



Murweh Mail

RESTORING THE HEARTBEAT OF OUR COMMUNITY!

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

The months of April and May have certainly been a challenge since the significant recent rain event swept through the South West of our state. However, as the flood waters slowly move south and communities begin to get back on their feet, the Outback is alive with colour and incredible beauty.

All roads through the Murweh Shire are now open, with visitors beginning to steadily flow through our region. Breathing life into our new tourist season, several events were held in the shire including a fun-filled Easter long weekend in Augathella and the massive Queensland Music Festival's "Outback Sounds" concert held in Charleville on Saturday, May the 3rd, an event at which we welcomed special guest, the Honourable John-Paul Langbroek, State Minister for Education and the Arts. It was so good to see wonderful crowds attend these events, which is awesome for the Murweh Shire.

I recently had the pleasure of presenting to the Queensland Parliamentary enquiry into volunteering. As we know, volunteers play an invaluable role in our four communities and certainly need to be thanked and appreciated. May I take this opportunity, on behalf of Council, to thank each and every one of our great volunteers who do an incredible job in so many ways throughout the Murweh Shire.

THE VIETNAM NURSES MEMORIAL GARDENS OFFICIALLY OPENS IN MORVEN, ALONGSIDE ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIONS

The Morven community experienced the most wonderful couple of days beginning on the evening of April 24th with the opening of the Vietnam Nurses Memorial (VNM) Gardens which provides the framework for Honour Boards that bear the names of all of the nurses we have been able to identify as having been deployed to Vietnam between 1964-1972 members of either the Civilian Medical/Surgical Teams, the Royal Australian Air Force Nursing Service or the Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps. The VNM Gardens were opened

We welcomed six Vietnam Veteran nurses, all of whom feature in the first stage of the VNM, and several of their families. members Additionally, we also welcomed about forty members of the Push to the Bush contingent, which is a group of mostly, but not only, Vietnam Veterans and their partners who travel each year to a bush location to participate in ANZAC Day Services. While here, the group ran a raffle which raised

by Joanne Mahoney, Nurse Manager,

RFDS Charleville Base.

\$3400 for Farm Angels to go to people who were impacted by the Western Queensland flood event. Their generosity of spirit shines on despite the challenges they have faced as Veterans.

Slipping quietly into ANZAC Day, our first ever, very beautiful Dawn Service was led by the Rev Cam Venables, Bishop of the Western Region. It was followed by breakfast Community Hall. Our ANZAC Day March was at least twice its usual size and preceded another memorable 11 am Service led by Will Roberts. With his strong connection to SWQ, it was very to have Captain Alec Mackenzie, C Sqn, 5th Aviation Regiment, deliver a truly inspiring and moving address during which he delivered these words to live by,

'In a time of significant overseas and domestic turmoil, when it often feels like most of the country can't agree on anything, the continued dedication of all but the fringe elements of Australian society to honour our servicemen and women fills me with pride. To see how a

Left:Trish Ferguson, RAANC, Ann Sierakowski, RAANC, Jo Mahoney, RFDS Charleville, Bev Milner, RAAFNS, June Naughton, RAANC, Anne Young, RAAFNS, Janet Glasson Civ Surg Teams, Di Dowrick RFDS Charleville, Kylie Newsome RFDS, Charleville

Right: Jo Mahoney, Nurse Manager RFDS opened the VNM Gardens



Captain Alec Mackenzie

small town like Morven places such importance on the day, and the effort gone to commemorate it not only on that day, but perpetually through memorials is incredible to see. The belief that this country, that we are all lucky enough to belong to, with all of its accomplishments; and its faults, was and continues to be worth defending is one of the core threads that binds us together as Australians.'

The Vietnam Nurses Memorial is the only one in Australia dedicated solely to the Australian women who nursed in Vietnam. Except for Christmas day and Good Friday, it is open daily from 10am-4pm.



"OUTBACK SOUNDS" LIGHTS UP THE SHOWGROUNDS

The 2025 Queensland Music Festival's Outback Trails wrapped up in spectacular fashion with "Outback Sounds" at the Charleville Showgrounds on May 3. Over 1,000 country music lovers gathered under a cloudless outback sky to celebrate the final night of this incredible musical journey.

The atmosphere was electric as Golden Guitar winner, James Johnston, delivered а powerhouse performance, captivating the crowd with his signature country sound. He was joined by a stellar lineup, including Bronson Diamond Greta Stanley, Bella Mackenzie, Nine Year Sister, the 2025 Outback Trail Ambassador, Taylor Moss, 2025 Toyota Star Maker, Felicity Kircher and more.

The night was a perfect blend of music, community, and the rugged beauty of the outback, bringing together locals and travellers alike for an unforgettable experience.

Beyond the music, the event featured food and market stalls, art displays, and a true sense of camaraderie, making it a fitting conclusion to the 1400km journey across Queensland's outback.

From Roma to Charleville, the festival showcased the rich culture and musical heritage of the region, leaving attendees with memories to last a lifetime.

As the final notes faded into the night, "Outback Sounds" proved once again that music has the power to unite, inspire, and celebrate the heart of the outback. Bring on 2026!











EMBRACE YOUR POWER BY SUPPORTING SURVIVORS

- Listen and believe them.
- Honor boundaries within the relationship.
 - Create a non-judgmental space.



HONOUR BESTOWED UPON LONG-TIME RFSQ VOLUNTEER

For nearly 14 years, Lance Melksham has been a proud Rural Fire Service Queensland volunteer based in Charleville with his years of tireless service being acknowledged with the presentation of a RFSQ Award by Rural Fire Service Queensland Chief Officer, Kaylene Jones.

As Lance explains, "I was originally approached by a serving member who asked me to join RFSQ and, with my knowledge gained from working in the bush, it would be a good fit for me and a chance to give back to the community. It feels good to be a part of the RFSQ knowing you are helping the community, plus the training you receive, the mateship fellow you have with other firefighters and people you meet extremely rewarding. We join up not for the medals but to help our community however having ceremonies and medal presentations shows recognition of what we do.

I am very honoured to receive mine and greatly encourage anyone thinking of volunteering to have a go as it's one of the most rewarding things you can do"

Volunteers are the heart of a thriving community with the Murweh Shire being a prime example. They offer their time, skills, and compassion to create meaningful change with contributions that strengthen social bonds, support those in need, and enhance the quality of life for everyone.

helping Beyond others, volunteering also brings personal rewards with new friendships, valuable experiences, and the deep of satisfaction knowing you've made a difference. It fosters a sense of belonging and purpose, reminding us that even small acts kindness can have profound impact.

Deputy Chief Officer, Matthew Inwood, Lance Melksham and Chief Officer, Rural Fire Service Queensland, Kaylene Jones

Communities such as ours rely on the generosity of volunteers, and there are endless ways to get involved. Whether you have an hour a week or a few days a month, your contribution charities, Local matters. schools and community groups are always in need of passionate individuals willing to lend a hand.

So, why not take the first step today? Reach out to local organisations or simply ask around - our community will welcome your support with open arms. Together, we can create positive change, one act of kindness at a time.



AUGATHELLA PLAYS AN INTEGRAL ROLE IN 2025 OUTBACK QUEENSLAND MASTERS GOLF TOURNAMENT

2025 Outback Oueensland Masters is set to bring its unique golfing adventure to Augathella on June 28 & 29. This event, part of a sixweek tour across Queensland's outback, offers amateur golfers from right across Australia the chance to compete in one of Australia's most remote tournaments. Players will experience the rugged beauty of the region while vying for prizes, including the coveted Million Dollar Hole-In-One challenge. Augathella, known for its rich history and country hospitality, will welcome golf enthusiasts from across the nation, providing a memorable stop on this epic 1,900-kilometre journey.

Minister for Tourism & Sport, Michael Healy says, "The Outback Queensland Masters is a unique event in Queensland's calendar and I'm excited to see the schedule for this year's tournament".

Outback Queensland Tourism Association CEO, Denise Brown said this award-winning event draws visitors from far and wide to explore our region's natural wonders and vibrant communities.

Golf Australia Events General Manager, Therese Magdulski added, "In the event's sixth year, we're making our way to towns we haven't visited in the series before, including Augathella, located in the Murweh Shire."

Murweh Shire Mayor, Cr Shaun 'Zoro' Radnedge also acknowledges the importance an event such as the Outback Masters brings to our region. "Sport is a great way to showcase communities as well as local tourism. Murweh Shire is proud to welcome the Outback Queensland Masters and to have the event held in Augathella is great for one of our satellite towns. It only brings economic development but allows Augathella the chance to showcase their great community to a wider audience. Murweh wishes all players the best of luck in the tournament and hopes they enjoy this wonderful Meat-Ant community!"

To find out more, visit www.outbackqldmasters.com

Are you ready to tee off in the outback?

BE PART OF QUEENSLAND'S BOLD VISION FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

Together with industry and key stakeholders, the Queensland Government is embarking on a transformative journey, focusing on innovation and collaboration to design a 25-year blueprint for a better future to 2050.

Recognising global, national and local shifts affecting our primary industries makes this transformative change necessary.

To commence this journey, around 250 industry representatives from agriculture, fisheries, forestry, biosecurity, research, investment and government came together on 26 February at the Queensland Primary Industries Forum to discuss ideas.

You're now invited to provide feedback on the draft 25-year blueprint for a thriving future for Queensland's primary industries. The draft blueprint,

Primary Industries Prosper 2050,

has been co-designed with industry and other stakeholders as part of a staged consultation.

It's critical that everyone with a stake in agriculture, fisheries, forestry and biosecurity have the opportunity to shape the future of the sector as the backbone of our economy and communities.

Join the conversation on what a bold and ambitious future for Queensland's primary industries looks like. The draft blueprint is now open for public consultation until 5.00 pm on 9 June 2025.



Visit the DPI Engagement Hub to download the draft blueprint, full view the schedule of consultation activities and provide feedback.







SISTER NOW AT THE WEBSITE #OUTBACKQLDMASTERS.COM



If you can't attend in person, complete the survey online.

Scan the QR Code to visit the DPI Engagement Hub.

RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP

Being a pet owner is a rewarding experience that comes with responsibilities. Pets rely on their owners for food, shelter and care intertwined with lots of love.

The following tips are basic requirements for being a responsible pet owner:

- Proper nutrition for an animal to remain healthy and happy: remember to include feeding them bones which are good for both cats and dogs as it assists with healthy teeth.
- Regular exercise: daily exercise also assists with keeping your animal happy and healthy. Undertaking exercise with your pet allows for increased bonding and understanding your pet's personality.
- Veterinary care: regular check-ups, vaccinations and prompt treatment will eliminate illnesses and injuries.
- Grooming: keeping your pet clean and well-groomed is good for their overall health and well-being. Give them baths, brush them and trim their nails (if needed).
- Providing a safe, comfortable environment for your pet is important. You should provide a cozy bed, toys to play with (especially if you are absent from the house during the day), and a secure outdoor area for the animal to wandering and explore. Your animal should not wander outside of your urban allotment.

DOWN MEMORY LANE -GUESS THE OBJECT

The answer to the April photo was an old airport runway light from the Charleville Airport. Well done to those who guessed correctly!

Can you guess what this historic item could be? Send your answers to daryl_kirkup@murweh.qld.gov.au



- Attention from owner: pets thrive on attention, spending time playing and being with your pet will keep them happy and remove loneliness (which can cause barking or other nuisances).
- Training and socialising with other animals: animals are like people, they love to spend time with other animals, and they need to behave appropriately towards other animals. You as the owner must provide the guidelines and discipline for your pet, to avoid their behaviour becoming unacceptable.
- Proper identification: proper identification such as a collar, tag or microchip provides an easy way to identify your pet and have it returned safely should it escape your secure enclosed yard or animal run.



 Responsible breeding practices: if a pet owner chooses to breed their pet, they must meet the guidelines of Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008. It is a pet owner's



responsibility to prevent their animal from breeding unwanted animals, and it is an offence to bring or allow an animal that is 'on heat' to wander at large.

- Decision making: pet owners must be prepared to make tough decisions regarding their pets, such as 'end of life' or rehoming.
- Keeping of pets within an urban area has legal responsibilities for the owner.
 Should you be found breaching these responsibilities, you may be fined.





Council's Local Law & Subordinate Law (Animal Management), as well as more information about pet ownership in the shire, can be found here: https://www.murweh.qld.gov.au/Community-and-Services/Services/Animals or simply scan the QR Code.



CHARLEVILLE'S WWII SECRET BASE WELCOMES BEST-SELLING AUTHOR ALLI SINCLAIR

In 2025, Charleville's World War II Secret Base aims to expand their community engagement as a tourism facility by reinvesting profits into the local community through a partnership with Charleville Library/Murweh Libraries with the goal to enhance the ANZAC traditional Day commemorations.

After hearing about bestselling author, Alli Sinclair and her novel "The Codebreakers," they arranged to host this award-winning author, producer and screenwriter for two very special events.

The first was a "Museum After Dark" experience which was held on ANZAC evening, featuring an Author Q&A session, designed to complement the Library's existing Writers Friday Group while offering something new and engaging.





The following day, Alli conducted a writers' workshop for members of our Murweh community.

On the educational front, the Library provided tremendous support by organising scavenger hunt throughout Charleville that highlighted our town's WWII history, an event that successfully encouraged locals connect historical narratives that are part of the WWII museum's Additionally, mission. Library created an interactive display featuring people and animals involved in WWII with the First Five Group also contributing by colouring poppies, which remain on display at the base.







WHAT'S ON AT THE LIBRARY?

Get ready for a fun-filled showdown as Murweh takes on Maranoa in the **Battle of the Shires: LEGO Build-Off**, kicking off Thursday, June 5 at the Charleville Library.

This exciting series of build sessions is a collaboration between Murweh Shire, Anglicare Southern Queensland, and Maranoa Regional Council and is designed to reconnect local families, young people, and individuals through creative, inclusive LEGO-building sessions. Participants collaborate to build imaginative and historical LEGO scenes in a fun, supportive environment. These sessions promote social connection, creativity, and improved mental wellbeing.

It's open to all ages - so whether you're a seasoned LEGO architect or a curious beginner, come along and build for your shire!

LEGO Donations Wanted!

To make this event a success, we are urgently seeking donations of pre-loved LEGO. If you have any bricks to spare, please drop them into the Charleville Library. Every brick helps build a better battle!

New at the Library: Dyslexia-friendly reads & Manga for young adults.

B Dyslexia-Friendly Collection

We've recently launched a selection of books designed specifically to support readers with dyslexia. These resources feature specialised fonts, layouts, and paper stock to reduce visual stress and make reading more enjoyable and accessible for everyone.

Manga Collection Expansion

Fans of Japanese graphic novels will be thrilled to hear that our manga section is growing! With titles that appeal to ages 10-20, from action and fantasy to romance and mystery, there's something for every reader to dive into.



POLICE BEAT

the colder months fast approaching, many residents of the Murweh Shire will be lighting the fireplace and turning the heater up. Unfortunately, these colder months are also the times that Police attend the most house fires (often started by fireplaces and heaters). This is a timely reminder to make sure your fireplaces and heaters are not left unattended and to check batteries in your smoke alarms.

It is also the time of year where the Murweh Shire attracts large numbers of tourists which increase amount of traffic on our roads.

Accordingly, Police urge all residents to always remain attentive whilst driving and exercise patience with new visitors to our shire who may not know the roads.

CHARLEVILLE The Blue Light Social Circuit is a safe and welcoming place

for young people (high school age) to hang out, socialise and participate in activities that promote well-being and social connection.

Wednesday 3:15 - 4:15pm Charleville Race Course - upstairs

Permission forms at the school office or see Buddy Peacock for more information









SCHOOL ZONE

Charleville State High School Students - Ready for the **Future**

Work Experience - Year 10 We are very excited to be in the final stages of planning and

organisation for the 2025 Work Experience Program for students in Year 10. We are so fortunate to have the support of continued the businesses of the Murweh Shire who continue to partner with CSHS. This program enables our students to gain valuable skills within a workplace, and to greatly assist them as they transition towards their post school pathways.

Careers Education Camp 2025

Charleville State High School senior students will have the opportunity to engage in a multi-day careers education camp in July. Students will travel from Charleville, stop in Roma for industry visits, before travelling on to Toowoomba. Students will visit campuses of TAFE, Uni SQ, and UQ-Gatton Campus, as well as a range of industries and the Tertiary Expo.

This has been made possible partnerships through HOPE and RESQ+ and the work of our Senior School Deputy & Industry Liaison Officer.

Minister Visit

In May, we had the privilege of welcoming the Honourable Mr John-Paul Langbroek - Minister for Education & The Arts to Charleville State High School.





Students and Educators with Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP

Every day counts

MOST STUDENTS ATTEND SCHOOL EVERY DAY

rtant that children are at ol all day, every day 🖽 🖯

OK reasons to stay home from school sick 😭

EVERY DAY AT SCHOOL COUNTS

Missing even 1 day can make a



od attendance begins in Prep

good habits begin

ATTEND ALL DAY, EVERY DAY





A community initiative to increase school attendance

absenteeism and truancy impact significantly on students' learning and wellbeing. Research shows that in Oueensland, higher student attendance is associated, on average, with higher student achievement. Additionally, attending school every day helps children to build social and emotional skills such as communication, teamwork and resilience.

Under the law, you must make sure your child is enrolled and attends school on all school days unless there is a reasonable excuse. Schools me monitor attendance of students and follow up with parents and caregivers any unexplained absences. Students who are enrolled at school, cannot be engaged in paid employment during school hours



Plan for success

Wherever possible, plan for holidays and appointments outside of the school day/term to ensure your child does not



Be on time & stay for the day

Have routines in place to ensure you child arrives ready for school and remains at school for the day.



Find solutions to reduce barriers

Seek support from the school or one of the many support agencies in Charleville















Special Memories Made at St Mary's Mother's Day Picnic

The community spirit was alive and well at St Mary's School, Charleville recently as families gathered together at our Mother's Day **Picnic** to celebrate the important role of mothers and all those who nurture and care for others. The morning began with a beautiful Mother's Day Liturgy, led by the Prep students, who honoured mums, grandmothers, and all

This was followed by a relaxed community, "we are so grateful picnic morning tea on the to all those who joined us. school grounds, students and their families making enjoyed time together, sharing celebrating the special women laughter, food. conversations. Adding to the spirit of St Mary's - faith, family, fun were a range of class-run and community." activities, giving families a chance to join in games, crafts, special photo and booth Principal moments. Megan Pearce said the event was a wonderful reminder of the

the special women in our lives. strength of the St Mary's where Seeing families together, memories and and in our lives, really captures the





QCWA RECIPE OF THE MONTH:

Banana Bran Cake

Ingredients:

2 ¼ cups All Bran 2 cups milk

1½ teaspoons bi-carb soda

3 mashed bananas

2 eggs

1½ cups SR flour

1 cut sultanas

2 cups chopped dried apricots

1/4 cup crushed nuts

1 tablespoon coconut

½ cup currants

1 cup sugar or sugar substitute such as Splenda

Method:

- 1. Set the oven to moderate heat.
- 2. Place All Bran, chopped apricots and soda into a basin and cover with milk.
- 3. Leave to soak for 10 minutes.
- **4.**Add the sultanas, sugar, flour, eggs and mashed bananas. Mix thoroughly.
- 5. Transfer mixture to a greased and floured 20cm cake tin.
- **6.**Sprinkle the top of the mixture with crushed nuts, coconut and currants.
- 7. Bake in a moderate oven for 1 hour or until cooked.

LOCAL DISCOUNT FOR MURWEH SHIRE RESIDENTS

Did you know Murweh Shire residents can access exclusive local discounts for most tours at our fantastic tourist attractions right here in town?

It's our way of saying thank you to the community and encouraging locals to explore the amazing experiences on offer in their own backyard.

Take advantage of this 20% discounted entry to attractions like the Charleville Cosmos Centre, the Bilby Experience, the WWII Secret Base and more.

If you're booking online, use the discount code **LOCAL20**, and if you're booking in store, make sure you let our friendly staff know that you qualify for the discount.

Come along, support our tourism industry, and rediscover the wonders of our region!

For more information, drop into the Charleville Visitor Information Centre or call (07) 4656 8359.



Branch Meetings are held the first Saturday of the

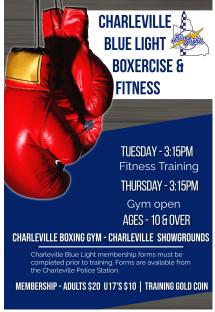
Contacts: Judy Connolly (President) 4654 2274 or Jill

MacDonald (vice President)

month.

0488 169 805







CHARLEVILLE COSMOS CENTRE

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT IN JUNE





With school holidays just around the corner, June is shaping up to be a busy and exciting month here at the Charleville Cosmos Centre!

From our free self-guided interactive area and Sun Viewing Tour to our three immersive planetarium shows and the unforgettable Outback Stargazing Show, there's something for everyone - whether you're a seasoned space enthusiast or a curious first-timer.

This month is especially magical for star lovers. The winter solstice falls on June 21st, marking the shortest day - and longest night - of the year. Longer nights mean more time under the stars, and the crisp winter air often brings clearer skies with reduced cloud cover, making stars appear even brighter.

Adding to the stellar conditions, we're fortunate to have a new moon on June 25th, just days after the solstice. This results in exceptionally dark skies - perfect for stargazing and experiencing the awe of the cosmos without light pollution.

Don't miss the Bootid meteor shower, active from June 22 to July 2, peaking at dawn on June 27. Look toward the constellation Bootes for your best chance to catch this spectacular display.

With the holiday season upon us, spots fill quickly! Be sure to book early to avoid disappointment.

And a special offer for our locals: use the promo code LOCAL20 to receive 20% off most tours in the Murweh Shire - just our way of saying thank you to our local community.

Hey Kids!

While colouring in this farm scene, here's some farm jokes to make you laugh!

Why did the farmer buy a brown cow?

He wanted chocolate milk!

Where do baby cows go for lunch?

• The calf-eteria!

How long do chickens work?

Around the cluck!

What do you call a sheep with no legs?

· A cloud!

"Support Services for Murweh Shire"

In an emergency call Triple Zero (000) to be directed to Police, Ambulance or Fire Brigade

- *Charleville Hospital 46 212 200
- * CWAATSICH 46 543 277
- *Mental Health 1300 642 255
- *Carer Gateway 0422 029 296
- * Drug Arm 0428 815 635 / 0436 913 602

Helplines

- * Beyond Blue 1300 224 636
- * Mensline 1800 600 636
- * Relationships Australia 1300 364 277
- * Parents Helpline 1300 364 100 * Sexual Assault Helpline 1800 010 120
- * Lifeline 13 11 14
- *Family & Child Connect 13 32 64
- *Child Safety Intake 1300 683 390

*Murweh Shire Council 46 568 355

* Centrelink 132 850

- # Domestic Violence Support
- 1800 Respect 1800 737 732 * DV Connect 1800 811 811
- * Elder Abuse Helpline 1300 651 192
 - * Far West Indigenous Family Violence Service 0428 600 677 *Lifeline 1300 991 443

Legal Service Support

- * Charles Legal Service 46 541 144
- * South West Solicitor 46 543 805
- * Rural Women's Legal Service

- 1800457 117 / 1800 957 957

Housing

- * Charleville Neighbourhood Centre 46 541307
 - * Department of Housing 46 99 46 00
 - * Ray White Real Estate 46 212 888
- * St Vinnies De Paul 1800 846 643 * Charleville Lifeline Shop 46 88 37 12

#First Nations Support

*Centrelink Indigenous Call Centre

0746 379 953

* Brother to Brother 1800 435 799 * Aboriginal Family Legal Service

1800 185 950

* Aboriginal & Torres Strait

46 541 721

Islander Legal Service

* 13 YARN 13 92 76

1800 136 380 *Goolburri Family Wellbeing Service



