

COMMUNITY NEWS



MARCH, 2021

LED STREETLIGHT UPGRADE

1638

streetlights to be converted



\$141,000 in savings annually

Switching to LED technology in the Mid-Western Region will see a

427 MWh

annual reduction in power consumption



equivalent to 177 cars off the road annually



53% savings in energy consumption

More than 1600 streetlights in Mudgee and Gulgong will be upgraded this month as part of a major project to improve energy efficiency.

The switch to LED technology will see a 427 MWh per year reduction in power use, delivering savings of approximately \$141,000 each year in maintenance and electricity costs.

Street lighting is a significant expense for Council, costing around \$400,000 each year. The upgrade will go a long way to reducing costs and providing significant long-term savings. LEDs are more energy efficient, require less maintenance and have a significantly longer life. Council is committed to becoming more sustainable, and the LED upgrade is just one of Council's initiatives to achieve energy and

operational efficiencies over the next four years. LED upgrades in Rylstone and Kandos continue to be investigated.

The project is being delivered through \$808,069 in grant funding from the NSW Government's Resources for Regions Fund with more than \$200,000 co-contributed by Council. Learn more about the project at yoursay.midwestern.nsw.gov.au ■

17 watts are consumed by LED streetlights compared to 50-100 watts of existing lights

>140 heritage lights retained as part of the upgrade

\$808k grant funding received from the NSW Government's Resources for Regions Fund



FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

It's exciting to see a number of major events will be hosted in the region over coming weeks and months including Council's Fermenta Festival in Kandos and Rylstone (13 March), Manly Warringah Sea Eagles v Gold Coast Titans (17 April) and Mudgee Classic (1 May). Large scale events have enormous economic benefits that filter beyond the initial event to our tourism industry.

Works have commenced to upgrade 1638 streetlights in Mudgee and Gulgong to energy efficient LED lighting as part of a \$1,000,000 project. The project will save hundreds of thousands of dollars in

electricity bills and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Council understands the importance of the heritage value particular lights have in our towns and villages and extra care will be taken to ensure these lights are retained.

Council has recently completed a major upgrade to Mudgee Airport's runway, taxiways and aircraft parking. These works will support a regular passenger service, critical air services and general aviation traffic for many years to come. ■

Mayor Des Kennedy

NOMINEES AND AWARD WINNERS RECOGNISED AT AUSTRALIA DAY CEREMONY IN MUDGEEE



LOCAL DOCTORS NAMED DUAL CITIZENS OF THE YEAR

Dr Gary Moore and Dr Alex Ghanem were named the region's dual Citizens of the Year at an Australia Day Ceremony in Mudgee.

The pair were recognised for leading the implementation of the region's Respiratory Clinic during the COVID-19 pandemic. The additional health service was established to relieve

pressure from GP practices and local hospital emergency departments and has been praised by the community and health care professionals alike. The clinic, which opened in May 2020, has been open daily and is dedicated to testing patients and providing quality health care.

▲ Mayor Des Kennedy with 2021 dual Citizens of the Year, Dr Gary Moore and Dr Alex Ghanem and Australia Day Ambassador, Andrew Lock.

AWARD WINNERS RECOGNISED IN SEVEN CATEGORIES

Citizen of the Year	Dr Gary Moore and Dr Alex Ghanem
Young Citizen of the Year	Max Beechey (pictured)
Community Event of the Year	Kandos Street Machine and Hot Rod Show
Glen Johnston Memorial Award, Music and Arts	Des Kelly
Sports Award	Charlotte Wilson
Volunteer Services Award	Ellen Riley
Wall of Reflections	Michael Chapman, Heath Gay, William Knowles, Geoff Pitt, Michael Preston and Kevin Robson



NEWS IN BRIEF

NEW MUDGEE DOG PARK
Following community consultation last year, Council will begin construction of the new Mudgee Dog Park this month. The park will be relocated from its existing location to the open space adjacent to the Glen Willow Suspension Bridge. The new park will be constructed in stages and will include designated small paws and large paws sections, 'Air-lock' style entrance/exit gates, seating and trees for shade, sensory areas for dogs and more.

THINK BEFORE YOU BIN IT

Last month's fire at Mudgee Waste Facility remains under investigation and the cause is unknown. This is a timely reminder to residents to always be mindful of the items they place in their waste, recycling and green waste bins. Always separate waste and recycling items appropriately and utilise Council's Community Recycling Centre for hazardous waste materials.

FLIRTATION HILL WORKING GROUP ESTABLISHED

The Flirtation Hill Working Group has been established to assist in the development of the site's master plan. Council intends on improving Flirtation Hill, to enhance the site as a vibrant and active community recreation space. The newly formed working group is made up of Councillors, staff and community members. The site master plan will be placed on public exhibition once finalised.

MANLY SEA EAGLES V GOLD COAST TITANS TICKETS ON SALE

See the Manly Warringah Sea Eagles take on the Gold Coast Titans at Glen Willow on Saturday, 17 April.

Tickets for the 3pm game are available at 123tix.com.au. Prices start at \$45 for grandstand seats, \$25 for adult General Admission (GA), \$18 for concession card holder GA, and \$18 for junior GA (aged 5 - 15).

Strictly no public parking will be permitted at the venue on game day. Limited parking will be available at the Mudgee Racecourse. Patrons are encouraged to catch the free shuttle

bus. Pick up and drop off locations are available on Council's website and Facebook page. A low-floor bus will be available from the Mudgee CBD for patrons requiring assistance. Glen Willow Stadium is a short 1km walk from Mudgee CBD across Holyoake Footbridge.

The Glen Willow Suspension Bridge will be closed. For further information visit Council's website. The game is part of a bumper sports weekend in Mudgee with The Country Championships hosted at Mudgee Racecourse on Sunday, 18 April.



NEW OPPORTUNITIES TO WORK WITH COUNCIL

As the Mid-Western Region continues to grow and prosper at a steady rate, Council is taking a proactive approach to grow its workforce to meet this expansion. Council will have a number of job opportunities in coming months across all areas of the organisation including Infrastructure Planning, Water and Sewer, Roads, Finance, Property and Revenue, Procurement, Major Projects as well as Health and Building. Stay up-to-date with current vacancies at Council's website midwestern.nsw.gov.au or mudgeeregionjobs.com.au



ARE YOU PARKING CORRECTLY IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS?

Parking rules are designed to stop vehicles from parking where it would be dangerous or inconvenient for others. Parking rules are administered by the NSW Government and enforced by the NSW Police and Council's Law Enforcement Team. Instances of incorrect parking have been on the rise in residential areas in recent months and now is a great time for motorists to refresh themselves on the rules.

When parking, always do so in the same direction as the adjacent traffic. Parking against traffic (pictured) is an offence. Vehicles should be entirely within any marked lines. Also, vehicles should not be stopped (running idle or parked) on or across a driveway, footpath or nature strip, as this is also a parking offence. To learn more visit rms.nsw.gov.au/roads



WATER TANK VANDALISM

Following the 2019/20 Summer Bushfires, Council received grant funding to install 12 large water tanks at local RFS stations to aid in future firefighting efforts. Sadly one of these tanks was recently vandalised. Vandalism costs Council and the community thousands of dollars each year. If you see anyone committing acts of vandalism on community facilities please report it to Mudgee Police on 6372 8599.

EVENTS ASSISTANCE OPEN

Local event organisers are encouraged to apply for funding and in-kind support through Council's Events Assistance Program, now open. The Program is available to not-for-profit events that are being held from 1 July to 31 December 2021. Organisers can apply for up to \$2,500 in assistance with multi-year funding available. Applications are available on Council's website and close Monday, 29 March.

NEED TO REPORT SOMETHING?

The best way to let Council know about a problem or request work to be done is to lodge a Works Request, which you can do in just a few minutes online. Simply follow the links to Works Request in the top left request will be referred to the relevant Council department, and our Customer Service Team will contact you to advise the outcome of your request.

MUDGEE REGION JOBS

Council has launched a FREE employment website for businesses and job seekers. Businesses who register can advertise job vacancies, discover potential employees, connect with job seekers. Job seekers can search vacant positions in the Mid-Western Region and create job seeker profiles to promote themselves to local employers. Post and search jobs now at mudgeeregionjobs.com.au



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EVENTS CALENDAR



MARCH

Mudjee Region Food and Drink Trail

Various locations and dates

Enjoy a culinary adventure through the Mudjee Region. Tickets at visitmudgeeregion.com.au



6 MARCH

Mudjee Show

Mudjee Showground

Mudjee Show will be a livestock only event this year. The agricultural event is proposed to include cattle, sheep, horses and poultry.



13 MARCH

Fermenta

Rylstone and Kandos, various venues

Food and wine markets, entertainment, fermenting workshops and twilight picnic. Tickets at fermenta.com.au



20 MARCH

Can Cruise 2021

Mudjee Showground

See all the classic cars of the Cudgegong Cruisers taking part in the annual fundraising rally to support local charity Can Assist.



3 APRIL

Rylstone Bull-A-Rama

Rylstone Showground

Showcasing some of Australia's best bull riders on some of the fiercest bulls at this jam-packed family event.



17 APRIL

Manly v Gold Coast

Glen Willow

Watch the Manly Warringah Sea Eagles take on the Gold Coast Titans at Mudjee's Glen Willow Stadium. Tickets at 123tix.com.au

All information correct at the time of publication. Events may be subject to change based on COVID-19 Health Orders. Please contact event organisers for further details.

CONTACT MID-WESTERN REGIONAL COUNCIL

For more information, search 'events' on Council's website.



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Live.

Sticky nightshade (*Solanum sisymbriifolium*) has been found in many new locations within the region, including St Fillans and Riverlea Road. Sticky nightshade is a problematic plant due to its ability to invade pastures and compete with native plants. Council is encouraging landholders to be vigilant in keeping an eye out for this plant and to report any sightings. Landholders using imported fodder are encouraged to check unloading areas. Please contact Council's Weeds Team on 6378 2850 for any assistance you may require.

Work.

Mid-Western Regional Council is an award winning organisation offering a range of career opportunities in areas such as admin, planning and development, water supply, parks and gardens, libraries, operations and community services. Council is an equal opportunity employer and values diversity in its people. For current positions vacant, go to 'Employment' on Council's website.

Invest.

Council has secured \$2600 through the NSW Government's 2020-21 Local Sport Defibrillator Grant Program to purchase and install two new Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) at the Glen Willow Regional Sporting Complex. The AEDs will be located at the Complex's new Rugby Union and Junior Rugby League amenities buildings which are being constructed as part of Stage 2 works. The jointly funded AEDs are life saving devices that will increase safety at the premier sporting facility.

Visit.

The region's newest event, Fermenta, is heading to Rylstone and Kandos on Saturday, 13 March. The day-long festival will feature a variety of events beginning with food and wine markets followed by workshops, hosted by local producers on their fermentation process from kombucha making to sourdough baking. Finish off the day with a gourmet hamper at a Twilight Picnic on the banks of the Cudgegong River in Rylstone. Tickets at fermenta.com.au