

COMMUNITY NEWS



MAY, 2024

COUNTRY UNIVERSITIES CENTRE OPEN



The Country Universities Centre Mudgee Region has officially opened its doors.

The Official opening of the Country Universities Centre (CUC) was held on 27 March at 70 Court Street Mudgee.

The opening was attended by Steve Whan (Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education) and Member for Dubbo Dougald Saunders who addressed the crowd along with Centre Manager Kim Edwards, Brad Cam (GM Mid-Western Regional Council) and Mayor Des Kennedy.

The Centre has received significant interest from the community, with numerous enquiries for enrolment. Presently, 64 students are enrolled, studying at 17 universities across Australia.

The student body exhibits a wide age range, from 18 to 75, with an almost equal representation of both males and females.

The Centre currently has students studying in 13 different areas of tertiary education including medicine, law, criminology, art, science, social work, business, architecture, and environmental studies.

Local artists have embraced the vision of the Centre by generously donating 56 pieces of original art. The Centre now hosts the largest exhibition of local art in the region.

For more information or to enrol, visit cucmudgeeregion.org.au

17

Universities across Australia are being attended through the Centre

18-75

age range of enrolled students

63%

of students are the first to take on University studies in their family



FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

I am pleased to announce Council's Operational Plan and Delivery Program for 2024/25 is now on public exhibition. The Plan outlines upcoming projects for the year and details budget allocations following the Community Plan Proposal submissions received from residents. I encourage the community to provide feedback on the Operational Plan and Delivery Program which can be done online via Council's website.

I express my gratitude to the Mid-Western Regional Youth Council for their contributions to another successful Youth Week in April. The variety

of activities, including skateboarding, arts, craft and circus workshops, were well attended and greatly appreciated by young people in the region.

The upcoming Central West Entrepreneurs Summit on Thursday 9 May at Mudgee Arts Precinct is a highly recommended event for small business owners and emerging entrepreneurs. On the day attendees will hear presentations from influential entrepreneurs who will be sharing their stories, insights, and knowledge that will drive innovation, inspire and educate attendees.

Mayor Des Kennedy

EXHIBITION

GUWAYU: FOR ALL TIME



Danie Mellor, *On the edge of the darkness (the sun also sets)*, 2020 © the artist

FIRST NATIONS ARTISTS AT MUDGEES ARTS PRECINCT

Guwayu: for all time will be exhibited at Mudgee Arts Precinct from 3 May – 28 July 2024.

Guwayu is an important exhibition of First Nations artists honouring the past inherited and looks to the future that will be left behind.

Curated by Mudgee-based Wiradjuri woman, Aleshia Lonsdale, this powerful exhibition will showcase the meta-temporal nature of Australia's history where the past, present and future exist together.

The exhibition will contain works by some of Australia's most renowned First Nations artists including Tony Albert, Nicole Chaffey, Jo Clancy, Lorraine Connelly-Northey, Karla Dickens, Blak Douglas, Fiona Foley, Maddison Gibbs, Juanita MacLaughlan, Aleshia Lonsdale, Danie Mellor, Vincent Namatjira, Joel Sherwood Spring, Jason Wing and Judy Watson.

For more information visit mudgeeartsprecinct.com.au.

GULGONG WATER PIPE REPLACEMENT UPDATE

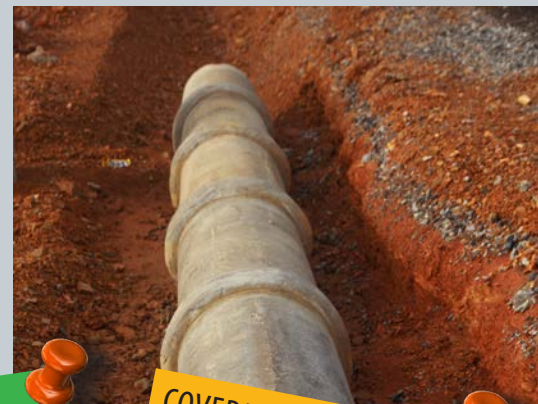
Council is committed to the replacement of Gulgong's ageing water infrastructure. Council is 8 years into the 10 year project with a budget exceeding \$10 million to replace all of the towns ageing pipes, enhancing the overall reliability of the water supply.

Council has replaced more than 80% of the existing ageing pipes, moving closer to the goal of modernising Gulgong's water pipe infrastructure. The project is anticipated to be complete in 2025.

Until all pipe infrastructure is replaced, there may be instances of water discolouration. Council is committed to promptly addressing any issues that may arise during this time. Residents encountering

problems with their water are encouraged to report this by calling 1300 765 002 allowing Council to address the issue promptly by flushing the lines to clear any sediment present.

To report a problem visit midwestern.nsw.gov.au.



NATIONAL STORYTIME

Get involved in this fun annual event by joining us at the Mudgee Library on Wednesday 22 May for an engaging reading of *Bowerbird Blues* by Aura Parker. Every year a picture book, written and illustrated by an Australian author and illustrator, is read in libraries, schools, pre-schools, and many other places around the country – join us to celebrate Australian stories. Bookings essential: mwrclibrary.eventbrite.com

TOWN HALL CINEMA

Mudgee Town Hall Cinema is back in operation after essential repairs were made to Cinema equipment. Showings will resume as normal on the first weekend of every month from 3 May. Council allocated \$25,000 from the asset replacement reserve towards the essential repairs. For screenings and session times visit midwestern.nsw.gov.au

COVER YOUR LOAD

Uncovered loads result in a \$457 on-the-spot fine and 3 demerit points. They harm the environment and can turn into dangerous projectiles, increasing the risk of accidents and injuries on the road. By ensuring proper load covering, you not only safeguard the environment but also contribute to the safety of fellow motorists.

NEWS IN BRIEF

EMERGENCY EXERCISE AT MUDGEEE AIRPORT

An emergency exercise will be conducted at Mudgee Airport on 6 May between 9am and 12:30pm.

The exercise is designed to test and evaluate the effectiveness of emergency services, equipment, infrastructure, procedures, and personnel in responding to an emergency scenario at the Airport.

The simulation will involve an aircraft-to-aircraft accident, allowing assessment of firefighting and hazardous materials response capabilities, casualty management procedures, evacuation protocols, and

communication systems.

The objective is to scrutinise and identify areas for improvement while ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements.

The collaborative nature of this exercise underscores the significance of partnerships among Police, Rural Fire Services, Fire and Rescue, Ambulance, Mudgee Hospital, VRA, SES services and Council.

The emergency exercise will ensure continuous improvement for emergency response in the region.



NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

National Volunteer Week, established in 1989, stands as Australia's biggest annual celebration of volunteers held from 20-26 May. It serves as a reminder of the profound impact volunteers have on the fabric of society. In regional areas where community bonds run deep, volunteering emerges as the backbone of society's vitality. Council would like to recognise the work of all volunteers within the region. Your contributions are appreciated and help to make the Mid-Western Region a safe and engaging place to live and work.

FOGO AND RECYCLING

Council is dedicated to environmental sustainability by offering residents FOGO (Food Organics Garden Organics) green bin liners. By diverting organic waste away from landfill, food and garden waste can be converted into valuable resources like compost.

Through active participation, residents can reduce their carbon footprint and contribute to the creation of nutrient-rich compost, enhancing soil structure and supporting plant growth in gardens.

Organic waste undergoes various stages of decomposition and treatment at the Region's waste facilities, where microorganisms such as bacteria and fungi assist in breaking down the FOGO liners and their contents.

For further details on compostable FOGO bin liners, please visit Council's website. The FOGO bin liners are available for pick up from Council's Administration Building at 86 Market Street Mudgee.



WOMBAT MANGE TREATMENT WORKSHOP

WIRES invites residents to a free workshop addressing the sarcoptic mange affecting local wombats. Learn treatment methods to support wildlife. The workshop will be held at the Cultural Centre on Douro St Mudgee Saturday 4 May, from 9am - 3pm. Morning tea and lunch provided. To register for the workshop visit wires.org.au/training/mange-treatment-course.

PROVIDE YOUR FEEDBACK

Council's Draft 2024/25 Operational Plan and Delivery Program is now on public exhibition and can be viewed on Council's website. The Plan sets out the projects and activities that Council is committed to over the coming financial year, with measures, time frames, and responsibilities identified. Feedback can be submitted on Council's website until 16 May, visit midwestern.nsw.gov.au.

GET YOUR RATES EMAILED

Residents can opt to receive their water and rates notices by email rather than post. Electronic notices save on time and paper, and help track and manage bills more effectively. To register and receive your rates and water notices via email, visit Council's website midwestern.nsw.gov.au.

JOIN A BOOK GROUP

Book groups meet monthly at Mudgee, Gulgong and Kandos library branches from February through to November. Come along and chat books with other keen readers. Details about library book groups, when they meet, and how to register are available at midwestern.nsw.gov.au/Community/Libraries/Book-groups.



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EVENTS CALENDAR



3-5
MAY

Town Hall Cinema
Mudgee Town Hall

Showing on the 3, 4 and 5 of May. Kung Fu Panda 4 (G), Godzilla x Kong: The New Empire (M), Great Escaper (M). Ticket sales and sessions times on Council's website.



3 MAY
- 28 JULY

Guwayu: for all time Exhibition
Mudgee Arts Precinct

Guwayu: *for all time* is an exhibition of First Nations artists honoring the past we have inherited and the future we leave behind.



4-5
MAY

Mudgee Classic
Glen Willow Sporting Complex

The Cycling event attracts over 2,000 riders from across the country to Mudgee. Visit mudgeeclassic.com.au



09
MAY

Central West Entrepreneurs Summit
Mudgee Arts Precinct

Hear from influential entrepreneurs sharing their expert knowledge, insights and stories. Tickets at 123tix.com.au



12
MAY

Gooree Cup
Mudgee Racecourse

Enjoy one of the region's most popular race meets held in May annually. For more information visit mudgeeraceclubinc.com



15
MAY

Mid-Western Regional Council Meeting
Council Chambers, Market Street, Mudgee.

From 5.30pm.

Meeting live-stream available on Council's website.

All information correct at the time of publication. Events may be subject to change. Please contact event organisers for further details.



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Live.

Failing to clean up after your dog can attract a \$275 on the spot fine. Please think of other residents and clean up after your dog when out and about.

Collection bags are provided free of charge and are attached to most rubbish bins in the CBD areas and parks. As well as being unsightly and very unpleasant for those who step in it, dog faeces is damaging to the environment and can end up in waterways.

Work.

Mid-Western Regional Council is an award winning organisation offering a range of career opportunities in areas such as admin, planning and development, water supply, parks and gardens, libraries, operations, and community services. Council is an equal opportunity employer and values diversity in its people. For current positions vacant, go to 'Employment' on Council's website.

Invest.

The 2024/25 Operational Plan and Delivery Program is on public exhibition via Council's website. The Plan includes capital expenditure of \$56.6 million, delivering on a variety of projects including new infrastructure and upgrades of existing facilities. In the Plan Council has committed \$10.7 million for the improvement of roads, bridges and footpaths, as well as delivering on Community Plan Proposals submitted by residents.

Visit.

Kandos boasts a rich industrial legacy, pivotal in producing the cement for the Sydney Harbour Bridge construction. Explore this history and more at Kandos Museum, housed in a striking Californian Mission style Church. Discover captivating stories, artefacts and photographs that bring the towns history to life. Visit kandosmuseum.org.au.