

The panoramic views from the Richmond Range at Mallanganee. Photo: PAUL DALEY.

**In this
ISSUE**

**FROM THE
MAYOR**
- 2 -

**GRANTS TO
REDUCE
DISASTER RISK**
- 3 -

**RULES FOR
KEEPING
POULTRY**
- 4 -

**RETURN, EARN
AND RECYCLE**
- 4 -

**FLOOD
GRANTS FOR
COUNCIL**
- 5 -

**PLASTIC BAG
BANNED**
- 8 -

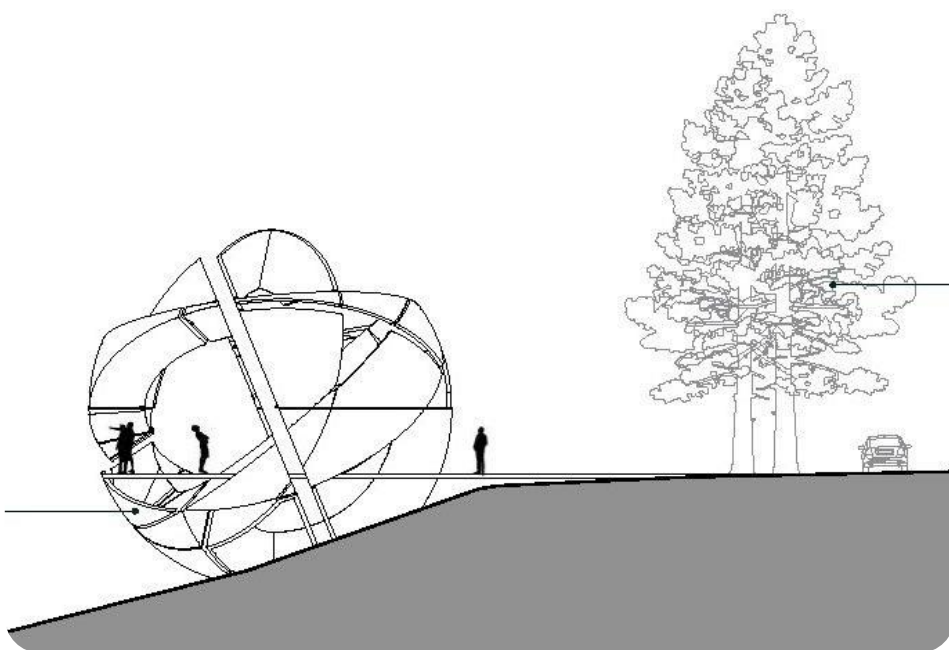
\$2.7M to build Mallanganee OBSERVATORY

The Mallanganee lookout will be transformed into unique observatory that will showcase the beauty of the landscape as well as the awe-inspiring night sky thanks to a \$2.067 million Regional Tourism Activation Fund grant from the State Government.

Kyogle Council also will contribute \$690,000 to the project which will see an observatory inspired by an armillary sphere constructed off the northern end of the current lookout site on the top of the Richmond Range.

It will be built out of metal and concrete and will be semi-enclosed, providing the perfect vantage to enjoy spectacular views across the Richmond Ranges to the Border Ranges and Wollumbin during the day and the breathtaking celestial views overhead at night.

And with the observatory lying on the precise latitude where the centre of the Milky Way crosses directly overhead every day, it is expected to generate plenty of



An artist's impression of the proposed new observatory. The plan will see the existing row of Hoop pines retained.

interest from tourists around the globe.

The project will also include the construction of new public toilets and carpark on the site, upgrades to the access road

from the Bruxner Highway, development of a walking track through the Mallanganee National Park and landscaping.

Continued Page 3



from the Mayor ...



As a local government organisation, one of the most important plans we have is our Operational Plan and Delivery Program. The 22-23 Draft Operational Plan and

Delivery Program, which has been on public exhibition since 11 April, is our budget and project plan for what we aim to undertake in the upcoming year.

With flood repair works taking centre-stage, we will be doing our best to address those outstanding issues while continuing to maintain and uphold our prior commitments to the community.

Both State and Federal Governments are funding many projects such as the Bridge Renewal Program, the Clarence Way upgrade between Woodenbong and Bonalbo, the new Mallanganee Observatory and the Health and Wellbeing Hub at the Kyogle Pool.

Council works hard to secure funding wherever possible to continue to provide for our communities without placing that burden on our ratepayers.

Moving from recovery to reconstruction, the National Recovery and Resilience Agency so far has granted more than \$4 million for our agriculture/primary producers, almost \$200,000 for



Tina Wilson presented a very successful juniors art, music, and film making workshop to 16 children and their parents at the Kyogle library on 14 May as part of the Kyogle Writers Festival. The workshop featured Tina's film "Afloat in Venice" starring globe-trotting hand-knitted toy 'Monkey' and friends.

small businesses and \$434,000 to individuals. All this to help get us back on our feet after the flood/storm damage.

Northern Rivers Mayors will be meeting with State MPs and the Flood Reconstruction Corporation to discuss the role of local government in how we rebuild our region.

Another successful Kyogle Writers Festival this past month had many visitors

and residents buzzing all through the Kyogle central business district, while the Kyogle Memorial Institute dressed up well for this wonderful community festival.

It's great to have events back on our calendars. A massive thank you to the organisers and we look forward to next year!

Until next time, Kylie Thomas

CHANGES TO business, industrial zones

The Department of Planning and Environment is currently exhibiting the translation of existing Business and Industrial zones into the new Employment zones.

The exhibition is being held on the department's Planning Portal for six weeks from 27 May 2022 to 8 July 2022 (dates subject to change).

This is the implementation stage of a reform that replaces Business and Industrial zones with Employment zones within individual local environmental plans across NSW.

Implementation follows the introduction of the Employment zones within the Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Order 2006 in December 2021.

The department has worked closely with each council to ensure LEPs are amended, consistent with the intent of the reform, while also ensuring the land-use planning outcomes are locally appropriate.

After the exhibition, the department will be working with councils to finalise implementation ahead of the new zones coming into force on 1 December 2022.

To view the detail of the exhibition and make a submission please visit the department's Planning Portal and Employment Zones Reform webpage at <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/>



employment-zones-reform for general information on the reform process.

If you have any questions, please contact the Department of Planning and Environment on 1300 420 596 or by email at employment.zones@planning.nsw.gov.au.



OBSERVATORY

will have day, night views

From Page 1

Kyogle Council Mayor Cr Kylie Thomas said the concept plan for the observatory was developed after Council and the community identified the need to upgrade the lookout during work on a Plan of Management for the site.

“The observatory’s incredible design will allow people to enjoy the site’s astonishing views both day and night,” she said.

“As well as attracting visitors to the area, it’s hoped that it will generate economic development and possibly inspire new events and activities.

“This is an incredible opportunity to create something that is unique to Mallinganee and I would like to thank the State Government for working with Council on this wonderful project.”

The observatory is expected to welcome its first visitors by the end of 2023.

In the meantime, further work will take place to refine the concept and develop the attraction – including a proposed augmented reality installation.

Further community consultation will be carried out at all key stages of the project.



A site plan of the proposed Mallinganee Observatory. The existing telecommunications tower will stay in place, with the tower compound to be screened by plantings and landscaping. The green line is part of the proposed walking track through the Mallinganee National Park.

COUNCIILORS TO be paid superannuation

Kyogle Councillors will be paid superannuation from 1 July this year.

The provision was included in the new Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for Councillors Policy adopted by the Council at its May meeting.

Councillors will receive the same amount the Council would have been required to contribute under the Commonwealth Superannuation Guarantee if the councillors were employees.

Up until last year, councils were not able to pay its elected representatives superannuation. However, that changed following an amendment to the Local Government Act when it became optional for councils to contribute to an eligible super scheme on behalf of their elected body.

The change will come into effect on 1 July and will cost Council \$13,830 annually.

FUNDS TO reduce disaster risks

A \$30 million fund available to local and regional NSW organisations will help communities to reduce, mitigate and manage the risks of future natural disasters.

Councils, joint organisations of councils, not-for-profits, and other local groups are encouraged to apply for the Local and Regional Risk Reduction Fund now open for applications.

This second stream of the Disaster Risk Reduction Fund, jointly funded by the Australian and NSW Government, offers between \$50,000 and \$1.5 million to eligible organisations.

The fund supports initiatives and projects that can leverage community strengths, address risks and

vulnerabilities, promote collaboration, build capacity for evidence-based decision making, and enable locally-led disaster resilience initiatives.

Two funding pathways are available within the Local & Regional Risk Reduction stream:

1. \$50,000 to \$300,000 in funding per project applied for by a single applicant
2. \$300,000 to \$1.5 million in funding per project applied for by more than one applicant via a consortia or partnership arrangement.

Applications are open until 1 July 2022. Apply online at <https://www.nsw.gov.au/disaster-risk-reduction-fund/disaster-risk-reduction-fund-local-and-regional-risk-reduction-stream>

DON'T RUN FOUL of Council's poultry rules

The cock-a-doodle-doo of a rooster crowing at 5 o'clock in the morning is not something many residents of our towns and villages appreciate.

Kyogle Council has received a large number of complaints recently about people keeping poultry in Kyogle, Mallanganee, Woodenbong, Tabulam and Bonalbo.

Residents of our towns and villages are reminded that if you wish to keep poultry in your backyard there are rules you must abide by in order to maintain the health and amenity of your neighbourhood. These rules are:

1. You can keep up to five chickens but only if they can be housed 4.5 metres from your neighbour's house;
2. You can keep up to five geese or ducks but only if they can be housed 30 metres from your neighbour's house;
3. You CANNOT keep any roosters under any circumstances;
4. You must ensure that your poultry are kept in an enclosure or otherwise prevented from roaming onto your neighbour's property
5. You do not need development consent from Council to construct a poultry house in your backyard, provided

Town and village residents are not allowed, under any circumstances, to keep roosters in their backyards.

the structure is less than 3m above ground level, has a floor area of less than 15m² and is located 3 metres from your property boundaries.

Despite the above rules, if your poultry are causing a nuisance in your neighbourhood, or are being kept under conditions that may result in unacceptable health impacts for you or your neighbours, Council will require you to either rehome your animals or implement measures to address issues being

caused.

If you are keeping poultry in contravention of these rules, particularly keeping roosters, Council requests that you take action to address any breaches so that our neighbourhoods are happy and healthy places to live.

If you live in a rural area of our local government area and are willing to take in roosters, ducks or geese that need to be rehomed, please contact Council so that we can help find animals a new happy home.

Return, Earn and RECYCLE

In November 2020, the Reverse Vending Machine (RVM) commenced operations at the Kyogle Landfill Facility for customers wishing to recycle cans and bottles for a 10c refund under the NSW Government's Return and Earn Scheme.

From November 2020 – March 2022, residents of the Kyogle Local Government Area recycled a total of 6.95 million containers via the (RVM). In doing so, we've saved:

- a total of 610 tonnes of recyclable materials from going to landfill
- 40.8 million litres of water

- 9 million megajoules of energy
- almost 1 million carbon dioxide emissions.

This is a tremendous effort from our local community.

However, we can do more.

When Council conducted an audit of our kerbside split garbage bins last October, we found that 10% of our recyclables and 4% of our general waste were containers that could be recycled via the Return and Earn Scheme.

So next time you go to place an aluminium can, glass or plastic bottle, or liquid paper board container in your bin, ask yourself am I throwing away 10 cents?

Remember the RVM is quick



and easy to use and you can claim your refund instantaneously via the myTOMRA App (available for your device from your Apple/Google app store) or by printing a paper voucher which can be redeemed for cash at the weighbridge station.

Alternatively, you can choose to donate your refund to a charity partner. Local not-for-profit organisations, schools, sporting groups, charities and community

groups can apply to become a local donation partner.

Or you can use the RVM to fundraise for your organisation by setting up your own fundraising barcode. This allows anyone returning containers to a RVM to donate funds to your organisation by simply scanning your barcode at the start of their session and funds are directed to your Paypal account.

Information on becoming a local donation partner or setting up a fundraising barcode is available at <https://returnandearn.org.au/fundraising/>.

The RVM is located next to the weighbridge at the Kyogle Landfill Facility and is open during landfill operating hours.



Council deploys fourth POTHOLE CREW

Work continues on the restoration of Theresa Creek Road to repair numerous landslips and washouts. Drainage works have been carried out on the lower sections of the road in preparation for rehabilitation and the crew is now moving to the steep hill section near Dugans Road.

Work planned for Clarence Way at Sandilands has been delayed due to saturated ground conditions. Council will instead commence the initial seal of Hootons Road which is being funded under the Fixing Local Roads Program.

Fixing Local Roads is a \$500 million NSW Government program that supports shovel-ready projects to repair, maintain and seal priority local roads across NSW.

The bridge replacement program is still moving ahead despite the current weather conditions. Bridges at Mahoneys Lane, Gorge Creek Road, and Ryans Creek Road were completed in May. Construction of replacement bridges continues at Walsh Road, Gooleys Road, Old Tweed Road, and Saunders Road, and work to build new bridges on Brumby Plains Road and Castilles Road will start in June.

Replacement of the large culvert on Hootons Road also will be finished in June.

Maintenance has been difficult during the wet weather of the past few months. With roads saturated, it has not been possible to take large equipment onto much of our unsealed road network, so Council has focused most recent maintenance activity on the sealed roads.

A fourth pothole repair crew commenced work in May to try to stay abreast of the deteriorating road conditions.

Crews are currently working on Clarence Way, travelling south from Woodenbong towards Bonalbo and at time of writing, repairs had been done at Collins Creek Road,

Wiangaree Back Road, Findon Creek Road, Omagh Road, Lynchs Creek Road, Gradys Creek Road, Woodenbong urban streets, Kyogle urban streets, Bentley Road, Summerland Way, and Bruxner Highway.

The pothole patching crews will keep moving around the sealed road network as well as going back to areas previously covered.

Ongoing wet weather means that pothole patching is not as effective as it would be during dry weather, and it is a continuing task, with new potholes occurring constantly. However, the work does provide some temporary relief for travellers.



Flood recovery grants APPROVED

Council will spend a \$1 million flood grant to assist with community recovery on four separate projects.

Council voted unanimously at its May meeting to use:

- \$250,000 for the extension of the Community Resilience Officer role to assist with community recovery;
- \$250,000 for a round of community recovery grants;
- \$250,000 for improvements to community-led evacuation centres and associated resources;
- \$250,000 for repairs and improvements to community infrastructure including;
 - I. Bonalbo and Woodenbong Pre-Schools
 - II. Kyogle Visitor Information Centre

III. Kyogle Memorial Swimming Pool

The NSW Government, in partnership with the Commonwealth, funded the Local Government Recovery Grant with the express aim of supporting local economic and social recovery in flood affected areas.

Projects put up by Council for funding must meet the grant eligibility guidelines including that they are not otherwise eligible through existing support measures, but can demonstrably strengthen community resilience and reduce the impact future natural disasters will have on communities.

Since the first grant was announced, Council has been notified of an additional \$2.355 million allocation under the Local Government Recovery Grants program. Of that amount \$375,000 is to provide support for companion animals management following the floods.

New earlier starting time for COUNCIL MEETINGS

Kyogle Council's monthly meetings will now start at 2pm after the Council adopted a new Code of Meeting Practice at its May meeting.

Council meetings will continue to be held on the second Monday of the month, except in January when no meeting is held, but will start at the earlier time.

Previously, Council meetings started at 5pm.

The new Code was on public display for comment for 42 days. It attracted just two submissions, both of which were opposed to the earlier starting time.

As part of the new Code of Meeting Practice, Council also relaxed the deadline required for people to lodge requests to speak during the Public Forum section of the meeting.

Previously, requests had to be submitted by midday one working day before the meeting. The new Code of Meeting Practice has extended the deadline to two hours before the meeting.

All NSW Councils are required to adopt a new Code of Meeting Practice within 12 months of December 2021 Local Government elections.



GENERATING art across the generations

An exhibition of intergeneration local artists which brings together grandparents and grandchildren will be on show at Council's Roxy Gallery throughout June.

'Generational Genres' will run from 10 June until 3 July and features a collaboration of artists born in the 1940s and 2000s.

Carol Horton, Anne Langley and their grandchildren, who will be exhibiting in the Steppin'Up Gallery located in the foyer entrance to the Kyogle Memorial Institute, will be at the official opening from 6-8pm on 10 June to chat with gallery patrons.

Carol Horton has been pursuing her interest in painting and drawing over many years. She likes to explore techniques and styles of producing art.

Carol has been involved in many group exhibitions at the Roxy Gallery over the years and both Anne and her are delighted to have contributions, as part of the exhibition, from their grandchildren who have been inspired by them to make art.

Carol's grandson Bodhi Wornes has invited 13 of his Kyogle High School creative friends to join with him to exhibit in the Steppin'Up Gallery as part of the 'Teen Genres Kiosk' exhibition.



A selection of artworks which will be on show at Council's Roxy Gallery as part of the Generational Genres exhibition.

Anne Langley began painting about ten years ago under the mentorship of another local artist Elspeth Lake.

She fell in love with working in oils but after a two-day workshop with another local artist, Christine Cameron, she began working in water colours.

For Anne, the 'happy accident' nature of using watercolours has triggered a bigger quest to learn and experience more about painting and drawing.

Anne's granddaughter Jessica Langley is a full-time art student and is developing



her profile through social media platforms under the name of 'Sweet Little Valley'.

As her skills develop, so does her approach to using mediums such as graphite, charcoal and oil paint.

Jessica says: "I am constantly in love with the little moments and things that make life so beautiful. I believe that is what my art is about, depicting all that life is and can be in a way that is elegant."

School Ag students shine AT LOCAL SHOW

Bonalbo Central School's Agriculture team won a swag of ribbons at the recent Bonalbo Show for their led steers and stud heifers.

The team's lead steers took out third and six place in the junior led steer class, while their Limousin stud heifers claimed first and second place in the 20 under 24 months class and second in the senior female pairs class.

The students prepare and care for their steers and stud heifers both during class and after school and the school community was very proud of their efforts.

The students also took part in the junior paraders competition, with two senior students finishing second and third in the over 16-year-old class.

This was the first time some of the Bonalbo students had entered the show ring. They all did well, and learned a lot from the experience and took home lots of new skills.



Bonalbo Central School students Tyrone Redden, Katja Wotten and Lilly Scaife with one of the school's show steers.

Tidy Towns has NEW TEAM

The Kyogle Tidy Towns Committee elected a new leadership team at its annual general meeting.

The committee's new executive members are: Chairman, Robert Cullen; Vice Chair, Anne Reardon; Secretary, Caroline Fisher; and Treasurer, Maureen Pedersen.

The Tidy Towns Committee was sad to see the departure of longstanding Chairman Robert Dwyer and Secretary/Treasurer Joan Hayman after many years of work promoting the Kyogle community and local government area.

LIBRARY NEWS

Library closure

Kyogle library will be closed Monday 13 June 2022 for the Queen's Birthday Public Holiday and will re-open Tuesday 14 June 2022.

Seed library

Did you know the Kyogle branch of the Richmond Upper Clarence Regional Library has a seed library? Check it out next time you are at there.

You can have three free packets of seeds each time you visit the library.

You can also donate seeds from your own garden to help share with our community and grow and diversify the seed library.

Library programs

Why not come along and join the fun at one of Kyogle library's fab free programs – there is something for people of all ages at your library during June.

Children's Service Programs

Read, rhyme and romp: This program is held every Friday from 10.30-11am during school terms. This is for birth to three-year-olds; and older siblings are welcome.

Playdough Playtime: Is now held on the third Thursday of every month during school terms from 10.30-11am. This program is for pre-schoolers - older siblings welcome.

LEGO Club : This ever popular program is held from 3.30-4pm on the third Thursday of every month during school terms. It is for school-aged children.



Author, filmmaker and paramedic Ben Gilmour had an attentive audience for his workshop which was held at the Kyogle library last month as part of the Kyogle Writers Festival.

Saturday Parents and Kids Club: Is held on alternate Saturdays from 10.30-11.30am during school terms. This program is for 5-12 years, with the June Kids Club to be held on 11 and 25 June. Dates are advised each month. Please note parental participation encouraged and supervision required as this program provides unstructured sessions with simple craft and LEGO trays.

Adult Programs

Kyogle library Book Discussion Group: Held on the third Tuesday of each month from 10.30-11.30am. A free cuppa provided to all participants.

Adult Colouring-in Group: Held every second Friday and fourth Wednesday of each month starting at 10.30am. A free cuppa provided to all participants.

Tech Savvy: Free tech assistance available for adults, 15-30 minutes sessions by appointment only. Please phone 6632 1134

to book a session. Bookings essential for all programs. For further information and bookings, call Kyogle library staff on 6632 1134

Kyogle library is your one-stop Tech Hub for:

- fast free wi-fi during library open hours
- free computer access by appointment
- free library membership with current local ID
- free laptop access for library members in-library
- cheap black and white and colour A4 and A3 printing
- cheap scan to email and free scan to USB services
- JP services by appointment
- Now a private-public study-meeting space is available for use in Kyogle library (bookings with Kyogle library staff essential phone 6632 1134).

Community Calendar

Kyogle Bazaar

The Kyogle Bazaar is held on the fourth Saturday of the month at the Kyogle Amphitheatre, behind the Information Centre.

The next Bazaar will be held on Saturday, 25 June from 9am-2pm.

Festival of Small Halls

The Worfordia sponsored Festival of Small Halls is coming

to Mallanganee on Saturday June 11 and Collins Creek on Sunday, 12 June as part of the NSW Resilience Tour.

The two shows will feature Ash Bell and Sara Tindley, and Melanie Horsnell.

Please see the Festival of Small Halls website for the touring artist's biographies.

The Mallanganee Show will start at 7pm, with doors open at 5.30pm and dinner at 6pm. Supper will be served at intermissions. Tickets and further information at [https://](https://festivalofsmallhalls.com/)

festivalofsmallhalls.com/ Mallanganee-2022.

The show at the Collins Creek Hall will start at 4pm with doors open at 3.30pm and will conclude at approximately 6.30pm. This is a ticketed, and COVID-safe seated event and all tickets will be sold online, through the website.

As this is a Resilience tour (postponed from 2021), the local Green Pigeon Rural Fire Service will give a short presentation and will also be holding a raffle with all proceeds to the brigade.

Afternoon tea available in the interval for \$5. The event has been organised by the Collins Creek Hall Land Managers and sponsored by the Kyogle and District Arts Council and the Hall.

Farmers' Market

The Kyogle Farmers' Market is held on Saturday mornings in Stratheden Street, Kyogle (between the Summerland Way and the library).

For further information or to book a stall phone Anne on 6632 1851.

PLASTIC BAG BAN

to start from 1 June

From 1 June the first stage of the Plastic Bag Ban comes into play with the phasing out of lightweight shopping bags.

This includes biodegradable and compostable bags as well.

There has been some confusion about what this means for people and business. Here are the key points:

- The ban is for lightweight single-use shopping bags only.
- Bin liners are not included in the ban.
- Barrier bags ie those used as a barrier for delicatessen products or fruit and vegetables are also not included as are thick, durable plastic bags often seen in branded stores.
- For consumers, the key message is to remember to bring your own bag when shopping, or be prepared to pay for an alternative.
- This is a big shift for small business in particular and the National Retail Associ-

ation is able to help business in this transition.

For further information and resources to help you, your business or community or-

ganisation go to <https://dpe.mysocialpinpoint.com.au/plastics-ban-nsw>



Council MEETINGS

The next Ordinary Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 14 June 2022 at 2pm. Ordinary meetings are held on the second Monday of every month except January and June. Meetings start at 2pm 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 on the agenda. To request to speak at the Public Forum, you should email council@kyogle.nsw.gov.au or phone 6632 1611 at least two hours before the start of 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 (Mayor)
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
6632 1436 or 0437 252 376
crjohn.burley@kyogle.nsw.gov.au

Cr Robert Cullen
0408 278 685
crrobert.cullen@kyogle.nsw.gov.au

Cr Maggie May
0499 551 714
crmaggie.may@kyogle.nsw.gov.au

C WARD

Cr Tom Cooper (Deputy Mayor)
0437 562 887
crtom.cooper@kyogle.nsw.gov.au

Cr Danielle Mulholland
0438 931 425
crdanielle.mulholland@kyogle.nsw.gov.au

Cr James Murray
0427 581 074
crjames.murray@kyogle.nsw.gov.au

PO BOX 11, 1 Stratheden Street, Kyogle, NSW, 2474

Telephone: 02 6632 1611, After hours emergency: 02 6626 6800

Facsimile: 02 6632 2228, Email: council@kyogle.nsw.gov.au

Website: www.kyogle.nsw.gov.au

Facebook: www.facebook.com/KyogleCouncil

**KYOGLE COUNCIL HOURS 8.30AM-4PM
MONDAY TO FRIDAY**