

# WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL COUNCIL CONNECTS

Wentworth Shire Council community newsletter for the interest of residents and visitors

February 2021

## Message from the Mayor



Let me take a moment first to acknowledge the passing of Cobar Shire Council Mayor Lilliane Brady OAM. Lilliane passed away earlier this month at age 90. The General Manager and I travelled to Cobar to join other leaders from across the country to farewell Lilliane and acknowledge her commitment to the Cobar Shire at her State Funeral. Lilliane had been Mayor of Cobar for almost 23 years and a local councillor for almost 38 and was the longest serving female Mayor in New South Wales. Community leaders such as myself and our councillors can all take a leaf out of Lilliane's book with regard to how she passionately fought for her community over the years. May she rest in peace. Turning the attention locally, preparations are well underway for the Murray Darling Association's 77th National Conference and AGM on 16-19 May here in our Shire. We are very much looking forward to hosting the representatives from more than 100 councils across the Basin and showing them what our region has to offer.

I am sure our wonderful community will make our guests feel most welcome. Local Government Elections have been set for Saturday 4 September. If you have ever thought about running for Council now is as good a time as any to consider what you could do for your community. The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on Wednesday 17 March 2021 at the Midway Centre Buronga, commencing at 10:00am.

I invite members of the public to view the meeting live via Council's Facebook page. Footage of the meeting can be viewed on the Council website <https://www.wentworth.nsw.gov.au/council/about-the-shire/council-meetings/> following the meeting.

Warm regards

Cr Susan Nichols  
MAYOR

## Wentworth Shire Council snippets

### Algae alert

A Red Alert for Blue Green Algae remains current for the lower Darling River downstream from Menindee Lakes to Burtundy. There is weekly monitoring along the lower Darling River and algal monitoring has also been instigated at Menindee Lakes.

A Red Alert also remains current for the lower Murray River (Colignan to Merbein).

### Service bus on way

Service New South Wales' Mobile Service Centre will be at Buronga on Saturday 20 March from 9:30am-

12:30pm in the car park of Australia Post. Mobile Service Centres are custom-fitted buses with dedicated Service NSW staff on board to provide access to services at rural and regional locations. Customers can complete the same transactions and services available at most Service Centres.



Wentworth Shire Council Team Leader Tourism Karen Arnold and Mayor Susan Nichols are looking forward to welcoming visitors to Wentworth for the Murray Darling Association's 77th National Conference and AGM.

## DELEGATION COMING

Wentworth Shire Council Mayor Susan Nichols says the Council is looking forward to hosting the Murray Darling Association's 77th National Conference and AGM. Cr Nichols said the visitors would provide a major boost for the Wentworth region. "Naturally these representatives will be spending money at our shops, enjoying meals at our restaurants, and staying in our motels and caravan parks while they are here," she said. "All of this provides a great economic benefit to the businesses in the Wentworth region." Themed Connectivity: Connecting Councils

and Catchments, the conference will be held on 16 - 19 May 2021 in Wentworth with conference presenters including experts from industry, government and community organisations, who are all playing a critical role in shaping the future of Australia.

The National Conference & AGM offers delegates the opportunity to be part of the solution - to join the conversation, inform future policy and engage with the innovators, scientists, educators and leaders of our time. Registrations are now open. To register for the conference, please go to [www.mda.asn.au](http://www.mda.asn.au).

## Save the date

### 2021 NSW Local Government elections

**Saturday  
4 September**

Voting is compulsory

[elections.nsw.gov.au/lge21](https://elections.nsw.gov.au/lge21)  
1300 135 736

## Expression Of Interest: Regional Photography Project

Wentworth Shire Council strives to build and enhance positivity and prosperity within the local community through promotion of the region.

We are inviting experienced and suitably qualified individuals or parties to submit expressions of interest for photographic services.

These images will be used in visitor guides, online media channels, brochures, flags, banners merchandise and other promotional activities for Council. For more information, including how to apply, visit: <https://www.wentworth.nsw.gov.au/expression-of-interest-regional-photography-project/>

## Stronger Communities grants open

Member for Farrer the Hon. Sussan Ley MP is taking expressions of interest for the latest round of the Stronger Communities Programme.

Grants of between \$2500 and \$20,000 will be available for small capital works projects and some types of equipment. Eligible projects must bring social benefit to the community.

For more details about the application process please contact Sussan Ley's office on (02) 6021 3264 or [farrer@aph.gov.au](mailto:farrer@aph.gov.au).

This newsletter has been produced by the Wentworth Shire Council for the benefit of the residents of the Shire and visitors to the region.  
Ken Ross  
General Manager

## Meeting mentions

### Transfer station opening hours

Wentworth Transfer Station will remain open on Wednesdays 9:00am to 1:00pm, Friday 1:00pm to 4:30pm and Sundays 9:00am to 2:00pm.

Dareton Transfer Station is closed on Tuesdays and open on Thursdays and Saturdays from 9:00am to 1:00pm.

Buronga Landfill is open Monday to Friday 8:00am until 4:45pm and Saturday and Sunday 9:00am to 4:45pm.

Pomona Landfill is open Friday 9:00am to 12:00pm.

### Financial assistance granted

Council granted seven requests for financial assistance at its February Meeting.

The requests totalled \$14,571.93, leaving a balance of \$62,853.77 for the remainder of 2021.

The requests granted were:

- \$46 to the OMRV Play Group to refund the hire fee of the Pooncarie Hall
- \$2000 to the Wentworth Rowing Club to go towards the Annual Easter Regatta
- \$1760.38 to Dareton Men In A Shed for the purchase of a defibrillator and attachments

- \$5000 to the Sunraysia Motor Sports Club Inc to go towards the Desert Dash 500 Off Road Racing Event being held in Pooncarie on 16-18 April

- A \$389.75 rate reduction for the Wentworth District Pre School Play Centre

- \$375.80 to the Wentworth District Pre School Play Centre to be put towards the 2020/21 annual public liability charges

- \$5000 to the Wentworth District Community Medical Centre Inc towards extensive promotional material to support the need for critical health infrastructure in the Wentworth township.

### Dareton strategy to be displayed

Council has endorsed a draft strategy for the township of Dareton to go out on public display for 28 days.

'Our Town, Our Future - Dareton Revitalised' aims to revitalise the township while ensuring future development of the area is well planned and sustainable for servicing the needs of the current and future community.

The draft strategy will be on display from early March and will be able to be viewed on Council's website under the Public Exhibitions section.

## More news from the Wentworth Shire Council

### Council calls for motions

Wentworth Shire Council will nominate motions to put forward at May's Murray Darling Association National Conference.

Calls for motions close on 12 April, with motions to be considered at the March meeting of Council.

The purpose of the Murray Darling Association is to provide effective representation of local government and communities at state and federal level in the management of Basin

resources by exchanging information, facilitating debate, and seeking to influence government policy.

### Western councils to meet

A delegation led by Mayor Susan Nichols and Deputy Mayor Tim Elstone along with all available councillors will attend the 2021 Western Division of Councils Annual Conference in Broken Hill on 19-21 April.

The focus of the Conference will be the Four Pillars of Sustainability – Human,

Social, Economic and Environment. The Western Division forum represents an excellent opportunity to network with Western NSW community leaders.

### Monthly finances in check

Council's rates and charges collections for the month of January were \$222,363.23. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 60.96%. For comparison purposes 60.45% of the levy had been collected at the end of January 2020.

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