



# Issue Number 175 December 2019



# **Barcoo Shire Community Newsletter**

# Message From The Mayor

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Dear Barcoo Shire Residents,

As Christmas is quickly upon us, and the 2019 calendar year ends, and the New Year of 2020 is coming like a freight train - it is a good time to reflect on the past and think about the future.

Fortunately, a reasonable area of Barcoo Shire has had a fair season. That said, there are also still properties to the south and southwest that have had little or no useful rain for the year.

This difference in rainfall in Barcoo Shire is also indicative of the extraordinary and extended drought that is now crippling just over 67 per cent of Queensland. This is not to mention the devastation across New South Wales (NSW), where the NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Combined Drought Indicator (CDI) has 99.9 per cent of the state in one of the three drought categories - Intense Drought, Drought & Drought Affected. We are also seeing extensive parts of Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia and the Northern Territory and Tasmania being affected by this unprecedented dry period.

The intense drought conditions and high dry fuel loads on the ground in many of the forested areas of Queensland, NSW and now Western Australia have caused some huge areas of these states to be overcome by bush fires, and in some cases uncontrollable wild fires.



# Message From The Mayor

The fighting and managing of these fires have stretched the resources of Queensland Fire and Emergency Services' (QFES) regular fire fighters and volunteer units from the Urban Fire Service, Rural Fire Services (RFS) and State Emergency Services (SES). It was great to see some of our local RFS Members volunteer to attend the bushfires in south-eastern Queensland. Well done to Glen Forsyth, Brian Dayes and Rob Gordon for giving their time to help our fellow Queenslanders in their time of need, as well as to relieve their exhausted QFES colleagues at the fire front.

The extensive fires and relentless drought have added to a number of other serious natural disasters across Queensland this year. The intensive monsoon trough that just sat over the north and north- west, as well as parts of the central west of Queensland for an extended period in late January and early February caused widespread damage and massive losses of cattle and infrastructure.

In Townsville, approximately 3300 homes were damaged by floodwaters, and about 1500 homes rendered uninhabitable. As many as 30,000 insurance claims were filed in the aftermath of the event, with damages estimated to be \$1.243 billion based on insurance losses.

The torrential rain and bitterly cold winds from the weather system went on to produce major flooding in northern Central Queensland, most of which was severely drought-stricken. In addition to damaged infrastructure such as train lines, as many as 500,000 cattle were estimated to have perished in the ensuing floodwaters and exposure.

One month later, category 4 Tropical Cyclone Trevor caused extensive damage as it crossed the coast in isolated parts of both north Queensland and the Northern Territory. Many areas of the central west of Queensland received very useful rain as the remnants of Cyclone Trevor formed a rain depression and tracked south eastward from the Northern Territory across Queensland.

Still on natural disasters affecting Australians - the volcanic island Whakaari/White Island in New Zealand's north eastern Bay of Plenty region explosively erupted on 9 December with a number of Australian citizens in the crater or on the slopes of the volcano. There were reportedly 47 people on the island at the time of the explosion, and at the time of writing 16 people have been confirmed dead - as a direct result of the eruption, or injuries sustained from the eruption. A further 29 people suffered injuries, many of whom remain critical, and there are 2 people still missing and are presumed dead by New Zealand authorities.

The North and Far North Monsoon Trough event has done considerable damage to roads and public assets across 39 Queensland local government areas, including parts in the northern Barcoo Shire Council area. The restoration of roads and essential public assets in Barcoo Shire under the Australian Government's Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangement (DRFA) will amount to approximately \$20 million. The restoration of these public assets, which is predominantly roads, flood ways and culverts - will keep the Barcoo Shire Council Works and Services busy for the next 2 years, and ensure employment of council staff and sub-contractors.

The past year has been an interesting time in the domestic and international economy, politics and social happenings.

The Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) has had a series of interest rate cuts in a hope to stimulate the Australian economy. With the official interest rate currently at 0.75 basis points, the RBA has not many interest rate decreases left as a way of artificially stimulating the economy. There is a suggestion national governments should be looking at printing currency to help stimulate inflation and encourage investment and growth.

# Message From The Mayor

The steady fall in house prices and lack of business growth has seen the economy stall and potentially move into negative territory for the first time since the global financial crisis (GFC) in 2007-08. There are some signs of improvement in house prices in capital cities such as Melbourne and Sydney particularly, while most regional areas continue to remain with low confidence and lack of housing demand.

The International Monterey Fund (IMF) and central banks across the world are advocating increased spending on public assets to artificially pump-prime the global economy, and to mitigate against many countries falling into a recession or worse, a depression. The Australian central bank, the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) are no different in their advice to the federal and state governments in Australia.

We are seeing the freeing up of public spending across Australia by the bringing forward of some public funded programs like Roads to Recovery (R2R), prepaid Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) and a specific drought program as part of the Building Better Regions program.

The Australian Government has recently announced a further \$1 million to eligible councils through the Drought Communities Program – Extension. This program extension, is a direct response to the ongoing drought, and is intended to help regional and remote communities maintain the local workforces and contractors during this period of reduced disposable income and generally lower local economic activity.

During 2019 there were a number of national and global events that have made news headlines, or have continued to draw attention from the media. Sadly, much of the turmoil across the world from natural disasters, fundamentalist terrorism attacks, civil unrest, the influencing of democratic elections, espionage and hacking etc... and access to the instantaneous news cycles are now so common, that the world continues to be desensitize to the horror, and nothing is of a shock anymore.

The terrorist attack that killed 51 people and injured 50 others at two mosques (Al Noor Mosque and Linwood Islamic Centre) in Christchurch, New Zealand really had an impact on us as Australians and made us feel a pure sense of some responsibility. Both mosques were the target of shootings by an Australia-born person living in New Zealand, and while his actions of abhorrent hatred and intolerance, was rightly condemned by leaders across the world, it did make us all a little less secure in the realisation that - now nowhere is without risk. Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said that this attack was the deadliest mass shooting and terrorist attack in New Zealand's history, and described it as "one of New Zealand's darkest days".

The 2019 Australian federal election was held on Saturday 18 May 2019 to elect members of the 46th Parliament of Australia. The election had been called following the dissolution of the 45th Parliament as elected at the 2016 double dissolution federal election. All 151 seats in the House of Representatives (lower house) and 40 of the 76 seats in the Senate (upper house) were up for election. The second-term incumbent minority Coalition Government, led by Prime Minister Scott Morrison, won a shock, and against all polls, third three-year term against the Labor opposition, led by Opposition Leader Bill Shorten.

The Australian election delivered a similar result as some of the other western world democracies, where the media and pre-election and election polls showed a potentially different result to the eventual election outcome. These elections also showed that the general public were not as wedded to ideology (climate, immigration, free boarders, regressive trade deals and taxation etc...) as imposed by the progressives, and were much more interested in jobs and cost-of-living triggers.

# Message From The Mayor

There is no better example of this trend as we observe the current state of play in the United Kingdom (UK) elections. Where incumbent Conservative Party prime minister Boris Johnson being re-elected after gaining the prime ministership as a result of the resignation of sitting Prime Minister Theresa May. Boris Johnson lead the Conservative Party campaign by promising to deliver on Brexit, as was voted by the British people in the 2016 referendum for the UK to leave or remain in the European Union (EU). The governing Conservative Party achieved a landslide majority of 80 seats in the House of Commons after having lost its majority in 2017, while the Jeremy Corbyn lead Labour Party suffered major losses that resulted in it obtaining its lowest proportion of seats since the 1935 UK general election.

The Australian Royal Commission into Misconduct in the Banking, Superannuation and Financial Services Industry, and now the Aged Care Royal Commission have seen a number of senior corporate heads fall, and some serious fines imposed on banking and financial institutions. I suspect that the Aged Care Royal Commission will uncover serious misconduct and lack of care for our most vulnerable citizens, and the people in our society that should have our greatest respect and empathy and unreserved care for.

The trade wars and caustic exchanges between the United States (US) President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping continue to artificially shake the world economy and provide an environment of uncertainty and reluctance to invest. Fortunately, there are signs of compromise in this US China trade war, as both Donald Trump and Xi Jinping realise that there are no real winners in a prolonged disagreement on the balance of trade between both major economic powers.

China was a constant presence in the news as the Hong Kong protests continue with the once democratic British administered territory struggling to come to terms of being under the control of a state imposed and politically managed communist regime in the People's Republic of China. The Australian Government have being cautious of China, with a number of instances of suspected espionage, political interferences and educational influences - by the funding of elected members expenses, political donations and donations to university programs.

It is no doubt that 2019 has been an interesting year to say the least. We have lost friends and family, learned some lessons, cared for others, hopefully helped were we could in our communities and lived life as best we could.

Let's hope that 2020 is again a time for learning, caring and helping – we will all have our dreams for the years ahead, and we will have resolutions to consider and keep. Let's make 2020 a year of being positive about life and our community. Making sure our fellow citizens are ok, particularly our residents who are aged, unwell or struggling with life. It is a fact, we need each other – it is just how it is, and we should cherish every day we have each other.

There is much to do, whether that is Barcoo Shire Council, local community groups or just personal goals. Our long-term numbers of us continue to dwindle, but I can see change is in the air. We have a number of new families in Barcoo Shire that have boosted my confidence in where we are heading and what we might be able to achieve as a collective group of residents. Please reach out to these latest members of our shire and community - and make them feel welcome, included and appreciated.

In closing, I would like to wish everyone in Barcoo Shire a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Please stay safe while travelling or while having fun and look out for each other as best we can. I hope everyone has a relaxing break, and we will see everyone in 2020 for another great year of prosperity, progress and goodwill to others.

Warmest wishes, and thank you for your support during 2019,

**Bruce Scott** 

## **Community Notices**

### 2 X positions available in our Jundah roadhouse

We are looking for someone who is able to commit from February and stay through until November (happy for the right person to stay on afterwards). Available over a 7-day roster.

Jobs will include serving customer, kitchen hand duties, stocking shelves, general cleaning and making coffee. (Accommodation can be arranged).

Please send resume to jundah.roadhouse@outlook.com

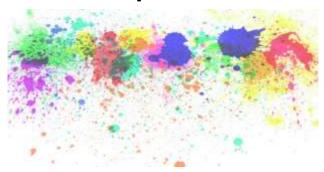
### **Jundah Roadhouse Christmas Trading Hours**

| CHRISTMAS TRADING HOURS                |          |
|--|----------|
|  |          |
| SATURDAY 21st DECEMBER                 | 9AM-3PM  |
| SUNDAY DECEMBER 22ND                   | 9AM-3PM  |
| MONDAY 23RD DECEMBER                   | 9AM-3PM  |
| TUESDAY 24TH DECEMBER                  | 9AM-3PM  |
| WEDNESDAY 25TH DECEMBER                | CLOSED   |
| THURSDAY 26TH DECEMBER                 | CLOSED   |
| FRIDAY 27TH DECEMBER                   | 10AM-2PM |
| SATURDAY 28TH DECEMBER                 | 10AM-2PM |
| SUNDAY 29TH DECEMBER                   | 10AM-2PM |
| MONDAY 30TH DECEMBER                   | 10AM-2PM |
| TUESDAY 31ST DECEMBER                  | 10AM-2PM |
| WEDNESDAY 1ST JANUARY                  | CLOSED   |
| THURSDAY 2ND JANUARY                   | 9AM-3PM  |
| FRIDAY 3RD JANUARY                     | 9AM-3PM  |
| SATURDAY 4TH JANUARY                   | 9AM-3PM  |
| SUNDAY 5TH JANUARY                     | 9AM-3PM  |
| MONDAY 6TH JANUARY NORMAL HOURS RESUME |          |

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## **Community Notices**

### **Paint & Sip with Donna**



COME ALONG AND PAINT YOUR MASTERPIECE, SIP YOUR CHOICE OF DRINK AND ENJOY SOME NIBBLIES.

BYO WINE/DRINKS

DATE: SATURDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY

TIME: 4PM

WHERE: JUNDAH ROADHOUSE

COST: \$25 INCLUDES CANVAS, BRUSHES AND PAINT

**ADULTS ONLY** 

BOOKINGS ESSIENTIAL: EMAIL <u>jundah.roadhouse@outlook.com</u> or see Shannon at the Roadhouse

### **MOBILITY SCOOTER**



**FOR SALE** 

\$3400

IN GOOD CONDITION

PHONE DONNA: 0407016579



# Australia Day Awards





### 2019 Australia Day Awards

Nomination Close: 5:00pm, 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Categories:

Citizen of the Year
Young Citizen of the Year
Community Event of the Year
Volunteer of the Year
Senior Sports Award
Junior Sports Award
Cultural Award

For further information:

Ph: 46586930

Em: barcooinfo@barcoo.qld.gov.au

www.barcoo.gld.gov.au

Heart of the channel country www.barcoo.qld.gov.au

## **Australia Day Nominations**

### Nominations are now open



Do you know someone who has made an outstanding contribution to your local community?

Nomination forms can be down loaded from <a href="www.barcoo.gld.gov.au">www.barcoo.gld.gov.au</a> and are available from the Visitor Information Centres in Jundah, Stonehenge and Windorah.

#### Eligibility in Categories:

All nominees must be Australian citizens and reside within the Barcoo Shire Council area at the time of nomination.

#### Award Categories:

#### Citizen of the Year

#### Eliaible naminees must be 25 years or older as of 26 January 2020

Recognises an individual for their outstanding contribution to the Barcoo community, during the preceding year, or given outstanding services to the local community over several years

#### Young Citizen of the Year

#### Eliaible nominees must be 25 years or vounger as of 26 January 2020

Recognises a young individual who has made a noteworthy contribution during the current year and/or given outstanding service to the local community over several years

#### Community Event of the Year

Nominated events must have been held in the Barcoo Shire between January 2019 and December 2019. Is awarded to an event that has made an outstanding contribution to the community within the Barcoo Shire Council area during 2019.

#### Volunteer of the Year

In recognition of a Barcoo Shire resident of any age who has devoted considerable time to volunteering for the community during the 2019 year and /or who has an outstanding record of volunteering for the community over a number of years.

#### Senior Sports Award

#### Eliaible nominees must be 26 years or older as of 26 January 2020

In recognition of a Barcoo Shire resident who has achieved significant sporting success during the 2018 year; or has an outstanding record of sporting achievement over a number of years.

#### Junior Sports Award

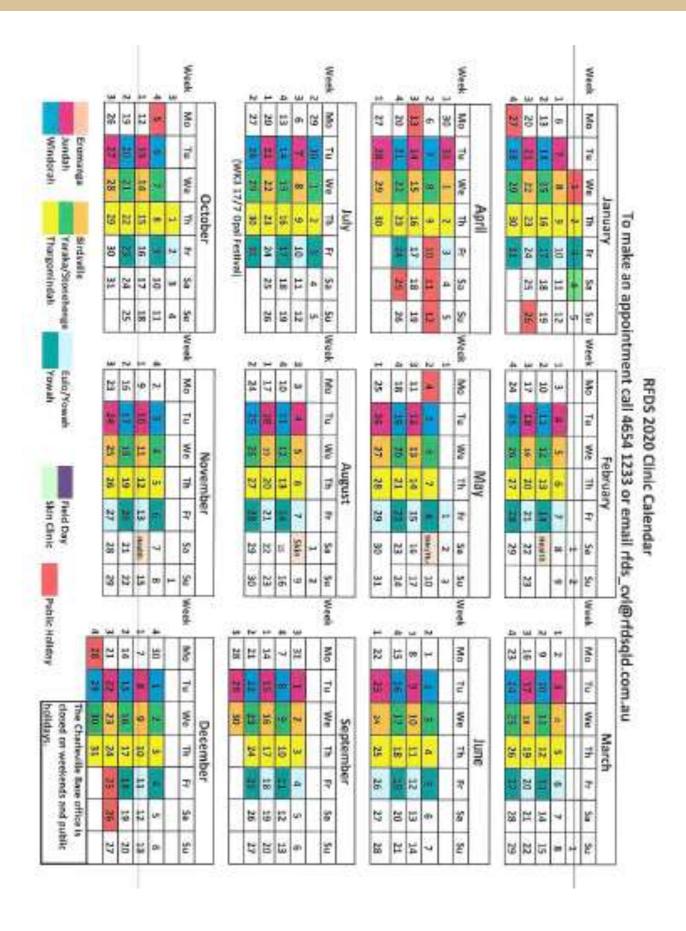
#### Eliaible nominees must be 25 years or vounger as of 26 January 2020

In recognition of a Barcoo Shire resident who has achieved significant sporting success during the 2018 year; or has an outstanding record of sporting achievement over a number of years.

#### Cultural Award

In recognition of people who have made a noteworthy contribution to the cultural life of the community or an outstanding achievement in cultural activity.

### **RFDS 2020 Clinic Calendar**



### **Community Notices**

Lyn, Doreen & Jaymee from the Jundah Post Office would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year





#### **Stonehenge Power**

A reminder for residents to please report any brownouts, blackouts or ongoing issues with power to the Stonehenge Information Centre.

What is required?

- Address/location of issue
  - Date of issue
- Start time and duration
  - Description
- Resolution (if anything)

We thank you for your cooperation!

### **Proposed Development**

Make a submission from 6 January 2020 to 28 January 2020

Servicing and Repairs of Vehicles and Trailers and Caretaker's Residence

Where: 7 Stratford Street, Stonehenge Qld 4357

On: Lot 309 on S3501

Approval sought: Development Permit for Material Change of Use

Application ref: BCO75

You may obtain a copy of the application and make a submission to:

Chief Executive Officer Barcoo Shire Council PO Box 14 JUNDAH QLD 4736 shire@barcoo.qld.gov.au (07) 4658 6900

Public notification requirements are in accordance with the Planning Act 2016

## **Barcoo Shire Meeting JORN Radar Site**

#### **BACKGROUND**

On 8 October 2019 the Barcoo Shire wrote to the Defence Minister outlining challenges faced by the Shire specifically in the Stonehenge district which is situated 12kms from the Defence Jindalee Overthe-horizon Radar Network (JORN) Receiver site. The Shire expressed a desire to develop a collaborative relationship with Defence with the intent of identifying opportunities and efficiencies to address issues such as power security and employment opportunities for the Stonehenge community.

Barcoo Shire councillors and Defence had arranged to meet at the December 2019 Council meeting however, due to conflicting schedules it was agreed that a meeting at the JORN site would be suitable for all attendees and allow Shire representatives to tour the site and gain a greater understanding of the infrastructure that supports the JORN capability.

The JORN radar is operated by Air Force personnel at RAAF Edinburgh and is maintained under a support contract by BAE Systems who use BGIS as a sub-contractor to conduct all site facilities and infrastructure sustainment activities. BAE/BGIS have approximately 8 specialist technical staff at the JORN Receiver site that are employed under a fly-in fly-out arrangement. Both BAE and BGIS also engage with local contractors and the Barcoo Shire to conduct ad-hoc maintenance and provide supplies for the site.

#### **DISCUSSION TOPICS**

#### **Power reliability at Stonehenge**

Barcoo Shire outlined the reliability concerns for power at Stonehenge and the work that Ergon had undertaken to investigate possible options to address the issue. The Shire advised that the option to invest in infrastructure to provide 3 phase power from Longreach was no longer preferred and was seen as inefficient because of the relatively minor load Stonehenge would generate given the cost of infrastructure. The Shire advised that the current plan is to upgrade the existing single wire earth return (SWER) power transmission system and install a solar micro grid using renewable power with storage capacity. However the Shire wanted to understand the potential to use Defence power from the JORN receiver site for use by Stonehenge residents. The Shire also outlined a previous trial on solar thermal power generation, however they felt that this system may not be the best option and that the solar photovoltaic system was now an industry preference and more suited to supply Stonehenge.

Defence advised that the power at Rx1 is generated by three diesel generators and that the design of the power system, the quality of the power profile and synchronisation of the generators was critical for use by the electrically sensitive JORN systems. Defence felt that the risk of distorting or creating interference into the JORN system by connecting into a grid for Stonehenge would be 'high to extreme' and did not consider this as a viable option.

## **Barcoo Shire Meeting JORN Radar Site**

Defence outlined that a trial solar array (Micro Grid) is being installed at the R3 JORN site near Alice Springs and significant research had been undertaken to ensure the site could manage varying loads while providing a low electro-magnetic interference (EMI) noise floor. Defence has worked closely with CSIRO and E&IG on this project and offered to provide data and information to the Barcoo shire in support of their micro grid. Defence also confirmed that the R3 solar array would be trailed for six months after commissioning in late 2020 and a decision to invest in the remaining JORN sites would be made after a business case was developed that incorporated the trial results.

Defence also outlined work CSIRO is conducting on solar thermal power generation and committed to provide a CSIRO contact and an E&IG contact that could provide advice on the potential of solar thermal power generation for the Shire.

#### **Barcoo Shire Road Infrastructure**

The Barcoo Shire outlined the increased costs of sustaining the roads across the shire and highlighted the complexity of funding sources and often short time frames to spend funding when it is made available by Federal or State Government initiatives. The Shire noted that Defence is a user of the roads and asked if there was any opportunity to collaborate in the sustainment of the road infrastructure.

Defence outlined a program that does offer support to Shires if roads are heavily used and or damaged by Defence service vehicles. The support is assessed on a case by case basis and would require evidence to show what portion of Defence traffic has contributed to the maintenance requirements of the roads. The Shire offered to investigate if they had a road counter that they could place on the road from Stonehenge to the R1 access gate to gain data for Defence. Because BAE/BGIS record all road movements including JORN fuel delivery trucks, Defence would be able to determine what percentage of Defence vehicles use the road. This data would be used to determine how Defence could contribute to the sustainment and upkeep of the road from Stonehenge to Rx 1 site.

As a separate issue, Defence also recognised the impact of flooding from the Thompson River on the road from Stonehenge to the receiver site. In this respect, Defence felt that sealing a portion of the road most at risk of washing away would be a reasonable approach to ensuring the usability of the road. Defence agreed to work with the Barcoo Shire to identify the most appropriate time (based on funding/grants provided to Barcoo Shire from State and Federal Governments) to contribute to sealing a portion of the road most susceptible to flooding.

#### **Industry Employment**

The Shire outlined the need for employment and additional families residing in the Stonehenge area to support the local school that is expected to have one student in 2020. The Shire highlighted that Government has given the Shire a year to increase the school students and if this is not accomplished, the school may be required to close.

BAE/BGIS and the Shire agreed to share forward work plans to identify tasks that are common between both parties so that they could plan and align work activities to realise efficiencies when plant, equipment or tradespeople are located in the area. This included shared tasks involving earth works, roads, general trades, water treatment and vermin control.

## **Barcoo Shire Meeting JORN Radar Site**

BGIS advised that their company requires official suppliers to pay a \$1400 fee and meet specific process and administration standards to be a formal supplier. This was thought to be a significant overhead for small local businesses and it was agreed that the Shire would write to BGIS and ask if the fee could be waived for small businesses. Defence advised that the Centre of Defence Industry Capability could be of benefit to address this issue and provided a POC (Mr Damian Bunyan) who could support local businesses becoming suppliers to companies such as BAE and BGIS.

#### **Local Community Engagement**

Defence outlined that it intends to have more personnel visit and work at the Rx site on a yearly basis. This would include eight to twelve Air Force personnel deployed to the sight for up to two weeks to operate the radar as part of their professional development. Both parties agreed that if visits could align to events at Stonehenge such as the annual rodeo and Anzac Day, Defence would be able to support the events through their attendance. The Shire was also encouraged to contact Defence Recruiting to understand what support they could also provide at such events.

BAE advised that they intend to hold a local industry brief in Longreach in the new year to advised potential suppliers of the type of services required by BAE. BAE indicated that they would invite the Barcoo shire to the event which will be held at the Bird Cage.

#### **CLOSING**

Between discussions, the group took time to have lunch at the site and toured the antenna array – see attached photos. In closing the discussions Mayor Scott thanked Defence and site staff for hosting the meeting and for Defence's/BAE/BGIS constructive approach to collaborate and help address the issues faced by the Barcoo Shire.



Attendees and the Barcoo Shire Reps at the JORN Radar Antenna Array.

### **Position Vacant**



#### POSITION VACANT

Barcoo Shire Council is currently seeking suitable applicants for the following position:

#### BUILDING SERVICES SUPERVISOR

#### The position offers:

- Competitive Remuneration
- Full time hours and benefits
- Housing benefits
- Work/life balance
- Further progression opportunities

For further information and Position Description please call Director of Corporate Services, Blake Repine on 07 4658 6913.

To apply for the position, please email cover letter and resume to Barcoo Shire Human Resources, HR@barcoo.gld.gov.au

> Applications Close 10th January 2020

"Barcoo Shire Council is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer"



## Community Notice—Flood Damage

P 07 4658 6900 F 07 4658 6955 E shire@barcoo.qld.gov.au PO Box 14 Jundah Qld 4736 Corner Perkins and Dickson Street Jundah Qld 4736 ABN 34 668 298 330 | W www.shire@barcoo.qld.gov.au



### COMMUNITY NOTICE

### Flood Damage Repair Work

NOTICE TO RESIDENTS OF BARCOO SHIRE

A number of shire roads have sustained damage due to the rain event in late March 2019. Council will endeavor to carry out emergency works on some roads to ensure that they can remain open to traffic. There will be however additional damage to some roads which is yet to be repaired. Council has successfully sought funding approval from the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) for these remaining repairs. The work has now been programmed and the repairs will be carried out. Until the work crews can get to roads to complete the work, any affected roads will be signed appropriately. Council asks for your patience and understanding while these works are delivered. If you're aware of any locations that are of concern, please lodge a customer request.

If you have any questions or need additional clarification please don't hesitate to contact the Barcoo Shire Council on (07) 4658 6900 or via email at <a href="mailto:shire@barcoo.qld.gov.au">shire@barcoo.qld.gov.au</a>.

Paul Hockings Chief Executive Officer BARCOO SHIRE COUNCIL

Date: 16 December 2019



## **Easy Mince Pies**



### Ingredients



- 225g cold butter, diced
- 350g plain flour
- 100g golden caster sugar
- 280g mincemeat
- 1 small egg

icing sugar, to dust

- 1. To make the pastry, rub 225g cold, diced butter into 350g plain flour, then mix in 100g golden caster sugar and a pinch of salt.
- 2. Combine the pastry into a ball don't add liquid and knead it briefly. The dough will be fairly firm, like shortbread dough. You can use the dough immediately, or chill for later.
- 3. Preheat the oven to 200C/gas 6/fan 180C. Line 18 holes of two 12-hole patty tins, by pressing small walnut-sized balls of pastry into each hole.
- Spoon 280g mincemeat into the pies.
- 5. Take slightly smaller balls of pastry than before and pat them out between your hands to make round lids, big enough to cover the pies.

- **6.** Top the pies with their lids, pressing the edges gently together to seal you don't need to seal them with milk or egg as they will stick on their own. (The pies may now be frozen for up to 1 month).
- 7. Beat 1 small egg and brush the tops of the pies. Bake for 20 mins until golden. Leave to cool in the tin for 5 mins, then remove to a wire rack.
- **8.** To serve, lightly dust with icing sugar. They will keep for 3 to 4 days in an airtight container.

