

COMMUNITY News

STRONG PERFORMANCE, BIG ROAD ASSET INVESTMENT IN ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Wollondilly Shire Council has received its audited 2022-23 Annual Financial Statements, which have shown the organisation to be in a sound financial position with strong improvement over the year.

Council is recovering from the financial impacts of major fire, flood and storm events in recent years, and is gearing up to improve services for its current community and manage the rapidly growing population. A Financial Management Improvement Plan was put in place by the Council leadership four years ago, with the plan delivering clear results for Council and the community. While three years ago the year's financial statements were not being signed off until the following May, this year they have been signed off on time, thanks to some significant internal reforms.

The big winner has been Council's road network, with the huge investment in the Shire's roads delivering results. This is demonstrated by Council exceeding the Building and Infrastructure Renewal Ratio for the sixth successive year.

In great news for residents, an outstanding result for the Capital Works program was achieved, with Council delivering a record \$51.3M in capital works for 2022/23, 112% of the originally adopted budget of \$45.8M.

Wollondilly is again leading the way, with many Councils not finalising their audited financial statements on time. This is a great milestone for any effective organisation to achieve – clear evidence our plan to make Council an even higher performing organisation is paying dividends.

Maintaining a sound financial position will of course require ongoing monitoring and evaluation to make sure we can stay flexible; however, we are well placed to keep moving forward positively and are well prepared to meet the challenges ahead.

SHOP LOCAL THIS

Christmas

Looking for unique gifts to give to your loved ones this Christmas? The Dilly has a range of boutique shops and produce stores to help you find your 'something special.' In our small town boutiques and shops you will find keepsakes, trinkets, presents, apparel and more that you won't find anywhere else.



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OUT MORE
& DOWNLOAD
THE WOLLONDILLY
VISITOR GUIDE

Wollondilly

Message FROM THE MAYOR

G'day everyone,

It's hard to believe that the holiday season is upon us and we have almost reached the end of 2023. I am looking forward to celebrating the end of a busy year by attending Christmas events across the Shire with many of our amazing community members.

As the weather warms up, don't forget to get prepared for the bushfire season. Make sure that you know your risk and get your home ready. You can head to myfireplan.com.au to complete your bushfire survival plan, and stay as safe as possible this bushfire season.

From my family to yours, have a safe and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Matt Gould - Mayor



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TO VIEW MONTHLY
MAYORAL MESSAGES
ON COUNCIL'S WEBSITE

BACKYARD SWIMMING POOL SAFETY

Swimming pools at home can be lots of fun for the whole family and a great way to teach young children how to swim and how to be safe around water.

But pools can also be dangerous for young children, so they need constant adult supervision.

A swimming pool barrier is important for keeping children safe. Make sure your swimming pool barrier is safe and compliant with fencing regulations – including for in ground, above ground, portable pools and spas.

Regardless of your pool type, if your swimming pool can hold more than 300mm (30cm) of water you will need to have a physical barrier that restricts access to the swimming pool.

For further information on swimming pool barriers email Council at council.wollondilly.nsw.gov.au or phone us on 4677 1100.



THE WOLLONDILLY BEACH BUS

Get ready to beat the summer heat as the popular Wollondilly Beach Bus returns in January 2024! The Beach Bus offers all residents, young and old, free travel to North Wollongong Beach from various stops across the Shire. It will operate on 4, 11, 18 and 25 January.

This is a low floor accessible bus, making the service accessible for all members of our community. Council's ongoing partnerships with SIMEC Mining and Picton Buslines has kept this popular service going for over a decade.



SCAN THE QR CODE TO FIND OUT
MORE INFORMATION & THE BEACH BUS
PICK UP/DROP OFF LOCATIONS



POTHOLE REQUESTS HIT A RECORD LOW

In great news for Wollondilly residents, Council's outstanding pothole requests (CRMs) reached a record low during September and October 2023. Since the damaging rain events of 2021/2022, Council's road maintenance crews have been working hard to lessen the huge backlog of pothole requests.

The recent sunny weather has allowed the crews to work uninterrupted on road repairs, and the rain damage to the roads has gradually decreased. Every day we are seeing our road crews out and about getting it done.

We are also continuing to focus on our massive heavy patching work program, funded through the State Government's Regional and Local Roads Repair Program, while addressing legacy roads issues through a record investment in our Capital Works Program.

WOLLONDILLY SHIRE COUNCIL'S

CHRISTMAS

in the Gardens

2023

WHERE

Picton Botanic Gardens

TIME

3pm - 9pm

DATE

Friday 8 December

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Gold Sponsor: Zen Energy, **Red Sponsors:** Wests Group Macarthur, Leaping Learners Family Education Centre, Bendigo Bank, **Carols Sponsor:** Bradcorp

What's on

TWILIGHT MARKETS

STORY TIME

SANTA PHOTOS

FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT

FOOD TRUCKS

CHILL ZONE

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

(Presented by Wollondilly Uniting Church)



Scan the QR code
for more information

Join us for

AUSTRALIA DAY

2024

WHERE

Picton Botanic Gardens & Hume Oval

TIME

8am - 12pm

DATE

Friday 26 January



Australia Day

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

What's on

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS & CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY

MAYORAL CHILDREN'S FISHING COMPETITION

GIANT WATERSLIDE

JUMPING CASTLE

CHILDREN'S FACE PAINTING

AIRBRUSH TATTOOS

SNAKE TAILS REPTILE SHOW

VINTAGE CAR DISPLAY

LIVE MAGIC SHOW

BBQ BREAKFAST & LUNCH

FACILITIES FOR YOUR HIRE

Did you know that Council hires out some great community halls in the Wollondilly Shire on either a casual or regular basis, at affordable rates?

AVAILABLE FACILITIES INCLUDE:

APPIN AIS COMMUNITY HALL
TAHMOOR COMMUNITY CENTRE
BARGO COMMUNITY HALL
MOUNT HUNTER COMMUNITY HALL
WARRAGAMBA TOWN HALL
WILTON COMMUNITY CENTRE
TAHMOOR DISTRICT SPORTING COMPLEX



SCAN THE QR CODE
TO BOOK A FACILITY
& TO FIND OUT MORE

JOIN THE DILLY WANDERER

The Dilly Wanderer is a free mobile community information service that runs throughout Wollondilly, visiting 16 towns and villages.

The Dilly Wanderer is a great way to meet new people, participate in children's activities and find out more about local services. The Dilly Wanderer supports young families, single parents, Aboriginal families and local communities.



SCAN TO
FIND OUT
MORE

MERRY RECYCLABLE Christmas

In response to community feedback, we will once again be collecting recycling on a weekly basis during the 2023/24 festive season.

Yellow lid recycling bins will be collected on a weekly basis from Monday 11 December until Friday 5 January inclusive. During this period, you can put out your yellow lid recycling bin with your red lid garbage bin each week on your normal bin day. Your green lid garden organics bin collection will continue as normal on a fortnightly service during this period.

From Monday 8 January 2024 the yellow lid recycling bin collection returns to normal fortnightly collection.



SCAN QR CODE TO
FIND OUT MORE



Connect & Interact WOLLONDILLY PROJECT

Digital kiosks will soon be operational in public spaces in the communities of Oakdale, Warragamba and Bargo.

Wollondilly residents have identified digital connectivity challenges that have significant implications during natural disasters. The digital kiosks provide access to the Wollondilly Disaster Dashboard, which provides the latest emergency information during a disaster and also provides information to help prepare for a disaster.

These new kiosks will provide access to:

- Public WiFi and USB charging facilities
- Wollondilly Shire Council website
- Wollondilly Disaster Dashboard (providing information related to fires, flooding, roads, weather, and more)
- Wollondilly tourism information

The project is funded by the NSW Bushfire Resilience and Recovery Fund.



THE WOLLONDILLY PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

The Wollondilly Performing Arts Centre is taking shape, with construction now progressing onto level two. During October excavation was completed for the recessed seating/musicians pit, followed by the concrete pour. In the back of house area, structural steel was installed and internal walls set out in preparation for fit out for the stage.

The Wollondilly Performing Arts Centre project has been co-funded by Western Sydney City Deal and Create NSW.



SCAN QR CODE TO READ THE
MONTHLY CONSTRUCTION
UPDATE REPORT OF THE PROJECT

WOLLONDILLY
PERFORMING
ARTS CENTRE

FIRE DANGER RATINGS

KNOWING THE FIRE DANGER RATING MAY SAVE YOUR LIFE

The Fire Danger Ratings give you an indication of the consequences of a fire, if a fire was to start. They do not indicate the chance of a fire occurring, although this is a common misconception.

The higher the rating is, the more dangerous the conditions will be.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The Fire Danger Ratings have four levels, which are:

MODERATE

PLAN AND PREPARE

At **MODERATE**, most fires can be controlled. Plan and prepare and be ready to act if there is a fire.

EXTREME

TAKE ACTION NOW

TO PROTECT LIFE AND PROPERTY

At **EXTREME**, fires will spread quickly and become extremely dangerous. If a fire starts, take immediate action. If you and your property are not prepared to the highest level, go to a safer location well before the fire impacts.

HIGH

BE READY TO ACT

At **HIGH**, be ready to act. Fires can be dangerous, so be alert for fires in your area.

CATASTROPHIC

FOR YOUR SURVIVAL

LEAVE BUSH FIRE RISK AREAS

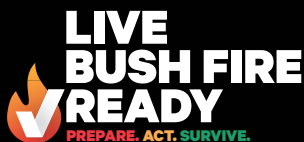
Under **CATASTROPHIC** conditions, if a fire starts and takes hold, lives are likely to be lost. For your survival, leave bush fire risk areas. Stay safe by going to a safer location early in the morning or the night before.



NO RATING – On days when there's minimal risk, the white bar meaning 'No Rating' will be used. Report any fires to 000.

YOU CAN FIND OUT THE FIRE DANGER RATING FOR YOUR AREA BY:

- By visiting the NSW RFS website at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/fdr
- Checking the Fires Near Me App
- Listening to your local news
- Calling the Bush Fire Information Line on 1800 NSW RFS (1800 679 737).



RFS



WHAT'S ON IN WOLLONDILLY?

Don't miss out!

CHRISTMAS IN THE GARDENS
8 December 2023

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS
Entries close 13 December 2023

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMP
Winners announced 22 December 2023

BEACH BUS
Runs throughout January 2024

AUSTRALIA DAY EVENT
26 January 2024



SCAN TO FIND OUT THE
LATEST UPDATES AND NEWS
ON WOLLONDILLY EVENTS!

WOLLONDILLY LIBRARY

YOUR Summer READING SORTED

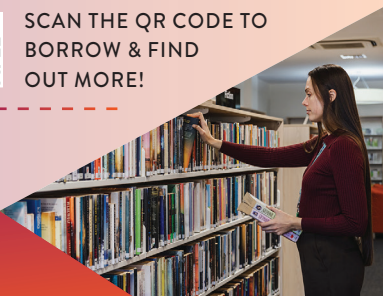
Whether you're relaxing at home, enjoying a day by the water, or on a road trip with the family, we've got your entertainment covered at Wollondilly Library.

Listen to audiobooks in the car with BorrowBox, entertain the kids with Storybox Library, read an eBook on indyreads when you travel, or get stuck into a research project with our online Library tools.

All you need is your Wollondilly Library card and your device. Visit our website to get started.



SCAN THE QR CODE TO
BORROW & FIND
OUT MORE!



YOUR
SAY

Wollondilly

is Council's online community
engagement platform.

Your Say Wollondilly is one of the ways you can contribute your input to Council projects, policies and plans. Community feedback helps us make informed decisions, so that everybody benefits. Register today and stay tuned for opportunities to have your say.



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STAY CONNECTED
& HAVE YOUR SAY!



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eNewsletter, direct to your inbox.



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FIND OUT MORE, PARTICIPATE AND GET IN TOUCH

Council Forums and Meetings

Community Forums and Council Meetings are usually held on the third and fourth Tuesday of each month (excluding January) at 6.30pm. Council Meetings are held in the Council Chambers in the Wollondilly Shire Hall, Picton. The dates and locations for upcoming meetings are:

Community Forums - 6.30pm

- Tuesday 5 December 2023
- Tuesday 20 February 2024
- Tuesday 19 March 2024

Council Meetings - 6.30pm

Wollondilly Shire Hall, Picton

- Tuesday 12 December 2023
- Tuesday 27 February 2024
- Tuesday 26 March 2024

Local Planning Panel Meetings - 3.30pm

Wollondilly Shire Hall, Picton

- Thursday 7 December 2023
- Thursday 8 February 2024
- Thursday 7 March 2024

Council Contacts

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In Person: Frank McKay Building,
62-64 Menangle Street, Picton, NSW, 2571

Opening Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30am to 5pm

Check Council's website for the latest information as these dates are subject to change.