



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Cr Tim Elstone

The 2022/23 financial year encountered project setbacks impacted by flooding and the re-allocation of staff resources, however projects and works in Wentworth Shire are now back on track with some exciting projects being completed in late 2023 and early 2024.

The Civic Centre is progressing well with the interior wall framing near completion. Expected opening 1 July 2024.

Willowbend Caravan Park suffered from the flood inundation, with the moisture levels in the soil still unsuitable for construction to commence.

Pooncarie Road road works have recommenced after 8 months of delays due to widespread flooding. Works are expected to be completed by Christmas 2023.

Please read on for further details.

WENTWORTH FIRES UP

Around 5,000 attendees were fired up for The Smoke Show BBQ & Smoked Meats Festival on Saturday 8 July with an action-packed afternoon of entertainment and delicious smoked meats on offer.

Wentworth Shire Council would like to thank attendees for their patience during the Smoke Show. The interest for a Smoked Meats & BBQ festival is certainly there from the community and visitors alike.

**Read the full article
on page 3.**



ADOPTED DOCUMENTS

Following the June Ordinary Council meeting, Council has adopted the following documents:

- Budget 2023/2024
- Delivery Program 2022-2026
- Operational Plan 2023-2024
(including Annual Fees & Charges)

To view or download a copy, scan the QR code or visit wentworth.nsw.gov.au



THE SMOKE SHOW - BBQ & SMOKED MEATS FESTIVAL

THE SMOKE SHOW BBQ & SMOKED MEATS FESTIVAL FIRES UP IN WENTWORTH

Around 5,000 attendees were fired up for The Smoke Show BBQ & Smoked Meats Festival on Saturday 8 July with an action-packed afternoon of entertainment and delicious smoked meats on offer.

The Smoke Show, a FREE event for all ages hosted by Wentworth Shire Council, has been marked a huge success for the Wentworth community. Wentworth Showgrounds proved to be a perfect location for the number of people at the event, after suffering from flood inundation during the 2022/23 flood period.

In the midst of the floods in February 2023, Wentworth Winedown was hosted at the Australian Inland Botanic Gardens after an original plan to be hosted at the Wentworth Showgrounds. Making use of the Community Pavilion and Showground facilities for the Smoke Show showed that Wentworth has excellent community facilities on offer to host future events.

The Smoke Show provided great live entertainment from local artists, whip cracking and smoking demonstrations, classic cars on display, mechanical bull riding and an assortment of kid's activities. Feeding the crowd of around 5,000 attendees were some of the best smoked and BBQ meat vendors from the local region as well as visiting vendors from Bendigo and Adelaide. One of the food vendors catered for 1,900 meals alone.

With increased numbers, the town was also buzzing with tourism with many searching the charming streets of Wentworth throughout the day.

Food vendors, traders, clubs and charities received an overwhelming amount of support with Wentworth Rowing Club drink purchases going towards the flood clean-up of their clubhouse. Variety The Children's Charity had their charity car on display and the Isolated Children's Parent's Association (ICPA) sold hot donuts to attendees. The event was an excellent opportunity to raise awareness and receive donations for those in need.

Wentworth Shire Council would like to thank attendees for their patience during the Smoke Show with parking and queuing. The interest for a Smoked Meats & BBQ festival is certainly there from the community and visitors alike.



Food OPTIONS

Kids ACTIVITIES

Music & DANCE

Enjoy Catering
(Paella)

SCADS
Cruisin Cafe

The Van

Verdict Catering

Wentworth
Public School
P&C Sausage Sizzle

Balloon Animals

Facepainting

Kids Art Classes

Scavenger Hunt

The Little
Glitter Shack

10:00AM
Welcome to Country

10:30AM
Stray Notes

11:30AM
Sunraysia Dance Academy

11:45AM
Recycled Runway

12:30PM
Sunraysia Community Choir

1:00PM
Nev n Toni

SUPPORT LOCAL

Wentworth will be buzzing with excitement during the Winter Art Fest. Drop into local businesses for alternate food offerings, local arts and crafts and unique shopping experiences.

SUNDAY 30 JULY
10:00AM - 2:00PM

WENTWORTH winter art fest

Art Classes | Art Stalls + Demonstrations
Food Vans | Kids Activities | Live Music

DARLING STREET, WENTWORTH



2023 WENTWORTH SHOW

Saturday Night STREET PARTY

SATURDAY 26 AUGUST | 4:00PM - 8:00PM
DARLING STREET, WENTWORTH

OUTDOOR DINING | KIDS ACTIVITIES
LIVE MUSIC BY GREG & JULIA EVANS AND THE BLUES BERRIES



For further information, scan the QR code or visit:
experiencewentworth.com.au





NAMATJIRA RAW WATER STORAGE

On Wednesday 12 July 2023, Council was invited to the Aboriginal Communities Water and Sewerage Program (ACWSP) Namatjira Raw Water Tank Commissioning.

The tanks are part of a \$3 million upgrade to the raw water supply, funded by the NSW Planning and Environment Department with support from the Dareton Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC), Wentworth Shire Council and NSW Public Works.

THE CELEBRATION

The celebration commenced with a Welcome to Country from Pam Handy, CEO of Dareton Local Aboriginal Land Services and followed by a smoking ceremony by Damien Kennedy and traditional music from Johnno Mitchell. Local Indigenous dancers from Shantelle Thompson Dancers – the Kiilalaana group portrayed the connection of the land and water through dance.

THE RAW WATER SYSTEM

The raw water system is sourced from the Murray River and pumped to the two (2x) two hundred and fifty-two thousand litre (252kl) steel reservoir raw water tanks. The pump station contains a fully remote SCADA system programmed to operate based on demand. Normal operation to provide raw water to the Namatjira

community typically has a flow rate of zero point seven (0.7) to two (2) litres per second. Firefighting operation is capable of delivering flowrates beyond twelve (12) litres per second. Council looks forward to maintaining this vital community infrastructure for the many years to come, with a projected design life being fifty (50) years.

THE ARTWORK

The spectacular artwork by local artists Johnno Mitchell, Jenny McCracken, Lorraine Mitchell, Sharon Kirby, Leo Uribe and Zest Artists is truly unique to this region.

The passion that has gone into the artwork shows the true beauty of the local land and stories of the community, in particular those of the connection to the land and meeting by the water.

The new pumping station mural shows local Aboriginal sporting heroes Jamie Lawson (AFL), Derek Eggmolesse-Smith (AFL) and Shantelle Thompson (Judo/martial arts champion). An excellent encouragement for the community aspirations in sports.

Showcasing local Aboriginal artist and Indigenous culture is extremely important for our region, further enhancing the progress of reconciliation within our communities.

PRAM RAMPS

Pram ramp works are underway across the shire, as part of the Wentworth Shire Council dedication to provide greater accessibility for the future (Disability Inclusion Plan 2022-2026).

The aim is to provide safer access at road crossings for pedestrians, prams and mobility vehicle users.

These works are funded from internal footpath repair budgets – however grant opportunities are constantly being monitored for potential footpath projects.

In terms of safety, concrete typically performs better over the life of the asset.

Future works will be scheduled once inspections are undertaken and project priorities are assessed.

DID YOU KNOW?

The “grade” is an important concept in engineering design and applies to a variety of assets – especially in relation to pram ramps.

It can be known as profile, slope, pitch or “rise-over-run”. Grade of pram ramps typically are up to 2.5% (can be 12.5% over short distances). To put it into perspective; Ranfurly Way down Pump Hill in Merbein is 8.4%!



REQUEST FOR SPONSORSHIP

At the June Ordinary Council Meeting, Sunraysia Safari Cross Country Rally 2023 was approved for \$20,000.00 in sponsorship.

The Rally will be held from 4 September to 11 September 2023, based at the Wentworth Showgrounds.

For further information, visit experiencewentworth.com.au

Baby BOUNCE	0-24 MONTHS	Toddler STORY TIME	18-36 MONTHS	Sensory STORY TIME	3-10 YEARS	STEM IN OUR WORLD	5-12 YEARS
An interactive, early literacy program specially developed for children 0-2 years of age.		Stimulate your child's imagination and help develop their language and literacy skills.		Discover new stories, songs and a variety of sensory experiences, with a focus on neurodiversity.		Explore the library after school with the fun science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics activities.	
Weekly - every Friday		Weekly - every Thursday		Fortnightly (Mondays)		Fortnightly (from 31 July 2023)	
10:00am Wentworth and Midway Libraries		10:00am Wentworth and Midway Libraries		10:00am Wentworth and Midway Libraries		3:45pm, Monday Midway Library	
11:00am Dareton Library						3:45pm, Wednesday Dareton Library	

Would you like to join other activities with Wentworth Shire Libraries?

Join a book club, social sewing and craft group, school holiday activities or the Wentworth walking club.

All ages are welcome in our libraries.

Contact your community library for further information.

follow:



your community library Dareton (03) 5027 4258 | Midway (03) 5027 7060 | Pooncarie (03) 5029 5318 | Wentworth (03) 5027 5060

Wentworth Shire Libraries provide free & accessible programs that contribute to lifelong literacy & learning.

For further information, scan the QR code or visit: wentworth.nsw.gov.au/library

Library
WENTWORTH SHIRE LIBRARIES

Buronga Riverfront Development & New Shared-Way



Wentworth Shire Council has been granted more than \$2 million under the New South Wales Resources for Regions program to deliver infrastructure improvements and programs across the shire.

\$300,000 to install a new toilet block and rising sewer line at the Buronga Riverfront Nature Play area.

\$374,000 to build an all-weather surface shared-way from the Buronga Wetlands to the newly created Buronga Riverfront Nature Play area. ~1400m in length, 2.5m width.



Gol Gol Footpaths

Wentworth Shire Council has been granted more than \$2 million under the New South Wales Resources for Regions program to deliver infrastructure improvements and programs across the shire.

Wood Street/Gol Gol North Road
from Burns Street to Kingfisher Road
~476m in length, 2m width

Pine Road
from Wood Street to Subdivision connection
~230m in length

Wood Street, Gol Gol
from Dawn Avenue to King Street
~600m in length, 2.5m width



James King Park

Wentworth Shire Council is about to undergo a \$400,000 upgrade across two reserves comprising of a new retaining wall, upgraded stairs and paths at James King Park in Gol Gol.



POONCARIE ROAD \$9.2 MILLION ALL WEATHER ACCESS UPGRADE

Wentworth Shire Council has recommenced road works on Pooncarie Road (Wentworth Shire) after 8 months of delays due to widespread flooding.

The \$9.2 million project is jointly funded on a 50:50 basis with the Australian Government and NSW Government under the Growing Local Economies Fund with Office of Regional Development.

Planned improvements include 26km of new seal, allowing road users to access the road in all weather conditions and removing over 600km of road detours when the road is impacted by wet weather-related road closures.

Works are expected to be completed by Christmas 2023.



ROAD CLOSED

WENTWORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL OVAL SEWER WORKS - EXTENDED Arthur Street, Francis Street & Darling Lane, Wentworth

The existing Arthur Street closure from Adam Street to Darling Street has been extended a further two weeks.

Additionally, Francis Street will be closed to all traffic from Adam Street to Darling Street for a one week period.

Darling Lane will be accessible to Local Traffic only.

The closure is to enable the sewer construction at the Wentworth Primary School oval. The works are expected to be completed 5:00pm, Friday 4 August.

Council apologises for any inconvenience this may cause.

Should you wish to discuss the above road closure, please contact Scott Barnes, Manager Engineering Services on (03) 5027 5027.

WENTWORTH WINTER ART FEST Darling Street, Wharf Street & Adelaide Street, Wentworth

The Wentworth Winter Art Fest will be held from 10:00am – 2:00pm on Sunday 30 July 2023.

Logistics for this event will require a section of Darling Street, Wharf Street and Adelaide Street to be closed from 9:00am until 3:00pm.

Darling Street will be closed from the Darling and Sandwyck Street intersection to the entrance of the Willowbend Caravan Park.

Wharf Street will be closed at the Darling Street intersection.

Adelaide Street will be closed from the river to John Egge Lane, leaving the U-turn point free for cars to turn around.



WENTWORTH SHIRE ROAD CONDITIONS

Wentworth Shire Council provides and maintains an extensive road network.

Covering an area of 2,626,926 hectares (26,000 sq km), the network consists of over sealed (599km) and unsealed (1,429km) road.

Road crews are committed to planning ahead to complete road and traffic upgrades to create an integrated traffic network that meets demands.

Regular road health checks and scheduled maintenance works are carried out to ensure the road network is safe and accessible for motorists.

To view the latest Road Condition Report, scan the QR code or visit the Council website. wentworth.nsw.gov.au/road-condition-report



DARETON

community

MARKETS

8:30AM - 12:00PM

SATURDAY 12 AUGUST

TAPIO STREET, DARETON



kids
ACTIVITIES

live
ENTERTAINMENT

local
STALLHOLDERS

GRANTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

For the latest grant programs available, please visit:



Helen Dalton MP
grantguru.com/au/helendalton



Sussan Ley
Federal Member for Farrer
sussanley.com/grants-and-funding-news



Wentworth Shire Council
wentworth.nsw.gov.au/community/grants/

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meetings are normally held on the third Wednesday of each month from 7:00pm at the Council Chambers.

An Extraordinary Council Meeting will be held at 5:00pm Wednesday 26 July 2023 to address a tender assessment.

The Ordinary Council meeting is from 7:00pm Wednesday 16 August 2023 at the Council Chambers.

Members of the public are invited to attend meetings. You can also view the live public sessions of each Council meeting on Facebook.

Scan the QR code or go to wentworth.nsw.gov.au/council-meetings to view previous meeting minutes, agendas and recordings.

MEETING MENTIONS

Development applications continue to roll in

MAY

Determined under delegated authority by the Director Health and Planning:
15 x Development Applications
2 x \$4.55 Modification Applications

\$1,475,727.00

Estimated value of the determined developments.

JUNE

Determined under delegated authority by the Director Health and Planning:
10 x Development Applications
3 x \$4.55 Modification Applications

\$1,811,704.00

Estimated value of the determined developments.

Applications approved (year to date):
67 x Development Applications
22 x \$4.55 Modification Applications

\$11,596,490.00

Estimated development value

Council grants financial assistance

At the June 2023 Council Meeting, Council approved an allocation of \$200,000.00 for the 2023/2024 financial year for consideration by Council, for the funding of requests from the community for financial assistance.

In the 2022/23 financial year, \$184,000.00 was granted to a variety of organisations through the annual fees and charges "Exemptions from the Application" process.

COMMITTEE FORMED

The Heritage & History Advisory Committee has been formed with 5 community members and Councillors.

Financial Assistance Program Open for 2023/2024

Applications for the first round of funding for the 2023/24 financial year are now open.

Community groups, school groups, charitable and not-for-profit organisations within our Shire should consider their funding requests for the 2023/24 financial year.

To be considered at the August Ordinary Council Meeting, applications must be submitted to Council by Monday 31 July.

For further information or to apply for financial assistance, visit **wentworth.nsw.gov.au/community/community-grants**

Looking for a career in Local Government?

See available employment opportunities on our website:
wentworth.nsw.gov.au/employment



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



ONLINE SUBSCRIPTION

Do you want to keep up to date with projects and events in the Wentworth Shire?

Wentworth Shire Council is offering a quarterly projects, events and general Council News eNewsletter direct to your email inbox. This is on top of the monthly Council Connects which also appears in the NSW Standard. Scan the QR code and register to join Council's subscriber list.



Follow us on facebook:
facebook.com/wentworthshirecouncil

You can view live public sessions of Council meetings on Facebook or footage of the meeting can be viewed on the Council website.