

COMMUNITY News

WILTON

...a GREAT new town or NO town at all



It's not every day that you get to plan a new town from scratch, so the proposal to build a new town at Wilton with an eventual population of up to 50,000 is a unique opportunity to do things right. That's why Wollondilly Council has launched an advocacy campaign involving the release of a paper called "Wilton... a GREAT new town or NO town at all".

The paper expresses the importance of a best-practice and coordinated approach to the planning of the new town at Wilton, to ensure it meets our high expectations.

The advocacy paper was launched with a press conference on 8th June 2017 and has been distributed widely to key stakeholders, particularly the NSW Premier, key Cabinet Ministers, and key government departments. In the wake of the press conference there has been very positive media coverage reinforcing the message and congratulating Council for its proactive stance.

We all know that growth on the fringe of Sydney is unfortunately often characterised by issues such as lagging or non-existent infrastructure, limited employment, lack of services and poor public transport. Our advocacy paper calls on all government agencies and the development industry to work together to make sure the new town at Wilton does not also struggle with these issues. Already we are seeing positive results with commitments from the State Government on a new K-12 public school for Wilton, and with NSW Government staff discussing a feasibility study for the provision of passenger rail services to Wilton.

If you'd like to know more about our advocacy campaign for Wilton, head to our website and click on the Wilton Advocacy link on the homepage. You'll meet the De Sousa family and their "Tale of Two Cities". They're a fictional family we've used to tell the story of what life would be like in a well-planned new town (a "great new town") as opposed to a poorly planned new town (a "not-so-great town").

Welcome

to your Spring
community
newsletter

Let us know your
thoughts on our newsletter at
wollondilly.nsw.gov.au

CONGRATULATIONS!

Council was the winner of the inaugural "Disability Inclusion Award" announced on 3 August at the 2017 Local Government NSW Awards.

Council received the award for the "Stars in the Garden Access All Areas Film Festival" held last year to raise awareness of, and to celebrate International Day for People with Disability.

Council is really proud of this acknowledgement and congratulates the team of Council staff and community service providers that made the

event so successful. Winning the award further reinforces Council's commitment to Disability Inclusion following the adoption of Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP) 2017-2021.

The DIAP commits Council to the continuous improvement of its practices to remove barriers which prevent people with disability from participating fully in our community and interacting or doing business with Council.

What's happening IN WOLLONDILLY

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

At the June meeting of Council we adopted our suite of corporate planning documents, including the Community Strategic Plan (CSP), our highest level long term plan. The CSP expresses the aspirations held by the Wollondilly community and sets out strategies for achieving those aspirations. For more information head to www.wollondilly2033.com.au to view the documents. You can also call us on **4677 1100** or council@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au to request your copy.

RAIL SYMPOSIUM

During October, Council will be bringing together a range of experts and passionate advocates to talk about all things 'rail' for Wollondilly. Guest speakers on the day will discuss the opportunities and challenges around provision of rail services for the Shire, now and into the future.

We will have more details soon... so keep an eye on our website and Facebook for updates.

EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

Wollondilly Garden Competition

Entries open: 28 August

Entries close: 21 September

Judging: 25-29 September

Presentation: 19 October at Bargo Sports Club

Wollondilly Christmas Lights Competition

Entries open: 6 November

Entries close: 1 December

Judging: 4 - 7 December

Presentation: 14 December at Picton Bowling Club

"Stars in the Garden" - International Day for People with Disability

Screening of the 'Access All Areas Short Film Festival'

When: 1 December, 5.30pm - 10.30pm

Where: Picton Botanic Gardens

Entertainment by Picton Strings, Picton Harmony, Carefree Singers as well as information stalls. Free event.

Menangle Milk Shake Up

When: 17 September, 10.00am - 4.00pm

Where: 28 Station Street Menangle

Vintage Cars, Raffles, Music, Stalls and Food Family Friendly Event.

For information on any of these events please visit wollondilly.nsw.gov.au and go to the 'What's On' link or call the Events Team on **4677 9761**

GYM EQUIPMENT

On 13 June the Wollondilly Health Alliance, in partnership with Wollondilly Shire Council, launched new outdoor gym equipment at the Warragamba Recreation Reserve. This is one of many steps we're taking towards building a healthier community in Wollondilly.

The equipment has been installed in response to the Wollondilly Health Alliance's 'Healthy Towns Survey' undertaken with the community last year.

Free outdoor gym sessions are also being delivered by a qualified fitness leader to help residents get the most out of the equipment. Well done Warragamba for putting your health first and working together to create a healthier town. For more information visit www.wollondillyhealth.org.au



BUSINESS DIRECTORY

If your business is located within the Wollondilly Shire area and you would like to receive our quarterly newsletters advising of upcoming events, workshops and other industry-relevant news etc. Please email the following details to economic.development@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au

- Business name
- Industry type
- Primary contact name
- Postal and physical address
- Email
- Contact number
- Website and social media details

LIBRARY EVENTS

Inside Out Craft Event

As part of Mental Health month, Wollondilly Library will be hosting an 'Inside Out' themed craft event for kids. There will be activities, various crafts and competitions to win some very cool prizes! This is a free event for kids aged 8yrs+ so come on down to have some fun!

When: Wednesday 4 October
10.00am - 12.00pm



John R. Bicknell Book Launch and Author Talk

Come along to hear local writer John R. Bicknell talk about his newly published book 'Twelve Years In "Care" A British Child Migrant's Story.' Along with the launch, John will share his hints and tips on how to write a memoir.

When: Friday 15 September
2.00pm - 3.00pm

Where: The View Room, Wollondilly Library

Adam Schwartz Author Talk

As part of Mental Health Month, Wollondilly Library will be hosting award winning author and mental health advocate Adam Schwartz. Adam is the author of the biography (memoir) 'Mum, I Wish I Was Dead', which recounts Adam's struggle as an adolescent living with a mental illness. Adam will also be providing guidance and advice for people impacted by mental illness and tips to increase your mental wellbeing. Book sales and free information packs will be available on the day.

When: Wednesday 11 October
1.30pm - 2.30pm

Where: The View Room, Wollondilly Library



These three events are FREE and bookings are essential, please contact Wollondilly Library on **4677 8300**.

For more information on these events and more please visit the 'Library' link on wollondilly.nsw.gov.au or call **4677 8300**.

2016/17 WORKS PROGRAM...WHAT WE ACHIEVED

After 12 months of intense effort involving many staff from across Council and external contractors, Broughton Pass was reopened, on schedule, on Friday 30 June. Despite this major unexpected project, our teams stayed on track and rolled out our largest ever Works Program for the 2016/17 financial year.

Some of the things Council achieved for the community included major roadworks at Bridge Street, Arina Road, Burns Road, Silverdale Road, Remembrance Driveway, Montpelier Drive (Dairy Bend), Menangle Road/Camden Road intersection, Redbank Place, Thirlmere Way and Ridge Road. We also completed kerb and gutter work at Moorlands Road, Marsh Road and York Street and footpath construction at Montpelier Drive and Lumsdaine Street.

We upgraded 10 bus stops and shelters around the Shire, replaced the Stonequarry Creek Bridge handrails, built a roundabout at the Regreme Road/Remembrance Driveway intersection and coordinated the installation of Picton's first set

of traffic lights at Margaret Street. Another long term project, the Picton Sportsground pedestrian bridge, is now open for use.

Council completed restorations at the Hume tennis courts and an upgrade at the Tahmoor tennis courts. The Old Picton Post Office was dried out after the storm damage and the long awaited library renovation was finished. We carried out maintenance at the Leisure Centre and commenced the new operation contract. Behind the scenes, we have purchased the land for Bargo RFS and commenced the tender process for its construction. Our outdoor staff have also been on hand to help with events such as IlluminARTE and Winterfest as well as keeping our towns and villages looking neat and tidy during the winter period.

With the new financial year well and truly upon us, many new infrastructure projects are now underway. For more information on Council's current major projects head to our website and search 'infrastructure' then ['current projects'](#).



LOOKING AFTER THE COMMUNITY'S ROAD ASSETS

Council looks after a large range of assets on behalf of the community including over 830km of roads, 175 buildings, 232ha of parks and reserves, 2 pools, 78km of footpaths, 3 cemeteries, 2 waste facilities and numerous stormwater drainage facilities.

Council's Infrastructure teams are continually working to meet the challenge of maintaining, replacing and upgrading these assets to the standard desired by Council and the community, and within our current budget capacity.

Council's Asset Management Strategy aims to proactively address maintenance and renewals (like for like replacement at the end of planned life) through ongoing reviews of the condition and use of assets, allowing works programs to be prioritised effectively.

Roads are the biggest component of the asset portfolio and are regularly identified by the community as their most important priority. In response, Council assigns the largest portion of the Capital Budget for road works. In 2017/18, \$12.03 million or 71% of the total capital budget of \$16.95 million is allocated to major road and bridge works, including kerb and guttering, footpaths and other traffic facilities. In addition, a significant proportion of the maintenance budget is allocated to smaller scale repair works.

Our approach to managing the roads assets is

the subject of ongoing review and refinement. As a result, we are allocating increasing proportions of the road works budget for earlier interventions through heavy patching and surface resealing as well as other programmed maintenance works such as roadside drainage, to extend the life of the pavements before full reconstruction is required.

There will always need to be full reconstruction and widening of sections of our busiest roads such as Montpelier, Silverdale, Finns and Woodbridge Roads and Remembrance Driveway and we will continue to program these works at the same time as undertaking an increased program of heavy patching and resealing across the Shire.

As the Shire grows, capacity and access issues on our roads are expected to become a bigger issue for the community, including the linkages from Silverdale to Penrith and Liverpool, congestion through Picton, and ageing infrastructure such as Broughton Pass and Douglas Park Drive.

Council will continue with smaller scale initiatives to address these issues within our current budget capacity and seek State and Federal Government funding and developer contributions to deliver the required upgrades in the longer term.

For more information on the road works planned for 2017/18 head to our website at www.wollondilly.nsw.gov.au/assets/Documents/Resident-Services/Infrastructure/2017-18-Transport-Capital-Works-Program.pdf

BUILD FOR A CURE IS COMING TO APPIN

Did you know that on average 950 children and adolescents are diagnosed with cancer every year? And 13 of those children are from the Macarthur region?

Children's Cancer Institute is the only medical research institute in Australia that focus solely on childhood cancer – and this year for International Children's Cancer Awareness month, their Build for a Cure fundraiser will be coming to Appin.

The Institute is joining up with McDonald Jones Homes and Walker Corp. to build a house in Appin Place in just 28 days. The house will be built entirely by volunteers, fully-furnished and then auctioned off, with all proceeds going to Children's Cancer Institute's vital research.

Local Appin businesses are also behind the campaign, including DiMez Real Estate who'll be donating their time to sell the house.

Building begins on 21st of August. The community are invited to family fun days on both Reveal Day on 17th of September and Auction Day on 22nd of October hosted by Scott Cam and Damien Cooley from the block.

The Institute is also looking for volunteers, so if you or someone you know would like to be involved in Build for a Cure, contact us on **1800 685 686** or buildforcure@ccia.org.au

COUNCILLOR BY-ELECTION EAST WARD

Following the recent resignation of Cr Ray Law, a By-Election will be held in East Ward for one (1) Councillor.

The NSW Electoral Commission will be running the By-Election.

Further information will be made available once a date has been confirmed by the Australian Electoral Commission. Keep an eye on our [website](#) and [Facebook](#) page for updates.



RATEABLE LAND VALUATIONS

Since receiving their 2017/18 rate notice in mid-July, a number of ratepayers have contacted Council concerned that their rates have gone up by more than the 10.8% increase approved by IPART.

The reason for the differing percentage increases this year is due to the new Rateable Land Valuations that have been provided by the Valuer General. A revaluation of all properties in NSW occurred on 1 July 2016 and the 2016 base date rateable valuations have been used as the basis of rating from 1 July 2017. General revaluations may result in the value of some land increasing or decreasing by more than other land. When this occurs the rate burden between individual rate assessments shifts, meaning that rates payable on some land may increase by more than the 10.8% rate cap, while rates on other land may increase by less than

the 10.8% rate cap or even decrease. Council's total rate income cannot however exceed the permitted 10.8% increase. In other words, these new land valuations do not change the overall amount of rates income that Council receives. They do however effect how much individual properties pay relative to other properties.

If you require any further information with regard to how the rateable valuation is calculated, the NSW Valuer General can be contacted on **1800 110 038** or further information can be obtained at www.valuergeneral.nsw.gov.au

ROAD CONDITION INSPECTION

We're currently inspecting the Shire's network of roads using specially equipped vehicles that use laser measurement and video recording.

The information helps us to monitor the condition of our roads and prioritise works, so that we can efficiently manage our road assets.

You may see camera equipped inspection vehicles travelling around the Shire. The vehicles are driven by experienced contractors travelling at normal

traffic speeds with hazard lighting and other warning devices in operation. If you're travelling behind one of the vehicles keep at least one car length back to provide the rear cameras with a clear view of the road surface.

Your Privacy

All cameras are focused on the road and kerb surface structure with some limited viewing of areas directly adjacent. No image recordings of commercial or residential, private properties or structures are undertaken.

YOUR COUNCILLORS

Judith Hannan - Mayor

P 0414 557 799
E judith.hannan@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au

Simon Landow

P 0415 406 719
E simon.landow@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au

Matt Gould

P 0427 936 471
E matt.gould@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au

Robert Khan - Deputy Mayor

P 0407 705 100
E robert.khan@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au

Michael Banasik

P 0425 798 068
E michael.banasik@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au

Blair Briggs

P 0418 269 913
E blair.briggs@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au

Matthew Deeth

P 0428 335 743
E matthew.deeth@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au

Noel Lowry

P 0406 047 086
E noel.lowry@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au

**One Position
Currently Vacant**

Councillor - East Ward

FIND OUT MORE, PARTICIPATE AND GET IN TOUCH...

Council Forums and Meetings

Each month Council hosts a Community Forum one week prior to the Council meeting. You can apply to speak at the Community Forum, find out how on the [Council website](#).

Community Forums and Council Meetings take place on the second and third Monday of each month (except when public holidays occur) at Council's Administration Building, Menangle Street, Picton at 6:30pm.

Agendas are available from Council's Foyer or on Council's website seven (7) days prior to the Community Forum.

Upcoming Community Forum Dates:

- 11 September 2017
- 13 November 2017
- 9 October 2017
- 4 December 2017

Upcoming Council Meeting Dates:

- 18 September 2017
- 20 November 2017
- 16 October 2017
- 11 December 2017

Council Meeting Live Streaming:

- Now available via the [Council website](#)

Council Contacts

P (02) 4677 1100
F (02) 4677 2339
E council@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au

Postal Address: PO Box 21, Picton, NSW, 2571

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

Opening Hours: Monday-Friday 8am to 4pm