



PAROO SHIRE COUNCIL MONTHLY UPDATE

Community enables us to welcome and help people in a way we couldn't as individuals

MARCH 2025



UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

- 18th March
- 15th April
- 20th May
- 17th June
- 15th July

JOB VACANCIES

- Environmental Field Officer
- Waste Treatment Plant Operator
- Building and Facilities Officer
- Operations Manager (Infrastructure)
- Multi Combination Truck Drivers
- Procurement Coordinator

For more info see

**[www.paroo.qld.gov.au/
council/employment](http://www.paroo.qld.gov.au/council/employment)**

COUNCIL NEWS

Message from the CEO

With all the recent wild weather the proposed SWROC deputation visit to Queensland parliament was postponed and will now be undertaken on 31st March and 1st April. Mayor Beresford and I will be attending on behalf of Paroo Shire Council, meeting with most Ministers to push for better outcomes for the SWROC region.



While the Ministerial deputation was rescheduled the LGAQ Civic Leaders Summit was still held. Some 100 delegates from across Qld attended the Summit including Mayor Beresford, Deputy Mayor Brain and I for professional development training. Sessions included Successful Advocacy, Councillors Obligations and Right to Information, Executive Well Being and Self-management, Strategies for Sustainable Organisational and Workforce Change.

Harmony Day is celebrated on the 21st of March and a staff BBQ breakfast was held to coincide with this important event on Tuesday 18th. Council staff are currently preparing next year's budget estimates with the budget to be handed down June 2025.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW STAFF

Paroo Shire Council would like to welcome our new staff on board:

Mia Woods - Reception Administration

Archie Bowman - Reception Administration

Pauline King - Senior Finance

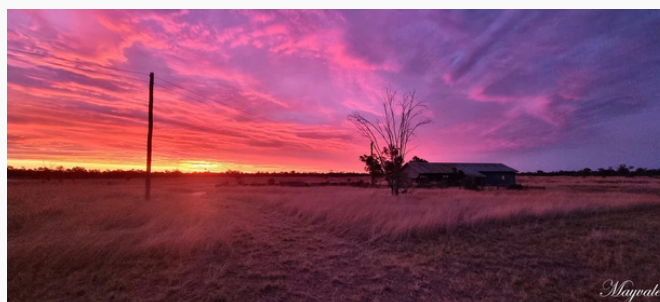
Mark Franklin - Senior Plumber

Jim Abbott - Treatment Plant Operator (3 months)

Amanda Watson - Infrastructure Administration

Daneille Lancaster - Media, Marketing and Communications

Marsha Bolitho - Casual Community Support (Mat Leave Relief)



We'd like to congratulate the February winner of the 2025 Paroo Shire Photography Competition! "Sunset at Mayvale Station" by **Katelyn Swinn**

March entries are now open!

<https://cunnamullatourism.com.au/whats-on/photo-competition/>

WELCOME TO PAROO 2025

'Welcome to Paroo' was held on 5th March, with approximately 105 community members in attendance and seven displays of services from within the district.

It was a great night of fun, introductions and barefoot bowls. Thank you to everyone who came along to welcome our new community members and share information about businesses, sporting clubs and services within the Paroo Shire.



If you are new to Paroo and you'd like a welcome pack pop into council and pick one up from our friendly reception staff.

THE GREAT OUTBACK TREASURE HUNT IS ALMOST HERE!

We have 16 teams, and 65 participants registered, bringing a boost to our wonderful region for an action-packed weekend of adventure from the 5-6 April.

Over the weekend, teams will complete tasks, solve riddles, and uncover hidden treasures with a \$10,000 grand prize for the top team and individual treasures scattered along the way for those lucky to uncover them.

Join us in welcoming those travelling to the Paroo Shire as we raise funds for the RFDS. A big thank you to our sponsors, Ergon Energy Network, Lowes Petroleum Service, RACQ and Sunwater.



FREE EVENT!



The Funny Mummies Cabaret Spectacular features a unique blend of music, comedy and characters, centred around themes of motherhood and parenting. The incredibly talented performers, each of whom is accomplished in her own right, are guaranteed to keep you engaged.



Congratulations Jarib!
We are proud to announce Jarib Branfield-Bradshaw was selected as the YMCA 2025 Youth Member for Warrego.

Jarib has also been placed on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships Committee. Well done, Jarib!

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Paroo Shire Council celebrated International Women's Day, with 25 women attending a special breakfast held at Wildflowers Cafe on 6th March!

The atmosphere was fun, and everyone had an opportunity to catch up. Big thanks to Amy Palmer and Francesca Reid for making delicious food and drinks for us. And thanks to everyone who came and celebrated with us!



TOURISM UPDATE

Outback River Lights Festival Program is Here!

The Outback River Lights Festival is set to light up our town from April 11-13, promising a vibrant mix of food, creativity, and free live music! The festival kicks off with the Long Table Dinner & Show Under the Stars, offering great food and exclusive entertainment on Friday 11th April, but you'll have to hurry, tickets are almost gone! Competitions for artists and locals to light up their gardens or businesses are underway, with \$2,500 in cash prizes to be won and entries close on 1st April.

The festival also features a variety of workshops, from food and art to circus skills and fire-twirling! For a different experience, enjoy country racing at the Noorama Picnic Races on April 12th. Tickets for the dinner, workshops, and other activities can be booked online or at the Visitor Information Centre, as well as entry forms for the art or garden competitions. If you'd like to stay updated be sure to mark yourself as 'INTERESTED' on the festival's Facebook event via the Cunnamulla Fella Visitor Centre Facebook page.



THE PLACE FOR YOUR WASTE

A wise owl once said, "Dodgy dumping when there is a free dump just up the road is fowl".

The Shire's Refuse Facilities are open 24/7 and completely free. Let's all work together to make the dumps within our Shire the only place for your waste.

The Cunnamulla refuse facility is just off the Old Charleville Road, follow the signs.



FESTIVAL PROGRAM OF EVENTS

ALL WEEKEND:

Festival Arts & Sculpture Competition - Works available for viewing in the Cunnamulla Fella Visitor Centre Art Gallery from 9am.

Festival Light Up Your Garden Competition - See our website or drop into the Visitor Centre to pick up a Drive Map.

FRIDAY 11 APRIL:

19.00 - 21.00 **LONG TABLE DINNER & SHOW UNDER THE STARS**
 Ticketed Event - Tickets \$120pp - see Visitor Centre for details

SATURDAY 12 APRIL:

9.00 - 18.00 Lantern Making in the Arts Hub all day (FREE)

10.30 - 12.00 **Bush Tucker Masterclass in the Supper Room Kitchen (adj. to Arts Hub)** - Ticketed Event - \$60pp - see Visitor Centre for details

11.00 - 13.00 Circus Workshops - Slackline & Juggling (FREE) - Centenary Park

11.00 - 12.30 Ranger Nick Camp Oven Cooking Show (FREE) - Yarning Tent

13.00 - LATE **Noorama Picnic Races - Noorama Racecourse (alternative option)**
 Located approx. 1hr drive from Cunnamulla

13.00 - 14.30 **Kids Creative Visualisation Art Workshop in Arts Hub**
 Ticketed Event - \$10pp - See Visitor Centre for details

13.00 - 14.00 First Nations Bush Tucker Cooking Demo (FREE) - Yarning Tent

13.30 - 14.00 Roving Circus Performance (FREE) - Centenary Park

14.00 - 15.30 Ranger Nick Camp Oven Cooking Show (FREE) - Yarning Tent

14.30 - 16.00 **Emu Egg Painting & Kooma Cultural Workshop in Arts Hub**
 Ticketed Event (15+) - \$40pp - See Visitor Centre for details.

15.00 - 17.00 LIVE MUSIC - Vixens Of Fall (FREE) - Main Stage

15.00 - 17.00 Fire Twirling Workshop - Staff & Poi (FREE) - Centenary Park

17.00 - 17.15 Official Welcome Address - Kunja Elder (FREE) - Main Stage

17.15 - 17.45 Yidiki Live Performance - Tommy Crow (FREE) - Main Stage

17.45 - 18.15 Kooma Cultural Presentation (FREE) - Main Stage

18.15 - 19.00 LIVE MUSIC - Bluesy Cruisy (FREE) - Main Stage

19.00 - 19.15 Fire Twirling Performance (FREE) - Main Stage

19.15 - 20.00 LIVE MUSIC - Bluesy Cruisy (FREE) - Main Stage

FOOD VENDORS

Cunnamulla Fishing Club - Sausage Sizzle, Burgers & Steak Sangar's

The Spud Stop - Loaded Baked Potatoes

Cherry Blossoms - Asian Delights

And more...

Snacks & Drinks:

♦ Coffee ♦ Smoothies ♦ Frappes ♦ Fairy Floss ♦ Donuts ♦

FESTIVAL PROGRAM OF EVENTS

SUNDAY 13 APRIL:

9.00 - 17.00 Lantern Making in the Arts Hub all day (FREE)

9.00 - 10.00 Bush Poets Breakfast & Camp Oven Damper (FREE) - Yarning Tent

9.00 - 10.30 **Kids Creative Visualisation Art Workshop in Arts Hub**
 Ticketed Event - \$10pp - See Visitor Centre for more details

10.00 - 16.00 Community Markets (All Day) - Centenary Park

10.00 - 12.00 Fire Twirling Workshop - Staff & Poi (FREE) - Centenary Park

11.00 - 12.30 Boomerang Painting & Throwing Workshop (FREE) - Yarning Tent

12.00 - 12.30 Roving Circus Performance (FREE) - Centenary Park

12.30 - 13.30 Ranger Nick Camp Oven Cooking Show (FREE) - Yarning Tent

12.30 - 14.00 LIVE MUSIC - Bluesy Cruisy (FREE) - Main Stage

13.00 - 15.00 Circus Workshops - Slackline & Juggling (FREE) - Centenary Park

13.30 - 14.30 First Nations Bush Tucker Cooking Demo (FREE) - Yarning Tent

14.30 - 16.00 LIVE MUSIC - Lee Griffin (FREE) - Main Stage

15.00 - 16.30 Ranger Nick Camp Oven Cooking - Final Show (FREE) - Yarning Tent

16.30 - 17.30 Fire Twirling Final Workshop - Staff & Poi (FREE) - Centenary Park

16.30 - 17.30 First Nations Bush Tucker Cooking - Final (FREE) - Yarning Tent

16.30 - 18.15 LIVE MUSIC - Vixens Of Fall (FREE) - Main Stage

18.15 - 18.30 Kids Fire Twirling Performance (FREE) - Main Stage

18.30 - 18.50 Festival Lantern Parade (FREE) - Assemble in Front of Arts Hub

18.50 - 19.30 Warrego Floating Lantern Display & Fireworks Finale
 Daryl Land Bridge

19.30 - 19.45 FESTIVAL CLOSE

FESTIVAL SPONSORS:

The Outback River Lights Festival wouldn't be the same without the generous support of our sponsors, so we'd like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank the following organisations for sponsoring these individual events.

PAROO SHIRE COUNCIL Festival & Fireworks Finale	TOOWOOMBA TRUCK SPARES Arts Hub & Lantern Parade
TRAZLBAT PTY LTD Yarning Tent Major Sponsor	ALL ABOUT ONLINE TRAINING Long Table Dinner & Show
CHARLOTTE PLAINS Sunday Live Music & Concert	ALL ABOUT AQUATICS Saturday Live Music
J & L INDUSTRIES CUNNAMULLA Fire & Circus Shows and Workshops	SNAP SEND SOLVE Festival Art & Sculpture Competition
ST GEORGE FREIGHTLINES Light Up Your Garden Competition	TOOWOOMBA TRUCK SPARES Bush Tucker Cooking Classes & Demos
SCHMIDT PLANT HIRE Ranger Nicks Camp Oven Cooking Shows	RESQ+ First Nations Cultural Arts Workshops
TAYLOR SAFETY EQUIPMENT Bush Poets Damper Breakfast	FOURIER TECHNOLOGIES Kooma First Nations Cultural Workshops
PAROO SHIRE COUNCIL Sunday Community Markets in the Park	SCA, HIT FM, 7 CENTRAL & CHANNEL 10 Advertising & Marketing