

# community matters



Mildura Rural City Council

ISSUE 26  
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## Pride of Australia Day

Prince Koyiremeye with his mother Amelie Hakingimana were among 28 people who pledged their allegiance to our nation on January 26. The mother and son chose Mildura's official Australia Day celebrations at the Nowingi Place to formalise their Australian Citizenships. Read more about Australia Day celebrations on page 4.



# Redevelopment bringing Mildura's riverfront to life

An \$18.3 million project is making the most of Mildura's incredible riverfront location. Funded by the Australian Government, State Government of Victoria and Council, the Mildura Riverfront Precinct Redevelopment Project will revitalise the parklands along the banks of the Murray River between the George Chaffey Bridge and the powerhouse near Jaycee Park.

This exciting project is being rolled out in stages. Some have been completed and others are currently underway. But they will all contribute to making one of our greatest assets even more appealing for residents and visitors to enjoy.

## An Improved Events Venue

Mildura's outdoor performance venue, the Nowingi Place can now cater for events of up to 3,000 people. The area around the venue was upgraded last year, with landscaping, lighting, shade and BBQ facilities. A new public amenities block was also constructed and the existing block was enhanced. This year will see the installation of permanent fencing around half the site, making it more appealing for event organisers who will be able to secure the site much easier when hosting concerts and festivals.

## A Pedestrian Promenade

Work is currently underway to construct a 3m wide pathway which will cater for walkers, joggers, skaters, cyclists and people with prams and strollers. 1.2km long, the promenade will connect key sites along the riverfront together in one continuous path. Four exercise equipment stations will also be installed along the promenade, which is expected to be completed in July 2015.

## A Water Play Zone

The former Ornamental Lake precinct is currently being converted into a water wonderland where children will be able to splash and play. Complete with jets, a shallow stream, ponds, decking, boardwalks and pergolas this will be a popular destination for families to enjoy. BBQs, seating, lighting and landscaping will complete the zone, which is expected to be completed in June 2015.





An artists impression of the Langtree connection which will link the CBD to the river.

## A CBD Connection

Work on a pedestrian connection that will link Mildura's CBD to the riverfront got underway in March. Featuring a series of terraced steps and ramps, the pathway will allow people on foot, in a wheelchair or with a pram, to safely cross over the railway line and down to the river bank beyond. Vine covered pergolas and more than 4,500 new trees and shrubs will be planted to create an ambient and inviting space that will open Langtree Avenue up to the Murray River.

## A Place to Eat

Council is currently negotiating the final details for plans to redevelop the Rowing Club building and incorporate a café space. Concept designs include the addition of a second storey, where the rowing club facilities would be housed. A restaurant/café would take up the front portion of the ground floor, with a decked alfresco area overlooking the river. It is hoped that once all plans are approved work can commence later this year.



## City slickers invited to put Mildura on their tree change agenda

Local business and community leaders will be spruiking the benefits of life outside the city and encouraging people to consider living, working and investing in our region at an expo in Melbourne this May.

The Regional Victoria Living Expo, which will be held at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre from 1 – 3 May is an opportunity to attract more people to our area. Council is working with Mildura Tourism, Mildura City Heart and the Mildura Development Corporation to present our region as the preferred place to relocate to, or invest in.

Businesses, educational institutions, property developers, real estate agents, tourism operators, health and aged-care providers and service organisations have also been invited to participate to further showcase what our region has to offer.

This is the fourth year Mildura will be represented at the event, with as many as 10,000 families and individuals considering moving to rural or regional Victoria expected to attend. Last year, two families decided to make the move to Mildura after attending the event.

This year, visitors to the Mildura stand will be educated about the employment opportunities, relaxed lifestyle, warm climate, affordable housing and vast cultural and recreational opportunities in our region.







LEFT Australia Day in Lights and Michael Hellwege with son and daughter

# Australia Day brings communities together

Mildura's Nowingi Place was buzzing with activity on January 26 when hundreds of people converged on the riverfront venue to celebrate at Council's official Australia Day event.

The free community celebrations featured a presentation from Australia Day Ambassador Mohammed Alam, who came to Australia from Bangladesh in 2004.

Guests also tucked in to beautiful breakfasts and enjoyed live music at the event, but it was an Australian Citizenship ceremony which stole the show. 28 people from 15 different countries chose Australia Day to officially become Australian citizens. Mayor Glenn Milne conducted the ceremony, which included seven children.

Australia Day also saw a significant milestone in our development as a multicultural community, with the official signing of a Collaboration Statement between Sunraysia Mallee Ethnic Communities Council and Council. The Collaboration Statement reaffirms Council's commitment to our diverse ethnic community and will see SMECC and Council work together to create a

welcoming and supportive community for all Australians.

Other communities around our region also held their own celebrations with festivities at Irymple, Colignan, Ouyen, Merbein, Red Cliffs, Murrayville, Lake Cullulleraine and Underbool.

## Acknowledging our Australia Day Awardees

Council's Australia Day Awards recognise individuals and groups who have made outstanding contributions to our community. Congratulations to recipients of Council's 2015 Australia Day Awards.

### Citizen of the Year – Michael Hellwege

It was Michael's leadership through his volunteer work with the SES which earned him a nomination for Citizen of the Year. Michael has been a member of the Mildura SES for more than 30 years and has undertaken the role of Controller for 15 years.

Michael has been instrumental in many search, rescue and community support incidents during this time and

has committed countless hours to the on-ground work and the operational side of organisation including helping in the training and skill development of other volunteers.

His other achievements include receiving the SES Service Medal and National Medal and he has been involved in state-wide programs such as the Driver Reviver campaign.

### Young Citizen of the Year – Rachel White

Rachel's commitment and community involvement is what really set her apart from the other applicants this year, taking on roles including the Treasurer of the Australian Inland Botanic Gardens, a member of the South Mildura Rotary Club and is the Marketing Officer of the Mildura Young Professionals Network.

She's also recently completed a Bachelor of Accounting at La Trobe University, graduated from the Northern Mallee Leaders Program and also gave her time to the Merbein Football Netball Club.

A quiet achiever, Rachel is certainly someone who has proven herself to be a valued member of a number of





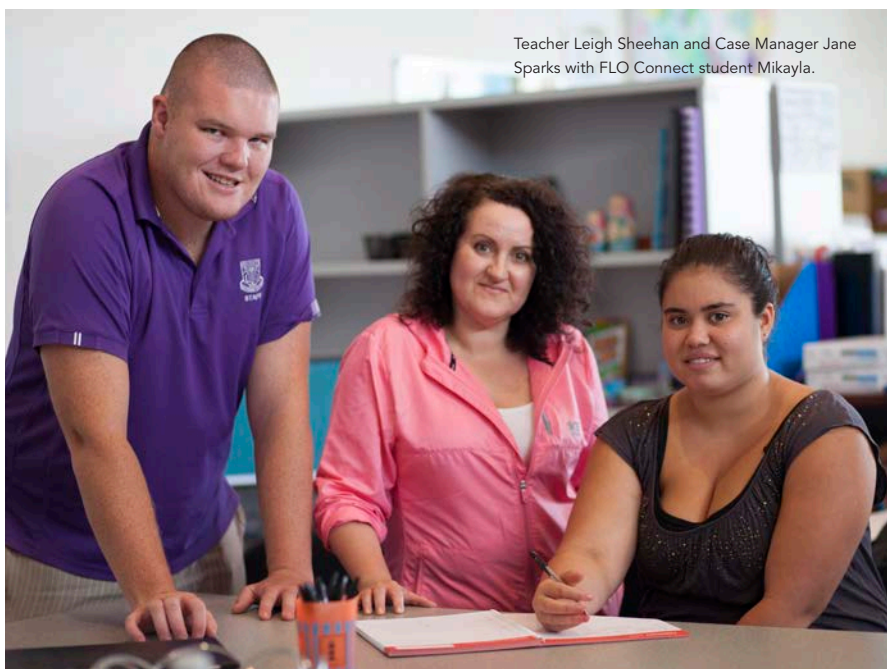
alia Day Award recipients Rachel White, Tracey Lawson from Mallee Up and Michael Hellwege; TOP Yadvinder Singh with his daughter Loveleen son Taranvir Singh; ABOVE Celebrations at Nowingi Place.

organisations and someone who is helping to make a difference in our area.

### **Community Event of the Year – Mallee Up in Lights, Small Town Transformation – Ouyen**

When the Ouyen community received a grant to transform the Roxy Theatre's courtyard, a small group of dedicated locals decided to use the opportunity to bring the whole community together. Over an 18 month period, the people of Ouyen spent countless hours transforming the iconic Roxy and trying out their artistic talents throughout the town. The project culminated in a huge celebration last October.

This project was the standout due to the lasting legacy it has created for the Ouyen community both through the physical changes to the Roxy Theatre and also the new skills people have developed in terms of leadership, project management and creative design which will benefit the whole community for years to come.



Teacher Leigh Sheehan and Case Manager Jane Sparks with FLO Connect student Mikayla.

## Youth initiative leads to education and employment pathways

A new approach to learning is helping young people in the Mildura region re-engage in education and employment settings.

FLO Connect is a partnership between Council and Red Cliffs Secondary College which started in Mildura in January last year. The program provides a flexible, community-based learning environment for young people who have dropped out of school or are unemployed.

Teachers and case managers work with participants to provide individual learning programs based on young people's strengths and interests. To date more than 50 12–18 year olds have enrolled in the FLO Connect program. Ten of these have already made the transition to employment, Registered Training Organisations or other educational settings.

FLO Connect was set up to help increase education completion rates locally by re-engaging young people who cannot or will not re-commence their education or employment pathway within a traditional setting.

## Annual survey your chance to rate Council performance

From recycling and roads to child care and sporting facilities, Council provides dozens of different services to our community.

Our annual community satisfaction survey is your chance to provide feedback on each of these services and let us know where we can make improvements.

The survey is open now and asks you to rate 71 different areas of Council in terms of their importance to you and their performance.

Everyone is encouraged to get involved and the survey closes at the end of the month.

You can access the survey online via our website or by visiting a Council Service Centre where hard copies are available to complete.



## Have you registered your pet?

Pets must be registered by Friday 10 April 2015.

All dogs and cats over the age of three months must be registered with Council and must also be microchipped.

If your pet was registered with Council last year you should receive a renewal notice in the mail soon.

If you haven't received this notice or you have a new pet that needs to be registered please contact Council soon as possible.



## Roundabouts making a real difference on our roads

Construction of a new roundabout at the intersection of Etiwanda Avenue and Sixteenth Street is underway.

The \$344,000 project is expected to be completed by Easter and aims to improve safety and general traffic flow at the busy intersection. The Federal Government contributed \$218,850 towards the work through the Black Spot Program.

The Black Spot Program has provided much needed funding to many local road safety projects over the years and funds are used to specifically target locations where crashes have occurred.

Recent residential growth around Sixteenth Street and Etiwanda Avenue has seen an increase in traffic in the area and there have been six crashes resulting in injury and one resulting in serious injury at this site in recent times.

This is the third Black Spot funded roundabout to be constructed in the last twelve months in our region.

## Discover a Playgroup near you

March 23 to 29 is National Playgroup Week and it's the perfect opportunity to learn more about Playgroups in your local area.

Playgroup sessions are where parents, grandparents, carers, children and babies meet together in a relaxed environment.

Playgroups can be run by parents and caregivers or paid facilitators in a supported environment, with a range of free or low cost activities set up for children to enjoy. These may include:

- Music and singing
- Imaginative play
- Outdoor and free play
- Art and craft activities
- Outings.

Playgroup is also a great opportunity for parents and caregivers to interact with the other adults; and to play with the children.

No child is too young for playgroup. All children from birth to 5 years love new experiences and benefit from developing sensory, social and communication skills through activities at playgroup.

More than 20 Playgroups currently operate throughout the Mildura Rural City Council area. These include community playgroups, parent groups, supported playgroups and intensive supported playgroups. To find out more about choosing the right Playgroup for you and your family call Council on (03) 5018 8271 or visit [www.playgroupaustralia.org.au](http://www.playgroupaustralia.org.au)



## Safety check for irrigated areas

Safety on roads throughout Mildura's irrigated areas and townships is being reviewed.

A specialist road safety consultant will analyse 910km of sealed roads and 143km of unsealed roads in the townships of Mildura, Merbein, Cardross, Irymple and Nichols Point as well as the broader irrigated area. The review will take into consideration things such as current speed limits and travel times, road conditions, safety and crash data, traffic impacts on nearby houses and properties, pedestrian and cyclist numbers, truck routes and key commuter routes.

Speed limits in the townships and irrigated areas currently vary greatly and include 40km/h, 50km/h, 60km/h, 80km/h, 100km/h and 110km/h zones.

Information collected during the review will be used to help Council establish a more consistent approach to speed limits in the irrigated areas. It will aim to improve amenity and safety on local roads serving access to residences whilst, on more significant roads, maintain driver mobility.

People who have recently contacted Council regarding speed limits on roads will be contacted to provide input as part of the review. If you are not contacted or you would like to be involved or share your insights please feel to write to Council by emailing [mrcc@mildura.vic.gov.au](mailto:mrcc@mildura.vic.gov.au) before 30 April 2015.



## Do your bit to combat Fruit Fly

Horticulture is one of the most important industries in our region, contributing more than \$500 million to the Mildura economy. One of the biggest threats to the industry is Queensland Fruit Fly, so it is important everyone does their bit to help manage the pest.

Fruit fly can start in the home garden, with some recent outbreaks in our region occurring in residential backyards. While this is frustrating and disappointing for home gardeners, it is even more concerning for fruit growers whose businesses are affected by fruit fly.

Local residents with fruit trees or a vegetable patch in their backyard need to be on the lookout for fruit fly. Most people discover fruit fly when they cut open their fruit and find it infested with creamy-white maggots (5–10 millimetres long) burrowing inside.

Other indicators of fruit fly activity include small puncture marks (or stings) on fruit skins from where the female fruit fly has laid her eggs and prematurely ripened fruits.

There are a number of options for managing and treating a fruit fly outbreak if it occurs in your backyard. These include exclusion with nets, bags or sleeves, removing host plants, cover spraying, trapping and baiting.

To ensure the best chance of success, gardeners need to start protecting fruit well before it ripens.

By controlling fruit fly in home gardens, backyard growers can minimise damage to their produce and contribute to and maintain the prosperity of Sunraysia's multi-million dollar horticultural industry.

For information and advice on managing an outbreak of fruit fly call the Greater Sunraysia Pest Free Area Hotline on (03) 5051 4618 or visit [www.economicdevelopment.vic.gov.au](http://www.economicdevelopment.vic.gov.au)



## Check out the new Council website

Accessing Council online is now easier than ever thanks to a new and improved website.

The redeveloped site went live in February.

Featuring a clean and easy to read layout, the new site is more user friendly and is designed to answer common customer enquiries. It is simple to navigate with improved search functionality.

It is also mobile phone and tablet friendly, and will intuitively re-size depending on the device you are using.

There are some great new features including an interactive events calendar, which allows residents to upload event details themselves, online forms and links to Council's social media accounts.

Check it out at [www.mildura.vic.gov.au](http://www.mildura.vic.gov.au)

# upcoming events

This is just a handful of the many great events coming up in our region! Find out about others at [www.mildura.vic.gov.au/events](http://www.mildura.vic.gov.au/events)

## Easter Powersports Weekend

**Friday 3 – Sunday 5 April**

Get your engines pumping with a weekend of motorsports action throughout Mildura. Includes a Show and Shine in Mildura City Heart, the Mildura 100 Ski Race, drags, speedway and motorcycle racing.



## Cullulleraine Exposed

**Friday 10 – Sunday 12 April**

A weekend festival of music and more, showcasing the best of the Millewa region. A range of attractions will be held at locations including the Lake Cullulleraine foreshore, Werrimull Hotel, Pioneer Park and Lock 9.

[www.cullulleraineexposed.com.au](http://www.cullulleraineexposed.com.au)  
0427 236 462

## Mildura Blue Light Disco

**Friday 17 April**

10–14 year olds are invited to dance the night away at this fully supervised event. Held at the Irymple Leisure Centre, the Blue Light Disco is drug, alcohol and smoke free and no pass-outs are available.

(03) 5018 8280

## Sunraysia Multicultural Festival

**Saturday 18 April**

Celebrate the region's cultural diversity at The Nowingi Place. Enjoy both traditional and contemporary song, dance, music, food stalls, costumes, art, craft, activities and displays.

[www.smeccinc.org](http://www.smeccinc.org)  
(03) 5022 1006

## Powercor Tour de Depot

**Sunday 19 April**

Get on your bike and have some fun whilst raising money for local charity The Lucas Foundation. Tackle the 10km, 20km ride 20km time-trial rides and celebrate at a community festival when you cross the finish line at The Nowingi Place.

[www.powercor.com.au](http://www.powercor.com.au)  
(03) 6943 6526

## SARG Paws along the Murray

**Sunday 3 May**

Take your furry friend for a walk along the river and help raise funds for the Sunraysia Animal Rehousing Group. Enjoy activities, competitions and access discounted animal microchipping at The Nowingi Place afterwards.

[www.sarg.net.au](http://www.sarg.net.au)



If you would like to know more about the information in this document please call the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National) on 131 450 and ask them to telephone Mildura Rural City Council on (03) 5018 8100.

You can also request an interpreter when you visit Council Service Centres in person.

Council is open 8am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

Αν θέλετε να μάθετε περισσότερα σχετικά με τις πληροφορίες που περιέχονται σ' αυτό το έγγραφο, σας παρακαλούμε να καλέσετε την Υπηρεσία Μετάφρασης και Διερμηνείας (TIS National) στο 131 450 και ζητήσετε τους να τηλεφωνήσουν τον Περιφερειακό Δήμο της Mildura στο (03) 5018 8100.

Μπορείτε επίσης να ζητήσετε για διερμηνεία όταν επισκέπτεστε τα Κέντρα Εξυπηρέτησης του Δήμου αυτοπροσώπως.

Τα γραφεία του Δήμου είναι ανοικτά από 8πμ έως 5μμ Δευτέρα έως Παρασκευή.

Per maggiori informazioni sul contenuto di questo documento chiamate il Servizio di traduzione e interpretariato (TIS National) al 131 450 e chiedete il collegamento con il comune di Mildura al numero (03) 5018 8100.

Potete anche richiedere l'interprete quando vi recate di persona agli uffici del comune. Gli uffici del comune sono aperti dalle ore 8 alle 17, dal lunedì al venerdì.

Ni waba wipfuzza kumenya izindi nkuru ku bijanye n'uru rwandiko turagusavye uterefone Igisata kijejwe gusobanura (TIS National) kuri 131450 kandi uzobasabe guterefone Mildura Rural City Council kuri (03) 5018 8100 Urashobora kandi gusaba umusobanuzi mu gihe ugendeye Council Service Centres wewe nyene.

Council yugurura 8am (isaha zibiri z'agatondo) gushika 5pm (isaha cumi n'imwe z'umuhungamo) Kuwambere gushika Kuwagatanu.

Bu belgenin içeriğiyle ilgili daha fazla bilgi edinmek isterseniz lütfen Çeviri ve Tercümanlık Hizmetini (Translating and Interpreting Service – TIS) 131 450 nolu telefondan arayarak Mildura Kırsal Şehir Belediyesini (03) 5018 8100'dan aramalarını isteyiniz.

Belediye Hizmet Merkezlerine şahsen gittiğiniz taktirde de bir tercüman talep edebilirsiniz.

Belediyemiz hafta arası sabah 8 ile akşam 5 arası açıktır.

چنانچه می خواهید درباره معلومات این سند بیشتر بدانید، لطفاً با سرویس ترجمه و ترمجه شفاهی ملی (TIS National) به شماره تلفن ۴۵۰ ۱۳۱ در تماس شوید و از آنها بخواهید از طریق شماره (۰۳) ۵۰۱۸ ۸۱۰۰ با شورای شهر روستایی Mildura (Mildura Rural City Council) تماس بگیرند.

شما همچنان می توانید زمانی که شخصاً از مراکز خدماتی شورا (Council Service Centres) بازدید می کنید، درخواست مترجم شفاهی نمایید.

شورا در روزهای دوشنبه الی جمعه از ساعت ۸ صبح الی ۵ بعد از ظهر باز است.



Mildura Rural City Council

## General enquiries:

Phone 03 5018 8100

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

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

### Madden Avenue Service Centre

108 Madden Avenue, Mildura

Phone 03 5018 8100

### Deakin Avenue Service Centre

76 Deakin Avenue, Mildura

Phone 03 5018 8100

### Ouyen Service Centre

79 Oke Street, Ouyen

Phone 03 5018 8600

**DISCLAIMER**  
Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of event information published in Community Matters. Information published is based on details supplied by local event organisers and was correct at the time of printing.