# KYOGLE & villages

### **Community Newsletter**

APRIL/MAY 2023



### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

#### sought on draft budget

ISSUE

Kyogle Council has released a draft \$246 million four-year budget which prioritises flood restoration works and completion of externally funded projects such as the upgrade of the Clarence Way and the bridge renewal program.

The draft budget is on display for public comment until 4pm on 12 May 2023.

In developing the budget, Council had to consider the impact the flood damage restoration works would have on its four-year delivery program.

As a result, Council has rationalised the overall spread of work to allow available resources to remain focused on the restoration of the flood damaged transport network while continuing to deliver the range of services communities across the local government area expect.

So far Council has completed \$33 million of the \$254 million of flood reconstruction work, and will continue to focus on that work over the coming two years. The flood restoration is funded by the



Council's draft budget for the coming four years prioritises the restoration of the flood-damaged transport network and the completion of externally funded projects such as the upgrade of the Clarence Way.

State and Federal Governments and is not included in the draft budget figures.

Outside of the flood restoration works, the \$43.7 million delivery program for 2023-2024 provides:

- \$15.4 million for bridge replacements
- \$15.3 million for regional roads including \$8 million for the Clarence Way from Urbenville to Bonal-
- bo and \$6.9 million for the Clarence Way from Sandilands to Bonalbo
- \$1.8 million for rural local roads including \$533,773 for rural road reseals and \$555,000 for sealed roads rehabilitation
- \$4.4 million for urban streets in-

Continued page 2



### COUNCIL SETS \$43M budget for 2023/2024

#### From page 1

cluding \$2.3 million for the Kyogle Main Street Beautification and \$1.5 million for the Civic Precinct Upgrade

- \$4.2 million for buildings and community facilities including \$3.5 million for the Kyogle aquatic centre and gym
- \$106,000 for financial assistance donations.

Under the draft budget, Council rates will rise by the rate peg limit determined by the

IPART of 4.1 per cent, while the majority of fees and charges for 2023-2024 will increase by 3 percent. Other fees and charges remain at statutory levels set by the NSW Government.

In line with the introduction of the new 3-bin waste collection service, the draft budget is proposing to increase the residential waste collection service charge from \$482 for the current weekly split bin service to \$739 for the thee bins (fortnightly landfill and recycling, and weekly food and garden waste). Changes to commercial waste collection charges are also proposed as a result of the new service delivery model.

Copies of the draft budget and fees and charges are on public display and available for comment from Council at 1 Stratheden Street, Kyogle, on Council's website www.kyogle.nsw.gov.au or at Wadeville store, Woodenbong Post Office, Cawongla store, Mallanganee Post Office, Old Bonalbo Post Office, Kyogle Council Administration Centre, Wiangaree Post Office, and Bonalbo Post Office.

Submissions should be made in writing by 4pm on 12 May 2023 to the General Manager, 1 Stratheden Street, Kyogle or to council@kyogle.nsw.gov.au.

# PLAN AIMS to build resilience

A Community Resilience Plan which aims to strengthen the capacity of communities within the Kyogle Local Government Area (LGA) to prepare for, and recover from, future disasters including bushfire, floods and cyclones has been adopted by Kyogle Council.

Council partnered with village communities across the LGA to develop the plan which empowers communities to play a role in their own wellbeing, safety, and enhancing their resilience.

Development of the plan came in the wake of recurring challenges spanning back to 2017 when the region experienced major flooding caused by former Cyclone Debbie.

Since then, the Kyogle LGA has experienced drought, bushfires, a pandemic, and unprecedented rainfall, culminating in the largest natural disaster event ever to hit the LGA with the floods and storms early in 2022. This has happened in the context of a changing and increasingly unpredictable regional, national and global environment.

The impacts of these events have been felt across the community, affected individuals,



families, social circles, local businesses, community groups and the economy.

Through it all, it's been the sense of community that has been one of the LGA's greatest strengths and assets.

Often it has been 'ordinary' individuals and grass roots community networks that have responded in times of need, working together to help themselves and each other. It's also the community that is here for the long-term, rebuilding and supporting each other long after external disaster recovery aid comes to an end.

Climate change predictions indicate that disasters will become more frequent with increasing severity into the future. Community place-based responses during disasters ensure that communities have planned responses during disaster events.

The benefits of community resilience plans include safer communities, reduced demand on emergency services, reduced damage to property and infrastructure, self-determined recovery and a reduction in economic impacts.

Community resilience is a

shared responsibility and success is reliant upon active participation of individuals, community, businesses, industry, emergency services, Government and support agencies. The benefits of working together to identify common interests creates a long-term commitment to community resilience building through collaboration and building on existing strengths to reflect the local context.

For more information about community resilience planning in your area, contact Council's Community Recovery Officer Peter Kelly on 02 6632 1611.



### BRIDGE, ROAD

#### works continue at pace

Construction of the new Collins Valley Road bridge will continue into May together with the Mulcahy Bridge replacement on Boomi Creek Road.

Both bridges are expected to be open to traffic by the end of May.

Crews are also building new bridges on MacQueens Road and Montgomerys Road. Work on the new Allens Bridge on Duck Creek Road was expected to start before the end of April.

Bridges recently completed include Gears Bridge on Duck Creek Road, and a bridge on Old Lawrence Road.

Council continues to improve its sealed road network with resurfacing recently completed at Stratheden Street and Chauvel Street in Kyogle.

The rehabilitation of Clarence Way between Urbenville and Woodenbong is nearing completion, and resurfacing is planned for Earl Street and Fairy Street in Kyogle.

Grading projects completed in April include Roseberry Creek Road, Creegans Road, Sextonville Road, Pines Road, and Wyndham Road.

Crews have been working to improve drainage of unsealed roads across the



catchments of Cawongla, Duck Creek, Tunglebung, Afterlee, Roseberry, and Sextonville.

This work will be followed by grading crews over the next few months.

Flood remediation of Sextonville Road is finished and repair of flood damage on Kyogle Road and Peacock Creek Road is nearing completion with crews planning to start Findon Creek Road next.

# **COMMUNITY INVITED**to plant trees for flying-fox project

The second of two community-focused flying-fox events organised by Kyogle Council will be held on Saturday, 20 May.

The community tree planting day will be held at the flying-fox habitat enhancement project site within Kyogle Recreation Reserve from 9.30am-12pm.

Members of the community are invited to join a local bush regenerator, Kyogle Landcare members and Council in planting trees and to learn more about this on-ground project that is restoring and creating flying-fox habitat.

Participants are asked to bring sturdy boots, gloves, hat, water and sunscreen. All other tree planting equipment will be provided. Light refreshments will also be provided.

The tree-planting day follows a flying fox Walk and Talk held in April. A pleasing number of people attended the event which provided information about the flying-fox camp in the Kyogle Recreation Reserve, and the three flying-fox species that can be found at the camp.

Participants also learned about the ecological importance of flying-foxes as pollinators and seed dispersers.



To register for the Community Tree Planting Day follow this link <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/586410277927">https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/586410277927</a>

Once registered, you will be provided with further details on where to meet.

The events and the habitat restoration project is part of the Flying-fox Habitat Restoration Program assisted by the NSW Government through its Environmental Trust in association with Local Government NSW. Kyogle Council is also providing funding for this project.



# New bin delivery begins THIS MONTH

This month Council begins the huge task of delivering more than 4,000 new bins to residential properties that currently receive a split-bin service.

From the 1-14 May, each single and duplex dwelling will receive:

- 1x red-lid 140L landfill bin (unless a property already pays for a 240L landfill bin, in which case this will remain)
- 1x green-lid 240L food and garden waste bin
- Information flyer including key dates and FAQs.

Residents are asked to please wheel their new bins back onto their property and not to put them out for collection until the new service begins on 3 July 2023

Council understands residents are keen to use their new bins, however, residents must continue using the split bins for a little longer, as the collection truck will not service the new bins until the week beginning 3 July.

The new bins will form the first two of each property's 3-bin set.

The third bin, the yellow-lid recycling service, will be introduced to each



property when Council transforms the current split bin into a recycling bin, by removing the divider. This will happen following the split bin's final collection in the week of 26 June.

If any single or duplex properties do not receive their new bins by 14 May, please give Council a call on 02 6632 1611.

If you live in a multi-unit complex, remember your bins will be delivered in the week beginning 26 June, just before the new service starts. If you haven't returned your multi-unit bin service form, nominating the type of service you wish to receive, you need to do this as soon as possible.

Got questions about the new 3-bin system? This month Council staff will host information stalls at:

- Kyogle Farmers Market on Saturday 20 May (7am – 12pm)
- Woodenbong Seasonal 'Yowie Country' Market on Saturday 27 May (8am - 2pm).

Further information about the new service also can be found on the Council website <a href="https://www.kyogle.nsw.gov.au/">www.kyogle.nsw.gov.au/</a> infrastructure-environment/waste-water/waste-and-recycling/.

For information about waste services for commercial premises and businesses, see the story on page 5.

# **SHADE** for play area

Shade covering has been installed at the Woodenbong Recreation Ground playground. The shade sails make the playground much more user friendly year round.

A smaller sail covers the outdoor gym equipment while a large shade provides protection from the summer sun for youngsters conquering the playground.

Council has been able to install the shade structure thanks to a NSW Government Grant.



# **DRIVERS** face delays

Motorists traveling Kyogle Road between Quarry Road intersection and Cawongla village can expect long delays until mid-May as flood damage repair work is undertaken.

Delays can be expected week days (Monday to Friday) between the hours of 6am and 6pm.

The pavement stabilisation works will be carried out under traffic control, with traffic controllers on site.

Electronic message boards advising motorist of the works have been installed along Kyogle Road.



# New waste collection service FOR BUSINESSES

From 3 July 2023, all commercial premises and businesses that currently receive a Council waste collection service will receive a new service under Council's new 3-bin system.

If you currently have a weekly split-bin commercial service, your service will be replaced with a 2-bin service consisting of:

- a 240 litre, yellow-lid bin for comingled recyclables which will be collected fortnightly
- a 240 litre, red-lid bin for landfill which will be collected fortnightly, on alternate weeks to the yellow-lid recycling bin.

This change provides commercial businesses with the same landfill and recyclables bin capacity as the current split bin service, just collected on alternate fortnights instead of weekly.

If you currently have a separated-bin service (ie a 240L landfill and/or 240L recycling bin), your existing bins will be modified as required to match the new bin system (redlid landfill, yellow-lid recycling). Your bins will be collected on alternate fortnights as described above.

Given that landfill waste and recyclables will now be collected fortnightly instead of weekly, you may find that the current number of bins allocated to your business will not be enough to dispose of the amount of waste and recyclables generated by your premises/business each fortnight.

Council has written to all property owners currently receiving a separated-bin service outlining the service change and steps businesses need to take to ensure that they have the right number of bins to meet their service needs.

If you are registered as a food premises you need to be aware that the NSW Government has mandated that food waste is collected separately from food premises including supermarkets, cafes, pubs and clubs and take-away food shops.

Accordingly, if you currently receive a waste collection service from Council and your premises is also registered on Council's Food Premises Register you will also receive a new 240 litre, green-lid bin for food and garden organics which will be collected weekly.

If you are a food premises but don't currently receive a Council waste collection



Most commercial businesses will receive a 240 litre yellow bin for recyclables and a 240 litre red-lid bin for landfill as part of the new waste collection services. Registered food premises will also receive a 240 litre green-lid bin for food and garden organics.

service, or you generate any food waste at your premises, you can still opt to have a food and garden organics bin.

By opting to receive a food and garden organics service you will ensure that food waste is composted instead of disposed in landfill, which is better for our environment. If you are interested in receiving a food and organics service in addition to your landfill and recycling bins please contact Council.

#### When will you receive your new bins?

New bins will be delivered to commercial premises in the week beginning 26 June 2023.

You must place all your current bins kerbside on your usual collection day, even if there is no waste to be collected.

Council's waste contractor, Solo Resource Recovery, will follow the collection truck to deliver new bins as required, and/or convert your existing bins to meet the new specifications.

If you currently have a split-bin service, Solo will remove the divider from your existing split bin and place a 'recycling' sticker on this bin. Your current split bin will become your new fortnightly yellow-lid 240L recycling service.

Once the changeover is complete, you are able to return your bins to your property and begin using the red-lid bin for general waste/landfill, yellow-lid bin for recyclables and green-lid bin for food and organics (if applicable).

#### When will the new service start?

The new service will begin in the week beginning 3 July 2023 with collection of your red-lid landfill bin and green-lid food and garden organics bin (if applicable).

All properties can present both of these bins for collection during week 1 of the new service.

In week two of the new service (beginning 10 July 2023), your yellow-lid recycling bin and green-lid food and garden organics bin will be collected.

The service will then continue on alternate weeks as outlined above.

If you require further information about the new 3-bin waste collection service please contact Council by emailing council@kyogle.nsw.gov.au or telephoning (02) 6632 1611.



### **FARMER HELPS**

#### contain weed outbreak

The quick action of a local farmer who found Tropical soda apple growing on a creek bank will help Rous County Council (RCC) contain the spread of the noxious weed.

The farmer reported the find to RCC's weed biosecurity team which confirmed the identification of the plant in an area that Tropical soda apple had not been found before.

RCC Weed Biosecurity Project Officer Sarah Angus said last year's floods and associated water movement, soil works and livestock relocation had increased the risk of spread of a host of invasive weeds.

"The Weed Biosecurity Team quickly accessed the property, mapped all Tropical soda apple plants found on the property and have already organised initial control works," Ms Angus said.

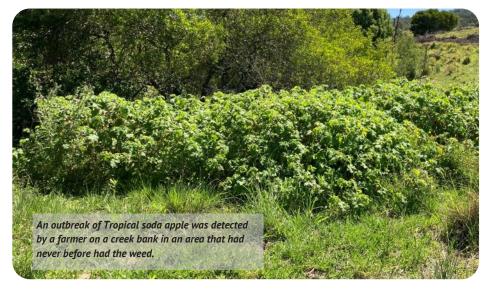
"The landowner is going to remove as much of the fruit as possible and burn these to limit spread and further contamination.

"The landowner also cordoned off the area where the fruiting plants were found, quarantining the area so that cattle do not eat the fruit, as this also is a sure way for seeds to germinate at a later time in cow manure."

Ms Angus said mapping of the infestation would help in understanding high-risk dispersal pathways.

"The team will now search these high-risk pathways for additional plants," she said.

"Understanding infestation locations and high-risk pathways for weed biosecurity threats helps us to stay one step ahead of



weed incursions, supports timely action and increases the likelihood and potential of eradication of highly invasive weed species.

"With the help of landholders and their expert knowledge of their land and the sharing of information, weed biosecurity threats can be properly assessed and controlled."

To learn more about the threat posed by Tropical soda apple, contact Rous County Council's weed biosecurity team on 02 6623 3800 or e-mail <a href="https://www.rous.nsw.gov.au/report-a-weed">www.rous.nsw.gov.au/report-a-weed</a>.

RCC's weed biosecurity team also provide free plant identification support through the Report A Weed function on their website, so if you are unsure about a plant growing on your land, get in touch today.

Use WeedWise to find out about a weed's biosecurity rating and recommended control methods <a href="https://www.weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au">www.weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au</a>



# Calendar

#### Farmers' Market

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

To book a stall phone Robert on 0408 278 685 or Anne on 6632 1851.

#### 3-bin information stalls

Want to learn more about Council's new 3-bin waste collection service? Do you have questions about the service that you would like answered?

During May, Council staff will host information stalls at:

- Kyogle Farmers Market on Saturday 20 May (7am – 12pm)
- Woodenbong Seasonal 'Yowie Country' Market on Saturday 27 May (8am -2pm).

Further information about the new service also can be found on the Council website <a href="https://www.kyogle.nsw.gov.au/">www.kyogle.nsw.gov.au/</a> infrastructure-environment/waste-water/waste-and-recycling/

#### **Bonalbo Markets**

The Bonalbo Markets are held at the Bonalbo Hall on the first Sunday of every month.

Stalls cost \$5. For further information phone 0448 321 550.

#### **Kyogle Museum**

The Kyogle Museum is a great place to learn more about the history of the area.

Located at 19 Bloore, Kyogle, the museum has many photographs and historical items on display.

It is a great place to come for a browse, or to undertake some research on your own family history.

The museum is open Tuesdays from 10am-1pm, Thursdays and from 10am-2pm and Saturdays from 9am-1pm.

Research and group bookings available on appointment, phone 6632 3041.





Warning Clouds by Jan Levy is part of the Mud and Ink exhibition at Council's Roxy Gallery.



The Fire Stories book, pictured, will be launched at the official opening of the Fire Stories exhibition at Council's Roxy Gallery.

### **FLOODS, FIRES**

#### in focus at Roxy exhibitions

An exhibition of artworks that concentrates on the techniques of printmaking titled Mud and Ink is on show at Council's Roxy Gallery until 14 May.

The printmakers in this exhibition have come together to produce works that focus on the nature of floods as well as using the practice of printmaking to heal from the effects of such a disaster.

The majority of the more than 20 artists exhibiting have a story to tell about how the 2022 flood disaster affected them.

Some artists lost their artworks to water, some lost their studio spaces, some lost their homes, and all of them share the experience of what unfolded as the water came down.

Mud And Ink is on exhibit at Council's Roxy Gallery until May 14, when the focus of the new exhibition will switch to bushfires.

Fire Stories is a locally produced multimedia exhibition featuring audiorecordings and photographs on the 2019/2020 bushfires.

It is part of the larger Fire Stories project delivered by Kyogle Family Support Services and funded by the Bushfire Community Recovery and Resilience Fund.

The project saw Northern Rivers' writers Jarrah Dundler and Anastasia Guise travel around the region recording stories from people who were impacted by the fires.

Along the way they were joined by photographers Jodie Harris and Ben Belle who photographed people who were interviewed.

The words and photos collected, along with more photos generously contributed by

community members, will be appearing as a podcast to be published on the Fire Stories website, and also in the book *Fire Stories:* Reflections from Northern Rivers locals on the 2019/2020 bushfires, which will be launched at the exhibition opening night.

Fire Stories will run at the Roxy Gallery from 18 May to 18 June and will feature photos contributed by community photographers, as well as portraits by Jodie and Ben with linking podcasts of peoples fire stories.

Visitors will be able to access these podcasts via a QR code and listen on their smartphones— so please bring your headphones if you have a pair.

The Fire Stories project is funded by the Bushfire Community Recovery and Resilience Fund and the exhibition is supported by Kyogle Council's Roxy Gallery and Kyogle Writers Festival.

# **ANNIE TO**be staged at Kyogle

The Village Hall Players' latest production, Annie, will be staged at the Kyogle Memorial Institute Hall over two weekends in May.

There will be evening performances starting at 7pm on Saturday 13 May and Saturday 20 May, and matinee performances starting at 2pm on Sunday 14 May and Sunday 21 May.

All tickets are available online through the VHP's website (www.villagehallplayers.com) or at TryBooking (use www.trybooking.com/CGTAM for tickets for Saturday shows and www.trybooking.com/CGXKO for Sundays).

Tickets for Sunday performances are also available at Clay Corner, Summerland Way, Kyogle, and at the doors before each matinee. Doors open one hour before each show.

General admission tickets are



\$20 and concession tickets (children under 12 years of age and aged and disability pensioners) are \$15. There are no concession tickets available for Saturday performances.

Annie is a much-loved, family friendly musical and tickets are a perfect gift for Mothers' Day.

For further information, go to www.villagehallplayers.com//20 23-season/.

### **RIVER FEST**

#### run over two months

A series of events including community tree planting days, a reviving wetlands workshop and a river research symposium will be run throughout May as part of the Upper Richmond River Fest.

The festival, which is being coordinated by the Border Rangers – Richmond Valley Landcare Network, began in April and has already featured a Ridge to River Border Ranges campout, a film night and an art workshop.

The two-month-long festival will wind up with riverbank rehabilitation field day covering riparian restoration, erosion management, fish habitat and the processes involved in best practice in-stream works.

The festival program for May is:

**Thursday, 4 May, Weeds and Waterways Workshop** at Kyogle, 10am-12pm, focusing on flood weeds, water weeds and riverbank weeds

Sunday, 7 May, Richmond River Research Symposium delivered by the NSW Government Department of Planning and the Environment at Lismore, 10am-1pm

Saturday, 13 May, Baluun Yarning: River Stories at Eden Creek Hall, 10am-3pm listen to and speak with river experts and passionate locals. Share your stories, experiences and hopes for the river.

Sunday, 14 May, community supported tree planting along Collins Creek, 9am-1pm – 2,000 trees to be planted - part of Casino Food Co-op's River Crystal Initiative Saturday, 20 May, Baluun Yarning River Stories at the Risk Hall, 10am-3pm.

Wednesday, 24 May, Reviving and Restoring Wetlands on the Floodplains, 10am-3pm - morning presentation at Kyogle Senior Centre; afternoon field trip to wetland site at Cedar Point

**Saturday, 27 May, Baluun Yarning River Stories** at Kyogle Memorial Institute Hall, 10am-3pm.

**Sunday, 28 May, River Listening** - exploring aquatic bioacoustics at Kyogle, 9am-12pm.

**Tuesday, 30 May, Riverbank Rehabilitation,** Ripples on the Creek, Gradys Creek, 10am-1.30pm - a field day covering riparian res-



toration, erosion management, supporting good fish habitat, and the processes involved in doing best practice long lasting in-stream works.

To find out more about the above events, including how to register go the Border Ranges Richmond Valley Landcare website at <a href="https://www.brrvln.org.au/upper-richmond-riverfest">https://www.brrvln.org.au/upper-richmond-riverfest</a> or phone 6632 3722 or 0457 052 636.

#### **Council MEETINGS**

The next two Ordinary Council meetings will be held on Monday 8 May and Tuesday 13 June (due to long weekend) at 2pm. Ordinary meetings are held on the second Monday of every month except January. 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 a chance for the public to speak to Council on items of business on the agenda. To request to speak at 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**

https://www.livetraffic.com/

### 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

\* Please note 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

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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

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Website: www.kyogle.nsw.gov.au Facebook: www.facebook.com/KyogleCouncil

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