## KYOGLE & villages

## **Community Newsletter**

MAY/JUNE 2021

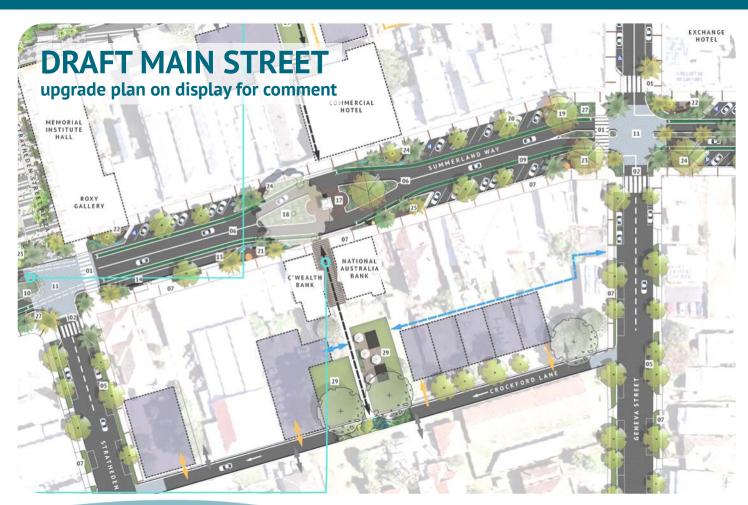


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MAYOR'S MESSAGE

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### from the Mayor ...

I was honoured to attend the dedication of the Private Tom Hall Bench at Bonalbo on Sunday 16 May.

The commemorative bench has been installed in the Patrick McNamee Anzac Memorial Park.

Also at the ceremony were Councillor Earle Grundy, State Member for Lismore Janelle Saffin, representatives from the Kyogle RSL sub-Branch including Bruce MacKenzie and Jack McDonough, past veterans, members of the Hale family, and members of the Bonalbo and district community, see photo right.

The idea for a commemorative bench was suggested to Council with advice coming from the community as to what kind of bench they would like to see installed, its design and of course, the dedication to Tom.

A light lunch followed the event at the Dog 'n Bull Hotel.

The bench is a tangible example of how Council and community can work together to deliver outcomes for the community that they actually want.

There's a lot going on at the moment, with meetings in Sydney and across the region starting to ramp up again.

The Clarence Way features largely in many of these conversations.

We are waiting on the announcement of the second round of funding under the Fixing Country Roads program to see if Council has been successful in gaining a grant to upgrade the road.

The Bonalbo Progress Association is circulating a petition calling on the Government to provide Council with funding to repair and upgrade the Clarence Way from the Bruxner Highway to Urbenville



and have also produced bumper stickers which say "I survived the Clarence Way".

So please sign the petition to help Council get this \$30 million application across the line and buy a sticker to help a reasonably new organisation get on their feet.

The stickers were generously funded by locals, Paul and Michelle Malt but all proceeds go to the Bonalbo Progress Association.

The bumper stickers are available in most shops in Bonalbo, the Bonalbo Post Office and Kyogle Pharmacy.

One is also heading up to Woodenbong

Alternatively, there is an online petition at <a href="https://">https://</a>

www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/la/Pages/ ePetition-details.aspx?q=sbAeRl0uX% 2F%20lCriu1iGXtA%3D%

3D&fbclid=IwAR1hxYkmH9\_yeKUzfxEbe Dn4lLOLqpIuR32Z0OZU\_qvr82orBrih1e6

N2GI

There are great local events happening all over our council area - with the Writer's Festival in Kyogle, the Tabulam Art Festival, see photo left, and village markets to name a few. If you're out and about, drop in and check out what's happening in

your local area - you're bound to find something of interest.

The drought, bushfires and now the current wet season have impacted our roads.

We recognise there are potholes popping up, but please be patient: we have a 3800km2 road and bridge network to maintain so there are no quick fixes.

Crews are working to capacity.

If you have an issue with your road, please submit a customer request either via email at <a href="mailto:council@kyogle.nsw.gov.au">council@kyogle.nsw.gov.au</a>, call 6632 1611, or drop into Council's administration centre.

Council's incredible Customer Service staff will be happy to take the details and make sure your complaint has been entered into the system.

We have just delivered a record, once in a lifetime budget, with more than \$200 million planned to be invested in our communities over the next four years.

For a small rural council with rates being only 23% of our revenue, that's an incredible achievement and one we can attribute to our success in lobbying both State and Federal Governments for additional funding.

The details of the budget are available on the Council's website.

Meanwhile, the lobbying will continue so we can invest even more funds in the Kyogle local government area.

Cr Danielle Mulholland





## **OPINIONS SOUGHT ON**

### town centre revitalisation options

#### From page 1

Council has extended the closing date for community comment on the draft main street and civic precinct landscaping plan and is now seeking feedback on four different options.

The draft plan provides a vision for the future revitalization of the Kyogle town centre that improves road safety, particularly for children and the elderly, better manages traffic flow, provides more green spaces and makes existing public spaces more usable.

The starting point for this process was the emerging desire from the community to see investment in the town centre that would support business growth and facilitate community events and activities.

Building upon Council's adopted Open Space Design Guide, concept plans have been developed that show the potential for key spaces and streets in and around the town centre to be redeveloped to create a safer and more attractive town centre. It also aims to improve safety for motorists at intersections.

Consultation responses so far have broadly welcomed the principle of en-

hanced greening, improved pedestrian access and activation of the town centre, however there is clearly significant interest in the impact that any proposed redevelopment will have on parking.

In order to create a more comfortable and attractive town centre for all users, it will be necessary to reduce the number of formal parking spaces in the CBD.

"We can't achieve all these objectives without some change and a few compromises," Council's General Manager Graham Kennett said.

"With the main compromise being the loss of some parking spaces in the main street.

"The question the community has to resolve is whether they are prepared to give up a few parking spaces in the main street in return for a town centre that is much safer for pedestrians and motorists, and which is a much more inviting place to visit and do business?"

The four options now being considered are:

**Option 1** – Draft plans on public display – 40kph zone through town centre, re-

place centre parking between Stratheden Street and Kyogle Road with angle parking and reversing lane, retain town clock in current location, maximise green space, final design would see reduction in car parking of around 75 spaces

**Option 2** – Draft plans with town clock relocated - 40kph zone through town centre, replace centre parking between Stratheden Street and Kyogle Road with angle parking and reversing lane, town clock moved to Stratheden Street plaza area, final design would see reduction in car parking of around 42 spaces

**Option 3** – retain centre parking and improve landscaping – 40kph zone through town centre, retain current parking arrangements, retain town clock in current location, maximise green space, final design would see a reduction in car parking of around 36 spaces

**Option 4** – no changes other than 40kph zone – 40kph zone through town centre, retain current parking arrangements, retain town clock in current location, no additional landscaping or seating or gardens, no loss of parking spaces on Sum-

merland Way

Written submissions will now be accepted up until 4pm on Friday, 18 June 2021 and should be sent to coun-

cil@kyogle.nsw.gov.au or PO Box 11, Kyogle, NSW, 2474

Council is also launching an on-line poll on the four options. Community members will be able vote for their preferred option and provide comments on the overall plan to revitalize the town centre.

All submissions previously received will be considered together with responses to the on-line poll.

LEFT: Draft concept plan for Stratheden Street Plaza (including relocated town clock to the town square).



### **WORKSHOPS**

### for prospective councillors

Free workshops for people interested in running for Kyogle Council at the 4 September local government elections will be held at Kyogle in June.

The workshops will be conducted by a facilitator from Local Government NSW and are aimed at giving potential candidates a better understanding of the role and responsibilities of an elected member of council.

The same content will be presented at both workshops, with one scheduled to be held from 5-8pm on Tuesday 22 June and the other from 9am-noon on Wednesday 23 June at the Kyogle Memorial Institute Hall.

- At the end of the workshop, participants will be able to:
- Identify the key requirements for becoming a candidate at the NSW local government elections;
- Understand the role of a councillor, and how it fits in with other roles and levels of government;
- Understand the role as an elected member of the governing body;
- Understand the expectations and potential challenges in becoming a councillor;
- Understand the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework, and how councillors



work within this;

 Identify key elements of council meetings, including code of meeting practice, code of conduct and conflict of interest.

Council General Manager Graham Kennett said councillors played an important role in representing the community and made important decisions that shaped services and the future of their communities.

"Being a councillor takes a serious commitment that requires dedication to community service and good governance. It's important that prospective councillors understand how councils work and what is expected of them," he said.

"I urge all prospective candidates to take

the time to get a full understanding of what is involved in being a Councillor. Council's website contains policies, annual reports and financial statements that I encourage prospective candidates to take the time to familiarise themselves with them."

People thinking about standing for Council at the 4 September election are also encouraged to visit the NSW Electoral Commission website at https://

www.elections.nsw.gov.au/FAQs/Candidate-FAQs or phone the Electoral Commission during business hours on 1300 022 011.

The Electoral Commission has the following six step guide for candidates:

Step 1 - Familiarise yourself with the election processes and your legal obligations

Step 2 - Register as a candidate or group to start campaigning

Step 3 - Manage and record your campaign finances throughout the entire election period

Step 4 - Candidate nominations

Step 5 - Registration of electoral material ("how to vote") to distribute on election day

Step 6 - Disclose political donations and electoral expenditure

Voting in the 4 September Local Government elections is compulsory.

## WRITERS FEST an overwhelming success

Crowds flocked to the first Kyogle Writers Festival, which took place between 14-16 May over seven different venues.

The event was an overwhelming success, with ticket sales better than expected, accommodation in town booked out and several local businesses reporting their best day of trade in a long time.

The festival began with an event at the Sugarbowl Cafe which included a Welcome to Country smoking by local elder Uncle Andrew Johnston, and a recital by poet David Hallet.

Highlights of the festival included the First Nations panel hosted by Radio National's Daniel Browning, Ellen van Neerven's event at the Roxy - complete with guest appearance by festival headliner Melissa Lucashenko, the Narrative Podcasting workshop and the Writing Place in the Country

panel hosted by local writer Jarrah Dundler on the Richmond River Independent stage.

Many festival goers commented on the strength of the line-up, the warmth and hospitality of locals and how stunning our little neck of the woods really is.

Like all good festivals, this one was run largely on the back of volunteers,

with many locals opening their homes to visiting writers for the weekend.

The Kyogle Writers Festival would like to thank Kyogle Council General Manager Graham Kennett and his team at Council for their support of the festival, without which it would have not been possible, and looks forward to strengthening this relationship moving forward.

As well as major sponsors KDAC, Arts



Northern Rivers, The Richmond River Independent and Southern Cross University.

The weekend finished with drinks at the Kyogle Bowls Club, which saw writers and festival goers mingling with the Kyogle Turkey's fans and players, in a way that truly summed up our small town.

Plans are already afoot for the 2022 edition of the festival, so stay tuned for more information in the coming months.



### **NEW BRIDGE TO**

#### use earth friendly concrete

Council is hoping that a new precast style of bridge it will use to replace Allcocks Bridge on Bentley Road will dramatically reduce bridge build times and cut down on greenhouse emissions.

Work on the new bridge, which incorporates cutting edge technology, was due to start at the end of May.

The new precast bridge has been built by Wagners out of their "Earth Friendly Concrete" (EFC). Simply put, EFC is concrete that uses no ordinary cement.

Instead, EFC uses a binder made from two industrial waste by-products: blast furnace slag (waste from iron production) and fly ash (waste from coal fired power generation).

This alternative eco-friendly binder reduces the carbon emissions associated with normal cement and also has a much lower embodied energy, a win-win for the environment.

The large precast units have already been built and are currently curing.

Works on site installing the piles were due to start 24 May with the installation of the five main components following shortly after.

This proof of concept bridge should cut installation time to less than a third that of a normal bridge, reducing the time motorists are inconvenienced.



Council's bridge crew prepares to lay the concrete deck on the new Matthews Bridge on Green Pigeon Road.

# **NEW MATTHEWS**bridge opens to traffic in June

The new \$1.18 million Matthews Bridge on Green Pigeon Road is expected to be open to traffic in early June.

The concrete deck on the new two-lane bridge was poured mid May, with construction of the road approaches and installation of the abutment scour protection the final stages of the project.

The new 35 metre long bridge sits about half a metre higher than the old timber bridge, giving the community better flood immunity.

Built by Council's bridge crew, the new structure took about three months to complete. The crew had to battle three consecutive floods and recurrent wet weather during the build, yet in spite of the challenges thrown down by Mother Nature, they are on track to bring the new bridge to completion well within budget.

# **CLARENCE WAY** upgrade project accelerates

Council has sealed the first 1.2km section of the Clarence Way between Woodenbong and Urbenville as part of a \$5 million project to upgrade the 12km stretch of road.

Work has now started on the second stage of the project, pictured right, sealing another 1.2km section of the road near Urbenville.

The project has been funded through the Federal Government's Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program.

Local contractors MJ Smith and Maslen Contractors are carrying out much of the work, with Council overseeing the project.

A second works crew will be brought on to the project in June, allowing Council to complete two sections of the road at once.



This will speed up construction works and reduce inconvenience to motorists.

The project is expected to be completed by the end of the year.



### WOODENBONG

#### artists exhibit their work

WORD, the Roxy Gallery exhibition conceived out of the support for the Kyogle Writers Festival, has received plenty of praise.

Featuring local artists responding to the literate in the visual, the exhibition revealed how words can connect to artmaking both as a vehicle for ideas and as a driver for interpreting visual images.

The June exhibition at Council's Roxy Exhibition will feature works by members of the Woodenbong Arts Group (WAG).

Titled *Working WAGS*, the exhibition will open to the public on Wednesday, 2 June.

It will showcase the many talents living and creating in the north west region of the Kyogle Local Government Area.

The official opening will be held on Saturday 5 June from 1-3pm and provides a great opportunity for the public to come along and meet members of the Woodenbong Arts Group Inc.

Woodenbong is a thriving area full of beauty that inspires the creative mind.



This painting by Christine Reid of Mount Lindsay from the top of Edinburgh Castle will feature in June's Working WAGS exhibition at Council's Roxy Gallery.

Many of the artists living in this region are influenced by the majestic landscapes and refined crafting skills from living off the land.

The Roxy Gallery is happy to support artists from this region showcase their talents and provide marketing opportunities for their creative works.

## Watercolour WORKSHOP

Have you ever wanted to brush up your skills and knowledge on the techniques of watercolour?

Artist Christine Cameron is a skilled watercolourist and has exhibited her artworks throughout the Northern Rivers.

She has been undertaking watercolour workshops in Ballina and Lismore and now is offering a weekend workshop in Kyogle.

These workshops are for all skill levels and are a fantastic way to meet new people, learn new skills and create new artworks.

The Kyogle and District Arts
Group will be hosting the two
-day workshop on the mornin
weekend of 12-13 June in the is BYO.



Supper Room of the Kyogle Memorial Hall.

This is a great opportunity to enjoy the medium of paper and transparent watercolour while learning design principles, techniques and paint application.

HB or 2B propagation paper and p

The cost of the workshop is \$200 for the two days (with discounts of \$15 for current Arts Council members).

It will start at 9.30am and run through until 4 pm with morning tea provided, lunch is BYO.

Those attending should bring two old bath towels, an HB or 2B pencil and note paper and get ready to play and learn.

Each participant will be provided with watercolour paper and brushes and watercolour paints to use.

Full cash payment is requested on bookings, which are being taken at the Roxy Gallery. Places are limited to 12 people. For more information, contact Carol Harris on 0412 321 552.

# **KEG TO MARK**World Environment Day

The winner of the Kyogle Environment Group's (KEG) art competition for World Environment Day will be announced at the Kyogle Farmers Market on Saturday 5 June.

KEG had asked the area's budding artists to design a poster for mark World Environment Day 2021, which will kick off the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (a global mission to revive billions of hectares of land and sea).

KEG will also have an information stall at the market to raise awareness of the importance of healthy ecosystems and give away free trees.

World Environment Day has been celebrated every year on 5 June since 1974 and while Australia still has large tracts of wilderness, these are under threat, and KEG is hoping to encourage people to be vigilant every day of the year.



## What's happening at THE LIBRARY

#### **Jigsaws**

Jigsaws are now available to borrow from Kyogle library. Drop-in and check out the colourful collection.

#### Seeds

Take advantage of the great gardening weather and plant some seeds which are available free from the fantastic seed library.

New varieties are available and the library is still accepting donations to further grow the seed library.

All donations of seeds greatly appreciated.

#### Story time

Read, Rhyme and Romp, a story time session for mothers and their bubs (under three years of age), has returned to Kyogle library.

It's held every Friday (during school terms) from 10.300-11am and pre-school aged siblings are also welcome.

#### Play time

Playdough Play Time is open to preschoolaged children and their carers and is held at the Kyogle library on the third Thursday of the month (during school terms) from 10.30-11am.

The next session will be held on Thursday 16 June.

#### Lego Club

Kyogle library is once again hosting a Monthly Lego Club for children aged five years and older.

It's held on the fourth Thursday of the month (during school terms) from 3.30-4.30pm.

Lego Club's next meeting is scheduled for 24 June.

#### Holiday fun

Check with Kyogle library staff for dates, details and bookings for the June-July free school holiday activity sessions.

School holidays run from 28 June to 9 July.

#### **Book Discussion Group**

Kyogle Library Book Discussion group members are having great fun getting together COVID-style while discussing their latest reads at Kyogle library.

The group meet on the third Tuesday of every month at 10.30am. Please bring your

own coffee/drink.

#### Home delivery service

Are you or a family member, friend or neighbour having difficulties getting to the library for health reasons?

If so, library staff are happy to arrange a free fortnightly delivery service of library items to residences within the Kyogle township.

Contact Kyogle library staff on 6632 1134 for further details.

#### JP services

Need a Justice of the Peace?

JP services are available at Kyogle library. People are advised to phone ahead on 6632 1134 to check on staff availability.

#### **Printing**

Need to print, copy, (black and white or colour), scan, use fast free Wi-Fi or access a computer?

It's all available at the Kyogle library.

You can even forward the library your printing from home to

#### kyoissues@richmondvalley.nsw.gov.au

Contact Kyogle library staff for costs and other details.

#### **Exercise equipment**

Do you need help achieving a fitness goal? Soon you will be able to borrow exercise equipment from the library. The equipment will include:

- Skipping ropes
- Yoga Mats
- Kettlebells
- Combo packs (stretch bands, weighted skipping ropes)

A wide range of exercise DVDs and health cookbooks are also available at all libraries as well as health and wellbeing magazines (online).

Just bring your library card and get yourself fit,

The equipment will be available for loan for a period of up to three weeks.

You will be required to sign a liability waiver which covers the risk of harm or injury which may occur as a result of using the equipment.

This will be provided at time of borrowing.

#### Hoopla

The next exciting addition to the eLibrary is Hoopla!

Hoopla offers library members an



Cake tins can now be borrowed from the Kyogle library, including specialty tins such as this Pinata cake tin that library volunteer lan is holding.

enormous selection of free digital video (both movies and TV shows), music, eAudiobooks, eBooks and comics.

Starting on Saturday 1 May, each library member will be able to borrow six items in Hoopla each month.

Register for a Hoopla account by visiting hoopladigital.com.au or using the Hoopla app on your mobile device. You will need to provide an email address, create a password, and have your library account information ready.

The Richmond Upper Clarence Regional Library's free mobile app can be found in the Apple Store and the Google Play store.

For further assistance please contact your local library.

#### Tech help

Do you need help to access MyGov, set up an email account or hold a Zoom meeting?

Maybe you want to learn more about the Cloud, Bluetooth or QR Codes.

Tech Savvy sessions are available free at Kyogle library.

To book your 30 minute session, call 6660 0250.

\* To assist with COVID-19 regulations, please phone Kyogle library on 6632 1134 for further details about joining any of the above activities or groups.

## **AFTERLEE ROAD**

#### upgrade works begin

Improvements continue on Afterlee Road with the replacement of six culverts expected to be completed by the end of May.

Afterlee Road was closed for short periods while the culverts were replaced.

Council understands the road closures caused some inconvenience and thanks local residents and motorists for their understanding and patience.

Meanwhile, work to upgrade an 11.25km section of Afterlee Road between Ettrick Road and Brown Knob Road also has started. There are no road closures planned, with all upcoming road works expected to be undertaken under traffic control.

Rehabilitation of Walters Street, Kyogle was completed in May.

This project included installation of 27 meters of pipe, and pavement rehabilitation and sealing of Walters Street from Anzac Drive to Norco Rural Store.

Work continues on the upgrade of Bruxner Highway near Rodgers Road.



Work on the new Cedar Point Bridge on Edenville Road is expected to start in June.

Carried out under Council's contract with Roads and Maritime Services, the work includes road widening and kerb installation as well as other drainage improvements

Council's contractor commenced site works for the new Cedar Point Bridge on Edenville Road in May and demolition of the bridge is expected to start in June.

The new single lane bridge will be constructed using the centre piers of the existing bridge and is expected to be completed in February 2022.

Edenville Road will be closed for the majority of the works, and as with any construction project, adverse weather and other unforeseen conditions may impact the progress of the project.

#### Council MEETINGS

The next Ordinary Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 15 June 2021 at 5pm. Ordinary meetings are held on the second Monday of every month except January and June. Meetings start at 5pm and are held at the Kyogle Council Chambers, 1 Stratheden Street, Kyogle. The first item of general business is Public Forum, which provides an opportunity for the public to speak to Council on items of business to be considered at the meeting. To request to speak at the Public Forum, you should email council@kyogle.nsw.gov.au or phone 6632 1611 by midday on the Friday preceding the meeting.

#### **REGIONAL ROADS INFORMATION**

www.myroadinfo.com.au

### Council contact and info

#### RECYCLING FACILITIES

All Council waste facilities have recycling capabilities (if separated) and can recover oil, paper, cardboard, steel, aluminium, glass, and plastic at no charge.

The waste facility hours of operation are: Kyogle: 7.30am-12pm Monday to Friday

9am-4pm Saturday & Sunday

Woodenbong: Tuesday & Saturday 9am-4pm Bonalbo: Wednesday & Saturday 9am-4pm Mallanganee: Thursday & Sunday 9am-4pm \* All Council waste facilities are closed on public holidays



#### A WARD

Cr Kylie Thomas 0428 919 496

crkylie.thomas@kyogle.nsw.gov.au

Cr Hayden Doolan

0402 097 185

crhayden.doolan@kyogle.nsw.gov.au

Cr Janet Wilson

0419 600 848

crjanet.wilson@kyogle.nsw.gov.au

#### B WARD

Cr John Burley (Deputy Mayor) 6632 1436 or 0437 252 376 crjohn.burley@kyogle.nsw.gov.au

Cr Maggie May

0499 551 714

crmaggie.may@kyogle.nsw.gov.au

Cr Robert Dwyer

6632 3352

crbob.dwyer@kyogle.nsw.gov.au

#### C WARD

Cr Danielle Mulholland (Mayor)

0438 931 425

crdanielle.mulholland@kyogle.nsw.gov.au

Cr Lindsay Passfield

6635 1429

crlindsay.passfield@kyogle.nsw.gov.au

Cr Earle Grundy

6665 3290

crearle.grundy@kyogle.nsw.gov.au

PO BOX 11, 1 Stratheden Street, Kyogle, NSW, 2474
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Website: www.kyogle.nsw.gov.au Facebook: www.facebook.com/KyogleCouncil

KYOGLE COUNCIL HOURS 8.30AM-4PM
MONDAY TO FRIDAY