



Shire Treated to Major Visitor Events

Thanks to the effort of Council, the Shire has been treated to a significant upsurge in visitors with the recent CMCA Solos Rally and the ICPA holding their conference here.

Together, these two events resulted in well over 500 visitors coming to the Shire and staying for a number of days and spending on accommodation, food, entertainment and tours around the Shire.

In preemption of these visits, Council sent letters to all small businesses to advise of the dates of the impending influx of visitors.

Mayor Samantha O'Toole welcomed the influx of visitors and the economic benefits they bring along with them to the Shire.

"Conferences and events like the Solos Rally and the ICPA Conference deliver great direct economic benefits to our Shire", said Mayor O'Toole.

"There are also a range of potential flow-on benefits, as the more welcome we can make these visitors feel, the greater chance they'll come back at a later date with their families to visit again.

There are three more significant visitor events over the coming months and Council is continuing to work with organisers to ensure our Shire is ready to welcome them.

- **23 – 29 June:** Yellowbelly Country Music Festival – St George Showground
- **19 – 21 August:** Western Queensland Alliance of Councils (WQAC) Assembly – St George Cultural Centre
- **1 – 3 September:** Storyfest – South West – St George Cultural Centre



What's On

JAMMO'S YELLOWBELLY COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL

When: 23 - 29 June 2025

Where: St George Showgrounds

Featuring Top Australian Country Music Artists! Show and camping tickets available at the gate - \$20 Powered site per night (first in best dressed) - \$15 Unpowered site per night. Pets allowed. Local tours available.

BACK TO BOLLON HERITAGE DAY

When: 5 July

Where: Bollon Heritage Centre

The Heritage Centre Committee invite the community and friends to this jam-packed family fun day.

MUNGINDI RACES

When: 5 July

Where: Mungindi Racecourse

The Mungindi Races are perfectly timed with the school holidays for a great family day out. Along with a day of racing there will be a President's Luncheon, food stalls, a jumping castle and foot races for all ages.

HEBEL GYMKHANA AND MOTORKHANA

When: 5-6 July

Where: Hebel Showgrounds

The action-packed Hebel Gymkhana and Motorkhana is perfect for all ages! Whether you're riding a horse or a motorbike, enjoy classic competitions like barrels, bending, flags, and even apple bobbing.

DIRRANBANDI POLOCROSSE CARNIVAL

When: 26-27 July

Where: Dirranbandi Showgrounds

The Dirranbandi Polocrosse Carnival draws teams from many parts of Queensland and beyond attracting clubs like Albury NSW, Tansey, Warwick, Chinchilla, Wandoan, Thargomindah, Eulo and many more.

A message from the Mayor



This past period saw years of cross-border government collaboration deliver for the residents of Mungindi with the launch of the Mungindi Water Security Project.

Implementing any major project for the Shire can take a lot of effort, as funding needs to be sought, contractors engaged and projects managed.

In Mungindi, major projects are just that bit more challenging, as governments from different jurisdictions and levels need to come to an agreement on these factors before and throughout the process.

I would like to thank the Moree Plains Shire Council for their ongoing support and collaboration to support the residents of Mungindi, and in this instance a special thank you to the New South Wales government for their funding for this project to go ahead.

Whilst on this topic of cross-border collaboration, we recently held a Border Battle in the town of Mungindi on the day of this year's first State of Origin.

This community event was not only a lot of fun, but it also achieved its goal of attaining widespread media attention, highlighting the fabulous community spirit in the township.

From just a bit of coordination by Council officers, the event achieved an immense amount of media coverage that would have otherwise cost over \$3 million in advertising, so it was a great outcome.

You may have also noticed an increase in visitors to the Shire recently. Council has been working with groups like to CMCA Solos Network and the Isolated Children's Parents Association for some time to hold their conferences/events here, which has brought hundreds of new visitors to the Shire.

There are a number of other events set to occur, so if you see this influx of visitors to the Shire, please be sure to give them a warm Balonne Shire welcome, as their presence in our region brings with it a great economic boost and the more welcome they feel the greater chance we will have of them returning to our region.

This past month we've also seen a number of outstanding awards given to our Shire.

Council was awarded Regional Member of the Year at the Small Business Friendly awards for the second year in a row, and Council was also awarded the Excellence in Innovation at the Local Government Managers Awards for their innovative 'How the Catchment Works' videos.

I would like to thank everyone that was involved in achieving these awards for the Council and Shire.

I would also like to sincerely congratulate the South West Indigenous Corporation for their recognition at the Queensland Reconciliation Awards for the St George Harmony Centre.

The Harmony Centre is an outstanding achievement for our Shire and I'm looking forward to watching it go from strength to strength as a drawcard for visitors and locals alike.

Mayor Samantha O'Toole



Balonne Shire Wins Small Business Friendly Regional Member of the Year 2025 Award

Balonne Shire has won the prestigious Small Business Friendly - Regional Member of the Year Award, for the second year in a row!

This incredible honour celebrates our Council's unwavering commitment to supporting local small businesses, fostering innovation and driving regional prosperity.

A huge shout-out to every business owner, community leader, and team member who makes Balonne Shire a beacon of growth and opportunity.

Your hard work and passion continue to inspire and shape a vibrant, resilient future for our region.



A Focus on Home Fire Safety

The Queensland Fire Department (QFD) is encouraging residents to consider their home fire safety this winter.

Residential structure fires typically spike during the cooler months with more than 460 recorded last year.

QFD Executive Manager Fire Safety Mark Halverson said some of these could have been prevented by taking a few simple steps.

"It's important people carefully inspect their heaters and electric blankets to ensure they are in working order, before using them this winter" he said.

"Another way to be home fire safe is by having a practised fire escape plan and working smoke alarms."

For more information on home fire safety visit <https://www.fire.qld.gov.au/safety-education/using-fire-indoors>

Balonne Shire Council Awarded for Excellence in Innovation

Balonne Shire Council has been awarded the Excellence in Innovation Award at this year's Local Government Managers Australia Awards for Excellence for its groundbreaking animation 'How the Catchment Works', featuring students from around the Shire.

The Excellence in Innovation Awards category had a total of 14 nominations, with Balonne Shire Council's nomination shining through to win the category.

The 'How the Catchment Works' video campaign involved the development of four innovative videos, where local children explained how flooding occurs and addressed how to deal with flooding, which was then converted into a full animation.

Balonne Shire Mayor Samantha O'Toole was thrilled to have this public awareness campaign acknowledged with an Award for Excellence.

"As a Council, our team is constantly coming up with innovative ways to deliver cost-effective outcomes for our

residents and we are so proud to have this idea and grant funded campaign acknowledged at the LGMA Awards for Excellence", said Mayor O'Toole.

"These videos are so impressive and the local students from around the Shire did such a great job.

"I know the kids really loved seeing themselves as cartoon characters and the message they delivered was so effective.

"We really wanted to raise awareness amongst the younger generation around what to do in a flood and how to deal with the aftereffects and with students putting the message in their own words, these videos have clearly achieved that for us.

"I would also like to congratulate all of the team involved in producing this campaign."

The 'How the Catchment Works' campaign was proudly supported by the Australian and Queensland Governments' Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.



Travellers Have Improved Access to Road Condition Updates

Council has extended a program to inform travellers of road conditions throughout the Shire.

During flooding events in 2024, the Local Disaster Management Group set about placing posters throughout the Shire with QR codes that linked to Council's Emergency Dashboard and the Qld Traffic website.

The aim of these posters was to alert locals and visitors of how to navigate around the Shire with so many roads flooded.

The Queensland Reconstruction Authority applauded this process as the "Poster child for innovative community flood warnings" in the case studies section of their website.

Thanks to a grant from QRA, Council has now developed fixed signs in truckstops, rest areas and public toilets in all townships throughout the Shire.

We hope these new fixed signs make it easier for locals and visitors to access up-to-date information through the Emergency Dashboard

This project was made possible thanks to funding from the Australian and Queensland Government's Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.



Dirranbandi Master Plan Set to Shape the Town's Future

Dirranbandi residents have their opportunity to shape the future of their town precinct for years to come with consultation on the development of a Dirranbandi Master Plan.

Council is currently seeking community input regarding what residents would like to see occur in Dirranbandi with two stages of consultation.

The first stage of consultation was held in February 2025 and gave the residents the opportunity to provide their input regarding what they would like to see occur in Dirranbandi.

After this stage of consultation, an online survey was open for the community to provide their feedback, and a draft Master Plan was developed.

The second stage of consultation is to commence on Tuesday 17th June 2025 at 4:30pm-6pm at the Dirranbandi Civic Centre to allow the local community the opportunity to view and comment on the draft Dirranbandi Master Plan.

Further to this consultation, an online survey will be available where residents can provide their ideas for the future of Dirranbandi.

The development of this Dirranbandi Master Plan has been made possible due to funding from the Queensland Government's Works for Queensland funding program.



Female Sporting Amenities Receive A Boost In Balonne

Female sporting amenities in the Balonne Shire have received a significant boost with the construction of dedicated female changerooms and amenities block in the Shire's major sporting field of Rowden Park.

Female sport has a very strong following at Rowden Park and the aim of this facility is to support and further promote growth in female sports in the Shire.

The new facility includes two separate changerooms and an Umpire's changeroom all with showers, toilets and wash facilities, as well as a suite of five public toilet facilities complete disability access, shower and baby's change facilities.

The female change rooms are in line with the Rowden Park Master Plan.

Mayor Samantha O'Toole is pleased that this new facility is set to be opened for use by local sporting groups.

"Our female sporting groups

and clubs have such a strong following in the Shire and we are so proud to be able to support them with these new facilities.

"Whether it be Rugby Union, Rugby League, Cricket or any other sporting code played at Rowden Park, we now have a facility that will help to support female participation in sport and recreation activities in the Shire.

"It was a great opportunity to officially open these facilities at the recent Frillies home game and thank you to everyone who participated.

"This new facility is in line with the Rowden Park Master Plan, which involved an extensive consultation with the community and the Rowden Park User Group.

This new facility was made possible due to a joint funding arrangement with the Queensland Government providing \$520,000 and Council contributing \$184,000 for the new Female Amenities Block to enable Queenslanders to participate in sport and recreation activities.



South West Hospital and Health Service Partnership to Bring First Cancer Trial to Balonne Shire

Deakin University, South West Hospital and Health Service (SWHHS), and others have partnered to deliver the Equitable Cancer Outcomes across Rural and Remote Australia (ECORRA) trial.

The ECORRA trial is a five-year, \$4.9 million research project that aims to improve time to cancer diagnosis and treatment for rural patients.

Prof Anna Ugalde, A/Prof Skye Marshall, and Hannah Jongebloed from the ECORRA Trial visited with Dr Tafadzwa Zana (Medical Administration Registrar; South West HHS) and Mrs Robyn Brumpton (Service Director, St George Community & Allied Health) and colleagues at the St George Community & Allied Health Service, on Wednesday 2 April.

ECORRA Trial lead Professor Anna Ugalde said St George was one of 14 sites across



Pictured Left to Right: Dr Tafadzwa Zana (Medical Administration Registrar; South West HHS), A/Prof Skye Marshall (ECORRA Trial Project Manager; Deakin University), Prof Anna Ugalde (ECORRA Trial Chief Investigator; Deakin University), Ms Robyn Brumpton (Service Director, St George Community & Allied Health)

Australia participating in the project.

“Each community is unique, which is why we’ve started by listening to locals’ about their experiences with cancer care,” said Professor Ugalde.

“Our first visit wasn’t just about

research, it was about engagement and building trust.

“We’ll be visiting again soon as we want the impacts and relationships to be lasting,” A/Prof Skye Marshall said.

Learn more at deakin.au/ecorrratrial.

New Thallon Playground Set to Bring Joy for Years to Come

The children of Thallon now have a brand-new playground that they helped to design, complete with a flying fox, slides, climbing webs, suspended bridge, monkey bars, inground trampolines and a range of other features.

A \$300,000 grant from the Australian Government’s Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program funded Council to hold interactive workshops with students from the Thallon State School and deliver a playground that was just what the local kids wanted.

Council held an official launch of the new playground at 3-4pm on Monday 26 May 2025 with some very fitting catering of Fairy Bread, Cupcakes, Fruit, Popcorn, Music and whole heap of fun!

Mayor Samantha O’Toole was delighted to officially open the new playground facility.

“I would particularly like to thank all of the local Thallon students who participated in helping us to develop this new playground facility,” said Mayor O’Toole.



“The team informed me that it was an absolute delight to bring the students along on this journey of deciding what the playground will be like for many years to come.

“I would also like to thank the Thallon Progress Association for originally requesting the playground upgrade and working with Council to help make this new facility occur.

“As a Council, we are always happy to work with the local community to seek funding for new facilities and it is particularly rewarding to be able to work hand-in-hand to make such things happen.

“I hope all the children of Thallon and those across the Shire enjoy their new playground and I’m looking forward to seeing them and their parents at the official launch of this facility.”

Cross-Border Collaboration Secures Water Supply for Mungindi

On 28 May 2025, the Balonne Shire Council joined with the Moree Plains Shire Council and the New South Wales Government to launch the Mungindi Water Security Project, which secures an ongoing water supply for the residents of the cross-border town of Mungindi on the border of Queensland and New South Wales.

The project provides an additional secure water supply for this cross-border town with the establishment of an artesian bore on the Queensland side of Mungindi, improving water quality, supply and pressure on both sides of the border.

Collaborative funding for the project totalled \$1,475,852.00, which included a contribution of \$418,713 from Balonne Shire Council and \$1,057,139 of grant funding from the New South Wales Government.

The project involved detailed investigation work, the development of a business case by a consultant hydrologist, community consultation and relevant government approvals.

Balonne Shire Mayor Samantha O'Toole said this was an important project and unique opportunity to support the cross-border town of Mungindi.

"Prior to this project, the township of Mungindi drew its water supply from the Moree Plains Shire Reservoir in New South Wales," Mayor O'Toole said.

"In the last major drought, Mungindi was on crippling water restrictions due to limited supply from the NSW bore and adding the additional



bore will allow supply to be supplemented when it is low to ensure water security for Mungindi into the future.

"This project will improve water security and supply, which will benefit Mungindi on both sides of the border, eliminating the risk of water shortages that are critical for population retention, as well as agricultural and tourism development.

"Establishing an artesian bore in the Mungindi Queensland locale and connecting it to the Moree Plains Shire Council's Mungindi Water Treatment Plant, supports our commitment to develop sustainable, secure and healthy water resources for our communities.



St George Lions Club

Have you thought about how you can give back to your local community?

You could consider becoming a member of the St George Lions Club

There are over 49,000 Lions Clubs worldwide with a combined membership of 1.4 million located in over 200 countries and geographic areas, making the Lions the

world's largest service club organisation

The primary focus of Lions Clubs is aiding the needs of local communities.

These clubs engage in a variety of community projects ranging from health initiatives, environmental efforts, and supporting local youth programs and much more. Joining a Lions Club is a wonderful

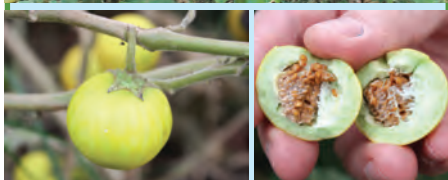
opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals who are passionate about making a positive impact in the community.

For further information you are invited to contact the St George Lions Club:

stgeorge@lions201q1.org.au

ENVIRO-COLUMN

TROPICAL SODA APPLE



Native to South America, tropical soda apple (*Solanum viarum*) is an upright, branching, perennial shrub growing to 2 m in height.

It has broad-based, straight, cream-coloured prickles to 12 mm long scattered on most plant parts.

Flowers are white with five recurved petals, white to cream-coloured stamens.

Mature fruit are yellow and golf ball-size (2–3 cm in diameter).

When immature they are pale green with dark green markings, like immature watermelons.

It can be invasive and host various plant viruses.

Tropical soda apple is a prohibited invasive plant under the Biosecurity Act 2014 and if you think you have seen tropical soda apple, report it immediately to

Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23

For more information, scan the QR Code below.



Border Battle Puts Spotlight on Mungindi

In the lead-up to the first State of Origin for 2025, Balonne Shire Council and Moree Plains Shire Council coordinated a Border Battle community get together.

In a cheeky nod to the fiercest rivalry in Australian sport, around 200 community members came together at Mungindi River Park, with the Mayors literally drawing a line on the border at the iconic Mungindi Bridge that divides our two states.

The fun and spirited event included a community tug-of-war, a Mayoral arm-wrestle and Mayoral ball-passing competition along with a brekky barbeque by the Mungindi Grasshoppers.

Alas, NSW won two of the three competitions, with our Mayor O'Toole putting on a stellar display of strength in the arm-wrestling competition.

It is important to note that the event is not seen as any divine prelude to the State of Origin series, as we all know that Queensland is going to take out the next two games and the overall 2025 trophy!

On a more serious note, the event drew widespread media attention for the town of Mungindi highlighting their vibrant community spirit in a live cross on the Today Show and coverage on nearly all television networks and many print and radio outlets.



New Amenities Revitalise Family Fun Days at Beardmore Dam

The community gathered together to celebrate the new Beardmore Dam amenities at the Family Fun Day to utilise the new equipment and harness a carefree spirit on the new flying-fox.

Many long-term residents will remember the bustling times of Beardmore Dam and waking up in the pre-dawn hours on the weekend to secure prime location at the dam before the rest of the crowd arrived to settle in for a day of family fun.

The event not only showcased the new facilities, but also featured a sausage sizzle, demonstrations from our local emergency volunteers, and local market stalls.

The latest improvements are sure to encourage new family memories for young and old for many years to come.



Participants at the launch of the 'I got hooked on St George Region' campaign

Scavenger Hunt Lures Travellers Back to the St George Region

The St George Region is inviting travellers to swap the highway for a hunt and get hooked on adventure!

The award-winning I Got Hooked on the St George Region Scavenger Hunt is back bigger and better, and it's making a splash across the region.

Fresh off winning Silver in the 2024 Queensland Tourism Industry Awards for the Richard Power Award for Tourism Marketing & Campaigns, the hunt casts a wide net—encouraging travellers to explore all seven towns in the St George Region: St George, Dirranbandi, Hebel, Nindigully, Bollon, Thallon and Mungindi.

With each riddle solved participants will collect a unique fish token for each town. And if they reel in the full catch, they'll score the limited-edition 'I Got Hooked on the St

George Region' keyring, featuring a fresh new, totally collectable design for 2025.

They'll also be cast into the monthly draw to win a \$100 fuel voucher. Mayor Samantha O'Toole says the I Got Hooked on the St George Region Scavenger Hunt is a perfect example of regional tourism done right.

"We're thrilled to bring the Scavenger Hunt back to the St George Region," said Mayor O'Toole.

"It's such a clever and creative way to encourage visitors to truly explore our beautiful towns, meet our locals, and support our small businesses.



"It's interactive, entertaining, and a real lure for our region."

The scavenger hunt runs until 30 October, or until keyrings run out— so get in quick and cast your line before this adventure slips away!

For more details see: www.stgeorgeregion.com.au/get-ready-to-get-hooked-again



Stay Charged, Stay Connected, Stay Safe

Eight new PowerStacks have been installed around the Balonne Shire in the townships of Hebel, St George, Dirranbandi, Bollon, Mungindi and Thallon.

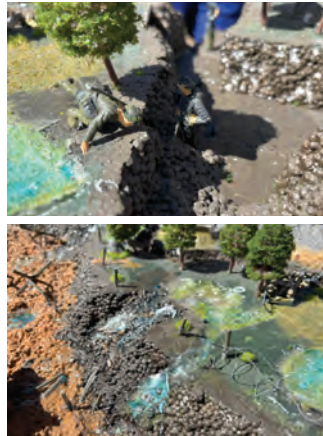
Since the dawn of our Shire, our resilient residents have endured various disaster events and these PowerStacks have been provided for vital support during times of blackouts and emergency.

Each PowerStack includes solar panels, lithium batteries, and multiple ports to recharge devices such as phones, tablets and laptops so residents can remain connected and informed with necessary emergency

updates to help boost community preparedness and safety during times of crisis.

These units also feature the ability to illuminate critical areas such as Assembly areas, Evacuation Centre sites, and public gathering spots to increase community safety during disasters including flooding events where power and connectivity are affected.

This PowerStack project was proudly supported by the Australian and Queensland Governments' Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.



Youth's Inspiring Anzac Day Tribute

Arriving at the Anzac Dawn Service about 5.30am I was surprised by the number of people in attendance, ranging from newborn to people in their 90's.

As soon as I arrived, people were telling me about Theodore's exhibition, which he had spent six months creating for ANZAC Day.

I went out the back and saw Theodore's masterpiece and was amazed at the intricacy and workmanship that went into creating it. It was the talk of the ceremony.

I would like to congratulate Theodore on his exhibit, as it brought joy to the entire community.

It's great to see a young person like Theodore remembering the sacrifices our ANZACS made for our countries.

It warms the soul of an old Sergeant to know that long after I pass, the ANZACS will be remembered by the young people in our community like Theodore.

Lest We Forget
Sergeant Stephen Wade,
Mungindi Police Station

Resignation of Councillor Jason Southern

Councillor Jason Southern has tendered his resignation from Balonne Shire Council citing work and time constraints.

Balonne Shire Council took immediate steps to advise the Department responsible for Local Government and the Electoral Commission of Queensland to coordinate a by-election for the position.

Councillor Southern is disappointed to have to make this decision, but work and time constraints are simply too great at this point in time.

"The reason behind my decision comes down to work constraints with some recent staff shortages in my business requiring my undivided attention," said Councillor Southern.

"I really feel like the role of a Councillor needs a solid commitment of time and effort and the reality is that my business commitments are stretching me too thin to give the role all that it deserves at this point.

"I am honoured to have been given the opportunity to be a local Councillor in Balonne and am looking forward to seeing someone step into the role that can give the position all that it deserves."

Mayor Samantha O'Toole is understanding of Councillor Southern's position.

"Councillor Southern advised me of his decision to resign from Council due to an increase in his work commitments and time constraints", said Mayor O'Toole

"Being a local Councillor is a great

opportunity to guide the direction of our local government, but it does take a considerable commitment of time and effort on the part of each Councillor.

"I would like to thank Jason for his efforts and I wish him well into the future."

Council's Chief Executive Officer Michelle Clarke has taken steps to commence the process of having a by-election undertaken.

"I have advised the Department responsible for Local Government of Councillor Southern's resignation and have started a process of working towards a by-election for the role as soon as possible", said Mrs Clarke.

"At this stage, there are no dates that I can provide, but we will keep the community informed as this process unfolds."

SO YOU
 WANT
 TO BE A
 COUNCILLOR?



THE LIBRARY LENS



BOOK of the MONTH

Laughter is the Best Ending by Maryam Master

This book recommended for 8-12-year-olds, has made the shortlist - one of the six best in its category for Younger Readers - in the 2025 Children's Book of the Year Awards.

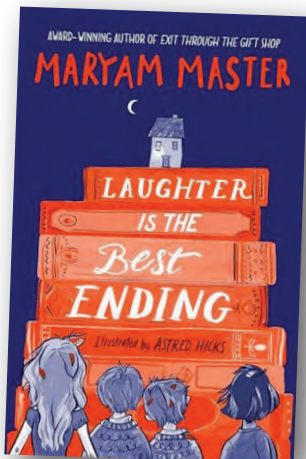
Drop into your local library to check it out or order it in.

Alternatively, use your library card to do just that through the QLD Libraries app!

Zee is a loner. She likes to read Oscar Wilde and watch documentaries all day which, according to her parents, is not normal for 13-year-olds. So they decide to send her on a five-day holiday camp, hoping she'll make 'at least one friend'.

But Zee would rather take a bath in Tabasco sauce than attend a camp called Youth Fusion. Especially when the fearsome camp leader, Madam Augustus, declares a bonding game called 'Murder in the Dark'.

With influencer Tiffanee and super-nerds Jonah and Moses, Zee soon finds herself in the middle of a hair-raising mystery, hurling her into some fierce detective work and bringing her face to face with the notorious Old Bat Viv.



Thallon State School Visits Council Chamber

The Thallon State School students were treated to an all-inclusive visit to the Council Chambers to see firsthand what it takes to be a Councillor.

The students got to sit down with Councillor Scott Scriven and Councillor Andrew Dries to see all that Council does for the local community and have all their questions answered about the functions of Council.

Councillor Scott Scriven was thrilled to show the students how Council works.

"It was such an enjoyable experience to be able to talk to the students about all of the different areas of Council and about the role of being a Councillor", said Councillor Scriven.

"They had plenty of really insightful questions and made me feel quite proud of the kind of youth we are bringing up in the Shire.

"We even showed them how they can propose new initiatives in the Shire and they had some great ideas for future projects."



FUN AND FITNESS IN BALONNE

ST GEORGE SQUASH

Social comps held 6pm every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday during the school term. Grading during the first week of the school term.

Open to anyone. Beginners Welcome!

Courts available to hire. If you'd like to join in the fun and enjoy a hit, reach out to John on 0428 735 944.



ST GEORGE TENNIS CLUB

Are you keen on having a hit of tennis? Come for a social hit at St George Tennis Club on Thursday evenings at 6:30pm in Rowden Park, St George.

For more information, contact Debbie on 0488 042 951.



BOXING

Sign up to be a member of In the Box Boxing Club! Come down and work on your fitness or prepare for fights. Training is on Monday & Wednesday nights from 5:30pm.

For more information, contact Lisa on 0411 857 691.



GROUP TRAINING SESSIONS

If you're really looking to get in great shape for summer, you can head along to an Optimal Training - Group training session on Tuesday from 5pm at the Amphitheatre & Thursday's from 5pm at the studio.

For more information, contact Deanne on 0407 720 327.



INSPIRED FITNESS WITH TJ

Inspired fitness runs group training sessions on Tuesday at 9:00am and 5:30pm (Pilates), and 5:30pm on Thursdays (Tone class). Classes are now held at the St Patrick's Church Hall on Balonne Street. For more information, phone Tori 0447 080 872



ST GEORGE AQUATIC CENTRE - WINTER HOURS

Tuesday to Sunday: 11am - 5pm

When Winter temperatures get colder, only Thermal Pool will be available.

Party Bookings available Saturday & Sunday mornings but must be booked in advance.

For more information or to book a party call 0497 722 076



ST GEORGE RLFC SAINTS

Pre-season training has started for 2025, all welcome head down to Rowden Park on Tuesday and Thursday nights at 6:30pm.

For more information check out the St George RLFC Saints Facebook Page.



PARKRUN

Do you love a social run to get in shape? Parkrun is free and held each Saturday morning at 7am along the St George foreshore leaving from the boat ramp at the Western end of St George's Terrace.

For more information visit www.parkrun.com.au/stgeorge

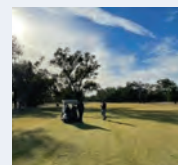


ST GEORGE GOLF CLUB

Enjoy a swing of Golf anytime at the St George Golf Club.

Regarded as one of the best sand greens courses in SWQ - why wouldn't you spend a day there?

For more information contact the Golf Course on 4625 3283 or please call Tom on 0427 730 984



ST GEORGE BOWLS CLUB

Head down and enjoy a game of Bowls at St George Bowls Club.

Wednesday 8am for social bowls, all welcome.

Green available on Saturdays for casual bowlers.



ST GEORGE SWIMMING CLUB

If you'd like to try your hand at more competitive swimming, the St George Swimming Club has started back up for term 1 of school and meets Wednesday evenings at 5:30pm at the St George Aquatic Centre. head on down to register.

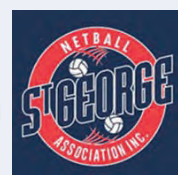
For more information you can email stgswim@hotmail.com or visit their Facebook Page www.facebook.com/stgeorgeswimmingclub



ST GEORGE NETBALL ASSOCIATION

Junior competitions are held every Saturday - ages 5 to 17

For all enquiries, please email the St George Netball Club at stgeorgenetball@gmail.com or phone 0413084891



ST GEORGE HASH HOUSE HARRIERS - SOCIAL RUNNING GROUP

Enjoy a social run or walk every Thursday evening! The group leaves from The Terrace in front of The Australian Hotel at 6:00pm on Thursdays for a 5km run or a 3km walk, this is not a timed event.

For more information contact Peter on 0428 258 601

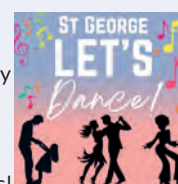
LET'S DANCE - ST GEORGE COMMUNITY WELLBEING CENTRE

Every Friday night 6pm to 7:30pm at the Community Wellbeing Centre.

Free Entry - Gold coin donation for refreshments

Want to learn a few new dance moves? Come join us!

We are a group of people who want to learn various types of dances for fun! To find what kind of dance we are currently teaching or for further information visit our Facebook page at "Let's Dance St George"



If you have a **FITNESS PROGRAM** or **CLUB** in the Shire that you would like posted here, please send the details to: media@balonne.qld.gov.au



Congratulations on Harmony Centre's Queensland Reconciliation Award

Balonne Shire Council would like to congratulate the South West Indigenous Corporation's well-deserved acknowledgement in receiving a Queensland Reconciliation Award for the St George Harmony Centre.

The SWIC received the prestigious Partnership Award for their collaboration with the Department of Local Government, Water and Volunteers and QBuild – Department of Housing and Public Works for the development of the Harmony Centre, which helps First Nations art, language, and culture to flourish.

Mayor Samantha O'Toole was delighted to hear of the acknowledgement of the South West Indigenous Corporation's efforts to develop the St George Harmony Centre.

"On behalf of all at Council, I would like to extend our sincere congratulations to the South West Indigenous Corporation for their efforts to support indigenous art and culture in our Shire", said Mayor O'Toole.

"I know there was an

immense amount of coordination and collaboration by all parties to develop this facility and their efforts are well and truly deserving of this acknowledgement at the Queensland Reconciliation Awards.

"The board have done an outstanding job to bring the Harmony Centre to

fruition and it is an absolute asset to have this new facility in the Shire.

"The Harmony Centre is fast becoming a drawcard for our Shire and I'm looking forward to watching it continue to grow in popularity as a must-visit destination for visitors and locals alike."



Warrawee Supporting Our Local Centenarian

A resident of our Shire has recently achieved a life-long milestone—and by life-long this takes a century to achieve!

Pamela Riggs celebrated her 100th birthday in February and from the time of world wars to the era of digital technology, she has witnessed more of this world to fill several memoirs.

Born in Sydney, and schooled at Ascham Boarding School, Pamela aimed to be a nurse but chose to settle with her husband in Moree to work the land, grazing sheep and cattle before retiring in Mullumbimby on the north coast of NSW.

In 2013, Pamela moved to St George to be closer to family and found her new home in Warrawee Aged Care, where the carers of

Warrawee speak fondly of Pamela with her son Phillip and his wife Sheryl, to reminisce over stories that always invoke a smile.

Warrawee Aged Care offers more than just a place to live – it's a vibrant, caring community where residents feel truly at home and the carers do their best to ensure every need is met with dignity and respect.



RADF 2025 - 2026 GRANTS ROUND 1 NOW OPEN!

Applications close 5pm 27 June 2025

Apply Now



Queensland Government

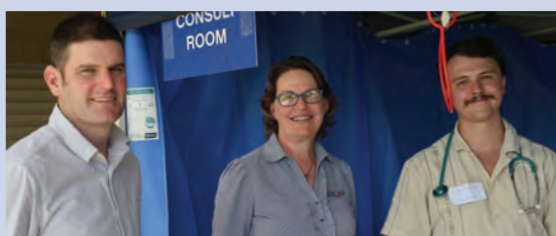
Balonne Shire Council

Out and About in Balonne

Beardmore Dam Family Fun Day



Careers Expo



Mungindi State of Origin Border Battle



Ladies Day Rowden Park



St George Show



UP Roadworks UPDATE

COMPLETED ROADS THROUGH MAY

- Ian Paul Road
- Yilgangindi Road
- Bolins Road

WORKS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY:

- Powrunna Road
 - Expected completion: early June
 - Construction is ongoing, one crew working.
 - Expected traffic delays less than 5 minutes.
- Woolerbilla Road
 - Expected completion: early June
 - Construction is ongoing, one crew working.

- Expected traffic delays less than 5 minutes.
- Noondoo-Mungindi Road (Partially)
 - Expected completion: early June
 - Construction is ongoing, one crew working.
 - Expected traffic delays less than 5 minutes.
- Cardiff Road
 - Expected completion: mid June
 - Construction is ongoing, one crew working.
 - Expected traffic delays less than 5 minutes.
- Knights Road
 - Expected completion: mid June
 - Construction is ongoing, one crew working.

- Expected traffic delays less than 5 minutes.
- Dunkerry Road
 - Expected completion: late June
 - Construction is ongoing, one crew working.
 - Expected traffic delays less than 5 minutes.

UPCOMING WORKS

- Mundalee Road – early June
- Secret Plains Road – early June
- Mourliyan Road – early June
- Byra Road – early June
- One Post Road – early June
- Gunnindaddy Road – early June
- Fernlee Road – mid June



Cardiff Road



Noondoo-Mungindi



Powrunna



Woolerbilla

LET'S
GET IT
SORTED

Loose recycling can be
turned into new things.

Take a moment to update your
recycling knowledge.

Visit balonne.qld.gov.au



This initiative is
supported by the
Queensland Government's
Recycling and Jobs Fund



BALONNE SHIRE JOB OPPORTUNITIES

In Balonne Shire we have a broad range of job opportunities, which can be found by either scanning this QR Code or going to www.balonne.qld.gov.au/Live-and-Work/My-Employment

