

Community Matters

ISSUE 40 | August 2019



Walk to school

Nichols Point Primary School students Mason and Scarlett Castleman get active by walking to school. Read more on Page 5.



Council is spending \$132.36 million in the 2019-20 Financial Year.

These figures illustrate how different Council services, projects and infrastructure are funded in this year's budget. You can read the full 2019-20 Budget online at www.mildura.vic.gov.au

Budget Highlights



Works include the Stage 3 redevelopment of the Deakin Avenue median strip, Mildura riverfront precinct works and erosion mitigation works at the Mildura Boat Ramp and mouth of Marina Bay. Plus upgrades of Woobine Park play equipment and Rio Vista dog off-leash facility.

RECREATION AND LEISURE **\$2.96 million**

Planned works include lighting at the new Mildura South Regional Sporting Precinct and upgrades to the Cardross Recreation Reserve cricket pitch and Blackburn Park synthetic bowls green.



Works planned for 2019-20 include major reconstruction of the intersection at Thirteenth Street and Ontario Avenue. Road reconstruction of Eighth Street from Walnut Avenue to the railway line in Mildura, plus the reselling of approximately 50km of roads and re-sheeting of approximately 35km of unsealed roads.

MAJOR PROJECTS **\$17.61 million**

In 2019-20 works include the new Mildura South Regional Sporting Precinct, upgrade and extension of the Old Aerodrome sporting complex pavilion and construction of an isolation building at the Mildura Animal Shelter.





Progress on Mildura South Regional Sporting Precinct

Sunraysia residents in coming months will see the first signs of activity on the site of one of our region's most exciting new major projects – the Mildura South Regional Sporting Precinct (MSRSP).

Detailed designs for the project were recently unveiled for the first time, providing more information about how the new precinct could look as well as confirming components for the first stage of the project, which will include:

- a six-court indoor stadium with change rooms, foyer, reception, administration offices, public amenities, storage, spectator seating and café/kiosk
- second floor of indoor stadium, including function rooms with elevated spectator seating, social/club rooms, public amenities and storage
- AFL-standard oval with separate pavilion, including change rooms, kiosk-canteen, public amenities, coach's box, timekeeper's box and storage
- external amenities, including car parking, drainage, pathways and landscaping
- sealed car parking at entrance.

To be constructed on the corner of Sixteenth Street and Deakin Avenue, this long-awaited precinct will not only provide a home for Sunraysia's indoor sporting user groups, but will usher in a new era in terms of large multi-purpose recreation space for Mildura South residents and families to enjoy and utilise.

Representing a significant boost for the economy, the facility will generate more than 200 jobs through both the construction phase and in its later operation, and provide a venue for local, regional and national sporting events, as well as other major events such as concerts.

Council expects to appoint a head contractor for construction of the precinct in a matter of weeks. Site preparation works are expected to start from October.

More than \$28 million has been secured to complete the first stage of the MSRSP, including \$17.5 million in Australian Government Building Better Regions funding, \$8 million from Council and \$3 million from the Victorian Government's Better Indoor Stadiums funding program.

For more information visit www.mildura.vic.gov.au/sportingprecinct

New Chief Executive Officer starts at Council

Mildura Rural City Council has a new Chief Executive Officer.

Sarah Philpott started in the role on 5 August and said she was looking forward to meeting local residents, groups and organisations in coming weeks to gain a greater understanding of issues important to them and the region.

She said it was an exciting time to join Council, with several major projects either about to start, or being developed, all of which promised to improve the lives and wellbeing of residents in our community.

Ms Philpott brings a wealth of expertise to Council's top senior management position, with executive experience in both metropolitan and regional Councils in South Australia and Queensland.

Before her appointment as Council's CEO, Ms Philpott was Director of Corporate Services at the City of Port Adelaide Enfield, the third largest metropolitan council in South Australia.



Corroboree 2019



Celebrating Aboriginal culture at Corroboree

Aboriginal culture and history took centre stage at Corroboree in July. Members of our Aboriginal community generously shared their art, music, dance, food and traditional language at this special event, which helped kick off NAIDOC Week across our region. This year's Corroboree was particularly significant as it featured an official opening and Welcome to Country by Mildura's first Registered Aboriginal Party - The First People of the Millewa-Mallee Aboriginal Corporation. Despite a wet start to Corroboree, it still proved popular with around 600 people gathering at the Nowingi Place across the afternoon.



Walk, ride or scoot to school this October!

Every October, Walk to School encourages families to get active on the trip to and from school to help kids build healthy habits for life.

Hands Up Mallee is partnering with Mildura Rural City Council to work with local primary schools to support more families to walk, ride or scoot to school this October thanks to \$15,000 funding from VicHealth.

In 2018, more than 1400 local students took part in the initiative, covering 1.7 million kilometres.

Walking to school is a free, easy and fun way for kids to get the recommended 60 minutes of physical activity they need each day. It's also a great way for them to make friends, improve their fitness, build their confidence and even help the environment!

This year Mildura Rural City Council and Hands Up Mallee are also supporting schools to implement DROP and STRIDE zones. These zones are approximately one kilometre away from schools, allowing parents to safely drop off their child, who will then walk with other students also using the zone.

Just for participating your school will be eligible for incentive prizes.

To find out more about Walk to School 2019 or to register your school visit www.handsupmallee.com/school-active-travel or call (03) 5025 9604.



Seventeenth Street road closure

Regional Roads Victoria (formerly VicRoads) has started work on a new roundabout at Deakin Avenue and Seventeenth Street.

As a result of these works, Seventeenth Street between Benetook and Walnut Avenues has been closed to traffic.

Detours are now in place and expected to remain until January 2020. For more information about this project visit www.regionalroads.vic.gov.au/ map and navigate to the Mildura area. During working hours contact Project Manager Douglas Warren on 0477 035 566. Afterhours, Works Manager David Young on 0409 525 711.



Detox your Home on November 23

Do you need to dispose of unwanted household chemicals? You can reduce the risk of poisoning, environmental pollution and bushfire hazards, as well as improve recycling rates, by dropping off unwanted chemicals at Mildura's Detox your Home event.

Detox your Home is a safe, free and easy-to-use service to dispose of common household chemicals without harming your health or the environment.

Just bring your unwanted household chemicals to the Mildura Landfill between 10am and 12pm on Saturday 23 November. The collected items are recovered and diverted from landfill.

Go to www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/detoxyourhome for a full list of accepted items.



White Ribbon striving to end men's violence against women

Mildura Rural City Council's biggest event of the year in support of White Ribbon is rapidly approaching.

Council's annual White Ribbon Walk will take place on Friday 22 November- coinciding with national White Ribbon Day - and will once again start from the Langtree Mall at midday.

The walk will take participants through Mildura's CBD, concluding with a community barbecue at the Mildura Rowing Club Lawns.

This massive event has grown each year and all residents and groups are encouraged to take part, helping to raise awareness about violence against women and how we can work to prevent it.

It follows an increasing awareness about White Ribbon and violence against women in our community, with several successful events this year.

Council held its popular White Ribbon Ride in June, while several staff are now in training during their own time for the upcoming City – Bay Fun Run in Adelaide, where they'll run/walk under the White Ribbon banner.

The Sunraysia sporting and business community has also embraced White Ribbon, with the Millewa Football League holding a White Ribbon round in July, which saw all football and netball players don white ribbons.

Earlier this month the Imperials Football Netball club followed suit in its clash against Wentworth, with both sides donning White Ribbons for the match at City Oval.

Southern Cross Farms meanwhile are in the process of becoming a White Ribbon-accredited workplace, which will make it only the second accredited business or organisation in Sunraysia behind Mildura Rural City Council.

For more information about White Ribbon visit www.whiteribbon.org.au

WHAT'S ON



THEATRE



STARSTRUCK: ON LOCATION

National Portrait Gallery

OPENING NIGHT

Pop Up Cinema Event!

8.30pm, Friday 18 October

Starstruck explores the striking portraits emerging from 100 years of Australian movies.

Image: Liam Hemsworth as Teddy McSwiney by Ben King, *The Dressmaker*, 2015. Courtesy of Film Art Media.



Mildura Arts Centre presents

MOZART THE KING

Melbourne Chamber Orchestra

SHOWING

7.30pm, Friday 22 November

This is quite simply a classical feast.

EVENT



TWILIGHT

Friday 18 October | 15 November

Free Outdoor Event

(03) 5018 8330

milduraartscentre.com.au





Hattah Desert Race 2019

Australia Day Award nominations are open

The Australia Day Awards are the perfect chance to celebrate the contributions and achievements of individuals and groups who make a difference to our community.

Nominations for our 2020 Awards are now open. Categories include Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year and Community Project or Event of the Year.

These prestigious awards are one of the highest honours Council can bestow to publicly acknowledge those whose dedication and contributions may otherwise go unnoticed.

For more information and nomination forms go to www.mildura.vic.gov.au/awards or call us on (03) 5018 8100.

Nominations close on Friday 8 November 2019, with winners announced at our 2020 Australia Day celebration breakfast at the Nowingi Place.

Lots on offer for 12-25 year olds

Our Youth Services team delivers a dynamic range of services and programs to young people across our region. Some great events and opportunities coming up include:

September School Holiday Program

The upcoming school holidays will feature a range of fun, low-cost and fully supervised activities for 12-16 year olds. Activities will run from 23 September to 4 October. Enrolments are now open so book soon to avoid disappointment.

Show Us Your Shorts Film Competition

Secondary school aged students are

invited to get creative and produce a short film for a chance to share in great cash prizes. All entries will be shown at a special screening on Wednesday 6 November. Entries are open now and close on 18 October.

2020 Youth Committee

The Youth Committee is a 12 month program providing 12-25 year olds with the chance to gain valuable leadership skills and be a voice for the youth of our region. The Youth Committee also help plan and stage live music and cultural events for young people in our region. Applications open in November.

For more information about these and other great youth programs call our Youth Services team on (03) 5018 8100, go to www.mildura.vic.gov.au/youth or check out Youth Services Mildura on Facebook and Instagram.

Granting vital support to local groups

Council's Grants Program continues to provide sporting groups, clubs and not-for-profit organisations with funds to support their tireless work in our community.

Earlier this year Council's Grants Program provided the Hattah Desert Race with \$37,500, while the Mildura Country Music Festival received \$50,000.

With close to a million dollars been given to a range of local groups Community Events like the Goanna Run and the Ouyen Pacing Cup did not miss out, each receiving \$4000.

Sporting groups like the Hawks Baseball Club and Red Cliffs Cricket Association also benefited from Council's Grants Program, receiving funds to support upgrades to their facilities.

The latest round of Community Grants close on 16 September 2019, with funding available for Recreation Development, Recreation Facilities Upgrade, Environmental and Community Projects. For more information go to www.mildura.vic.gov.au/Community/Grants

Late fees on overdue items now a thing of the past

The start of the new financial year ushered in a new era for Mildura Rural City Council Libraries, with late fees on overdue items now a thing of the past.

Abolishing late fees is among several permanent measures Council has introduced aimed at providing a better library experience for the community.

Other measures include expanding free internet access for visitors to the area and doubling the number of items people can borrow at one time.

While late fees have been abolished, residents are reminded that a 'lost fee' will still be charged if items are more than four weeks overdue.

The third major change is providing free internet access on Council Library computers to people from overseas or interstate, which will be particularly valuable for visitors to the area. As part of the changes, visitors will be able to access the internet via Council Library computers free-of-charge for one hour per day.



Victorian Seniors Festival October 2019	Get into it!	
	6-11 October Over 55s are invited to enjoy a local program of low cost events, activities and workshops	

Full program of events available in September
www.mildura.vic.gov.au/seniorsfestival
(03) 5018 8100



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 mrcc@mildura.vic.gov.au

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.