

# Balonne Bulletin

THE NEWSLETTER OF BALONNE SHIRE COUNCIL

ISSUE 41 | 18 JANUARY 2024



## Mayoral Ball Proceeds Boost Education In Balonne

The 2023 Mayoral Ball has delivered a major boost to education in the Balonne with a donation of \$50,635 to the Balonne Country Universities Centre to support local students.

The donation was handed over to the Balonne CUC at their 2023 End-of year Graduation Ceremony and will cover student bursaries to support student's travel and the cost of other resources associated with their studies.

Since the Centre began in May 2021, the Balonne Country Universities Centre has welcomed 232 students, which far exceeds the original target of 38 students over the first four years.

Balonne Shire Mayor, Samantha O'Toole was delighted to have the Mayoral Ball create such a great result for education in the Shire.

"I'm absolutely delighted that the Mayoral Ball was able to raise and contribute over \$50,000 towards helping our youth follow their education goals whilst staying in the Shire, close to their families and loved ones," said Mayor O'Toole.

"The Balonne Country Universities Centre has become an absolute game-changing initiative for our Shire and it is an honour to be able to further support their efforts.

"The Mayoral Ball was a wonderful night, with 135 people attending the event and involved some big-hearted bidding throughout the auction, fundraising activities and generous contributions from our corporate sponsors.

"All combined, the evening raised a substantial sum of money to support local students to achieve their educational goals, without them having to leave their hometown.

"I would like to extend a massive thank you to everyone who attended, contributed and donated at the Mayoral Ball, as your



support has further strengthened our Shire."

Balonne Country Universities Centre Chair Matthew Magin welcomed the donation which he said will provide a great boost to support for local students.

"The aim of our organisation is to empower the Balonne community to fulfil their potential through higher education by providing highly connected learning communities in St George and Dirranbandi," said Mr Magin.

"We are extremely grateful for the amazing sponsors, organisers, and attendees of the 2023 Balonne Mayoral Ball whose generosity affords students at Balonne CUC with opportunities to pursue their dreams without having to relocate.

Sponsors for the 2023 Mayoral Ball included Leading Roles, Lorgan's Projects, AJ & JH Earthmoving, Dale Hadenfeldt, Teirney, Balonne Airwork, Cubbie Ag, McInnes Wilson, Complete Urban, Telstra and Hasting Deering.

# What's On

## BALONNE AUSTRALIA DAY CELEBRATIONS

Celebrate your local champions and our diverse community this Australia Day! Join us at the St George Amphitheatre for a free community breakfast, followed by the awards ceremony which commences at 9am.

**When:** 26 January from 8am

**Where:** St George Amphitheatre

## AUSTRALIA DAY LONG TABLE AT RIVERSANDS WINES

Celebrate Australia Day with the flavours of 7 regionally grown dishes matched with Riversands Wines all seated amongst the vines.

To book, contact Riversands Wines on 07 4625 3643

**When:** 26 January from 6pm

**Where:** Riversands Wines

## ST GEORGE REGION GOURMET GETAWAY

Get ready to embark on a flavourful adventure with the St George Region Gourmet Getaway. To be held on the Australia Day long weekend from 26 to 28 January 2024, it promises to be a culinary experience unlike any other.

For more information, visit [www.stgeorgeregion.com.au](http://www.stgeorgeregion.com.au)

**When:** 26-28 January

**Where:** St George Region

## GREAT AUSTRALIAN BITES ST GEORGE

An evening of food and family fun! Visit The Hub and find food stalls, markets and more to continue our Australia Day Celebrations.

**When:** 27 January from 4pm

**Where:** The Hub, St George

## THE AUSTRALIAN HOTEL HOTTEST 100 PARTY

The Australian Hotel St George are turning the joint into a musical wonderland with beats, banter, and more! Kicking all the fun off from 12pm, with Triple J's Hottest 100 playing live for you to catch all the countdown action!

**When:** 27 January from 12pm

**Where:** The Australian Hotel, St George

## PINNACLE BOER GOAT EXPO

Get ready for this industry event with Industry Speakers, Hoof and Hook judging, stalls and goats on the menu. For more information, go to [www.youldenvalley.net/pinnacle](http://www.youldenvalley.net/pinnacle)

**When:** 19 & 20 February

**Where:** St George Showgrounds

# A message from the Mayor

As this will be my last message from the Mayor prior to entering the caretaker period before the Local Government Elections, it is a wonderful time to reflect on some of the highlights of the term.

The 2020 Local Government Elections occurred while we were experiencing our first lock down of the Covid-19 pandemic, which required Councillors to be sworn in under social distancing protocols and we quickly got used to a combination of working both in person and in a virtual world. The Shire was challenged early with the Queensland/NSW border closures and strong advocacy was required for us to get a workable 'Border Bubble' in place.

The 2020 Elections were also held during the first rains that began to see our horrific drought break and we had a major flood in the Balonne Shire. To many, this flood was welcomed, as it returned water into Beardmore Dam, Jack Taylor Weir and to our towns, farms and businesses. My tenure as Mayor has seen numerous floods down each of the river systems in Balonne and we have had 9 disaster declarations. I would like to thank those Council staff, Contractors, Emergency Services and all involved in our Local Disaster Management Group for the excellent working relationship we have to collaborate to protect our communities.

As a Council, we have focused on getting on with the jobs that were required to see our community recover from disasters and grow into the future. Roads are a constant focus for us and that has encompassed repair and restoration of local roads following many rain and flooding events, applying for grants and implementing betterment projects to future proof roads and to advocate and work with the Department of Transport and Main Roads to see our highways improved and provide better flood resilience for our communities.

Council has focused on building strong relationships with Progress Associations throughout the Shire, which has seen attendance at these meetings consistently



throughout the term. This has allowed improved communication and collaboration on projects to advance each of the smaller towns. We were proud to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Moree Plains Shire Council to establish an enduring partnership to collaborate for the best outcomes for Mungindi 2406.

Council has focused on curbing our population decline and actively sought funding for exclusion fencing to facilitate more small stock and our Country University Centre Balonne to allow locals access to higher education support.

Council has focused on core community infrastructure to improve the liveability of our communities and built and improved facilities such as public toilets, splash parks, playgrounds, showgrounds, libraries, free camping facilities, and skateparks.

As we close out the Term, I would also like to publicly thank the Councillors that served with me this term including Bill Winks, Robyn Fuhmeister, Scott Scriven, Rod Avery, Alex Benn and Adam Osborne, as well as past Councillors Ian Todd and Richard Lomman. Your time and dedication through service to our communities should be remembered and it has been an honour to work with you this term.

*Samantha O'Toole*

## MY COMMUNITY DIARY

Do you want to keep up to date with upcoming events in the Shire?

Upcoming events are listed on the 'My Community Diary', which you can access by clicking the 'What's On' button on the homepage at [www.balonne.qld.gov.au](http://www.balonne.qld.gov.au) or by scanning the below QR code.



# HAVE YOUR SAY

Receiving feedback from the local community is important to our Council, as it helps us to deliver the kind of outcomes that you as the community want to see.

In order to make the process of providing feedback to Council even easier, Council has developed a page on the website, which contains all current community feedback opportunities in the one place.

To Have Your Say on current projects and initiatives, please go to [www.balonne.qld.gov.au/homepage/195/have-your-say](http://www.balonne.qld.gov.au/homepage/195/have-your-say)



## Dirranbandi Water Treatment Plant upgrades finalised

On 21 September 2023, Council announced plans for a \$100,000 infrastructure upgrade at the Dirranbandi Water Treatment Plant after a comprehensive investigation into the operation and capability of the system to continue meeting Dirranbandi's unique blended bore/river water supply.

Council has now finalised these works to the Water Treatment Plant, which are aimed

at ensuring Dirranbandi's water supply continues to remain in line with Australian Drinking Water Guidelines.

Council has also undertaken an extensive range of training and professional development initiatives for the team that oversees the water supply process for Dirranbandi, which will be ongoing into the future.

## Big Battles are looming in Balonne!

Get ready for a weekend of gruelling battles of physical and mechanical exertion in the Balonne on Saturday 24 February!

### BATTLE ON THE BALONNE BACKWARDS 2024

For those with a penchant for lacing up their shoes, zipping up their wetsuit, squeezing into some lycra and pushing their bodies to the limit, the Battle on the Balonne triathlon will kick off our big battle weekend.

This battle of physical endurance will host a variety of triathlons suitable to all levels of fitness, but it is a triathlon with a twist – this year's event will be running backwards with a run, ride and finish with the swim.

For more information or to register, visit [battleonthebalonne.com](http://battleonthebalonne.com)

When: Saturday 24 Feb 2024 from 10:30am

Where: Roe Street, St George



### MAC 1000 AUSTRALIA'S LONGEST OFF-ROAD RACE

We'll also have some 'Pedal to the Metal' action with the MAC 1000 enduro race. (formerly MacIntyre 900) thundering around the dirt tracks of the Balonne.

Following on from the success of the McIntyre 900 enduro race in 2023, South East Queensland Off Road Racing Association is returning with an even bigger track with 1,000kms of high-speed racing through natural paddock terrain, dirt tracks and timbered country, it is the longest off-road race with the biggest prize pool in Australian off-road racing!

When: Saturday 24 Feb 2024

Where: Whyenbah Road, St George



## Are You On Channel?

UHF CHANNEL COLLECTION FOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT



The Balonne Local Disaster Management Group is asking all Farming Properties in the Balonne Shire to update and confirm their UHF Channel.

This is to ensure successful and efficient communication in the event of a Disaster, as many areas of the Shire do not have mobile phone coverage.

To update or confirm your Property's details, contact Council on 4620 8888.

For more information, contact Council on 4620 8888.



## Help us create a safer Balonne in times of Emergency.

We are calling for community feedback on how we can further improve Disaster Management via an online survey.

Scan this code to access the online survey





# Fun and Festivities over the Australia Day Weekend



High Tea at Anchorage Homestead



Long Table in the Vines at Riversands Wines



Great Australian Bites markets, St George

Prepare yourself for an action-packed Australia Day long-weekend full of fun and festivities and an array of unique and tantalising culinary events.

The weekend will include a delectable foodie extravaganza, ranging from an intimate Long Table in the Vines dinner at Riversands Winery, to a refined Country High Tea in the historic Anchorage Homestead, a preserves competition and farmers' markets at the Great Australian Bites event and the excitement of Yabby-Racing and a Hot-Wing-Eating Contest to the musical beats of Triple J's Hottest 100 at the Australian Hotel.

To help celebrate this array of events will be the esteemed culinary expert Alison Alexander as the 2024 Balonne Australia Day Ambassador, who is renowned for her culinary expertise and passion for celebrating regional flavours.

## WEEKEND HIGHLIGHTS:

### 26 January - Australia Day Awards Presentation

Kicking off at 8 am at the St George Amphitheatre, the weekend festivities will commence with the prestigious Australia Day Awards Presentation. Alison Alexander, our Australia Day Ambassador, will grace the occasion with honours, music, and a delightful celebration of achievements.

### 26 January - Long Table in the Vines - Riversands Wines, St George

Later in the day, from 6pm to 10pm, the spotlight shifts to Riversands Wines for the Long Table in the Vines—a culinary extravaganza promising an unforgettable feast for the senses. Don't miss this exclusive opportunity to savour exquisite dishes amidst the stunning summer vines.

### 27 January - The Australian Hotel, St George

Get ready to hit the Aussie Hotel for a Triple J Hottest 100 Listening Party that's more pumped up than a kangaroo on a trampoline! From 12pm the joint will be turned into a musical wonderland with beats and banter, complete with Yabby Racing and a Hot-Wing-Eating Contest!

### 27 January - Great Australian Bites

The culinary journey continues at The Hub in St George from 4pm with the Great Australian Bites markets — a showcase of home-grown entertainment and the finest local food and produce.

### 28 January - High Tea at Anchorage Homestead, St George

The weekend concludes with a with a touch of class – a Country-Style High Tea from 9:30 am to 11am at the historical Anchorage Homestead, where attendees can indulge in a delightful array of teas, pastries, and finger sandwiches in the charming ambience of this historical venue.

#### Booking Information:

To secure a spot for the Long Table in the Vines at Riversands Winery by visiting: <https://www.riversandswines.com/australia-day-bookings>

To secure your spot at the High Tea at the Anchorage Homestead contact 0484 306 496.

The Australia Day Awards and the Great Australian Bites are proudly presented by the Balonne Shire Council in partnership with the Queensland Government and the National Australia Day Council.



# Microgrid Energy Assessment for Balonne Shire

In January 2021, Council partnered with All Energy Pty Ltd to apply for the Regional and Remote Communities Reliability Fund to undertake a feasibility study into alternate energy microgrids for the Balonne Shire area.

Council was advised in March 2022 that the funding application was successful and has been working with All Energy to complete a feasibility report into a range of microgrid power supply options throughout the Shire.

A microgrid is a small-scale electricity network that connects power consumers to an electricity supply, which can improve the security, reliability and efficiency of electricity supply, especially in remote areas and for disaster supply, or places with interruptions such as blackouts.

All Energy has now completed their assessments, which involved feasibility studies into more reliable, secure and cost-effective energy supply to remote communities looking at microgrid technologies to replace, upgrade or supplement existing electricity supply arrangements in off-grid and fringe-of grid communities.

The assessments included potential microgrids within St George's Airport Industrial Hub, Council facilities at St George, Dirranbandi, Thallon, Hebel, Bollon, Mungindi and Nindigully with a primary focus on community resilience to ensure water, food and telecommunications availability at emergency response centres during natural disasters.

The assessment also included a number of Case Studies covering the prospect of microgrids for agricultural, horticultural and other businesses in the Shire.

Some Case Study examples include biomass waste to energy from farming production, producing ammonia for fertiliser from renewable energy to hydrogen and using solar energy for irrigation water pumping.

The project team will be holding a number of Community Consultation Sessions to inform the community of the results at the following times/locations:

- **St George Community Drop-in Session** 9:00am to 11:00am Tuesday 6th February at the Cultural Centre
- **Thallon Monthly Muster** 12:30pm to 2:30pm Tuesday 6th February at the Francis Hotel
- **Dirranbandi Progress Association Meeting** from 6.00pm Wednesday 7th February at the Dirranbandi Pub

# St George Show will go on

The 2024 St George Show will go ahead on 5 May 2024 thanks to a dedicated group of locals who stepped-up to form the new St George Show Committee.

This is fantastic news for the St George community, as there is just five months left till the show kicks-off.

The new Show President Annabelle Albeck said she is full of confidence in the terrific skills, knowledge, capabilities and enthusiasm the new committee holds, which she said will make the event a huge success.

"Our committee is already a well-oiled machine and I know we'll continue to make great memories for our community."

Balonne Shire Mayor Samantha O'Toole ex-

pressed her thanks to the outgoing Committee for keeping the torch burning and a massive thank you to all of the volunteers in the new committee.

"We are all looking forward to the Show season across all of the townships this year and to have the future of the show in the Shire's biggest town secured is a great sigh of relief for many of us," Mayor O'Toole said.



## XERO WORKSHOPS

with Kimberley Rodney - My Bookkeeping Coach

Kimberley Rodney is an experienced Bookkeeper of 15+ years, with an authentic and family centred approach to keeping your books.

### XERO FOR BEGINNERS

**DIRRANBANDI RTC**  
Wednesday 7 February 2024 - 9am


**ST GEORGE CULTURAL CENTRE**  
Wednesday 7 February 2024 - 2:30pm

**WHAT WE COVER**  
Reviewing File Set Up | Reviewing & Editing Charts of Accounts | Reconciling & Keeping your Xero file Balanced | Finding & Fixing Errors | Invoicing & Tips to make it easier for you  
\$50 per person


### XERO PAPERLESS OFFICE

**ST GEORGE CULTURAL CENTRE**  
Thursday 8 February 2024 - 9am - 12pm

**WHAT WE COVER**  
Set Up Your Paperless Office | Processing Bills & Managing Paperless Office with Hubdoc and Xero | Step by Step Processes for Bookkeeping | Discover best practices for Paperless Office  
\$140 per person (Maximum of 10 people)



To register or for more information, visit [mybookkeepingcoach.mykajabi.com/workshopbsc](https://mybookkeepingcoach.mykajabi.com/workshopbsc)



This project is jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland Governments under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

# Roadworks UPDATE



## COMPLETED WORKS THROUGH DECEMBER:

1. Eurba Road
2. Wagoo Road
3. Mulga Downs Road
4. Dingadee Road
5. Tambingey Road
6. Jhelum Plains
7. Fernlee Road
8. Warrie Road

## WORKS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY:

- Booligar Rd
  - » Expected completion: mid-January
  - » Construction is ongoing.
  - » Expected traffic delays less than 5 minutes.
- Whyenbah Rd (Northern Section)
  - » Expected completion: late January
  - » Construction is ongoing.
  - » Expected traffic delays less than 5 minutes.

- Woolerina Rd
  - » Expected completion: mid-January
  - » Construction is ongoing.
  - » Expected traffic delays less than 5 minutes.
- Bollon-Dirranbandi Bridge (99% completed, rock pitching concrete infill remaining).
  - » Expected completion: first working week of January
  - » Construction is coming to completion.
  - » Expected traffic delays less than 5 minutes.
- Fernlee Culverts (75% completed, deck pour ready for better weather, additional works such as desilting now required)
  - » Expected completion: early January
  - » Construction is ongoing.
  - » Expected traffic delays less than 5 minutes.

- Pine Park Rd
  - » Expected completion: mid-January
  - » Construction is ongoing.
  - » Expected traffic delays less than 5 minutes.
- Noondoo – Mungindi Road
  - » Expected completion: mid-January
  - » Construction is ongoing.
  - » Expected traffic delays less than 5 minutes.

## UPCOMING GRADING WORKS

1. Cubbie Road (early Jan)
2. Thompsons Road (mid Jan)
3. Jakelwar- Goodooga Road (early Jan)
4. Minnum Road (mid Jan)
5. Cashelvale (Early January)
6. Kooroon Rd (mid Jan)
7. Satur Rd (mid Jan)
8. Trackers Crossing (mid Jan)
9. Ula Ula Road (late Jan)
10. Kulki Rd (late Jan)



**GREAT AUSTRALIAN BITES**

**Saturday 27th January 2024**  
 4pm to 8pm | The Hub | 112-118 Victoria St, St George  
 Farmers Markets, Food Stalls & More!

**THANK YOU FOR RESPECTING OUR STAFF**

The Council Team are here to help and appreciate your kindness.

**SO YOU WANT TO BE A COUNCILLOR?**

Visit: [www.balonne.qld.gov.au](http://www.balonne.qld.gov.au)

*St George Region*

**GOURMET GETAWAY**  
 26 - 28 January

[www.stgeorgeregion.com.au](http://www.stgeorgeregion.com.au)

# Do you have a Buy Balonne Gift Card with unused money?

Our Buy Balonne Gift Cards have been used in the Shire as gift cards for over 3 years and have been a great success for the community and local businesses.

Whether they've been given out as prizes at events or used as presents to loved ones, they've certainly helped to increase our local spend to support local businesses.

There is however currently over \$50,000 of unspent monies on circulating cards at the moment, so if you have a card with remaining funds on it, please don't miss your chance to spend it before it expires after the three-year limit.



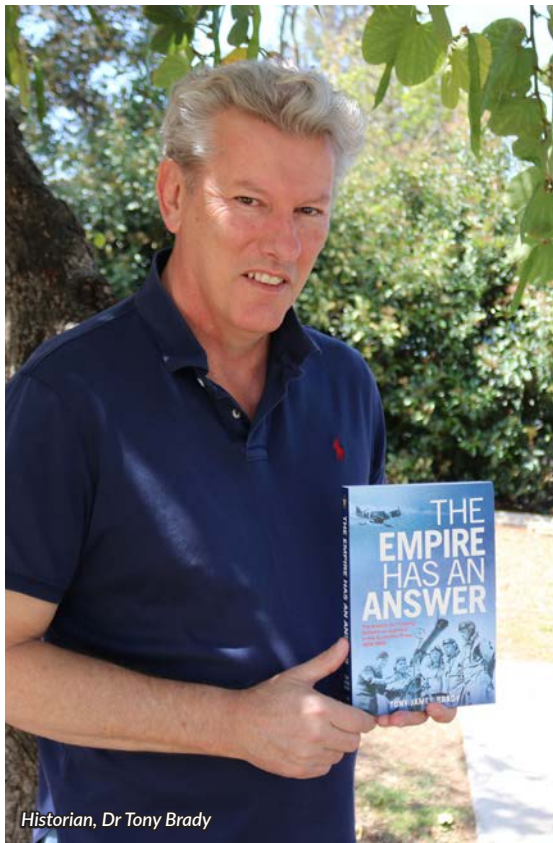
## Balonne Shire Remembers

With the help of funding from the Department of Veterans Affairs, Balonne Shire Council has engaged a qualified Historian to collate the records of veterans and former servicemen who have a connection with the Balonne Shire.

This project involves a detailed collation of information from a range of databases to record the details of veterans who lived in the Shire at the time of enlisting or serving, or those who were born in or originated from the Shire prior to enlisting.

To date, the project has uncovered close to 500 veterans who have a connection with the Shire and is in the process of confirming the details and records.

Another key aspect of the project is identifying veterans who were born outside the Shire and enlisted outside of the Shire, but have a link to the Shire. We are also seeking those veterans with service from Vietnam to the current era of service.



Historian, Dr Tony Brady

The records of these two groups of veterans are either not available or are more difficult to identify and these will require help from the local community. Consequently, the project team will rely on information from the local community to assist in identifying these veterans.

Over the coming months, the project will undertake community information sessions that will provide the local community an opportunity to meet the team and provide information about any veteran who might be part of these difficult group to identify.

Once complete, these records will be stored on three digital touch-screen monitor stands based in the St George Library, St George Visitor Information Centre and the Dirranbandi Rural Transaction Centre (RTC).

*This activity was funded under the Commonwealth Government's Saluting Their Service Commemorative Grants Program. The Commonwealth has not participated in the research, production or exercised editorial control over the activity or its contents. The views expressed and conclusions reached herein do not necessarily represent the Commonwealth, which expressly disclaims any responsibility for the content or accuracy of the Activity.*

## ENVIRO-COLUMN Mimosa Bush

Mimosa bush can spread readily and grow quickly. As it often forms thorny thickets, it can be a considerable nuisance during mustering and can also hinder stock access to water. Mimosa does offer shade in open downs country and can be useful as a supplement to grass during the dry season.

It may therefore be a useful plant in some areas if its spread can be controlled to prevent thicket formation. The maintenance of healthy pasture competition is the best mechanism to achieve this.

To manage, Basal Bark Spray is effective.

To find out more about the Mimosa bush, follow the QR Code.



# FUN AND FITNESS IN BALONNE

## SQUASH

The St George Squash Club will commence on January 22nd for grading week. Be sure to join the fun and enjoy a hit!

For additional details, reach out to John at 0428 735 944.



## BOXING

Sign up to be a member of In the Box Boxing Club in 2024! Kick off the New Year with Boxing – sessions start again late January.



For more information, contact John Morris on 0411 857 691.

## GROUP TRAINING SESSIONS



If you're really looking to get in great shape for summer, you can head along to an Optimal Training, group training session in the Amphitheatre on St George's Terrace, St George on Tuesday, and Thursday evenings from 5-6pm.

For more information, contact Deanne on 0407 720 327.

## INSPIRED FITNESS WITH TJ

Inspired fitness runs group training sessions at 5:30pm on Mondays (Pilates), Tuesdays (Pilates) and Wednesdays (Tone class). They also have another Pilates class at 10am Tuesday mornings that requires bookings. Classes are at 119 Victoria St, St George (behind Bodkins Accounting).



For more information phone Tori 0447 080 872

## PARKRUN

Do you love a social run to get in shape? There is a free Parkrun held each Saturday morning at 7am along the St George foreshore leaving from the boat ramp on the Western end of St George's Terrace.



For more information visit [www.parkrun.com.au/stgeorge](http://www.parkrun.com.au/stgeorge)

## ST GEORGE TENNIS CLUB

Anyone keen on having a hit of tennis? The St George Tennis Club holds fixtures on Thursday evenings at 6:30pm in Rowden Park, St George and they sometimes have reserve spots available.



For more information, contact Debbie on 0488 042 951

## RUGBY LEAGUE

St George Rugby League Saints will kick the season off in March.

For more information, contact 0427 949 196 or [stgrlfc@hotmail.com](mailto:stgrlfc@hotmail.com)

## ST GEORGE SWIMMING CLUB

If you'd like to try your hand at more competitive swimming, the St George Swimming Club starts back up for Term 1



in the New Year and meets Wednesday evenings at 5:30pm at the St George Aquatic Centre

For more information you can email [stgswim@hotmail.com](mailto:stgswim@hotmail.com) or visit their Facebook Page [www.facebook.com/stgeorgeswimmingclub](http://www.facebook.com/stgeorgeswimmingclub)

## ST GEORGE TRIATHLON CLUB

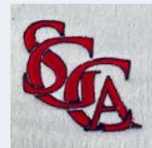


For those looking for a challenging and exciting sporting endeavour, the St George Triathlon Club has regular training sessions leaving from the boat ramp on the corner of St George's Terrace and Church St with Run training 5:30am Wednesday mornings and Ride training 5:30am Friday mornings. Junior training is on Tuesdays at 5pm and they hold a Mini-Tri every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month.

For more information, visit their Facebook page.

## JUNIOR CRICKET

Got plans Saturday mornings? The Junior Cricket will start up again in the New Year at Rowden Park on Saturday mornings.



For more information email the junior cricket club on [stgeorge\\_junior\\_cricket@outlook.com](mailto:stgeorge_junior_cricket@outlook.com)

## ST GEORGE BOWLS CLUB

Head down and enjoy a game of Bowls at St George Bowls Club.



Wednesday 8am for Social bowls, all welcome.

Green available on Saturdays for casual bowlers.

## BLUE LURES – YOUTH FISHING PROGRAM

Dig out your fishing rod and enjoy an afternoon fish! The St George Police are hosting an afternoon of frishing from 4pm to 6pm every fortnight, starting 1 February 2024.

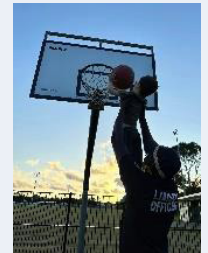


FREE Program | FREE BBQ | Prizes to be won!

For more information, contact PLO Chelsea Beardmore or Constable Daniel Burton on 4620 3033.

## BASKETBALL AFTER DARK

The St George Police are re-commencing the Basketball After Dark program on 14 February. It will run every Wednesday 6pm-7:30pm at the new Basketball Court in Rowden Park, St George for 6 weeks.



Basketball after dark allows young people an opportunity to engage in physical activity whilst achieving social and emotional learning competencies.

## ST GEORGE GOLF CLUB

Enjoy a swing of Golf anytime at the St George Golf Club. Regarded as one of the best sand greens courses in SWQ – why wouldn't you spend a day here?

If you would like to contact the Golf Course, please call on 07 4625 3283.



If you have a **FITNESS PROGRAM** or **CLUB** in the Shire that you would like posted here, please send the details to: [media@balonne.qld.gov.au](mailto:media@balonne.qld.gov.au)





# Government collaboration ramping up for Mungindi

Last week, representatives from Balonne Shire Council, Moree Plains Shire Council and the New South Wales government came together to officially open the new Mungindi \$300,000 boat ramp with a ceremonial launch of the local State Emergency Service vessel taking centre stage.

The boat ramp is another great example of government collaboration with the construction being undertaken by Balonne Shire Council on Queensland soil and funding coming from the New South Wales Department of Primary Industries' Recreational Fishing and Camping Facilities Program through an application by the Moree Plains Shire Council.

Mayor Samantha O'Toole praised Moree

Plains Shire Council for their funding grant and the New South Wales government for the funding that made this new boat ramp possible.

"Getting funding and building projects is hard enough at the best of times, but in a cross-border town like Mungindi it can often take a combined effort of collaboration from multiple parties to bring projects like this together", Mayor O'Toole said.

"To have the New South Wales government fund the construction of a boat ramp on Queensland soil is testament to the kind of collaboration that we deliver in Mungindi.

"It is also a great example of common sense, as building the boat ramp on this side of the river creates a great connection to all of the new infrastructure that was recently put into the Mungindi River Park.

"This boat ramp and the recent upgrades to the Mungindi River Park will also greatly benefit the local Mungindi community on both sides of the border in terms of liveability and improved amenities and accessibility to attract more tourism to the area.

"The installation of this boat ramp is now the final piece in the upgrade of the Mungindi River Park, following a complete \$750,000 overhaul of the park facilities that were finalised in 2022."



The New Mungindi Boat Ramp.



From left: Adam Marshall MP, New South Wales Member for Northern Tablelands, Mayor Samantha O'Toole, Balonne Shire Council and Mayor Mark Johnson, Moree Plains Shire Council officially open the new Mungindi Boat Ramp.

## 2024 Upcoming Courses

There are plenty of courses coming up this summer. From marketing related training days to boat and jetski license courses and even firearm safety classes.

Get in touch with Patricia or Angelina to find out more about securing your spot.

### GTT-Gateway to Training

07 4671 2258

gttc.com.au

info@gttc.com.au

### January

Saturday 20th

119 Victoria St, St George

\$150.00

**PROVIDE FIRST AID IN AN EDUCATION & CARE SETTING + CPR**

Saturday 20th

119 Victoria St, St George

\$85.00

**CPR UPDATE ONLY**

### February

13th-15th

119 Victoria St, St George

\$705.00

**FORKLIFT TRAINING + ASSESSMENT**

Sunday 25th

119 Victoria St, St George

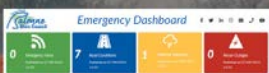
\$200.00 theory | \$120 practical

**FIREARMS SAFETY COURSE**

Do you know how to keep up to date with current Bushfire Warnings?

Balonne Shire  
Emergency Dashboard

www.emergency.balonne.qld.gov.au



QFES Current Bushfire  
Warnings and Incidents

www.qfes.qld.gov.au/Current-Incidents



Council's Authorised Inspection Program is about to commence (1 November 2023 to 31 January 2024)

Every allotment will be inspected to check on the following:

- Registration of Dogs
- Permits for the keeping of Other Animals
- Permits for the keeping of Stock Dogs
- Overgrown allotments

For more information, contact Council 07 4620 8888

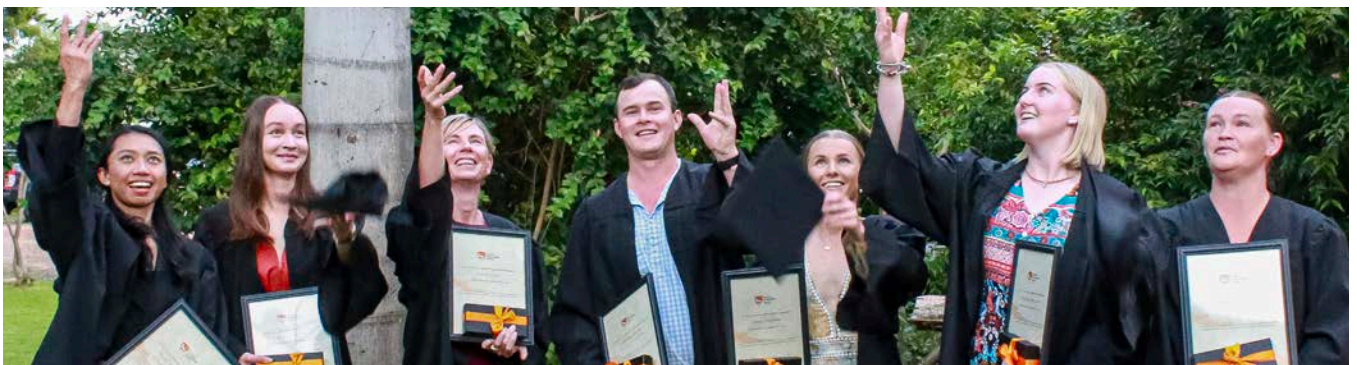


# Out and About in Balonne

*St George Christmas Carnival & Twilight Markets*



## *CUC Graduation Ceremony*



# Tom Curtin's Katherine Outback Experience - Mungindi



# Balonne Shire Job opportunities

January 2024

**Cleaners**  
Dirranbandi (HQ)  
Service other towns

## RED DIRT FAIRIES CLEANING SERVICE

Previous experience a bonus, but not essential | Flexible hours  
Must be able to pass police check

Send cover letter and resume to:  
Olivia: fairiesdirran@outlook.com or  
message on the Red Dirt Fairies Cleaning Service Facebook Page



**Parts Interpreter**  
Full Time  
St George

## ST GEORGE MACHINERY CENTRE

Wage reflective of experience.  
The Parts Interpreter is the point of contact between business and its prospects or clients. The range of responsibilities including identifying and educating prospective customers while supporting existing clients.



For more info Email: cameron@sgmc.com.au or call 07 4625 3633.

**Local Laws Officer**  
Permanent  
Full Time  
St George

## BALONNE SHIRE COUNCIL

\$67,450pa

The Local Laws Officer is responsible for enforcement, monitoring, and education of Local Laws and other legislation as directed. An affinity for dogs with a good understanding of dog behaviour and an ability to interpret and apply policies, procedures and State legislative requirements is essential.

For more info visit: Balonne Shire Council website employment page



**Service Manager**  
Full Time  
St George

## ST GEORGE MACHINERY CENTRE

Wage aligns with experience.  
Motivated and organised service manager to join the SGMC team. Responsibilities include maintaining customer satisfaction, booking service repairs, leading a workshop, diagnosing repairs, etc.



For more info Email: cameron@sgmc.com.au or call 07 4625 3633.

**Jetpatcher Truck Operator**  
Permanent  
Full Time  
St George

## BALONNE SHIRE COUNCIL

\$60,164pa

Carry out operation of a jet patching truck on maintenance and construction works on sealed roads and streets throughout the shire as well as general labouring and operation of other plant and equipment as required.

For more info visit: Balonne Shire Council website employment page



**Qualified Technician**  
Full Time  
St George

## ST GEORGE MACHINERY CENTRE

Monday-Friday  
Some weekend work and Call outs may apply.  
Technician is responsible for installation, maintenance, and repair of Agricultural and Construction machinery. SGMC technicians are adept in utilising diagnostic tooling and accessible service information. Ongoing training is continuously offered to keep everyone up to date with the revolving industry trends and procedures.



For more info Email: cameron@sgmc.com.au or call 07 4625 3633.

**Electrician and Refrigeration Mechanic**  
St George & Surrounds

## BEESONS ELECTRICAL & REFRIGERATION

Accommodation Package incl. Above Award Wages, 38hr week with overtime available, Work vehicle, iPad & Christmas Bonus.

Qld Electrical Lic, Artick Lic, Construction Industry White Card, CPR/LVR, Manual Drivers Lic, Full unrestricted Aus work rights, Ability to work unsupervised.

For more information phone: 4625 5500  
or email beesons@beesonselectrical.com.au



**Machine Sales Rep**  
Full Time  
St George

## ST GEORGE MACHINERY CENTRE

Wage negotiable pending experience.  
Responsibilities including identifying and educating prospective customers while supporting existing clients with information and assistance that relates to products and services



For more info Email: cameron@sgmc.com.au or call 07 4625 3633.

**MC Truck Driver**  
Full Time  
St George

## MOONROCKS

Competitive, above-award rates including four weeks annual leave

Loading dry freight in pallet lots from destination in South Australia (no milk runs) & returning to the origin for reloading, 4-6 times per month for 9months per year. Remaining 3 months consists of general farm freight.

Be presentable, physically fit and healthy, and have clean and tidy habits inside and outside the truck.

Email: lynda@moonrocks.com.au  
Phone: 07 4625 5146



**Service Administrator**  
Full Time  
St George

## ST GEORGE MACHINERY CENTRE

Wage is negotiable pending experience.  
The service administrator will assist the service manager in booking in service repairs and have a range of responsibilities including invoicing customers, receiving creditor invoices, communicating with customers and employees and lots more to ensure the smooth running of this busy office.



For more info Email: cameron@sgmc.com.au or call 07 4625 3633.

**Packhouse Maintenance Operator**  
(2yrs Exp).  
St George

## MOONROCKS

Ensuring the smooth running of the packing line and supporting systems. Full training provided. Understanding of a packing line operation and knowledge of supporting systems. Exceptional organisational skills and strong understanding of WHS practices.

Be presentable, physically fit and healthy, and have clean and tidy habits.

Email: lynda@moonrocks.com.au  
Phone: 07 4625 5146



**Home Care Worker**  
Casual or part-time  
St George or Roma

## ANGLICARE

Approx pay scale - \$31-\$39/hr  
Assist with personal grooming and hygiene, medication assistance, transport, social inclusion and domestic duties as required.



Apply online: www.anglicaresq.org.au/career-vacancies

**Domestic Assistants & Personal Care Workers**

St George, Alton, Bollon, Boolba, Dirranbandi, Hebel, Mungindi & Nindigully

## SKILLS HUBS

CASUAL & FULL TIME AVAILABLE

\$26 - \$60/hr + penalties.  
No experience required and training available.  
Find your new fulfilling career making a difference in the lives of vulnerable Australians.

To find out more go to: www.skills hubs.com.au  
Call: 1800 319 762  
or register at: https://lp.skills hubs.com.au/mr-candidates



**Ground Handler**  
St George

## REX AIRLINES

Tender submission required.  
Commencing January 2024,  
For more information contact michelle.gordon@rex.com.au.



**Experienced Cook**  
Full Time  
Thallon

## FRANCIS HOTEL

Hourly rate  
Accommodation available if needed.

Ideal candidate will have experience working in a rural pub kitchen and be able to collaborate with other members of our team to create delicious meals that will keep our customers coming back for more.

Call or text 0405 596 407 or email thethallonpub@gmail.com



**Administration Officer - Governance (Risk & Compliance)**  
St George

## BALONNE SHIRE COUNCIL

\$62,111.00 pa

The position is responsible for maintaining the delegations and authorised officer registers, review and register of policies and procedures, lease register and property transactions, insurance claims, complaints management, right to information, Council's insurance portfolio and risk register.

For more info visit: Balonne Shire Council website employment page



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If you have a position you would like placed in this section, please contact Balonne Shire Council's Workforce Development Officer: Angelina on 0499 816 151.

This Balonne Shire Council initiative is proudly supported by the Queensland Government through its Growing Workforce Participation Fund.

For more information on local jobs



SCAN THIS QR CODE

