

# COMMUNITY NEWS



JULY, 2021

## 2021/22 OPERATIONAL PLAN



**Council's 2021/22 Operational Plan has been adopted with a key focus on road improvement and asset maintenance.**

The Operational Plan outlines Council's budget for the upcoming financial year, where funds will be allocated to specific activities and projects, as well as detailing how each project will be funded. The Plan includes \$65.9 million in capital expenditure.

\$31.3 million has been set aside for investment in roads, bridges and footpaths. This includes \$7.7 million as part of the three year \$25.6 million Dixons Long Point Crossing project, \$2.7 million for the final year of a \$4.97 million safety upgrade to Hill End Road, \$2.4 million for the third year of a four year \$6.82

million upgrade of Wollar Road at Munghorn Gap and \$2 million for resheeting on unsealed local roads. \$2.3 million has been committed to commence the \$3.3 million Mudgee Water Headworks upgrade to meet future population demand and \$1 million for the water main replacement program with a focus on the Gulgong township. Copies of the Operational Plan are available on Council's website. ■

**\$65.9m** total capital expenditure

**\$146,000** new playground at Rylstone Showground

**\$140,000** upgrades to Kandos Library and Hall

### \$348,000 FOR POOL AND PLAYGROUND SHADE



Gulgong Adventure Playground

### FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

I am pleased to say this year's Operational Plan has been approved. I'd like to thank all residents who submitted proposals and feedback. Continued road improvement was the clear priority of the community and Council has allocated \$31.3 million for roads, bridges and footpath capital works this year, an increase of \$6 million on last year.

This will be my final column before the 2021 Local Government Election on Saturday, 4 September. It has been an honour to serve my community as Mayor for the past 11 years.

I am proud of the achievements of the

outgoing Council and hope we have done a good job for our community. I would like to thank my fellow Councillors and great staff for all their hard work.

The region has grown exponentially over the last 10 years and I see that continuing into the future. I would encourage anyone who would like to contribute to this wonderful community to stand for Council. Council will enter a caretaker period next month with the final meeting of the current Council to be held on 4 August.

*Des K*  
  
**Mayor Des Kennedy**

# CENTRAL WEST YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS Summit 2021



**budgy  
smuggler®**



**camplify**



**straight  
to the  
source**



**KNAFEH**  
JERUSALEM STREET FOOD

## ANNUAL ENTREPRENEURS EVENT RETURNS IN-PERSON

Tickets are now on sale for Council's third annual Central West Young Entrepreneurs Summit in Mudgee on Thursday, 5 August.

Hear from some of Australia's most successful entrepreneurs including *The Block* favourites and professional renovators Kyal and Kara (pictured), co-creator of one of Australia's biggest swimwear brands *Budgy Smuggler*, Adam Linforth, CEO and founder of *Camplify*, Australia's largest caravan, camper and motorhome sharing community, Justin Hales, founding partner of bespoke food tour company *Straight To The Source*, Tawnya Bahr and co-founder of *Knafeh/The Bearded Bakers*, Ameer El-Issa.

The Summit will be held at Parklands Resort, Mudgee from 9.30am followed by a Networking Event at 4.30pm. Tickets at [youngentrepreneurssummit.com.au](http://youngentrepreneurssummit.com.au)

## NATIONAL TREE DAY PLANTING EVENT AT GLEN WILLOW

Council is proudly hosting a Tree Day Event at Glen Willow (Stage 2) later this month.

Residents are invited to come along and plant trees and shrubs to attract native animals at Glen Willow between the Suspension Bridge and the new Jennie Blackman Dog Park on Sunday, 25 July from 10am to 12pm.

Gloves, tools and refreshments will be supplied. Please bring a hat and enclosed shoes.

The day will end with a free barbecue for volunteers at 12pm. For more information visit Council's Facebook page.



### AUGUST TOWN HALL CINEMA

The Mudgee Town Hall Cinema will open its doors on 6, 7 and 8 August for screenings of *Spirit Untamed* (G) and *Dream Horse* (PG). Tickets online at Council's website or at the door (unless sold out prior) from \$15 for adults and \$10 for children and concession. Entry is free for children under 5 years. Be sure to buy your tickets early to avoid missing out!

### NEWS IN BRIEF

### EMERGENCYPLUS APP

Being able to give your precise location in an emergency can save vital time and lives. The free *Emergency Plus* app features *what3words*. Every three metre square in the world has been given a *what3words* address so you can help triple zero find you with just three words. Be prepared and download the *Emergency Plus* app today.

### LOCAL EVENT FUNDING

Council has provided \$34,500 in financial and in-kind assistance to support local events. One-off funding was provided for the Mudgee Cup and Gulgong Vintage and Classic Motorcycle Show. Multi-year funding was provided to Gardens of Mudgee, Mudgee Small Farm Field Days, Motorfest, Mudgee Running Festival and Sculptures in the Garden. Council's Events Assistance Program is designed to assist local community events that benefit the local economy.

# MUDGEE, GULGONG, RYSTONE AND KANDOS WATER RESTRICTIONS LIFTED

Level 2 Water Restrictions have been lifted in Mudgee and Gulgong. Level 1 Water Restrictions were introduced across the region in August 2019 in response to drought. Restrictions were increased to Level 2 in November 2019 due to the decreasing water level and scheduled bulk water release from Windamere Dam.

The entire Mid-Western Region is no longer drought declared following significant rainfall events in March this year. In order to remove water restrictions, Council had to satisfy two

conditions that the Windamere Dam level had increased since restrictions commenced (Windamere Dam is now at 34 per cent up from 32 per cent in August 2019); and Water NSW had postponed the Bulk Water Transfer (delayed until February 2022).

Restrictions have now been lifted across the entire region.

Rylstone and Kandos water restrictions were lifted in November last year following the Rylstone Dam reaching 100 per cent capacity.



## MUDGEE ARTS PRECINCT OPENING SOON

The Mudgee Arts Precinct will officially open to the public on Saturday, 7 August. Details of the opening are being finalised and will be announced via Council's Facebook page and website.

In addition to gallery spaces the Mudgee Arts Precinct will be the new home of Mudgee Region Tourism. The building includes community meeting spaces, office space and artist workshops for education, acting as a hub to promote, nurture and facilitate participation in art, creativity and cultural activities.

## MUDGEE NAMED NSW TOP TOURISM TOWN

Mudgee has been named the 2021 NSW Top Tourism Town with a population over 5000. Mudgee claimed the top gong against 15 other towns in the awards presented by Business NSW in May. The tourism industry is essential to our local economy, delivering \$157.6 million annually. Council recognises this value, and works hard to deliver and attract major events like Flavours of Mudgee and NRL fixtures, and deliver infrastructure which supports tourism and other key sectors in our local economy. So far this year,

Council has hosted the Charity Shield, generating \$1.49 million for the local economy and the NRL Round 6: Manly v Titans, generating \$1.3 million. Council continues to work closely with major events like the Mudgee Classic and Next Exit Festival to ensure our region is an enticing destination for event coordinators. Mudgee will now represent NSW at the inaugural Australian Top Tourism Town Awards at Parliament House in Canberra on Wednesday, 25 August.



### JUNIOR BOOK GROUP

Do you know Mudgee Library hosts a Junior Book Group each fortnight? Open to Years 3-6 the program aims to further develop literacy skills. Each session includes a discussion of books currently being read, new books available at the Library, suggestions for further reading, and a short creative activity. Bookings at [mwrclibrary.eventbrite.com](http://mwrclibrary.eventbrite.com)

### PLASTIC FREE JULY ACTIVITIES

This month, as part of its ongoing efforts to reduce plastic waste and protect our environment, Council has taken the Plastic Free July Challenge to help our community avoid single-use plastics. The initiative encourages people to take simple action in their daily lives and habits at home, work, and school. Council will be hosting activities and workshops through the month. Visit Council's Facebook page to learn more.

### TEMPORARY ROUNDABOUT

A temporary roundabout has been installed at the intersection of Church and Mearns streets (adjacent to Mudgee Hospital). The temporary roundabout will be in place for several weeks in preparation for construction of a permanent roundabout. Motorists are advised all traffic rules still apply. The roundabout is intended to improve traffic movements and pedestrian safety at the new Mudgee Hospital.

### WATER FILLING STATIONS

Council is upgrading Water Filling Stations in Mudgee, Gulgong and Rylstone after securing \$270,000 through the Australian Government's Drought Community Programme. As part of the upgrade, these sites will become automated to reduce congestion and improve fill times. Automated filling stations will improve water security and access for rural residents and farmers.



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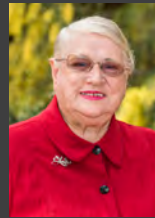
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## EVENTS CALENDAR



9-10  
JULY

### Mudgee Small Farm Field Days

AREC

This year will be the 43rd Mudgee Small Farm Field Days. Tickets at [mudgeefielddays.com.au](http://mudgeefielddays.com.au)



25  
JULY

### National Tree Day

Glen Willow, near the Suspension Bridge, 11am - 12pm

Bring a hat and enclosed shoes. Gloves, tools and refreshments supplied. Free barbecue at 12pm.



4  
AUG

### Mid-Western Regional Council Meeting

Council Chambers, Market Street, Mudgee  
From 5.30pm

Meeting live-stream available on Council's website.



5  
AUG

### Central West Young Entrepreneurs Summit

Parklands Resort

Learn valuable insights from some of Australia's most successful entrepreneurs.



21-22  
AUG

### Mudgee Readers' Festival

Various venues

After a pandemic-enforced hiatus, Mudgee Readers' Festival is back. Visit [mudgeereaders.com](http://mudgeereaders.com) to learn more.



22  
AUG

### Mudgee Running Festival

Celebrating its 20th Anniversary, the Mudgee Running Festival will include four courses. More information at [mudgeerunningfestival.com.au](http://mudgeerunningfestival.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.



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### Mid-Western Regional Council

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## Live.

Development Applications must now be lodged online via the NSW Planning Portal and not directly with Council, following a mandate by the NSW Government. All development applications, modifications and reviews, construction certificates, subdivision works certificates, complying development certificates, occupation certificates, subdivision certificates, section 138 and 68 applications can only be lodged at [planningportal.nsw.gov.au](http://planningportal.nsw.gov.au). Council has a dedicated Planning Kiosk at the Mudgee Customer Service Centre where customers can lodge an application with the assistance of staff. More information at [yoursay.midwestern.nsw.gov.au](http://yoursay.midwestern.nsw.gov.au)

## 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.

The region's unemployment rate has remained under 5 per cent, following record tourist visitation and strong construction activity establishing in the region. The unemployment rate increased by 1.6 per cent in 2020 reflecting the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic lockdowns and was 4.7 per cent for the December 2020 quarter according to latest data released from the National Skills Commission.

## Visit.

FlyPelican will be resuming a daily flight between Sydney and Mudgee six days a week in September. Council invests heavily to sustain this important service and ensure it is readily available to residents of the Mid-Western Region. Residents are encouraged to use the service when possible to maintain adequate passenger numbers to continue regular flights. To book visit [flypelican.com.au](http://flypelican.com.au)