanhoe Rd" council has had to close the road and divert traffic out through Dockerty Rd to get to Ivanhoe. This information can be seen on Live Traffic NSW.

Never Drive Through Floodwater.

External Automatic Defibrillators (AEDs)

Council has purchased five LifePak CR2 AEDs (defibrillators) for community use in case of emergency.

The LifePak CR2 AED is easy to use and gives simple, audible, step-by-step instructions. It is fully automatic - analysing the heart rhythm and delivering a shock if needed.

The AEDs will be located at:

- Balranald Shire Office
- Balranald Discovery Centre
- Balranald Swimming Pool
- Balranald Shire Depot
- Euston Recreation Ground

If you would like to learn more about using the LifePak CR2 Essential AED, training videos can be found online.



Australia Day Congratulations

Congratulations to recipients of Australia Day awards for recognition of their contributions to the communities of Balranald and Euston throughout 2022

Citizen of the Year - Mrs Bronwyn Brougham

Sportsperson of the Year - Jydon Neagle

Young Sports person of the Year - Bree Hodgson and Archie Alderuccio

Special Achievement Award - Antonio Liparota and Balranald Football Netball Club

Community Event of the Year - Great Murray River Salami Festival and 5 Outback Rivers Festival

Sporting Team of the Year — Balranald A Grade Netball Team

Balranald also welcomed a new citizen in Balranald, **Yodok Soille**, who has now completed his Citizenship and was presented with his certificate and a Citizenship Coin as a gift from Balranald Shire.

Balranald Shire Council, 70 Market Street, (PO Box 120) Balranald 2715
Phone 03 5020 1300 Fax 03 5020 1620 www.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.

Seniors Festival 2023

Senior citizens of Balranald Shire enjoyed a fabulous day out on Tuesday 14 February 2023 to celebrate 2023 Seniors Festival.

A delicious 2 course meal provided by Euston Club and fabulous music and entertainment with Hutch Lawrie.

Thank you to the Euston Club for providing the meal, Hutch for the entertainment and to our bus drivers for getting Balranald Citizens to Euston.

And a special thankyou to all our citizens who came out and celebrated with Seniors Festival with us, we hope to see you all again next year.



Road Conditions

For current road condition information go to:

<https://balranald.nsw.gov.au/infrastructure/roads-condition-report/>



Library News

Hi Everyone,

Just a little update on our library programs and renovations. Over Christmas holidays we held four weeks of fun filled programs in which we had record attendance! Thankyou Parents and children for supporting this program, we had a blast with different activities and more space.

Our renovations are continuing with the flooring being updated, our new spaces created and almost completed storage room. These renovations have allowed for more community spaces and multiple uses of areas such as our Tec hub. We will be continuing our programs through out 2023 with After school programs, Mums and bubs (Friday morning), Tec Savvy senior lessons and School holiday programs so please keep an eye out for posters around the community, school newsletters and our Library Facebook page. I would also like to Extend a big Thank you to all community members who have over the renovation periods , have popped in and lent a hand, big or small to help reorganise the books and bookshelves, clean or just check on both Mrs Casserly and myself. It has been greatly appreciated!!!!

Thank you all again

Janaya Gaston



Tip Tokens available to purchase from The Shire Office, Euston Post Office, Balranald Caravan Park and the Visitor Information Centre





New General Revaluation

The NSW Valuer General has recently completed a general review of valuations in our Shire. This occurs every 3 years across NSW. They will be posting the new valuations to all ratepayers at the end of February.

The valuation given is the unimproved market value of the land only, as if it had sold on 1 July in the valuing year. The new valuation is dated 1 July 2022. It does not include buildings, other structures or improvements like draining, excavating, filling and clearing.

Understanding your valuation

If you would like to know more about how valuations are calculated you can review the information at valuergeneral.nsw.gov.au. This includes: Comparative land values across NSW, trends, medians and typical land values, property sales information, reports, policies and fact sheets.

Lodging an objection

If you have reviewed the information on the Valuer Generals website and you decide you have sufficient reasons to object, you may lodge an objection at valuergeneral.nsw.gov.au using the online form. You may also object if you believe your land value has been incorrectly assessed or that the information shown on your Notice of Valuation contains errors about the area, dimensions or description of the land. If you don't have access to the internet, you can call them on 1800 110 038. You may also call them before lodging an objection. You have 60 days after the notice has been sent to you to lodge an objection.

How does my land value affect Balranald Shire Council Rates?

Council uses land values as a way to distribute rates across the local government area. Council currently uses values dated 1 July 2019.

The new values dated 1 July 2022 will be used for rating purposes for rates calculated from 1 July 2023. Rates are calculated by multiplying the land value of a property by a rate-in-the-\$ to which a base rate is added.

The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) caps the income councils can make from rates in a process called rate pegging. Councils must ensure the total income from rates does not grow by above the amount allowed by IPART, even if land values rise. In any year when new valuations apply to a local government area, the rate-in-the-\$ comes down proportionately to the increase in land values across the whole of the area.

If the value of your land increased more or less than the average change in land value for your rating category, your rates will increase or decrease in proportion.

The Local Government Act 1993 requires all land to be categorised according to its use. The four categories are Farmland, Residential, Business and Mining. If you disagree with the category, or the use of the land has changed, please call Council on (03) 50201300. Council can advise how the category may be reviewed, or how to lodge an appeal.

https://www.valuergeneral.nsw.gov.au/land_values



Community News

NSW Department of Education



Preschool fee relief in Long Day Care

Starting in 2023, the NSW Government is making a landmark investment of \$1.3 billion over 4 years to provide fee-relief to families with children in preschool.

This means if your child turns 4 years old on or before 31 July 2023 you will receive up to \$2,110 in fee relief.

This fee relief is available to families through long day care services in the Start Strong Long Day Care 2023 program.

The fee relief will be passed on to you by your long day care service as a weekly reduction to your session fee or gap fee (after the Child Care Subsidy has been applied), allocated across the service's total number of operating

weeks for the calendar year. The reduction will be shown to you in a regular invoice or statement from the service.

The fee relief is in addition to and will not impact on your Child Care Subsidy payments provided by the Australian Government. This fee relief is not means tested.

You will still need to pay any gap fees remaining after the Child Care Subsidy and fee relief have been applied.



education.nsw.gov.au



Can I get fee relief from more than one preschool service?

No, you can only access fee relief from one service, at any one time.

This means if your child attends a preschool program at another long day care service or community preschool, you will need to nominate which service you will receive your fee relief from. You will need to complete a declaration and consent form and your service will help you do this.

What happens if my child starts later in the year?

If your child starts later in the year, your weekly fee reduction does not change.

This is because services must spread the fee relief across the number of weeks they are open and apply the fee relief as a reduction to weekly fees for each child.

For example: If a centre is open 50 weeks a year, they will pass on up to \$42.20 in fee relief each week.

If your child enrolls in a long day care service in June, then you will receive fee relief of up to \$42.20 from the week your child's enrolment starts at that long day care service.

What happens if my child is sick and does not attend the service for the day?

If your child is sick and does not attend on one of their enrolled days, your weekly fee relief amount does not change.

You will still receive a reduced fee from your service.

The fee relief is linked to enrolment not attendance.

What information will I need to provide to access the fee relief?

In order to access the fee relief, you will need to complete a declaration and consent form and your service will help you do this. You will need to consent to your service sharing some of your child's information with the NSW Department of Education and the Australian Government.

These details include your child's name, date of birth, and child enrolment ID.

Your service will provide you with a declaration and consent form which explains what details are required and how the information will be used.

Where can I find more information?

Speak to your service to better understand how the fee relief is being passed on to you.

For more information on fee relief, visit www.education.nsw.gov.au/early-childhood-education/operating-an-early-childhood-education-service/grants-and-funded-programs/start-strong-funding/start-strong-for-long-day-care

Contact us on 1800 619 113, or by emailing eced@det.nsw.edu.au.

Preschool fee relief in Long Day Care

education.nsw.gov.au



SAVE THE DATE!

UPCOMING KEY EVENTS IN THE BALRANALD SHIRE

MAR 18

BALRANALD RACING CLUB - RACE DAY!

See their FB Page for latest info and updates

BALRANALD MURRUMBIDGEE CLASSIC

Fishing Comp - See their FB Page for latest details

MAR 24-26

APR 7

EASTER GOOD FRIDAY APPEAL

At the Balranald Services Club - Details to come

THE ANNUAL EASTER GOAT RACE

Balranald Footy Grounds - More details to come

APR 8

APR 9

EASTER EGG HUNT

At the Balranald Discovery Centre - Details to come

EASTER TWILIGHT MARKET

At the Balranald Discovery Centre - Details to come

APR 9

APR 22

HOMEBUSH RODEO - Homebush Rec Grounds

Follow their FB page for details

Balranald Visitor Information Centre - 03 5020 1599

Mosquitoes can give you more than just bites.

Protect yourself against mosquito-borne diseases.

Find out more at health.nsw.gov.au/mosquitoes



Kids can't help themselves around water. You need to.





Victor Dominello
Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government
Minister for Small Business
Minister for Fair Trading

Steph Cooke
Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience
Minister for Flood Recovery

MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday, 14 February 2023

FLOOD ALERTS AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

Residents across NSW can now receive the latest flood and fire warnings in the palm of their hands, with the launch of the NSW Liberal and Nationals Government's Hazards Near Me app.

The widely used Fires Near Me app, which has more than four million users, has been expanded and renamed to include flood alerts from the NSW State Emergency Service (SES), delivering on a key recommendation of the independent Flood Inquiry.

Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government Victor Dominello said it is critical for the community to have access to the latest information when it matters most.

"Being informed in an emergency situation can save lives, and the Hazards Near Me app will help people stay safe during fires, floods and other natural disasters," Mr Dominello said.

"The app has been jointly developed by the Department of Customer Service, SES and NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS), and I'm excited that app users will see additional features roll out in the future."

Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience and Minister for Flood Recovery Steph Cooke said empowering people with information is key to improving emergency responses.

"The independent Flood Inquiry identified the need for a single source of advice that can provide warnings for different types of hazards, and this app delivers on our commitment," Ms Cooke said.

"In an emergency every minute counts. Hazards Near Me will provide reliable and timely information directly from emergency services so people can make decisions to keep themselves and their families safe."

RFS Commissioner Rob Rogers said the NSW community has shown how important apps are during emergencies.

"For more than a decade, the NSW community has used Fires Near Me for bush fire information, and with nearly three million downloads during the 2019-20 bush fire

season, it's a trusted source for fire information and warnings," Commissioner Rogers said.

"The Hazards Near Me app builds upon this experience, familiarity and extensive user base by allowing people to see localised and customised information based on the hazards in their area."

SES Commissioner Carlene York said the app is another way that emergency services can alert the community when action is required.

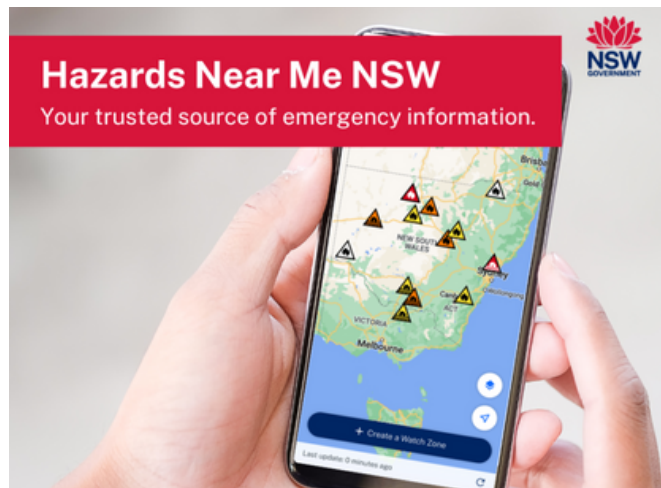
"In recent months, the SES has delivered a new approach to flood warnings in NSW through the adoption of the three-level Australian Warning System," Commissioner York said.

"The app will not only show where floods are happening and what people should do, but also alert users when new information is available so they can stay up-to-date and make safe decisions".

Existing users of Fires Near Me will need to update their app through their phone's app store. New users can download the app by searching for 'Hazards Near Me' in their app store.

Hazards Near Me NSW

Your trusted source of emergency information.



Update your Fires Near Me NSW app, or search for 'Hazards Near Me NSW' in your app store.



BALRANALD CUP

Saturday 18th March '23

STRICTLY NO BYO
ALL DAY CATERING
TAB & BOOKIES ON SITE

GATES OPEN 11AM
LIVE MUSIC
KIDS ENTERTAINMENT

*Marquee & Gazebos
Bookings Essential*

*Tickets \$20
Opens 11am*



ST DYMPNA'S CATHOLIC PARISH PROUDLY PRESENTS

Easter Play

LIVE ANIMALS!!!



Family BBQ & Drinks
**12:30pm Sunday
2nd April, 2023**

— **ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL** —
(106 Church St, Balranald)



KEEP MOZZIES AWAY
Take the steps to protect
SPRAY UP • COVER UP • SCREEN UP

Some mozzies in NSW carry viruses like Japanese encephalitis. If you're planning to head outdoors this weekend, remember to take the steps to prevent mozzie bites. Learn more at www.health.nsw.gov.au



Health Far West Local Health District
Aboriginal Health and Community Relations

Seeking Expression of Interest

Aboriginal Artist within the FWLHD

The Far West Local Health District is seeking expression of interest from an Aboriginal Artist within the Far Western Region of NSW to create an Aboriginal artwork that will be used in various forms for NAIDOC Week 2023.



Aboriginal application requirements:

1. Meet the criterion of one of the Aboriginal Tribal Groups within the Far West of NSW
2. Be over the age of 18 years
3. Complete the attached Expression of Interest form
4. Provide a photograph of any of your artwork
5. Provide a response to the Storyline – What does "For Our Elders" mean to you?
6. Optional, include a biography (Storyline of yourself) to be included in the attached application.

Closing date: 3rd March 2023

All submissions will be de-identified prior to Artworks being evaluated by a judging panel.

For more information, please contact, Corina Kemp, Phone: (08) 8080 1512
Email: Corina.Kemp@health.nsw.gov.au

Windlab is inviting members of the community and organisations to be part of its Burrawong Wind Farm Community Benefits Pilot Program by either applying for a grant, or to be part of a volunteer panel that will evaluate grant applications.



The criteria for both applications is detailed in the Guidelines which can be downloaded and read from www.burrawongwindfarm.com/community/

If you or your organisation wish to apply:

- to sit on the Evaluation Panel – please read the Pilot Program Guidelines and then email Lisa Mango at lisa.mango@windlab.com by Wednesday 29th March, or
- for a grant in the Pilot Program – please read the Guidelines and then visit the Murray River Shire Council's Smarty Grants website by Wednesday 29th March 2023.

About the Community Benefit Pilot Program

The Pilot Program will award grants totalling \$40,000 (excluding GST). The minimum application is \$5,000 (excluding GST) (maximum of 8 recipients). There is no maximum. Applications are sought from projects that benefit the Balranald, Tooleybuc, Goodnight and/or Kyalite communities and falls within one or more of the following 7 categories that were selected based on initial feedback from the community:

1. Outdoor Recreational Activities, Sports and Clubs;
2. Employment or Educational Opportunities;
3. Community Events and Festivals
4. Strengthening Local Services;
5. Supporting Community Social Benefits, Inclusion, Health and Wellbeing
6. Art and Cultural; and
7. Environment and Heritage Restoration Preservation and Promotion.

About the Evaluation Panel

Windlab wants to collaborate with locals who know the communities closest to the project the best. The Evaluation Panel will have a minimum of 3 members and a maximum of 5 members. Ideally, the Evaluation Panel would include members from the Balranald, Tooleybuc, Goodnight and Kyalite communities, and a local Aboriginal representative. The Evaluation Panel will include one representative from Windlab. People applying for a grant are eligible to sit on the evaluation panel but must declare a conflict of interest as outlined in the guidelines.

A shout-out to the local communities

Windlab thanks the local stakeholders for collaborating to co-design the Pilot Program. Key stakeholders who helped co-design are listed on www.burrawongwindfarm.com/community/

Further Information

For further information or any questions, please contact Lisa Mango, Manager, Local Engagement (0429 276 698 / lisa.mango@windlab.com)

Maari Ma Health & Far West LHD

Expressions of Interest.

Families with children between the ages of 0 – 5 yrs Maari Ma Aboriginal Health and Balranald MPS would like to invite families to become involved in our newly developed program Happy Healthy Families.

Participants and Health professionals will meet once a month to discuss a broad range of topics based on encouraging Happy health Families.

Starting Thursday March 16th commencing at 11am, lunch provided.

For more details or to sign up for the program Contact:

Emma or Helen @ Maari Ma 03 50200009.

Aishling or Kyla @ Balranald MPS 03 50719800.



ARE YOU KEEPING YOUR BEST MATE SAFE?

Help get your cat or dog home safely by registering them – visit www.petregistry.nsw.gov.au

Want to advertise an event?

Send us an email at
council@balranald.nsw.gov.au