

# Community Matters

ISSUE 38 | March 2019



## Register your pet by 10 April

Jess and Logan have made sure their dog Nellie is registered. Read more on page 2.

# Council Grants provide community boost

**Council's Community Grants Program continues to provide local clubs and not-for-profit groups with much needed support.**

In 2018, Council gave away more than half a million dollars to local groups, enabling them to continue their vital work.

Mildura Electric Light Theatre was one of the organisations selected for a grant and was able to buy a new portable stage, helping to increase safety to its members.

Thanks to a \$6000 grant, the Mildura Weir Parkrun is now up and running with locals able to access a free 5km timed run each Saturday morning.

The Mallee Root Festival, the Diwali Night Festival, the Merbein South Community Hall and the Sunraysia Farmers Market also benefited from Council's grants program.

The latest round of Community Grants close on 18 March 2019, with funding available for Recreation Development, Recreation Facilities Upgrade, Arts Development, Rural Access and Events Funding and Support. For more information go to [www.mildura.vic.gov.au/Community/Grants](http://www.mildura.vic.gov.au/Community/Grants)



Photo: Colleen Harris

## Register your pet by 10 April

**Cats and dogs come in all shapes and sizes. There's energetic dogs, friendly felines, playful puppies and chilled out kitties.**

But no matter what type of cat or dog you have, as an owner, it's your responsibility to have them microchipped and registered with Council and failure to abide by this law may result in penalties.

All pet registrations are due on Wednesday, 10 April 2019.

Registering your pet is also the best thing you can do to ensure it is returned safely if it gets out or ends up in the Animal Pound.

If your pet was registered last year you will receive a registration renewal notice in the mail. If you have a new pet or your address has changed, please contact Council on (03) 5018 8100 to arrange registration.





## Stage 2 of Riverfront Redevelopment moving forward

**We've moved a step closer to realising the second stage of our city's riverfront redevelopment after Councillors recently endorsed the latest masterplan for the precinct.**

The masterplan focuses on a nine-hectare strip of land running adjacent to the Mildura rail line and Seventh Street, between Madden and Walnut Avenues.

It outlines proposed areas for both commercial and residential development, upgraded events spaces and a new Village Square in the vicinity of the Powerhouse precinct, which could incorporate a café and cultural centre among a raft of different uses.

The revised masterplan also highlights enhancements to Jaycee Park, new walkways and additional parking.

Part of Council's Mildura Future Ready advocacy and funding strategy, the masterplan for the second stage of the riverfront redevelopment will now act as a guide to where development should occur, as well as stimulate thinking on what could be possible.

With the masterplan now endorsed, detailed planning is under way to progress this exciting development. More information is available by visiting [www.mildura.vic.gov.au](http://www.mildura.vic.gov.au).



## CCTV camera project to increase public safety

Mildura's riverfront precinct and areas of the CBD are about to receive a public safety boost following the rollout of new CCTV cameras in coming months.

The new cameras will be installed at key locations along the riverfront and CBD to provide additional surveillance as well as act as a deterrent to potential criminal behaviour.

The project, which includes additional public lighting in the CBD, was made possible through a \$234,000 funding injection from the Victorian Government's Community Crime Prevention Program.

There will be 17 cameras installed in the vicinity of areas including Nowingi Place, the Riverfront Powerhouse, Langtree Avenue connection and the Mildura CBD.

Work has now been under way for several months, including earthworks, installation of conduit and poles to mount the cameras.

Once the cameras are operational, footage from the CCTV network will be monitored by Victoria Police and only accessible by authorised personnel.



## Local heroes recognised

Congratulations to our incredible locals who are our 2019 Australia Day Award winners.

### Citizen of the Year

Dr Anne Webster

### Young Citizen of the Year

Tanika Thorne

### Community Event/Project of the Year

Ouyen Lake Project

An enthusiastic crowd attended Australia Day celebrations at Nowingi Place where Mayor Simon Clemence announced this year's Award winners. Cr Clemence congratulated the category winners and all those who were nominated for their amazing contributions to the community.

Nominations for the 2020 Australia Day Awards will open later this year.



## Mini pens removed from Mildura Animal Pound in animal welfare push

**We've introduced changes to the way animals can be left at the Mildura Animal Pound in an effort to ensure the welfare of lost or surrendered cats and dogs.**

Up until recently, if you needed to leave a cat or dog at the pound outside of opening hours they could be left in mini pens.

While this may have been convenient for people, it unfortunately put these animals at greater risk of harm, particularly during the warmer months, when they could be left for hours exposed to the summer heat.

It also put cats and dogs at risk if they were placed in a mini pen with an existing medical condition.

These pens have now been removed to ensure animals are given the attention they deserve and receive immediate shelter, food, water and care.

If possible, it's best to drop off animals during Mildura Animal Pound opening hours, which are between 10am and 12pm and 2.30pm and 4pm weekdays, and between 8.30am and 9.30am Saturdays.

If you need to leave an animal outside of Mildura Animal Pound opening hours, you can either take care of the animal until the pound opens again, or if you come across a stray cat or dog, keep them with you and call us on (03) 5018 8100 and a Council representative will collect them.

These changes are in line with the practices of many other pounds and shelters throughout Victoria, as well as addressing one of the key recommendations of a recent audit of the Mildura Animal Pound by the Victorian Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions.



Committee Vice President Geoff Izard and President Ivan Shaw.

## Community spirit saves Merbein South Community Hall

**Council is fortunate to have been part of a recent community success story that has seen the historic Merbein South Community Hall saved.**

The hall was facing demolition in 2012 after the Merbein South School it shared a site with was closed down, however a group of determined members of the Merbein South Community Hall Committee refused to sit back and let this happen, banding together to save it.

Following a series of community meetings, the group approached Council to purchase the hall and the land on which it is located, with a view to making the hall a focal point for the community for decades to come.

After several years working with Council and negotiating with the Victorian Government, the hall and associated land was purchased and local residents have begun work readying the hall for community use.

The group was recently successful in applying for \$6000 through Council's Community Project Grants program which will be injected into new irrigation equipment as part of work to beautify the area surrounding the hall.

This is the second time Merbein South residents have jumped into action to save their hall. Residents took it upon themselves to relocate and restore the historic building in 2001, moving it from its previous location in River Road to the current site.

Once current works are completed to the hall and surrounds, which includes a fenced recreation area, tennis courts and toilets, the Merbein South Community Hall Committee plans to make the venue available for community events and other uses.



## Don't miss 3.5 year child health checks

Your child's 3.5-year-old Key Age and Stage (KAS) visit with Maternal and Child Health is the perfect opportunity to check their development, growth, health and wellbeing so you can be confident they are ready for kinder and school.

At this important visit children and their carer can expect to discuss, check and be supported to understand:

- Family health and wellbeing
- Vision
- Oral health
- Immunisations
- Safety
- Kinder enrolment

This is also an opportunity to discuss any concerns parents or carers may have with a knowledgeable and experienced health practitioner who can connect families with other support services as required.

Right now three in 10 children are not completing a 3.5-year-old KAS visit and our Maternal and Child Health Team would love to see all our children as they prepare for kinder and school.

If attending an appointment is difficult or you need support to attend please contact our friendly team on (03) 5018 8277 or go to [www.mildura.vic.gov.au/Services/Children/Maternal-Child-Health](http://www.mildura.vic.gov.au/Services/Children/Maternal-Child-Health)

## WHAT'S ON



### EXHIBITION

## REIMAGINING CULTURE

Contemporary  
Connections to Country

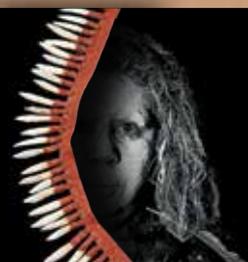


Image: Maree Clarke, *Kangaroo Tooth Necklace*, 2013. Kangaroo teeth, kangaroo leather, kangaroo sinew and pigment. Monash University Collection. Purchased by the Monash University Library 2016.

Craft in collaboration with Mildura Arts Centre present  
**REIMAGINING CULTURE – CONTEMPORARY  
CONNECTIONS TO COUNTRY**

Maree Clarke

Opening  
**4pm, Saturday 9 March**

Exhibition  
**Until Sunday 12 May**

This exclusive exhibition brings together a selection of existing and new works by Mutti Mutti, Boonwurrung, Yorta Yorta woman and multi-disciplinary artist Maree Clarke.

### SHOW



### THE WINE BLUFFS

A comedy wine masterclass with Damian Callinan and Paul Calleja

**7.30pm, Friday 17 May**

After intoxicating sold out audiences across the country, *The Wine Bluffs* are here to do what they do best: bullsh\*t about wine.

### EVENT



### ARTS OF THE UNDERGROUND

Open Mic

**7pm, Friday 3 May**

Calling all singers, poets, comedians, musicians, kazoo players and more – whatever your talent is, come along and perform your material for a live audience.

(03) 5018 8330  
[milduraartscentre.com.au](http://milduraartscentre.com.au)





# Mildura Arts Centre café bigger and better

Mildura Arts Centre's new-look café has gone from strength to strength since it was expanded almost 12 months ago.

Boasting significantly more space, the larger café area has allowed the Mildura Arts Centre to add additional furniture and seating options, providing a better dining experience for patrons, whether they're stopping by for a quick coffee or having a bite to eat before taking in a show or exhibition.

Last year's works have not only allowed the café to grow, but provide a more comfortable and attractive environment for people to enjoy, which has resulted in a steadily increasing customer base.

The café also recently appointed a new supervisor who has a passion for food which has resulted in an ever evolving and expanding menu.

The expansion and resulting additional seating is part of a push to make the café a dining venue in its own right, as well as a great place to enjoy a snack while taking in everything the Mildura Arts Centre precinct has to offer.



## 2019 Community Satisfaction Survey

The annual Community Satisfaction Survey is open and once again we are inviting everyone to take part in it to let us know how we are tracking and where we can improve.

The survey will be available until Monday, 1 April online via our website or by visiting a Council Service Centre to complete a hard copy.

(03) 5018 8100  
[www.mildura.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay](http://www.mildura.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay)



Mildura Rural City Council

[insyncsurveys](https://www.insyncsurveys.com.au)

# STOP FRUIT FLY

IT'S UP TO ALL OF US!

**FREE TREE REMOVAL  
FOR VICTORIAN RESIDENTS**

Tired of the endless effort in managing your fruit trees for fruit fly?

If you live in town or on a residential block in rural areas and are no longer interested in managing your fruit trees, Greater Sunraysia Pest Free Area, can remove your unwanted fruit trees for free.

Conditions apply

**REGISTER TODAY  
(03) 5022 0327**

Visit our website

[www.pestfreearea.com.au](http://www.pestfreearea.com.au)

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY



Sunraysia Pest Free Area



AGRICULTURE VICTORIA

SUNRAYSA  
PEST FREE  
GROWERS

 In support of  
**White Ribbon**

## Council receives White Ribbon reaccreditation

Mildura Rural City Council will continue its pledge to stop violence against women after being reaccredited as a White Ribbon Workplace.

Council first gained White Ribbon accreditation on 31 March 2016, pledging to help prevent violence against women in and outside of the workplace.

The organisation's commitment to the initiative has seen it develop and implement a number of comprehensive policies and also hold a range of local events such as the well-attended White Ribbon Walk. One of the most important actions undertaken was the education of all staff on what constitutes family violence and how they can play a role in making a difference.

In order to qualify for reaccreditation Council demonstrated an impressive level of ongoing commitment to the initiative.

Two female staff members in management positions were even among the first 20 women in Victoria to become White Ribbon Advocates.

Reaccreditation means Council will continue being a White Ribbon Workplace for the next three years.

 **White  
Ribbon  
Workplace**



Interpreter

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 visit our Service Centres in person.

T 03 5018 8100

E [mrc@ Mildura.vic.gov.au](mailto:mrc@ Mildura.vic.gov.au)

[www.mildura.vic.gov.au](http://www.mildura.vic.gov.au)

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 event information published in Community Matters. All details were correct at the time of printing.