

# BULLOO *BULL*

NEWSLETTER - APRIL 2024



Bulloo Shire Council Mayor & Councillors first official meeting.

*Bulloo Shire - Out in front doin it easy*





# BULLOO *Buzz*



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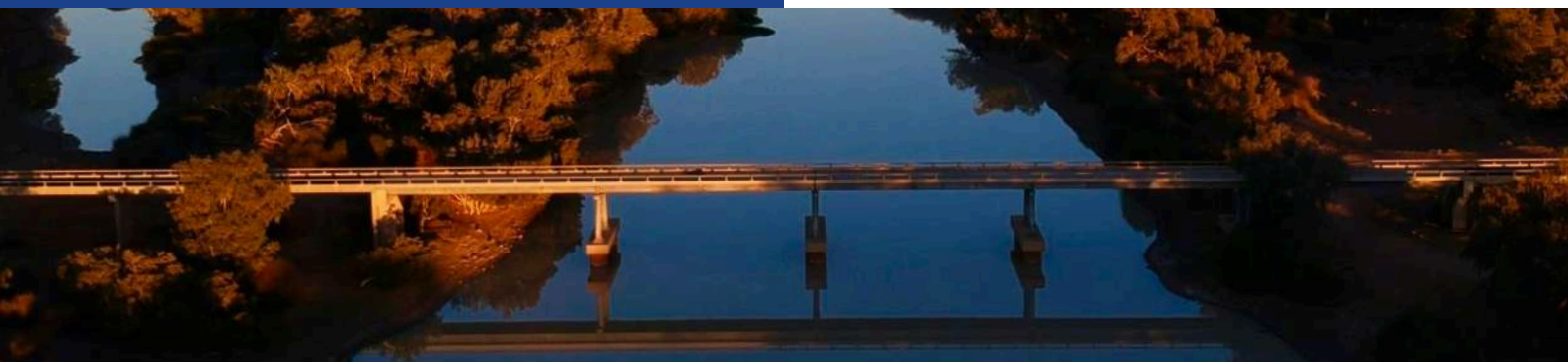
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Road Updates  
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# MESSAGE

*from the Mayor*

**JONH 'TRACTOR' FERGUSON**



## Welcome on Board

Firstly, I'd like to congratulate Bulloo's new Councillors for the 2024-2028 term,

- Cr Glyn Dare – Deputy Mayor
- Cr Stewart Morton
- Cr Maurice Parker
- Cr Russell Ferguson

I must say all elected Councillors have lived in the Bulloo if not all of their lives definitely most, they come with a wealth of knowledge and passion for both the Bulloo and people. I'm excited to see what the next four years brings and feel confident we will have another successful and progressive four years

We have hit the ground running since the election. To start the term off we have held our post-election meeting to determine which committees myself and the Councillors will be representing. During this meeting Cr Dare was elected to be Bulloo Shires' new Deputy Mayor, congratulations Cr. Dare.

Below is a list of the committees and who the representatives are.

Organisation/Committee	Council Representative
Audit Committee (Compulsory)	Cr Glyn Dare Cr Russell Ferguson
Disaster Management Committee	Mayor Ferguson Cr Maurice Parker
Border Regional Organisation of Councils (BROC)	Cr Stewart Morton with Cr Russell Ferguson as Proxy.
Dig Tree Advisory Committee	Cr Stewart Morton
Pest Management Committee	Cr Stewart Morton
Outback QLD Tourism Association (OQTA)	Cr Maurice Parker with Cr Russell Ferguson as Proxy.
Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF)	Cr Glyn Dare
South West QLD Regional Organisation of Councils (SWQROC)	Mayor Ferguson with Cr Glyn Dare as Proxy
South West Regional Road and Transport Group (SWRRTG)	Mayor Ferguson with Cr Glyn Dare as Proxy
South West QLD Local Government Association (SWQLGA)	Mayor Ferguson with Cr Glyn Dare as Proxy

**Australian Institute of Company Directors**

As Mayor it is now compulsory for all Mayors to undertake the Australian Institute of Company Directors. I attended this training the week ??? along with 20 other newly elected Mayors and successfully completed this Directors course. This was a very worthwhile course, and I gained a lot of information that will assist me to competently fulfill my role as Mayor.

**Mayors Induction**

Tiffany and I, attended the Mayors induction at the Brisbane Parliament house. This induction was attended by all Mayors and CEOs in QLD. The induction was to ensure all Mayors are aware of the roles and responsibilities within Local Government.

**Warri Gate**

Council operators have been doing a great job progressing on Warri Gate Road, recently finishing a 3km seal with a 5km seal scheduled to commence soon, Council crew members and contractors are working collectively together.

**Street Scapes**

Council proposes to hold Public Consultation to engage the community's thoughts on design for the new Street Scapes, we hope to develop a plan to achieve beautification for the main street of Thargomindah.

**New House Arrival**

Council used reserved funds to purchase a three-bedroom house, the winning tender was Asset Cabins and Homes, the house is scheduled to arrive in June. This will assist Council with the housing crisis we are facing, a housing shortage has been a long-standing problem.

**SWROC**

Myself and councils ACEO, Miss Tiffany Dare, recently spent 2 days in Quilpie with the other 6 councils who form SWQROC. A number of Mayors were appointed to different roles within SWQROC and I have been appointed Chair of the South West QLD Water and Sewerage Alliance.

**Quilpie Road**

Council has just completed a 5.2km seal on the Quilpie Road leaving only 1.7km to go, this has been a long time coming, and we will all be pleased when this is complete.



# CEO'S *Message*

**TIFFANY DARE**

## **Welcome to Council**

Following the Local Government Elections in March 2024, may I congratulate the following people on being elected to the position of Mayor & Councillor for the Bulloo Shire Council for the next four years.

- Cr John Ferguson (Mayor)
- Cr Glyn Dare
- Cr Russell Ferguson
- Cr Stewart Morton
- Cr Maurice Parker



*From left to right: Cr. Parker, Cr. Morton, Mayor Ferguson, Cr. Ferguson, Cr. Dare*

It is a significant commitment to make to serve your community for this time and one that I hope you will find fulfilling and rewarding. As with all roles that we undertake, the satisfaction comes from the commitment we make and the outcomes we achieve by doing that role well.

As a Councillor, you will attain a much greater knowledge of government and the understanding that we are using public funds to achieve outcomes for our whole community; whether it is by improving our infrastructure or improving the way of life for everyone in our Shire. Knowing that you have had an active role in this improvement, will provide you with a great deal of satisfaction when you look back on your achievements at the end of your term.

On behalf of the staff of the Bulloo Shire, may I wish you well for your coming term in this very important role and I look forward to working closely with you and the whole Council.

## **Thank you for Service**

May I, on behalf of the Shire and staff, thank you Vaughan Collins and Shirley Girdler for your time, your courtesies, and your willingness to work with us to achieve significant milestones for our Council and I wish you all the best for the future.

I have sincerely enjoyed my time working with you and I believe we have achieved much in a short period of time. As a past Councillor, you can look back on your time with Council with pride, knowing you have contributed your time, effort and knowledge to improving our community and you can now claim a small piece of history as a serving councillor with the Bulloo Shire Council.



*Cr. Collins*



*Cr. Girdler*



# ROADS *Update*

As we come to the end of the third month of 2024, Road Services would like you give you a little recap on what has happened and what we have worked on so far.

Roads have unfortunately farewelled a few people from our team this year and would like to wish Brenton Dare, Jake Bliss, Brayden Gibson and Dalton Howard all the best for their future.

We also farewelled Robbie Hilt at the end of 2023 as he has made the decision to retire.

Mid-February we welcomed Isaiah Shillingsworth who decided he wanted to join the team and become part of the Maintenance Crew.

We look forward to working with Isaiah and seeing him grown with us as a part of our team.

## **Crew 1**

Lance Casey and his crew have started the year strong with works starting, for the next section of 5km on Quilpie Road under the

Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS) program. While also completing Heavy Formation Grading and Formation Re-sheeting along-side the TIDS program.

Sealing this 5km is due to happen any time before June 30th given that no more rain delays works for the guys.

## **Crew 2**

Greg Brown and his crew have started the year off continuing on with working on Warri Gate Road doing the Remote Roads Upgrade Program (RRUP) preparing another 5km for Bitumen Sealing.

Recent rain did put a hold on works due to the road being too wet for the machines to operate.

Now that the rain has dried up, Crew 2 are hard at work again with the help of Crew 4, Ben Ferguson and George Inncentos.

## **Crew 3**

Jack Nicholas and his crew started the year off with Shoulder re-sheeting on Cunnamulla Road for RMPC, they then moved over to help Crew 1 on Quilpie Road TIDS working on the opposite end of the detour road. Crew 3 have also worked on some QRA works on Autumnvale Road, Soonah Crossing doing a Medium Formation Grade on both roads.

They have now moved over to Hungerford Road to do some Maintenance Grading which consist of both Light and Medium Formation Grading.



# ROADS *Update*



FROM SHEPHERD SERVICES

## ABOUT SHEPHERD

Your Leaders in Regional Roads Management and Disaster Recovery Systems

SHEPHERD has been assisting local communities restore flood damaged assets nationally since 2016 with the assessment and delivery of works under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DFRA). We are a Queensland based business and specialise in working alongside rural and remote councils. We are proud of our outstanding reputation for effectively delivering flood recovery programs and our ability to assist councils with disaster recovery management.

The SHEPHERD Team consists of over 60 staff all available to assist Council as required, including engineering professionals with specialist qualifications and experience in civil and structural engineering, asset management, accounting, GIS and road condition assessment.

Our people have a wealth of first-hand experience and understand the unique challenges of the disaster recovery work. We appreciate the impacts on the local community and Council, and seek to use our experience and expertise to provide a quality and timely result.

One of SHEPHERD's points of difference is that we place high importance on the financial management of all our projects and use our proven systems and processes to support funding claims and acquittal processes.

We value the long term benefits we can provide to the councils and communities we work with by helping ensure sound financial, risk and asset management principles are considered throughout the project delivery.

SHEPHERD has been working alongside the Bulloo Shire Council team to support the restoration of essential assets for the local community since July 2022, and the team enjoy being based locally at the site office in Thargomindah.

We look forward to providing regular updates on restoration works in coming newsletters.



# WATER *Update*

## Let's get Wise with our Water

Did you know the average Australian goes through approximately 340 litres of water per day? Did you also know that the residents of Thargomindah used 19,473 kilolitres of water during the month of February alone – this actually equates to a whopping 3,703.8 litres of water per person per day!

Some easy ways to cut back on water usage around your home includes:

- **Install a water saving shower head** – they use around 40% less water than a standard shower head.
- **Keep showers short and sweet** – a standard shower uses 15-25 litres of water per minute, reduce your shower time to reduce water usage.
- **Turn off the tap when you brush your teeth** – this can save 6 litres of water per minute.
- **Fix dripping taps** – a dripping tap can waste 15 litres of water a day, or 5,500 litres of water per year.
- **Only run fully loaded washing machines and dishwashers** – those half-filled loads add up to lots of wasted water over time.
- **Be water efficient whenever possible** – for example, wash your car on the lawn to water and fertilise the grass at the same time. Car shampoos use phosphates similar to many fertilisers.
- **Don't use water if another tool can do the job** – use a rake, broom or outdoor blower to clean paths and driveways rather than a hose.
- **Only water your lawn when it needs it** – if it springs back after stepping on it, it doesn't require watering. When you do water, a good soaking every now and then is preferable to frequent light watering. Thorough watering encourages deeper roots, giving you a stronger, more drought resistant lawn.
- **Water at the right time** – watering your garden in the early morning or evening reduces water loss through evaporation. Don't put the sprinkler on if it's too windy.
- **Choose the right plants** – local native varieties and other water wise plants attract wildlife and need less maintenance and watering.
- **Mulching plants is key to retaining moisture** – as well as reducing evaporation and water run-off, a good quality mulch will also provide nutrients to the plants and restrict weed growth.

Council are asking the residents of Thargomindah to be aware of the damage foreign objects can cause when flushed down the toilet.

Recently a towel was removed from a discharge pump – this caused the pump to shut down which reduced the pumping capacity of the system.

Foreign objects being flushed down toilets can potentially cost Council several thousands of dollars to either remove or repair pipework or pumps.

Other items flushed that are often causing problems within our sewerage network include wet wipes, disposable nappies, toys, tools and items of clothing to name just a few. Please remember to only flush the three p's – pee, poo and (toilet) paper!





# Australia Day

Mother Nature turned on an absolute scorcher for us but that didn't stop our Community celebrating Australia Day!! congratulations to all our award recipients an to everyone that braved the hot conditions and come along.

January 2024





## Mandala Workshop

Our last workshop was Mandala Painting and what a fun time we had!!! This was the quietest workshop I think we have ever had as everyone concentrated on painting their masterpieces. Some absolutely stunning pieces came out of this workshop and i hope you all enjoyed it as much as I did. See you all at the next one.

10th February 2024





## Healthy Ageing

Our Healthy Ageing Group has been enjoying their time at Teelow court with craft and puzzles. this year we have also been enjoying the pool with some light water activities on Wednesday mornings. Monthly Luncheons are continuing with our Easter Luncheon a hit with the lucky draw chocolate goodies. Our visiting Therapist continue with Soaring Souls joining our roster. We have some exciting things coming up including a trip to the new Artesian Spas in Cunnamulla.

2024  
So Far





## Playgroup

Playgroup is held at the Library every Thursday morning and our local 5 and unders get together and have a great time playing with the toys in our childrens area.

For easter we headed to the park for an Easter Egg Hunt and all went home with enough chocolate to keep us going for the rest of the holidays.

2024  
So Far





# Thargomindah Microgrid Feasibility Study Newsletter

Issue 1 February 2024

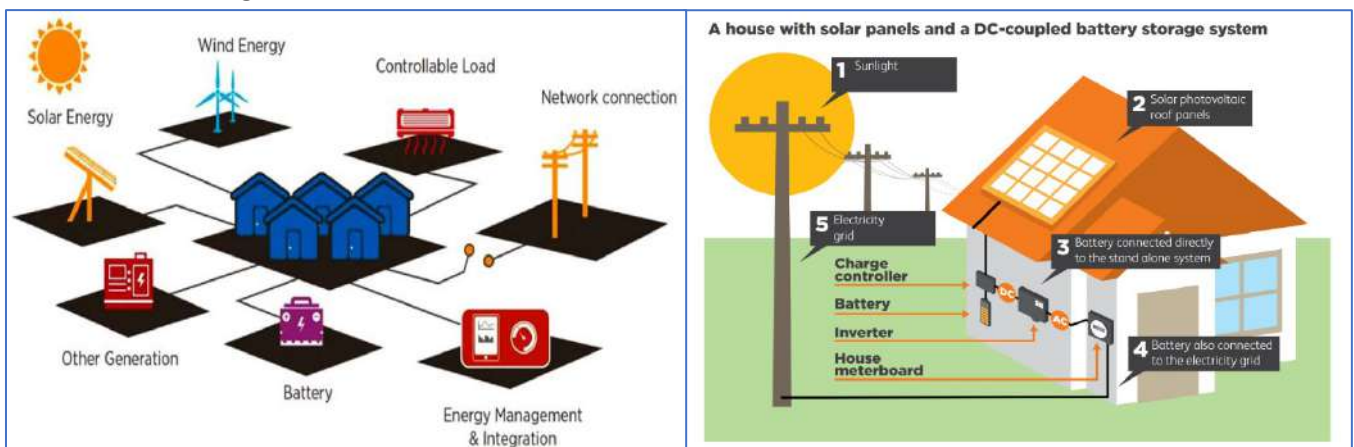
## Welcome

Welcome to the first issue of the Thargomindah Microgrid Feasibility Study Newsletter. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep stakeholders and the community updated on the activities being undertaken by the project team.

## Who is funding this project?

Bulloo Shire Council received grant funding for the Feasibility Study from the Queensland government via the Queensland Microgrid Pilot Fund– the project commenced in November 2023 and will be completed in late 2024.

## What is a microgrid?



A microgrid is a small electricity network incorporating local energy generation and energy storage technologies such as solar panels, wind turbines, energy-from-waste, biofuels, batteries etc. that connects houses, business, and community facilities.

Microgrids can be stand-alone or enable disconnection from the normal distribution grid if power supply is interrupted as a result of a severe weather event or other “upstream” event on the powerline that supplies the community.

Existing renewable energy systems may be incorporated into the micro-grid solution.

## What has the project team done so far?

The project team have visited the community in late February to meet local residents and stakeholders that may benefit from the implementation of a microgrid and undertake initial site assessments.

Key community stakeholders that we spoke to included Council and Registered Native Title Body Corporates (RNTBCs) as well as Energy Qld (Ergon), business operators, community representatives including health and education service providers.

Over coming months, we would like to talk to more people, including residents and review energy consumption including current use of solar energy and how a microgrid may benefit your community.

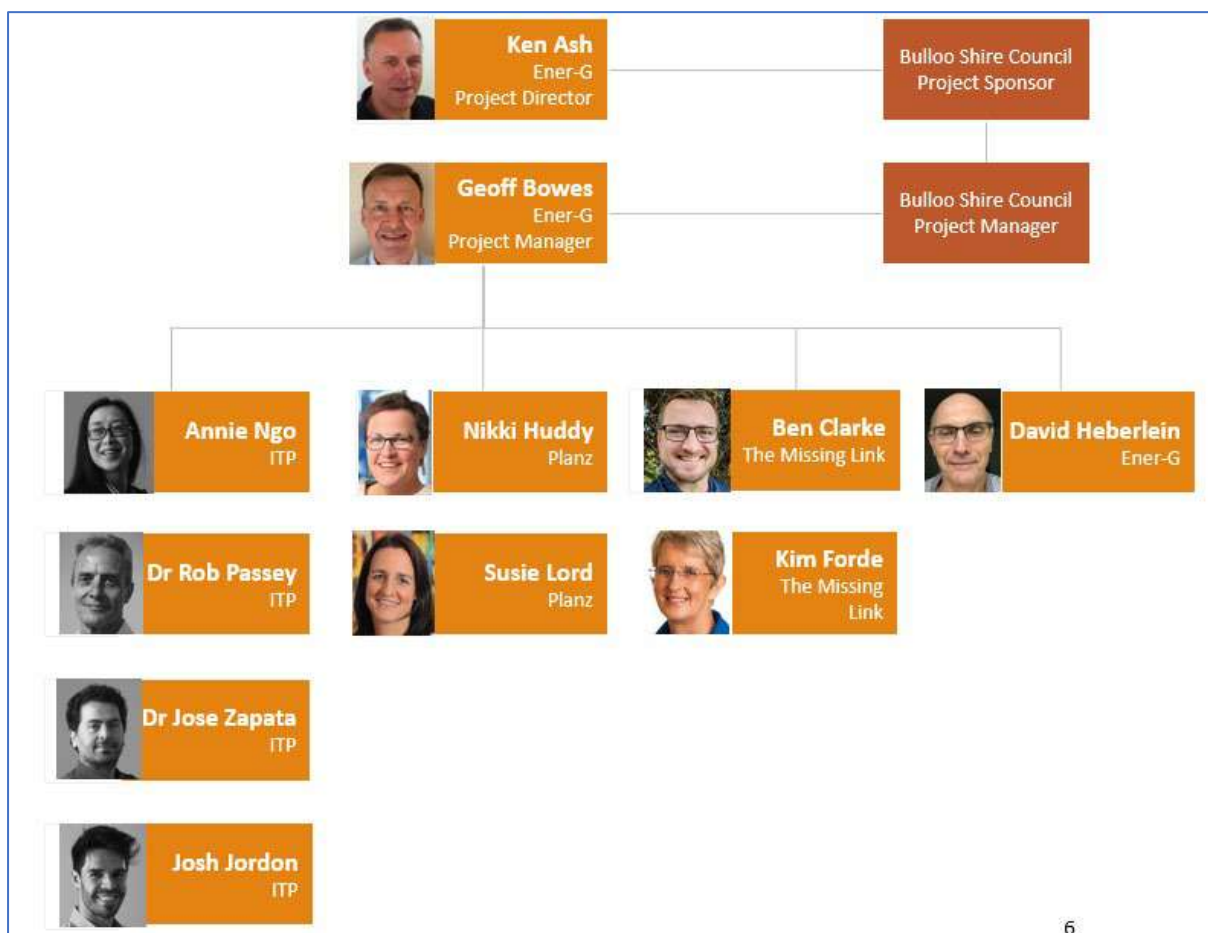
## Who is EnergyConnect?

“EnergyConnect” is the brand name for the Microgrid Feasibility project team which has been engaged by Bulloo Shire Council to prepare the microgrid feasibility study. EnergyConnect is a group of businesses led by engineering consultancy firm Ener-G Management Group.

The other project partners are Planz Town Planning, The Missing Link Resource Coordinators, and ITP Renewables Australia.

EnergyConnect has undertaken numerous microgrid feasibility studies in recent years including the communities of Yarrabah (near Cairns), Napranum (Cape York) and Muralug Island (Torres Strait).

Further information on these projects or the project team can be found on the EnergyConnect web site [www.energy-connect.net.au](http://www.energy-connect.net.au)



## How do I find out more about the project, our previous work and us?

The Project team will continue to work with the community through direct visits to Thargomindah but also via surveys and the Community Reference Panel, to hear your thoughts and ideas. Details of times and locations will be updated on the Council’s notice board and web page.

Our website is: [www.energy-connect.net.au](http://www.energy-connect.net.au) or you can email us at [projects@energy-connect.net.au](mailto:projects@energy-connect.net.au)



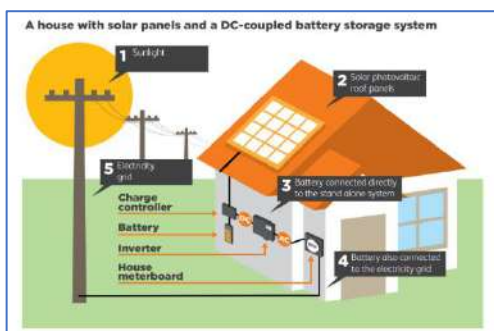
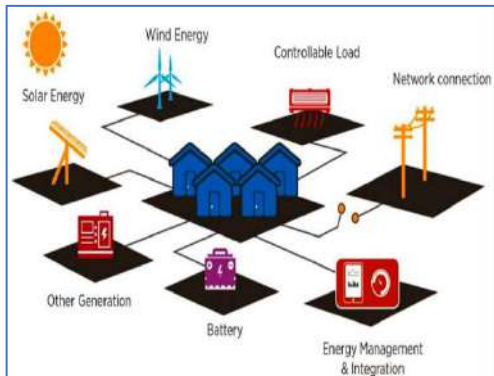
# Thargomindah Microgrid Feasibility Study Newsletter

Issue 2 April 2024

Welcome to the second issue of the Thargomindah Microgrid Feasibility Study Newsletter. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep stakeholders and the community updated on the activities being undertaken by the project team.

## What is a microgrid?

A microgrid is a small electricity network incorporating local energy generation and energy storage technologies such as solar panels, wind turbines, energy-from-waste, biofuels, batteries etc. that connects houses, business, and community facilities.



## What's New?

### Project Team Visit

Part of the project team visited Thargomindah at the end of March 2024. They got to meet with members of the community and hear first-hand about the electricity challenges Thargomindah and its community faces. It was very illuminating and the team appreciated the excellent input from everybody they were able to catch this time around. We are excited to start developing some options that may address the challenges identified.



*Council staff showing Microgrid Team around.*

### Establishment of the Community Reference Panel (CRP) and first meeting

The Community Reference Panel has been established and the members attended the first meeting during the teams visit. The purpose of this panel is to share information about the project and act as an intermediary between the project team and the wider community. We thank all who attended and encourage people to ask any questions, provide feedback or seek info from the members. Members are Cr Glyn Dare, Vaughan Collins, Tiffany Dare, Brenden Blackford, Ramie Warner, Peggy Ferguson and Margaret Harris and the chair of the CRP is Mayor John Ferguson.

The first CRP meeting was held on the 1st of March 2024, where the CRP was established, information about the feasibility study was shared and feedback was sought from the CRP members in regards to the development of the feasibility study.

## Assessing the need

It is clear although the community of Thargomindah is adaptable and innovative there is a need to address the current issues with its power supply. Thargomindah faces significant energy challenges, including higher usage costs and frequent power disruptions (brownouts and blackouts), impacting essential services and necessitating backup generators for businesses and residents.

The town experiences frequent power disruptions due to its position at the edge of the Ergon Energy distribution network, highlighting the need for a more reliable power supply to mitigate hardships and additional expenses.

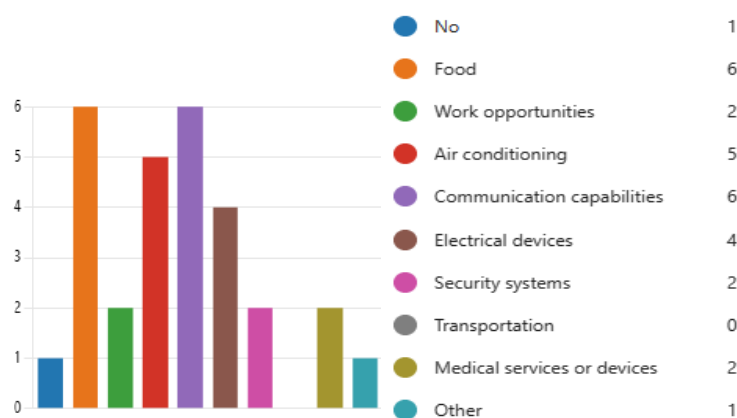
Despite a high level of interest in the project, community concerns include maintenance responsibilities, cost, dependability, and technology reliability, indicating a need for consideration of these factors, local support and clear assurances from the project team.

## Community Questionnaire

A questionnaire is currently open to members of the Thargomindah community. This has been put together by the EnergyConnect team and aims to understand the current state of energy supply, while examining the needs and goals of the community. We would love to hear from you so we can better match the solution to the communities power needs.

***Please take the time to complete the questionnaire.***

To access our questionnaire, please scan the QR opposite or visit - <https://forms.office.com/r/ig9LC6Z1rz>



*Preliminary results from the questionnaire – What have you lost?*

## What is next?

### Network, infrastructure, energy sources

Going forward the team will take an in depth technical look into the existing network, infrastructure and possible energy sources. We will be assessing the current state of the electricity network and how a microgrid could support and improve the current situation.

## Get in touch

If you would like to reach out to the project team or find out more about the microgrid project please check out the contact details below.



projects@energy-connect.net.au



www.energy-connect.net.au



*Scan here with your phone or tablet to complete the Questionnaire.*

Thanks for reading and we look forward to hearing from you!



## Rural Services ...

This year most landholders have started off with some good rain. January totals include 108.5mm at Besm, Orientos 38.8mm, Nappa Merrie 31mm, Kulki 50mm and Wombula 40.5mm. Early February saw the large totals in the West of the Shire with Naryilco 162mm, Orientos 90.6mm, Tickalara 180mm and Epsilon 154mm, this rain all fell very quickly.



*Storm Photo taken by Mac Mason at Wombula Station*

Our Rural Lands Officer has been trapping wild dogs on properties inside the Wild Dog Barrier Fence, and also checking the Wild Dog Barrier Fence after the rainfall and reporting damage back to the DAF Office in Quilpie.

A restricted invasive cactus was found growing in a town garden and was reported to the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries. A Biosecurity Officer from Charleville came to identify and spray the cactus. Rubber Vine, Coral Cactus and Snake Cactus are also being monitored at Norley Station.



*Coral and Snake Cactus growing together*



Rural Service staff have been visiting properties to help landholders complete their updated Pest Management Plans. All stock owners have been reminded to complete their annual brand return.

#### Flood Warning Infrastructure Network (FWIN) Program

Rural Service Staff participated in a zoom meeting with representatives from the Bureau of Meteorology about upgrades to the Warning Infrastructure Network. This will enable the Bureau to upgrade, acquire and simplify ownership of high priority rain and river gauges, and associated communications equipment, in high priority catchments across the Bulloo, Paroo and Cooper Creek catchment area.

#### Town Services

Clean Up Australia Day was held on Sunday 3 March, with eleven volunteers attending to help collect rubbish from along the river walk, roadsides and walking paths.



# Bulloo Shire Road Register

## Public Consultation



Council is reviewing the Bulloo Shire Road Register and considering removing various roads from the network. Given the impact on the community, primarily rural landholders, we are seeking feedback from the community.

Council updated the Road Register in May 2022 to include 463.60km of additional kms mainly access road. Councils Engineer has made the recommendation to review the Register and consider removing the roads added in 2022.

When Roads are included in the Road Register, Council has a responsibility to carry out maintenance in line with approved budget, while this may be seen as a positive there is also a disadvantage to rural landholders as the roads listed on the Road Registers become a Council Asset therefore are available to the travelling public.

The recommendation includes the removal of these roads, listed below, with the understanding that Council will continue to grade Access roads upon request if there is a suitable contractor or maintenance crew in the area.

Below are the Roads Council is considering removing from the Register:

- |                                |       |                      |
|--------------------------------|-------|----------------------|
| 1. Kilcowera Access Road       | Rural | Access Road (25km)   |
| 2. Dynevor Downs Access Road   | Rural | Access Road (0.3km)  |
| 3. Wathopa Access Road         | Rural | Access Road (9km)    |
| 4. Epsilon Access Road         | Rural | Access Road (0.4km)  |
| 5. Orientos Access Road        | Rural | Access Road (5km)    |
| 6. Narylco Access Road         | Rural | Access Road (1.2km)  |
| 7. Nockatunga Access Road      | Rural | Access Road (2.1km)  |
| 8. Durham Downs Access Road    | Rural | Access Road (0.50km) |
| 9. Tickalara Access Road       | Rural | Access Road (1.7km)  |
| 10. Pinidary Access Road       | Rural | Access Road (10km)   |
| 11. Nooyeah Access Road        | Rural | Access Road (1.7km)  |
| 12. Koolkurry Access Road      | Rural | Access Road (1.1km)  |
| 13. Thargo Station Access Road | Rural | Access Road (1km)    |
| 14. Besm Access Road           | Rural | Access Road (0.4km)  |
| 15. Bingara Access Road        | Rural | Access Road (3.1km)  |
| 16. Moombidary Access Road     | Rural | Access Road (4km)    |
| 17. Karto Access Road          | Rural | Access Road (10km)   |

18. Picarilli Access Road	Rural	Access Road (5km)
19. Wiralla Access Road	Rural	Access Road (1.2km)
20. Kihee Access Road	Rural	Access Road (3km)
21. Nappa Merrie Access Road	Rural	Access Road (2.9km)
22. Norley Woolshed Access Road	Rural Road – Minor	(23km)
23. Lake Pure Road Rural	Rural Road – Minor	(69km)
24. Mt Howitt Road Rural	Rural Road – Minor	(45km)
25. Fortville Gate Road Rural	Rural Road – Minor	(15km)
26. Dribbler Bore Road Rural	Rural Road – Minor	(83km)
27. Old Eromanga Road	Rural Road – Minor	(50km)
28. Woomanooka - Innamincka Road	Rural Road – Secondary	(12km)
29. Durham Downs - Innamincka Road	Rural Road – Secondary	(44km)
30. Bulloo Flood Road	Rural Road – Secondary	(37km)
31. Boodgerree Access Road	Rural	Access Road – (12km)
32. Bulloo Downs Access Road	Rural	Access Road –(2.1km)

#### How to Submit Feedback:

Please submit feedback in writing to

- Email: [council@bulloo.qld.gov.au](mailto:council@bulloo.qld.gov.au) or
- Post: Bulloo Shire Council, PO Box 46, Thargomindah QLD 4492.

If you have any queries or require further information in relation to this matter, please contact the Councils Engineer, Geroqe Inocentes by contacting the Council office on (07) 4621 8000.



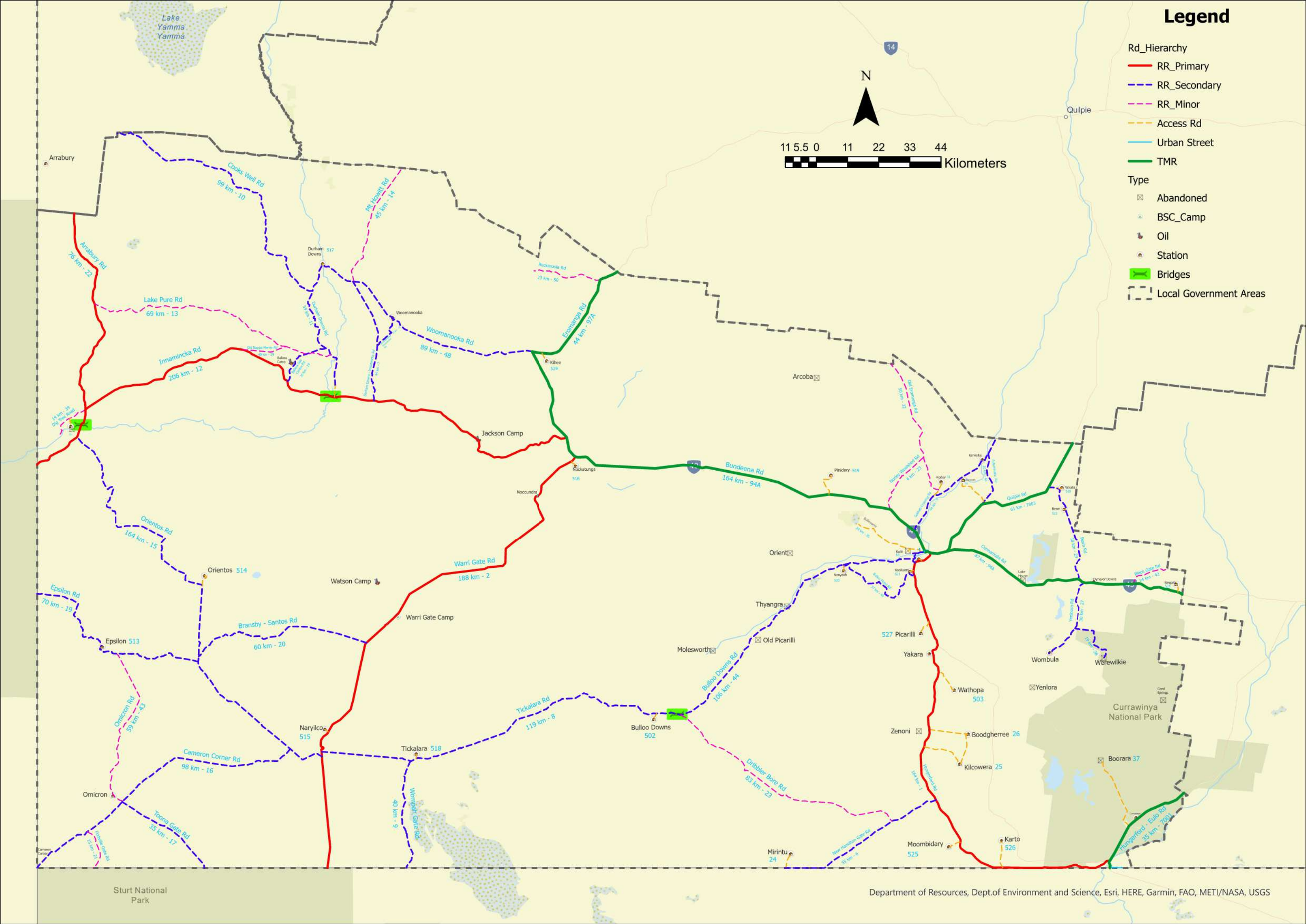
# Legend

## Rd\_Hierarchy

- RR\_Primary
- RR\_Secondary
- RR\_Minor
- Access Rd
- Urban Street
- TMR

## Type

- Abandoned
- BSC\_Camp
- Oil
- Station
- Bridges
- Local Government Areas







# Flood Warning Infrastructure Network (FWIN) Program

The Bureau of Meteorology is leading an upgrade of Australia's Flood Warning Infrastructure Network. Australian Government investment of up to \$236 million will enable the Bureau to upgrade, acquire and simplify ownership of high priority rain and river gauges, and associated communications equipment, in high priority catchments across Australia.

The Bureau is accountable for Australia's riverine flood forecasts and warnings, the creation of which relies on receipt of rainfall and river height measurements from over 10,000 assets. These assets are owned and maintained by hundreds of organisations, including the Bureau, the Australian Government, local, state and territory governments, and commercial entities.

Simplifying the ownership and management of Australia's flood warning infrastructure network will:

- Improve community access to rain and river level observations and enhance provision of flood forecasts and warnings, supporting disaster preparedness, response and recovery; and
- Relieve some asset owners of the requirement to own and maintain high priority rain and river level gauges as part of the national flood warning network.



Flooded road with depth indicators in Queensland, Australia.



The Australian Government has invested up to \$236 million for the Bureau to acquire high priority assets, within high priority catchments, over a 10-year period.

In each high priority catchment, the Bureau will consult asset owners and stakeholders to identify high priority assets, and develop a schedule of upgrade works, an acquisition plan, and clarity on intersections with other flood warning network upgrade projects.

Upgrades and acquisitions are conditional on ongoing maintenance cost-sharing agreements being in place with state/territory governments. Once these have been secured, the first upgrades and acquisitions will occur in FY 2024/25, in alignment with evolving national priorities. Until upgrades have been completed, asset maintenance will remain the responsibility of existing asset owners.

## Contact us

We encourage everyone in the flood warning community to connect and engage with this significant opportunity to transform Australia's flood warning services. Please do so by contacting the Bureau via [floodinfrastructure@bom.gov.au](mailto:floodinfrastructure@bom.gov.au).

**We look forward to working with you to incorporate your local knowledge to support your communities.**



Dan Fitzpatrick (Cairns Hub) at a Townsville flood gauge.



Royal Flying Doctor Service  
QUEENSLAND SECTION

Telehealth  
Monday

# TELEHEALTH GP SERVICE

*The RFDS is conducting a trial Telehealth GP Service on Mondays to alleviate pressure on our Emergency line.*

## Our Service:

- ✓ **Telehealth GP**
- ✓ **Scripts**
- ✓ **Review of Results**
- ✓ **General Health Concerns**

## When

- **Every Monday**  
(except Public Holidays)
- **Appointments available from:**
  - 7am - 9am
  - 1pm - 4pm
- **Open to all outreach communities we service**

To book an  
appointment

☎ **07 4654 1233**

*\*\*Please note this is a shared service between our Cairns, Charleville & Mount Isa Base, appointments are limited.*



# Heat-related illness

## Fact sheet

During extremely hot weather, it is easy to become dehydrated or overheat. If this happens you may develop a heat-related illness such as heat cramps, heat exhaustion or even heat stroke. If you suffer from a chronic health condition, it may become worse during hot weather. So, it is important for you to plan ahead to stay healthy in hot weather.

### What happens to your body in extreme heat?

When the weather is very hot, your body has to work harder and produce more sweat to keep cool. Under some conditions, sweating just isn't enough and your body temperature can rise rapidly. This is more likely to happen when it is humid, or when you are dehydrated and can't produce enough sweat. It's important that your body temperature stays between 36.1–37.8°C. If your temperature rises above this, you may develop signs of heat-related illness.

### Who is at risk?

All Queenslanders are at risk during periods of hot or prolonged high temperatures. However, some people are at a higher risk of harm, such as

- the elderly—especially those who live alone
- babies and very young children—as they produce more body heat, sweat less and their body temperature can rise more rapidly
- pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers
- people who suffer from a pre-existing medical condition—such as diabetes, kidney disease or mental illness
- people who take certain medication—such as allergy medicines (antihistamines), blood pressure and heart medications (beta-blockers).
- fluid tablets (diuretics) and anti-depressant or anti-psychotic medications. If you take this medication, consult with your doctor or pharmacist for more information.
- people with an alcohol or other drug problem
- people with mobility problems or disability who may not be able to identify or communicate their discomfort or thirst
- people who are physically active—such as manual workers and people who play sport.

The best way to reduce the risk of heat-related illness is to drink plenty of water and keep your body as cool as possible.]



Figure 1 Heat haze

## Common symptoms and First Aid for heat-related illness

The chart below lists the most common symptoms and First Aid for heat-related illness that can affect people. Please note that the presence of symptoms may vary from person to person.

Heat-related illness	Symptoms	First Aid
<b>Dehydration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>dizziness</li> <li>tiredness</li> <li>irritability</li> <li>thirst</li> <li>bright or dark urine</li> <li>loss of appetite</li> <li>fainting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>drink plenty of water or alternate with diluted fruit juice (1 part juice in 4 part water)</li> <li>avoid alcohol and drinks high in caffeine and sugar</li> <li>move to a cool place, lie down and remove excess clothing</li> <li>seek medical help if start to feel unwell</li> </ul>
<b>Heat cramps</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>profuse sweating</li> <li>painful muscle cramps usually in legs and abdominal muscles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>stop activity and sit quietly in a cool place</li> <li>increase fluid intake</li> <li>rest a few hours before returning to activity</li> <li>stretch and gently massage affected muscles</li> <li>seek medical help if cramps persist</li> </ul>
<b>Heat exhaustion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>pale complexion and profuse sweating</li> <li>fatigue, weakness and restlessness</li> <li>headache, dizziness</li> <li>nausea, vomiting</li> <li>weak rapid heart rate</li> <li>breathing fast and shallow</li> <li>muscle cramps, weakness</li> <li>fainting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>move to a cool place, lie down and remove excess clothing. To cool down the body try               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>cool shower, bath or sponge bath</li> <li>place moist, cool cloths on forehead, wrists, sides of neck, underarms and groin area, fan continuously</li> </ul> </li> <li>give small sips of cool water or diluted fruit juice or cordial (1 part juice in 4 parts water)</li> <li>if recovery is not prompt or vomiting occurs, seek emergency medical assistance</li> </ul>



Heat-related illness	Symptoms	First Aid
<b>Heat stroke</b>	<p>More severe and dangerous form of heat-related illness.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• confusion, poor coordination or slurred speech</li> <li>• hot, dry skin, possibly not sweating</li> <li>• fast and shallow breaths</li> <li>• rapid pulse</li> <li>• extreme fatigue, headache</li> <li>• fainting</li> <li>• vomiting and diarrhoea</li> <li>• loss of consciousness</li> </ul>	<p>This is a medical emergency—call triple zero (000), then</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• check person's airway, breathing and pulse – if unconscious position on their side and commence CPR if required.</li> <li>• seek urgent medical advice if ambulance delayed</li> <li>• if possible, move person to a cool place, lie them down and remove excess clothing.</li> <li>• to cool the body place moist, cool cloths on forehead, wrists, sides of neck, underarms and groin area, fan continuously</li> <li>• give small sips of fluids if conscious and able to swallow</li> <li>• do not give any medications unless they are prescribed by the doctor</li> </ul>

## Further information

- Contact your doctor, hospital or health clinic
- In an emergency, ring 000 for urgent advice from the Queensland Ambulance Service
- Call 13 HEALTH (13 43 25 84) at any time
- Contact 13 QGOV (13 74 68) for your nearest public health unit.

# Heatwave preparation checklist

**EVERYONE IS AT RISK OF  
HEAT-RELATED ILLNESS**

**get  
ready**  
QUEENSLAND



**Monitor the weather, you can use the Bureau of Meteorology Heatwave Service**

- Be aware of overnight and maximum daytime temperatures and how long the heatwave has gone for.



**Know who you will call for help.**



**Know who you will check on, such as neighbours, friends, relatives and those who live alone.**



**Know local cool public spaces like libraries and shopping centres.**



**Understand how to manage your medical condition by asking your doctor**

- If your medical condition will be affected by extreme heat
- How much water you should drink in hot weather, especially if you normally need to limit the amount you drink
- How your medications could affect your health in the heat.



**Store enough medication at the right temperature.**



**Prepare your home by:**

- Storing cool packs in the fridge or freezer and making ice cubes
- Filling spray bottles with cool water to use on your face and body
- Checking fridges, freezers, fans and air-conditioners work well
- Stocking up on food and drinking water
- Creating cool rooms and cross breezes in your house
- Protecting windows from the sun by using blinds or curtains



**Pack an emergency kit in case the power goes out**

- This could include a torch, batteries, portable phone charger, candles, matches, a battery-operated radio and a first aid kit.



For more information visit  
**[www.health.qld.gov.au/heatsafe](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/heatsafe)**



**Queensland  
Government**





# Bulloo Shire Council are HIRING!



## Roller Operator

### REQUIREMENTS FOR THE POSITION

- Possession of current Roller Operator ticket or willingness to obtain
- General Safety Induction (white card - Construction Industry), or a willingness to obtain this card before commencement of employment
- Demonstrated sound level of experience and understanding in operation and maintenance of Roller Operations
- Up to date knowledge of construction and maintenance techniques and methods and ability to resolve minor problems on the job
- Time management skills to ensure planning and prioritizing of workload to meet deadlines
- Ability to recognise potential hazards that could be a risk to council employees or the general public
- Ability to work alone with limited supervision and as required, work cooperatively and communicate (written or verbally) as part of a team
- "MR" class driver's license

### CONTACT



**07 46218000**



<https://www.bulloo.qld.gov.au/about-council/positions-vacant>

**IF YOU'RE READY TO ROLL WITH THIS EXCITING CHALLENGE, SEND YOUR RESUME AND COVER LETTER TO [COUNCIL@BULLOO.QLD.GOV.AU](mailto:COUNCIL@BULLOO.QLD.GOV.AU)**

**PLEASE ADDRESS YOUR RELEVANT EXPERIENCE AND WHY YOU'D BE A GREAT FIT FOR OUR TEAM IN YOUR COVER LETTER.**

### BENEFITS & ALLOWANCES

- Opportunities for professional development and training.
- Supportive work environment with a focus on work-life balance.
- Level 5 under stream B Local Government Award
- CRAMWA (Construction/Reconstruction/Alteration/Repair and/or Maintenance Work Allowance)
- Locality Allowance
- 12% Employee Super Contribution
- 1 x RDO per fortnight
- 5 weeks Annual Leave
- Employee health & wellbeing benefits

### WHY CHOOSE US ?

We are a modern-day Council, that is consistently focused on improving our facilities, venues, infrastructure, plant and People. We are committed to improving the livability of our shire, supporting growth and development within our community.



# Staying healthy in the heat

## Fact sheet

Prolonged hot weather can affect anybody. It may make existing medical conditions worse and can cause heat-related illness. In some cases, heat effects may be fatal. It may also affect community infrastructure such as power supply and other support services. So, it is important to know how to stay healthy in hot weather.<sup>1</sup>

### Who is at risk?

All Queenslanders are at risk during periods of hot or prolonged high temperatures. However, some people are at a higher risk of harm. This includes

- the elderly—especially those who live alone
- babies and very young children
- pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers
- people who suffer from a pre-existing medical condition—such as diabetes, kidney disease or mental illness
- people who take certain medication—such as allergy medicines (antihistamines), blood pressure and heart medications (beta-blockers), fluid tablets (diuretics) and anti-depressant or anti-psychotic medications. If you take medication, consult with your doctor for more information.
- people with an alcohol or other drug problem
- people with mobility problems or disability who may not be able to identify or communicate their discomfort or thirst
- people who are physically active—such as manual workers and people who play sport



Figure 1 Heat-related illness

### Preparing for a heat wave

This includes

- check air-conditioning at your home has been serviced and is working effectively
- ensure you have an enough food, water, medicines and toiletries to avoid going out in the heat

<sup>1</sup> 2013 NSW Health Environmental Health, Heat-Related Illnesses Including Heat Stroke, at <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/environment/factsheets/Pages/heat-related-illness.aspx>



- store foods and medicines at a safe temperature
- if you have a medical condition, ask your doctor for advice on how to manage the heat
- consider your options if the heat wave causes a loss of electricity or disrupts public transport
- ensure you have a torch, fully charged mobile phone or a telephone that will work without electricity, a battery-operated radio and sufficient batteries
- find ways to make your home cooler—such as installing awnings, shade cloths or external blinds on the sides of the house facing the sun. Dark metal shutters and dark curtains may absorb heat and make the room warmer and should be avoided. The use of pale curtains or reflective materials is better.

## Coping during prolonged heat

This includes

- keep hydrated by drinking water regularly during the day. This generally means drinking two to three litres of water a day, depending on heat, humidity and your physical activity.
- if your doctor normally restricts your fluid intake, check how much to drink during hot weather. Drinking too much water can also be dangerous, so monitor the colour of your urine. It is recommended that your water consumption should ensure that your urine is light yellow.
- avoid drinking drinks with high levels of sugar, caffeine and alcohol and very cold drinks
- eat smaller cool meals, such as salads. Do not take additional salt tablets unless prescribed by a doctor.
- keep yourself cool. Use wet towels or scarves, put your feet in cool water or take cool (not cold) showers. Stay indoors in cool or air-conditioned facilities— either at home or at local shopping centres, libraries and cinemas.
- close curtains and blinds to reduce heat entering your home
- avoid strenuous outdoor activities. If you can't avoid outdoor activities don't go out in the hottest part of the day, stay in the shade, drink plenty of water and wear a hat and light coloured, loose fitting clothing. Ensure infants and children do too.
- don't leave children, adults or animals in parked vehicles, even for a short period of time
- keep in touch with sick or frail friends, neighbours and relatives to ensure that they are coping with the heat wave conditions
- watch or listen to news reports for information about the heat wave.

## Further information

- Contact your doctor, hospital or health clinic
- In an emergency, ring 000 for urgent advice from the Queensland Ambulance Service
- For general signs of symptoms resulting from prolonged exposure to hot weather, refer to 'Heat-related illness' fact sheet.
- For information on caring for children in the heat, refer to 'Caring for children in heat' fact sheet.

- Call 13 HEALTH (13 43 25 84) at any time
- Contact 13 QGOV (13 74 68) for your nearest public health unit.

### **COVID-19**

This fact sheet encourages you to consider visiting an airconditioned library, shopping centre or cinema. While doing so, please keep yourself and others safe from COVID-19 by following the latest Queensland Health advice

<https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/protect-yourself-others>



# Naturally occurring fluoride in Thargomindah's drinking water

Fluoride is a natural element often found in water, plants, rocks, soil, air and some foods. Research shows that fluoride helps protect teeth against tooth decay. Regularly drinking water containing small amounts of fluoride can help reduce tooth decay for people of all ages.

## What is the drinking water standard for fluoride?

The Australian Drinking Water Guidelines recommend an upper limit of 1.5 milligrams per litre (or parts per million) of fluoride in drinking water. This is equivalent to one twentieth of a teaspoon of fluoride in a bathtub of water.

Many Western Queensland towns source their drinking water from groundwater (i.e. bores). These water sources can contain natural fluoride levels that are above this limit.

Monitoring of Thargomindah's drinking water supply has indicated that it contains naturally occurring fluoride in the range from 1.6 to 1.9 milligrams per litre. This is slightly above the recommended limit in the Guidelines.

Conventional water treatment processes and most domestic water filters do not reduce the level of fluoride present in your drinking water.

## What are the risks of elevated levels of fluoride in drinking water?

There are two side effects that have been associated with elevated levels of fluoride in drinking water. The first is dental fluorosis and the second is skeletal fluorosis, which only occurs with very high levels of fluoride in drinking water.

## What is dental fluorosis?

The main side effect associated with elevated levels of fluoride in drinking water is a condition known as dental fluorosis.

Dental fluorosis is largely an aesthetic concern and most often occurs as a mild change to the appearance of tooth enamel. It can appear as small, almost invisible, white lines in the enamel. More rarely, and in more severe cases, it can appear as pitting or staining of the enamel.

Dental fluorosis can occur if too much fluoride is ingested when teeth are developing at around one to four years of age. Teeth already present in the mouth are not at risk of developing fluorosis.

The risk of developing dental fluorosis, or experiencing more severe forms of the condition, increases with greater levels of fluoride in drinking water. However occasionally dental fluorosis occurs in developing teeth at relatively low fluoride levels.

Showering or bathing in water containing high levels of fluoride does not increase the risk of developing dental fluorosis.

## What can I do to minimise the risk of dental fluorosis?

Most domestic water filters do not reduce the level of fluoride present in your drinking water. Parents can reduce the risk of children developing dental fluorosis by:

- Ensuring children do not take fluoride supplements (e.g. fluoride tablets and/or drops).
- Cleaning children's teeth with low fluoride or fluoride free toothpaste until the age of 18 months, unless otherwise recommended by a dentist.
- If fluoridated toothpaste is used, ensuring only a pea-sized amount of toothpaste is used and that children spit out after brushing and rinse their mouths with water.
- Monitoring and restricting other sources of fluoride in their children's diet (such as seafood and tea, which are known to contain fluoride).
- Providing bottled drinking water with low fluoride content where possible and not substituting bottled drinking water with soft drinks or other drinks high in sugar.
- Breast-feeding infants where possible and using bottled water to add to infant formula.

## Help and assistance

For general enquiries contact your local Public Health Unit:

- Darling Downs Phone: 4699 8240

For more information:

Contact your dental professional

- Visit [www.health.qld.gov.au/oralhealth](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/oralhealth)
- Call 13 HEALTH (13 43 25 84) for confidential health advice 24 hours a day, seven days a week
- Email [oral\\_health@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:oral_health@health.qld.gov.au)

The information in this fact sheet applies only to those parts of Queensland with levels of naturally occurring fluoride above the drinking water Guideline or 1.5 milligrams per litre. It does not apply to locations with standard levels of water fluoridation.

*Disclaimer: Please note that any material printed is regarded as an uncontrolled copy. It is the responsibility of the person printing the document to refer frequently to the latest electronic copies for updates.*





**STRENGTHENING CARE FOR RURAL CHILDREN**

## RAISE YOUR VOICE

**JOIN OUR RURAL CONSUMER ADVISORY GROUP**

Do you have lived experience accessing health services for a child in a rural setting?

Do you want to share your experiences and help us improve outcomes?

Then we want to hear from you.

**APPLY HERE**



SCAN ME



## Heavy Diesel Mechanic

### Requirements:

- Diagnosing malfunctions in machinery and equipment.
- Dismantling, repairing, rebuilding, assembling and installing parts to vehicles, construction and industrial machinery in the field and in the workshop.
- Reporting to the Fleet Coordinator to requisition spare parts.
- Recommending measures to improve production methods, equipment performance, and quality of product.
- Carrying out daily duties as per work procedures to meet schedules.
- Supervising & training workshop apprentices in accordance with the organisation's policies and applicable laws when apprentice is delegated to them.
- All work to be carried out in a safe manner and areas to be kept clean and tidy.
- Carrying out work in accordance with WHS obligations and responsibilities.

### What We Offer:

- Opportunities for professional development and training.
- Supportive work environment with a focus on work-life balance.
- Level 5 under Stream C Local Government Award
- CRAMWA (Construction/Reconstruction/Alteration/Repair and/or maintenance work Allowance)
- Locality Allowance
- 12% Employee Super Contribution
- 1 x RDO per fortnight
- 5 weeks Annual Leave
- Employee health & wellbeing benefits

### How to Apply:

If you're ready to take on this exciting challenge, send your resume and cover letter to [council@bulloo.qld.gov.au](mailto:council@bulloo.qld.gov.au)

Please address your relevant experience and why you'd be a great fit for our team in your cover letter.

07 46218000

[council@bulloo.qld.gov.au](mailto:council@bulloo.qld.gov.au)

<https://www.bulloo.qld.gov.au/about-council/positions-vacant>

Department of Transport and Main Roads



## Community information session

### Planning for the bridge over the Paroo River, Eulo

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is investigating options to upgrade the bridge over the Paroo River, and its approaches, at Eulo.

We would like to invite the communities of Cunnamulla, Eulo, Hungerford, Thargomindah and surrounds to come along and talk to us to share their insights, experiences, and suggestions related to flooding events and how they have impacted on them.

We will be at the Eulo Town Hall on **16 May 2024** between 9am and 3.30pm.

To book your place, please phone the South West District Roma office on 4622 9511 (Monday-Friday 8.30am-4.30pm).

If you are unable to attend but would like to provide us with information about your experiences, please email us on [SouthWest.office@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:SouthWest.office@tmr.qld.gov.au).

## Bulloo Shire Council

### Ordinary Meeting Dates

2023/2024 & 2024-2025



DATE	TIME
Monday, 20 May 2024	9.00am
Monday, 17 June 2024	9.00am
Monday, 15 July 2024	9.00am
Monday, 19 August 2024	9.00am
Monday, 16 September 2024	9.00am
Monday, 21 October 2024	9.00am
Monday, 18 November 2024	9.00am
Monday, 16 December 2024	9.00am
Monday, 20 January 2024	9.00am
Monday, 17 February 2024	9.00am
Monday, 17 March 2024	9.00am
Monday, 21 April 2024	9.00am
Monday, 20 May 2024	9.00am
Monday, 17 June 2024	9.00am



**FRIDAY 10TH  
MAY 2024  
6.30PM  
@ THE HALL**

**BINGO PENS AVAILABLE  
\$5 EACH OR 3 FOR \$12  
\$2 GAME CARDS**

# BINGO NIGHT

**ENTRY  
\$5 KIDS  
\$10 ADULTS  
\$25 FAMILY  
ENTRY INCLUDES FINGER  
FOOD &  
YOUR FIRST GAME FREE**

**BROUGHT TO YOU BY  
THARGOMINDAH  
HOSPITAL AUXILIARY**

**BAR AVAILABLE  
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS &  
SOME FANTASTIC PRIZES TO BE WON**





2 DAYS  
OF  
FAMILY  
FUN

# THE SHEARERS SHINDIG THARGOMINDAH

YOUR  
EPIC  
OUTBACK  
ADVENTURE

## 24 & 25 MAY 2024



QUICK SHEARS



MICK LINDSAY



PIG RACES



ADAM KILLPATRICK



MARKET STALLS



FLUX ENTERTAINMENT

Find us on  
FACEBOOK

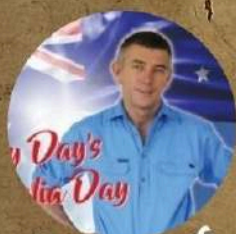


FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION PICK UP A BROCHURE FROM THE VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE,  
THARGOMINDAH  
or PHONE 4621 8095 for a copy





# SAVE THE DATE



GLEN JONES

MARCO GLIORI



SANDY DODD

GED & TRUDY HINTZ



DAVE PRIOR

## CHANNEL COUNTRY MUSIC MUSTER

THARGOMINDAH SW QLD  
FEATURING TOP LINE AUSTRALIAN ARTISTS

LACH MCKAY



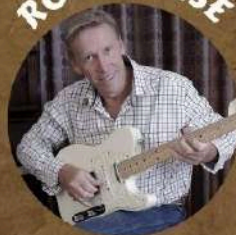
ZAC ANTHONY



ALASTAIR MCLEAN



ROB BREESE



ROB WALTERS



REECE BLINMAN



BRIAN LETTON

# 15 - 21 JULY 2024



**Keep up to date!**



**THARGOMINDAH CHANNEL COUNTRY MUSIC MUSTER**

Contact Ged & Trudy Hintz

Ph: 0417 981 640

Email: [thintz7@bigpond.com](mailto:thintz7@bigpond.com)







# Bulloo Shire 2024 EVENTS

MAY 10	BINGO NIGHT - HOSPITAL AUXILIARY
MAY 24 - 25	SHEARERS SHINDIG
JUN 8 - 9	THARGOMINDAH POLOCROSSE CARNIVAL
JUL 15 - 21	CHANNEL COUNTRY MUSIC MUSTER
SEP 14 - 15	THARGOMINDAH MOTORBIKE GYMKHANA & ENDURO
SEP 27 - 29	CHANNEL COUNTRY CAMPDRAFT, GYMKHANA & RODEO
OCT 5 - 6	HUNGERFORD HORSE & MOTORBIKE GYMKHANA PLUS MOTORBIKE ENDURO
OCT 11 - 12 - 13	NOCCUNDRRA CAMPDRAFT, MOTORBIKE GYMKHANA & RODEO
NOV 11	HUNGERFORD REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE
DEC 13	CHRISTMAS IN THE BULLOO MARKETS & CHRISTMAS TREE
DEC 31	CAMERON CORNER NEW YEARS EVE PARTY

For more info contact the Thargomindah Visitor Information Centre



(07) 4621 8095



tourism@bulloo.qld.gov.au



ExploreBulloo

Make sure to tag us in your photos!