

Community Matters

ISSUE 59 | June 2024



Glass bin service starts 1 July!

Olivia and Amelia Hickey are doing their part to recycle their glass waste correctly!

See more on page 6.

Corroboree celebrated in conjunction with ChangeFest 2024

Our biannual Mildura Corroboree returned in a big way earlier this year, embracing a new location at Rio Vista Park, while being included as part of the national ChangeFest Program.

ChangeFest brought together hundreds of people from across Australia to learn, connect and amplify collaborative efforts of place-based change, with a particular emphasis on elevating First Nations voices.

Corroboree provided the opportunity for ChangeFest participants and local residents to share in and celebrate the local history, culture and achievements of our First Nations people.

MC'd by local hip-hop artist Philly, the event included dance groups from across the local region taking part in a dance competition along with art and crafts stalls and traditional kangaroo stew.

The Stars Foundation took home a prize in the schools category while Thuulalu Dancers were winners in the open category. Congratulations to everyone involved!

Pictures: Highlights from this year's Corroboree Celebration



Lani, Emily, Kacey, Matilda and Evelyn.

MILDURA'S YOUTH PARLIAMENT TEAM SET TO TACKLE THE BIG ISSUES

Meet five inspiring young local leaders, Lani, Emily, Kacey, Matilda and Evelyn, who have been selected from an impressive field of applicants to represent the Mildura region in this year's YMCA Youth Parliament Program.

The annual program allows young Victorians to participate in the parliamentary processes in the Victorian State Government and advocate for issues that matter to them.

The team has begun work on their Bill, 'Increased Housing Affordability for Tertiary Students', which they will debate over three days in the Victorian Parliament in July.

The Bill aims to address the inequitable access to tertiary housing faced by students who are disadvantaged by their personal circumstances.

You can find out more about the team and their proposed Bill by scanning visiting mildura.vic.gov.au/YouthParliament

Meet the women in our Waste Services crew

From project managing, to attending the weighbridge or operating machinery, these women embrace the benefits of working within Council's Waste Services department and take serious pride in the results they achieve for our community.

Every day, they ensure what we throw out is not all going to waste.

As a child, Sarah has always had a passion for the environment and grew a strong interest in sustainability. She has worked at Council for 13 years and currently leads a team of six.

You'll find Sarah engaging with staff, responding to emails, talking to customers and reporting. Sarah was instrumental in rolling out the organics bin in 2019.



Her advice for anyone wanting to pursue a career in waste? "Go for it! Don't be afraid to have a go or ask questions."

When Josie joined Council 15 years ago, only three women were working at the Mildura Landfill.

"Now we have a female manager, two female team leaders and women working at the weighbridge, transfer stations and operating machinery such as the garbage truck and street sweeper."

Josie currently leads the Waste Operations team, overseeing garbage and litter collection, CBD cleaning and street sweeping. Throughout her time at Council,

she has assisted in rolling out more than 27,000 organics bins and implementing software solutions when it comes to our waste services.



"As a female working in what used to be a male-dominated area it doesn't matter what your gender is if you have the skills and knowledge."

Marina enjoys the variety her role offers.

On any given day, she could be serving customers at the weighbridge, organising special bins for events, scheduling bookings for drumMUSTER and soil or just helping out locals with their enquiries.



I love the customer interaction working at the Weighbridge," said Marina, who has been with Council for three years.

"My advice for anyone, of any gender, aspiring to work in a similar field is to be organised and never be afraid to ask questions."

Jenni agreed, claiming no two days are the same when working with the Waste Services crew.



Be prepared to get out into the elements and do some heavy lifting," she said.

With 17 years of experience at Council, Jenni brings a wealth of knowledge and experience as a team leader at the weighbridge, valuing the customer interaction and dynamic work environment her role brings.



Mildura Emergency Services Day proves a hit with local students



Hundreds of local school students got up close with our local emergency services through a range of hands-on and interactive activities at Nowingi Place last month.

The Mildura Emergency Services Day showcased the variety of emergency services roles available across career and volunteer opportunities.

Local services hosted demonstrations, displayed key equipment, and were on hand to answer questions from visiting students and locals.

A big thank you to our partners, Mildura Lifesaving Club, CFA, Fire Rescue Victoria, Ambulance Victoria, Emergency Recovery Victoria, NSW Police, SES, SMECC, Australian Red Cross, Victoria Police, Army Reserves, T.S Mildura Australian Cadets and Road Safety Mildura.



Calling all young achievers!

Do you know a young person aged 12 to 25 in need of recognition?

Nominations are now open for our annual Youth Awards!

The awards aim to showcase those young people achieving great things in our community, with nominations open across three categories:

- Community Participation
- Endurance and Persistence
- Youth Worker of the Year

Nominations close 26 July 2024, with all young nominees to be recognised at the Youth Showcase on Friday 30 August at Mildura Arts Centre.

All nominees will receive a certificate at the Youth Showcase, while individual award winners will receive a \$200 voucher and a trophy.

Want to recognise someone but don't have time? No problem, our Youth Engagement Services team is more than willing to help!

Find out more and nominate someone you think deserves recognition at mildura.vic.gov.au/YouthAwards

Rio Vista Park transformation complete



We've transformed Rio Vista Park into a thriving, active outdoor community space!

The works, which were made possible thanks to \$268,341 from the Victorian Government's Community Crime Prevention Program, were completed early this year.

The project has delivered:

- CCTV cameras
- New tree plantings
- Public Lighting and new Pathway Lighting
- Linkages to the nearby Off Leash Dog Park
- Construction of a new toilet block

The new-look Rio Vista Park has already hosted several big events since works were complete, including ChangeFest24, the Mildura Corroboree and National Reconciliation Week activities.



Green Thumbs: Bronwyn Taylor, Sam Iamarino and Paul Mahoney are Sunraysia's inaugural Nature Strip Showdown winners.

Civic pride on show as Nature Strip Showdown winners announced!

Sunraysia's first Nature Strip Showdown winners have been crowned, showcasing some of best nature strips in our region while illustrating the pride residents take in their gardens.

Mildura Rural City Council earlier this year put the call out for residents to enter the inaugural competition, providing a fun way to get recognition for the hard work and time they put into their nature strips.

It was also an opportunity to enter into friendly competition with other 'green thumbs' and the chance to win prizes valued at \$500.

More than 25 residents throughout the district entered the competition to find the best grassed, best landscaped and best make-over/new subdivision nature strip.

Entries were judged by well-known community garden and tree-planting group Greening Mildura, whose members travelled across the region to select our three inaugural winners.



NATURE STRIP SHOWDOWN!

Best grassed

Paul Mahoney

Best landscaped

Bronwyn Taylor

Best make-over/new subdivision

Sam Iamarino



Irymple's Olivia, Amelia and Aime Hickey

GLASS BIN COLLECTION DATES NOW AVAILABLE!

Residents with access to kerbside collections can now check when their new 120L purple-lidded glass recycling bin will be emptied for the first time.

We've updated our website to reflect the new schedule once the service commences in July 2024.

Simply visit mildura.vic.gov.au/myneighbourhood and type in your address to see all of your bin collection dates.

The introduction of a fourth kerbside bin - a mandatory requirement for all Councils under State legislation - will ensure more materials are transformed into new and useable materials, including being used in local road projects.

This is a vital step in reducing the amount of waste our community sends to landfill due to contamination.

Audits show that, on average, 38% of the mixed yellow-lid recycling bin is glass by weight.

Learn more about your kerbside bins at mildura.vic.gov.au/waste

Improved safety key at Deakin Avenue and Twentieth Street intersection

A major overhaul of the Deakin Avenue and Twentieth Street intersection is improving driver safety, reducing the risk of fatal collisions and injuries at the site.

Works to upgrade the intersection, identified as a Blackspot, include a Vehicle Activated Warning System, splitter island, pavement reconstruction and widening, drainage works, lighting, additional road signage and line-marking.

The \$1.226 million project is fully funded through the Federal Government's Black Spot Program and is being delivered by B&S Earthworks.

Traffic controls and road closures are in place throughout the works, which are expected to be completed by late 2024.





MSP marks official Stage 2 opening

The next exciting chapter at the Mildura Sporting Precinct is officially underway following the opening of the site's \$13.025 million second stage.

Officially opened by visiting Victorian Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence and Mayor Cr Liam Wood in late May, Stage 2 of the overall \$47million project has proven the cherry on top for arguably the largest infrastructure project we've ever undertaken.

Stage 2 works, which were delivered over an 18-month period, include:

- Upgrade of the LED lighting to Oval 1 to 500-lux
- A second multi-use oval with a centre wicket floodlit to 150-lux
- Additional gender-neutral change rooms, umpire facilities and storage
- New ground floor social room and sports administration hub
- Four indoor squash courts with a moveable wall for doubles competition

- Four outdoor acrylic netball courts floodlit to 200-lux
- Indoor seating improvements, including retractable grandstand
- External seating improvements, including installation of oval perimeter seating, a spectator mound, and additional tiered seating and shade
- Electronic Scoreboards to support Oval 1
- Eight-lane turf and synthetic cricket practice nets
- Perimeter and ticket fencing

Works to extend the carpark by more than 350 additional sealed carparks and additional landscaping improvements will also be delivered towards the end of the year.

Works are also nearly complete to install a 99kW solar PV system at MSP and to prepare for additional solar PV in the future, including new electrical infrastructure and roof safety upgrades.

The addition of solar is thanks to a \$490,000 Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts (Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program) grant.

Successful completion of Stage 2 was made possible by several contractors, including locals King Construction Group.

BE A VOICE FOR YOUR COMMUNITY



If you have a passion for the future of our region and want to bring about positive change, this year's Council Elections could be the perfect opportunity.

Mildura Rural City Council will provide a series of Community and Candidate Information sessions and pop-up stalls between now and the Council Elections in October.

The sessions are aimed at equipping potential candidates with everything they need to know about becoming a Councillor, including:

- How to nominate as a candidate in the elections
- What is involved in being a Councillor
- Roles and responsibilities of Councillors, including the Mayor and Deputy Mayor
- The role of local Councils

Keep up-to-date with when these session will be held by visiting mildura.vic.gov.au/elections

2025 Kindergarten registrations now open!

Visit mildura.vic.gov.au/kindergarten to register your children in three and four-year-old kinder



MILDURA ARTS CENTRE PRESENTS

Siobhan Stagg

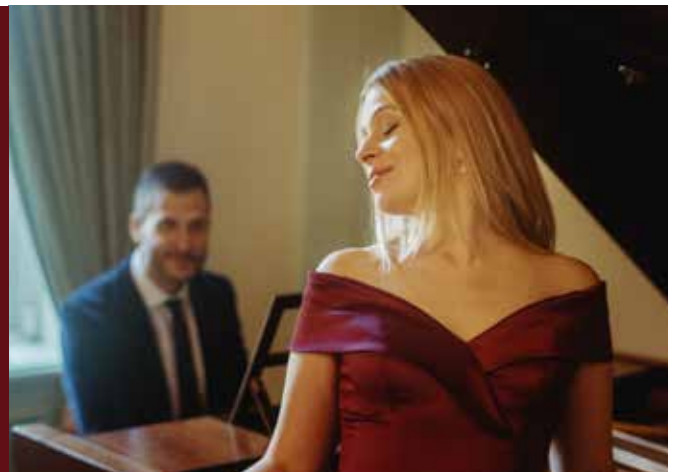
WITH PIANIST Nico de Villiers

ECHOED VOICES

Sunday 28 July Mildura Arts Centre



CREATIVE VICTORIA | Mildura Rural City Council | MAC MILDURA ARTS CENTRE



If you need an interpreter we can help. To access an interpreter, call TIS National on 131 450 and ask them to call Mildura Rural City Council on 03 5018 8100. You can also ask for an interpreter when you use any of our services.

T 03 5018 8100

E mrcc@mildura.vic.gov.au

mildura.vic.gov.au

Call or email us from 8am to 5pm weekdays.

Deakin Avenue Service Centre 76 Deakin Avenue, Mildura

Madden Avenue Service Centre 108 Madden Avenue, Mildura

Ouyen Service Centre 79 Oke Street, Ouyen

DISCLAIMER

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information published in Community Matters. All details were correct at the time of printing.