

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

BALRANALD SHIRE COUNCIL

- 70 Market Street
- PO Box 120 Balranald NSW 2715
- **03 5020 1300**
- ocuncil@balranald.nsw.gov.au
- www.balranald.nsw.gov.au

<u>SHIRE OFFICE HOURS</u> 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

Pool is currently CLOSED will re-open in October 2024

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

If you wish to receive an e-copy of this monthly newsletter please email: council@balranald.nsw.gov.au

Positions Vacant

Administration Officer - Bidgee Haven Retirement Hostel

To provide a high quality of administration work within the aged care industry to facilitate and maintain accreditation standards at our 15 bed Hostel.

Bio-Security Officer

To monitor and undertake inspections to identify and address noxious weed infestations or matters related to bio-security to ensure that they are effectively controlled within the Shire

Customer Service Officer

The role of Customer Service Officer is to act as the first point of public contact and provide professional, efficient and friendly customer service to external and internal clients.



IT & Records Officer

To be contact for outsourced IT, to assist with maintenance and problem solving within Council. To undertake record keepign practices and provide support for staff and management, on all matters relating to records management.



Bio-Security Officer

To maintain and enhance the community's public places through enforcement of legislation, codes and policies, the development and promotion of community awareness of responsible activities and the provision of professional and technical advice to all Council's customers.

Terms of Employment will be in accordance with Councils salary and performance management systems and the NSW Local Government (State) Award 2023.

Further information and a copy of the Position Descriptions can be located at https://balranald.nsw.gov.au/community/job-vacancies/

Council News

Bidgee Haven Retirement Hostel Open Day - Thursday 19th September 2024

We had a terrific response to our Open Day invitations.

We had in excess of 20 visitors to our facility and it was a magnificent Spring day. Our gardens looked great with orange blossoms, roses, clivia, status and wild irises.

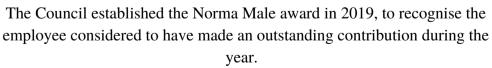
Our extremely talented cook Wendy excelled with the Morning Tea.

It was a pleasure to be able to showcase our facility to new people. A vacant room was available to show and the sunroom was beautiful. Visitors enjoyed walking around the gardens and meeting the chickens.

Staff Recognition

Council recognises staff for their years of dedicated service and hold recognition ceremonies annually. On Wednesday 28 August, Council hosted a breakfast at Theatre Royal.

Council congratulated and thanked the staff for their continual service and their longevity to Council and looks forward to next year's achievers. Staff acknowledged for their long services this year were Michael Harding for 35 years and Grant Harper for 10 years.



The 2024 recipient of the Norma Male award was Nikkita Manning-Rayner. Nikkita was recognised for her ongoing works in the Planning department and her ongoing accumulation of planning knowledge, especially with the Planning applications, planning portal, IT expertise, report writing, supporting the Building Surveyor, working towards her Bachelor Degree Urban and Regional Planning part time and the list goes on.

Council also wishes to thank BalGrazing for their delicious breakfast











INFRASTRUCTURE REPORT



Balranald Lions Park Upgrade

The Balranald Lions Park Upgrade is certainly on its way with brand playground equipment and park furniture and the amenities block has been renovated. Works on the landscaping works are continuing and should be completed by the end of October.

Balranald Discovery Centre

Steel Structural and External Lining works are now 80% completed. Preparation works for the installation of the roofing extension.





Turbidity Meters for the Balranald Water Treatment Plan to help monitor potable water clairty

Euston Tennis Court

Euston Tennis Court is underway, The slab has been poured, other preparation works will continue



INFRASTRUCTURE REPORT Continued





Euston Recreation Oval

Works are continuing on the Euston Recreation Reserve with irrigation, lighting and new fencing

Kyalite Memorial Rest Area

Works have commenced on the installation of a new toilet block with a dump-ezy point being installed in the future.

Balranald Netball Change Rooms

A contractor has been engaged to supply and install changeroom cubicles in the home and visitors Netball Club changerooms.

Caravan Park Levy Bank and Drainage Works

Coburns Earthmoving have been contracted to build a levy bank at Balranald Caravan Park to reduce any future flooding events within the Caravan Park.

Interflow

Interflow Works - Balranald

Interflow have been contracted by Council to conduct maintenance and repairs to the sewer main located in some areas around Balranald.

The purpose of this work is to improve the sewer system, which helps protect our local environment and the public health of the community.

Relining and Sealing of joints have commenced and should be completed by 18 October 2024.

Balranald Basketball Courts

Balranald Basketball Courts installation is almost complete. Backboards and hoops have been installed, surfacing, linemarking and lighting is all complete. Fencing to blend with the tennis courts will be completed shortly.

'READING IS MAGIC'

Welcome to Book Week August 2024

On 19th to 23rd of August Harry Potter invaded the library space. Balranald Central School, St Josephs Catholic School and Balranald Early learning centre students visited the library a total of 160 students participating in creative activities, readings, Book hunts, competitions, and some crazy Harry Potter style snacks. Our Senior citizens group also visited, enjoying a magic theme luncheon and Harry Potter bingo was the go!

"It only gets bigger and better every year. I can't wait to see what we get to do next year!" Anonymous yr 3 student A big thankyou to our wonderful volunteers for the week Laura and Lillie Committi helping with Spells, Lavanya Titikonda running her world-renowned Sindhura craft creating spooky spell books (Check her out on Facebook!) and last but not least.....The amazing Mr David Mckinley who gave up his time to come down to the library and read to our ELC students. "Cat in the hat" was a hit with our little ones who were excited to meet the life size character and listen to him read!

With Consistent support from local Council and State Library NSW, the week enabled our Shire library to host many visiting tourists who were impressed to see what our little library can offer to traveling guests and locals, the launch of our "Dolly Parton Imagination library" and Sunraysia solar farms awards.





NSW SES Balranald Unit - receiving delivery of the Fleet Asset (Storm Trailer)





23 September 2024

Balranald and Euston Vandalism

Council is aware of and very disappointed in the recent spates of alleged vandalism occurring in Balranald and Euston.

The vandalism has allegedly included rocks and debris being thrown at caravans and vehicles with caravans also being hit with golf sticks. This has resulted in the Balranald Shire receiving bad reviews on social media particularly on WikiCamps Australia which travellers rely on and use to determine their future travel plans. The avoidance of Balranald Shire by tourists has a significant and direct impact on local businesses who have been working very hard to assist Council in promoting the Balranald Shire as a tourism destination. Tourism makes a vital contribution to supporting local jobs and employment. This abhorrent behaviour will not be tolerated and needs to stop immediately as apart from the impact on businesses it is having a significant impact on Council from a tourism perspective and the Community from a safety perspective.

The Balranald Shire has had a very good reputation with travellers as a safe and desirable destination to travel to and Council is determined to restore this reputation.

The Police have been doing an excellent job in responding to this alleged vandalism, however they can only act if the vandalism is reported. In this regard residents are encouraged to report any incident of vandalism via the police database as follows: https://portal.police.nsw.gov.au/s/

-ends-

Media Contact: Acting General Manager, Balranald Shire Council Phone 03 5020 1300

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.



Rural Road Safety Month

DRINK AND DRUG DRIVING

Road safety starts with you. So, if you're drinking or taking drugs, take the bus or ask a mate to pick you up. Never drive while under the influence.



Road safety starts with you this **<u>Rural Road Safety</u>** <u>Month</u>.

- You don't have to be drunk to be affected by alcohol. You might feel normal, but no one drives well after drinking alcohol.

- Trying to calculate your BAC is impossible. Your BAC starts to rise as soon as you start drinking and may continue to increase for up to two hours after you have stopped.

- Don't drink any alcohol if you plan to drive.

- Using illicit drugs causes changes in the brain that can impair your driving ability and increase your crash risk.

- If you're affected by alcohol or other drugs after a night out, trying to drive or ride home puts you and other road users in danger.

- For your own safety and the wellbeing of others, have a Plan B to get home.

Read more about **<u>safe country driving</u>**, and share this information.







23 OCTOBER 1924 – 23 OCTOBER 2024

CENTENARY CELEBRATION EVENT OCTOBER 24TH - 27TH

Robinvale Centenary Celebration – Proposed Program

Posted on March 5, 2024 by Di Mann Povey



Plans for Robinvale's Centenary Weekend are finally coming together, although there's still a way to go. The Draft Program is still being tweaked as the Committee waits for confirmation on certain events.

As well as events of the weekend of October 26 and 27, some things are in place to commence prior to the weekend itself.

Thursday, October 24

The Rural Life Museum will open, as normal, on Thursday from 9.00 a.m. Robinvale Senior Citizens building, Robin Street, will be open on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, to view displays by both Patchwork and Senior's groups, with lunch available on Thursday only.

Friday, October 25

Robinvale College will conduct a one-only, fully-guided tour of the College, commencing at 10.00 a.m. on the Friday morning.

You will also be able to view photographs at the College and Community Library, situated in the College grounds. The Library is open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday. Opening times for those days are available on the Library website.

The Rotary Club of Robinvale-Euston will host a barbeque lunch at "The Cliffs" on Friday, October 25, commencing at 12 noon.

Saturday, October 26

Saturday morning will begin with formalities on Caix Square, starting at 9.00 a.m. Following the short, formal proceedings, the Street Parade will take place. The actual length of the Parade will not be known until all entries have been received (the cut-off date will be advised later). It is to be hoped that many locals will participate, especially local businesses who might like to decorate a truck or ute to promote their business and join in the festivities, or just enter a branded work vehicle! You can ride your bike, walk in a group or by yourself. The more people, the bigger the Parade – and more fun!

Following the Street Parade, Robinvale-Euston Football Netball Club has offered to open their Clubrooms, from early afternoon. The bar will be open so, if it's a hot day, you could enjoy a cool drink. There are lots of football photos displayed in the Rooms and the Club also has a big screen, which will be able to show historic photos and "moving images".

Commencing late afternoon, there will be live entertainment on the oval and the Football Club has very kindly offered to cook a barbeque tea (and possibly also spaghetti for those who might be barbequed our

Sunday, October 27

Sunday morning and your day can start with breakfast. One coffee shop has already confirmed they will open early for anyone who would like to have breakfast. The Committee is waiting on confirmation from the other shops as to whether they are able to open as well.

St Mary's School has advised it will open at 8.00 a.m. for anyone who would like to visit the school to see how much things have changed. Mass will be conducted at St Mary's School Gymnasium at 9.00 a.m.

Robinswood Homestead will then be open from 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon. You can enjoy the lovely gardens, walk through the House, check out the Villers-Bretonneux Room, the Cuttle Room and view the Migration Memories display. Morning Tea will be available. Bookings for morning tea will be essential, and contact details will be provided later.

At 12.00 noon, there will be a short ceremony in Bill McGinty Park. This will include planting a 'Centenary Tree' and burying a 'Time Capsule'.

Following that, you will be able to walk the short distance to Robinvale Euston Memorial Park, where there will be another short, dedication ceremony to recognise all Robinvale's early pioneers; the early Aboriginal people, those who settled here from very early 1900's and all those who followed, including the many who served their country in times of need.

It is proposed to have the weekend wind up with a 'Black Tie Gala Event' which would be held at Robinvale Community Centre. This will be a pre-booked, "ticket only" event and numbers will be strictly limited. Further details for this event will be advised later.

The Centenary Committee is waiting on confirmation from a number of organisations, particularly sporting groups, as to whether they will open their Clubrooms at some stage over the Centenary weekend. The Rural Life Museum will be open during the weekend with specific times yet to be confirmed, as will the Euston Courthouse (home of the Euston/Robinvale Historical Society), with times also to be confirmed.

Final details pertaining to all groups will be advised once the Committee receives confirmation.

Robinvale looks forward to a huge influx of visitors on the weekend of October 26 and 27, 2024.

Let's celebrate in style!



MEDIA RELEASE

NSW RES DECLARES BUSHFIRE DANGER PERIOD

18th September 2024

unday the 1st of October 2024 will mark the official start of the Lower Western statutory Bush Fire Danger Period (BFDP) with the RFS urging residents to ensure they are as prepared as possible.

Lower Western District Manager Superintendent Steve Walker is reminding Wentworth and Balranald Shire residents and landholders that fire permits will be required throughout the Bush Fire Danger Period.

"With hotter, drier and windier conditions comes an increase in the occurrence of fires within the landscape. If your preparations include the use of fire, a permit will be required. In addition, you must provide 24 hours' notice to both the RFS and adjoining landowners of your intentions".

As of this year, we've modernised the way Fire Permits can be obtained with a new functionality enabling online Fire Permit applications. Members of the public can now apply for a Fire Permit, apply for a Total Fire Ban (TOBAN) Exemption and Notify of TOBAN exempt works, through an easy-to-use online portal accessible on the RFS website. This new portal simplifies the process, enabling the public to register for an account where they can view, track and manage these activities online in a single space. Furthermore, in the event of a Total Fire Ban declaration, affected permits will be automatically suspended and permit holders notified.

Residents should check both current and forecast weather conditions before lighting up and ensure they are complying with all conditions stated on their fire permit. Severe penalties apply for breaching these conditions or wing fire to escape from your property.

We're urging all residents throughout the zone to be vigilant and extremely careful with fire over the coming months. This includes having a well-rehearsed Bush Fire Survival Plan and being ready to act in the event of fire threatening their home or livelihood.

It's important the community are alert to their local risks and know where to get timely and relevant information, so we're also urging residents to download the NSW RFS Hazards Near Me App to stay up to date with current incidents that may be nearby

When conditions are particularly bad, such as on days of High, Extreme or Catastrophic Fire Danger, the NSW RFS may declare a Total Fire Ban prohibiting the lighting of any fire, or having an existing fire in the open, even if you have a current fire permit. This includes incinerators and barbecues which burn solid fuel such as wood or charcoal, however, gas or electric barbecues are permitted under the following conditions:

- They are on residential property within 20 meters of the house or dwelling, or in a picnic area and the BBQ appliance is approved by Council, National Parks and Wildlife Services or State Forests
- They are under the direct control of a responsible adult
- The ground around a barbecue is cleared for 2 meters of all ignitable material
- You have an immediate and continuous supply of water at your disposal

If the community have any questions whatsoever, they can contact the Lower Western Zone Fire Control Centre during standard business hours for assistance.

For more information contact the Lower Western Fire Control Centre on (03) 5027 4422 For current incidents or major fire updates visit www.rfs.nsw.gov.au



The RFS Guardian portal is the new, online one-stop shop for members of the public to quickly and easily apply for fire permits or Total Fire Ban exemptions, notify the RFS about a planned burn or to submit an enquiry about a Fire Trail.



RFS

Apply for a Fire Permit



Fire permits are now free and available online. You can apply,

track and receive notifications about your Fire Permit, and get an automated notification when a Total Fire Ban is declared.



Notify of your planned burn

You need to let us know before you light up. You can now do so by entering your address and details in this simple online form.

Submit Fire Trail enquiry or issue

Let us know about an issue you've come across in relation to a Fire Trail or an enquiry you have by completing this simple form.



Apply for a TOBAN Exemption

You can now apply for a Total Fire Ban Exemption online, track the progress of your application and get faster information about Total Fire Bans and Fire Danger Ratings.



Notify of your proposed works

Fill out this form to electronically notify your nearest RFS Fire Control Centre about your Total Fire Ban Exemption works.



Scan the QR code or visit www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/notify to access the portal.





3G Closure & Telstra Go Repeater

3G Closure: Check if your Telstra GO has the latest software update and is configured to boost 4G signal

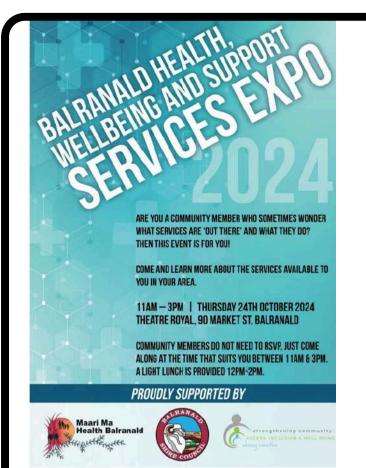
Many Telstra GO Repeaters operate on both 3G and 4G and will not be impacted when 3G closes from 28 October 2024.

However, in some instances they may have been configured to only operate on 3G and hasn't been updated with the latest software. We encourage you to check your Telstra GO Repeater settings using a smartphone with the Cel-Fi WAVE app installed to see if its correctly configured to boost 4G signals and has the latest software update.

To ensure you are getting the best possible 4G experience when 3G closes on 28 October 2024, we've created a handy factsheet with instructions to update your Telstra Go repeater with the latest software, check setting on your device so it is boosting 4G coverage and to also check if your current antenna is compatible with the 4G network. Use the link to download the factsheet https://qrco.de/bewdvA

We encourage you to share with your community & stakeholders.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please reach out to telstranwvic@team.telstra.com



BALRANALD EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

AGM MONDAY 28TH OCTOBER 2024 6.00PM

ALL POSITIONS DECLARED VACANT ALL WELCOME

grow yourself expand your potential

october workshops online

employability edge part 1* wednesday 9 october, 11.00am - 2.00pm Explore how you can be an asset to the workforce! Expand your understanding of transferable skills, knowledge of the disability employment space, and develop tools to enhance your confidence, job hunting and successful employment.

employability edge part 2* thursday 10 october, 11.00am - 2.00pm

Increase your potential for sustainable employment Learn how to maintain meaningful employment through better understanding of useful resources, your rights and responsibilites. Build the confidence to self-advocate and self-care tools to enhance your employment experience.

speaking up

tuesday 15 october, 2.00pm - 4.30pm Get your message across and be heard Come to learn the benefits of speaking up for yourself. Enhance your interpersonal and negotiation skills with effective communication, develop strategies, review outcomes, consider alternatives and focus on success

post traumatic growth wednesday 16 october, 2.00pm - 3.30pm

We can grow from past trauma Learn about the concept of Post Traumatic GROWTH and how it can help us get more out of life. Explore common areas of growth and identifying your own growth pathways. Learn how you can cultivate your PTG and enjoy life more!

You can attend either or both of the 2-part workshops. They are designed to be stand-alone or complementary.

for more information and to register now: www.pdcnsw.org/workshops or call 1800 688 831 Workshops and events are free for people with disability and their parents or unnaid informal supports





No SEATBELT FINE & DEMERIT POINTS

Seatbelt cameras are now in operation. PENALTIES APPLY

STOP IT... OR COP IT

NSW

TOWARDS ZERC

Mobile Black Spot Program

Mobile Black Spot Program community survey To date, around 1400 mobile phone towers (base stations) have been funded for delivery under the program, including the base station in your community. We are keen to hear your thoughts on the mobile service in your area: •What is working and not working? ·What could be improved? What mobile services do you use, and for what purposes? ·The coverage, reliability, and quality of mobile services. •The range of choices of telecommunications services. Any social, economic, and/or safety impacts since the · Coverage, reliability, and quality of mobile services. delivery of the base station?

Please take 5-10 minutes to complete the survey via https://bit.ly/3zpYFxd

The survey will remain open until 31 October 2024.

An Australian Government initiative that invests in telecommunications infrastructure to improve mobile coverage and competition.

To date, around 1,400 mobile phone towers (base stations) have been funded for delivery under the program, including the base station in in your area.

We are keen to find out from you about:

Any changes you have experienced since the mobile phone tower (mobile black spot base station) commenced operating in your area, for example

- Use of mobile services. What services do you use. and for what purposes?
- Range of choices of telecommunications services.
- · Any social, economic and/or safety impacts

· Your thoughts on the mobile service in your area. What is working and not working? Your thoughts on what could be improved?



Mobile

Black Spot

Program

COMMUNITY

CONSULTATION



Independent evaluation by Grosvenor hello@orosvenor.com.au | www.orosvenor.com



NSW public schools open these holidays!

We're proudly sharing our space with the NSV local community

Public schools are public places – come and Share Our Space

With spring comes an urge to get outdoors and shake off the cold of winter.

Families around the state will be able to do just that through the NSW Department of Education Share Our Space schools. Share Our Space opens the outdoor areas of NSW public schools for families to enjoy using play equipment, sports courts and fields.

The Share Our Space school in the Balranald area these holidays is Balranald Central School.

Always check the Share Our Space website first for details as schools and days may change.

https://www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au/what-we-do/wesupport-communities/share-our-space.html

Going away these holidays? We have you covered! You can look for open schools and activities anywhere across the state by using the interactive map and selecting this symbol at the top of the map.

#NSWPublicschools #shareourspace