MURWEH MESSENGER WORKING TOGETHER TOWARDS OUR VISION WHERE MURWEH SHIRE EMBODIES COMMUNITY, DIVERSITY, GROWTH AND ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES

ISSUE 1 | AUGUST 2023

HALFWAY THERE SHINDIG GOES OFF

Community News Upcoming Events Council News



AUGATHELLA CHARLEVILLE COOLADDI MORVEN

www.murweh.qld.gov.au

Contact Council

Phone: (07) 4656 8355

After Hours: (07) 4656 8355 (and follow the prompts)

IN PERSON: 95-101 Alfred Street, Charleville Qld 4470

IN WRITING: All correspondence should be forwarded to:

The Chief Executive Officer

Murweh Shire Council

PO Box 63

Charleville Qld 4470

Email: mail@murweh.qld.gov.au



CONTACT YOUR COUNCILLOR

Mayor Cr Shaun (Zoro) Radnedge M: 0419 363 030

E: shaun_radnedge@murweh.qld.gov.au

Cr Michael McKellar

M: 0438 830 383

E: michael_mckellar@murweh.qld.gov.au

Cr Paul Taylor

M: 0438760339 E: paul_taylor@murweh.qld.gov.au

Cr Peter Alexander

M: 0417 905 435

E: red_alexander@murweh.qld.gov.au

Cr Robert Eckel

M: 0438 870 101

E: robert_eckel@murweh.qld.gov.au

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From the Chamber

WELCOME to the revamped *Murweh Messenger!* With this fresh format, we aim to keep our residents updated on the latest happenings in your Shire.

In this edition, we cover the Augathella Experience, a remarkable project brought to life by the Augathella Progress Association. Discover all about the new interactive display that is now open for everyone to enjoy.

Additionally, we present the much-anticipated details of the Council's 23/24 Budget. This comprehensive information will provide valuable insights into the plans and developments shaping our Shire.

We highlight the success of the Halfway There Shindig event, taking you back to the moments that brought our community together in celebration.

As responsible pet ownership is crucial, we provide updates on the upcoming new dog laws from the QLD government, which will come into effect at the end

of the year. Stay informed on what's expected to ensure the well-being of our furry companions and the harmony of our community.

We also feature the inaugural Made it to Morven event that took place in June! Relive the magic and excitement of this fantastic gathering that showcased the talents and spirit of our community.

As disaster season approaches, being prepared is essential. The Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) are calling for volunteers, and we have included information on how you can contribute your time and make a difference.

We hope you enjoy this new and improved version of the Murweh Messenger. Our team has poured their hearts into creating this newsletter, and we eagerly await your feedback and suggestions. Together, let's continue building a stronger and more connected Murweh Shire community.

Happy reading!

NAIDOC WEEK: A POWERFUL AND UNFORGETTABLE CELEBRATION!

CHARLEVILLE EXPERIENCED a vibrant and culturally rich NAIDOC Week, celebrating Indigenous heritage. Events included the NAIDOC Netball Competition, NAIDOC Sunday Mass, and the grand NAIDOC Open Ceremony at the High School. Elders Morning Tea, 3 on 3 Basketball, NAIDOC @ Waroona, and the NAIDOC Community March highlighted unity. Health and wellness thrived with NAIDOC Park Run and breakfast at "Graham Andrews Park." The Junior Rugby League Indigenous Round at Charleville Showgrounds closed the week with young talents showcasing their prowess. The community came together, fostering understanding and appreciation of Australia's Indigenous cultures. A powerful and unforgettable celebration!

Thank you to everyone who submitted artwork into the RESQ+ Charleville NAIDOC Art Competition 2023. Judges for this year's competition were Mayor of Murweh Shire Council, Shaun (Zoro) Radnedge, Team Leader of RESQ, Paulina Martinez, and Luke Robinson from 4RR, as seen in the image.



🗺 An Australian G

GRANTS GRANTS GRA

Regional Development Australia, Darling Downs and Southwest, is an organisation that actively supports the growth and development of regional communities across the region by promoting and disseminating information on government policy initiatives for the benefit of local communities. There is a large array of grants available that may be applicable to residents, organisations and businesses.



Scan the QR code to check out available grants and head here: https://www.rda-ddsw.org.au/current-grants/

Australian Government Initiative

Regional Development Australia







Local Government Election Date Confirmed

Mark your calendars, as the official date for the 2024 Local Government Election has been announced! On Saturday, March 16, 2024, Murweh residents will head to the polls to exercise their democratic right and choose the local government representatives for the next four years.

To ensure everyone is well-informed and prepared for this significant event, the Electoral Commission of Queensland (ECQ) has launched its dedicated 2024 local government elections page. This resource provides candidates and electors with all the necessary information they need. Stay informed by visiting: www.ecq.qld.gov.au/ elections/election-events/2024local-government-elections.

The power to shape our communities lies in our hands, so let's make sure to be active participants on March 16, 2024. Together, we can make a difference and contribute to the betterment of our Shire.









BACK IN 2024

Australia's most remote and richest amateur golf series spanning an epic 1,650+ kilometres across Queensland's outback, the 2024 Outback Queensland Masters is set to return to Charleville in 2024. Staged over six consecutive weekends, 15 June – 21 July, the tour moves from Birdsville to Quilpie stopping in Charleville and offers \$10,000 hole-in-one challenges culminating with the million-dollar hole-in-one challenge in Quilpie. The competition attracts players from every state of Australia, some travelling some 10,000 km to compete in Queensland.

Charleville's Creative Lane 2023

Charleville's annual Creative Lane, organised by the Charleville Cultural Association, has been gaining popularity beyond the Shire's borders, so this year's looks to be bigger and better than ever. This year's event will take place on the 15th, 16th, and 17th of September, 2023 at the Cultural Centre, tucked behind the Mulgalands Gallery. With six expert tutors on board, the event will offer 217 workshop spaces and host 21 workshops in total. Exciting workshops await participants, including wood carving sessions with Theresa Darmody, barbed wire art by Grace Gray (Barbed Balls), Macrame with Elise Heather (Elise Heather Designs), Copper Foiling led by Michele Hollister (Mihardwork), soap and candle making by Felicity Aitken (Bloom into you by Felicity), and cake decorating and bread making classes with Janeen McIntyre (The Accidental Caker).Mark your calendars and get ready for a creative and enriching experience at Charleville's Creative Lane 2023!



Coming to Charleville

Twinkle and the Moon is an interactive, theatre and literacy experience for children aged 2 - 7 years and their families. Twinkle & the Moon will be performed by its creator Nadia Sunde, Nadia is one of Queensland's most celebrated and highly acclaimed children's theatre writers and performers. An internationally and nationally awarded children's songwriter, she is also the author of three published children's picture books, a highly experienced early childhood music and story arts educator, former ABC radio presenter and mother of two. The Western Touring Circuit is supported by the Regional Arts Development Fund, a partnership between the Queensland Government and Murweh Shire Council to support local arts and culture in regional Queensland.

To find out more information contact Murweh Shire Council Customer Service or follow Council's Facebook page.





Saturday 7 October 2023

We are seeking Charleville locals to share their cultural heritage with the community. Food stalls, cooking demonstrations, music, dancing, singing, cultural activities and displays.

For more information please contact Sue - 0402651101 or Jenny - 0429637137.

DOG REGISTRATION REMINDER: Time to Re-register Your Furry Friends!

Attention all dog owners! It's that time of the year again. Dog registrations are now due, unless your pooch already has a lifetime registration.Don't worry, it's super easy! Call into any Council office and re-register your furry family members. Make sure your pooch stays officially a part of our community.



MURWEH MESSENGER

Get to Know the CEO **Event Strengthens** Community Bonds

The "Get to Know the CEO" event was held at the Mulga Lands Gallery Art Gallery on Tuesday, July 25th. Sabine Taylor, CEO, expressed gratitude to the community members who attended. She posed an intriguing question, asking what they would wish for if she had access to fairy dust, that got everyone thinking about what they'd wish for an ideal world. The event fostered unity and left attendees excited about the future.



Snap, Send, Save is an easy and efficient way to notify the council about issues that need addressing in our community. Individuals using the SNAP, SEND, SOLVE app have helped many communities across Australia successfully address issues like illegally parked cars, dumped rubbish, and abandoned trolleys. However, there's even more that can be done with this tool. Attention to AusPost Boxes could play a significant role in ensuring reliable postal services. Should anyone observe a box that needs maintenance, is marred by graffiti, or requires repair, a quick snap on the app can set the resolution process in motion. Moreover, the public transport system, a lifeline for many, could greatly benefit from watchful eyes. A snap of any issues noticed at stations, stops, or onboard trains and trams, sent via the SNAP, SEND, SOLVE app, can aid in maintaining smooth operations. Available on the app store.



Delve into the Charming World at the AUGATHELLA EXPERIENCE

NESTLED IN THE HEART of Augathella, the newly constructed Augathella Experience immerses visitors in the rich history and captivating tales. From interactive touch screen displays to engaging stories on the walls, this unique attraction offers a journey through time that will delight both young and old.

At the heart of the Augathella Experience lies a cinema screen that showcases behind the scenes footage of the renowned Smiley movies. This endearing tale was based on the 1945 book by Moore Raymond, who, as a child, lived in Augathella and drew inspiration from his surroundings.

It tells the story of a young Australian boy who is determined to buy a bicycle for

four pounds. Along the way he gets into many misadventures. Moore Raymond also co-wrote the film with Anthony Kimmins. Their screenplay received a Best British Screenplay nomination at the BAFTA awards.

Nearly all of the cast were Australian and filming took place at a fictional township of Murrumbilla – based on Auguthella – recreated on an estate at Camden Park, Gundy NSW.

Visitors can view the full length Smiley films at the Boadicea Cinema and Gallery located at the Rural Transaction Centre in Augathella.

The movie theatre within the Augathella Experience offers more than just the Smiley Movies. Visitors can also indulge in a collection of short film documentaries, curated in collaboration with the Bidjara people, the traditional owners of the land. These films shed light on the rich cultural heritage and profound connection the Bidjara people have with the Augathella region.

The involvement of the Bidjara Elders in the planning of the Augathella Experience ensures a respectful and authentic representation of their traditions and contributions to the area.

The Augathella Experience would not have been possible without the generous funding from the Federal Government and the support from the Murweh Shire Council. This project has been a long-time dream for the Augathella Progress Association, which first presented the idea years ago. To bring this vision to life, Link Interactive, a commissioned team with a personal connection to Augathella, having strong ties to Colin Peterson, the actor who played Smiley in the movies, joined forces to create an immersive experience that will capture the hearts and imaginations of all who visit.

Note: For those unfamiliar with the Smiley stories, the character Smiley is often compared to an Australian Huck Finn—a likable boy who stumbles into misadventures, capturing the hearts of audiences.

Lots to Do in the Library

Membership is free for everyone, you're never too young to sign up (proof of address required). Tourists cards are available for people travelling throughout Rural Queensland, join for free and take your reading on the road!



The Charleville Library holds a Children's Storytime session every Wednesday, 10:00am at the Charleville Library for children aged 0-5 years. This program includes storytelling, rhymes, singing, dancing, and activities. For more information, please contact the Charleville Library on 0458 641 319 or (07) 4656 8361







First 5 Forever fortnightly sessions will be starting in Augathella and Morven dates to be announced



Free e-resources with library membership:

BorrowBox – Your library in one app! Download and get access to the latest e-books and audiobooks.

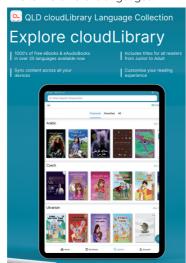
ROW FOR UPLIFTING STORIES

QLD Libraries App - Access your entire Queensland Library account

all from your phone! Manage loans, reservations, access e-resource apps, search through catalogue and reserve books, DVD's and more!

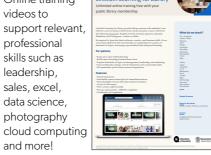


Cloud Library Language app – Explore free eBooks and audiobooks in over 25 different languages.



Parent TV - On-demand videos aiming to support to the parenting and care of children from birth to teens.

WE HAVE TWO SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES FOR ALL THINGS LIBRARY:



Charleville, Morven & Augathella Libraries



magazines in a variety of languages. Enjoy ebooks, audiobooks &



Libby - Enjoy eBooks, audiobooks, and

magazines all in one app! Over 4000

StoryBox - Watch celebrated stories read aloud by favourite storytellers and let your imaginations fly!



Kinderling - Explore music, stories, programs, and sleep all in one app designed for kids and loved by parents.



Linked In -Online training videos to support relevant, professional skills such as leadership, sales, excel, data science,

Available in a variety of languages.



COULD YOU BE AN 'ON-CALL' **FIREFIGHTER?**

Help the community and get paid. It's a win-win.

WHAT ARE AUXILIARY FIREFIGHTERS AND WHAT DO THEY DO?

Auxiliary firefighters are casual on-call firefighters who respond to emergency situations when needed. They are members of local communities. Everyday people who balance their work, study and family commitments with the 'on-call' role of an auxiliary firefighter.

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.

WHAT DOES IT TAKE?

The role is both physically and mentally challenging. You'll need to be able to respond when required and be up for dealing with intense and sometimes confronting situations.

There will be periods of intense physical activity. You may need to wear breathing apparatus and protective clothing. You will be working in hot and humid environments and sometimes in confined spaces. You will be met with challenging situations, including dealing with casualties.

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 licence for at least a year OR holds a manual medium rigid driver licence and is at least 18 years of age can be an auxiliary firefighter.

You also need to have or be eligible for a BlueCard and live or work within a reasonable distance to an Auxiliary Fire Station so as you can quickly respond when required.

Submit your application online at gfes.gld.gov.au/careers-andvolunteering.





THE HALFWAY THERE SHINDIG GOES OFF

Music lovers, campers and festival-goers descended upon Charleville for the "Half Way There Shindig" in droves. What initially began as a stop-over for thirsty travellers en route to the Big Red Bash in Birdsville has grown into a standalone celebration.

With almost 800 people in attendance, the night hummed with an excitement. "The night was excellent, there was a real buzz in the air," said Mayor or Murweh Shire, Shaun (Zoro) Radnedge. "It was one of those magic nights."

Despite the surrounding storm clouds, the rain graciously held off, setting the stage for a fantastic night under the stars. The evening air was crisp, but not uncomfortably cold, adding a refreshing layer to the lively atmosphere.

Musical acts were led off by Russell Dewhurst from Roma, and followed by the much-anticipated performance by the Two Tone Pony band, featuring Slim Dusty's son, David Kirkpatrick and then the ever-popular Robbie Mortimer, Toyota starmaker competition finalist,

A variety of events captured the evening, with the highlight being the performance

of the 30 year anniversary of Slim Dusty's beloved song 'Charleville' performed by his son David Kirkpatrick and his band Two Tone Pony. Robbie Mortimer joined in for a thrilling duet.

The audience was captivated by the heartfelt tribute, reminiscing the timeless charm of the iconic song. Their performances set a euphoric mood, with festival attendees swaying to the music, lost in the rhythm and melody.

The night was lit up with the mesmerising display of the Fire Drums that illuminated the darkness and cast dancing shadows around the festival. Additionally, the classic car show was a sight to behold, showcasing sleek and vintage vehicles, much to the delight of the automobile enthusiasts present.

But it was the spirited Cooee Competition that drew roars of laughter and cheers from the spectators, making it an event to remember.

The festival grounds were alive during the day two. The pavilion was bustling with a lively market, offering an array of local products and crafts.

From dusk till dawn, the Half Way There Shindig was more than just a music festival. It was a celebration of community spirit, an homage to the town's cultural vibrancy, and a testament to the unifying power of music.

WHAT STARTED AS A PITSTOP IS TURNING INTO AN EVENT IN ITS OWN RIGHT







It was a night that locals and visitors alike will remember for years to come.

"You think this was good," said Mayor Shaun (Zoro) Radnedge. "lust wait till next vear."





Mayor Shaun (Zoro) Radnedge **Unveils Fiscally Responsible Budget** to Foster Community Growth

THE MAYOR of Murweh Shire, Shaun (Zoro) Radnedge, proudly presented the Shire's 23/24 budget, reflecting a robust financial plan focused on responsible spending and community development. With a total budget of \$54 million, excluding depreciation of \$7.3 million (representing 20% of Council's total expenditure), this year's budget is a testament to the Shire's commitment to prudent financial management.

Mayor Radnedge expressed his enthusiasm for the budget, stating, "This budget is a sound plan to support the growth and well-being of our community. With the support of state and federal grants, we will continue to invest in projects and make Murweh a better place to live and work for our residents and visitors."

The funding for this year's budget is sourced from a diverse range of revenue streams, including both rating and

non-rating sources. Notably, capital and operating grants from federal and state government sources have played a vital role in bolstering the Shire's financial resources. The Council actively pursues these funding opportunities to support community projects and initiatives.

To ensure the smooth functioning of essential services, there will be an average increase of 7% in rates and utility charges. Across the board this reflects an average 5% rate rise across all sectors. The pensioner remission will rise by \$20 to \$400 for the year. Additionally, the interest on rates will experience a moderate increase from 8.17% to 11.64%.

Recognising the importance of investing in infrastructure, the budget allocates approximately \$25.1 million for capital expenditure. Leveraging Queensland and Federal Government grants and subsidies, which amount to \$18.7 million, the Council will contribute \$4.8 million towards capital projects. Notably, 73% of the total capital expenditure will be dedicated to new or upgraded assets, while the remaining 27% will be allocated to the renewal of existing assets



In line with prudent financial management, the Council will allocate \$211,118 towards existing loans, reaffirming its commitment to reducing debt. Furthermore, the Council does not plan to borrow in the new financial year, ensuring a stable financial outlook

Murweh Shire Council Takes a Stand for **Responsible Dog Ownership and Community Safety**

IN AN EFFORT to promote responsible dog ownership and ensure the safety and harmony of the community, the Murweh Shire Council have taken a stand on enforcing local laws concerning our furry companions.

The council is emphasising several crucial rules that every dog owner must follow. To maintain a balanced environment, the town's residential areas permit a maximum of two dogs per property. Additionally, all dogs over three months old are required to be registered annually. For those who choose to desex and microchip their dogs, there's an attractive lifetime registration option with a one-time fee of \$25.00. This move not only keeps track of all dogs but also contributes to curbing the number of unwanted dogs in the region.

A growing concern in the Shire has been the presence of dogs wandering around freely, resulting in various complaints and incidents. To address this issue, the council has taken a tough stance, allowing council officers to impound any dog found wandering at large. To retrieve pets the owners must pay the impoundment fees.

Furthermore, Council is taking a proactive approach to deal with dogs that have attacked or caused fear to residents. Such dogs may be declared dangerous, leading to stricter measures to ensure the community's safety.

In a recent press release, Council highlighted that responsible pet ownership went beyond mere compliance with the law; it was a moral obligation to the community. Recent incidents of dogs attacking and causing disturbances, even impacting mail deliveries, had underscored the importance of being responsible and considerate dog owners.

The State Government had launched a significant initiative, "Strong Dog Laws: Safer Communities," seeking public consultation to gauge support for more robust dog regulations. The Mayor Radnedge called upon all residents to actively participate in the survey, stating, "While we all adore our dogs, some can pose serious dangers. We've witnessed unfortunate incidents involving attacks on community members and even council workers. Now was the time for us to have our say and contribute to making our communities safer."

Residents could access the discussion paper and provide feedback through the official website until midnight on Thursday, 24 August 2023.

Taking the lead in responsible dog ownership and active participation in

Courseil to homour form
Desexed and Micro-ch must be presented) Life
2 dogs only permitted Dogs to be microchipp

Desexed dog (proof required)	No GST	s97(2)(a)	\$30.00
Entire dog owned by pensioner (proof required)	No GST	s97(2)(a)	\$50.00
Entire dog (male/female)	No GST	s97(2)(a)	\$91.00
Registration for (2-5 per animal not desexed)	No GST	s97(2)(a)	\$120.00
Replacement Dog Tag	No GST	s97(2)(a)	\$5.00

Application Excess Dog Excess dogs Annual Permit Renewal



shaping stronger dog laws, Murweh Shire Council is determined to create a secure and harmonious environment for everyone. For further information on Council Dog Laws or to pay your dog registration please head to the Murweh Shire Website -Animals

DOGS

per household (register at 12 weeks/3 months of age) bed - vet certificate if unable to microchip dog

nipped (Certificate e Time Fee	N/A
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Council to honour for next 10 years current dogs registered under this class

Excess dogs (above 2 at any residence) - each dog registered, approval from Council

No GST	s97(2)(a)	\$126.00
No GST	s97(2)(a)	\$50.00



A NIGHT OF FUN AT THE INAUGURAL "Made it to Morven" EVENT

THE MORVEN Recreation Grounds buzzed with excitement on the 30th of June as the inaugural "Made it to Morven" night, organised by the Morven Progress Association, took place. Despite the chilly weather, the evening was a celebration that brought together familiar faces and new friends together. The crowd was treated to a great performance by the talented Maggie's Music.

Another highlight was witnessing Morven's very own Les Heaydon showcase his captivating sheep shearing skills. Both young and old in the audience were thrilled by this unique display, celebrating the town's rich connection to the wool and sheep industry.

In addition to the fantastic live music the night was filled with lively activities. Attendees enjoyed live music, a bar, and a delicious BBQ, adding to the overall festive atmosphere. Families with kids had a blast with the free activities specially arranged for the little ones.

The success of the first "Made it to Morven" night has left everyone eagerly looking forward to more celebrations like this, as it is a testament to Morven's vibrant spirit.







THE COSMOS

Lots on in the night sky, and in the **Cosmos Centre**

• 2nd Full Moon • 5th Saturn rising earlier and now visible on our night tours • 14th–16th Perseids meteor shower at its peak but visible all month. Best facing North early August hours of the morning in the constellation Perseus. One of the brightest showers of the year with 60-100 meteors per hour. 16th New Moon • 31st Full Moon 15th New Moon • 27th – Moon and Saturn conjunction September (beside each other in the sky) • 29th Full Moon • 2nd Moon and Jupiter conjunction 15th New Moon • 17th Jupiter rising earlier and now visible on our night tours • 20th Orionids meteor shower at its peak, October the second shower in the year caused by Comet Halley. Best facing North throughout the night in the constellation Orion. Potentially 20 meteors per hour. • 29th Full Moon SM



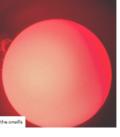
Join our team of Guides and reach for the stars! Murweh's iconic Cosmos Centre, Charleville is looking for casual guides to take locals and visitors on a journey to explore and discover more about the wonders of our skies!

We provide on the job training to give you the foundation



For more information and to apply go to vww.murweh.qld.gov.au/employment





Sun Viewing Tours

The sun recently let out a massive trio of solar flares culminating in a spectacular coronal mass ejection. Learn about and see these events in real time on our Sun Viewing tours



Small and Personal Tours

To get the most out of the viewing experience, the Centre runs Small and Personal tours. As the sun sets, the Cosmos Centre sets up their Star Cannon for the opportunity to have a truly close-up experience with the night sky. Our 30-inch Star Cannon telescope is able to peel away at the universe, revealing hidden secrets that will inspire all ages.



Cosmos Centre Theatre

Get out of the weather and enjoy some videos and stories about space in our theatre. Part of your free entry to Astronomy By Day includes access to our theatre room where we play an up-to-date list of curated NASA videos. https:// www.experiencecharleville.com.au



Our Planetarium

Many wonder how we can operate during cloudy nights - it's all thanks to our state of the art planetarium!

Able to digitally project the live night sky, our planetarium allows us to see the stars through cloud rain or storm. Providing incredible views of not only the objects in the current night sky, but anything we could possibly want to see! With images sourced by the Hubble Space telescope, you'll get a view unlike any other.

So if you're ever hesitant to come by because of the weather, don't worry, we've got it covered.

WE ARE HIRING

Become a Cosmos Tour Guide

Want to learn more or already enthusiastic about astronomy and space? Apply at the Charleville Cosmos Centre!



Experience Charleville Outback Queensland

START YOUR OUTBACK ADVENTURE WITH US

BOOK YOUR ADVENTURE WITH US EXPERIENCECHARLEVILLE.COM.AU