

# Edward River News



Edward  
River  
COUNCIL

Issue 1 : November 2016



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## Flood assistance for Edward River region

The NSW Government has announced that disaster assistance is now available to help flood affected communities, including the Edward River region.

The assistance, which is provided through the jointly funded Commonwealth-State Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA), includes:

- Help for eligible people whose homes or belongings have been damaged;
- Support for affected local councils to help with the costs of cleaning up and restoring damaged essential public assets;

- Concessional interest rate loans for eligible small businesses, primary producers and non-profit organisations;
- Freight subsidies for eligible primary producers; and
- Grants to eligible non-profit organisations.

For information on personal hardship and distress assistance, contact the Disaster Welfare Assistance Line on 1800 018 444.

To apply for a concessional loan, grant or freight subsidy, visit the NSW Rural Assistance Authority website at [www.raa.nsw.gov.au](http://www.raa.nsw.gov.au) or call 1800 678 593.

# Message from the Administrator

November marks six months since the creation of the new Edward River Council, and I'm pleased to say that within our organisation, there has been significant progress towards putting in place the systems and processes which will enable the Edward River Council to professionally and effectively serve our community.

Over the past six months, I have been extraordinarily impressed with the professionalism, effort and commitment of Council's staff, who are working hard to make the most out of the merger process and ensure that the new Edward River Council is positioned for success.

The creation of the new Edward River Council has presented our community with an unprecedented investment in community infrastructure. Through the NSW Government's Stronger Communities Fund, Council has been able to invest close to \$1 million back into our local community, providing much-welcome support to local community groups and organisations.

As many of you would be aware, Council recently partnered with the NSW Government to undertake a Customer Service Survey, with the goal of identifying the local community's expectations of services provided by Council. The results, which will be provided to Council shortly, will help inform the services the new Council will provide.

Nominations for the 2016/17 Australia Day Awards have now opened, and I want to use this opportunity to encourage all members of the Edward River community to consider nominating an inspirational resident or community group for an Australia Day Award.

The Australia Day Awards aim to recognise those citizens and community groups who have made a significant contribution to the Edward River region, and I am sure we all know a local champion – someone who dedicates enormous time and energy to make our community a better place – who is deserving of recognition.

I hope you enjoy reading about some of the activities Council has been undertaking recently, and what we've been achieving. For more regular updates, I encourage you to visit Council's website at [www.edwardriver.nsw.gov.au](http://www.edwardriver.nsw.gov.au) and sign up to Council's e-newsletter or 'like' Edward River Council on Facebook.

Until next time,

**Ashley Hall**  
Administrator



## New brand identity for Edward River Council

Edward River Council has officially unveiled its new corporate logo, following an extensive staff and community engagement process to determine the organisation's new brand identity.

The new brand, which was formally launched at the 2016 Deniliquin Ute Muster, symbolises a new beginning for Edward River Council.

Comprising three individual elements of a blue water droplet, an orange leaf, and a green leaf; the logo represents the Edward River as a meeting place and reflects the important connection between our community, our economy and our environment.

Council's corporate logo comprises three individual elements:

- A blue water droplet, representing the winding Edward River and its importance to our community, our economy and our environment;
- An orange leaf, representing our region's vibrant economy, underpinned by the agriculture sector, and the region's proud agricultural heritage; and
- A green leaf, representing our unique natural environment and our contemporary rural community.

# Council proud to support 2016 Deniliquin Ute Muster

The 2016 Deniliquin Ute Muster was a roaring success, with close to 20,000 attendees braving the mud and wet weather to participate in one of Australia's premier rural major events.

Administrator Ashley Hall said Edward River Council was proud to use the Ute Muster as an opportunity to showcase the region to 1.1 million viewers across Australia by sponsoring the Nine Network's *Today Show* to broadcast live from the event.

"The Ute Muster is one of the most well-known and popular events in rural and regional Australia, and it draws thousands of visitors to our region each year," Mr Hall said.

"We took the opportunity to launch our new logo, brand and identity in conjunction with the *Today Show* broadcast; it was a fantastic way of getting the Edward River Council name and brand out into the wider community," he said.

Mr Hall said the investment from Council was relatively modest in comparison the vast exposure that the *Today Show* provided to the region.

"As part of the sponsorship benefits, a destination package was aired and features in show billboards, which were designed to promote the Edward River to a national audience and entice *Today Show* viewers to visit our region," he said.

The *Today Show* broadcast, headlined by hosts Karl Stefanovic and Lisa Wilkinson, showcased the region's iconic scenery, agricultural production, and tourist attractions such as water sports and river activities.



## Take part in 2016 Regional Wellbeing Survey

Edward River Council is encouraging local residents to complete the 2016 Regional Wellbeing Survey, Australia's largest survey of rural and regional people.

Conducted by the University of Canberra, the survey's mission is to support research that improves the wellbeing and quality of life of people living in rural, regional and remote Australia.

The data gained through the survey is used to help inform planning and decision-making processes of regional local governments, as well as other organisations such as the National Farmers Federation and Rural Women's Network.

Everyone aged 18 or over who takes part in the survey can enter the draw to win one of 20 prizes worth a total of \$9000.00.

The survey is voluntary, confidential and anonymous, and closes at midnight on 30 November 2016.

To complete the 2016 Regional Wellbeing Survey, visit [www.regionalwellbeing.org.au](http://www.regionalwellbeing.org.au).



# Council partners with local industry to develop Regional Business Prospectus

A new Regional Business Prospectus aimed at attracting investment to the local economy and supporting business growth will be developed, following an agreement between Edward River Council, Murray Irrigation Ltd and the Deniliquin Business Chamber.

Council's Interim General Manager, Des Bilske, said that Council will contribute up to \$100,000 to the project.

"We want to work closely with Murray Irrigation, the Business Chamber and the broader business community and local industry to develop the prospectus so we can effectively promote some of the foreseeable economic development opportunities in the Edward River region," Mr Bilske said.

"The document can be handed to prospective local businesses that wish to expand and to any potential

new business investors to assist them in their decision-making process," he said.

"The Edward River region has an exciting future and we have plenty of opportunities for business operators and investors; this prospectus will highlight our investment and business growth potential."

Mr Bilske said he was confident that the collaborative effort of Council, Murray Irrigation and the Business Chamber would ensure a professional prospectus that could play an important role in business and job creation.

"It is imperative that Council prepare a document that identifies the economic outlook of the region for the future to be able to assist in providing stimulus for expansion of existing businesses and attracting new businesses to the region," Mr Bilske said.

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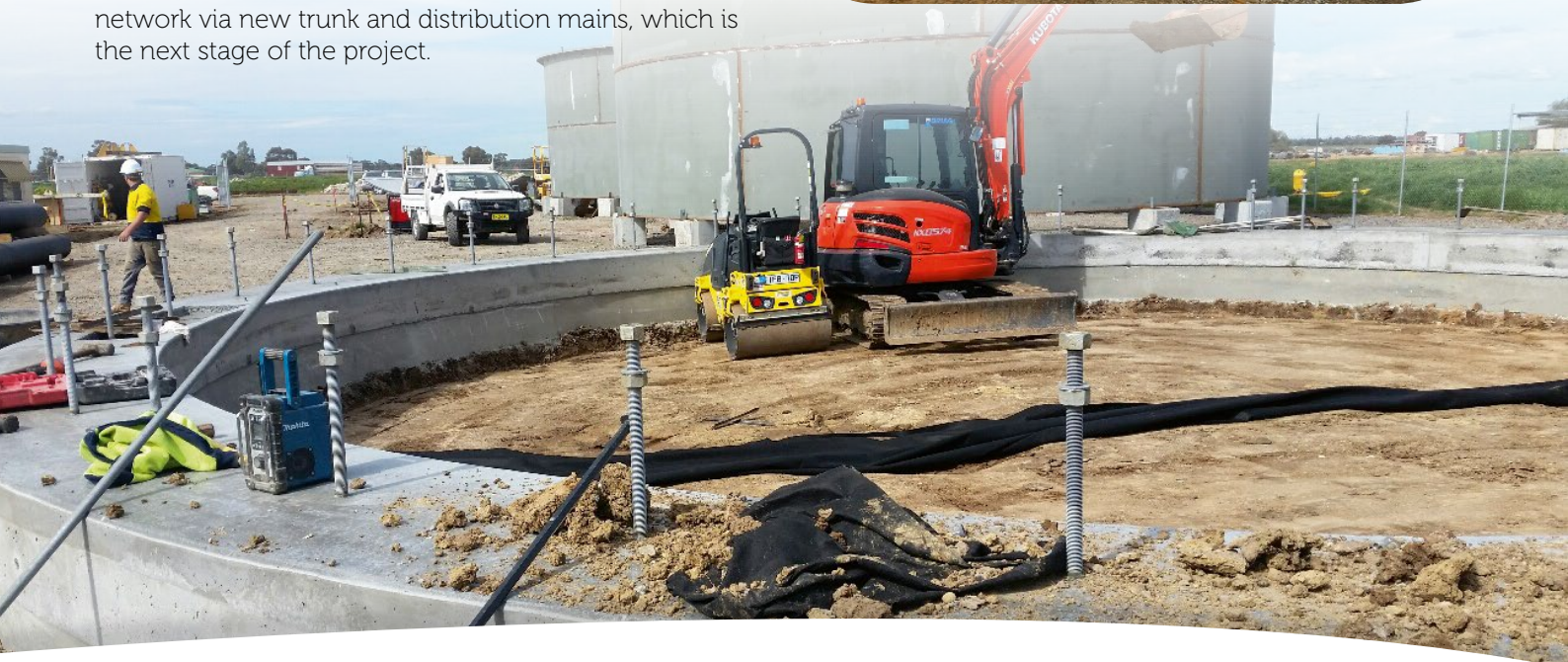
## Work progresses on new Reservoir

Work is progressing on the new Deniliquin Reservoir, with the construction stage now completed.

The new four megalitre reservoir is being constructed to supplement potable water storage capacity, flow and pressure to the southern part of Deniliquin and industrial zone.

The circular welded steel reservoir comprises of a concrete ring beam footing that is supported on concrete piles. There are 10 steel sections, having a total height of 29 metres and a diameter of 13.8 metres.

The reservoir will be connected to the reticulation network via new trunk and distribution mains, which is the next stage of the project.



## Local projects receive million-dollar boost

The Edward River region has benefited from the largest injection of funding for minor infrastructure projects it has ever seen, with nearly \$1 million to be spent on 44 community initiatives.

Edward River Council has administered the grant funds under the first round of the Stronger Communities Fund, delivered by the NSW Government.

Administrator Ashley Hall said the grants were an unprecedented opportunity to deliver much-needed facilities at schools and sporting grounds and for a host of community organisations.

"I'm very pleased that Council has been able to approve 44 projects across a broad range of organisations in the first round of funding," Mr Hall said.

"A number of these grants are for projects worth less than \$10,000, while some are major projects costing \$40,000 to \$50,000," he said.

"But whether big or small, every one of them will be a valuable asset to our community."

Mr Hall added there were nearly 70 applications under the first round of the Stronger Communities Fund and not all were successful on this occasion.

However, he said there may be future opportunities, as Council would consider a second round of funding, though with a smaller amount for distribution.

Some of the projects have been referred to Council's 355 committees and are still under review.

The successful projects under round one of the Edward River Council Stronger Communities Fund are tabled right.

Organisation	Project	Funds Awarded
Blighty School P&C	Playscape development	\$40,000
Blighty Football Club	Timekeepers' box upgrade	\$6,900
Bush Poets	Mobile stage, sound and light	\$7,500
Boat Club	Riverbank Redevelopment	\$30,000
Deniliquin & District Cricket Association	Replace and upgrade facilities	\$30,000
Deniliquin & District Historical Society	Rejuvenation of museum	\$13,000
Aero Club	Redesign/rebuild outdoor roof area	\$15,000
Deniliquin Bowling Club	Installation disabled toilets	\$20,000
Bridge Club	Chairs	\$6,000
Clay Target Club	Amenity block upgrade	\$16,225
Deniliquin CWA	Maintenance and renovations	\$12,000
Deniliquin Drovers	Lighting	\$44,000
Deniliquin Field and Game	Relocation shooting range	\$35,000
Genealogy Group	Updating outdated equipment	\$8,000
Deniliquin Girl Guides	Hall maintenance	\$20,000
Golf Club	Fairway mower	\$40,000
Gymnastics Club	Equipment for safety and development	\$20,000
High School P & C	Kitchen appliance upgrade	\$6,740
Deniliquin Lawn Tennis Club	Court lighting	\$30,000
Little Athletics	Timing equipment	\$7,500
Deniliquin Men's Shed	Upgrade facilities	\$25,000
Deniliquin Netball Committee	Shelter shed	\$5,000
North School P&C	Irrigation system	\$32,250
Deniliquin Outdoor Pools Inc.	Pool ladder and lane ropes	\$10,456
Pistol Club	Clubhouse/air pistol range	\$10,000
Deniliquin Pony Club	Shed	\$35,650
Deniliquin Racing Club	Machinery and equipment storage shed	\$25,000
Rams Football and Netball Club	Storage shed/seating	\$44,000
Deniliquin Rhinos	Equipment upgrade	\$7,571
Deniliquin Sports Park	Storage building	\$30,000
Deniliquin Truck Show & Industry Expo	Wall of Fame	\$10,000
Deniliquin Ute Muster	Purpose built event sales facility	\$40,000
Edward School P&C	Shade shelter	\$40,000
Kurrajong Waratah – Yallambee	Coolroom/freezer	\$35,000
Mayrung P&C	Safety development and enhancement	\$18,921
Navorina Ladies Auxiliary	Equipment upgrade	\$10,000
Navorina Nursing Home	Floor beds	\$17,000
Outback Theatre for Young People	While You Were Sleeping	\$50,000
Pastoral & Agricultural Society	PA system	\$5,855
Riding for the Disabled	Concreting/uniforms	\$22,730
Rotary/Lions/Soroptimist/RSL joint project	Liberty swing	\$20,000
Rovers Football Club	Construction of changerooms	\$44,000
South West Music	Instruments for kids	\$30,055
Deniliquin South Public School	Installation of fitness/ obstacle course and other play structures	\$10,000

# Blighty School Tree Planting

A tree planting day was held at the Blighty Recreation Reserve recently as part of the revegetation of the Blighty Corridor.

21 students from the Blighty Public School took part in the planting of the 200 trees, together with their teachers and members of the Blighty Landscaping Committee under the direction of Sue Logie from the Murray Local Land Services.

The revegetation project, which received just over \$36,000 in funding under the Federal Government's 20 Million Trees Programme, is aimed at re-establishing the Riverina Highway roadside corridor at Blighty.

Through a combination of direct seeding and tube stock planting, it will help to connect existing remnants and planted areas either side of the Riverina Highway and within the Blighty Recreation Reserve. This will create a more effective biodiversity corridor for local wildlife and connect the elongated aspects of the Blighty village aesthetically for both the local community and visitors.

A further 13 sites along the Riverina Highway will be planted out in the future as part of the Revegetation of the Blighty Corridor Project.

The 20 Million Trees Programme has seen over 11 million trees planted in less than two years, surpassing the halfway target of planting 20 million trees by 2020.

*For further information about the Federal Government's 20 Million Trees Programme, visit the Department of the Environment and Energy's website at [www.environment.gov.au](http://www.environment.gov.au).*



Australia Day

Celebrate  
what's  
great!

## Nominations now open for 2016/17 Australia Day Awards

Nominations for Edward River Council's 2016/17 Australia Day Awards are now open.

Administrator Ashley Hall said the awards provide an opportunity to recognise the efforts and achievements of local residents, groups and organisations from across the community who contribute to making the Edward River region a better place.

"Whether their contribution is in education, sport, community services, or culture and the arts, the key attributes all nominees share is their commitment to enriching the lives of others and their selfless focus on our community," Mr Hall said.

"There are many people in our community who give untold time, effort and energy to make a positive difference, and the Australia Day Awards provide us with an opportunity to recognise those who go above and beyond in giving back to our community," he said.

"I encourage all residents to consider nominating someone who they believe has made a valuable contribution to the Edward River region over the past 12 months for an Australia Day Award," he said.

Nominations for the 2016/17 Australia Day Awards are open until 5.00pm Friday, 2 December 2016.

2017 will be the final year in which Awards will be presented in individual categories for the former Conargo Shire and Deniliquin Councils.

Australia Day Award recipients will be announced at local Australia Day celebrations on Thursday, 26 January 2017.

*For further information about the 2017 Australia Day Awards, or to download an Australia Day Award nomination form, visit Council's website at [www.edwardriver.nsw.gov.au](http://www.edwardriver.nsw.gov.au).*



# New Operating Hours for Blighty Waste Disposal Depot

Edward River Council is introducing new operating hours at the Blighty Waste Disposal Depot, which will come into effect as of Thursday, 10 November 2016.

## What are the new operating hours for the depot and when will the changes come into effect?

The Blighty Waste Disposal Depot will now be open from 2.00pm to 6.00pm each Thursday and Sunday. The new operating hours will come into effect as of Thursday, 10 November 2016, and will be reviewed after Daylight Saving Time ends in April 2017.

## Will I be able to access the depot outside of these hours?

No. If you have a key for the depot, it will no longer provide you access to the facility.

## What if I need to dispose of rubbish outside of these hours?

All residents of the Edward River Council area are able to access the Deniliquin Landfill, located on Tip Road off Hay Road (Cobb Highway). The landfill is open from 8.30am to 3.45pm, Monday to Sunday



(excluding Christmas Day, New Year's Day, ANZAC Day and Good Friday).

## Why is Council making these changes?

Edward River Council has signed an agreement with the NSW Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to construct a Community Recycling Centre (CRC) at Blighty. Under its agreement with the EPA, Council is required to ensure the depot is supervised during operating hours.

## What will these changes achieve?

Currently, non-Edward River residents from neighbouring local government areas are disposing

of rubbish at the depot. The new operating hours will improve sustainability and compliance, and extend the life of the depot.

## Can I still dispose of domestic rubbish for free?

Yes. Domestic rubbish, as well as certain recyclable materials, can still be disposed of for free at any of Council's landfills and waste disposal depots.

## What can I drop off at a Community Recycling Centre?

The Blighty Waste Disposal Depot and the Deniliquin Landfill are both Community Recycling Centres, which means you can dispose of a range of reusable and recyclable materials (pictured above) free of charge.

Please note that only household quantities accepted 20kg or 20L maximum container size. Please transport your materials carefully. Dangerous goods and items other than those listed will not be accepted.

## Use NSW Pet Registry to easily update your dog or cat details online

Did you know that you can now update your pet's details online at the NSW Pet Registry? The new service also enables lost pets to be reunited with their owners and is now available for dog and cat owners to:

- Create an owner profile;
- Update their contact details;
- Transfer ownership of pets;
- Report their pets missing; and
- Pay most lifetime registration fees online.

The Pet Registry will also be used by pet breeders, vets and authorised identifiers. Pet breeders, who create a profile on the Pet Register, will be able to have their new litters added straight to their profile. Veterinarians and authorised identifiers are able to enter a pet's details directly onto the Pet Registry as part of their microchipping service, reducing errors and making data entry more efficient.

People with assistance and working dogs will also need to register their

dog in person at Edward River Council.

**The NSW Pet Registry can be found at [www.petregistry.nsw.gov.au](http://www.petregistry.nsw.gov.au).**



# Central Murray Regional Library

The Central Murray Regional Library provides a wide range of reading, cultural and educational resources to our local community. There's always plenty to read and do at our library!

Visit the CMRL website at [www.cmrl.deniliquin.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cmrl.deniliquin.nsw.gov.au) to renew your loans, access online databases and catalogues, and read through digital magazines and online databases.

## What's on at your library:

### Mondays

2.00pm Monday Meeting Place

### Tuesdays

11.00am BabyBounce

2.00pm Library Scrabble Club

### Wednesdays

11.00am Children's Storytime (excluding school holidays)

### Last Thursday of the month

11.00am Between the Sheets Book Group

### Fridays

10.00am – 4.00pm Genealogy Information Day

### Saturdays

10.00am Chess Club

**baby bounce**

**storytime**

# Deni swimming pool opens for the season

The Deniliquin Swim Centre's outdoor pools have opened for the 2016/17 season. Throughout the month of November, the pool is open daily from 6.00 – 8.30am and again from 3.00 – 6.30pm.

For more information, visit Council's website at [www.edwardriver.nsw.gov.au](http://www.edwardriver.nsw.gov.au) or 'like' the Deniliquin Swim Centre page on Facebook.

## Farmers encouraged to report flood losses to Murray LLS

Murray Local Land Services (LLS) are encouraging local farmers to report flood damage including agricultural losses, damaged crops and stranded, injured or deceased livestock.

There are several animal health issues that come with flooding and inundation, including damage to feet and skin caused by inundation and pasture quality, and farmers may still suffer stock losses after the flooding has passed.

Farmers can report flood damage to LLS on 1300 785 299. For further information, visit the LLS website at [www.lls.nsw.gov.au](http://www.lls.nsw.gov.au).



### Customer Service Centre

Civic Place, Deniliquin  
Post: PO Box 270, Deniliquin NSW 2710  
Phone: 03 5898 3000  
Fax: 03 5898 3029  
Email: [council@edwardriver.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@edwardriver.nsw.gov.au)  
Website: [www.edwardriver.nsw.gov.au](http://www.edwardriver.nsw.gov.au)

### Central Murray Regional Library

Gorman Park, 55 Napier Street, Deniliquin  
Post: PO Box 206, Deniliquin NSW 2710  
Phone: 03 5898 3100  
Fax: 03 5881 4833  
Email: [library@edwardriver.nsw.gov.au](mailto:library@edwardriver.nsw.gov.au)  
Website: [www.cmrl.deniliquin.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cmrl.deniliquin.nsw.gov.au)



Do you want to get up-to-date information from Council regarding projects, initiatives, meetings and events? Visit [www.edwardriver.nsw.gov.au](http://www.edwardriver.nsw.gov.au) and sign up to receive Council's e-newsletter.



Keep in touch - Follow Edward River Council and the Central Murray Regional Library on Facebook.