

Community Matters

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Grants on track for local clubs

Mildura Storm BMX Club is one of 31 local groups and organisations making the most of funding received through Council's annual Community and Recreation Grants program. Pictured L-R are riders Chase Chiswell, Leigh Pyke, Nate Gray and Holly McCarthy.

Read more on page 3.



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Mildura Rural City Council



Irymple Secondary College students Trey Peirce, Henri Baldock, Abby Warn, Luka Modica and Sienna Maiorana will benefit from a raised pedestrian crossing in Karadoc Avenue thanks to a suite of safety works.

Improved safety on the way for Irymple pedestrians, cyclists

Irymple's roads are being made even safer for pedestrians and cyclists thanks to a suite of new measures.

Forming part of the Transport Accident Commission's (TAC) Toward Zero initiative, safety measures currently being installed in Karadoc Avenue and Irymple residential streets include:

- a raised pedestrian crossing in Karadoc Avenue, between Henshilwood Sporting Reserve and Irymple Secondary College
- reducing the speed limit from 60km/h to 50km/h in Karadoc Avenue between Oasis Aged Care and the Calder Highway

- reducing the speed limit in a number of Irymple streets running off Sandilong, Karadoc, Koorlong and Irymple Avenues, as well as off Fifteenth Street, from 50km/h to 40km/h
- installation of traffic islands at the entrance to residential streets.

Irymple Secondary College Principal Jo McQuinn welcomed the works, saying the crossing was used regularly each week by the 650 students who would take Physical Education classes at Henshilwood Oval.

"Safety at the crossing is something we've certainly been conscious of for some time, as it's a main road that's getting busier as Irymple grows and is a crossing our students use frequently," she said.

The Federal Government has invested \$335,000 to complete the project. Residents and drivers are asked to take note of any traffic direction while this work is underway.



MILDURA
SPORTING PRECINCT

WE ARE READY TO PLAY AT MSP!

The Mildura Sporting Precinct is now officially open for business! Visit mildurasportingprecinct.com.au or call 03 5055 5101 to organise your next function, sporting competition or special event.



Mildura Storm BMX Club is among beneficiaries of Council's Community Grants Program.

\$229,143 invested in community and recreation groups

A staggering 31 different community groups and sporting clubs have benefited from the latest round of Council's Community Grants program.

The successful grant applicants will share in more than \$229,000 to deliver important projects and initiatives that benefit the wider community.

Among the recipients are Mildura Storm BMX Club who

will use their \$15,000 grant to construct a storage shed at their Aerodrome Ovals complex.

Underbool Bowls Club received a \$3,000 grant to purchase maintenance equipment, while Merbein Golf Club will put their \$15,000 grant towards fitting out the kitchen in their new clubhouse.

A \$1,672 grant will go towards new uniforms for Sunraysia Cancer Resources' volunteer staff, who provide invaluable support and practical assistance to people diagnosed with cancer in our region.

OzFish Unlimited will invest their \$10,000 grant in a series of restoration works to protect threatened native fish species at Butlers Creek, which forms part of the Kings Billabong Nature reserve.

Congratulations to all grant recipients.

For more information on future grant opportunities visit mildura.vic.gov.au/grants

Imagine 2040 delivers new Community Vision and Council Plan

After more than six months of work, the Imagine 2040 project has wrapped up, resulting in the adoption of our first-ever Community Vision and four-year Council Plan.

Informed by almost 2,000 contributions from local residents and groups collected in the first half of this year, the 2021-2040 Community Vision outlines the long-term aspirations, goals, priorities and values of our region.

The 2021-25 Council Plan details what the organisation will do over the next four years towards achieving the Community Vision.

Both documents will guide Mildura Rural City Council's decision-making, planning, projects and advocacy on behalf of the local community.

You can read them in full at mildura.vic.gov.au/CouncilPlan





Walpeup Hall

\$2.3m investment for Mallee Track projects

There will be action aplenty along the Mallee Track in 2022, with millions of dollars worth of projects earmarked for local towns.

Council will invest \$2.3 million – funded by the Australian Government’s Building Better Regions Fund – to improve community and sporting facilities.

None of these projects would be possible without the passion, vision and hard work of residents who call the Mallee Track home.

We’re looking forward to seeing these projects progress and the many social, economic, environmental, health and tourism benefits they bring.

Murrayville Recreation Reserve Community Complex and Change Rooms - \$1.7 million

The outdated corrugated iron club rooms will be replaced with a new multi-use building, complete with separate male and female change rooms. This project also received \$500,000 from the Victorian Government’s Local Sports Infrastructure Fund.

Murrayville Wetlands Project - \$150,000

A natural drainage basin near Murrayville’s recreation reserve will be rejuvenated with redirected stormwater to become an environmental wetlands, complementing the existing walking trails.

Ouyen Fitness, Health and Wellbeing Centre - \$150,000

This project will see the completion of renovations to an old supermarket in Ouyen’s main street, which is being transformed into a 24-hour community-owned gym. Equipment and classes for various age groups will be included.

Underbool Bowls Artificial Turf Green - \$265,716

Replacing the natural green with an artificial surface will mean year-round access and less maintenance. The upgrade is expected to save countless hours of volunteer time, labour, water and money for the Underbool community, where lawn bowls is a popular pastime for all ages.

Walpeup Hall Restoration - \$25,125

The final stage in a major restoration project will see this beautiful building’s internal walls repaired ahead of its 100-year anniversary in 2023.

Internet of Things technology trial underway

Mildura Rural City Council is leading a project to trial Internet of Things (IoT) technology across four Mallee councils.

Mildura, Buloke, Gannawarra and Swan Hill councils are participating in the 12-month Smart Cities project, which runs until June 2022.

The trial will utilise sensors that capture data about how different assets and sites are used. This valuable information will help participating councils better plan

for the provision of services over time to cater for growth or decline in usage.

More than 40 trial devices will be installed all up throughout the Mallee, including 10 in the Mildura region.

Public litter bins in different locations will be fitted with devices to measure bin capacity and alert staff when the bins need emptying.

Two portable devices will also be trialled in Mildura to count people and traffic. The trailer-mounted sensors can be used at specific sites or intersections where data counts are needed and at events to capture crowd numbers.

Learn more at mildura.vic.gov.au/IOT

Sorting your waste makes sense

Well done to everyone who has embraced and adjusted to the three bin system!

Eighteen months has passed since the green bin was added to our kerbside service, and it's making a massive difference to how our community manages its waste.

More than 11,500 tonnes of food and garden organics was collected through the green bin in 2020-21. Instead of going to landfill, this waste was converted to a soil conditioner at a commercial composting facility.

An audit of bins and 12-month review highlighted how the green bin service is helping us cut carbon emissions and curb costs.

- The amount of waste going to landfill has halved – from 12,300 tonnes to 6,012 tonnes
- Illegal rubbish dumping has gone down by almost 30%
- Less waste going to landfill has saved Council, and ultimately ratepayers, more than \$420,000 in Victorian Government levies
- Almost 60% of rubbish found in red bins could have been put in the larger yellow or green bins, showing where we can make even more progress in the year ahead

Remember, you can put all food scraps (including meat, egg shells, fish, bread, dairy, fruit, nuts and vegetables) and garden waste in your green organics bin.



Mildura's Martell Schmiedecken has embraced the third bin for food and garden organics.

TOP TIPS

- ✓ Sort and separate your waste in to the three different bins
- ✓ Collect food scraps in a kitchen caddy and dispose of in your green bin
- ✓ Put recyclables in the yellow bin loose – never in plastic bags
- ✓ Recycle soft plastics (plastic bags, food packets) at a local supermarket

New-look Deakin Avenue centre median

The latest stage of the Deakin Avenue centre median redevelopment is nearing completion, ushering in a fresh new, modern vista between Eighth and Ninth Streets.

The major project involved installation of a broad central walkway surrounded by attractive new landscaping works, including new garden beds, grassed areas and about 20 sugar gums. The sugar gums were grown from seed stocks of the trees originally planted in the centre median in the 1800s.

Other features of the new-look Deakin Avenue centre median include new lighting and outdoor furniture and attractive paving around the various historic monuments.

Ensuring these monuments were protected and enhanced was an important aspect of the redevelopment. These monuments include:

- the W.B Chaffey statue at the Ninth Street end of the works, which was sculpted by Paul Mountford and unveiled in 1929



The latest stage of Mildura's new-look Deakin Avenue centre median preserves our city's historic monuments, while offering a modern new vista.

- the DeSailly Rotunda, named in honour of Shire of Mildura President Cr George DeSailly
- the King George V Memorial Fountain, which originally stood in the gardens of Rio Vista and was moved to Deakin Avenue in 1936
- monumental stone seating surrounding the fountain.

While the bulk of the work is now completed, remaining works include restoration and re-painting of the King George V Memorial Fountain in historically accurate colours and restoration of the DeSailly Rotunda and W.B Chaffey statue.

Light up for a chance to win



The countdown to Christmas is on and locals across the Mildura region are urged to light up their homes, workplaces and businesses to brighten community spirits as the end of the year approaches.

Mildura Rural City Council has again partnered with the Sunraysia Daily to run the 2021 Christmas Lights Map and Competition.

Locals can register their address on a virtual Christmas Lights Map on Council's website. The Map will be updated daily and published in the Sunraysia Daily in the lead up to the New Year, giving everyone the chance to find the best local light displays to view.

All registered addresses will also be in the running to win a \$500 voucher at the local business of their choice with People's Choice and Mayor's Choice Awards up for grabs.

Everyone is invited to cast their vote for the People's Choice Award online.

Follow the Map at mildura.vic.gov.au/Lights



\$1.1m boost for fruit fly fight

Sunraysia's battle against Queensland fruit fly has received a \$1.1 million boost after the Greater Sunraysia Pest Free Area was included in the latest round of Victorian Government Fruit Fly Strategy grants.

The funding will allow the Greater Sunraysia Pest Free Area to continue rolling out programs to support the local community and help protect the region's valuable horticulture industries.

Regional Coordinator of Queensland fruit fly management in Greater Sunraysia, Narelle Beattie, said the Fruit Fly Fighter project would be among initiatives rolled out over the coming 12 months.

"We are very excited this grant will allow us to be able to fully launch our Fruit Fly Fighter program this year," Ms Beattie said.

The program encourages and supports home gardeners to successfully protect their fruit from Queensland fruit fly. Residents in the Victorian Greater Sunraysia Pest Free Area can take up the challenge by visiting www.pestfreearea.com.au or calling 03 5022 0327.



Fruit Fly Community Support Officer Matthew Capp and Fruit Fly Fighter program participant Liz McKinnon inspect the contents of a fruit fly trap.



John Butler and other artists will play at SummerSalt music festival in Mildura on March 26.

Events are back in a big way

After an almost two year hiatus, events and festivals are back!

Sunraysia's 2022 calendar is already filling up – with event organisers keen to lock in concerts, community events, markets, galas, fundraisers and so much more.

More than 6,000 people are expected at Mildura's Nowingi Place on Saturday 26 March when the SummerSalt music festival brings its concert series to the region.

Audiences will be treated to some of Australia's best live entertainment in a family-friendly setting on the banks of the Murray River.

The stellar line-up includes Missy Higgins, John Butler, Xavier Rudd, Birds of Tokyo, The Waifs, The Dreggs and Tulliah.

Don't miss out on your chance to attend SummerSalt. Tickets are on sale now through Ticketmaster.

We're looking forward to attracting more exciting events to the region, as well as supporting local groups to host their important community festivals, markets and special events.

To support event promotion, Council recently launched a brand new digital events calendar in partnership with Mildura Regional Development.

What's On Mildura is a one-stop-shop for all events happening in the Mildura region and makes it easier for residents, visitors and potential visitors to find out what is on in our beautiful part of the world.

WHAT'S ON mildura

Upcoming events

Friday 31 December

New Year's Eve
Nowingi Place

Saturday 8 January

B&S Earthworks Col Beasley Classic
Timmis Speedway

Saturday 19 February

WNBL Bendigo Spirit V Adelaide Lightning
Mildura Sporting Precinct

Thursday 24 February

Neil Murray – Keep Rolling On
Mildura Arts Centre

Saturday 19 March

Professional Bull Riders Australia
Mildura Recreation Reserve

Saturday 26 March

SummerSalt Musical Festival
Nowingi Place



visitmildura.com.au/whatson

Best wishes for a safe festive season

Council Service Centres will close at 3pm on Friday 24 December 2021 and reopen at 9am on Tuesday 4 January 2022.

You can report emergencies by calling us on 03 5018 8100.

There will be no change to kerbside bin collections during this period.

Visit our website for holiday operating hours of our other services and facilities.



Exhibitions
Performances
Vista Cafe Bar
Sculpture Park
Rio Vista Historic House

199 Cureton Avenue Mildura
milduraartscentre.com.au

AC

Open Daily 10am-4pm



If you need an interpreter we can help. To access an interpreter, call TIS National on 131 450 and ask them to call Mildura Rural City Council on 03 5018 8100. You can also ask for an interpreter when you use any of our services.

T 03 5018 8100
E mrcc@mildura.vic.gov.au
mildura.vic.gov.au

Call or email us from 8am to 5pm weekdays.
Deakin Avenue Service Centre 76 Deakin Avenue, Mildura
Madden Avenue Service Centre 108 Madden Avenue, Mildura
Ouyen Service Centre 79 Oke Street, Ouyen

DISCLAIMER

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information published in Community Matters. All details were correct at the time of printing.