



DECEMBER  
2023

# COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

## BALRANALD SHIRE COUNCIL

📍 70 Market Street  
✉ PO Box 120  
Balranald NSW 2715  
☎ 03 5020 1300  
@ council@balranald.nsw.gov.au  
🌐 www.balranald.nsw.gov.au

## SHIRE OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday 9am to 4.30pm

## AFTER HOURS EMERGENCIES

Balranald: 0418 322 902  
Euston: 0419 693 956

## SERVICE NSW HOURS

Tuesday to Friday 9.30am to 4pm  
CLOSED FOR LUNCH 1PM TO 1.45PM

## BALRANALD LIBRARY

Monday to Friday 9.30am to 5.30pm  
CLOSED FOR LUNCH 12 NOON TO 1PM

## BALRANALD SWIMMING POOL

THE POOL WILL ONLY OPEN IF THE WEATHER  
FORECAST IS FOR 26 DEGREES AND ABOVE

Monday - CLOSED

## MORNING SWIM

Tuesday to Friday 6am to 7.30am  
SUBJECT TO STAFF AVAILABILITY  
CHECK POOL FACEBOOK PAGE

## SCHOOL TERM TIME

3.30pm to 6.30pm Monday to Friday

## WEEKENDS & SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

11am to 6pm

ON DAYS OF EXTREME HEAT, THE POOL MAY REMAIN  
OPEN LONGER - SUBJECT TO STAFF AVAILABILITY

## BALRANALD CARAVAN PARK

Every day 8.30am to 6pm

## BALRANALD LANDFILL

Tuesday & Thursday 4pm to 6pm  
Saturday 10am to 1pm  
Sunday 10am to 3pm

CLOSED DURING WET WEATHER CONDITIONS

## EUSTON LANDFILL

Tuesday & Thursday 1pm to 6pm  
Sunday 9am to 3pm

CLOSED DURING WET WEATHER CONDITIONS

Please email:

council@balranald.nsw.gov.au  
if you wish to receive an e-copy of this  
monthly Newsletter

## **Australian Citizenships for Balranald Shire**

Balranald Shire have welcomed 5 (five) new Citizens in Euston and 1 (one) in Balranald.

Christopher, Arljille, Austin, Cyjille and Luhjille Villegas of Euston and Tommy Tan of Balranald.

This has now completed their Citizenship Applications, and each were presented with a Certificate and gold coin or an Australian Book.



## **Christmas New Year Closure**

Balranald Shire Council Office & Library  
closed 12noon Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023

re-open on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024.

Balranald Visitor Information Centre

closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and  
New Year's Day Open normal on other  
days'

## UPDATE ON WORKS FROM SHIRE

### ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

#### Construction

##### Regional Roads

Heavy patching works are ongoing on MR67 (Balranald-Ivanhoe Road) within the Balranald Shire.

Stage two of these works will commence this month and continue being delivered into 2024 dependent on funding.

Pothole and edge repairs and patching on sealed roads in the Balranald and Euston town areas is continuing. This work is being funded from the Fixing Local Roads Pothole Repair grant. Pothole repairs are continuing on several other Shire sealed and unsealed roads.

##### Unsealed Road Maintenance

Maintenance grading and road repair is continuing on the following Shire Roads under the Rural Local Roads Repair Program:

CLARE MOSSGIEL ROAD;  
MILDURA IVANHOE ROAD;  
PRUNGLER MARMA ROAD;  
CLARE FRESHWATER ROAD;  
NANDUM CORRONG ROAD;  
TARWONG FRESHWATER ROAD;  
TILLARA ROAD;  
ABBOTS TANK ROAD.

These and other additional contractors will move onto the following roads when the above works are completed:

- Magenta Wampo Road (West);
- Turlee Leaghur Road;

##### Sealed Road Maintenance

Repair of potholes and formation failures on sealed roads is ongoing. As per Regional Roads above, Balranald-Ivanhoe Road has been extensively repaired by heavy patching between Clare and the Shire boundary. Further, there is damage and heavy patching required to Main Road 67 and Hatfield and The Vale Roads following marking out. Reports suggest this is a result of increased moisture and heavy vehicle traffic.

##### Flood Damaged Roads

Oxley Road (MR514) remains closed due to flood water over the road approximately 18 km from the intersection of the Balranald-Ivanhoe Road. There is approximately 1.8 kms of this road covered by deep water. This water is evaporating slowly and works cannot commence until the water recedes fully. Road closed notifications are active on NSW Live Traffic.

Morris Road / Antonio Drive at Euston remains closed due to flood water in Lake Lara which is normally dry. Repair works will not be undertaken until the water has receded and the area is dry. Road Closed warning signs are in place. Road closed notifications are active on NSW Live Traffic.

Abbots Tank Road has been severely damaged from Storm and Floodwater in approximately ten locations. Contractors are currently performing maintenance works on the Abbots Tank Road.



## **UPDATE ON WORKS FROM SHIRE Cont.**

### **WATER, SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE**

#### **Balranald and Euston Filtered Water Towers (Reservoirs)**

Planning works for the servicing of these towers is progressing. Council is working with a water advisory professional to develop scope for works to go to tender. A report has been submitted to Council.

#### **Integrated Water Cycle Management (IWCM) Plan**

The NSW Public Works Advisory have progressed documentation. A draft has been received by Council and is being assessed. This project is approximately 95% complete. A progress meeting between Public Works and Council was conducted during July 2023. This identified several options to improve the water supply in both Euston and Balranald. These options are being evaluated to provide the best outcome to both of these communities. The council's initiatives will again progress through the council's water advisory professional for review.

### **CIVIC ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS**

#### **Riverfront Precinct – Balranald**

Following a project schedule review, Council has arranged for these works to commence in the New Year. Council currently has a number of projects with grant funding deadlines which are utilising internal project planning resources.

#### **Euston Recreation Reserve**

The Euston netball precinct scope has been re-evaluated and was released for tender on VendorPanel in October 2023. The tender closed on Monday, 13 November 2023. The new scope included the covered shelter, widening of the court concrete aprons, stormwater upgrade, lighting, precinct entry renewal and change room facility upgrade. Multiple submissions have been received.

The Euston football oval redevelopment project was released for tender in September 2023 and closed on Wednesday, 1 November 2023. This project includes new irrigation and full redevelopment of the playing surface and surrounding infrastructure, including lights and fencing. Multiple submissions have been received.

The Euston club grant projects are now 50% completed with the Distribution Board project being completed and now commissioned. Development planning for the tennis court slab is currently underway, including a Review of Environmental Factors (REF), quotations have also been received to perform the installation.

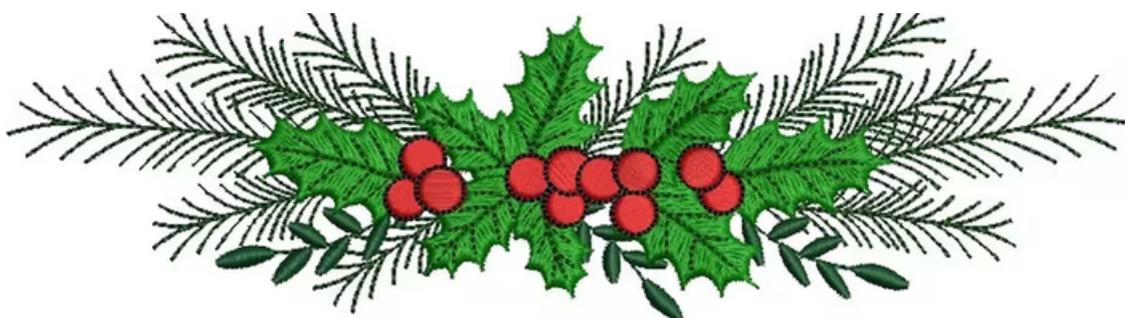
#### **Balranald Lions Park**

Detailed design is being completed by Place Design Group, once finalised the design will be released for tender. Completion of the project is estimated to be in March 2024. The funding body has been advised of the amended dates.

#### **Kyalite Riverside Reserve**

Solar lighting has been installed at the Kyalite Riverfront steps and an information board is to be placed at the car park well above the Flood level. This work is under the control of the local Kyalite Committee. Damage to the boat ramp and the pontoon is currently being assessed by Council staff.

Senior Council staff will meet with Kyalite Community representatives in December 2023 to discuss options available for progressing proposed improvements to the Memorial Park area.



## **UPDATE ON WORKS FROM SHIRE Cont.**

### **BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES**

#### **Balranald Caravan Park**

New planning works for cabins and leisure areas are being designed by council and suppliers as part of the Crown Reserve Improvement Grant Fund.

#### **Balranald Swimming Pool**

Approximately 400m of new black Diplomat perimeter fencing has been installed at the pool. These works were completed in early November 2023.

#### **Euston Courthouse**

A Conservation Management Plan has been commissioned and the contractor has visited site to inspect the building. The results of this plan will assist in the determination of future conservation and renovation works on the building, the plan has also been socialised with the Euston Historical Society.

#### **Theatre Royal**

The Theatre Royal row of buildings was subject to smoke and water damage after the fire which occurred on 7 August 2022. Insurance assessments have been carried out and repairs commenced on 12 September 2022. The repairs include removal and replacement of damaged ceiling portions, light fittings and carpets, and repainting of damaged areas.

Following a notice of intent issued by Council to the building owner in September 2023, building safety works are now planned to take place later this month by the owner. These include removal of damaged roof trussing and roof sheeting. Council have also arranged for their own building contractor to provide a market rate quotation for remediation of the damage to the building. These findings are proposed to be presented in a confidential report to Council in December 2023.

#### **Aerodrome**

Normal operations with regular inspections and maintenance. Aerodrome reporting officer inspections are continuing, and Council staff allocated to these duties have found their formal training beneficial.

Authorised vehicles such as Council (ARO Inspection), Ambulance and Emergency vehicles are the only vehicles that will have access to the Airside at Balranald Aerodrome.

#### **Balranald Cemetery Columbarium**

The Columbarium at the Balranald Cemetery has only one space left. A new concrete slab is required to facilitate a new brick wall which has been completed and ready to use.

### **TOWN MAINTENANCE WORKS**

#### **FLOOD RECOVERY WORKS**

##### **Balranald**

Council staff have completed clean up works and maintenance of flood affected areas within Balranald. Two supplemental levies to the West of Balranald are to be removed following the demolition and remediation of the pipework through the existing levy banks. This work is planned for December 2023.

##### **Euston**

Council staff have completed clean up works and maintenance of flood affected areas within Euston. These works are progressing.

##### **Oxley**

The only viable Heavy Vehicle access to Oxley from Balranald is via the Clare Oxley Road or via Maude. This has meant that Oxley is visited every second week until further access becomes available.

Oxley Road requires some maintenance on the unsealed section, and this is being addressed as contractors become available.



# CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR 2023/2024 GARBAGE COLLECTIONS FOR

**Balranald Business & Residents**  
who have their bins emptied on Monday  
are advised that collection will be  
**Tuesday 26th December**  
(Instead of Monday 25th December)  
And **Tuesday 2nd January**  
(Instead of Monday 1st January)

**Balranald Business & Euston Residents**  
Bins will be collected on Friday as usual.  
**Friday 22nd & 29th December**

**All bins are to be left out the evening prior to collection**

## COUNCIL OFFICE CLOSURES OVER CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR

**The Balranald Shire Council Office**  
will be closed from **12noon on Friday 22nd December 2023**  
and will re-open at **9am on Tuesday 2nd January 2024**  
To report emergencies, please call 0418 322 902

**Service NSW** (formerly RTA)  
will be closed from on **12noon on Friday 22nd December 2023**  
and will re-open at **9.30am on Tuesday 2nd January 2024**  
Please call Service NSW with any enquiries on 13 77 88

**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year**





Balranald Community Arts & Crafts Inc  
51 Mayall Street Balranald NSW 2715  
Follow us on Facebook  
Email: [thegallery5@bigpond.com](mailto:thegallery5@bigpond.com)  
Telephone: (03) 50200200

## GALLERY NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2023

The team at "The Gallery" 51 Mayall St Balranald have been busy sourcing new artwork, pottery, jewellery etc. in time for Xmas & wish to remind everyone that we welcome WLT cards as well as the usual eftpos payments at our Centre.

Our newest arrivals include fantastic handmade sterling silver bracelets and earrings by Bendigo artist Emily Crawford. Some other unique works by Wentworth potter & craftsperson Jasmin Rose, includes raku pieces of pit fired bracelets, earrings, and pottery as well as fantastic wire sculptures and woodwork.

A large range of Didgeridoo products is still available at very competitive prices. Don't miss out on viewing the latest exhibition of works "Time & Place" by Mildura artist Fiona Merlin which continues until the 22nd of Dec or browse through the many other works by local artists. Original works for sale begin at just \$60 and eftpos & lay-by is also available.

If you have started your spring cleaning just a reminder that the Balranald Whole Town Garage Sale is on 9th March 2024 so register your interest with one of our volunteers asap.

2024 is already shaping up as another busy year with "The Gallery" kicking off with their first meeting on Tues 16th Jan @ 2pm. Our first workshop is an artist in residence program supported by SW Arts. It will take place over five days, from Sat 24th Feb - Wed 28th Feb. Jasmin Rose will be providing tuition in pottery, wood burning and wire sculpting over this period so register your interest asap. Jasmin's work is on display & for sale for those keen to experience any of these mediums. The ever popular "Sip 'n Paint" is also coming up on the weekend of the 9th & 10th of March you will need to book early contact the gallery. Also, a linen cushion painting workshop later that month. (Date to be advised) so book early to reserve your place.

Don't forget that upon payment of membership fees (due Jan 1st) you will receive a 10% discount on workshops.

We have also been successful in obtaining a grant of \$2500.00 from the Transgrid grant towards the purchase of our kiln.

The committee would like to thank friends of the Gallery and the many volunteers for the hours they put in to making the gallery such a success.

We would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas and look forward to sharing a creative and fun New year.





**SWIMVAC 2024**  
**Enrol your kids for summer!**

Program Dates  
 8 January to 19 January




drowningprevention.org.au  
 (02) 9634 3700  
 swimandsurvive@royalnsw.com.au

**Swim and SURVIVE**

# SWIMVAC

Swimming & Water Safety  
 Vacation Program

The SwimVac Program is a nationally accredited swimming and water safety program suitable for children aged 6-months to 14 years of all ability levels. Registrations are now open for the 2024 program at Balranald pool, which will run from 8 – 19 January.

To register, visit:  
<https://aus.iclasspro.com/portal/rlsswimvac/classes>

**Places are filling fast, so get in quickly.**

## ARE YOU SUMMER READY?

339 people lost their lives to drowning in Australia in 2022, with twice as many drownings in NSW than any other state.

The key to drowning prevention is preparation - before people head to their favourite pool, waterway or to the coast. This summer, Royal Life Saving Australia is encouraging people to be summer ready.

It's not just parents and children who need to be prepared - 57% of drowning deaths last year involved people aged 45 and over, and 77% of those who drowned in Australia were men.

So, whether you're at the pool or the beach, on the river or at sea - whether you are swimming or surfing, boating or skiing - understand the risks, make smart choices and be prepared.

**HAVE A FUN AND SAFE SUMMER**



**Are you summer ready?**

**Now's the time to check in with yourself and your family so you can safely enjoy a water way of life this summer.**

-  **Learn the risks** Understanding the risks and knowing how to assess dangers will help your family make smarter choices around water.
-  **Enrol in swimming lessons** You're never too young (or old!) to learn to swim. Develop safe and confident swimmers at your local swim school this spring.
-  **Update your lifesaving skills** Enrolling in a CPR and First Aid Course is a great way to help keep your family and community safe this summer. Enrol in a course today!
-  **Prepare your home for summer** Prepare your home by downloading the Water Safety Guide For The Home on the Royal Life Saving website

 [drowningprevention.org.au](https://drowningprevention.org.au)  
 #AreYouSummerReady



Scan the code for more details on how you can get ready for summer.





## Contact

 RACHAEL WILLIAMS

 0416 201 643

 SEND US AN EMAIL

FACEBOOK PAGE

## Application Dates

OPEN: DECEMBER 1

CLOSE: JANUARY 31

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 area (including the towns of Euston, Balranald and beyond).

If you are transitioning from school (or a gap year or even a few years of working) 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> create a 'Student Registration' selecting **Balranald** as your local Foundation and complete an application form. For questions or concerns call / email Rachael Williams 0416 201 643 / [rachael@locallogicplace.com.au](mailto:rachael@locallogicplace.com.au)

Applications must be completed online and received by COB 5pm Wednesday 31st January 2024 (late applications will not be accepted) and interviews will be held by mid-February 2024.

Grants to our local young people are made possible with financial support from key local sponsors including Balranald Shire Council, Balranald Inc., Balranald ICPA, Balranald Ex-Services Memorial Club, WindLab and TransGrid's Community Partnerships Program.

## Coming these summer Holidays Free Events

- (1) Movie @ the Balranald pool - 10th January 2024
- (2) A 3 Day trip to Melbourne -Rampfest, Icehouse and much more! 14th - 16th January
- (3) Skate lessons by the Professionals from Totem @ the skate park 17th January Times to be announced close to date!





## Swim to save lives 1-31 March

Every day, another young person in Australia loses their life to suicide.

Dive in this March to raise funds for ReachOut, and you'll make sure young people in Australia have the mental health support they urgently need.

It's free to sign up and with every lap you swim, you'll help save lives.

### THIS MARCH, CHALLENGE YOURSELF AND SWIM TO SAVE LIVES

Whether you're new to the water or a competitive swimmer, get involved any way that suits you.

#### Swim **ANYWHERE** you like

You can swim laps at your local pool, hit the beach or take part in an ocean swim!

#### Swim **AS FAR** as you can

Set a goal that suits you, and use our handy [lap calculator](#) to decide how many sessions you'll need.

#### Swim **WHENEVER** it suits you

You don't need to swim every day, just pick the days and times that suit your lifestyle.

#### Swim **WHATEVER** style you want

Whether [its](#) freestyle, backstroke, butterfly or [doggy-paddle](#), just get swimming!

#### The challenge goes on for **ONE MONTH**

*Laps for Life* takes place from 1-31 March, and you can swim at any time throughout the month.

For further information of the challenge and how to donate or register go to the website [Laps for Life : About the challenge](#)



### 1. Sign up

Sign up solo or in a team. Then set your swim goal, and get started.



### 2. Dive in

It doesn't matter if you swim a little or a lot. With every lap, you'll be helping save lives.



### 3. Save lives

You'll get plenty of support along the way. And every dollar you raise will help

MERRY  
*Christmas*  
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

The Administrator Mike Colreavy , General Manager Craig Bennett and the Staff wish our communities a very Merry Christmas and Safe and prosperous New Year



## ARE YOU KEEPING YOUR BEST MATE SAFE?

Help get your cat or dog home safely by registering them – visit [www.petregistry.nsw.gov.au](http://www.petregistry.nsw.gov.au)

### Why register your pet?

If your pet is registered and your details are up to date, it can be safely returned if it gets lost.

It's also the law – pet cats and dogs must be microchipped and then registered in NSW.

### Microchipping

To register your pet, it must first be microchipped by a vet or authorised identifier. Microchips are the size of a grain of rice and are implanted under your pet's skin. Each microchip has a unique number that can be read with a scanner, like a barcode at the supermarket.

### Registration

How: It's easier than ever before to register your cat or dog.

- **Online:** Registrations can be completed online via the NSW Pet Registry or Service NSW using your MyServiceNSW Account.
- **Over the counter:** You can also register your pet in person at your local council.

Fee: A once only lifetime registration fee applies.

Discounts are available for de-sexed pets, eligible pensioners and cats and dogs bought from certain rehoming organisations, including council pounds and shelters.

### More information

NSW PET REGISTRY  
[petregistry.nsw.gov.au](http://petregistry.nsw.gov.au)  
1300 134 460  
[pets@olg.nsw.gov.au](mailto:pets@olg.nsw.gov.au)

### Your pet's registration fee at work

Money collected goes straight back to the community by funding companion animal services:

- Council pounds/shelters
- Ranger services
- Dog recreation areas
- Education and awareness activities
- Responsible pet ownership initiatives

## Choose food safety this summer

This summer, when the temperature rises, remember to keep it cold, keep it clean, keep it hot and check the label so you don't let food poisoning ruin the fun!

Here are a few simple tips to make sure you stay healthy and happy this holiday season:

- Don't wash uncooked raw meat – it can spread harmful bacteria around your kitchen
- If having a BBQ, use separate plates and utensils for raw and cooked meat and ready-to-eat foods
- If food has been on the table for more than 2 hours, bin it – hot food needs to stay hot and cold food needs to stay cold
- Refrigerate leftovers and then eat or freeze them within 3 days
- 'Ham bags' are a great way to keep your ham fresh and maintain quality. A clean cotton pillowcase will do the trick too
- Refrigerate food within 2 hours of preparing and reheat it to at least 75°C to prevent bacteria from growing
- Keep your fridge at or below 5°C
- Plan ahead for a slow safe thaw in the fridge – never defrost food on a bench. Turkey can take up to three days to defrost safely in the fridge
- If you're having seafood, ensure you only buy from a reputable retailer and take an esky or cooler bag to ensure it stays cool
- Use a separate cutting board and knife for raw meat and ready-to-eat foods
- Hot food needs to be kept and served at 60°C or hotter
- Make sure you don't overload your fridge as it reduces airflow and increases the temperature, creating breeding grounds for bacteria
- Use a thermometer to ensure your food is cooked all the way through



Food Authority

[foodauthority.nsw.gov.au](http://foodauthority.nsw.gov.au)



## Enjoy the great outdoors. Bite free.



**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](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au)

