

COMMUNITY News

SHAPING THE SHIRE

NSW Audit Office Endorses Wollondilly's Approach to SRV Expenditure

Like most NSW councils, Wollondilly Shire Council is faced with the challenge of looking after the Shire's infrastructure into the future - roads, footpaths, bridges, stormwater drains, parks, libraries and community buildings.

We know that our community places a high priority on the maintenance of our Shire's infrastructure, and in particular our road network, and we are working hard to deliver tangible outcomes from the Special Rate Variation (SRV) we began collecting in the 2015/16 financial year.

In early October, our 2016/17 annual financial statements were presented to Council's Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee by the NSW Audit Office. The auditors provided positive feedback on our annual accounts, in particular the way in which Council has approached expenditure of the SRV, stating that, "We considered the allocation of SRV funds throughout our review of asset renewals and assets additions. We confirm that these funds were

appropriately allocated as per the SRV Works Program including on Remembrance Driveway, Menangle Road and Thirlmere Way. We did not identify any issues to report." (Audit Office of NSW – Client Service Report 6 October 2017).

This is an important endorsement and clearly shows that Council is delivering on our commitment to tackle the infrastructure maintenance backlog. The projects we have completed are making a real difference to how we live in the Shire. Overall, the audited financial statements show Council to be in a sound and stable financial position with a positive outlook for the short, medium and long term.

Residents can rest assured that we will continue our hard work at 'Building a Better Shire' for you. Our focus on infrastructure maintenance and renewal has continued this financial year with work undertaken on the following major road and bridge projects:

1. **Remembrance Drive, Tahmoor** - Road Renewal Remediation Works **\$1,035,000***
2. **Broughton Pass Bridge** - Embankment restoration **\$472,870***
3. **Werombi Rd** - Mt Hunter Rivulet to Brownlow Hill Loop Rd - Road Renewal **\$670,000***
4. **Silverdale Road, Silverdale** - Kerb and Gutter **\$25,019***
5. **Montpelier Drive, The Oaks** - (western side) Edward St to McIntosh St - New Footpath **\$214,529***
6. **Remembrance Drive, Bargo** - Guardrail Replacement **\$50,656***
7. **Stonequarry Creek Bridge, Picton** - Replacement of Handrails **\$58,674***

(* = total estimated cost)

Other projects are now underway, including the \$950k Blaxland Crossing Bridge – Bearing Replacement project. For more information on these and other capital projects, please refer to the Quarterly Review (July – Sept 2017) and the detailed Capital Works Program on Council's website wollondilly.nsw.gov.au

Welcome

to your Summer
community
newsletter

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

NEW COUNCIL OPENING HOURS

From 2 January 2018 we will be open to the public from **8:30am until 5:00pm**, Monday to Friday.

As a part of Council's Continuous Improvement Program, and in response to feedback from our customers, our opening and closing times are changing.

From 2 January 2018 we will be open to the public from 8:30am until 5:00pm, Monday to Friday. This applies to both face to face and phone enquiries.

Council's General Manager, Luke Johnson said: "These increased hours will make Council services more accessible to the community and will enhance our customer experience".

Please note that the Library, Visitor Information Centre, Community Nursery and Animal Shelter are not affected by this change and will continue with their existing opening and closing times.

What's happening IN WOLLONDILLY

JOIN US IN PICTON FOR AUSTRALIA DAY 2018!

The beautiful Picton Botanical Gardens plays host again this year with celebrations kicking off at 8am with entry from Regreme Road or Hume Oval.

The Official Ceremony starts at 9.00am with the presentation of this year's Australia Day Awards and the Citizenship and Affirmation Ceremony.

Picton Rotary Club will be hard at work cooking up bacon and egg rolls for brekky, sausage sandwich for lunch and a lamington and cuppa to wash it all down.

There will be entertainment for the whole family across the morning, with plenty of FREE activities including face painting, balloon twisting, jumping castles, the snake man, pony rides, craft and don't forget the annual Mayor's fishing competition from 8am!

Following the official ceremony we will welcome local Blues and Rock band "The Swingin' Old Fellas" to the stage.

 26 JANUARY 2018!

TAHMOOR BMX PUMP TRACK OPENING

Saturday 14 October saw the opening of the new Tahmoor BMX Pump Track at 120 Thirlmere Way, Tahmoor.

Members of the South West Sydney Academy of Sport and the Macarthur Pirates BMX Club delighted onlookers with BMX, mountain bike and freestyle demonstrations on the day, facilitated by the Born to Ride Freestyle Association.

The DNA BMX Park is a hub for recreational activities and caters for all ages and abilities, whether you are a first timer or a more experienced rider. The project involved re-shaping the previous beginner's run of jumps to form a circuit pump track and was jointly funded by Council and the NSW Government's Community Building Partnership program.



DILLY DOGGY DAY OUT

Join us on Sunday 25 February for our exciting new event for 2018, 'Dilly's Doggy Day Out'. Head to Picton Sportsground (Off Leash Area) for a day out with the family and your doggy best friend! There will be an agility course, puppy school, stallholders and much more.

Keep an eye on Council's [Facebook](#) page and [website](#) for updates!

YOUTH WEEK 2018

The 'Branch Out' Youth Week festival is being organised by the Wollondilly Youth Advisory Committee and is aimed at young people aged 12-25 years living in Wollondilly. The one day festival includes a colour run, music festival, service information stalls, art project and photography competition. The festival will take place on Saturday 21 April. Check out the Dilly YAC [Facebook](#) page for updates. A more detailed program will be available in early 2018.


DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **1 December 2017**
Stars in the Garden
- **14 December 2017**
Christmas Lights Competition
- **26 January 2018**
Australia Day
- **8 February 2018**
HSC High Achievers Mayoral Reception
- **25 February 2018**
Dilly Doggy Day Out

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**

LIBRARY EVENTS

Free films for library members

 Brought to you by Beamafilm. Now streaming via Video-on-demand.

Your library card gives you access to over 400 independent films. Interested in fashion, art, history, politics, environment? There is something for everyone.

Regular Events

- **Storytime** - 10.30am till 11.30am
Tues, Wed, Thurs (during school term)
Enjoy stories, songs, games, puppets, felt boards and dancing for children aged 0-5 and their carers.
- **Bookbubs** - 11.30am till 12.30pm
Thurs (during school term)
A storytime for babies aged 0-24 months. This early literacy program provides an opportunity for parents and carers to bond with their little ones while enjoying nursery rhymes, songs, bubbles, music, instruments and toys. You can also borrow books from the exclusive 'Bookbubs' board book collection.
- **Lego Club** - 4pm till 5pm
1st Thursday of the month
For lego minded kids ages 5-12 who love building and having fun!
- **RamPAGE** - 4pm till 5.30pm
3rd Thursday of the month
A monthly after school program for young people aged 8+ which includes a variety of activities such as console gaming, board games, trivia and crafts. Participants eat, play, create and have an opportunity to be the first to borrow newly purchased library items.

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**.

THE WOLLONDILLY SUMMER BEACH BUS IS BACK!



Looking for something to do during the holidays? Then jump on board the Summer Beach Bus and head to North Wollongong Beach.

Thanks to the generous financial support of Tahmoor Underground - Glencore, Council has organised the FREE Summer Beach Bus for residents of the Wollondilly Shire.

The Beach Bus is a hop on, hop off bus service for residents of ALL AGES and will pick up at 9 locations from Warragamba, Wilton, Tahmoor and through to Wollongong (and return). There's sure

to be a pick up point near you, so check out the timetable to find out more.

Tickets for Appin 'beach goers' will be available from the Appin Pharmacy.

Please note that the Summer Beach Bus is an unsupervised bus service. There will be no adult supervision on the bus or at the beach and no responsibility will be taken for people who miss their scheduled departure time.

For more information contact Council on **4677 9613** or email youth@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au.

illuminARTe - 5 MAY 2018

CALLING FOR STOREHOLDERS AND SPONSORSHIP

illuminARTe Stallholders 2018

Council is pleased to announce that round 2 of the Stall Holder Applications for the 2018 illuminARTe Wollondilly Festival are now OPEN!

There are still some positions across all categories available, but they are filling fast!

Applications will close 4pm, Wednesday 20 December 2017. Application forms are available through the illuminARTe Facebook page or Council's Website.

Reminder: Applicants must attach the following with their application:

- A copy of current Public Liability Insurance
- Food Handler Training Certificates
- Current photo of stall and products

(Food/Take Away stall holders must meet NSW Food Handling Regulations).

illuminARTe Sponsorship 2018

illuminARTe 2018 sponsorship packages are now available. Be a part of Wollondilly's largest event on the yearly calendar and get some fantastic exposure for your business!

Attracting more than 30,000 people in 2017, illuminARTe Wollondilly is the largest event on Wollondilly's calendar. Sponsoring this unique community event is a great way to reach a broad audience base of local residents and visitors alike.

There are a variety of sponsorship packages and levels available. You can find out more by contacting the Events Team on **4677 9656** or events@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au



WHAT IS THE DILLY WANDERER?

The Dilly Wanderer is a FREE mobile information service for young families to come together and make new friends, participate in children's activities and find out about local services.

We welcome all parents and carers, no need to book - just come along and join in the fun.

The Dilly operates by visiting a town or village near you and setting up children's activities in the park or community hall.

We have lots of information on board on a range of topics such as:

- Health
- Parenting
- Local services
- Events/activities
- General Council info

We also have guest speakers from time to time who will provide information on parenting and health.

Follow us on Facebook for updates or contact us on: **0408 219 393** or **4677 9731** or dillywanderer@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au

INCLUSIVE PLAY SPACE IS COMING!

Council recently asked the community to give feedback on a draft design for the inclusive play space at Warragamba.

The comments we received were really useful in helping to finalise the design for the play space, and we are in the final stages of completing the design based on the feedback we received. We know how excited everyone is for the play space to be completed, so we are keen to get construction underway in the new financial year, with the aim of the play space being open by Christmas 2018.

Watch this space for updates on progress.



REMINDER HEAVY VEHICLE PARKING RULES

Following a recent increase in complaints regarding heavy and long vehicles parking in built up areas, we wanted to remind residents and vehicle owners of the rules around this type of activity.

Road Rules 2014 (State Government Legislation) state that the driver of a heavy or long vehicle must not stop on a length of road in a built-up area for longer than one hour, unless the driver is permitted to stop due to traffic information they have received. (sub rule (2A), (2A-1) or (2A-2).

The definition of a built-up area under the legislation means an area in which either of the following is present for a distance of at least 500m or, if the length of road is shorter than 500m, for the whole road:

- Buildings, not over 100m apart, on land next to the road;
- Street lights not over 100m apart.

A heavy vehicle is defined as a vehicle with a GVM of 4.5 tonnes or more and a long vehicle is a vehicle that, together with any load or projection, is 7.5 metres long or longer.

If you are the driver or registered owner of a heavy or long vehicle please ensure you follow the Road Rules 2014 Legislation to avoid getting a Penalty Infringement Notice.

If you could like more information regarding this topic please contact Council on **4677 1100**.

ALCOHOL FREE ZONES

Wollondilly Shire Council uses Alcohol-Free Zones in some areas to prevent street drinking, improve public safety and reduce alcohol related crime in the streets.

Following a public consultation earlier this year, the Alcohol-Free Zones across the Shire have now been updated and are in force from September 2017-2021.

This means that if a Police Officer reasonably suspects that you are drinking alcohol in one of these zones; they can seize and dispose of that liquor. If you do not comply penalties apply.

More information about Alcohol-Free Zones (including a factsheet and interactive map) can be found on Council's Community Safety page, head to wollondilly.nsw.gov.au to find out more.

APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Did you know that Wollondilly Shire Council offers a number of Apprenticeship and Traineeship opportunities each year?

We are committed to providing opportunities for local young people commencing their career, people returning to work or those interested in a career change.

We will be hosting a number of trainees and apprentices for 2018 in the following areas:

- Business Administration
- Finance
- Events
- Mechanics
- Civil Construction
- Horticulture (Parks and Gardens)

Our trainees and apprentices are exposed to a number of areas within Council and will gain an insight into how we support the local community.

To find out more contact My Gateway Apprenticeships and Traineeships or visit the website mygateway.org.au



 **WORK FOR WOLLONDILLY**
Grow with Wollondilly - Come join us today!

EVALUATION OF COMMUNITY NEWS

We are really excited to be bringing you this fourth edition of 'Community News' and hope you have found it informative.

We have been working hard all year to ensure each edition has a good balance of project updates, road works and business improvement information as well as news of activities and events happening around the Shire.

We would love to hear what you think about the newsletter and how we might improve it for 2018.

You can complete our quick feedback survey at surveymonkey.com/r/communitynewsfeedback or email us at community.engagement@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au. Thanks in advance for your time.

WOLLONDILLY WELCOMES ITS NEWEST COUNCILLOR

Matt Smith is Wollondilly's newest Councillor after being declared the winner of the East Ward by-election held on 28 October. The by-election was required after the resignation of a previous Councillor, Ray Law in July.

30 year old Matt Smith is a father of three, lives in Appin and has a professional career in retail management. Cr Smith has said that his priorities are the Shire's roads and managing future development.

Mayor Judith Hannan said, "On behalf of the all the current Councillors I look forward to working with Matt as we face some great challenges and opportunities ahead like the building of the new town at Wilton".

If you'd like to get in touch with our new Councillor he can be contacted on **0448 083 566** or matt.smith@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au



YOUR COUNCILLORS

NORTH WARD

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

CENTRAL WARD

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

EAST WARD

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

Matt Smith

P 0448 083 566
E matt.smith@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au

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:

- 12 February 2018 (Proposed)
- 12 March 2018 (Proposed)

Upcoming Council Meeting Dates:

- 11 December 2017
- 19 February 2017 (Proposed)

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