

Edward River News



Edward
River
COUNCIL

Issue 5 : December 2017

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Message from the Mayor

One of the best things about the Edward River region is our very real sense of community spirit, which shines particularly bright at this time of year. I would like to say a special thank you to those in our community, including our many service clubs, who give their time at Christmas and throughout the year to helping others in our community.

On that note, I also want to acknowledge our emergency services personnel who will be working over Christmas and the holiday period, as well as our RFS and SES volunteers who will be on-call. As a community, it is important that we do our part in making sure they have a quiet Christmas by making sure we have a

safe one: Don't drink and drive, don't drive tired, and be sure to monitor fire danger ratings.

As 2017 comes to a close, we reflect on the successes and challenges of the past year, as well as the opportunities that 2018 will bring.

Our first elections since the creation of Edward River Council were held in September, and it has been an extraordinary privilege to have been elected by my fellow Councillors as Mayor for 2017-2019, alongside Cr Pat Fogarty as Deputy Mayor. Together, we are looking forward to working with our community next year to achieve some terrific outcomes for our region.



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Christmas and New Year Closure Times

Customer Service Centre 180 Cressy Street, Deniliquin

Closed from 12.00pm Friday, 22 December 2017.

Reopens 8.30am Tuesday, 2 January 2018.

Central Murray Regional Library Gorman Park, 55 Napier Street, Deniliquin

Closed from 12.00pm Friday, 22 December 2017.

Reopens 9.30am Tuesday, 2 January 2018.

Deniliquin Visitor Information Centre & Peppin Heritage Centre, George Street, Deniliquin

Closed 25 December 2017.

Deniliquin Waste Disposal Depot Tip Road (off Cobb Highway), Deniliquin

Closed 25 December 2017.

Kerbside Waste Collection

Council's kerbside waste collection service will not operate on public holidays. As both Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall on a Monday; if your rubbish is usually collected on a Monday, it will instead be collected the following day (Tuesday).

Merry
CHRISTMAS
and Happy New Year!

Consultation to help shape future of Edward River region

Over the past few months, Edward River Council has been undertaking community consultation to support the delivery of several important strategic documents, including our 10-year Community Strategic Plan, the Edward River Open Space Strategy, and Deniliquin Public Space Strategy.

All three of these projects will be completed and adopted by Council in the first part of 2018.

In the New Year, Council will commence the preparation of additional strategic plans, including:

- Customer Service Charter: Our Customer Service Charter will outline how Council intends to design and deliver services to our community in an easy, accessible, consistent and timely way.
- Deniliquin River Front Masterplan: Through our Stronger Communities Fund, \$750,000 will be invested into developing a Deniliquin River Front Masterplan and delivering on the first stage of works.
- Deniliquin Town Centre Streetscape: \$750,000 has been allocated through our Stronger Communities Fund to beautify Deniliquin's town centre streetscape, including new street furniture and trees and improved pedestrian connections within the CBD.

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The New Year will provide us with an opportunity to acknowledge those who go above and beyond in making the Edward River region an even better place to live, work and visit, with our Australia Day celebration being held on Friday, 26 January at Deniliquin's Waring Gardens. I encourage all residents to attend this important event and join me in welcoming new Australian citizens to our community and

acknowledging our local community champions through our Australia Day Awards.

On behalf of my fellow Councillors and the staff at Edward River Council, I would like to wish everyone in our community all the peace, joy and happiness of the season, as well as a safe and prosperous New Year.

Cr Norm Brennan
Mayor

Cost-effective smart water meters to be rolled out

Deniliquin residents will soon be able to better manage their water usage, with the roll-out of cost-effective smart water meters and electronic reading technology commencing earlier this month.

The Taggle Automated Meter Reading (AMR) system has demonstrated, on average, savings of 10 per cent in property leakage and 10 per cent in system losses, which includes water for flushing, leakage, unmetered services and water theft.

The system will monitor individual water use by transmitting meter readings from approximately 3,500 local receivers every hour. Following the installation of the smart water meters, residents will be able to directly access their water usage information through an online customer portal.

Installation of the new meters is being undertaken by a contractor, New Plumbing Solutions (NPS), and is expected to be completed by the end of March 2018.

Individual property owners and residents are being contacted by NPS prior to each installation to ensure that any disruption to the water supply is minimised.



Frequently Asked Questions

Why is Council rolling out new water meters?

Best practice is for water meters to be replaced after they have been in service for around eight years, and with around two thirds of Council's water meters now having been in service for 15 years or more, the roll-out of new water meters has been identified as a priority for both Council and our community.

What makes these water meters 'smart'?

The new smart water readers can be read remotely, meaning Council staff will no longer have to manually check residents' meters four times a year. Our staff will now be able to spend their time more proactively in managing the system to reduce mechanical breakdowns and improving response times to reactive maintenance.

When are the smart water meters being installed?

The replacement of current water meters and the installation of new smart water meters and electronic readers commenced on Monday, 4 December 2017 and is continuing over the coming three months.

Who is replacing the water meters?

Council has engaged New Plumbing Solutions (NPS) to manage the replacement of existing water meters and the installation of the new smart water meters and electronic reading technology. NPS has worked with a range of government clients, including rural, regional and metropolitan councils in both New South Wales and Victoria, on large-scale plumbing projects, including the installation of smart water meters.

You can learn more about NPS from their website at www.newplumbing.com.au.

Will I need to pay to have my water meter replaced?

No. This project is funded through Council's 2017/18 Operational Plan and Budget, which means property owners will not need to pay to have their water meter replaced and the new water meter installed.

How will I be able to monitor my water consumption?

Following the installation of new smart water meters and electronic readers, residents will be able to access their water consumption data from an online customer portal. This is a secure, moderated environment which allows each user to configure and activate their own alerts for high consumption, high cost or leak detection, and then to receive such alerts via SMS or email.

ON-STREET PARKING MAP



Edward River
COUNCIL



Deniliquin
Business Chamber

- All Day Parking
- 2 Hour Parking Time Limit
- 1 Hour Parking Time Limit
- 30 Minute Parking Time Limit
- 15 Minute Parking Time Limit
- Loading Zone
- Buses & Caravans
- Disabled Parking
- Taxi Zone





Get Ready for a Bush Fire

Four simple steps to making your Bush Fire Survival Plan

Getting ready for a bush fire is easier than you think. By taking 20 minutes with your family to discuss what you'll do during a fire, you could save lives, as well as your home.

The NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) recommends following four simple steps to get ready for a bush fire:



Step 1 – Discuss

Discuss what to do if a bush fire threatens your home. Many households find that having a discussion over dinner works best as everybody is together and focussed.

1. DISCUSS



Step 2 – Prepare

Prepare your home and get it ready for bush fire season. There are simple things you can do around your home to prepare it for a bush fire, like keeping the grass low and having a cleared area around your home.

2. PREPARE



Step 3 – Know

Know the bush fire alert levels. If there is a fire in your area, you will find its alert level on the NSW RFS website and in the 'Fires Near Me' app. You need to keep track of the alert level so that you know what you should do.

3. KNOW



Step 4 – Keep

Keep all the bush fire information numbers, websites and the smartphone app. In a bush fire, it's important that you stay up-to-date on conditions in your area.

4. KEEP

Visit the NSW RFS website at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au to download a Bush Fire Survival Plan Guide and learn more about how you can keep your family and property safe this summer.

Have your say on Waring Gardens Aviary

At its ordinary meeting held in November, Edward River Council resolved to commence the removal of the Waring Gardens Aviary and stop the exhibition of caged animals in the park, pending a public feedback period.

The aviary does not meet the requirements set by the NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI). While Council has been liaising with the DPI's Animal Welfare Unit over several months to determine whether the aviary can be retained and meet the DPI's compliance requirements, it has been determined that Council would need to deliver additional works and training, totalling approximately \$40,000, to retain the aviary and allocate an additional \$4,000 per annum to the upkeep of the peacocks and other caged birds.

Further information on this proposal, including detailed costs in retaining the aviary, is available from OurSay Edward River at www.oursay.org/EdwardRiver.

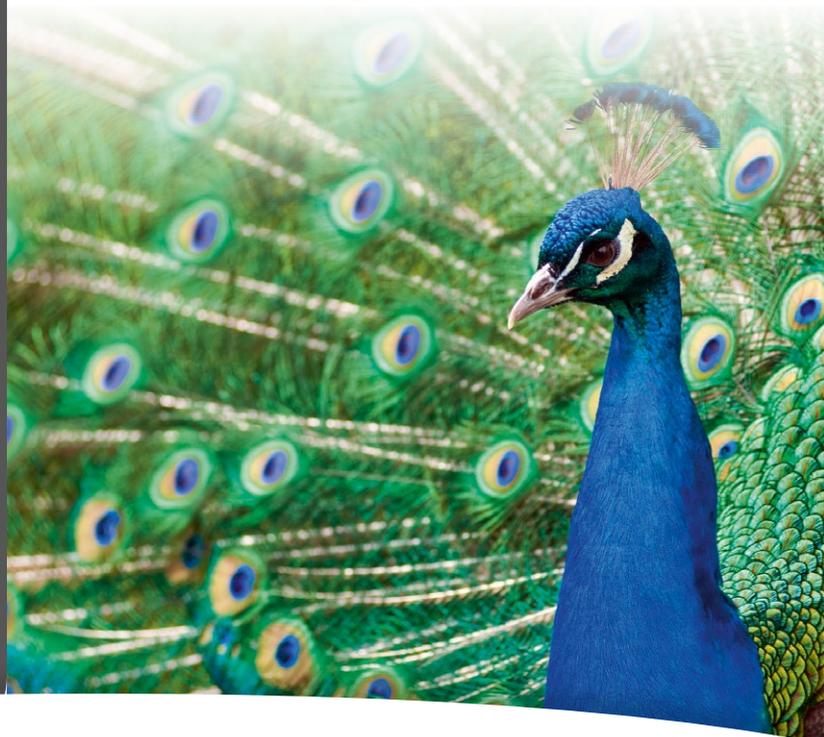
Feedback must be in writing and returned to Council by Friday, 12 January 2018. Feedback should be addressed to the General Manager and submitted by:

Email: council@edwardriver.nsw.gov.au

Post: PO Box 270, Deniliquin NSW 2710

In Person: Customer Service Centre, 180 Cressy Street, Deniliquin

Councillors will be updated on all submissions and comments received during the feedback period prior to the aviary being removed.



New and improved infrastructure for Edward River region

2017 has been a year of delivery for Edward River Council – In addition to our annual rural and urban road programs, highlights have included:

- The \$1.1 million Barham Road Reconstruction, which saw approximately 1.2 kilometres of Barham Road, between Ochertyre Street and the Mulwala Canal bridge, reconstructed and widened along with improvements to drainage along this section of road;
- Installation of two outdoor exercise equipment areas along Deniliquin's Beach to Beach Walk: One at the start of the walk near McLean Beach and the other at the end of Macauley Street;
- Completion of the Pottinger Park Landscaping Project, which saw a windmill in honour of Manny Pottinger, new seating, and interpretive signage promoting the wool industry installed at Conargo's Pottinger Park;
- Upgrade of the Blighty Netball Court to ensure compliance with Netball Victoria and Picola and District Football and Netball League requirements, including court re-surfacing and fence relocation; and
- Construction of the new 4ML potable water reservoir along Wright Bros Drive, providing additional capacity in the water supply system for the adjacent airport and nearby residential and industrial areas.



Pop Up Cinema coming to Edward River Oval in January

Edward River Oval will play host to Cinema Pop Up in early January, providing residents and visitors alike with the opportunity to experience outdoor cinema in our own backyard.

Cinema Pop Up will run for four nights only and will provide a range of movies to suit all tastes and ages:

- **Thursday, 4 January**
– Big Hero 6, PG
- **Friday, 5 January**
– Red Dog, PG
- **Saturday, 6 January**
– The Lego Batman Movie, PG
- **Sunday, 7 January** –
Step Brothers, MA

Gates open at 6.00pm each night, with the pop-up roadshow featuring food trucks, frozen drinks, popcorn and a bar.

Tickets are free if purchased online at www.cinemapopup.com.au. However, tickets will be available for purchase at the gate from \$10 for adults and \$5 for children.

For further information, contact Council's Customer Service Centre on (03) 5898 3000 or via email at council@edwardriver.nsw.gov.au.

Contact your Councillors



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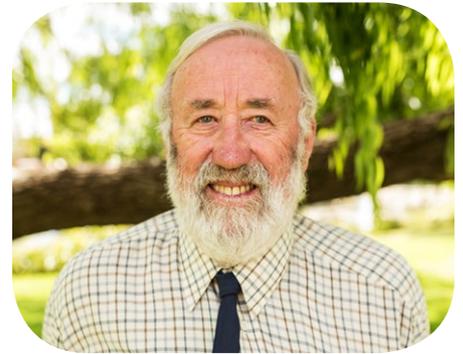
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Customer Service Centre

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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
Website: 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 and sign up to receive Council's e-newsletter.



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