

STORYFEST SOUTH WEST SET TO WRITE ITS SECOND CHAPTER IN BALONNE



Following last year's highly successful inaugural event, Storyfest South West is set to return to the Shire from 1-3 September, bringing with it a celebration of storytelling, creativity and community spirit to the heart of Balonne.

This year's event will feature events for all ages, including a chance for locals to meet and chat to Authors, immersive storytelling, workshops, a pop-up bookshop, a Prologue Party, a Young Writers Dinner and Adult Panel sessions.

With schools from right across the south-west Queensland region already registered, this year's festival promises to be a true showcase of local talent and imagination.

Storyfest South West is more than a literary festival - it's a celebration of community, creativity, and connection.

This year, the spotlight will shine on a new community art installation inspired by Pip Harry's picture book 'Over or Under?' and her middle-grade novel 'The Little Wave'.

The art project brings together school children, local artisans, and the Men's Shed to help bring Pip's stories to life, inviting festival-goers to paint wooden fish and join a postcard exchange between Balonne students and Gold Coast pen pals.

So, mark your calendars, gather your friends and family, and join us for three days of inspiration and imagination. We can't wait to welcome Storyfest South West again to St George!



What's On

DIRRANBANDI CAMPDRAFT

When: 29-31 August

Where: Dirranbandi Showgrounds

Don't miss all the excitement of the Dirranbandi Campdraft with a full weekend program of horsemanship events. There's full catering and a bar with a happy hour both Friday and Saturday nights.

GREAT STATE FETE

When: Saturday 30 August

Where: St George State School

Bring your family out for some fun and laughter. This year's Great State Fete is showcasing a great range, including a cake stall, a Great Lolly Jar Giveaway Competition, balloon twisting, a pre-loved books stall, a MONSTER RAFFLE, and much more!

DIRRAN GOLF CLUB OPEN CARNIVAL & ZONE 2 SAND GREEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

When: 30 - 31 August

Where: Dirranbandi Golf Club

You're invited to a weekend of golf and good food, with each day at \$40 per player, including BBQ lunch and ham roll dinner on Saturday, and BBQ lunch and mince roll dinner on Sunday.

STORYFEST

When: 1 - 3 September

Where: The Hub, St George

Storyfest is returning to St George! Come and meet some authors, check out the pop-up bookshop, and make sure you don't miss out on the young writers' dinner, workshops, and literary festivities.

BOLLON CAMPDRAFT & RODEO

When: 4 - 7 September

Where: Bollon Showgrounds

Get ready for a weekend filled with thrilling rodeo action, high-speed campdrafting, and unforgettable experiences at the Bollon Campdraft & Rodeo! Whether you're a seasoned rider or simply looking for some family fun, this event has something for everyone. Camping available onsite.

NINDIGULLY CAMPDRAFT

When: 13-14 September

Where: Nindigully Sports Ground

Nindigully Campdraft is a great family-friendly weekend. There will be plenty of entertainment along with a full bar and canteen available all weekend. Saturday night is the main night with music, dancing, entertainment, and prizes to be won.

As a Shire, this month we had the great fortune of hosting the 6th annual Western Queensland Alliance of Councils Assembly for 2025 in St George.

To give you a little background, the Western Queensland Alliance of Councils is an organisation representing 24 Councils across western Queensland that collaborate and advocate other levels of government for solutions to similar issues.

This year's assembly covered a range of topics that are impacting western Queensland from a broad range of keynote speakers who are experts in their field, as well as a number of relevant Ministers and Shadow Ministers from State and Federal Parliaments.

As a Shire, we should all be incredibly proud of the seamless support for this assembly from our Council team and local suppliers, who assisted in delivering an event that received unanimous praise from the assembly delegates.

During proceedings, the Deputy Premier Jarrod Bleijie announced an injection of \$1,019,904 from the Queensland Government's Residential Activation Fund to deliver trunk infrastructure and planning requirements in support of two much needed developments in the Shire.

The Deputy Premier also announced an additional \$1,356,070 from the Queensland Government's Country Roads Connect Program to seal the remaining 10.4 kilometre unsealed section of Jakelwar-Goodooga Road North.

As a Council, we warmly welcome this funding, and our team is already taking steps to deliver the projects associated with this financial support that will create more local housing opportunities and finish the sealing of Jakelwar-Goodooga Road North.

After a hotly contested by-election campaign, the Electoral Commission of Queensland has declared the result of the recent by-election to fill the Council vacancy created by the resignation of Councillor Jason Southern.

I would like to thank all five candidates who put up their hand and nominated to fill this position, as it is not an easy thing to put yourself forward in front of your peers.

I would like to congratulate Councillor-elect Shiela Marshall for her success in being elected to Council for the remainder of this sitting term.

We are all looking forward to welcoming Councillor Marshall into the Council chambers on 28 August to help us chart the path forward for our Council on behalf of the residents of Balonne Shire.

A message from the Mayor



Mayor Samantha O'Toole



Be the Person We Need In Emergencies!

Queensland Fire Department is actively seeking interested people to join our Auxiliary Firefighter crew in St George and Dirranbandi.

Auxiliary Firefighters are casual, on-call firefighters who respond to emergency situations when needed.

Our Auxiliary Firefighters respond to a wide variety of emergency incidents, including structural and environmental fires, road accident rescue, swift water rescue, technical rescue and deliver community education, just to name a few.

As a member of the QFD team, you will be an integral part of the front-line emergency and disaster response in Queensland.

Your role is crucial to protecting Queensland's people, property, and environment from harm. You'll have the opportunity to give back to your community and get paid to make a difference.



How to apply?

Anyone who is currently an Australian or New Zealand citizen or Australian permanent resident, who has held a manual C class Driver's Licence for at least a year and is at least 18 years of age can be an Auxiliary Firefighter.

You also need to have or be eligible for a Blue Card and live or work within a reasonable distance to an auxiliary fire station, so you can quickly respond when required.

You can submit your application online at www.fire.qld.gov.au

We recommend visiting your local station if you're interested in applying to find out more about the role of an auxiliary firefighter, or contact us on 4676 6000.

A Big Welcome To Balonne's New Councillor

The Balonne Shire warmly welcomes newly elected Councillor Sheila Marshall.

With over 40 years in healthcare - from frontline nursing to leading regional hospitals - Sheila brings deep experience, compassion, and a strong sense of service.

A former army nurse and now a small business owner, she's dedicated to empowering families through sustainable living and health education.

Sheila's long-standing community involvement, including her work with the QCWA and local markets, reflects her commitment to grassroots leadership.

Her vision for a healthier, more connected Balonne is clear: practical action, strong rural voices, and a Council that puts community first.

Councillor-elect Marshall said she was elated to be elected to the Council.

"I'm incredibly honoured and humbled to have been



declared the successful candidate in the Balonne Shire By-Election", said Councillor-elect Marshall.

"To every resident who took the time to vote - thank you, your participation in this democratic process matters deeply, and I'm grateful for your trust and engagement.

"To my fellow candidates, thank you for your commitment and respectful participation, as it takes courage to step forward and put your name on a ballot.

"I am really looking forward to serving the residents of Balonne as a Councillor."

Councillor-elect Marshall will undertake her Declaration of Oath on 28 August 2025.

Congratulations, Councillor Marshall!

SOMERSET Storyfest™ is Coming Back to Balonne

SOUTH WEST

It's hard to believe a year has passed since Storyfest South West first arrived in our Shire and we're so excited to have the Somerset Storyfest team returning again with their authors and book-loving festivities!

From the 1st to the 3rd of September 2025, St George will again host a celebration of storytelling, creativity and community.

Storyfest is more than a festival—it's a year-round commitment to nurturing, reading and storytelling through workshops, masterclasses, and Author events.

Whether you're an aspiring writer or a passionate reader, Storyfest South West offers a chance to connect, learn, and be inspired.

Don't miss this opportunity to experience the power of words and the joy of storytelling right here in Balonne.



Meet The Authors



PIP HARRY

Pip Harry is an acclaimed Australian author whose middle grade novels *The Little Wave*, *Are You There, Buddha?*, and *August & Jones* have earned CBCA and

literary award recognition. Her latest works include picture books *Over or Under?*, *The Inside Dog*, and YA verse novel *Drift*, released July 2025.



ANDY GEPPERT

Andy Geppert is an award-winning children's author and illustrator known for his warm, witty style. His books *MEEP* and *Australian Backyard Birdies*

have earned national acclaim, including CBCA and Book Design Awards. Andy's heartfelt storytelling continues to captivate readers and celebrate the everyday with charm and creativity.



LIV LORKIN

Liv Lorkin is a children's author and illustrator creating heartfelt stories that explore complex themes with hope. Her latest book, *Sage and the Journey of Grief*, draws from personal experience.

Liv has self-published 13 titles and illustrates from Dharawal land—often with tea, puzzles, and garden inspiration by her side.



LILI WILKINSON

Lili Wilkinson is an award-winning author of 20 books for children and teens, including *A Hunger for Thorns* and *How To Make A Pet Monster*. She founded the

Inky Awards, holds a PhD in Creative Writing, and lives in Melbourne with her family, dog, and three chickens.



LOUISE PARK

Louise Park is a bestselling author with over 400 published titles across children's, education, and adult genres. Writing under multiple names,

she brings imagination and adventure to life—battling beasts, solving dramas, and discovering magical worlds. For Louise, every day as a children's writer is a brand-new adventure!



MATT STANTON

Matt Stanton is a bestselling children's author and illustrator with over one million books sold. Known for *There Is a Monster Under My Bed Who Farts*, and

Fluff: Mess UP!—a 2025 CBCA Honour Book—he also creates a daily YouTube show for kids, blending humour, creativity, and storytelling from his Sydney studio.

Program Highlights!



Monday 1 September
4pm - 6pm
The Hub, St George

Prologue Party

FREE EVENT!

Enjoy all the fun of the fair with games and activities. The festival bookshop will be open during this event, it is a great opportunity for adults and children to browse the bookshelf and find that perfect book.

Variety of dinner and beverage options available for purchase.



Pencil to Plate STUDENT DINNER

Andy Geppert vs. Matt Stanton -
who will win the title of best illustrator?

Tuesday 2 September | 5pm | St George Library
Tickets: \$40 pp - Ages 10+, or 6+ only with a guardian

Join top children's illustrators Andy Geppert and Matt Stanton as they cross canvases before a table of fierce, but fair, young judges. A vibrant competition of skills and creativity, students will steer the artists' illustration and decide who remains standing.



Storyfest ADULTWORKSHOP

Tuesday 2 September | 3:30pm | St George Library
Tickets: \$50 pp

Generation Alpha are the first true digital natives. As screens become ever-present and change speeds up, how can parents and educators build confident readers in this new world?

You'll learn 7 essential literacy skills, the role of handwriting for reading, how to balance books and technology, and more!



Reading THE DARK

The Power and Purpose of Emotionally Complex
Stories for Young People

Tuesday 2 September | 5:30pm | St George Library
Tickets: \$30 pp - Adult Panel Session

What happens when we give young readers books that explore the raw, the real, and the difficult? Join celebrated author Lili Wilkinson as she chairs a vital discussion with authors Pip Harry and Liv Lorkin around the importance of emotionally complex stories for children and teens.



TICKETS AVAILABLE

Tickets are required for most events with the exception of the Prologue Party. Ticket prices vary, please refer to the individual event for more information. To purchase your tickets, visit <https://www.storyfest.com.au/southwest/tickets>



Dirranbandi Fountain Redesign Honours Local Legacy

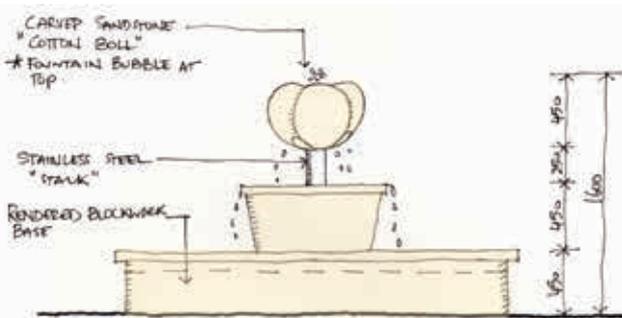
Dirranbandi is set to receive a newly redesigned fountain, honouring the legacy of the late Des Stephenson, visionary founder of Cubbie Station - Australia's largest cotton farm.

The Stephenson family has proudly approved the new design, which will have a three-tier structure, featuring a cotton boll shaped design carved from marble or concrete and mounted on a stainless-steel stem.

Water will bubble from the top and over the striking sculpture, echoing the original fountain's style while symbolising Des's pioneering contribution to the region's cotton industry and irrigation development.

The fountain will be a celebration of Dirranbandi's agricultural heritage and the community's enduring connection to its land and legacy.

This project was listed in Council's 2025/26 budget, with removal of the existing fountain to occur in the coming weeks to make way for the new designed feature.



Balonne Receives RV Friendly Status

After a concerted effort, the St George Region team has now secured RV Friendly status for St George, which marks the final piece in the puzzle of becoming an RV Friendly Shire with Bollon, Dirranbandi, Mungindi, and Thallon already holding the coveted status.

The RV Friendly status is recognised by the Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia (CMCA) and the new RV Friendly signage is a big win for the Balonne Shire, boosting the visitor experience and proudly showcasing our commitment to welcoming RV travellers with open arms.

The feedback received over the years from the travelling community has sparked valuable conversations and opportunities for growth, paving the way for more welcoming and inclusive experiences.

We were able to meet CMCA's requirements after persistent and proactive engagement, resulting in a new partnership with the Kapunda Riverfront Tourist Park, which now offers low-cost camping for self-contained travellers.

With official town signage on the way, St George is ready to roll out the welcome mat and we are genuinely excited to host adventurers from near and far.

Western Queensland Council Leaders Meet In Balonne

Local government leaders from across Western Queensland gathered in St George on 19-20 August 2025 for the 6th annual Western Queensland Alliance of Councils (WQAC) Assembly.

This event brought together representatives from across the 25 WQAC member Councils covering an area from the Gulf to the NSW border, as well as senior State and Federal government Ministers, local industry services and the community.

With the theme “As the seasons rise and fall” – a nod to Banjo Paterson’s In Defence of the Bush – the program explored the resilience, adaptability, and future opportunities of a region that continues to deliver, while weathering the peaks and troughs of all seasons across its vast rural and remote areas.

The assembly heard from experts in their field and discussed a range of issues from regional development, digital connectivity, Agtech, water security, mental health, Olympics opportunities, youth engagement, the energy transition, biosecurity and much more.

Mayor Samantha O’Toole welcomed the chance to host this year’s assembly in St George.

“As an alliance of western Councils, we share so many common issues and our annual assembly is always a great opportunity to discuss topics, challenges and solutions”, said Mayor O’Toole.

“Hosting the Assembly allows us to shine a light on our part of the State – our industries, our

landscapes, our local businesses and our communities – and to continue to progress the important work that WQAC is advancing.

“We are so pleased with how this year’s assembly went, and I would like to thank everyone involved in making this event go so smoothly and showcasing our region in such a positive light.”



Bumble Tree Planting Ceremony Along Balonne Highway

On Friday, 1 August 2025, a number of local organisations and indigenous leaders gathered near Whyenbah Road on the Balonne Highway to plant native Bumble trees - a species known for supporting biodiversity and thriving in dry climates.

This ceremonial planting included Indigenous leaders and representatives from South West Indigenous Corporation, St George State High School, South West Hospital and Health Service, Mayor Samantha O’Toole, and Balonne Shire Council CEO Michelle Clarke.



Each organisation also received a Bumble tree seedling for their respective organisations, with the rest to be planted in the Bush Garden.

The event was a proud moment of unity, growth, and cultural respect for all involved and celebrated connection to Country and community collaboration.

Queensland Road Safety Week

With Queensland Road Safety Week 2025 occurring 18–22 August there were calls on all road users to unite under the theme “We’re One Team Queensland, Let’s Drive Like It.”

With 302 lives lost on roads last year, this statewide initiative urged individuals, groups, and organisations to commit to safer driving.

Ambassador Billy Slater highlighted the “Fatal Five” driving risks, encouraging all Queenslanders to work together to reduce road trauma.

The campaign highlighted key safety topics including speeding, driver distraction, drink and drug driving, fatigue, and seatbelt use.

Whether you’re a driver, rider, pedestrian, or parent, everyone has a role in reducing road trauma.

Scan the QR Code for more information.



Asset Removal – Old Bollon Playground

Balonne Shire Council is refreshing Walter Austin Park by removing the older front playground and shelter, which have proudly served the Bollon community for decades.

While these much-loved assets have passed their end-of-life, the newer riverside playground will remain for continued enjoyment.

Once removed, the area will be transformed into green space with turf and irrigation, creating ample space for outdoor play and activities.

This renewal project supports Council’s commitment to quality infrastructure and smart asset management, ensuring Bollon’s public spaces remain safe, vibrant, and welcoming for all.

CALLING ALL VENDORS!

Is your Market Stall Permit in date?
Have you considered selling your creations?

FOOD / COFFEE VANS

CREATIVE MAKERS

COMMUNITY VENDORS

MARKET STALLS

BUSKERS / MUSICIANS

The Communities team is busy planning events which are soon to be announced.



Make sure you’re good to go!

UPDATE YOUR PERMIT TODAY!

Email: cdo@balonne.qld.gov.au

Supporting Your Health: Meet Nicholas Lockhart, Chronic Disease Nurse

Nicholas Lockhart is the Clinical Nurse for Chronic Disease in the St George Community and Allied Health Team, working to support residents in managing long-term health conditions.

His role focuses on continuity of care, especially for those living with conditions like diabetes, heart disease, asthma, and kidney disease.

Nicholas provides a wide range of services including care planning, Aboriginal Health Checks, Heart Health Checks, diabetes risk screening, lung function testing, and cancer screenings, plus diabetic foot checks, vaccinations, and health assessments for those aged 75 and over.

His goal is to prevent complications and support healthier lifestyles through regular monitoring and early intervention.

Acting as a gateway to coordinated care, Nicholas helps patients set health goals and connects them with allied health providers and specialists.

His services are available to people of all ages, with a focus on older adults.

He's available at:

- **Goondir Health Service** – Mondays & Wednesdays
- **St George Medical Centre** – Tuesdays & Fridays
- **St George Hospital** – Thursdays

Nicholas offers health checks, care planning, screenings, and referrals to specialists. To book, call:

- **Community & Allied Health:** 07 4620 2265
- **St George Medical Centre:** 07 4625 5344
- **Goondir Health Service:** 07 4625 5040

Speak with your GP to start a care plan and take control of your health today!



NICHOLAS LOCKHART

Chronic Disease Nurse

Supporting residents in managing long-term health conditions

SERVICES:

- ✓ Cancer Screenings & Health Checks
- ✓ Diabetes Risk Screening & Foot Checks
- ✓ Care Planning & Early Intervention
- ✓ Referrals to Specialists

Take control of your health today!

GOONDIR HEALTH SERVICE
MON & WED - 07 4625 5040

ST GEORGE MEDICAL CENTRE
TUE & FRI - 07 4625 5344

ST GEORGE HOSPITAL
THU - 07 4620 2265

SILVERSMITHING WORKSHOP

with Rodney Hammond From The Mobile Jewellery Tutor

Sat 20 - Sun 21 Sept
9am - 5pm both days
\$120 Per Person
Cultural Centre St George

Learn the art of crafting your own stunning silver jewellery
For bookings & enquires phone Rodney Hammond 0403 956 133

The Regional Arts Development Fund is a Queensland Government Initiative through an Arts Queensland and Balonne Shire Council partnership in support of local arts and culture.

RATES REMINDER

10% DISCOUNT PERIOD ENDS 5:00PM 12 SEPTEMBER 2025

Payment options are listed on your rates notice and it can be paid in person, by mail, BPay or credit card.

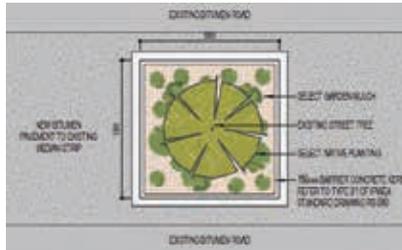
To update your details, or to discuss interest free payment plans, contact Council on (07) 4620 8888 or email: rates@balonne.qld.gov.au

Bollon Median Strip To Receive Upgrade

In line with Council's 2025/26 budget, Bollon's median strip through the centre of town is set to be upgraded with sealing and defined planter boxes.

The goal of these upgrades is to beautify the main strip of Bollon to improve the functionality, and visual amenity and reduce dust in the unsealed section.

This Bollon median strip upgrade is in line with the Bollon Master Plan, which involved detailed community consultation and was adopted by Council in March 2021.



Plan for individual planter boxes



Concept plan for Bollon median strip upgrade



Plan view of Bollon median strip upgrade



Moonie River Beef Challenge 2025 Nears Its Finale

The Moonie River Beef Challenge 2025 is nearing the end!

With the end of term for their steers in mid-August, the competition is getting tight, and the organisers would like to thank all involved in the significant growth of this year's challenge.

What started as an idea to raise funds for Chaplaincy in the Balonne, has become a massive initiative with an impact reaching far and wide, as Granite Belt Chaplaincy and Oakey team-up to raise money for their Chappies.

Across all three regions, the Beef Challenge has 87 steers, which is a great effort, but the Beef Challenge doesn't end in August.

The Gala Dinner is on 6 September with the team getting together to celebrate the success of the Moonie River Beef Challenge and to find out who our 2025 winners are.

If you're interested in attending, please check out Balonne Cluster Chaplaincy on Facebook, or email challenge@moonieriverbeef.com.au for more details.

WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK!

St George and Balonne Shire **NEWS**

JULY 2025

Cuts and Conversation
Youth worker uses his barber skills to connect with teens.
Full story Page 7.

Enjoyed the first issue of St George & Balonne Shire News?
Let us know!
TAKE THE SURVEY

DISCOUNT

50%

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS GREAT DEAL!

Dog Registration Discount Period ends 5pm Sunday 31 August 2025

REMEMBER!
Dog Registration is due by **31 August 2025**

ENVIRO-COLUMN FIRE ANTS



Fire ants are quite small at 2 – 6mm



Fire ants are one of the world's most invasive species and can have devastating consequences on our environment, economy, human health, and outdoor way of life. They can inflict painful stings and have the potential to restrict everyday activities such as barbecues, picnics, and sporting events.

To have the best chance of eradicating fire ants from Australia, we need to work together as a community.

Fire ants are copper brown in colour with a darker abdomen, quite small at 2–6 mm, and found in a variety of sizes within the one nest.

Early fire ant nests look like loose soil with no obvious entry hole. Mature nests can appear as dome-shaped mounds or be flat and look like a small patch of disturbed soil. All nests have no obvious entry or exit holes.

Be careful not to get too close, as fire ants are aggressive. They swarm when disturbed and have a painful sting.

If you suspect you've seen fire ants, call 13 22 68 within 24 hours of sighting.

For more information, scan the QR Code below.



Our Local Police Awarded for Their Service

A huge congratulations to our dedicated local Police officers that were celebrated recently at the QPS Roma Patrol Group Honours & Awards Ceremony for their outstanding service to the community.

At the ceremony, Senior Sergeant Megan Down was awarded the National Police Service Medal, the National Medal and the Domestic & Family Violence Protection Award.

Sergeant Curtis Jope received the Exemplary Conduct Medal with Disaster Management clasp.

Senior Constable Prue Appleby received the Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Award for the Safe St George Partnership.

Sergeant Darin Coezter was awarded the Remote Service Medal, and Senior Constable Scott Brookes received his 15 year clasp.

This is an outstanding, and well-deserved recognition for the efforts of our local Police and as a Council and Shire we thank you for the work you do to keep our community safe.



THE LIBRARY LENS



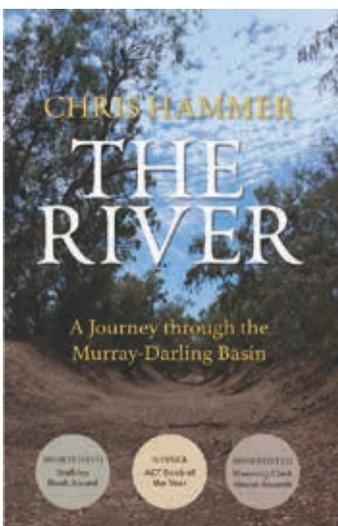
BOOK of the MONTH

The River – A Journey through the Murray-Darling Basin
by Chris Hammer

Join award-winning author Chris Hammer on a journey through Australia's largest river system, the Murray-Darling Basin. His travels during the crippling millennium drought take us through riverland communities, sharing the laughter, sadness and reflections of the people he meets along the way.

The River looks past the daily news reports and their sterile statistics to reveal the true impact of our rivers' decline on the people who live along their shores, and on the country as a whole. It's a tale that leaves the reader with nostalgia for an Australia that may be fading away forever.

First published in 2010, *The River* continues to be read as a history, as a prophecy – and as both. This updated edition includes a new introduction from the author.



Wombats Move In - Powrunna Forest Welcomes Rare New Residents

Fifteen northern hairy-nosed wombats—one of the world's rarest animals—have officially made Powrunna State Forest near St George their new home.

Foundation, brings hope for the species' future—and puts Balonne on the map for wildlife conservation.

Once nearly extinct, with only 35 left in the 1980s, the population has now grown to over 400 thanks to decades of dedicated conservation from the Wombat Foundation and others.

Powrunna becomes the third protected habitat for these iconic Aussie marsupials, with plans to welcome up to 60 wombats to the site.

This exciting milestone, led by the Queensland Department of Environment and Science and supported by the Wombat



CHILD & FAMILY HEALTH NURSE

BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT

St George Community & Allied Health:
(07) 4620 2265

Child Health Nurse Mobile:
0460 840 946

FUN AND FITNESS IN BALONNE

ST GEORGE SQUASH

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

Open to anyone. Beginners Welcome!
Courts available to hire \$10/hour.

Email – stgeorgesquash@outlook.com
Contact Andrew - 0407 992 495 or Hayden – 0407 902 162

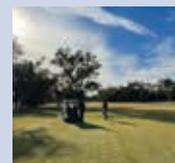


ST GEORGE GOLF CLUB

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

Regarded as one of the best sand green 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 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.



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.



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 for Juniors - Mon & Wed 5:30pm - 6:00pm.
Training for Seniors – Mon & Wed 6:00pm – 7:00pm

For more information, contact Lisa Anderson - 0418 154 104



ST GEORGE SWIMMING CLUB

If you'd like to try your hand at more competitive swimming, the St George Swimming Club 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



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 9:15am and 5:30pm (Pilates), and 5:30pm on Thursdays (Tone class). Classes are held at St Patrick's Church Hall on Balonne Street. For PT inquiries and more information, phone Tori - 0447 080 872



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 0413 084 891



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



ST GEORGE AQUATIC CENTRE - WINTER HOURS

Tuesday to Sunday: 11am - 4pm

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 0400 633 519



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 out what kind of dance we are currently teaching or for further information visit our Facebook page at "Let's Dance St George"



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



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



Out and About in Balonne

Mungindi Show 2025



NAIDOC 2025 - Tree Planting Ceremony - St George Hospital



Roadworks UPDATE

COMPLETED ROADS THROUGH JULY:

- Gunnindaddy Road
- Ingaby Road
- Thungaby Road
- Wonolga Road
- Thomby Road

WORKS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY:

Diamond Tank Road

- Expected completion: early September
- Construction is ongoing, one crew working.
- Expected traffic delays less than 5 minutes.

Fernlee Road

- Expected completion: mid September
- Construction is ongoing, one crew working.
- Expected traffic delays less than 5 minutes.

Teelba Road

- Expected completion: mid September
- Construction is ongoing, one crew working.
- Expected traffic delays less than 5 minutes.

Byra Road

- Expected completion: early September
- Construction is ongoing, one crew working.
- Expected traffic delays less than 5 minutes.

Ballangarry Road

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

Denholm Road

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

UPCOMING WORKS:

- Dalkeith Road – mid September
- Littleton Road – late September
- Jhelum Plains Road – mid September
- Noondoo-Mungindi Road – early September
- Openbah Road – late August
- Narline Road – late August
- Kilcummin Road – early September
- Golf Club Road – mid September
- Nulky Road – late September
- Old Bullamon Road – late September



BALLANGARRY ROAD



DIAMOND TANK ROAD



FERNLEE ROAD

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TOURISM EVENT GRANTS

Got an amazing idea for an event?

Applications Open 1 August until 1 September 2025

PLEASE NOTE - This round of tourism event grants is for events to be held within the first half of 2026 - from 1 Jan to 30 June

St George Region SCAVENGER HUNT

YOU'LL BE Hooked

SCAN TO FOLLOW THE CLUES!

BALONNE SHIRE JOB OPPORTUNITIES

In Balonne Shire we have a broad range of job opportunities.

Either scan the QR Code or visit:

<https://www.balonne.qld.gov.au/Live-and-Work/My-Employment>