

Burke Shire Council NEWSLETTER



EDITION 64 : April 2025

A MESSAGE FROM *the Mayor*

We are nearing the end of what has been a rather underwhelming Wet Season. Indeed, many of us, myself included, are still looking for more weather and hoping it's not quite over yet.

Recently, some Councillors and members of Council's management team had a day trip out to the Northern Territory border (and slightly beyond). Normally you wouldn't even consider a road trip this time of year but the lack of wet weather made this a possibility. We looked at various Council assets along the route and discussed options and ideas at each stop. Council also took the opportunity to catch up with people along the route and deliver mail as we went. Thanks to those who extended their warm hospitality to our group and also made time to catch up with Council. A separate article and photos about our trip can be found in this newsletter.

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A MESSAGE FROM the Mayor

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Late last year, all Shires in the NWQROC were offered the opportunity to submit roadwork priorities for funding under the QRA auspiced North Qld Resilience Funding Programme 24-25. Unfortunately, due to reasons outside our control, our priorities were not accepted and we had to resubmit a list of projects. These were endorsed and Council has received funding to undertake the following:

Replacement/upgrade 10 culverts along the Floraville Road \$3 500 000

Complete Stage 2 works on Airport Access Road, Burketown \$465 000

Complete investigation, design options and community consultations in regards to Branch Creek Causeway \$500 000

The projects we were not able to get over the line are the subject of quite strong advocacy by Council who are seeking to have those funded and completed in the short/medium term. Those projects are upgrades to crossings on the (State Controlled) Wills Developmental Road at Jack's Gully, Running Creek, Barkly River and Brookdale Gully. Our advocacy has been across many platforms – letters, phone calls, meetings with the Department of the Premier and Cabinet at Community Cabinet in Cairns and delegations have been requested for early April when a Burke Shire Council contingent will be in Brisbane for other meetings. Council

appreciates the support it has received from landholders who depend on access along this road to conduct their business. These crossing upgrades are essential to reduce the impact the Wet Season and associated flooding has upon our Shire and that of neighbouring Doomadgee Shire.

Council is currently investigating options and seeking funding to upgrade the Gregory Crossing at Tirranna. This crossing is another major impediment to our residents and businesses, as well as those at Doomadgee. Its upgrade will certainly assist in reducing the impact of prolonged road closures. Australia Day this year saw Ross McKinnon AM travel to Burketown as the Australia Day Ambassador. Prior to his retirement Ross was the Curator-in-Charge of the Botanic Gardens at Mt Cootha (Brisbane). Ross had a wonderful time visiting different parts of the Shire and attending various events. He extends his thanks and appreciation for the warm welcome given to him by our community. I also thank those who hosted Ross throughout his travels. Thanks also to those who attended the Australia Day events, volunteered to help Council, the hardworking Council and Family Hub staff. Those who contributed or participated made it an enjoyable and fun day for all. Congratulations to the winners of the Quiz night, games at the morning event and especially to the Award winners – Gregory Downs Jockey Club for their Melbourne Cup Day (Event of the Year) and Kylie Camp (Community Champion).



Supporting RFDS Services

Burke Shire Mayor Cr Ernie Camp, Councillors Poole, Murray, and Clarke, along with our CEO and Environmental Health Manager, presented Council's annual donation to the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS).

The RFDS provides vital health clinics and emergency support to our community, and we are grateful for their ongoing service.

A MESSAGE FROM *the Mayor*

Burke Shire Team Goes West

Early Saturday morning, 8th March, a convoy of vehicles left Burketown West bound. On board were several of our Cairns office staff: Shaun, Sarath, Amir and Artem, as well as CEO Dan, Director of Engineering / DCEO Chris and Councillors Camp and Yanner. Armed with cameras, a delicious lunch from Morning Glory Café and a keenness to see the Shire's Western assets, the troops set off.

A stop at the Gregory crossing at Tirranna, saw everyone leave the vehicle to inspect the crossing as well as the potential path for a new crossing. Then it was back in the cars and heading West. The team took the opportunity to inspect an area East of Doomadgee where the Nicholson River, due to erosion, is now endangering the road asset.

A quick stop to look at the unique rock formations close to Hell's Gate was had and then onto the roadhouse and a drop off of mail for the roadhouse and Westmoreland. Thanks to Judy and Graham, Roadhouse caretakers, for their hospitality and the refreshment enjoyed with our packed lunch. Council also met with John, one of the new owners of Bowthorn, giving him a warm welcome to the Gulf as well as speaking with him about Council and our

plans along the Savannah Way road network.

Refreshed and replete, the convoy continued Westward. A stop at Branch Creek was on the cards to look at this important crossing on the Doomadgee West Road. Council has secured funding to investigate options and designs to upgrade the crossing to a safer and more resilient asset.

Photo opportunities were taken as we crossed the border into the Northern Territory – for some it was the first time in the NT. A stop at Settlement Creek to look at the causeway there and its relevance to Branch Creek investigations followed. All jumped back in the cars and headed East, back to Burketown. A stop at Wollogorang was made by one of the cars to drop off mail and enjoy a cuppa and some delicious homemade chocolate chip biscuits in the kitchen (thanks Amy!).

The last of the cars made it back to town late in the afternoon with those onboard enjoying travelling through several cooling showers. All agreed it was a great experience and a rare opportunity to see the Western end of the Shire, particularly at this time of year when usually the Wet Season impact would have made road travel impossible.



PROJECTS UPDATE

Burketown Wharf Recreational Ground Nears Completion!

Exciting progress continues on the Burketown Wharf Recreational Ground Project, bringing us closer to delivering a fantastic new space for the community to enjoy.

The shade structures are now fully installed, providing much-needed shelter for visitors. Next, outdoor furniture will be installed by early April, adding the finishing touches to make the space comfortable and inviting.

With the project nearing completion, we are pleased to announce that the official opening is planned for 10 May. This will be a great opportunity to celebrate the transformation of this area into a vibrant and welcoming recreational hub.

We appreciate the community's patience and support throughout this project and look forward to seeing you all at the opening! Stay tuned for more details.



Wharf Shade Structures

Doomadgee East Road Gregory River Crossing Upgrade



Existing Gregory River Crossing

Burke Shire Council is progressing with plans for the reconstruction of the Doomadgee East Road Gregory River Crossing, working closely with the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) to replace the damaged crossing.

Following recent rectification works, the long-term solution is being finalised for Gregory River, providing a long term crossing for road users. To support this, a Cultural Heritage Survey has just been completed to assist in selecting the most suitable alignment while ensuring the protection of culturally significant areas.

Additionally, geotechnical investigations will be undertaken to inform the concept design.

This project is an important step in maintaining connectivity in the region, and we look forward to keeping the community updated as planning progresses.

PROJECTS UPDATE

Burketown Health & Wellbeing – Splash Park Development Underway!

Burke Shire Council is thrilled to announce that Stage 1 of the Burketown Health & Wellbeing Project – Splash Park Development is officially moving forward!

Following a successful funding application securing \$4.1 million, the contract has been awarded to a successful contractor to replace the existing playground equipment and construct an exciting new splash park under the existing shade structure. This project aims to create a fun, family-friendly space

for residents and visitors to enjoy, promoting active outdoor recreation and wellbeing.

Construction is expected to commence in May–June, with completion scheduled before Christmas—just in time for families to enjoy during the summer months.

We look forward to sharing more updates as the project progresses and appreciate the community's support as we bring this exciting development to life!



Indicative 3D design of Burketown Splash Park Bucket feature



Dry and wet playground 3D design, Burketown Splash Park

Gregory Urban Roads Rehabilitation – Planning in Progress

Burke Shire Council is making progress on the Gregory Urban Roads Rehabilitation Project, which aims to improve drainage, pavement, sealed streets, and stormwater infrastructure in Gregory..

The project includes upgrades to the following roads:

- Murray Street
- Gleeson Avenue
- Nowland Street
- Clarke Street
- Scholes Court

So far, the feature survey has been completed, marking an important milestone in the design phase. Once the design is finalised, Council plans to deliver the upgrades in stages, ensuring improvements are made as funding becomes available over the next few financial years.

These upgrades will significantly enhance road conditions, improve drainage, and provide long-term benefits for the Gregory community. We look forward to sharing more updates as planning progresses!

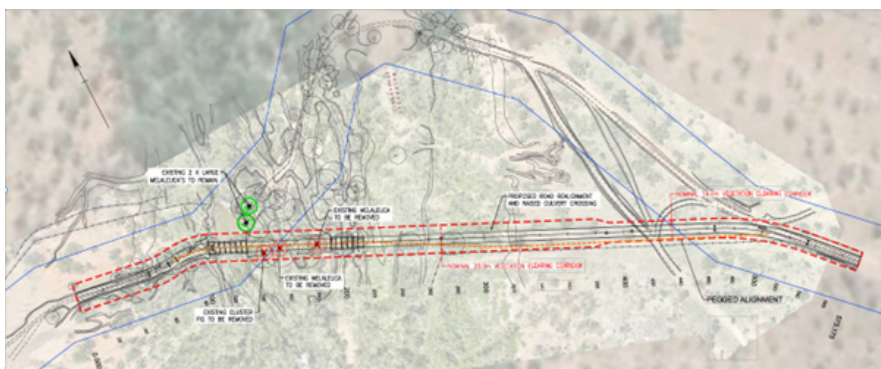
PROJECTS UPDATE

Lawn Hill Creek North Culvert Upgrade – Planning Underway

The Lawn Hill Creek North Raised Culvert Crossing Upgrade Project is progressing, aiming to improve flood resilience and connectivity in the region. This upgrade will involve constructing a raised culvert crossing over Lawn Hill Creek, enhancing flood immunity and ensuring a reliable link between Bowthorn Road, Doomadgee Lawn Hill Road, and Lawn Hill Road, as well as providing an alternative access route to Gregory.

To support the planning and design process, a Cultural Heritage Survey has recently been completed. This will help determine the best alignment option while ensuring cultural heritage values are preserved. Additionally, geotechnical investigations are underway to inform the concept design and ensure the crossing is built to withstand future flood events.

This project is a key step toward improving road safety and accessibility, and we will continue to update the community as it progresses.



Indicative alignment of Lawn Hill Creek Crossing (subject to change)

New Public Defibrillator Installed in Gregory Downs

We are pleased to announce the installation of a public defibrillator at the Gregory public toilets, made possible through a partnership between Burke Shire Council and Anglo American. The device was officially installed on Tuesday, 10th December, ensuring the community has access to life-saving emergency equipment when needed.



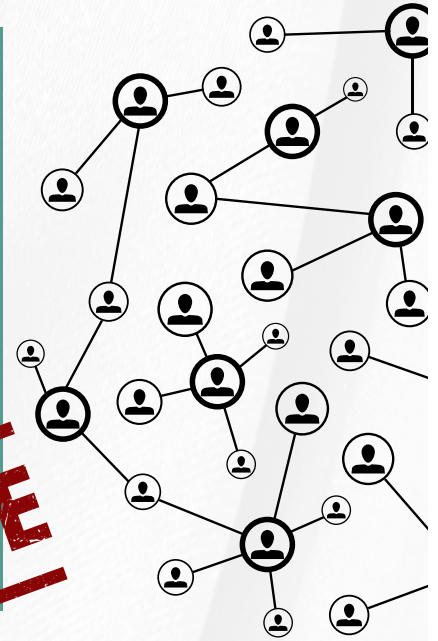
Mark From Anglo American, Council's WHS & Training Officer Natasha Williamson, and Cr John Clark

Recognising the importance of accessible medical resources, Anglo American collaborated with Council to procure the defibrillator and its protective housing unit for public use. Burke Shire Council will oversee the ongoing upkeep and maintenance of this vital device, ensuring it remains in optimal working condition.

To further enhance accessibility, the defibrillator has been registered with the "Heart of the Nation" app, allowing residents and visitors to quickly locate it in an emergency.

This initiative underscores the shared commitment of Council and its partners to enhancing community safety and well-being. If you have any questions about the defibrillator or its use, please contact Burke Shire Council at 074745 5100.

BURKE SHIRE LOCAL BUSINESS AND CONTRACTOR NETWORKING EVENT



SAVE THE DATE

AT A GLANCE:

Join us for an evening of networking and nibbles in Burketown. Connect with representatives from Burke Shire Council, local businesses, other contractors involved in capital works and Disaster Ready Funding Arrangements (DRFA) projects, as well as Northlane representatives, who are managing DRFA projects for Council.

LOCATION:

**NIJINDA
DURLGA HALL,
BURKETOWN**

DATE & TIME:

**TUESDAY
6TH MAY 2025
4.30PM TO 7PM**

RSVP

EMAIL:

KCHAN@BURKE.QLD.GOV.AU

PHONE: (07) 4745 5100



For more information please contact
community.development@burke.qld.gov.au

PROJECTS UPDATE

Burke Shire Council Information Network: Enhancing Safety & Connectivity

Council is developing the Burke Shire Council Information Network, a cutting-edge initiative to improve situational awareness, safety, and connectivity for residents, visitors, industries, and services. This real-time information hub will support informed decision-making for personal safety, health, and well-being.

24/7 Live Information Access:

Through an online interface and mobile app, users can access:

- Local micro-climate weather data
- Rainfall measurements
- Visual and thermal imaging
- Air quality readings

Designed for future expansion, this scalable system will strengthen community confidence and support.

Emergency Alerts & Rapid Response:

Registered users can set threshold alerts for instant email or SMS notifications on adverse weather, fires, and floods, with images and live reports for situational awareness. First responders will receive ignition alerts and live updates to enhance emergency response and intelligence gathering.

Reliable 24/7 Monitoring:

Technology provider Attentis ensures uninterrupted operation with 'heartbeat technology' to continuously check sensors, interfaces, and connectivity. Multi-sensor features include high-resolution visual & thermal imaging for fire detection & equipment monitoring 360° time-lapse video & still image recording

Flood & River Height Monitoring:

This AI-powered system continuously tracks:

- River heights & water flow
- Soil moisture & rainfall data
- Predictive modeling for flood expansion
- Early flood alerts & road closure warnings

Integrating seamlessly with existing flood monitoring, it enhances regional preparedness and response.

Funding & Next Steps:

Funded through the QRA NEMA program, site inspections were completed in March 2025, with Phase 1 construction set to begin. This milestone marks a major step toward a safer, more resilient Burke Shire.

Commitment to a Safer Future:

Council is committed to innovative solutions for community safety and connectivity. Stay tuned for updates as we bring this vital project to life!

Upcoming Tender Opportunities

Burke Shire Council will soon be releasing three (3) tenders, inviting suitably qualified suppliers to express their interest in being included in Council's Register of Pre-Qualified Suppliers (ROPS) arrangements.

These upcoming tenders are:

- Trade Services:
0280-4202-0002-ADM-0225/01
- Wet & Dry Plant Hire:
0280-4202-0002-ADM-0225/02
- Fixed and Rotary Wing Aircraft:
0280-4202-0002-ADM-0225/03

Suppliers are encouraged to register on VendorPanel Marketplace to receive notifications when these tenders are released.

Scan the QR Code to register



BURKE SHIRE 2025 EVENTS CALENDAR

FOR THE LATEST VERSION PLEASE VISIT WWW.BURKE.QLD.GOV.AU. MAKE SURE TO FOLLOW BURKE SHIRE COUNCIL ON FACEBOOK FOR THE LATEST EVENT NEWS!

January

Wed 8 GREY LEGENDS GET TOGETHER
Sun 26 AUSTRALIA DAY

February

Wed 5 GREY LEGENDS GET TOGETHER

March

BOOTCAMP EVERY TUESDAY & THURSDAY
Wed 5 GREY LEGENDS GET TOGETHER

April

BOOTCAMP EVERY TUESDAY & THURSDAY
Wed 2 GREY LEGENDS GET TOGETHER
18 - 21 BURKETOWN BARRAMUNDI FISHING
COMPETITION
Fri 25 ANZAC DAWN SERVICE

May

3 - 4 GREGORY SADDLES & PADDLES
Wed 7 GREY LEGENDS GET TOGETHER
Tue 6 LOCAL BUSINESSES & CONTRACTORS
NETWORKING
Sat 10 MATES DAY & WHARF PRECINCT OPENING
16 - 19 LURE MAKING WORKSHOP

June

Wed 4 GREY LEGENDS GET TOGETHER
14 - 16 MOSAIC WORKSHOP
20 - 23 GREGORY CAMPDRAFT
Sat 28 BURKE SHIRE TRASH N TREASURE

July

BURKE SHIRE PHOTO COMPETITION
Sat 5 GARDEN DAY - TIRRANNA
Wed 2 GREY LEGENDS GET TOGETHER
19 - 20 BURKETOWN CAMPDRAFT

August

Sat 2 LEATHERCRAFT WORKSHOP
Wed 6 GREY LEGENDS GET TOGETHER
Wed 27 TIDY YARDS COMPETITION
Sat 30 DOOMADGEE RODEO

September

Wed 3 GREY LEGENDS GET TOGETHER
Thurs 4 KID'S MAGIC BEAN COMPETITION
Sun 28 GREGORY CWA HORSE SPORTS
TBC BURKETOWN RODEO

October

STEP CHALLENGE - MENTAL HEALTH MONTH
Wed 1 GREY LEGENDS GET TOGETHER
Fri 17 PET ROCK COMPETITION
Wed 29 KID'S SPINDERALLA STAGE PLAY

November

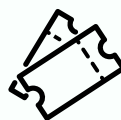
Wed 5 GREY LEGENDS GET TOGETHER
Tues 11 REMEMBRANCE DAY

December



Wed 3 GREY LEGENDS GET TOGETHER
Fri 5 GREGORY COMMUNITY XMAS PARTY
Fri 12 BURKETOWN COMMUNITY XMAS PARTY

Please note dates are subject to changes. For all the latest information please contact Burke Shire Council.

For more information or enquiries
regarding this calendar please email
community.development@burke.qld.gov.au
or call (07) 4745 5100.




BURKE SHIRE 2025 EVENTS CALENDAR



ANZAC DAY

FRIDAY 25 APRIL 2025

Burketown Cenotaph

LEST WE FORGET 

Dawn Service

- *5:45am - Assemble for Dawn Service at the Cenotaph
- *6:00am - Dawn Service Commences
- *6:30am - Complimentary Breakfast on the Nijinda Durlga Deck



SAVE THE DATE!

Burke Shire

GARDENING DAY!

SATURDAY 5TH JULY 2025

at Tirranna Springs Roadhouse

Learn how to sow seeds, pot plants, fertiliser, seedlings, mulching, flower arranging, and lots more!

MORE DETAILS TO BE RELEASED CLOSER TO THE DATE

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT COUNCIL ON (07) 4745 5100 OR EMAIL COMMUNITY.DEVELOPMENT@BURKE.QLD.GOV.AU



SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY 3 MAY

2025



Gregory Downs Jockey Club

SADDLES & PADDLES RACES



MATES DAY!

OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE BURKETOWN WHARF PRECINCT RECREATIONAL AREA

SATURDAY 10 MAY 2025

Save the date to celebrate Mates Day and the official opening of Burketown Wharf Precinct Recreational Area, over food, drinks and live entertainment!

SAVE THE DATE



40TH WORLD BARRAMUNDI FISHING CHAMPIONSHIPS

**BURKETOWN
EASTER 2025
APRIL 18, 19 & 20**



**THIS WILL BE OUR 40TH
ANNIVERSARY EVENT SO SAVE THE
DATE AND COME ALONG TO MAKE IT
BIGGER & BETTER THAN EVER.**

OVER \$20,000 IN CASH, PRIZES & TROPHIES

***A fun weekend
For the whole family***

***Supporting our School, Kindergarten and other Community Service
Groups***

**Don't miss the boat for the "only" fishing competition to be
at on Easter Weekend 2025**

Further information can be obtained by contacting
Burke Shire Council on (07) 4745 5100
or Garry Jeffries on 0418 711 734

BURKE SHIRE 2025 EVENTS CALENDAR

LURE MAKING WORKSHOP

16 - 19 MAY 2025 (FOUR DAY WORKSHOP)

PHILLIP YANNER MEMORIAL OVAL,
BURKETOWN

Learn how to make your own lure from scratch!

(More information will be released closer to the date)



For more information contact (07) 4745 5100 or email
community.development@burke.qld.gov.au

SAVE THE DATE!

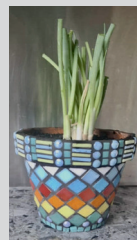
MOSAIC WORKSHOPS

MAKE A MOSAIC POT PLANT OR MOSAIC MANDALA!

SATURDAY 14TH JUNE - MONDAY 16TH JUNE
BURKETOWN

Look out for more information regarding workshop times by
following Burke Shire Council on Facebook or subscribing to
our mailing list. For more information contact council on (07)
4745 5100 or email

community.development@burke.qld.gov.au



Grey Legends Get Together

Join us on the first
Wednesday of
every month for
great company and
conversations about all
things seniors!

Morning Glory Restaurant
10 AM

For more info, contact
Cheryl at 0448 052 302.



BURKE SHIRE
Council
**HAVE YOUR
SAY!**
BURKE SHIRE COUNCIL
SPORT AND RECREATION
STRATEGY 2025 - 2030

The purpose of the survey is to
gather input from the community
and provide guidance to the
Council on how to best support and
promote sports and recreation in
the Burke Shire. The data collected
will be used to develop a five-year
plan, ensuring that Council's future
initiatives align with the needs and
priorities of the community.

Please note separate Community
Group surveys will be sent directly to
clubs and organisations.



Please note this survey will close on Friday 16th May 2025

Look out for future information regarding public consultation by following Burke Shire
Council on Facebook or subscribing to our mailing list!

For more information please contact Burke Shire Council on (07) 4745 5100 or email
office@burke.qld.gov.au

COMMUNITY *events*

Active Women and Girls Program Wraps Up in Burketown

Since late last year, the Queensland Government supported local women and girls in Burketown through its Active Women and Girls Funding program. This initiative enabled the introduction of Bootcamp and Circuit Fitness classes, promoting health, fitness, and well-being within the community.

The sessions were well-received, with participants enjoying a fun and engaging way to stay active. Running until April 3rd, these fitness classes provided locals with regular, structured opportunities to improve their physical well-being.

As the program concludes, the Burketown community is encouraged to share their feedback on the experience and suggest future activities. If you enjoyed the classes or have ideas for upcoming initiatives, contact Burke Shire Council at: 074745 5100 or email community.development@burke.qld.gov.au.

Stay tuned for future bootcamps and fitness classes as part of ongoing efforts to support an active and healthy lifestyle in the region.



Burke Shire Christmas Light Competition



Congratulations to the winners of our Christmas light competition!

A huge thank you to everyone who participated—there were many wonderful displays that beautifully captured the Christmas spirit! Each winner received a \$150 voucher as their prize.

Winners:

- Elvee Portch (Burketown)
- Zac and Shannyn (Burketown)
- Majella and Jayden (Burketown)
- Paula and Jesse (Gregory)
- The MacNamaras (Burketown)

COMMUNITY events

Burke Shire Celebrates Australia Day 2025

On the 26th January, Burke Shire Council held its annual Australia Day Event. This event is a time for the community to reflect, respect and celebrate. This year we held a car rally scavenger hunt, cast net throwing competition, lure throwing competition and a trivia night, facilitated by the Burketown Childcare and Community Hub. We were honoured to welcome Ross McKinnon AM to Burke Shire as our Australia Day Ambassador for this year's celebrations. Thanks to everyone who attended the events, and a special congratulations to our award recipients.

Congratulations to our Australia Day Award Winners

Community Champion of the Year - Kylie Camp

Kylie has resided in the Burke Shire for over 30 years and has continuously supported not only the Burke Shire community but the wider Northwest area.

Kylie has been involved in the following Burke Shire groups:

- QCWA – Gregory Branch – A member for 31 years holding the office of President for eight years.
- Gregory Downs Jockey Club - Member for many years and head catering guru.
- Burketown Kindergarten - Member and office-bearer
- Burketown Hospital Community Advisory Group (CAG) – Kylie has been a member for over 10 years and is presently acting as The Chair. Kylie was awarded by the North West Hospital and Health Service - Volunteer of the year in 2023.
- Lower Gulf Community Group - member for eight years, acting as President for the last four.

Kylie has also volunteered for the following:

- Burke Shire Ball
- Burke Shire Arts and Crafts Show
- Remote Arts Development Fund (RADF) – acting as chair

In the wider northwest Kylie has been a member of:

- Riversleigh World Heritage Advisory Committee since 2022
- Isolated Children's Parent's Association - Mount Isa Branch of the Air. Member for 23 years acting as President for six of those years.
- Isolated Children's Parent's Association - Queensland - State Council from 2015-2024
- Mount Isa School of the Air Parents and Citizens' Association – Member



COMMUNITY *events*

Community Event of the Year - Gregory Downs Jockey Club, Melbourne Cup Visit to Gregory

The Gregory Downs Jockey club facilitated this event welcoming the Melbourne Cup to Gregory on the 22nd of August 2024. They had applied to the Victorian Racing Club several times to have The Cup visit and were delighted when their application was successful.

How exciting it was for our community to welcome the iconic Lexus Melbourne Cup, valued at \$750,000. It was accompanied by two-time winning Melbourne Cup jockey, John Letts, VRC representative Trish Burke and well-known photographer, Lucas Dawson. Club members brought the VRC team to Gregory and returned them to Mount Isa.

A photo shoot was organised in the morning with many of the area's iconic locations photographed with The Cup. These included the Gregory River, Boodjamulla National Park, the RFDS plane landing at Gregory and more. Not only are the photos a wonderful memento of the visit but showcased our area in one of Melbourne's



leading newspapers and on the VRC Facebook page with over 120,000 followers.

In the afternoon the community and visitors arrived at the racetrack and had the opportunity to hold The Cup and get photos.

Yabby races were conducted with part-proceeds going to the Gregory Health Clinic. A lot of fun was had, even though the yabbies were a bit temperamental.

The 'Cup Challenge' followed with teams of three coming out of the race barriers in a three-man sack. This was rather amusing. They then had to join some poly connections together (harder than you think) and move around tyres and round bales of hay. The 'Allover Downunder' team from Gregory were the eventual winners.

In the evening, the community supplied a delicious dinner. Local lady Nicole Jones presented a beautifully decorated cake which she cut with John Letts.

This was a 'once in a lifetime' event for the Gregory and wider Burke Shire and worthy of the Event of the Year.

We were also lucky to have Ross McKinnon AM present at our Australia Day Activities!

Ross McKinnon AM is a retired curator-in-charge of the Brisbane Botanic Gardens at Mt Coot-tha. Internationally regarded as one of the world's leading sub-tropical botanic gardens, it features significant plant collections including the world's largest representative collection of Australian native rainforest plants. In 2014, Ross celebrated 42 years of service with the Brisbane Botanic Gardens and was awarded the Paul Harris Fellowship by the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International. The fellowship was awarded in appreciation of the tangible and significant assistance given to the pursuit of better understanding and friendly relations among peoples of the world.

COMMUNITY events

Burketown and Gregory Community Christmas Parties

At the end of 2024, Burke Shire Council hosted our annual Christmas Parties in Burketown and Gregory, bringing the community together to celebrate the festive season. Both events were well attended, with families and friends enjoying a joyful evening.

A special guest, Santa Claus, made an appearance, delighting children with goodies and festive cheer. Lucky attendees also won Christmas hams, adding extra excitement to the celebrations.

We thank everyone who joined us and made the events a success. It was a wonderful way to connect before the year's end, and we look forward to even bigger celebrations next year!



Burke Shire's Young Ambassadors: Supporting Their Academic Journey



Last year, the Burke Shire Young Ambassador's program recognised four of our own students - Darcy Brown, Sophia Hall, Jazaiah George, and Charles Morris – as they transition from primary school to high school. Each student received a special pack to help them adjust to their new academic journey. The program is supported by generous donations from local businesses, ensuring that each recipient has the tools and resources they need to thrive in high school or boarding school.

COMMUNITY events

Queensland Disaster Resilience Champions

In line with the Premier's acknowledgment of Queensland Disaster Resilience Champions, Mayor Ernie Camp would like to recognise the outstanding efforts of individuals who made a significant contribution to disaster resilience during the 2023-2024 Monsoonal Flooding Events in Burke Shire.

We recognise the dedication, and tireless work of individuals, volunteers, emergency responders, and community members who played a crucial role in the recovery and response efforts. These contributions have not only helped rebuild Burke Shire but have also strengthened the region's ability to withstand future challenges.

Please join in recognising the remarkable efforts and to show appreciation for those that have demonstrated selflessness and commitment to our community's well-being.

Burke Shire Disaster Resilience Champions:

Kevin Anderson	Jimmy Kum-Sing
Nikita Aitkens	Paul Logan
Benjamin Anderson Kum-Sing	David Marshall
Desmond Armstrong	Earl Marshall
Liana Bee	Jordan Marshall
Richard Bee	Madison Marshall
Sandra Bettles	Sage Marshall
Troy Black	Daniel McKinlay
Kylie Camp	Paula McKinlay
Roberta Casey	Paul Slater
Jack Clarke	Lurick Sowden
Jayden Douglas	Maxine Sowden
Matthew Douglas	Zachariah Sowden
Apryl Ford	Myron Toby
Lawrence George	Hayden Tyrell
Xavier George	Mick Watson
Brandon Goldstein	Maali Yanner
Jake Green	Milmarja Yanner
Jenny Harders	Murradoo Yanner Jnr



Mayor Ernie Camp, Councils CEO Dan McKinlay, and resilience champion Kevin Anderson



Resilience champion Brandon Goldstein, Mayor Ernie Camp and Councils CEO Dan McKinlay

COMMUNITY

Meet Graham – Burke Shire's Local Laws Officer

What is your position with Council and your responsibilities?

My position is Local Laws Officer within Burke Shire, I am responsible for providing education, monitoring and enforcement of our local laws and biosecurity to the Shire. I will also assist with REX turnaround services and disaster management.

Previous position:

Local laws and Animal management at Mornington Island and Longreach council.

Hobbies:

Fishing and Horticulture

Favourite thing/s about the Burke Shire (so far):

Nice shire and people with a lot of familiar happy faces.

If you have any queries in relation to Animals, Overgrown Allotments, Weeds/Pests, Illegal Dumping or Waste please contact Graham on:

Email: gedwards@burke.qld.gov.au

Ph: 0473022850



Applications for Donation Requests for Council Support for 2025/26 Events

NOW OPEN!

Donation Request Submissions will close at 4:00pm

Monday 26 May 2025

Each year Council allocates a budget to assist community organisations with their events. To ensure that all community groups have a fair and equitable chance to access these funds, Council asks for donation requests to be submitted by community groups for the coming financial year. In addition to assisting Council to budget more accurately, this will also ensure that community organisations receive their requested donation in a timely manner.

All donation requests for proposed events planned in the 2025/26 financial year should be submitted to Council no later than COB Monday, 26 May 2025

Application forms are available on our website (<https://www.burke.qld.gov.au/>) and via email as requested. If you have any queries or require assistance, please contact Cheryl Portch.

Email – office@burke.qld.gov.au

Phone - 07 4745 5100

GET COOKING

Veggie Shepherd's Pie

with Sweet Potatoe Mash

Ingredients

- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1 large onion - halved and sliced
- 2-3 large carrots - cut into sugar-cube size pieces
- 2 tbsp thyme - chopped
- 200ml red wine
- 400g can chopped tomatoes
- 2 vegetable stock cubes
- 410g can green lentils
- 950g sweet potatoes - peeled & cut into chunks
- 25g butter
- 85g mature cheddar - grated

Method

Step 1

Heat 1 tbsp olive oil in a frying pan, then fry 1 halved and sliced large onion until golden.

Step 2

Add 2 large carrots, cut into sugar-cube size pieces and most of the 2 tbsp chopped thyme, reserving a sprinkling for later.

Step 3

Pour in 200ml red wine, 150ml water and a 400g chopped tomatoes, then crumble in 2 vegetable stock cubes and simmer for 10 mins.

Step 4

Tip in a 410g can green lentils, including the juice, then cover and simmer for another 10 mins until the carrots still have a bit of bite and the lentils are pulpy.

Step 5

Meanwhile, boil the sweet potatoes, cut into chunks, for 15 mins until tender, drain well, then mash with 25g butter and season to taste.

Step 6

Pile the lentil mixture into a pie dish, spoon the mash on top, then sprinkle over 85g grated vegetarian mature cheddar and the remaining thyme. The pie can now be covered and chilled for 2 days, or frozen for up to a month.

Step 6

Heat oven to 190C/170C fan/gas 5. Cook for 20 mins if cooking straightaway, or for 40 mins from chilled, until golden and hot all the way through. Serve with broccoli/greens or salad



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 Wednesday 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:

April	Wednesday 23
May	Wednesday 28
June	Wednesday 25
July	Wednesday 23

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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.