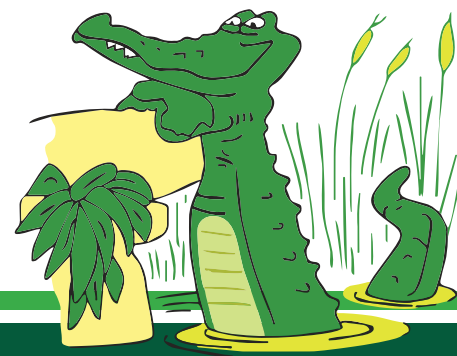


Burke Shire Council NEWSLETTER



EDITION 62 : JULY 2024

A MESSAGE FROM *the Mayor*

As Mayor of Burke Shire for another four years I look forward to continuing to represent the Shire to the best of my ability. I also have a very experienced Councillor team with John Clarke, Paul Poole and John Yanner, all bringing many years of experience as Councillors. Clinton Murray, whilst a new Councillor, will also bring excellent knowledge as a previous Burke Shire Council Works Manager for a number of years. I congratulate them all on their appointment and thank those outgoing Councillors for their years of service and commitment to the betterment of Burke Shire. This Council term will bring with it many significant challenges due to the enormous Wet Seasons of the past two years, as well as opportunities with a number of significant community projects and flood recovery projects to deliver.

As mentioned above, the Shire has suffered floods two years in a row. The record-breaking monsoonal flood in March last year caused much destruction across the shire, and three smaller floods this summer also impacted Council roads and other infrastructure. This year floods are comparable to the 2010 flood event which saw similar flood levels across the shire and townships.

For two years in a row residents have been isolated for over three months. On top of the significant evacuation last year to Normanton and Mount Isa, we had 58 residents evacuated to Mount Isa this year. In addition, in line with last year, there were a number of resupplies due to the long period roads were cut off. Our neighbours in Doomadgee have suffered even longer cut off periods.

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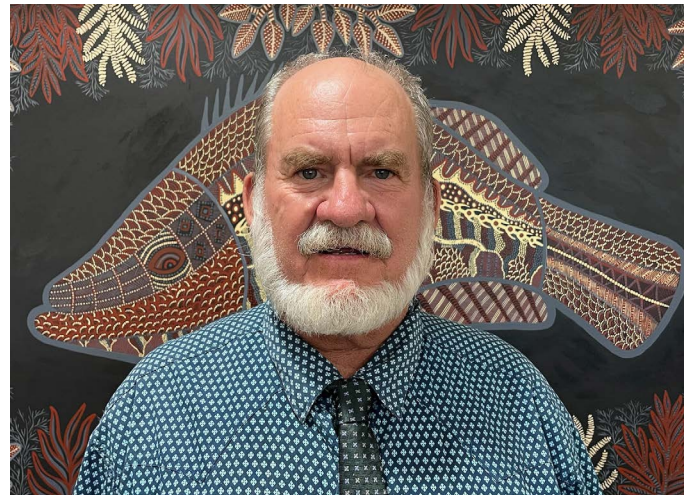
A MESSAGE FROM the Mayor

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Looking back at meetings post event in 2010, at which time I was Acting Mayor, I found a list of items Burke Shire needed to have addressed to improve disaster readiness, response, recovery, and resilience. Fast forward fourteen years and, disappointingly, very few items identified in this list have been addressed or received funding support to assist in addressing. The road to Burketown has been sealed, some additional river height monitoring/ rain gauges have been installed and power has been provided to the Jet A1 pump at Burketown airport. However, in relation to the first two, these were just foundational improvements. Further work remains to continue to improve road infrastructure, its resilience and reduce the window of disconnection from goods, services, and the outside world that we continue to experience. Low level crossings need to be raised and the Gregory River crossing at Tirranna Roadhouse and the Nicholson River crossing near Doomadgee need significant investment to improve safety and decrease the extended time Doomadgee remains cut off.

Additionally, this year's events highlighted that many more monitoring points are required in our catchments to improve on ground knowledge of the extent of the flooding we are facing and facilitate timely, targeted disaster preparedness and response. Further, these weather events also highlighted the need to proactively maintain existing rain/river monitoring equipment and ensure it will work when it is most needed - this year several sites failed when most needed so it would seem more robust power, connectivity and raising of equipment is required. The site on Bowthorn Station was damaged last year and never replaced and this is a crucial point of the catchment.

The Nicholson River system, which traverses a significant portion of our Shire, begins life in the Northern Territory and there are no systems present in those headwaters to provide valuable, early as possible information. This was raised with relevant stakeholders as part of our advocacy post the



2019 North West Qld flooding event but remains unaddressed. For all Shires, not just Burke, located adjacent to a line on a map, cross border collaboration and cooperation is essential to meaningfully improve disaster management.

Our airstrip remains as vulnerable as it was in 2010 and this had a significant impact on our public transport services, health, safety, and disaster response. It requires a realignment as a matter of urgency as the Albert River is eroding the southern end of the strip. These recent weather events are only hastening this erosion.

The access road to the airstrip remains compromised by weather events as it was in 2010. The failure of this vital connector has seen us having to use a helicopter to transport people and goods to and from the airport for evacuation, repatriation, and resupply.

A secure cyclone and flood proof building located at the airport is still required. I see it as a multipurpose building: part terminal, part evacuation temporary shelter (we need to have a place where evacuees can collectively be gathered allowing for efficient and effective coordination of evacuations and this is important if the access road is out), resupply storage, including possibly cold storage (as stores in town have limited storage capacity or ability to increase that capacity), if provided for, could enable the storage of an aircraft in a cyclone, meaning access to air transport in a timely manner should it be required as the local operator currently removes all his assets

when a cyclone is threatening creating a vulnerability in our response activities. Our current structure at the airport is open-aired exposing people to the elements and fauna such as mosquitoes which bring the risk of disease.

Registration concession for service providers into our communities also remains unresolved. It is well known that attraction and retention of goods and services into remote areas is challenging. If a business undertakes to provide a key service such as freight, each year when the Wet Season prevails, they effectively are unable to continue business as usual, earning income to offset year-round costs such as registration. Providing registration relief is not only a way to support these hard to come by providers but also shows government recognition of the vital role they have in regional and remote community sustainability and the challenging environment in which they operate including, but not limited to, a standard of road infrastructure that would not be accepted by many in Queensland. This may require the development of category within the TMR system that allows for identification as a remote transport operator when registering a vehicle, as happens with primary producers.

A prime example of this is Hawkins Transport in Normanton, operated by Carpentaria Shire Deputy Mayor Bradley Hawkins, who I believe goes above and beyond to provide freight service to the Gulf and Cape regions. With a permit in place, he takes his



A MESSAGE FROM the Mayor

trucks across flooded rivers to facilitate resupply in the Wet, markedly increasing maintenance needs of his fleet and, in the Dry, he travels over corrugated, minimally maintained roads (mostly due to funding constraints in local government budgets and a lack of investment by the other two tiers of Government) - all of which affect the life of his equipment and markedly increase his maintenance spend.

It is disappointing that all iterations of government since 2010 have by and large continued to ignore the needs and circumstances of Burke Shire and done little to redress the issues, through meaningful investment, that would truly improve the disaster response, recovery, and resilience in a region where disasters are a seasonal norm. In this Council term we will continue, at every available opportunity, to push both Federal and State Government in relation to these very important issues.

A number of Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) Road Restoration Contracts were let at the April 2024 Council meeting as follows:

Package 4 - Gregory Airport Road. Gregory Pump Station Road. Punjab Road. Burketown Rubbish Tip Road. Airport Road. Utilities Road. Anthony Street. Old River Road. Beames Street. Bowen Street. Burke Street. Macintyre Street. Musgrave Street. Sloman Street. Firefly Street. Landsborough Street. Cemetery Road. Truganini Road. Lawn Hill National Park Road - Seal sections. Contract let to Stabilised Pavements of Australia Pty Ltd for \$2,870,393.55 ex GST.

Package 5 - Bowthorn Road. Doomadgee Lawn Hill Road. Contract let to Kenglen Civil Pty Ltd \$2,841,391.68 ex GST.

Package 6 - Lawn Hill National Park Road – Unsealed Sections Only. Riversleigh Road. Contract let to Halloran & Sons Earthmoving Pty Ltd \$1,754,649.40 ex GST

Package 7 - Morella Road. Nugaburra Road. Contract let to Durack Civil Pty Ltd \$2,078,496.81 ex GST

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A MESSAGE FROM the Mayor

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It is good to see one of our Community Projects - The Burketown Wharf Recreation Area – Stage 1 also go to tender. This project aims to create a community facility on the banks of the Albert River, catering for visitors and tourist groups. The planned features include shelters, BBQs, amenities, picnic tables, a playground (budget permitting), lighting, and landscaping. All of which will make the Wharf area more appealing and user friendly. The contract for this project was let to TJ Wilson Building Construction & Fabrication to the maximum amount (excl. GST) of \$2,058,722 (excl. GST). Aspects of the contract are being renegotiated e.g. landscaping.

Council also awarded the Burketown Health and Wellbeing Precinct Stage 1 – Splash Park and Playground to Swimplex to the maximum value of \$3,001,000 (ex. GST)- though it was subject to a successful funding application and availability of sufficient budget (with a total project value of approximately \$4,552,000). The scope of work is located at the Morning Glory Park at the site of the existing playground. The project aims to create a community facility at this site encompassing a splash park, playground, and swimming pool in two stages.



Unfortunately, Council was extremely disappointed that it missed out on the Growing Regions Program -Round 1 Grant application for this project. A major effort was put into submitting this grant. We highlighted that in the Shire, unlike many other communities in Australia, there is no school pool nor a public swimming pool. It was also highlighted that it is not safe to swim in the local watercourses. With so many of our recreational pursuits centred around water, it is essential that children learn about water safety and have swimming lessons. It was also pointed out that in the wet season, the community can be isolated from the rest of region for months on end and we also experience extremely hot weather conditions with temperatures in the wet season reaching above 40 degrees Celsius regularly. A splash park would have done much to improve liveability and provided a communal facility for all to enjoy. We have asked the funding body for more details why our application was not successful.

There have been several great events already held this year. Congratulations to all those who volunteered to make them the success they were. I am looking forward to the Melbourne Cup coming to Gregory as part of its annual national tour. Well done to the Gregory Downs Jockey Club for securing this visit of a national icon.

In closing, I'd ask you all as you travel across the Shire to take care and obey signs and drive according to conditions. With significant damage to our network and much repair work planned, there will be frequently changing traffic and road conditions. In particular, please be careful on the Gregory crossing at Tirranna. The causeway is still covered with swiftly running water and can be quite slippery due to algal growth. Council has put in place a traffic management system to assist with safe crossing – please be patient and obey the lights. It is better to arrive a little late but safely than not to arrive at all.

MEET THE COUNCILLORS

BurkeShireCouncil is proud to present the dedicated team of councillors committed to serving our community across various committees and representations. Each member brings a wealth of experience and a deep commitment to addressing the needs and priorities of our Shire. Their roles extend across multiple committees, ensuring comprehensive coverage and specialised focus on critical areas such as infrastructure, biosecurity, tourism, and development. Below, you will find a detailed breakdown of the committees and the respective councillors involved, highlighting their extensive contributions to our region.



Committee	Member(s)
Agforce	Mayor Ernie Camp, Cr John Clarke
Audit	Cr Paul Poole, Cr John Clarke
Australia Day Advisory Committee	Mayor Ernie Camp, Cr John Clarke, Cr Clinton Murray
Biosecurity (Pest Management) Plan	Mayor Ernie Camp, Cr John Clarke
Burke Shire Development Committee	Mayor Ernie Camp, Councillors
Burke Shire Major Projects Committee	Mayor Ernie Camp, Councillors
Burketown ILUA	Mayor Ernie Camp, Cr Paul Poole, Cr John Clarke
Gregory ILUA Committee	Mayor Ernie Camp, Councillors
Gulf Rivers Landcare	Mayor Ernie Camp, Cr John Clarke
Gulf Savannah Development	Mayor Ernie Camp, Cr Paul Poole
Infrastructure (non-road)	Mayor Ernie Camp, Councillors
Joint Consultative Committee	Mayor Ernie Camp, Cr Clinton Murray
LGAQ Annual Conference	Mayor Ernie Camp, Cr John Clarke, Cr Paul Poole, Cr Clinton Murray
NWQ Regional Organisation of Councils	Mayor Ernie Camp, Cr John Clarke, Cr J Yanner
NWQ Rural Roads and Transport Group	Mayor Ernie Camp, Cr John Yanner, Cr Clinton Murray
Roads Infrastructure	Mayor Ernie Camp, Councillors
Savannah Way Limited	Cr Paul Poole, Cr John Clarke
Southern Gulf Catchment (SGC)	Mayor Ernie Camp, Cr John Clarke
Tourism and Events	Mayor Ernie Camp, Cr John Clarke, Cr Paul Poole

PROJECTS UPDATE

Health & Wellbeing Precinct Project Nears Major Milestones Community Update

Council would like to share the latest progress on the Health & Wellbeing Precinct Project, a key initiative aimed at enhancing our community's recreational and wellness facilities. Here's a comprehensive update on the project's current status:

Design and Development Progress

The design and development of the Admin building, Pool Pump Room, Swimming Pool, and overall site coordination are progressing well, with 90% of the drawings now completed. This significant advancement brings us closer to the realisation of a state-of-the-art facility that will serve the health and wellness needs of our community.

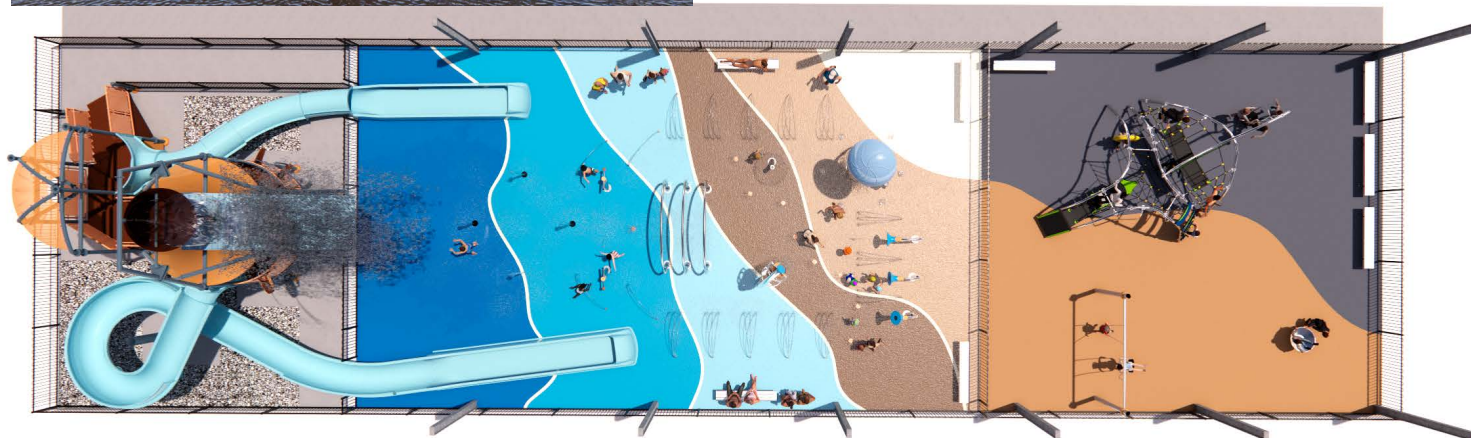
Splash Park Contractor Selection

In another positive development, the preferred contractor for the Splash Park has been selected. This important step brings us closer to adding a vibrant and enjoyable water play area to the precinct. However, the contract award is pending and will be confirmed based on the availability of funds. The council is actively seeking sources of funding for Stage 1 of the Health and Wellbeing Precinct to ensure this exciting feature can be completed.

Looking Ahead

As we near these critical milestones, we remain committed to transparent communication and will keep the community informed of any updates or changes. The completion of the Health & Wellbeing Precinct will mark a significant enhancement in our community's infrastructure, providing a comprehensive space for fitness, recreation, and wellness activities.

We appreciate your continued support and patience as we work diligently to bring this vision to life. Stay tuned for further updates, and feel free to reach out with any questions or for more information.



Proposed Splash Park Illustrations: Please note that the layout shown is conceptual and may undergo changes.

PROJECTS UPDATE

Burketown Revitalisation Project: Community-Driven Enhancements to Beames St and Musgrave St

The Burketown Revitalisation Project has taken a significant step forward with the recent community consultation on the preliminary design for the Beames St and Musgrave St Shared Path Upgrade. The Burke Shire Council engaged with local residents to gather feedback and ensure the project aligns with community needs and expectations.

Community Consultation and Feedback

During the consultation period, residents voiced concerns primarily about the proposed installation of medians along Musgrave St and Beames St. The community was worried about the potential impact these medians could have on traffic flow and the accessibility of the area, particularly for heavy vehicles.

Council's Response to Feedback

In response to the feedback, the Council took decisive action to address these concerns. The proposed medians along Musgrave St were removed from the design. For other medians that are essential for safety and lighting compliance, the Council has made them as short as possible. This adjustment aims to balance safety with accessibility, ensuring that lighting poles can be placed appropriately without overly restricting vehicle movement.

Accommodating Heavy Vehicles

An important aspect of the revised design involved reassessing the space required for the operation of heavy vehicles, particularly during unloading. While acknowledging that the space will be somewhat tighter, the Council confirmed that there will still be adequate room for these activities. This change is to make Burketown more pedestrian and cyclist-friendly, regulating heavy vehicle movements to enhance overall safety and accessibility.

Next Steps

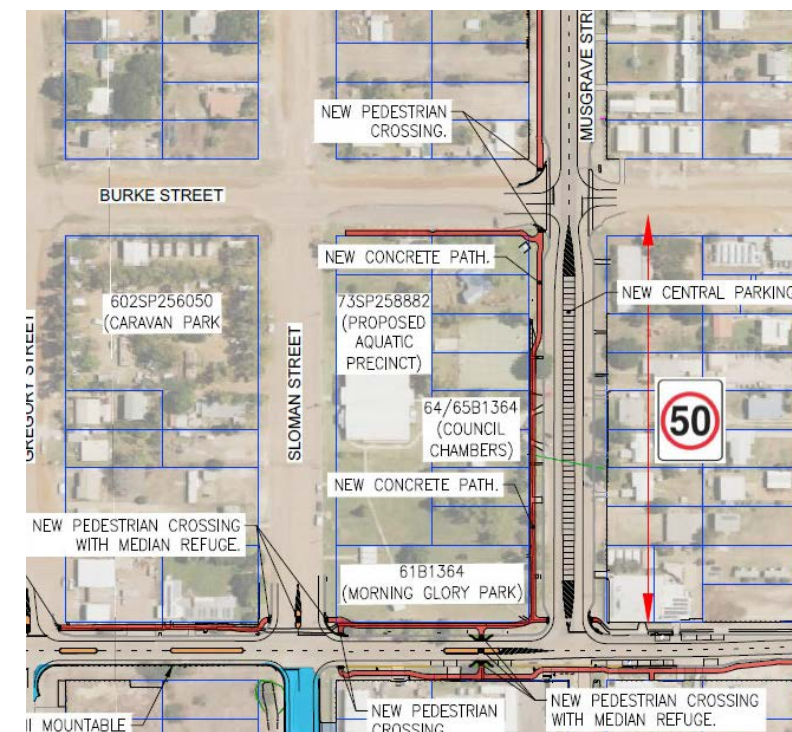
With the community's feedback incorporated, the Council will proceed with the finalisation of the design. This includes detailed planning for street

lighting and other essential design elements. The adjustments aim to create a more vibrant, safe, and accessible environment for all Burketown residents and visitors.

The Burketown Revitalisation Project showcases the impact of community engagement on public infrastructure. By addressing resident concerns, the Council ensures the development meets technical and safety standards while serving the community's best interests.

Conclusion

The collaborative approach taken in the Burketown Revitalisation Project highlights the importance of community involvement in urban planning. The careful consideration of feedback and subsequent design adjustments demonstrate the Council's commitment to a safe, functional, and welcoming environment. As the project moves into the final design stages, residents can look forward to a revitalised streetscape that enhances the town's appeal and usability.



PROJECTS UPDATE

Burke Shire Council: Driving Innovation and Resilience

We're thrilled to share some exciting updates on the ongoing ICT and Connectivity initiatives and future projects here at Burke Shire Council. As part of our commitment to enhancing efficiency, security, and disaster preparedness, we're making significant strides in various areas.

Upgrades in Progress:

- Multi-factor Authentication (MFA): Ensuring the highest level of security, we're implementing MFA to safeguard our systems and your data.
- Network Mobile Device Management (MDM) System: With the implementation of MS Intune, we're enhancing the management of all mobile devices across our network.
- Starlink SD WAN Installation: Transitioning to Starlink SD WAN will bolster connectivity across all Burke office sites, ensuring seamless communication via MS Teams and improving operational efficiency.
- Upgrade to Gregory WTP and Scada Site: Embracing Starlink technology, we're replacing Telstra Agile Satellite services to enhance connectivity and reliability at critical sites.
- Starlink RV Installation: Equipping Road Crew vehicles with Starlink RV and new tablet devices integrated with Reflect Road Management Software for efficient on-the-go operations.
- SES Building Upgrade: Implementing Starlink Enterprise Internet to maximise uptime for disaster responders, ensuring uninterrupted communication during critical times.
- Hall Entertainment Configuration: Applying for grants to revamp hall entertainment configuration, enhancing community engagement and leisure activities.
- Roads Data Overhaul in Arc GIS: Improving Geo-spatial information retention for better-informed decision-making and infrastructure planning.

Funding Grants Applied For:

- Disaster Ready Intelligence Network: Establishing a comprehensive warning system for live micro-climate weather, air quality monitoring, and remote communication to bolster disaster preparedness.
- Resilient Wi-Fi Hubs: Rolling out solar-powered Wi-Fi facilities in Gregory township to provide reliable internet access during emergencies, fostering community resilience.
- Connected Communities Round 2: Enhancing road management infrastructure to ensure safety and accessibility, particularly during disasters.



PROJECTS UPDATE

Future Projects:

- Internal Network Penetration Testing: Strengthening cybersecurity measures to protect our systems and data.
- Fibre Mesh Network in Burketown: Utilizing redundancy from Starlink to create a free-access public Wi-Fi network, enhancing connectivity and accessibility.
- Renewal of Council Mobile Device Fleet: Upgrading council mobile devices and participating in the Moorup buyback scheme for sustainability.
- Topographic Networking Solution: Reviewing and potentially implementing Meraki networking solutions for improved efficiency and performance.
- Lobbying for Cell Tower Installation: Partnering with Telstra to address connectivity issues by advocating for the installation of more cell towers.
- Vehicle Tracking System Implementation: Enhancing fleet management and efficiency through advanced tracking technology.
- Cyber-risk Training Platform: Equipping staff and councillors with the necessary skills to mitigate cyber threats and safeguard our digital infrastructure.

At Burke Shire Council, we're committed to driving innovation, resilience, and community empowerment. These initiatives and projects reflect our dedication to enhancing service delivery and ensuring a prosperous future for all residents.

Stay tuned for more updates as we continue to strive for excellence in serving our community.

Introducing the Dangurlda - Burke Shire Health and Fitness Centre!

We are thrilled to announce the new name for the Burketown gym: Dangurlda - Burke Shire Health and Fitness Centre! Congratulations to Jordan Armstrong for winning the naming competition with this fantastic name. "Dangurlda" means 'mud crab,' symbolizing strength and resilience, qualities we aim to foster in our community.

In addition to the new name, we've also upgraded our gym with state-of-the-art equipment. Our surprisingly high-tech facility now includes a Speediance Gym Monster, which is perfect for gym newbies. This innovative machine is user-friendly and comes with pre-created workouts, making it easy for anyone to get started on their fitness journey.

If you're interested in using the Dangurlda Health and Fitness Centre, please visit the Council office to get your fingerprint key access. We look forward to seeing you there, embracing a healthier and fitter lifestyle!



The team involved establishing the Dangurlda Burke Shire Health and Fitness Centre: (L-R) Dan McKlinlay, Kimberly Chan, Jordan Armstrong, Chelsea Nelson.

PROJECTS UPDATE

Gregory Water Treatment Plant and SCADA Upgrade Project Reaches Key Milestones

The Gregory Water Treatment Plant (WTP) and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) upgrade project has achieved significant progress, marking a milestone in enhancing water treatment and management systems in the region. With completion of crucial phases, the project is poised to deliver improved water quality and operational efficiency.

The upgrade works on the Burketown Water Treatment Plant have successfully concluded, representing a vital step towards ensuring reliable and high-quality water supply for residents and businesses in the area. The successful completion of these works underscores the commitment to modernising infrastructure and enhancing service delivery.

Furthermore, the implementation of SCADA systems at the Gregory Water Treatment Plant, Burketown Water Treatment Plant, and Sewerage Treatment Plant signifies a significant advancement in monitoring and control capabilities. SCADA technology provides real-time data acquisition and remote control functionality, enabling more efficient operation and management of water treatment processes.

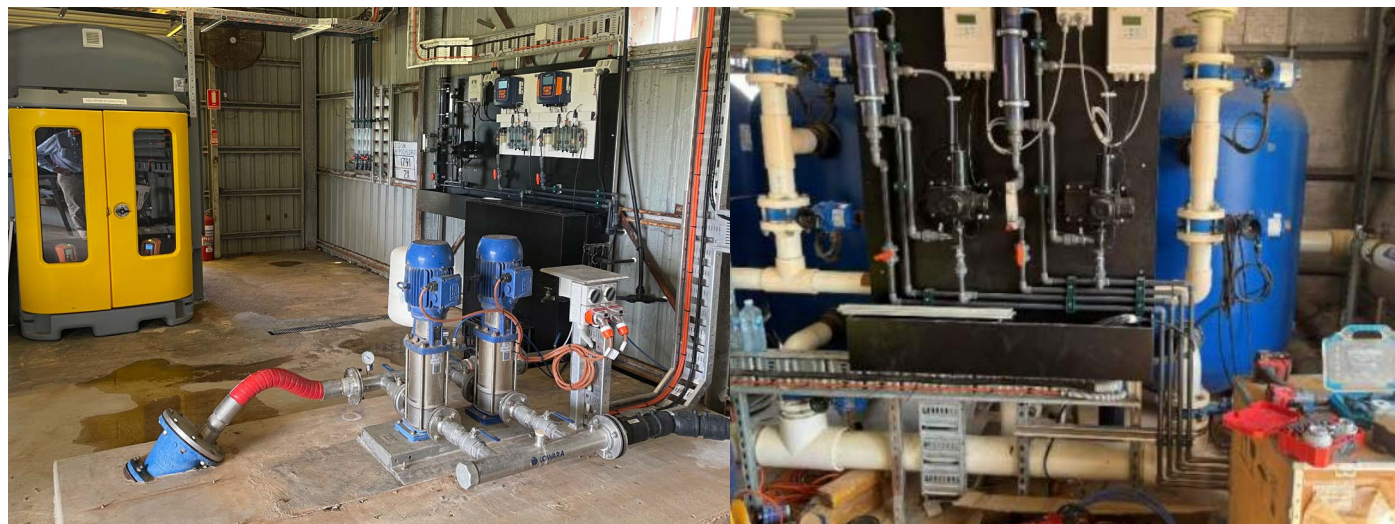
While substantial progress has been made, certain

components of the Gregory Water Treatment Plant upgrade are still pending completion. These include the installation of a clarifier and a new river pump. These remaining tasks are essential for optimizing the plant's capacity and functionality, ensuring that it meets the growing demands of the community.

The clarifier installation is crucial for the effective treatment of water, facilitating the removal of impurities and sedimentation. Similarly, the installation of a new river pump will enhance the plant's pumping capabilities, ensuring reliable water supply even during peak demand periods.

As the upgrade works near completion, stakeholders are encouraged to remain engaged and informed about the project's progress. The Gregory Water Treatment Plant (WTP) and SCADA Upgrade project represent a significant investment in the region's water infrastructure, aimed at improving service reliability, water quality, and operational efficiency.

With continued collaboration between project stakeholders and the community, the upgraded water treatment and management systems will play a pivotal role in meeting current and future water supply needs, fostering sustainable development and growth in the region.



PROJECTS UPDATE

Burketown Wharf Recreational Grounds Project Works Set to Begin

The works on the long-awaited Burketown Wharf Recreational Grounds project is officially moving forward, with the scope of construction confirmed and the contract awarded. The project, aimed at enhancing the local recreational facilities, is set to commence soon, contingent on the lead time for the supply of materials.

The comprehensive plan for the Burketown Wharf

Recreational Grounds includes a variety of key elements designed to improve the community's outdoor experience. The main features of the project are:

Shade Structure: Two robust structures to provide shade, ensuring comfort for visitors during sunny days.

Toilet Block: A permanent, elevated toilet block equipped with water and sewer tanks to maintain hygiene and convenience.

Footpath: Well-constructed footpaths to facilitate easy and safe movement within the grounds.

Lighting: Adequate lighting installations to enhance visibility and safety during evening hours.

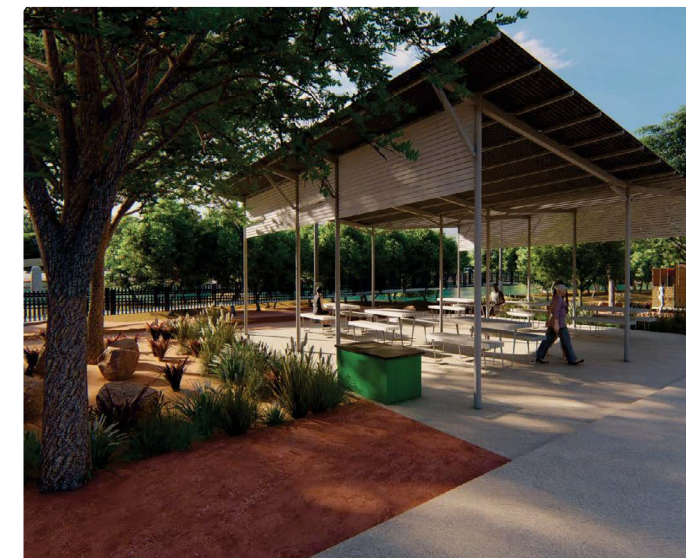
Furniture: Installation of practical furniture including BBQ facilities, seating areas, and bins to cater to the needs of visitors.

The contract for this extensive project has been awarded, marking a significant milestone in the development of the recreational grounds. Construction is expected to commence shortly, as soon as the necessary materials are available.

Local residents have expressed their anticipation for the new amenities, which promise to transform the Burketown Wharf area into a vibrant and functional recreational space. The addition of a shaded area, modern toilet facilities, and communal furniture is expected to enhance the usability and appeal of the grounds.

As the project progresses, updates will be provided to keep the community informed about construction timelines and any potential disruptions. The Burke Shire Council encourages residents to stay engaged and look forward to the improved recreational space.

For more information on the Burketown Wharf Recreational Grounds project, please visit the Burke Shire Council's website or contact their offices directly.



Wharf Recreational Grounds Project renderings. Please note that the layout is conceptual and may change.

COMMUNITY

2024 Events Calendar

JUNE 2024

21st - 23rd Gregory Campdraft

JULY 2024

27th Gulf Football cluster (Burketown)

19th - 21st Burketown Campdraft

AUGUST 2024

12th Snow White and the Seven Cool Dudes Performance (Burketown)

31st Order of the Outback Ball (Burketown)

SEPTEMBER 2024

21st Burketown Rodeo and Gymkhana

Gregory CWA Horse sports and family fun day

OCTOBER 2024

Burke Shire Step Challenge

Seniors Day

RACQ Get Ready Burke

NOVEMBER 2024

Burke Shire show holiday

Remembrance day

DECEMBER 2024

Burketown & Gregory Community Christmas Parties

COMMUNITYevents

Honoring ANZAC Day Across Burke Shire

ANZAC Day, a solemn occasion of remembrance and reflection, was commemorated across Burke Shire with reverence and respect. From Burketown to Gregory, communities gathered to pay tribute to the sacrifices of our service personnel, past and present.

Burketown Dawn Service

In Burketown, the ANZAC Day Dawn Service took place at the Burketown Cenotaph, a symbol of our enduring gratitude to those who served. Corporal Geoffrey Engel and Corporal Kevin McNair from FNQ 51st Regiment joined as special guests, underscoring the significance of this day. Locals and tourists alike gathered in solidarity, honoring the memory of our fallen heroes.

Following the service, volunteers demonstrated the true spirit of community by cooking and serving breakfast for attendees. Their dedication and selflessness ensured the event's success, serving as a poignant reminder of the importance of coming together to honor our veterans.

Gregory Dawn Service

In Gregory, ANZAC Day was observed with solemnity and reverence. The dawn service was well attended with Vietnam veteran Mr. John Nelson playing a central role, reciting The Ode and embodying the spirit of service and sacrifice.

During the ANZAC Day address, attention was drawn to the tragic crash of the US Liberator Bomber, known as Little Eva, near Moonlight Creek. The names of all ten crew members were solemnly remembered, with special tribute paid to the seven who lost their lives in the crash. This poignant moment served as a reminder of the ultimate sacrifice made by those who serve their country.

Following the service, the Gregory Downs Jockey Club generously provided breakfast in the hall, fostering a sense of community and camaraderie among attendees.

Council extends heartfelt thanks to all who contributed and attended the ANZAC services, embodying the ANZAC spirit of mateship and sacrifice.

"Lest We Forget."



COMMUNITY
events

Reeling in the Fun: Mougibi Fishing Competition a Splash Hit!

What a fantastic weekend we had at the Mougibi Fishing Competition on 4 and 5 May 2024! A big shoutout to everyone who joined in the fun and cast their lines in our local fishing comp. A special thank you goes out to our incredible volunteers and amazing sponsors – your support truly made this event a success! It’s moments like these that reel in the joy and camaraderie of our community. Here’s to more memorable fishing competitions ahead!

2024 Prize Winners

Open Category (men & women’s):

- 1st place Heaviest Barramundi (Open Men’s) - Jess Milton 6.90kg
- 2nd place Heaviest Barramundi (Open Men’s) - Benjamin Kumsing 6.80kg
- 3rd place Heaviest Barramundi (Open Men’s) - Ronald Kumsing 6.50kg
- 1st place Heaviest Barramundi (Open Women’s) - Shonelle O’Keefe 9.90kg
- 2nd place Heaviest Barramundi (Open Women’s) - Charismah Rudken 7.80kg
- 3rd place Heaviest Barramundi (Open Women’s) - Jordan Armstrong 4.85kg

- All Rounder (Open’s) - Katrina Rex w/ 4 species totalling 11.20kg
- Biggest Catfish (Open’s) - Neil Kelly 2.90kg
- Mystery Weight Prize (Open’s) 1.95kg - Charismah Rudkin

Junior Category (boys & girls):

- 1st place Heaviest Barramundi Jnr Boys 6.05kg - Axel Kumsing
- 2nd place Heaviest Barramundi Jnr Boys 5.10kg - William Kumsing
- 3rd place Heaviest Barramundi Jnr Boys 5.05kg - Axel Kumsing
- 1st place Heaviest Barramundi Jnr Girls 6.30kg - Latisha Booth
- 2nd place Heaviest Barramundi Jnr Girls 5.55kg - Latayah Page
- 3rd place Heaviest Barramundi Jnr Girls 5.0kg - Shauraye Jack
- Largest Catfish (Jnr) 2.65kg - Shauraye Jack
- All Rounder (Jnr) - Lurick Sowden Jnr (w/ 5 species weighing a total of 8.10kg)
- Mystery Weight Prize (Jnr) 2.05kg - Latisha Booth



COMMUNITY
events

Saddles and Paddles Races – 2024

The tremendous rain in early 2024 again saw the Gregory Downs Jockey Club having to work hard to get the grounds up to scratch. They were disappointed for the North-West Canoe Club who again had to cancel the marathon due to river conditions.

The Saddles and Paddles Race Meeting was again a great success, with a happy crowd enjoying the six races, Fashions of the Feld, the Gregory Gift Footraces and children’s fun events. To top the day off, a delicious dinner in the hall was enjoyed and The Trent Bell Band kept the crowd dancing all night.

The GDJC thanks all sponsors and volunteers for their support. Thanks to the Burke Shire Council for again supporting a great community event. A special shout out to Kym Schafer and Dustin Toomby who had ‘The Gregory’ looking a treat.

Winners of the races were:

- BRODIE & CO BENCHMARK 50 Handicap (800 METRES)**
EXPLOSIVE GIRL - Trainer: S Royes Jockey: J. Hoopert
- CUSTOM STEEL FAB / KEVIN MALONE MEMORIAL QTIS Maiden Plate (1150 METRES)**
LET’S GO THEN - Trainer: T. Parry Jockey: M. McDonald
- GOS CONSTRUCTIONS BENCHMARK 65 HANDICAP (1150 METRES)**
TRINITY MISSILE - Trainer: K. Krogh Jockey: M. McDonald
- CLEMMENTS ELECTRICAL/ NIVERAK SMASH REPAIRS BENCHMARK 45 (1300 METRES)**
MISTER MODERATION - Trainer: D. Ballard Jockey: K. Ballard
- BURKE SHIRE CUP OPEN HANDICAP (1300 METRES)**
THE CARPENTER - Trainer: T. Hall Jockey: J. Hoopert
- MITECH MOUNT ISA 55 Handicap (1500 METRES)**
ONTHETAKE - Trainer: T. Parry Jockey: K. Ballard

COMMUNITY
events



COMMUNITY
events

Mothers Day Celebrations at the Burketown Childcare & Family Hub

The Burketown Childcare & Family Hub hosted a delightful Paint & Sip Morning Tea for Mothers Day early in May. This event brought the community together to enjoy art, craft activities, and great food. Around eight mothers and ten children, ranging from three months to ten years old, attended the event.

Amanda Wilkinson from Savannah Lodge provided spectacular platters, and Cheryl Portch from Burke Shire Council visited to draw the beautiful Mothers Day raffles.

Seventy-four mothers entered the raffle, and the lucky winners were Alanna Shadforth and Simone Shadforth from Bidunggu. The raffles featured donations from Maxine Sowden and Sophie Butcher, who contributed their beautiful paintings, and Joeleen McNabb, who embroidered exquisite towels. Council extends its gratitude to all who contributed and participated in making these celebrations special. Everyone had a wonderful time, as evidenced by the photos from the event.



COMMUNITY
events

Burke Shire Celebrates Australia Day with Honors and Festivities

In January, Burke Shire Council hosted its annual Australia Day awards ceremony at the Nijinda Durlga Hall, marking a day of celebration and recognition for outstanding contributions to the community. Guests spent the morning enjoying a cricket match before having a BBQ breakfast. The spirit of friendly competition continued with a hotly contested pie making competition, showcasing the culinary talents of Burke Shire residents. After careful deliberation, Kylie Camp and Beth Atherinos emerged victorious, their pies impressing judges and attendees alike. It was a wonderful morning shared by all. Congratulations to all our very well-deserved winners of the Burke Shire Australia Day Awards for 2024.

Due to road closures unfortunately Gregory award recipients Brandon Goldstein and Jack Clarke were unable to attend the awards ceremony on the day, however, they were recognised at the Gregory Paddles and Saddles Event later in the year.

2024 Community Champion of the Year

Brandon Goldstein
Jack Clarke
Christopher Ford



2024 Community Event of the Year

2023 Burketown Rodeo –
Burketown Rodeo and Sporting Association
Accepted by president Darcy Woods



2024 Young Community Champion of the Year

Kieran Anderson (pictured below in orange)



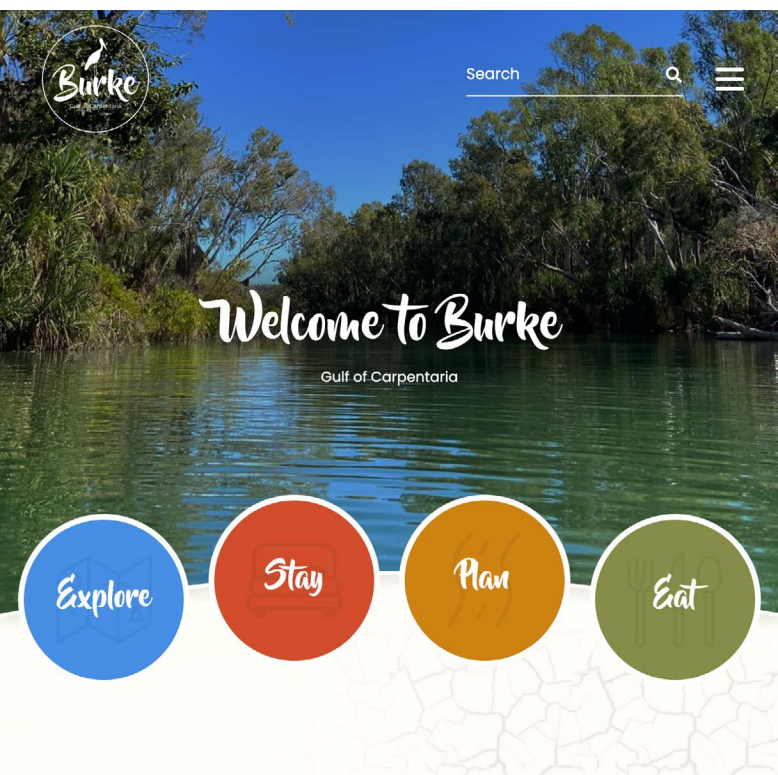
Pie Making Competition Winners

Kylie Camp and Beth Atherinos



COMMUNITY
events

Discover the New Explore Burke Website!



We're excited to announce the launch of the new Explore Burke website! This dynamic platform is designed to showcase everything our beautiful region has to offer. Whether you're a local resident, a visitor, or a business owner, there's something for everyone.

One of the standout features is the new business directory. This directory aims to promote local businesses, making it easier for residents and tourists to find services, shops, and other essential businesses in the Burke Shire.

Business owners, if you wish to update your information or add your business to the directory, please contact the Council office at 07 4745 5100 or email office@burke.qld.gov.au.

Visit Explore Burke today and see all the wonderful things our community has to offer!

www.exploreburke.com.au

Small Business Workshops and Networking Event

On Monday 20th May, Burke Shire Council held their annual Small Business Workshops and Networking Event. We had a number of experts from their respective fields there to help businesses develop and grow. Small business owners also had the opportunity to network with other businesses and relevant Council Staff including the CEO. Those present included:

Digi Grow – there to help businesses expand their online and digital usage to grow their business

The Procurers – experts in tender writing, Sean provided tips and advice on tender applications for our small businesses

Local Buy – Audrey was there to teach businesses about joining Local Buy and Vendor Panel which are both utilised by Council for Procurement.

This event was jointly funded by the Department of

Employment Small Business and Training through their Regional Networker Program.

Thank everyone for attending and we hope you took something valuable from the workshops!



COMMUNITY
events

Being A Responsible Pet Owner

- Before getting a dog, you need to consider the following:**
- Select a breed of dog that suits you and your family's needs. Consider it's size, temperament, medical requirements
 - Think about your lifestyle, work and living situation, time availability and financial resources.
 - Do you have or are able to provide a suitable environment for your animal? This includes food and water bowls, bedding and a safe environment for your animals to sleep and rest out of the elements.
- How to be a responsible pet owner:**
- Ensure that your dog is registered with Burke Shire Council. This can be done from 12 weeks of age. At time of registration you will receive a tag which must be put on your dogs collar and enables council to identify your animal.
 - Microchip your dog and ensure that details are kept up to date.
 - Desex your dog
 - Provide a suitable enclosure to ensure your pet stay in your yard or home.
 - Pick up after you dog at home and in public areas.
 - Ensure that your dog is appropriately restrained in public areas – collar, harness, lead and possibly a muzzle. Always check signage before allowing your dog off-leash.
 - Socialise and train your dog to reduce unwanted behaviours such as excessive barking, digging and aggressiveness.

Why Should I Register My Dog?

IT'S THE LAW!

Visit Burke Shire Council Administration Office during operating hours (9am – 4pm) or email office@burke.qld.gov.au

Registration Costs (2024-25):

Regulated Dog Registration (Regulated Dog Registration Fee waived with the standard Dog Registration Fee to Apply for the 2024/25 financial year unless unregistered dog is impounded)	\$296
Cat Registration	\$11
Dog Registration - entire	\$11
Dog Registration - entire (secondary dog on a single property)	\$11
Dog Registration - desexed	\$2
Replacement tags	\$6

Upcoming Vet Visit Scheduled for July - Date TBC

Gregory ‘Move It’ Program

Kick start your fitness by joining the Gregory ‘Move It’ Program Gregory Park

Session 1 & 2 - Friday 31 May 2024 - 4:30pm
Sign Up & Program information, goal setting (will include health screens, mini consults) Followed by Full Body Circuit Session and finishing with(Yarn Up session -with sausage sizzle

Session 3 - Friday 21 June 2024 - 5:30pm
Boxing for fitness Session (Yarn Up - Exercise for mental health benefits)

Session 4:- Friday 19 July 2024 - 5:30pm
Tabata Full Body Hiit Session (Yarn Up - Making the most out of your workouts with the time you have)

Session 5:- Friday 16 August 2024 - 5:30pm
Cardio Blast Session (Yarn Up - Heart Rates/Intensity levels how to check)

Session 6:- Friday 6 September 2024 - 5:30pm
Rep Challenge Finisher with BBQ (Yarn Up - reassessing and setting new goals)



Join the Movement



Burke Shire Council are offering subscriptions to the FitOn Pro app!

Register now to get your free 12 month subscription to FitOn Pro, giving all participants access to a wide range of workouts, easy wholesome recipes, the ability to join challenges and win exciting prizes, and the opportunity to learn more about health and wellness. Join a supportive group of people to help boost your motivation and share your journey with.

Brought to you by:



MOVE IT NO.

REGISTER HERE:



This initiative is supported by Western Queensland PHN

SAVE THE DATE

Order of the Outback Ball

BURKETOWN

SATURDAY **31** AUGUST 2024

More information coming soon.

Any questions, please contact Burke Shire Council on 07 4745 5100.



GULF FOOTBALL CLUSTERS DATES AND LOCATIONS

CLUSTER #1 - 18TH MAY NORMANTON

CLUSTER #2 - 1ST JUNE NORMANTON

CLUSTER #3 - 15TH JUNE NORMANTON

CLUSTER #4 - 27TH JULY BURKTOWN

CLUSTER #5 GRAND FINAL - NORMANTON

Communities Attending -
Normanton, Mornington Island, Doomadgee, Burketown, Croydon & Cloncurry



GET COOKING

Barramundi in 'Crazy Water' with olives and crunchy garlic bread

BY NATASHA WILLIAMSON

Ingredients

- 2 portions of barramundi fillet (skin on)
- 1 carrot
- Parsley
- 2 teaspoons italian seasoning
- 1 x 400g can tomatoes / cherry tomatoes
- 30g pitted kalamata olives
- 1 garlic clove
- 2 tablespoons olives
- 2 tablespoons of mayonnaise
- 1 1/2 tablespoons olive oil
- Pinch of chilli flakes (optional)

Garlic bread

- 2 crusty bread rolls
- 2-3 garlic cloves 2 tbs butter
- 1 tsp Italian seasoning
- Salt and pepper to taste

Method

Step 1

Preheat the oven to 220C, fan-forced. Thinly slice 1 garlic clove. Thinly slice the carrot. Coarsely chop the parsley leaves and finely chop the stems. Combine the parsley stems, 2 tbs mayonnaise and 1 tsp water in a bowl and season with salt and pepper.

Step 2

Heat 1 tbs olive oil in a large saucepan over medium heat. Cook the garlic and carrot, stirring, for 3-4 mins until softened. Stir in the Italian seasoning, tomatoes, olives and 250ml (1 cups) water and bring to a simmer

Step 3

Reduce the heat to medium-low and cook, covered, for 6 mins or until the tomato mixture is heated through. Remove the pan from the heat. Taste, then season with salt and pepper. Meanwhile, cut the bread rolls in half and mix the other ingredients together to form the garlic butter. Spread on the halved rolls and put the garlic bread

on an oven tray, butter-side up, and bake for 6 mins or until golden and crunchy.

Step 4

While the bread is baking, pat the fish dry with paper towel, rub with 1/2 tbs olive oil and season with salt and pepper. Heat a medium frypan over medium-high heat until hot. Cook the fish, skin side down, covered, for 3 mins. Turn and cook, uncovered, for 4 mins or until cooked through

Step 5

Divide the 'crazy water' among bowls, then scatter over the remaining parsley and a large pinch chilli flakes, if using. Top with the fish, then spoon over the parsley mayo. Serve with the garlic bread and enjoy!

Notes

'Crazy water', or 'acqua pazza' as it's known in Italian, is a light, fresh, tomato- based broth used as a poaching liquid for seafood. Here we've pan-fried the fish separately, then served it in the broth. Cooking times may vary depending on thickness of fillets. Use the tip of a knife to peek inside the thickest part of the fish; if it comes apart easily, the fish is cooked. No parsley? Replace with dried herbs or Italian seasoning.



COUNCIL INFORMATION

Information On Our Website

Burke Shire Council Website
www.burke.qld.gov.au

You can find information on:

Current Tenders
 Council Meetings
 Employment Opportunities
 Public Notices
 Service Information

Council Meeting Dates

Burke Shire Council meetings are held monthly on a Thursday in the Council Chambers at the Nijinda Durlga and are scheduled to commence at 9.00am. Meeting dates for the next 4 months are as follows:

July	Thursday 25
August	Thursday 22
September	Thursday 26
October	Thursday 24

Follow us!



www.facebook.com/BurkeShireCouncil



www.linkedin.com/company/BurkeShireCouncil

Get snapping!



Spot an issue in the Shire?
 Take a photo with the Snap Send Solve app to let us know.
 The app allows you to mark the exact location of the issue, take a photo and provide any further information in a few simple steps. Then:

- Council will be notified
- Your report will be assigned
- Reported issue is resolved
- You will be notified.