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Firstly, I must say how wonderful it has been seeing our tourists back in the Western Corner, we love our tourists out here and unfortunately due to COVID-19 last year we took quite a hit with not having a tourist season. This had an impact on local businesses. However we made it through.

2021 is proving to be a good year for tourists visiting our region, our first event for the year was the 'Shearers Shindig', the attendance numbers were well above our expectations, the event proved to be a major hit with over 623 people through the gate, many of which were tourists along with our locals and the 80 nominations. shearer As Mayor, this is wonderful to see so many people coming to experience the lifestyle that we live every day. The Visitor Information Centre staff put in a huge effort running this event and did a great job at it. Many thanks to all VIC staff. Safe to say you can mark this event on your calendar for next year.

In June Lew and I will be travelling to Canberra to sit with Parliament Ministers and Shadow Ministers to discuss two major current issues for our Shire, Warri Gate Road and housing. Our wish list is to complete the seal of 152 km to

the border. This will allow a sealed road corridor from Southern Australia to Northern Australia. The opportunities this seal will create are endless for businesses and tourists. Housing has been an issue for many years in this area. It has an impact on Council works and creates issues when recruiting staff, which also then creates issues with growth and development of our Shire. These issues will be brought to the attention of the Ministers.

To wrap things up, I'd like to say, although we did endure an unforeseen 2020-2021 due to COVID-19 and its restrictions, we had a great financial year with many completed projects. We've completed more kerb and channelling around town, concreted footpaths, only 17km left to be sealed on Quilpie Road, maintaining and upgrading tourism attractions, created a roaming grader crew allowing the back roads to be graded, completed the Water-Cooling Project, just to name a few.

Congratulations to everyone involved with the Water-Cooling Project, we have come out on top and won the Sustainability Award through LGMA Awards, the competition was Queensland wide and we were up against the big boys on the coast.

Thank you to all Council staff working hard to keep 'Bulloo Shire out in front, doing it easy'.

John 'Tractor' Ferguson Mayor



WELCOME TO ALL OUR NEW FRIENDS

You have probably noticed that we have a lot more friends coming into town each and every day.

The tourists! We love'em! At the moment we are averaging about 35 people a day with that figure going up on the odd day. This is bringing a lot of Eromanga money into our community and is giving us a lot of Toowoomba and Brisbane. See? We really are the opportunity to raise the standard and provide a great impression of our little village.

Some of the comments that are being bandied around include, "...a neat clean little town", one of the friendliest towns we have visited" ".....Even the kids want to talk to you", the river walk is great" "..... love all the annuals that have been planted", "... everyone's yards seem clean and tidy" etc. etc. These are great comments to get because they are not just based on what the council has done. This is first impression people have of us as a community and the more of these comments that we get, the more people are going to come and stay; and this is exactly what is When I came here 7 years ago, people only stayed one night and most didn't stay at all. Now we have people staying up to three days because they didn't realise there was so much to see.

This keeps the dollar in town longer and guarantees Chief Executive officer. employment for people working locally. On average, a Tourist may spend \$150 a day between food, petrol and accommodation. Multiply that by the average

number of tourists that visit us for the season, say 8000, that equates to \$1,200,000. This then extends out to 15 jobs in the community that is supported by these travellers. THAT is why we love'em. So please continue to make them feel welcome because they will get your kids a job.

Lets keep up those first impressions by keeping our yards clean and mown, lets keep a friendly smile on our face, and lets walk up and say 'Gidday' to a stranger. It might be all they need to come back next year; and it might be all they need to bring their friends back as well.

We have a lot to offer as the 'Greenest little town in the west". Our solar is a real strong statement about our values. Our preservation of the old hospital, the gaol and the hydro also sends a message that we want to preserve our heritage, and that is only here in Thargo. There's the pub in Hungerford, the National Parks, the Dig tree, The Noccundra pub, the Cooper, the Channel country. All up, there is a good few days needed to poke around and see it all.

Then there is the gateway statement. Through Warri Gate to Broken Hill, Melbourne and all points south and west. There is Innamincka, Moomba and Adelaide via the Strzelecki track then north west out through and through Cunnamulla east centre of the world as we know it.

This is a great time of the year for us. Its like watching the wild flowers bloom after a good downpour. Thargomindah and Bulloo Shire bloom when the tourists come to town. It's a great time, because we also start our festival activity such as the Shearers Shindig held a couple of weeks ago and the Channel Country Music Muster in July. This is such a great place.

Remember, say "Gidday" to our tourists because they help us to remain a viable place to live.

WELCOME EVERYONE!

Lew Rojahn

Road and Town Services.....

Where to begin!

It has been very busy and successful for the past few weeks in the Road and Towns Services Department.

Big thanks to everyone for their patience, while the roads crew were preparing the town streets and medium strips on Sams Street, Fitzwalter Street, Gilmore Street and Stafford Street to be resealed.

During this time the Roads Crew also prepared the cul de sac at the Cemetery to be sealed, and Council Depot was resealed as well.

After being held up due to flood waters at Paroo and 6 Mile for a few weeks, Mook and his crew were able to get back down and finish off the 1.3km re-sheet on Eulo Hungerford Road. Within that 1.3km Council used a Polycom Stabilizing Aid on 1km of the re-sheet, this product is an environment and OHS compliant soil stabiliser which is manufactured in Australia and is a granular polymer- based product that stabilizes and improves the engineering properties such as strength and water resistance of soil and gravel materials used in road construction and general earth works, it is a 2kg liquid that gets mixed into the gravel and then spread across the works area. 2kg treats 50m³ / 100 tons. Bulloo Shire Council will be monitoring the 1.3km to see how the stabilising agent holds up.

Massive Shout Out and Thank You to all the Road Crews and Contractors who have been very busy working hard on flood damage works these past few weeks. Flood damage works will continue on for the next few months with Arrabury, Woomanooka, Gas Centre Road and Durham Downs. Road inspections will continue to happen over the next couple weeks capturing any new damage from the last rain event.

Crew One have completed flood damage works on Blackgate Road and have now moved over to complete flood damage on Yenloora Road. Clancy, Brian, Paul, James and Locky have done a great job working on both roads.

Crew Two have completed flood damage works on By-Pass Road, Kulki Road, and Bullawarra Road. They have now moved over and started Soonah Crossing Road and Norley Road. Brad, Greg and Jeffrey have also done a great job working on these roads.

Crew Three are back on flood damage completing Hungerford Road. Thank you Mook, Kerryanne, Dainan, Andy and Phil for working as hard as you do.

Also big thanks to Tolbra for completing flood damage works on Bulloo Downs Road, Tickalara Road and Wompah Gate Road. Tolbra are now in the process of doing flood damage on Warri Gate Road and then they will be moving over and start working on the Innamincka Road.

The Maintenance crew have been very busy these last few weeks, with setting up and taking down signage for ANZAC Day, cleaning up signs after the town streets and medium strips seals, doing road runs, replacing guide posts that have been damaged or putting in new ones where required. Dale has been busy slashing along Cunnamulla Road for RMPC.

The guys have also been working on a culvert on Innamincka Road, after it collapsed a few weeks ago. The side track is still in place for anyone wanting to travel that way. Crew Two will be going over to finish off the culvert and have it prepared for a reseal once it is all completed.

The Roaming Grader Crew has been in and out of action these past few weeks due to issues with the grader breaking down. The crew will be back in action with Emergent works for the new DRFA rain event and will be heading out and working on Omicron Road once the hired Grader arrives.

Rural Services.....

April Bulloo Buzz Article

Council's Rural Lands Officer has continued Cactus monitoring and treatment at Hungerford as well as spraying the Hungerford Sports Grounds. Council's Rural Lands Officer also travelled to Hamilton Gate to undertake weed inspections.

Sensible Supplementation Workshop

Rural Services Staff, Landholders and Agforce Staff attended a workshop on the 21st April 2021 on Sensible Supplementation hosted by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries in Thargomindah. Mick Sullivan and Kylie Hopkins from Rockhampton and Caitlyn Frazer from Charleville were the presenters for the day.

Topics covered were: practical cattle nutrition, cattle nutritional requirements, reading supplement labels, understanding supplement ingredients, feeding management and animal welfare during the dry.



Participants being shown how much food with supplement a cow needs in a day to maintain body weight and rear a healthy calf.

South West Queensland Regional Resilience Strategy and Local Knowledge Map Workshop

The afternoon of the 21st April saw landholders and community members talk about river floods in the Bulloo and Paroo Rivers and Cooper Creek Catchment.

The QRA asked for local knowledge of landscapes and natural behaviours of river flows when the rivers are flooding. They used the "Big Map" technique (a map that almost took up the whole floor of the hall) and participants walked on the map pointing out different areas of interest. The information given will be recorded and given back to the community as a "Knowledge Map" for the benefit of future residents and for emergency response.



On the 16th April Rural Services Staff travelled to Currawinya to meet with Dr Adam Kerezsy who was completing fish surveys in the lower Paroo and Currawinya National Park. Adam completed a survey of the Bulloo River in 2007, at Leopardwood Park approximately 20km north of Adavale. During this survey he found that the Bulloo River was in good aquatic condition with only native fish species present and no introduced animals into the river system. Adam is planning a follow up trip to the Bulloo River in October this year to check the condition of the river and fish species. Landholders have been contacted to confirm sample species.



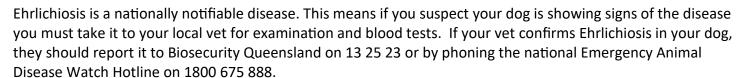
Samples caught in Lake Karratta and Lake Yumbara at Currinwinya National Park

New Dog Disease Spread by Ticks

Community members are asked to be aware of a new dog disease spread by the common brown dog tick.

The bacterial infection canine ehrlichiosis was first detected in May 2020 in Western Australia and the Northern Territory and is now affecting dogs in South Australia. Although the disease is not currently in Queensland experts warn that it could put all dogs at risk. Symptoms include:

- Fever
- Lethargy
- Enlarged lymph nodes
- Discharge form eyes and nose
- Weight loss
- Anaemia and bleeding disorders
- If not treated properly can lead to death.
- Regular tick control for dogs is also advised (regular treatments with a tablet, spot-on or tick collar), and dog owners should regularly inspect their dog for ticks.
- Dogs infected with the disease cannot transmit it to other dogs the only way transmission can occur is through infected ticks.
- The brown dog tick is found across tropical and sub-tropical Australia, so it is possible that infected ticks will eventually be found in other regions as well.



Infected dogs do not transmit Ehrlichiosis to people, however, infected ticks may infect people in rare cases. The Australian Government Department of Health has information on their website about ticks and human health precautions.

https://www1.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/ohp-tick-bite-prevention.htm



Special Projects.....

Kerb and Channel works around Thargomindah

Kerb and Channelling works have recently been completed on 5 streets (Eccles, Sams, Fitzwalter, Frew and Gilmour) around Thargomindah by Durack Civil with the help of local contractors Ago Vires and SC & KG Bowen, as well as members of the Bulloo Shire Council team. Major road widening was also completed on Gilmour, Frew, Sams and Eccles Streets, and minor widening on Fitzwalter Street. These works were funded by a Local Roads & Community Infrastructure Program grant.







Footpaths in Thargomindah

Whilst in Thargomindah, Durack Civil also installed approximately 275m of new concrete footpaths along Sams Street and Fitzwalter Street. The Sams Street section of pathway connects the existing path from the corner of Stafford and Sams Streets with the Town Walking Path on the corner of Sams and Gilmour Streets. The Fitzwalter section of paving extends from the corner of Fitzwalter and Dowling Streets to the Secondary Education Facility, giving the students an all-weather access pathway to school. The primary school students were even given the opportunity to place their handprints in the new concrete at the Fitzwalter Street entrance to the primary school.







Clubhouse has been removed

The old Grandstand and Clubhouse has been removed from the Thargomindah Sports Oval making way to potentially replace it with something new and a little more user friendly – watch this space for future announcements.





LGMA 2021 Awards for Excellence

The LGMA Queensland Awards for Excellence recognising outstanding achievement in Queensland local government.

The Award Categories include -

- Above and Beyond
- Collaboration
- Community Shaping
- 'Doing more with Less' (Category 1 Councils only)
- Innovation
- Sustainability
- Teamwork
- Workplace Wellbeing

The Bulloo Shire nominated the Water Cooling Project for Sustainability & Innovation categories.

Innovation – This project or initiative has adopted a new and different approach, leading to improved (or new) service delivery and /or performance. This initiative is cutting-edge and has probably not been seen in Queensland councils before, certainly not in this format.

Sustainability – The project or initiative has enhanced the long-term sustainability of council and/or the community. It may be through more sustainable use of human, financial and other resources or it may be related to environmental sustainability.

Council attended the event on Thursday 27th May 2021 via Zoom where finalises and winners were announced.

Council is proud to announce that Bulloo Shire won the Sustainability category for the Water Cooling Project.



Water Cooling Project

Bulloo Shire Council

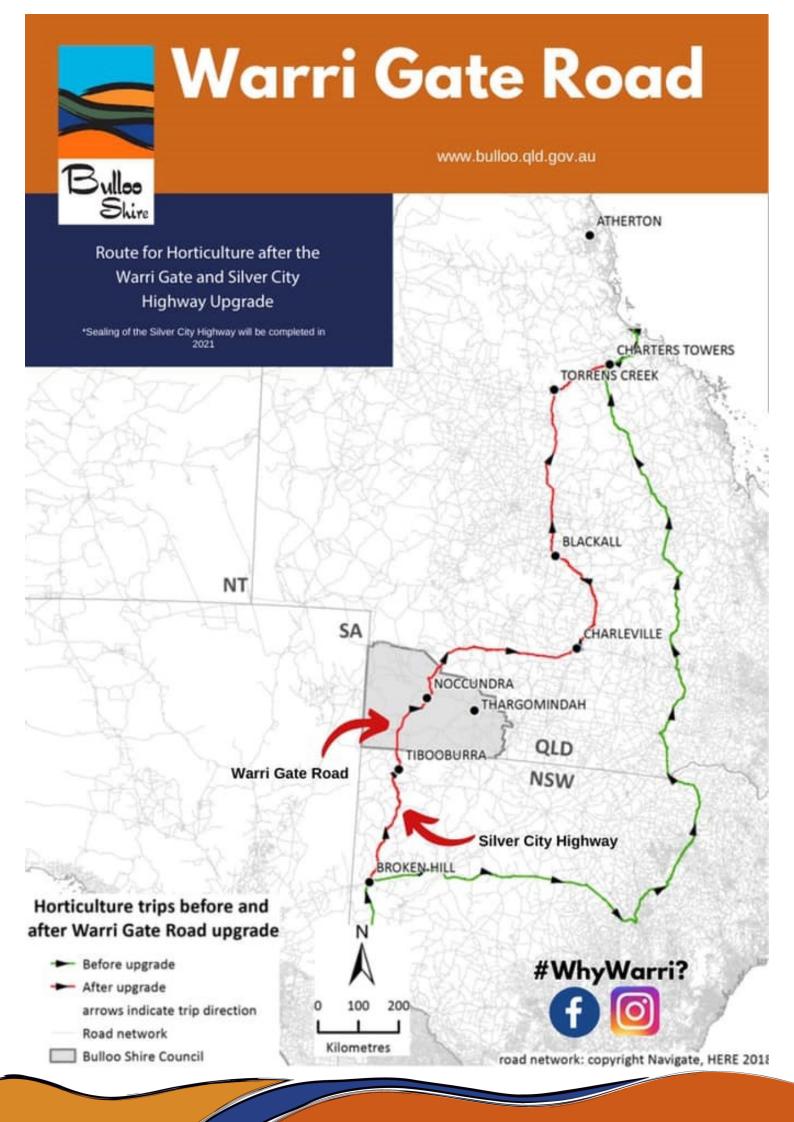
Category: Sustainability and Innovation

Continuing their commitment to being a 'Green' council, in 2020, Bulloo Shire Council commissioned solar installations across 23 council facilities. This strategic and significant investment in solar energy and a new water-cooling system will deliver long-term financial and social benefits, reduce risk to Council and maximise renewable energy use across the community.

Project-managed by Peak Services, supported by Council, and with a 60% funding boost from the Queensland Government, the water-cooling system was delivered in 2021 and now provides a continuous supply of cooled water to the community.

The town of Thargomindah relies on bore water for its potable supply – water that comes out of the ground at 72 degrees. Previous reliance on cooling towers and ponds to marginally reduce the temperature delivered to the community incurred significant cost in power and ongoing renewal and maintenance.

The new, innovative water-cooling system uses reliable technology that is easy for Council to maintain. The entire system is now powered by solar and includes battery storage to maximise the use of renewable energy and minimise grid reliance, which is particularly important in remote communities where supply can be unreliable. The design incorporates redundancy to ensure the community has certainty of water supply at a refreshing 35 degrees Celsius.





Bulloo Shire Mayor John Ferguson.

PICTURE: Why Warri Facebook Page

The road that could revive 'dying' towns

By Travis Radford

A dirt road running through a remote Shire in Queensland's south-west corner could hold the key to helping the Far West's 'dying' towns.

Bulloo Shire Mayor John Ferguson has been lobbying the Queensland Government for the last five to six years for a 150 kilometre-long stretch of road running through his Shire to be sealed.

"This [is] not just a little pet project for the Bulloo Shire. This will benefit all of Queensland and NSW," he said.

"The whole project is to build these [regional] towns [and] to get more people out in the West.

"They won't come any further [than Tibooburra] because the road's no good," said Mayor Ferguson.

This road is the Warri Gate Road.

Pressure for its sealing has ramped up in recent months as the sealing of the last section of the Silver City Highway, that connects the Warri Gate to NSW, nears its 2022 completion date.

"We seem to be still getting a lot more travellers around this time of the year when

The potential for opening up Western NSW ... is enormous?

normally we wouldn't," said Packsaddle Roadhouse employee Glenice Gilby.

Ms Gilby said the sealing of the Silver City Highway had been a silver lining for her town and business during the pandemic, with this and last year's increased numbers of domestic travellers no longer having to brave a dirt road, that she said was subject to flooding and bogging.

But Ms Gilby said the majority of new travellers are from surrounding NSW towns, like Broken Hill.

"It [sealing the Warri Gate Road] would definitely build up the business heaps.

"It would certainly boost the whole Western Division out here," she said.

Parkes MP Mark Coulton is one of a handful of federal and state ministers, including Deputy Prime Minister Michael McCormack, who Mayor Ferguson said have shown interest in the project.

Mr Coulton said the road is the "missing link" between Queensland and NSW.

"The potential for opening up Western NSW ... is enormous.

"But ultimately, that section of road is the responsibility of the Queensland Government," he said.

A Queensland government spokesperson said in a statement that the government was rather focusing on its Second Bruce Highway Plan that "delivers the widest benefits to Queensland".

But Mayor Ferguson said "it doesn't do anything for the bush".

"There's no votes out here for them [Labor]," he said.

The spokesperson, in the same state-

ment, recommended that Mayor Ferguson use "funding available to him under the TIDS scheme".

The Queensland government announced \$280 million in Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS) funding over the next four years that is given to councils to fund local road projects.

But Mayor Ferguson said his Council did not have the money to do that, as they would have to match any TIDS funding, given the Warri Gate Road is classed as a council road, rather than a state road.

Bulloo Shire Council sealed 10 kilometres of the Warri Gate Road last year, but Mayor Ferguson estimated that without state funding, sealing the road would take his Council 20 years to complete.

He estimated that state funding could have it finished in ten.

If the Queensland government nominated the Warri Gate Road for the Federal Government's Roads of Strategic Importance Scheme and was successful, they would only pay 20% of the project's cost.

Mayor Ferguson said he doesn't believe a Queensland Labor Government would ever deliver the project.

At least 700 people are killed every with thousands seriously injured. year in rural transport incidents,

RURAL ROAD RISKS

STAY SAFE



Flooded Dust, mud and sand



Soft edges



Wildlife

Bushfires

Fatigued



Be alert for wildlife



Check in with someone



Take breaks; stay hydrated

Obey the signs

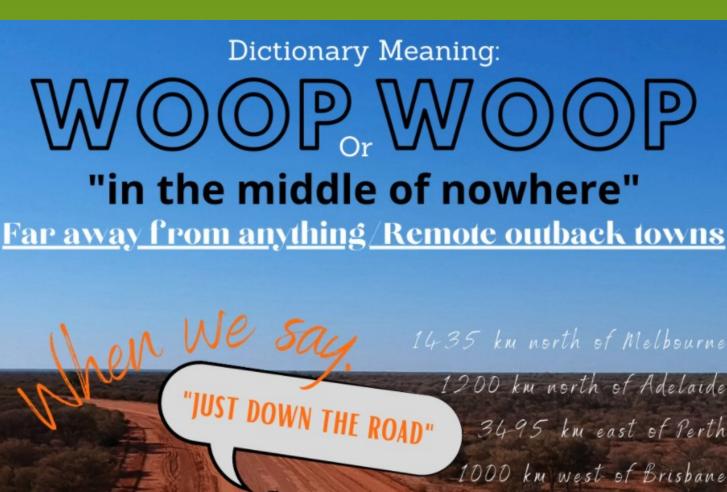
carefully Plan

Adjust speed to weather conditions



THE STATE

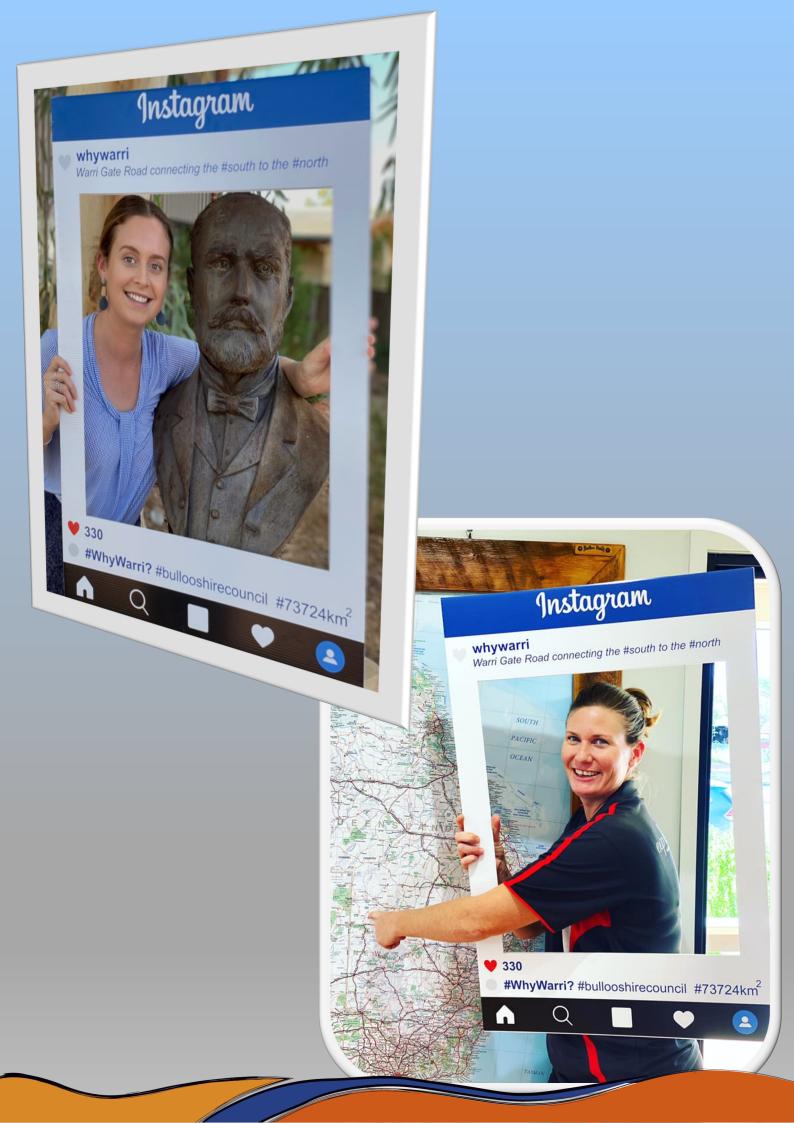
PARTNERSHIP



"JUST DOWN THE ROAD"

3495 km east of Perth
1000 km west of Brisbane
2106 km south west of Cairns
2980 km south east of Darwin
1230 km north west of Canberra
1170 km north west of Canberra
2090 km south east of Alice Springs
Thangamindah - Naccindra - Hungerfard - Cameron Corner







Many thanks to those who completed our corporate plan survey which will help inform the development of our 2021-2026 Corporate Plan.

The Corporate Plan is an important document in that it will set out Council's strategic direction which forms the basis of Council's annual budgets over the next five years.

The community has provided us with some very clear messages through the survey which we will take on board as we develop our draft corporate plan.



FREE! Nicotine Replacement Therapy for South West Smokers



Research shows that the best way to quit smoking is to use nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) or quit smoking medication in combination with support from Quitline or a health professional.

Quitline is offering South West smokers a tailored quit smoking program which includes 12 weeks of free NRT posted to your home.

Call Quitline on 137848



HOW TO REPORT CRIME IN QUEENSLAND

IF A CRIME IS
HAPPENING RIGHT NOW,
CALL TRIPLE ZERO

000

Call 000
where there is a risk of
harm or damage
to a person or property
and it is happening now.

IF *NOT*, THINK
POLICELINK.

CALL 131 444.

Call Policelink when a crime has already happened, such as a house or vehicle has been broken into.

And is not urgent.



Any information on crime or activity that maybe unlawful, such as drug activity or a suspicious person, vehicle or activity



Singer/Songwriter/Guitarist

ERNIE CONSTANCE Prolific Bush Balladeer/Songwriter & Golden Guitar award winner

COL DRISCOLL Award winning Bush Poet and MC

LOCAL TALENT Jacinta & Stevie Byrne (Saturday Only)











- Planned Activities throughout the week
- Food available at the grounds
- Early Bird Camping from Tuesday, July 6th
- EFTPOS Available for camping & festival entry only
- Firewood supplied
- Dogs allowed but must be kept on leads

Main Shows Sat. & Sun. • NON CAMPERS 25th JULY \$25 p/p per day
NON POWERED \$5 per site • POWERED \$15 p/site p/night (medical only)

For Bookin's & Information

Contact: Ged & Trudy Hintz

Ph: 0417 981 640 • Email: thintz7@bigpond.com

Thargomindah Visitor Information Gentre Ph: 07 4621 8095 • Email: tourism@bulloo.qld.gov.au





THARGOMINDAH

Explore Bulloo - www.explorebulloo.com.au

PARADISE PARADISE

The Work in Paradise Incentive Scheme is part of the Queensland Government's \$7.5 million Work in Paradise program to attract jobseekers from across Australia to take up a tourism or hospitality job in regional Queensland.

Incentive Payments

There are two incentives:

- \$1500 cash payment to take a job in tourism or hospitality in eligible regions in Queensland. This is made in three payments after two weeks, 12 weeks and 6 months. To be eligible, applicants must present a job offer for employment of a minimum eight weeks duration, and 20 hours per week
- \$250 Job Start Travel Bonus to help cover relocation costs.

Eligible employees

The employee must be a permanent resident of Australia or a temporary visa holder with Australian work rights aged over 18 years. They will also have to provide proof of identity documents, evidence of their home address and evidence of their employment from their new employer in an eligible Queensland region. The employment must be for a minimum of eight weeks and 20 hours per week for the employee to be eligible for the incentive payments.

Eligible employer

To be considered an eligible employer, employers must meet all of the following eligibility criteria: be an eligible *tourism business;* hold a valid ABN and registered for GST; hold a valid Workcover policy, and operate in an eligible region of Queensland.

Tourism Business - means a business that primarily provides goods and services to or for which the primary/majority target market is domestic or international visitors to Queensland. This includes:

- souvenir shops, duty free stores and travel good retailers (ANZSIC code 4279)
- accommodation providers (ANZSIC code 4400)
- food and beverage services including cafes, restaurants, taverns and clubs (ANZSIC codes 4511, 4513, 4520, 4530)
- road and water transport, including sightseeing (ANZSIC codes 4623, 4820, 5010)
- rental and hiring services (ANZSIC code 6611)
- event management (ANZSIC code 7299)
- travel agencies (ANZSIC code 7220)
- heritage activities including museums, parks and gardens (ANZSIC codes 8910, 8921, 8922)
- performing arts venues (ANZSIC code 9003)
- amusement and other recreational services (ANZSIC codes 9131, 9139).

Application and assessment

Applications will be assessed against the eligibility criteria including eligible employee, eligible job role, eligible region of Queensland, completion of the required periods of employment and supporting evidence and documentation. If successful, funding will be paid to the applicant as the employee.

The program will open for applications on 1 July 2021.

Further information

For further information on the Work in Paradise program:

Web: www.qld.gov.au/workinparadise Email: workinparadise@dtis.qld.gov.au

Social Media:

Queensland Tourism Development Facebook
 DTIS Linkedin
 Queensland Tourism Development Instagram



Rubbish Collection Guidelines

- Wheelie Bins WILL NOT be emptied if they are not placed on the CURB
- Wheelie Bins need to be placed on the curb with handles facing house/business
- Wheelie Bins are to be placed on the curb the night before or prior to 6am morning of collection
- Residential bins collection day is Thursday
- Business bins collection days are Monday and Thursday
- Only items to be placed in Rubbish Bins are:
 - o Household garbage
 - o NO garden waste
 - o NO animal products
 - NO ash product
- Large items placed next to wheelie bin will NOT be collected
- Number of Bins collected will be as per the Rates schedule
- If you would like an additional bin please contact Bulloo Shire Council on PH: 07 4621
 8000 to have added to your Property Rates charges

Bulloo Shire Council thanks you kindly for your co-operation



Bulloo Shire

Events 2021

RURAL MENS NIGHT

SHEARERS SHINDIG

THARGOMINDAH POLOCROSSE CARNIVAL

CHANNEL COUNTRY MUSIC MUSTER

THARGOMINDAH BIKE SPORTS AND ENDURO

HUNGERFORD MOTORBIKE & HORSE GYMKHANA

NOCCUNDRA CAMPDRAFT & RODEO

HUNGERFORD REMEMBRANCE DAY

CHRISTMAS IN THE BULLOO

CAMERON CORNER NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

MARCH 20

MAY 20-22

JUNE 26-27

JULY 13-18

SEPT 18-19

OCT 2-3

OCT 9-10

NOV 11

DEC 5

DEC 31

For more information contact:

Thargomindah Information Centre

PHONE: 0746 218 095

EMAIL: tourism@bulloo.qld.gov.au







Explore Bulloo



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