

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Throughout August we have seen an excellent community response to the evolving COVID-19 situation in Western NSW. Warren Shire has some of the highest testing rates in NSW and 622 residents attended the combined Australian Defence Force / Western NSW Local Health District COVID-19 vaccination clinic on 23 and 24 August. I want to thank everyone involved in setting up and supporting the pop-up clinic over the two days.

The high take-up rate is testament to the degree of care that we as individuals have for our families, friends and the whole Warren Shire community. The clinic will return on 13 and 14 September for the second dose vaccinations.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank staff at the Warren MPHS for their continuing work at the COVID-19 testing clinic and those at Rural and Remote Medical Services for the AstraZeneca clinic on Friday 20 August.

It is important we continue to remain vigilant, follow the



stay-at-home orders, get tested if you have any symptoms, and if you are eligible, book a date to vaccinate.

Council continues to lobby both the State and Federal Governments for the funding required to repair the Warren town levee after being unsuccessful in the first round of the National Flood Mitigation Infrastructure Program Funding. Council does have a contingency plan in place for emergency repair work that can be enacted quickly should the need arise so that the integrity of the levee is maintained.

Clr Milton Quigley
MAYOR

SHIRE WATER TOWERS BECOME CANVAS FOR ART



The \$750,000 Nevertire Reservoir refurbishment program is progressing with the contractor recently completing an external washdown, spot priming and the installation of new handrails on the top of the 21-metre-high reservoir.

Once the refurbishment is complete, the reservoir will become a canvas for another shire mural. Council has started receiving some design theme ideas from Nevertire residents and a formal community consultation program will soon commence, with a number of community organisations to be used

including the Nevertire Social Club, Nevertire Rodeo Committee, Hall Committee and the Nevertire Hotel. Public meetings will be held, if possible, and the selected theme will be advertised Shire-wide.

The mural is expected to be completed by March/April 2022 and is funded through the Murray-Darling Basin Economic Development Program Round 3.

Council recently endorsed the Warren Public Arts Committee's final concept design for the development of a mural on the Stafford Street Water Tower that is consistent with the sporting theme of the redeveloped Carter Oval Sporting Precinct.

The mural design features sporting activities that can be enjoyed by the community in the precinct including swimming, cricket, soccer and skateboarding. Artist Sam Brooks developed the 3D mural concept designs, which received positive community feedback while on display during Local Government Week.

Unfortunately, due to illness, Sam Brooks is unable to paint the mural, so Council is now working to find another artist to collaborate on bringing these designs to life on the Stafford Street water tower.

The mural is fully funded through the NSW Government's Country Arts Support Program, the Australian Government's Drought Communities Grant Extension Program and the Murray-Darling Basin Economic Development Program Round 3.



These are concept designs only and faces of images will be changed.



The Ewenmar Waste Depot Improvement project is underway with Council successful in obtaining a grant from the Waste Less Recycle More funding round for the construction of a transfer station.

With the location selected, Geotech reports complete and structural designs finished, the project has been steadily progressing however two quotation requests to

IMPROVEMENTS AT EWENMAR WASTE DEPOT

construct the facility were unsuccessful in finding a suitable contractor to do the work. This has led to Council reviewing the scope of works.

The outcome of the review resulted in a revised design that reduces the parking area for the vehicle to transfer waste from 40 metres to 20 metres, minimising construction costs yet still allowing sufficient space for larger vehicles to access the transfer station.

Construction of this smaller facility will see Council staff completing the earthworks and stormwater drainage, and concreting works being carried out by local contractors.

Weather dependant, construction of the transfer station will be complete by early next year.



**SAVE
THE
DATE**

The Western NSW Local Health District and Australian Defence Force pop-up COVID-19 vaccination clinic will be back in Warren to administer second vaccination doses on 13 and 14 September.

Transport to the pop-up clinic will be available through a free service with community transport, call 68474578 to book.

Transport for NSW will also have services available, visit: <https://bit.ly/PopupClinicAccess>

WELCOME TO WOW



Image credit: Window on the Wetlands Facebook

To provide better access to more people, a recent grant application was made to the NSW Government's Regional Tourism Activation Fund for the Window on the Wetlands. Already an established tourist recreation and education centre, Window on the Wetlands is focused on providing access for all people.

Council supported RiverSmart in submitting the \$500,000 grant application to improve accessibility by better

wheelchair access to the centre, develop visual captions and Auslan audio displays, and to upgrade the car park including an exit to improve access for caravans.

Shona Whitfield from RiverSmart says the proposed works will enable more people to visit the Window on the Wetland Centre and appreciate the healthy river and wetland systems of Tiger Bay.

"Our vision is to create a gateway for people to appreciate what's in the region, and the more we improve the facilities, the more people we will attract," says Ms Whitfield.

Council hopes that the grant application is successful for this worthwhile project.

For more information about Window on the Wetlands, contact windowonthewetlands@gmail.com

BETTER ACCESS TO BURRIMA

Council recently assisted with an application to the NSW Government's Regional Tourism Activation Fund to further enhance the region's Burrima Walkway located in the Macquarie Marshes.

The \$500,000 grant application by Macquarie Wetlands Association is to improve road access and encourage more visitors to this important conservation attraction.

With over 220 species living in the Macquarie Marshes, Burrima Walkway provides visitors with an elevated boardwalk to enjoy the environment with comfort and safety, whether it's wet or dry.

David Duncan, from the Macquarie Wetlands Association, says Burrima is a place for visitors to immerse themselves in



Image credit: Macquarie Wetlands Association Facebook

a unique environmental experience which includes 2km of River Red Gum forest, mixed marsh and dense reeds, experiencing the beauty and environmental significance of the Macquarie Marshes.

"With this grant, the improved road access will give more opportunity for more people to enjoy this important natural habitat for many species of flora and fauna, and with added comfort and safety," says David.

Council hopes that the grant application is successful for this worthwhile project.

"What a fabulous project has come to fruition, have been hearing about it for a while but seeing it is stunning and way exceeded expectations. Thank you for sharing and showing us" - visitor from Goondiwindi

SHIRE ROADS UPDATE



New Emergency Trailer

Council has built an emergency trailer that is equipped and ready to use on callouts for road accidents, water pipe breakages and any other incidents that require traffic control.

The emergency trailer contains all signs, stands and equipment needed for emergency traffic control work and will enable Council to respond promptly to incidents.

The following maintenance is scheduled for September and October. This schedule may be subject to change with the continued wet weather and the need to commence emergency flood and storm damage restoration works.

Maintenance grade scheduled for September:

- Elsinore Road
- Nevertire-Bogan Road - Shoulders
- Mannix Road
- Carinda Road - Shoulders
- Catons Road
- Cullemburrawang Road
- Hatton Road

Construction on Ellengerah Road in September and October.

Maintenance grade scheduled for October:

- Heatherbrae Road
- Cremorne Road
- Booka Road
- Billybingbone Road

WOMEN OF WARREN SHIRE

This month we profile Emma Wass.

Emma moved to Warren Shire when she was 19. Now married to a Warren local and with four children, Emma is a dedicated member of the Warren community. Involved in fundraising, volunteering, training the local netball teams, and as a community nurse, she truly embodies the shire's community spirit.

Read Emma's interview: <https://bit.ly/WoWSEmma>

To nominate a Warren Shire woman to be featured in this series, email media@warren.nsw.gov.au



WANT TO BE A VOICE FOR THE COMMUNITY?

The Local Government Election will be held on 4 December and we're calling for Councillor nominations.

Registrations for the elections are now open and close on Wednesday, 3 November 2021.

To find out more on how to register as a candidate, go to: <https://bit.ly/Candidate6Steps>

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