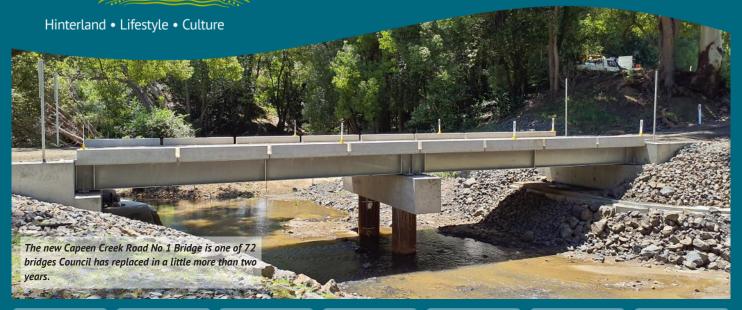
# KYOGLE & villages

# **Community Newsletter**

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2023



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# 72 BRIDGES replaced in just two years

Kyogle Council has replaced an incredible 72 bridges in a little more than two years and is on track to have renewed 100 bridges by the end of next year as part of its once-in-a-lifetime bridge replacement program.

The impressive achievement is all the more extraordinary in light of the catastrophic flooding which occurred less than a year into the program and the extra work Council has had to undertake since then to restore its infrastructure network.

"Replacing 72 bridges in two years is a massive undertaking in itself, but throw in the challenges faced by Council in the aftermath of the floods and it's even more impressive," Council's General Manager Graham Kennett said.

"At times, Council has had up to six bridge construction crews working at the same time, on separate sites, to meet the delivery timeframes set out in the funding agreements.



 ${\it The recently completed Armstrongs \ Bridge \ on \ Tunglebung \ Creek \ Road.}$ 

"We also have engaged local contractors, fabricators, manufacturers and suppliers to help deliver the \$50 million project, providing a significant boost to the local economy.

"The program also has provided Council

staff, apprentices and contractors opportunities for upskilling and experience in bridge construction."

"We still have 28 bridges to replace under the program, but we are on target to have them all completed by December

**Continued Page 3** 





## Welcome **HOME**

Kyogle Council Mayor Cr Kylie Thomas, right, congratulates, from left, John Healy, Carole Barrett, and Alan White after they formally became Australian Citizens at a ceremony held at the Council Chambers in August.

## MAYOR, **Deputy re-elected**

Cr Kylie Thomas has been re -elected to serve another term as Mayor of Kyogle Council.

Cr Thomas, right, defeated Cr Danielle Mulholland five votes to four in a ballot amongst Councillors for the position.

Cr Tom Cooper, far right,

also was re-elected Deputy Mayor. He defeated Cr John Burley five votes to four.

This will be both Cr Thomas and Cr Coopers' second terms as Mayor and Deputy Mayor. They were first elected to the roles in January 2022.

They will lead the Council until 14 September 2024 when the next local government elections are held.





## **Three Council pools RE-OPEN**

Kyogle Council's three public swimming pools have re-opened for the 2023-2024 season, with the Kyogle pool trialing new earlier opening hours on most days.

Monday to Friday the Kyogle pool, right, will be opening at 6am (30mins earlier), and on Saturday the pool will be opening at 9am (1hr earlier).

Council will be collecting data throughout the season to determine the success of the trial and is encouraging everyone to take full advantage of the extended hours. Council is asking pool users to provide feedback on the trial by emailing their observations to council@kyogle.nsw.gov.au.

The Kyogle pool also features access for all abilities, free public WIFI and chilled water for bottle refills.

The opening hours of the Woodenbong and Bonalbo pools remain the same.

Details of opening days and times are as follows:

Kyogle Pool (phone 6632 1372)

Opening hours: Monday to Thursday, 6am to 6pm; Friday, 6am to 7.30pm (6-7.30pm 50m pool unavailable to public due to 6635 1204) use by Kyogle Swim Club); Saturday 9am to 6pm; Sundays and public holidays, 10am to 6pm.

Bonalbo Pool (phone 6665

Opening hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday and public holidays, 2-6pm; Tuesdays,



closed.

Woodenbong Pool (phone

Opening hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday and public holidays, 2-6pm; Thursdays, closed.

All three pools are closed Christmas Day.

Admission prices for all three pools are: adults \$4, children, students and pensioners \$3,

babies and toddlers (up to three years old) free, spectator fee 50% of entry fee, family entry \$12; pool entry on Australia Day is free.

For information on season tickets, visit the Pools page on Council's website <a href="https://">https://</a> www.kyogle.nsw.gov.au/ recreation-community/ community-facilities/swimmingpool-opening-hours-admissionprices/



# FOR ECONOMY

# From page **1** 2024."

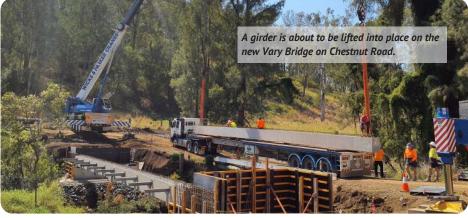
Kyogle Council Mayor Cr Kylie Thomas said the bridge replacement program had, and would continue to create an economic boost for the entire Kyogle LGA now and into the future.

"The benefits the bridge replacement program is generating for communities across the Kyogle local government area can't be under estimated," Cr Thomas said.

"Farmers and business operators no longer have to contend with load limits on bridges and this alone has gone a long way to improving access, freight efficiencies, and profitability."

Of the 100 bridges identified to be replaced in Council's bridge replacement program, 84 bridges have been part funded through a \$44.81 million round one grant under the State Government's Fixing Country Bridges program, which included eight bridge to culvert replacements.

A further eight new bridges were funded by the former Federal Government's Page Bridge Replacement Program, while Council received further funding under round two of the Fixing Country Bridge program to replace another three ageing timber bridges.

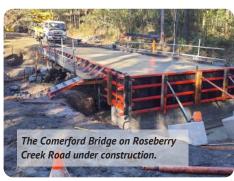


The Cedar Point Bridge, opened in October last year, was made possible by a partnership between the Restart NSW Fund (\$2.1 million), Council (\$300,000) and Grahams Quarry (in kind \$211,805).

Another two bridges were added to the list after sustaining significant damage in the February-March 2022 floods.

When the bridge replacement program winds up in December next year, Council will have just six ageing timber bridges and 20 Doolan deck (timber and concrete composite deck) bridges left to replace.

"Council has come a long way since 2000, when we had a bridge inventory of 320 ageing timber bridges to replace, with 150 still remaining in 2018," Cr Thomas said.



"And of those 150, 70 plus were more than 70 years old and 31 had load limits in place – now none of our bridges have load limits. The success of the bridge renewal program provides the foundation for a prosperous future, and is a credit to all involved."

# **STATION OPENS**

The first of four electric vehicle (EV) charging stations being installed by Council has opened in near the Historical Society Museum in Kyogle, *right*.

Council received a grant of \$28,000 under the Drive Electric NSW EV Destination Charging program to go towards the cost of installing charging stations at Kyogle, Tabulam, Bonalbo and Woodenbong.

Under the terms of the grant, the charging stations must be installed at "destinations" rather than main street locations.

The other charging stations will be installed at Bonalbo's Norman Johnston Park, the Tabulam Sports Ground and the Woodenbong Recreation Reserve. They are expected to open within the next few weeks.



# Garage sale option at **BAZAAR**

Do a spring clean-up and bring your trash and treasure to the Rotary Kyogle Bazaar this month and every month for the rest of the year.

The Bazaar is inviting people to set up their garage sales in the basin of the Amphitheatre Park alongside the customer-drawing food vans of the Rotary Club and Aayu Street's Sri Lankan Food Adventure.

Set up a fancy marquee, or just a tarp on the ground, or even sell out of your car boot. Sites in the basin are discounted to \$10 (\$15 with insurance). To book a stall register online at rotarykyoglebazaar.com.au and request a basin site. Bookings will be confirmed by email.



## WATER SAVING

## tips for the whole family

Cutting back on your water use not only saves water, it also saves energy, money and the environment.

And with an El Nino weather event predicted to generate hotter and drier conditions over spring and summer, there is no better time to start conserving water.

To help householders reduce water consumption, Council has put together a list of water saving tips for the home and garden.

### The home:

- A 10 minute shower can use up to 90 litres of water! Try cutting a minute off your shower. Saving hot water not only saves water but energy and monev too.
- Fit a water efficient showerhead for a water saving, yet still high performance, shower experience.
- Turn the tap off when brushing your teeth. Wet your brush and use a glass for rinsing.
- Fix dripping taps— taps that drip a rate of 1 drip per second waste more than 12,000 litres of water per year.
- Fix leaking toilets— a slow barely visible leak can waste more than 4,000 litres of water per year while a visible constant leak can waste more



A load of laundry uses about 50-150 litres of water, depending on the age and make of machine

Run your washing machine full

www.smartwateradvice.org

than 96,000 litres per year.

- Always use a full load in the dishwasher and washing machine to ensure they run as efficiently as possi-
- Look for washing machines that have a four or more WELS star rating (The Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards Scheme).

### The garden:

- Always use a trigger nozzle so no water is wasted.
- Plant water-conservative plants and use only enough water to match the needs of the plants.
- Using mulch helps save water by keeping soil cool to reduce evapora-



tion by up to 75%.

- Installing a rainwater tank, together with other household water saving devices, can reduce your household water use by up to 25%.
- When washing your car at home, park your car on your grass so the runoff soaks back into the ground.
- Uncovered pools can lose up to 55,000 litres of water annually, through evaporation, which is a big deal. Using a solar pool cover can help you to stop 97% evaporation.

For more great water saving tips, go to the Water Saving page on Council's website at www.kyogle.nsw.gov.au/water-saving

# **BreastScreen van RETURNS**

The mobile screening van will be in Kyogle until 16 October.

BreastScreen NSW provides free breast screening to women to support the early detection of breast cancer.

Jane Walsh, Director of BreastScreen North Coast, says a regular breast screen is one of the most important things women can do for their health.

"Detecting breast cancer early increases your chance of survival while reducing the likelihood of invasive treatment, such as mastectomy or chemotherapy," Ms Walsh said.

"Around 90 per cent of women diagnosed with breast cancer have no family history. This is why breast cancer screening is so important for all eligible women."

Ms Walsh says having a BreastScreen NSW van in Kyogle makes it easier for women to attend their recommended twoyearly screening.

"Bringing these vital services to Kyogle means more local women can be screened. Life gets busy and we want women to make their health a priority," she said.

The BreastScreen NSW van will be located at Stratheden Street (outside the Kyogle Memorial Hall and near the Council



Call 13 20 50

Chambers).

An appointment with BreastScreen NSW is free, takes less than 20 minutes and no doctor's referral is needed.

All women are invited by

BreastScreen NSW to screen every two years from age 50.

- · Any woman with a family history of breast cancer should discuss their specific needs with their GP.
- Anyone with breast symptoms should contact their GP or health worker without delay.

The mobile screening van is equipped with a lift system to support women with health conditions or disability to have their mammogram. Women with additional needs are encouraged to let staff know when booking their appointment.

To book a free mammogram, visit book.breastscreen.nsw. gov.au or call 13 20 50.



# Deep Creek Road project NOW COMPLETE

During September, work to remediate flood damaged sections of Deep Creek Road, Tunglebung Creek Road, Duck Creek Road and Kyoqle Road was completed.

Work is also complete on the Clarence Way project at Sandilands. This project was funded on a 50% basis by the State Government's REPAIR program.

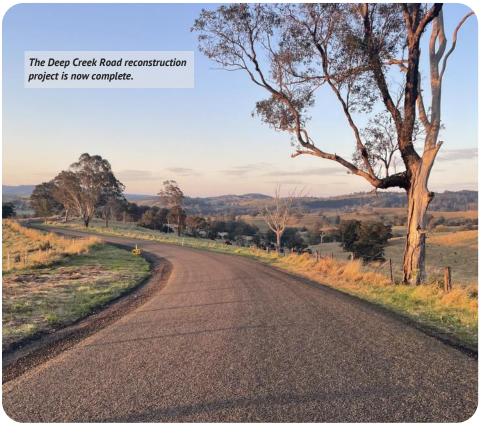
Crews are currently working on a number of construction projects including a rehabilitation and improvement package of work on Bruxner Highway at Mallanganee on behalf of Transport for NSW, and preparing for the initial seal of approximately one kilometre of Sextonville Road, near the boundary with Richmond Valley Council.

Pothole patching of rural areas was carried out during September on Clarence Way, Ettrick Road, Kyogle Road, Theresa Creek Road, Lillian Rock Road, Oxbow Road and Cawongla Road.

Works to restore landslips started recently at Dugan Road, Williams Road, Gabal Road, and at the first of three landslips on Lions Road.

Work is still progressing on repairs to landslips at Edward Lane in Kyogle and the Geneva Bridge on Anzac Drive.

Of the 106 major landslips caused by the 2022 floods, 37 have now been rehabilitated with the most recent completed at Gradys Creek Road, Tabulam Road, Boundary Creek Road and two on Kyoqle Road.



The bridge crews have also been busy, with new bridges opened on Boorabee Creek Road, Roseberry Creek Road (Comerford Bridge), Brown Knob Road, Trentys Lane, and Duck Creek Road during August and September.

Bridges are currently under construction on Chestnut Road, Baileys Bridge Road,

Hootons Road, Needhams Road, Williams Road and Roseberry Creek Road (Comerford No.2 Bridge).

Work has also started on the sidetrack which will be used during replacement of the Kyogle Road bridge over Back Creek at Cawongla.

# Still time to do feral **DEER SURVEY**

People still have time to take part in a community survey aimed at tracking the prevalence of feral deer in the Northern Rivers.

The survey, conducted by Tweed Shire Council in partnership with Kyogle and Byron Shire councils, will also gather information on the community's perception of feral deer and the impact feral deer is having on farming and the environment.

Newly appointed Feral Deer Management Officer Rob Smith of Tweed Shire Council said feral deer were a significant problem just over the border in Queensland, with regular reports of sightings in front yards, along roads and in suburbia.

"The challenge facing Northern Rivers councils is to stop their spread and prevent them from establishing in the Tweed, Kyogle, Byron, Lismore, Richmond Valley, Ballina and Clarence Valley regions," Mr Smith said.

"Already in NSW, the six species of feral deer now inhabit 22% of the State, where their distribution has spread by 35% since 2016."

Feral deer do enormous damage to native wildlife and habitat, they spread disease, and are increasingly becoming a traffic hazard - deer are the fourth most commonly hit animal on Australian roads and the number of collisions is increasing each year.

Council is urging residents to complete the short survey by 31 October 2023 at



https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/feraldeernorthernrivers

Resident are also asked to report all feral deer sightings to <a href="https://www.feralscan.org.au/deerscan">www.feralscan.org.au/deerscan</a>.

# **KYOGLE HOSTS**

## international textile art

Council's Roxy Gallery is excited to announce it is now showing Fibre Arts Australia's International Art Textile Biennale 2023.

This touring exhibition highlights the contemporary practice within art textiles as an art form, and has been curated into a touring exhibition for the second International Art Textile Biennale.

Works from around the world were submitted and this exhibition has works representing textile artists from Australia and 10 other countries.

The exhibition has a real 'wow' factor and features a diverse array of techniques and materials.

Beginning its tour from the home of Fibre Arts Australia at the East Gippsland Art Gallery at Bairnsdale, Victoria, the exhibition travelled to Emu Park and Toowoomba Galleries before stopping at the Roxy Gallery.

The International Art Textile Biennale (IATB) will be on show until 12 November, 2023

This is an exhibition not to be missed and catalogues for this show will be on sale at the Roxy Gallery.

The winner of the major prize in this year's Biennale was Josephine Jakobi. Her work, *The Huntsman and I*, is a delicate,





Two of the textile creations which will be on show at Council's Roxy Gallery as part of the Fibre Arts Australia's International Art Textile Biennale 2023.

almost doily-like piece ingeniously mounted on carefully balanced shards of Perspex that enable it to tremble nervously.

The International Excellence Award was won by German artist, Katherina Sommer for *Mug Women II*. This large triptych is based on the "mug shots" of convicted women, each with her own moving story.

The Australian Excellence Award went to Brenda Livermore for *Firebrand*, a pendular threesome based on the Gymea lily, known for its resilience and regeneration in the wake of bushfires.

Utilizing basketry techniques and paper,

string, the bright red work is a celebration of life.

The Glenys Mann Award of Excellence was won by Australian artist Claudia Mazzotta for *Stitching as Registration: Labouring over Maternal Care.* 

Re-purposed old pillowcases are embroidered with an almost calligraphic mark that recalls the geometry of sound patterns traversed by random red threads. In a time-poor life of compromise between the roles of artist and mother, order and chaos sit erratically together creating a coherent template for survival.

# ROXY HOSTS book and film launches

There has been a lot going on at Council's Roxy Gallery during the recent exhibition staged by Woodenbong Art Group and Bonalbo Artist Alliance.

Celebration was an exhibition that highlighted the enormous contribution Jim Grasby has made to the arts in this region, through his support and encouragement of artists and art events West of the Range.

In conjunction with this exhibition, the gallery supported a book launch and a film launch by two very talented local women, Gail Fay and JayneeAM.

Gail launched her children's book *Kombi Kape*rs with an introduction on how the book came into fruition through her connection with Riki Gray who provided the illustrations and the idea for the story book.

The audience was then treated to a reading from the book along with opportunities to have a photograph taken with Felicity the Kombi.

This event was a fun family affair that was well attended.



Then on Saturday 16 September the gallery became the venue for the launch of a documentary for which JayneeAM has been capturing footage from as far back as the early 1980s.

The film, *Bohemian Kings X Swan Song*, was a fascinating look into the creative scene of musicians, poets, performance and visual artists enlivening the Kings Cross region of Sydney.

It captures a moment in time, a history that will not come about again due to most of the characters having passed away.

JayneeAM is now planning to take this film on the road with screenings in Sydney and further afield.

The Roxy Gallery was pleased to see a great crowd of people attend this event with many more stories of Kings Cross characters shared on the day bringing more insight into the vitality of that era.



# **REGISTER NOW**

## for Second Hand Saturday

Second Hand Saturday - the North Coast's biggest day of garage sales is on again and registrations to hold a garage sale are now open.

Linda Tohver from North East Waste is inviting people to get involved in this year's event, held across the Council areas of Tweed, Byron, Ballina, Kyogle, Richmond Valley, Lismore and the Clarence Valley.

"With millions of tonnes of waste being sent to landfill by Australian households every year, the humble garage sale is one of the easiest ways we can reduce the amount of 'stuff' ending up in landfill," Linda said.

Selling pre-loved goods and buying second hand is a great way to keep items circulating within our community, especially when many of us are looking at options to reduce the cost of living."

Residents who register for Second Hand Saturday will once again have the option of holding their own garage sale, or a coordinated sale with family and friends.

"We always encourage people to join forces with their local community to attract



more attention - get your neighbours involved and hold a street sale, run a fundraiser or collate your efforts at your local club, school or church. That's just one of our tips for the day to get the crowds to your sale!" Linda said.

This year all registered garage sale addresses will appear in local newspapers, with full details listed on the Second Hand Saturday website. All you need to do is register online at www.secondhandsaturday.

com.au before 25 October to ensure your listing will be printed in your local newspaper.

Alternatively, as listings go live after the registration process is complete, you can still register up until the 3 November, for a free on-line listing.

For more information, go to www.secondhandsaturday.com.au, follow the mysecondhandsaturday Facebook page or call Council on 6632 1611.

# LIBRARY NEWS

### Create, Make, Share

A free Create, Make, Share papercraft activity with Sylvia will be held at Kyogle library on Tuesday, 24 October 2023.

Bookings are essential as places are limited. Phone Kyogle library staff on 6632 1134 or 6660 0240 for further details and bookings.

### **Author talk**

Local author Patsy Kemp will visit Kyogle library on Tuesday, 17 October at 10am to talk about her latest book The Drover's Daughter Rides Again. Her first book was Drover's Daughter.

Patsy's story is full of warmth, honesty and humour. She shares her story of life in the Australian Outback with her father the boss drover, her mother, six brothers and sisters, dogs, horses and workmen, travelling in the wide open spaces of the "Long Paddock" in New South Wales and Oueensland.

Bookings for this event are essential and can be made by phoning Kyogle library staff on 6660 0240 or 6632 1134.

Bookings close on Friday, 13 October 2023.

### **Mental Health Check**

October is Mental Health Awareness month and the library will feature a display of supportive mental health and wellbeing information resources available for loan.

### Holiday fun

Two free let's make slime activities for five to 12-yearolds will be held at the Kyogle library in early October.

The first session will be held on Wednesday 4 October from

10.30-11.30am, and the second session will be held on Friday 6 October from 10.30-11.30am.

For all bookings and further details please contact Kyogle library staff on 6632 1134 or 6660 0240.

### **Bushfire ready**

Having a plan and being prepared for the up-coming bushfire season is vital. Local State Emergency Service will have a display in library throughout October encouraging people to prepare a plan.

### **Nbn information**

Learn how nbn can help people be better prepared for the severe weather season at a free community information session at Kyogle library on Tuesday, 17 October from 1-3pm.

The information session will cover what services may be affected in the event of any emergency, strengthening telecommunications against natural disaster and what your own emergency preparedness plan should contain.

Everyone is welcome to attend. Contact Kyogle library staff on 6632 1134 or 6660 0240 by noon on the day for bookings and further details.

### Junior program

Free programs for juniors are held at Kyogle library during school term.

The programs are:

- Baby Bounce and Rhyme Time for babies through to three-year-olds on Wednesdays from 10.30am;
- Playdough Playtime for pre-schoolers is held every third Wednesday following Baby Bounce;
- LEGO Club for 5-12-yearolds is held every third Wednesday from 3.30-4.30pm

## **KEEP ALERT**

## for Prickly acacia

Prickly acacia (Vachellia nilotica) is proving to be a thorn in the side of landholders.

As its name suggests, Prickly acacia is distinguished by sharp 1-5cm long thorns.

These thorns are highly problematic on grazing land, where dense thickets of thorny scrub impede the movement of livestock to food and water.

On average, Prickly acacia grows 4-5 metres in height, however in the right conditions it can reach 10 metres high and can cover properties with thickets of trees that compete with native plants.

Mature plants produce 175,000 seeds per year.

One of the main ways Prickly acacia spreads to other regions is through cattle digesting its seed.

To prevent this spread, any stock brought into NSW from areas known to have Prickly acacia should be quarantined for at least seven days both before and after transportation.

Rous County Council is working to prevent Prickly acacia from crossing the Queensland border into NSW. If you've seen it, please call Rous County Council on 02 6623 3800 or use the Rous County Council webform

### www.rous.nsw.gov.au/report-aweed

You can also follow Rous County Council on Facebook:

@RousCountyCouncil.





## Council contact and info

## **Council MEETINGS**

The next two Ordinary Council meetings will be held on Monday 9 October 2023 and Monday 13 November 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/

## 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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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

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Cr Danielle Mulholland

0438 931 425

crdanielle.mulholland@kyogle.nsw.gov.au

Cr James Murray

0427 581 074

crjames.murray@kyogle.nsw.gov.au

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/KyogleCouncil KYOGLE COUNCIL HOURS 8.30AM-4PM MONDAY TO FRIDAY