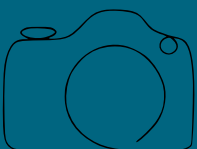


BARCOO *Banter*

COMMUNITY NEWS • AUGUST 2024



Stonehenge Bushman's Carnival



Send to us, tag us, share with us your best photo to feature in our monthly newsletter!



BARCOO *Banter*



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Please send all Newsletter content to:
newsletter@barcoo.qld.gov.au

Cut off date for SEPTEMBER Newsletter
 COB 24 September 2024



Want to give back to the
 Jundah community?

Be a volunteer ambulance driver.
 You might just save someone's life.

For more information call the
 Director of Nursing at the
 Jundah Primary Health Centre.

> 4658 6500



Contact Council

Jundah Council Office
 Phone: (07) 4658 6900
 Email: shire@barcoo.qld.gov.au

Mayor Sally O'Neil: 0447 723 193
sally.oneil@barcoo.qld.gov.au

Cr Roger Batt: 0448 585 942
roger.batt@barcoo.qld.gov.au

Cr Andrew Miller: 0428 437 975
andrew.miller@barcoo.qld.gov.au

Cr Tony Jackson: 0428 583 254
tony.jackson@barcoo.qld.gov.au

Cr James Kidd: 0475 800 388
james.kidd@barcoo.qld.gov.au

MAYOR'S *Message*

WITH SALLY O'NEIL

Hello Everyone

Hope all is well. August traditionally would send cold southerly winds for the close out of winter, not so for 2024. It seems winter decided to exit early to get us accustomed to spring. I am hoping for another cold snap and the temperatures remaining mild for the remainder of spring. Unfortunately though we might be headed for a long hot summer.

County University Centre RAPAD CWQ

Through RAPAD a concept that has been implemented and very successful in regional and rural areas of Victoria, NSW and QLD has now been extended into remote Qld, specifically the RAPAD region of councils. Lead by Duncan Taylor an advocate for further education being offered to those unable to attend conventional institutions allows students to select courses from universities, TAFE, vocational education and distance education. The federal government has provided funding to set up venues throughout the region with the main hub being in Longreach and smaller hubs throughout the region. In the Barcoo Shire we will have a space for students at the visitor information centre in Jundah, it will consist of high speed internet, computers and after hours security access. We will have staff trained to assist students with minor issues and a centre manager based in Longreach who will be able to provide more high level assistance such as exam preparation or techniques in assignment writing. This is a really exciting initiative as only 19% of regional Australia from 1989 to 2017 had received a higher education and in the Barcoo it is only 9%. Through this, if we can go from 1 in 10 young people in the Barcoo Shire completing a qualification after school to more I would see this as a huge success. Our facility should be ready to go by the end of October ready for anyone young or old wishing to pursue a course. I will share further information as it becomes available.

Windorah Campdraft, Challenge, Rodeo and Bronco Branding

This year's event was a great success with record numbers of nominations for the campdraft and challenge. The cowboys had trouble sticking to the lively rodeo livestock but was entertaining for all. The bronco branding drew its usual expert competitors for action packed entertainment as well. There were many campers spread over the grounds and Saturday afternoon saw a light shower of rain come over and settle the dust but not spoil the event. Great weekend of bush sport and congratulations well done to the organisers.



Board of Directors - RAPAD CW QLD

MAYOR'S *Message*

CONTINUED...



Stonehenge Bushmans Carnival

This was another weekend that was action packed with a challenge, horse gymkhana, bike gymkhana, rodeo, barrels and bronco branding. There was a huge crowd of over 500 through the gate proving these events are well supported by competitors and those seeking entertainment. The weather was kind with beautiful mild days and fresh nights, makes weekends like these a pleasure to attend. Another great weekend of bush sport and congratulations and well done to the committee.

The following is the externally funded project status update:

- Budgerygar floodway – contractor on site
- Stonehenge water treatment plant new shed and filter upgrade – contractor due on site to incorporate current alarm system with new filter system, to be completed by September

The following is an update of our work crews and their progress on roads around the Shire. Council has changed the work crew roster temporarily to a 5 on 2 off roster due to compliance with National Heavy Vehicle Regulator. This is a temporary measure whilst the appropriate plans are implemented and should be resolved in the coming months. Dave Ross's crew have completed an 8km resheet at Sly's Lookout on the Windorah Birdsville Rd. They have relocated to the Farrars to do some stabilised rehabilitation of the floodways. Jason Beilby's crew have completed work on the Bimerah Isisford Rd project and have relocated to Retreat Yaraka Road to do a resheet at the boundary end. Contractor Crew are doing flood damage from Warbreccan to Eldwick. Flying gang 1 are placing signs on newly completed Bimerah Isisford road project and flying gang 2 are installing a TMR box culvert replacement at Sly's Lookout.

The maintenance grader will be doing work on the Whitula Tanbar Rd. If there are sections of roads requiring immediate attention, please notify Council.

Don't forget, Council meetings are open to the public and all community members are welcome. Council meetings are rotated around the three towns, and we notify via an online flyer of upcoming Council meeting dates and times. The next meeting will be held in Jundah on the 18th of September 2024.

Please don't hesitate to contact me on the details below if you have any queries or concerns.

Regards

Sally O'Neil

Mayor, Barcoo Shire

Sally.oneil@barcoo.qld.gov.au

Please note my new phone number 0447 723 193

COUNCIL NEWS

JULY COUNCIL MEETING WRAP UP

All Barcoo Shire Council minutes can be downloaded for public viewing on our Publishing Portal at the following link <https://myportal.barcoo.qld.gov.au/public/publications>. Below are some extracts from the minutes of the May meeting.

CHRISTMAS CLOSURE 2024

- Council will close the Jundah Administration Office, the Jundah, Stonehenge and Windorah Information Centres and Libraries for the Christmas/New Year period from close of business on Wednesday 18 December 2024, reopening on Monday 6 January 2025, with a public notice of the closure provided.

HOUSING POLICY REVIEW

- Council adopted the revised Housing Policy (BSC-014), this policy can be downloaded from our website on the following link <https://www.barcoo.qld.gov.au/about-council/policies>

The Barcoo Shire Council holds its next Ordinary Meeting on Wednesday 18 September 2024 at the Jundah Council Chambers Board Room commencing at 9:00am. This is an excellent opportunity to meet with Councillors and senior Council staff to discuss ideas or matters of concern you may have. Council encourages community engagement and interest, and we hope to see members of the community at our Council meetings or joining us for morning tea.

POSITIONS VACANT

Barcoo Shire have a number of positions currently available with Council. Please check our website for latest updates, position descriptions and how to apply on the following link <https://www.barcoo.qld.gov.au/about-council/employment/job-vacancies>

- [Council Support \(All Rounder\) Office](#)
- [Expression of Interest \(EOI\): Casual Pool - Plant Operators](#)
- [Director of Corporate Services](#)
- [Executive Assistant](#)
- [Grader Operator \(Experienced\)](#)

GIANT GAMES & FAIRY LIGHTS AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY USE

Did you know that Council now have giant games that are available at our three Information Centres. These are free for people to use for things like birthday parties or events. Simply sign them out and return when you are finished. They include a giant connect 4, giant snakes and ladders, bocce, giant quoits and giant number toss (Finska).

We are also now offering our stunning fairy lights as well. These are power lights not solar, contact Megan Miller to book them for your event!



COUNCIL NEWS

COUNCIL RATES HAVE BEEN ISSUED

Barcoo Shire Council has this week issued rates notices with the issue date displaying as 27 August 2024.

To receive the discounted rate, please have your payment to the Barcoo Shire by 26 September 2024. Please note that payments can take up to 3 days to clear in our account. If you have not received your Rates notice within a week, please contact council as soon as possible.

To assist making payments Council offer several options including:

- Cash, card or cheque at Council main office in Jundah or Windorah and Stonehenge Information Centres,
- By post via cheque or money order,
- BPAY - Biller code 293209 - Reference is included on your rates notice,
- Credit card over the phone, please call 4658 6900,
- Council also offer payment plans weekly, fortnightly and monthly if you wish to pay your rates off.

Please contact Council if you have any questions or wish to discuss this further with us on (07) 4658 6910 or via email accounts.receivable@barcoo.qld.gov.au.

WESTERN QLD COUNCIL AUCTION

Barcoo Shire Council is taking part in a combined auction with Western Councils. The Auction will be conducted online at Nasco commencing on 30 September 2024 at 12pm and concluding on 3 October 2024, 12pm. Council have some vehicles in the auction, please keep checking for updated items.

To view the catalogue prior to the auction click on the following link <https://nasco.bidsonline.com.au/catalogue-group.aspx?chid=459&BID=>



ENCAUSTIC WORKSHOP – STONEHENGE – 3 & 4 AUGUST 2024

Over the weekend of August 3 & 4, some novice participants enjoyed a weekend of Encaustic painting in Stonehenge.

Encaustic is a beeswax paint that is kept molten on a heated palette, applied to a surface then reheated to fuse the paint into an enamel-like finish. This form of art began in Ancient Greece. Multiple layers of the beeswax paint were applied to the marine ply squares to produce the finished artwork.

Thank you to the RADF program and the Barcoo Shire Council for providing this workshop to our community.



COMMUNITY NOTICES



OUR *Spirit of the Bush* PHOTO COMPETITION IS OPEN NOW!

The Spirit of the Bush Photography competition is back for 2024!

Rural Aid's Spirit of the Bush photo competition explores every part of rural life through photos taken by you. Have you taken photos recently that tell a story about life on the farm, showcasing your rural community or a beautiful country sunset?

The 12 winning photos will be transformed into a stunning calendar that will help raise funds for Rural Aid's vital services. Winners will also receive a \$250 pre-paid VISA card.

The competition closes at 5pm Tuesday 1st October 2024 (AEST).

For more details and to enter go to www.ruralaid.org.au/spirit-of-the-bush/



~~31 August 2024~~
From 28 October 2024

We've extended when we'll close our 3G network



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Remember, volunteering isn't just about what you give, it's also about what you gain!

If you're keen about serving our community and making a positive impact, consider joining the Jundah Rural Fire Brigade!

JOIN NOW ☎ 0409 353 195

COMMUNITY NOTICES



WINDORAH INTERNATIONAL YABBY RACES

6:30PM, 4TH SEPTEMBER 2024
WESTERN STAR HOTEL
4 RACE PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY BEFORE THE ICONIC BIRDSVILLE RACES, THERE'S A RACE OF A DIFFERENT KIND AS THE WINDORAH INTERNATIONAL YABBY RACES TAKE OVER WESTERN QUEENSLAND.

STONEHENGE

Annual STAG Social Tennis Party

Random Doubles Draw Knockout

Friday 13th September

All ages Welcome!

4pm

To follow Lunch On the Lawn

Dinner provided
BYO Drinks



FRIDAY NIGHT



STONEHENGE HALL



DOOR OPEN AT 5:00PM

GAME STARTS AT 5:20PM

22nd MARCH. 5th APRIL. 3rd MAY. 17th MAY.
31st MAY. 14th JUNE. 12th JULY. 26th JULY.
9th AUGUST. 23rd AUGUST. 6th SEPTEMBER.

COME ALONG AND HELP SUPPORT THE KIDS AT
... STONEHENGE STATE SCHOOL ...

COMMUNITY NOTICES

JUNDAH BARCOO SPRING FLING 2024



LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

4TH TO THE 6TH OF OCTOBER

JUNDAH CUP 5 RACE PROGRAM

CHARITY AUCTION

FREE CAMPING

CANTEEN AND BAR RUNNING OVER THE WEEKEND

SPLASH OF WHITE AND PINK \$2000 OPEN FASHION ON THE FIELD




\$15,000 Brady Prow Memorial BUSH SPRINT RACE




\$25,000 OUTBACK BARREL HORSE BARREL RACE

COMMUNITY NOTICES



HOC HEALTH & WELLNESS CALENDAR

September 2024



WINDORAH	
3	RFDS Clinic
17	RFDS Clinic
19	Michael Young Optometry
19	Lives Lived Well Alcohol & Other Drugs
26	ICOP Indigenous Cardiac
JUNDAH	
10	RFDS Clinic
20	Lives Lived Well Alcohol & Other Drugs
24	RFDS Clinic
STONEHENGE	
4	RFDS Cliniiic
12	Setting our families up for success in the transition to boarding school.
18	RFDS Clinic

JUNDAH COMMUNITY MONDAY

3.15 pm Kids Gym | Racetrack

WEDNESDAY 4TH & 18TH

2.30pm Falls Prevention Class
Sports Centre

THURSDAY

3.15 pm Kids Running | Racetrack
4.30 pm Pilates | Racetrack

SUNDAY

5.00 am Walk Run Ride | Old Church

STONEHENGE COMMUNITY FRIDAY 9TH & 23RD

5.00 pm Bingo | School Hall

WINDORAH COMMUNITY TUESDAY

4.00 pm Windorah Walkers | Park
TUESDAY

1.00 pm Falls Prevention Class
Community Centre

Virtual Health and Wellbeing Hub – now open!
Barcoo residents take stock of your health and wellbeing in three easy steps:

1

Call 1300 680 834 to book your appointment with your HOC Wellbeing Team

2

Create your Personal Wellbeing Plan at your appointment

3

Manage and track your plan via regular appointments

HOC **Royal Flying Doctor Service**
HEALTHY OUTBACK COMMUNITIES | RURAL AND REMOTE SERVICES


Online booking link coming soon.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

HEALTHY RECIPES HEALTHY & CREAMY CARBONARA PASTA

INGREDIENTS

 Cook Time 15 minutes

 Servings serve

INGREDIENTS

- 60 g dried fettuccine pasta
- 27 g lean bacon approx 1 rasher diced
- 75 g mushrooms sliced
- 15 g spring onions sliced
- 1 clove garlic
- 1 tbsp grated Parmesan
- 1/4 cup long life reduced fat coconut milk
- 1 egg
- 1 tbsp Cornflour
- Salt and pepper to taste

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Cook pasta as per cooking instructions. When ready, drain and return pasta to the pan you cooked it in.
2. Heat a frying pan to medium high. Add bacon and cook for 3-4 minutes or until starting to turn golden and crispy.
3. Add mushrooms and most of the spring onion (leave aside some onion as a garnish). Cook for a further 4-5 minutes, until mushrooms are tender and start to release their juices. Season with salt and pepper.
4. Add garlic and cook for a further minute. Remove frying pan from the heat.
5. In a bowl combine half the parmesan, the cornflour and the coconut milk. Pour this mix into the hot pasta in the saucepan. Add the egg and stir to combine.
6. Place the saucepan with the pasta over a low heat, and stir to combine all ingredients, until the sauce starts to thicken. Sprinkle over a little more cornflour if sauce is too runny.
7. Add the bacon and mushroom mix and combine well.
8. Place in a serving bowl and top with remaining spring onion and parmesan.



DID YOU KNOW?

fettuccine is a good source of energy and can give you fibre too, If its made from whole grain this can help with stomach problems and may help lower cholesterol.



EXERCISE MOVE TO ADD YOUR DAILY ROUTINE

Side Lunges

Side lunges are a great way to improve flexibility, balance, and strength in the hips and thighs. They can help you lose weight and improve your posture. Side lunges will also help you relieve back pain if you suffer from it. In addition to these benefits, side lunges also have one more thing to offer: they're fun!

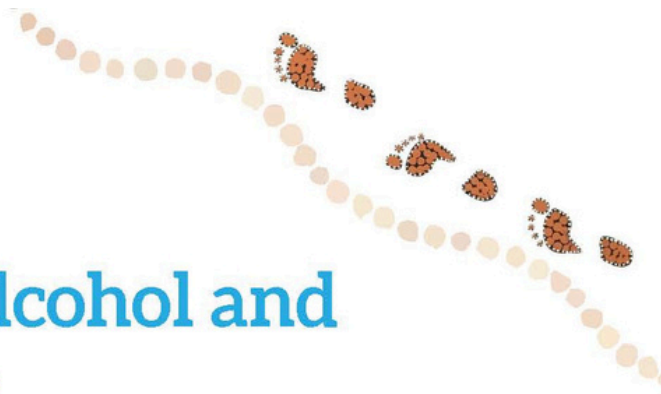


COMMUNITY NOTICES



Lives Lived Well

Free confidential alcohol and other drug support



Now offering monthly in-person sessions in Windorah and Jundah

Nobody plans to have a problem with alcohol or other drugs, but if you think you do, there is support available.

Funded by Western Queensland PHN, our alcohol and other drug program is designed to help people break the cycle of problematic substance use. With a harm-minimisation approach and evidence-based practices, our counsellors assist clients in regaining control of their lives.



Who is the program suitable for?

- Individuals aged 12 and above
- Those dealing with their own substance use concerns
- Individuals impacted by a loved one's substance use

How to get started:

- Self-referral by calling 1300 727 957
- Referral through friends, family, coworkers, or community
- Referral from GPs, employers, employment services, or allied health professionals

	Windorah 10AM - 4PM	Jundah 9AM - 3PM
JUL	25th	26th
AUG	29th	30th
SEP	19th	20th
OCT	24th	25th
NOV	21st	22nd
DEC	12th	13th

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact Nicky at 0417 684 911. Let us support you on your journey to recovery!

 **1300 727 957**

liveslivedwell.org.au 

2024 BARCOO SHIRE EVENTS CALENDAR

IF YOU HAVE AN EVENT YOU WOULD LIKE ADDED PLEASE EMAIL
NEWSLETTER@BARCOO.QLD.GOV.AU



SEPTEMBER

4 - Windorah International Yabby Races
(WDB)

13 - Stonehenge Tennis
(STAG)

28 - Bronco Branding & Bullock Ride
(Jundah Rodeo Club)

OCTOBER

4-6 - Barcoo Spring Fling
(Jundah Race Club)

NOVEMBER

2 - Barcoo Big Bash
(STAG)



Windorah Solar Farm and Battery Project Update



August 2024

Windorah solar farm and battery project is set to shine

Solar farm project stages

We're excited to announce that we are on track to build the new, modern solar farm and battery storage facility at Windorah. The project is being delivered in the following stages - see Figure 1:



Fig 1 – Project stages.



Fig 2 – Yurika brand.

Stage 1 – Solar & Battery Tenders

Early works conducted in late 2023 saw the decommissioning and dismantling of the old solar concentrator dishes, clearing the way for the new solar farm and battery facility which will be built at the same location.

Stage 2 – Solar Farm Design & Build

The contracts for the construction of the solar farm, and provision of the batteries, have now been finalised. Yurika – another part of Energy Queensland – was awarded the contract, following a competitive tender process, to design and build the solar farm component of the project.

So, if during the construction phase, you see crews around town sporting the Yurika brand, give them a wave and make them feel welcome!

One of our experienced battery partners, Penske Australia, has been awarded the contract to provide the battery units for the Windorah facility. We have been working with Penske for some time, as they install batteries right across our network at locations like up the road at Bedourie.

Stage 3 – Battery Design & Build

With these contracts now in place, our Isolated Systems team is ready to finalise the design before the new solar farm will then start to take shape on the ground.

The Yurika team also visited Windorah recently to scope out the site and talk to local suppliers before civil and construction works commence.

Stage 4 – Microgrid Construction and Commissioning

Stage 3 will involve the design and construction of the batteries and inverters. During the design phase the team will design how Windorah's solar, batteries and diesel generator interact into a single integrated system. Stage 3 commenced in June 2024 and be completed in April 2025.

Stage 5 – System Integration and Commissioning

The fourth and final stage of the project is system integration and commissioning. During this stage, our technical experts will test the system to ensure all aspects of the intelligent microgrid system are integrated and operating properly.

They will conduct a range of tests to ensure safe operations and performance before commissioning the system to power the Windorah community. This final stage of the project will run from April to December 2025.

Project Timeline

The early stages of the project are well progressed, and construction is scheduled to commence in October. The project timeline - see Figure 3 - has the facility being fully commissioned and operational by the end of 2025.

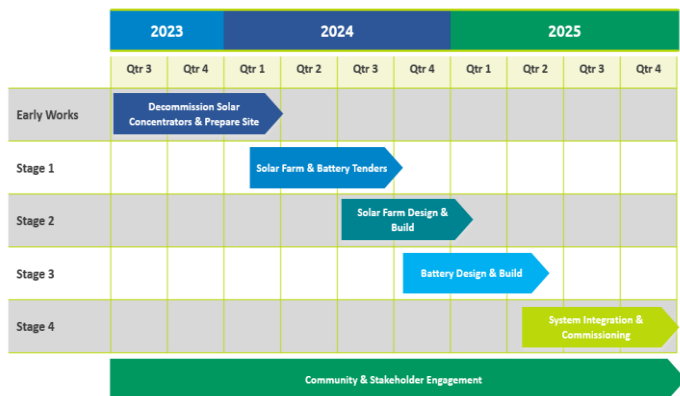


Fig 3 – Windorah solar farm and battery facility project timeline.

About the solar farm and battery

The first stage of the solar farm will comprise of 850 kilowatts of solar PV - see Figure 4 - which, coupled with the battery, is enough to power around 50% of Windorah’s total energy needs on the same sized site as the previous solar trackers.



Fig 4 – An artist's impression of the new Windorah solar farm and battery facility.

As well, we’re building 1,000 kilowatt hours of energy storage at the facility using batteries. The batteries will store excess energy for use after the sun goes down.

In the early stages of the project, the old solar trackers were decommissioned and dismantled, clearing the way for the new solar farm and battery facility to be constructed on the same site adjacent to the power station on Quilpie Windorah Road - see Figure 5.



Fig 5 – The proposed layout of the new solar farm and battery facility adjacent to Windorah’s existing power station.

The Windorah solar farm and battery project will deliver significant benefits, generating clean energy from the sun and reducing diesel emissions with an anticipated saving of around 150,000 litres of diesel each year.

Stay up to date – visit our project webpage

To keep up to date on the project, visit our project website where you can find information about the project, including our regular project updates and frequently asked questions.



Project website QR code.

Getting in touch with us

Still have questions or want to provide feedback? You can register for future updates via email or SMS, scan the QR code or follow this link:

<https://www.ergon.com.au/network/contact-us/forms/major-project-feedback-form>



Register for updates QR code.

You can also contact our Senior Community Engagement Advisor, Kate Austin on 1300 653 055 or email us at:

NetworkProjectEngagement@energyq.com.au