

# Community Matters

ISSUE 47 | June 2021



## Time to reconnect!

Activities to help our community reconnect are being rolled out across the region thanks to grant funding. Riverside Golf Club is one of 21 groups to benefit, offering free golf lessons. Pictured are Max Cartwright, Anne Hines and Garry Swallow.

See page 7 for more.



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Mildura Rural City Council



Nangiloc and Cardross netballers play for the first time at the new Nangiloc Recreation Reserve courts.

## Upgrades to improve sporting outcomes

Work is continuing to deliver a range of improved recreation facilities across our region.

Projects currently underway, soon to commence and recently completed include:

- New netball court at the Johansen Recreation Reserve, Lake Cullulleraine.
- Installation of competition-standard lighting at John Hall Oval (Aerodrome Ovals). This will allow cricket and football games to be played under lights.
- Upgrading the Blackburn Park (Ouyen) bowling green from turf to synthetic surface – providing an environmentally-sustainable surface for the Ouyen Bowls Club and their community.

Work was also recently completed on a new netball court and competition-standard lighting at the Nangiloc Recreation Reserve – a project delivered in partnership between Mildura Rural City Council and the Nangiloc Football Netball Club.

The courts were officially opened in early May 2021, with Nangiloc netballers enjoying a home game against Cardross.

The new courts and lighting are a major improvement on the previous facilities, providing better on-court conditions for players while allowing more flexibility for training.

Visit Council's Facebook page and website for regular updates on these projects.

## Feedback invited on Draft Budget

Mildura Rural City Council's Draft 2021-22 Budget has been adopted and is now on public exhibition.

At \$145.07 million, the proposed budget focuses on continuing to deliver 100-plus services, facilities and infrastructure for our community, despite the financial pressures of the global pandemic and other emergencies including drought and climate change.

Highlights include:

- \$7.87 million for youth, childrens and family services
- \$5.66 million for aged services

- \$3.36 million for community safety, health and wellbeing
- \$6.73 million for parks, playgrounds and trees
- \$24.89 million for road and drainage infrastructure
- \$10 million to complete Stage 2 of the Mildura South Regional Sporting Precinct
- \$6.6 million to revitalise the Powerhouse precinct on Mildura's riverfront.

A 1.5% rate rise is proposed, which is the lowest rate rise on record since amalgamation in 1995.

The community is invited to review the Draft 2021-22 Budget in full and provide feedback before Councillors consider it for final adoption in late June.

Submissions close Tuesday 15 June 2021.

Visit [mildura.vic.gov.au/HaveYourSay](http://mildura.vic.gov.au/HaveYourSay) for more information.

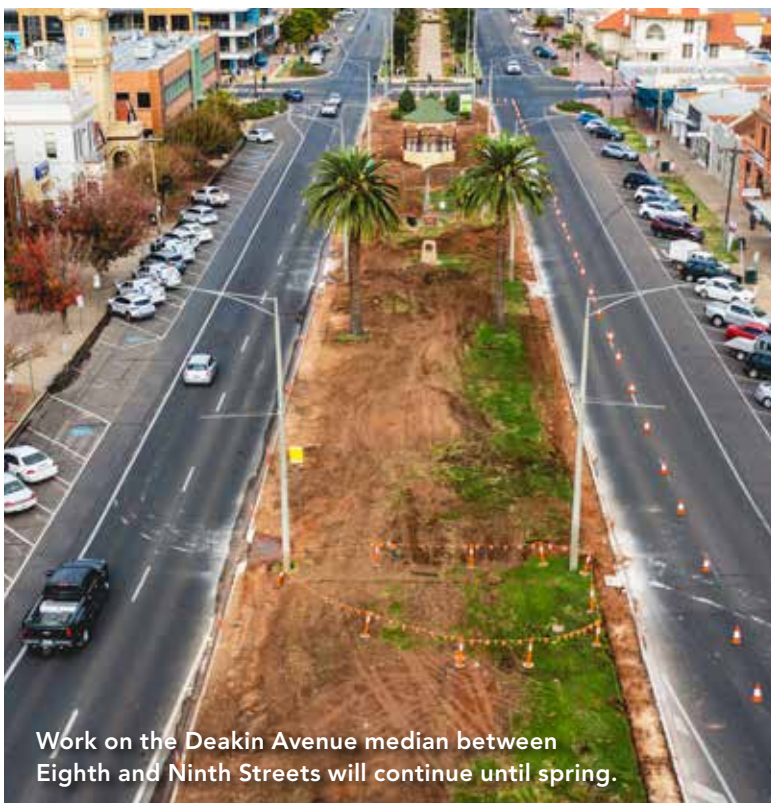
# Deakin Avenue project celebrates heritage

A \$1 million project is underway to redevelop another section of Mildura's Deakin Avenue.

Work started on the centre median between Eighth and Ninth Streets in May. This iconic plantation will be transformed with a wide central pathway, landscaping and planting.

Particular attention will also be paid to the various historic monuments and features within the site. These include the King George V Memorial Fountain, which originally stood in the gardens of Rio Vista and was moved to Deakin Avenue in 1936; the monumental stone seat surrounding the fountain; the DeSailly Rotunda, named in honour of Shire of Mildura President Cr George DeSailly who passed away in 1913 whilst in office; and the W.B. Chaffey statue, sculpted by Paul Mountford and unveiled in 1929.

Each of these monuments will be retained and enhanced through considered landscape design. Work is expected to continue through to spring, and once complete will reflect the section between Ninth and Tenth Streets, which was successfully redeveloped in 2019.



Work on the Deakin Avenue median between Eighth and Ninth Streets will continue until spring.



## Roving Performers help light up our local hotspots

There's nothing quite like the excitement and buzz of live entertainment.

The energy of the performers, the excitement of onlookers – it's enough to make you want to stop what you're doing and hit the town!

Roving Performers – a partnership between Mildura Rural City Council and Mildura City Heart – has brought entertainment to our CBD and riverfront precincts each Thursday, Friday and Saturday night over the past few months.

More than 40 local acts, incorporating everything from solo artists to opera singers, have had the chance to showcase their talent, and earn some money through the COVID-19 recovery initiative.

Roving Performers was funded through the Victorian Government's Local Councils Outdoor Eating and Entertainment package, and has proved instrumental in boosting our local economy.

It's also provided great exposure for local acts, and been well supported by businesses, patrons and visitors.

Local gardener Mick Brady unloads a trailer of garden waste at Mildura Landfill.



## Changes to green waste disposal at Council waste facilities

We're changing how we process garden waste at our various landfills and transfer stations.

From 1 July 2021, charges will apply for green waste disposal at these sites.

Load Type/Size	Cost
Water level single axle trailer or utility 0.5m <sup>3</sup>	\$8
Heaped single axle trailer or water level tandem trailer 1.0m <sup>3</sup>	\$18.70
Caged single axle trailer or heaped tandem trailer 1.5m <sup>3</sup>	\$27.50
Caged tandem axle trailer 2.0m <sup>3</sup>	\$36.30
Per tonne of green waste 2.0m <sup>3</sup>	\$149.50

While this service was previously paid for through the Waste Management Charge on Mildura Rural City Council rates notices, the shift to a user pays model brings our region in line with other councils across the state.

These fees will cover the cost of processing garden waste collected.

### Accepted

- ✓ Grass clippings
- ✓ Prunings
- ✓ Domestic quantities of pallets
- ✓ Raw timber/wood (untreated, unpainted, no nails or staples)

### Not accepted

- ✗ Food
- ✗ Coals/ash
- ✗ Treated pine
- ✗ Green waste in bags
- ✗ Cardboard
- ✗ Rubbish

Noxious weeds, palm trees and seeds are accepted at Mildura Landfill, but not at rural transfer stations.

For more information please visit [mildura.vic.gov.au/waste](http://mildura.vic.gov.au/waste)

# 9,006 tonnes

of food and organic waste diverted  
from landfill in nine months!



## Sharps disposal reminder

An education campaign is underway across our region following a rise in the number of syringes and needles being found in kerbside bins.

These items pose a significant health and safety risk to the people who sort our organic and recycling kerbside waste, as this work is done by hand.

Sharps and sharps containers should not be placed in kerbside bins under any circumstances.

Council provides yellow sharps containers free of charge. They are available at, and can be returned once full to:

- Council's Madden Avenue Service Centre  
108 Madden Avenue, Mildura
- Council's Deakin Avenue Service Centre  
76 Deakin Avenue, Mildura
- Council's Ouyen Service Centre  
79 Oke Street, Ouyen
- Sunraysia Community Health Services  
137 Thirteenth Street, Mildura
- Terry White ChemMart Red Cliffs  
53 Ilex Street, Red Cliffs

For more information visit [mildura.vic.gov.au/sharps](http://mildura.vic.gov.au/sharps)

## More compostable bags are on the way!

New rolls of compostable kitchen caddy liners will soon be delivered to more than 26,000 households and businesses.

Deliveries will get underway from 2 August 2021, with local community, sporting and not-for-profit groups encouraged to sign up to help with this work.

Each group will receive \$2 for every roll of compostable bags delivered, with the initiative designed to generate vital funding to help these groups provide programs and services that connect our community.

Interested groups can sign up online at [mildura.vic.gov.au/compostablebags](http://mildura.vic.gov.au/compostablebags)

This will also be the last time Council provides compostable bags as part of our kerbside bin collection service.

Council introduced the new 240L Food and Garden Organics kerbside bin in July 2020 which complemented the existing 120L red landfill bin and 240L yellow recycling bin. Households and businesses were also provided with a kitchen caddy and an initial roll of compostable bags.

You can buy extra compostable bags from a range of local retail outlets and online. Only bags clearly marked with the AS 4736 Compostable symbol can be used in your green bin.

You can also use newspaper or paper towel to line your kitchen caddy, or nothing at all!



# 1,646 locals share their vision for 2040

# IMAGINE 2040

Your Vision. Our Future.

Thank you so much to everyone who contributed to our IMAGINE 2040 project earlier this year. We were thrilled to hear from more than 1,600 people who shared their ideas and priorities for the future of our region.

The valuable information provided will be used to help develop a 20-year Community Vision for everyone who lives, works and plays in the Mildura Rural City Council area.

All Victorian councils are required to develop a Community Vision that highlights what the community values most and sets out key priorities for achieving that vision.

Council will use the Community Vision to guide strategic planning and decision-making, in particular, the four-year Council Plan, a Financial Plan, Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan and an Asset Plan.

There will be another opportunity for everyone to contribute to this important project again soon. In June we will present the key themes that emerged through the first round of engagement and invite locals to consider and refine these as we work toward developing our Community Vision.


Get involved at [yoursay.mildura.vic.gov.au/Imagine](http://yoursay.mildura.vic.gov.au/Imagine)



**Thank you  
for your  
ideas!**

 **320**  
participants in  
33 facilitated  
conversations

 **110**  
illustration  
cards

 **490**  
hard copy  
surveys

 **29**  
contributions  
to online  
vision wall


**18**   
community  
events

 **30**  
vox pop  
interviews

 **7**  
written  
submissions

 **29**  
Facebook  
comments

 **250**  
individual chalk  
board contributions

**365**   
online surveys

**16**   
Minecraft  
challenge participants

# \$90,000+ in funding awarded

Activities designed to help our community reconnect following the COVID-19 pandemic are being rolled out across our region thanks to a \$90,000 funding boost.

Twenty-one local community groups and businesses have so far received funding to host a range of low-cost or free activities designed to help locals reconnect.

These include skateboarding lessons for youth, free golf lessons, Tai Chi classes, Fun and Funky Dance classes for our older residents, guitar lessons, arts and music classes and swimming club memberships plus many more opportunities.

Promoting social connection and bringing people back together in the wake of COVID-19 is one of the key priorities of Council's ongoing COVID-19 recovery work.

This initiative was made possible through the Victorian Government's Community Activation and Social Isolation (CASI) initiative and Mildura Rural City Council.

More information about upcoming activities is available on Council's website.



Antisocial Collective will offer low-cost skateboarding lessons thanks to a grant from Council. Sebastian Lucien Maurice shows off some moves at the Mildura Skate Park.



**Community**  
CONVERSATIONS

**Next event:  
Merbein  
Thursday 12 August 2021**

## Chat with us in your neighbourhood

Councillors and staff have been making the most of opportunities to tour the region, meet locals and learn about the issues that matter at recent Community Conversation events.

A new initiative introduced in 2021, Community Conversations are designed to give residents and ratepayers the chance to provide direct feedback to Council and discuss what's important to them and their community.

Community Conversations are planned every two months, with the goal to visit all towns throughout the Mildura Rural City Council.

Visit [mildura.vic.gov.au/CommunityConversations](https://mildura.vic.gov.au/CommunityConversations) to find out more.

# Now's the time to rediscover your local library!

There's never been a more exciting time to discover all that Mildura Rural City Council Libraries have to offer.

Following a COVID-19 impacted 2020, the start of 2021 has seen our libraries return to normal operations in line with government restrictions.

Get lost in a fantastic tale or two, engage in a range of programs and initiatives designed for all ages, or delve into our region's rich history – the opportunities are endless!

Membership is free for local residents, with libraries located in Mildura, Merbein, Red Cliffs, Ouyen and Murrayville. Service points are also available in Irymple, Cullulleraine, Underbool and Walpeup.

Visit [mildura.vic.gov.au/libraries](http://mildura.vic.gov.au/libraries) to find out more, become a member, or register for a program.

You can also follow Mildura Rural City Council Libraries on social media for regular updates.



Jacinta Fitzgerald enjoys a recent Storytime event at the Mildura Library.

**GALLERY**  
**PERFORMANCES**  
**VISTA CAFÉ BAR**  
**SCULPTURE PARK**  
**RIO VISTA HISTORIC HOUSE**

199 Cureton Avenue Mildura [milduraartscentre.com.au](http://milduraartscentre.com.au)

**Mildura Arts Centre**  
MILDURA ARTS CENTRE



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 use any of our services.

T 03 5018 8100

E [mrcc@mildura.vic.gov.au](mailto:mrcc@mildura.vic.gov.au)

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