

SEPTEMBER 2021

Bulloo Buzz

THE OFFICIAL BUZZ OF THE BULLOO SHIRE

*Ever Changing,
Always Amazing...*

IN THIS EDITION

FROM THE CEO'S
DESK

MESSAGE FROM
THE MAYOR

TOURISM IN THE
BULLOO SHIRE

ROAD SERVICES

RURAL SERVICES

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From the CEO's Desk

LEW ROJAHN



Spring is here and the wildflowers and wattles are looking great. The tourists are still coming through so all is right with the world. We continue to receive amazing comments about our little town. The Mayor attended a function in Toowoomba last week with mayors and other dignitaries from around the state and so many of them told him they had visited Thargomindah on one if not two or more occasions and didn't realise there was so much to see. And what a great job the Council is doing keeping the place looking so good.

It always makes you feel good that these comments come freely from visitors and adds value to the work that the staff do.

The staff undertook a random drug and alcohol breath testing exercise the other day and absolutely no one registered. This again is another positive for people working on the Council. In all the time we have had these tests introduced, to my knowledge no one has ever been implicated in the effects of drugs or alcohol and credit must go to staff for understanding their responsibilities in keeping the Council a safe workplace.

We had a great surprise today in the arrival of a Kenworth Truck. Admittedly this was a second-hand vehicle but has been immaculately looked after and has 490 000 easy klms on it. We were placed in a position to purchase this truck on a one-off basis because of the lead times it is taking with Covid to get delivery of equipment. We will have 2 more MACK trucks turning up on Monday (finally after nearly 12 months and now we can get repairs done on the trucks that have been waiting for this changeover. Keep an eye out for the Kenworth truck though, it is pretty thing to behold.

Council has again approved a employee purchase programme for the council houses. This will, subject to the Local Government Minister's approval, allow council to sell houses to employee tenants. This is a great way to reduce council's maintenance and depreciation liability, whilst providing the wherewithal for people to purchase a home, in some cases their first, at a minimal value (based on Commercial valuations). As we know, the Banks require more than 40% deposit in some cases and it is difficult for this to happen. By Council making these houses available, the rental is held against the house as a deposit for the term of a 3 year contract and that provides the employee with the equity to then approach the bank to obtain a loan for the balance of the house. To date, there are now 39 private houses in Thargomindah and 32 Council owned, 25 of which are tenanted to employees. By selling these houses, it doesn't just reduce Council's liabilities but it provides for a private housing market where sale prices become more realistic based on demand and it also creates a rental market. Already we are seeing houses being rented out for reasonable rents and this will help with council being able to employ staff who have private accommodation rather than us not being able to employ anyone because we don't have Council housing available.

We are also investigating the opportunity to create a trial plantation of saltbush in the Shire. This is a crop that grows naturally here but can be utilised to earn carbon credits for the land holder but also be able to harvest the crop to pelletise it into a stock feed. I'm sure people are aware of the lambs in South Australia that are raised exclusively on saltbush and marketed as such. This could be a great thing for the diversification of income and product for our shire.

Lew Rojahn
Chief Executive Officer



Message from the Mayor

JOHN 'TRACTOR' FERGUSON

The last few weeks have been busy. I attended A Mayoral's Garden Party in Toowoomba with the other Mayors from around Queensland, there I spoke with the Mayor of Toowoomba and the Mayor of Ipswich about funding for South West Queensland and received a lot of positive comments about our town. It's great to hear these things and I would like to thank Council staff for their effort in keeping this town looking beautiful.

I spoke to the Hon. Mark Furner MP, Minister for Agriculture Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities and Ms Ann Leahy MP, Member for Warrego and Shadow Minister for Local Government, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers about agriculture transport receiving an exemption to move across the South Australian Border to keep the industry going through the restrictions.

Lew and I attended the South West Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils meeting. This organisation is made up of the 6 South West QLD Councils – Balonne, Bulloo, Maranoa, Murweh, Paroo and Quilpie. The December meeting will be held in Thargomindah, bringing the other Mayors and CEOs into our town for a couple of days.

The 1st Western Queensland and Interstate Roundtable that Council is planning will be held in the first week of November, the purpose of this meeting is to discuss the opportunities we have to enhance interstate transport, tourism and aviation. Invitations have been sent to Federal and State politicians, local and cross-border Councils, principals of transport, aviation companies and tourism and resource stakeholders. We hope the outcome of this will be beneficial to us all in the remote areas of Queensland, South Australia and New South Wales.

Council purchased a 2nd hand Kenworth truck that we received yesterday, and it is in immaculate condition. We purchased this truck to help cover the lead times on other trucks we have ordered. We should also be receiving another two Mack Trucks which are planned to arrive on the 27th of September. It's wonderful to still see tourists coming through the town, the VIC staff have been very busy helping out our visitors.

At our Ordinary Council meeting held on 21st September, after community consultation, we resolved to name the Independent Living Centre "Teelow Court" and the future 6 x 2 Bedroom Units "Bulloo Village". These were the community's favourite and I want to thank you all who took the time to participate in the survey. Bulloo Shire is behind the rest of the Councils with COVID vaccinations, we would like to see the rate of vaccinations improve to protect us all, c'mon Bulloo Shire we can do

John 'Tractor' Ferguson
Mayor



Tourism in the Bulloo Shire

OUT IN FRONT DOIN IT EASY



It's been a great month at the Thargomindah Visitor Information Centre. We have had a constant flow of tourist visit this beautiful part of the Western Corner, totalling 1110 for August, these are great numbers. Throughout the season we have received a lot of positive feedback regarding our town's facilities, the cleanliness of Thargomindah and the infrastructure, not to forget the great service from the Info Centre staff which is music to my ears. It's great to know our hard work is not going unnoticed by our much loved tourists.

Throughout August we had a total of five tour bus groups visit for a 'hop on' tour conducted by the VIC staff. Our tours are very popular, and we already have tours booked in for next year! 2022 is shaping up to be another busy year.

It would also seem that Thargomindah is now on the direct route to Victoria and Tasmania thanks to border closures. With many travellers saying that they are glad that their plans were changed so they could experience our wonderful town and shire.

We are winding down on events for the year, with only a few to go including Christmas in the Bulloo Markets that coincide with our annual Christmas Carrois hosted by Deslie Collins. Please see flyer attached and be sure to come on down for the afternoon. Info Centre Coordinator Danielle has been busy planning for next year's tourism season, starting with the Shearers Shindig already coming together with more to offer.

We've sadly said goodbye to a famous staff member Gerda Glasson, Gerda quickly became a valuable part of the team at the Info Centre. Bringing both local and afar knowledge to the position, her bubbly personality is larger than life making Gerda a hit with our tourists. Gerda you will be sadly missed from the Info Centre, we wish you the best with your new adventure and hope to see your smiley face visiting us when you're not busy.



Roads Services

COVERING 73,724 SHIRE AREA

In the Life of Road Services!

Flood Damage is still under way and is due to be completed by the end of March 2022, so again a massive shout out to all the Road Crews and Contractors who have been very busy working hard on Flood Damage these past few months. Road Inspections will continue on, with the help from our contracted Inspector from Shepherds Services.

Crew 1 are continuing on with Flood Damage on Besm Road.

Crew 2 have finished works on Soonah Crossing Road and Norley Road and are now working on Autumnvale Road.

Crew 3 are continuing on with Flood Damage on Hungerford Road.

Crew 4 are continuing on with Flood Damage on New Hamilton Gate Road.

Maintenance Crew

The Maintenance Guys have been out pot hole patching on Innamincka Road, guide posting, and also putting up signs around town and along the roads.

On top of our 5 Roads Crews,

Robbie Hilt was currently clearing out a dam out on Woomanooka, until mechanical issues with the Excavator. So Robbie is back doing Plant Inspections until parts arrive.

Womba has been busy carting gravel between jobs, water carting when needed.

Colin has been flat out floating plant all around the Shire.

The Depot has recently had some Line Marking done around the fuel bowser, pedestrian crossings from both side gates to both the front and back door. Shire Front Office, had the parking lines redone under the car park and angle parking painted at the front of the building.

Reverse Angle Parking was also done outside the school, customer parking at the front of the Bulloo River Hotel, and also marked outside Bulloo Shire buildings such as the side of the Swimming Pool and Shire Hall and outside the community centre.





Rural Services

LENGTH OF THE WILD DOG BARRIER FENCE IN BULLOO SHIRE 256 KM - 1,712,225 HA PROTECTED BY WDBF (23% OF BULLOO SHIRE)

Hungerford Stock Route water facilities and weed inspection was completed during the month.

Wild dog trapping has continued on properties inside the Wild Dog Barrier Fence. Pictured is Coral Cactus at Pympa infested with the Cochineal Bug, this bug was released in 2017 and has nearly destroyed all cactus in the area.

In August we travelled to Omicron, Epsilon, Orientos and Tickalara. During these visits we discussed pest management plans, wild dogs and baiting, property maps and weeds. Weed books were given to properties to help identify any unknown weeds.

A teleconference was held on the 5 August with the NSW Western Local Lands Service to discuss the following:

There is currently collared feral pig and collared wild dog projects underway around the Wanaaring area, where 30 pigs are collared

Data is now being collected on their movements.

NSW Government is extending the NSW Border Wild Dog Fence by 742km which is estimated to cost \$37.5 million. The Hungerford to Mungindi section is 420km. Then south to just short of the Murray River (Broughams Gate to Murray River) another 322km.

Congratulations to Fred Osman and Tony Caldwell on winning at the Mt Isa Mines Rodeo 2021. Fred won the Open Bareback and Tony won the Open Saddle Bronc.

A trail camera has been set up to capture wild dog movements on properties, unfortunately no wild dogs have been seen but the kangaroos and wild cats have been checking out the camera.



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Are you looking for an opportunity with a wide range of **CAREER GROWTH**, with an already established Council within Local Government? If so, this is an opportunity you should take advantage of.

The right candidate for this role **WON'T SHY AWAY FROM CHALLENGES** such as remoteness, being smaller in economic density and working in a place that is highly involved with the community.

Bulloo Shire Council are an award-winning Council, moving into their next stage of growth with the following projects currently in progress:

- **CAMPAIGN FOR THE SEALING OF WARRI GATE ROAD**
- **INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTRE**
- **SPA GAZING**

Thargomindah has a vibrant atmosphere and is ideal for families to experience a **RELAXED AND QUALITY LIFESTYLE**. The Shire is proud of the educational, medical, recreational, family friendly environment and tourist facilities that are available in such a remote area

This is a role that will play an integral part in the successful long-term change and growth within a **UNIQUE REGION**. The professional challenge, financial rewards and active rural lifestyle make this one of the most attractive opportunities currently available.

For an Information Package, call the Corporate Services Department on **(07) 4621 8000**, or email us at **Council@bulloo.qld.gov.au**



CORPORATE SERVICES ACTIVITIES

NEW EMPLOYEES IN THE BULLOO



The **CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT** have been very busy this month recruiting some new employees to join the Bulloo Shire Workforce. August has been a very exciting month as we have welcomed 4 new employees. Read on to learn a little about our new employees and see what they enjoy about working for the Bulloo Shire!

LIAM NEGUS

Position: Labourer

Department: Road and Town Services

How long Liam has lived in Thargomindah: about 4 months

Why did Liam move to Thargomindah: to learn more in a career setting and gain new skills.

Favourite thing about working for BSC: learning new skills on the job.



FUN FACT:

This year, Bulloo Shire Council have employed 12 new employees.

Great Place, Great Lifestyle, Great Future



NEW EMPLOYEES IN THE BULLOO

DANIEL ROY (DAN)

Position: Administrative Services Officer

Department: Administrative Services

How long Dan has lived in Thargomindah: 2 years

Why did Dan move to Thargomindah: for Steph's role as a teacher at the school.

Favourite thing about working for BSC: the flexibility of work/life balance, e.g. RDOs and the social aspect of working with other employees.

"I'm loving what I'm doing so far." – Daniel Roy



JAKOB BLISS (JAKE)

Position: Labourer

Department: Project Services

How long Jake has lived in Thargomindah: 5 years

Why did Jake move to Thargomindah: to get away from the city life.

Favourite thing about working for BSC: the different types of work I get to do each day

ROBERT HOLLEY (ROBBO)

Position: Plant Operator/Labourer

Department: Road and Town Services

How long Rob has lived in Thargomindah: 1 week

Why did Rob move to Thargomindah: for a career change and to better my skills. I'm also planning for my wife and kids to move out here in the future.

Favourite thing about working for BSC: everyone I work with – it's good to laugh with everyone, and on top of that everyone I work with is very helpful and willing to show me how to do things if I'm unsure.

"I would highly recommend this opportunity to everyone." – Robert Holley

- Background photo taken by Robert Holley



Understanding COVID-19

Contact tracing



Frequently asked questions



How does contact tracing work?

Contact tracing involves Queensland Health mapping all the places a person with COVID-19 has been, when, for how long and who they have had contact with. This information is then used to find exposure venues and the people who visited them are at risk of infection.

This process is much simpler if you use the Check In Qld app and/or check in everywhere you go.



What is a COVID-19 exposure venue?

An exposure venue is a place a person with COVID-19 has visited. A list of exposure venues in Queensland and other states and territories is available on the Queensland Health website. This list is updated daily. You can filter this list by date and suburb.

Hint: If you check the website daily, look for the 'new' and 'updated' tags.



What is a close contact?

A close contact is someone who has shared an enclosed space such as a building, room or elevator, or had direct contact with a person with COVID-19.



What is a casual contact?

A casual contact is someone who has been near a person with COVID-19 but not for long. For example, if you were served by a person with COVID-19 at your local shop.



What is a low-risk contact?

A low-risk contact is someone who may have been near a person with COVID-19 but it is not confirmed. This could be a visiting the same venue as a person with COVID-19.



What do I do if I am contacted by health officials and told I have been in contact with someone with COVID-19?

Queensland Health may contact you if you were at the same place as someone with COVID-19. They will have your details because you used the Check In Qld app or signed in when you visited a venue.

They could contact you by text message or phone. The person on the phone will tell you what you need to do. You can ask for a free interpreter if you need one.

What should I do if I have visited an exposure venue or had contact with someone with COVID-19?

If you visited an exposure venue or had direct contact with a person with COVID-19, you must:



1. Go home or to your accommodation immediately. Do not use public transport. You can use your own transport or an Uber, Didi or taxi if you:

- wear a mask in the car
- sit in the backseat
- do not share the transport with anyone unless they live with you.

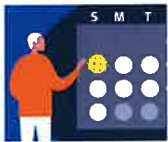


2. Get a COVID-19 test as soon as you can. You must return home **immediately** after your test and stay home until you get your results. Testing is free.



3. If you are a close or casual contact, complete an online contact tracing form at www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/current-status/contact-tracing

4. Follow the instructions of the Queensland Health official when they contact you. They will tell you what to do next.



5. You may need to quarantine at home or in your accommodation.
 - a. Close contacts must quarantine for 14 days
 - b. Casual contacts must quarantine until they receive a negative test
 - c. Low risk contacts must quarantine if they feel unwell.



I received a text message, email or phone call saying I may have been in contact with someone who has COVID-19, how do I know it's real?

Queensland Health COVID-19 related text messages, emails and phone calls will never ask you to provide personal information such as bank details.

Do not click on any website links unless you are sure the text message or email is truly from Queensland Health. To check if a call or message you have received is from Queensland Health, contact the public health unit nearest to you.



Talk to your doctor if you have any questions at any time.

Need some help from someone who speaks your language? Call:

- 134 COVID (13 42 68) and ask for an interpreter
- the Translating and Interpreting Service on 13 14 50 who will connect you to any health service.

CHRISTMAS IN THE BULLOO



Calling

STALLHOLDERS

**PLEASE
REGISTER**



**TO REGISTER PLEASE CONTACT THE
THARGOMINDAH VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE
PHONE: 07 4621 8095
EMAIL: TOURISM@BULLOO.QLD.GOV.AU**

**PLEASE NOTE
STALLHOLDERS MUST
REGISTER BY FRIDAY 12
NOVEMBER**



Royal Flying
Doctor Service



RUN WITH A FRIEND AND PUSH EACH OTHER FURTHER

CALLING ALL RUNNERS

**Do you need some motivation to
get jogging again? Then come
and run the river walk circuit!**

**5:30PM START
Hydro Power Plant Carpark
Monday's & Thursday's**

Contact Vaughan for details

0405 105 916

SEE YOU THERE!!



Health in Focus Survey 2021

HAVE YOUR SAY!

Calling all Queenslanders - please take 5 to 10 minutes and have your say about your health and our healthcare system. Great prizes to be won including Apple Watches and a Fitbit!

Jump online now!

www.checkup.org.au/hif

Thank you to our prize sponsors:



Scan to begin
the survey



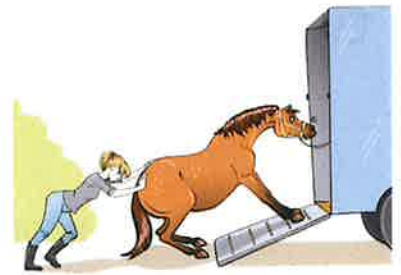
**This year we have
questions about:**

- Access to healthcare
- Quality of healthcare
- Telehealth
- Physical activity
- Nutrition
- COVID-19
- Disability access

Moving Horses Within Queensland

Before moving horses within Queensland, you **must**:

- become a registered biosecurity entity (RBE) to be allocated a property identification code (PIC)
- complete a movement record
- understand and follow animal welfare transport standards
- ensure that you have met cattle tick minimisation requirements as per the biosecurity manual (PDF, 1MB) when travelling between cattle tick zones.



Livestock movement records

- a movement record is a compulsory document that must be created when animals are moved between properties in Qld, to identify the animal's owner, animals being moved and details of movement.
- This allows animals to be traced in the event of a disease. Bio-security use these records to investigate where a disease may have originated and spread to.

When you need a movement record

- You need to create a movement record every time you move your horse from its home PIC
- You also need a movement record to receive animals onto your PIC

Creating a movement record

The registered biosecurity entity (RBE) keeping the animal must ensure that a movement record is created before the animal can be moved. A movement record can be completed in hard copy or electronically and must include the following details:

- name of person completing the record
- where the animal(s) are being moved from
- where the animal(s) are being moved to and the name and address of the person receiving the animal
- the date of movement
- species and breed of animal being moved
- description of the animal or group of animals.

Types of movement records

A movement record can be in any format (electronic or hardcopy). Some examples of different types of records are:

- diary or logbook entries
- notepads or exercise books
- emails
- text messages
- excel spreadsheets
- movement record template (<https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industries/farms-fishing-forestry/agriculture/livestock/livestock-movement/legal-requirements/movement-records>)
- horse health declarations
 - a National Vendor Declaration (NVD) is the preferred form of movement for cattle, sheep and goats and a PigPass for moving pigs.



FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO:

<https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industries/farms-fishing-forestry/agriculture/livestock/livestock-movement/legal-requirements/livestock-entry>



Charleville Vet visiting Thargomindah



on 12th October 2021

The Charleville Vet will be in Thargomindah on Tuesday the 12th October 2021. Please call (07) 4654 2605 for any Small or Large Animal needs.

Please take this opportunity to vaccinate and microchip you pets

Laws for Microchipping

In accordance with the *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008* cats and dogs born after 10 April 2009 must be microchipped before:

- reaching 12 weeks of age
- being sold (seller responsibility)
- being given away (responsibility on the person giving away the animal).

To avoid fines for breach of the *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008*, Council is strongly encouraging the community to microchip their pets.

A person must not, unless the person has a reasonable excuse, supply a cat or dog to anyone else if it is not implanted with a Microchip <i>Maximum penalty – 20 penalty units</i>	A person who is or becomes an owner of a cat or dog that is not implanted with a PPID must ensure the cat or dog is implanted with a PPID before it is 12 weeks old unless the person has a reasonable excuse <i>Maximum penalty – 20 penalty units</i>
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As of 1 July 2021, the value of a penalty unit is equal to \$137.85.

Benefits of microchipping

- one in three pets will become lost at some point in their lives, a microchip is their best chance of being reunited with you
- microchips don't wear off or fall off, they are a permanent form of identification
- it is a small cost compared to the fine you could receive for not microchipping your pet



Bulloo
Skin

Spring Gardening Tips

Spring is in the air ...

It's that wonderful time of year when the garden comes to life again after Winter. Deciduous blossom and fruit trees are in full bloom, there are bulb and seasonal flowers aplenty and other trees and shrubs are sprouting bright green new leaves and shoots.



Gardening Tips

Warm, balmy days...

Longer, warmer days mean plenty of time outdoors in the garden. Mid spring is the perfect planting time in all parts of Australia – the soil is warm, temperatures are not too high and there's often good rainfall to encourage good plant growth. The lawn mower usually gets a good workout this month, following fertilising last month.

1. PLANTING

What to plant now:

October is "planting month"! Conditions are optimal nationally for everything from seeds and seedlings of flowers and veggies through to lawns, evergreen trees and shrubs and potted deciduous plants in full leaf. Garden centres will be bursting with stock now, so plan a visit next weekend.

• Seasonal flowers:

Bloomer pots of spring flowering annuals can still be planted out this month for patches of instant impact colour – pansies, violas, Iceland poppies, cinerarias, calendulas are just a few. Plant seedlings of bedding begonias, marigolds, impatiens, petunias and nasturtiums.

• Woody and perennial herbs:

"Hard" herbs - rosemary, sage, thyme, bay laurel, oregano, mint* – can be planted now. "Soft" herbs – parsley, basil, coriander, chives, tarragon – may also go in now.

*Mint should be grown in a pot to stop it becoming invasive

• What flowers to plant:

It's time to plan, and plant, for the festive and holiday seasons. Dame Edna's favourite flower, the gladiolus, should be planted during October if you want flowers for late December. Corms take about 60 days from planting to peak flowering. Staggered plantings a fortnight apart will ensure continuity of blooms well into January.

• Sow seeds or plant out seedlings of:

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| • Amaranthus | • Portulaca |
| • Bedding begonia | • Salvia |
| • Candytuft | • Scabiosa |
| • Carnation | • Sweet William |
| • Celosia | • Verbena |
| • Geum | • Wallflower |
| • Linaria | • Zinnia |
| • Petunia | |

2. THE VEGETABLE PATCH:

• Harvest now:

Asparagus may still be producing new spears now, but don't harvest past the first week or so of the month. After that, allow spears to grow on to become fronds, which will help build up the crowns for next year's crop. Rhubarb should be growing well enough now for a first harvest. Pull and twist stems to pick – don't cut them. Trim off the bases and leaves, which can be composted but not fed to animals or poultry because they are toxic.

• What to plant now:

It's full-steam ahead in the vegetable patch now, no matter where you live! Prepare the soil by hoeing to remove lumps and weeds, then rake level. Moisten well a few days before sowing or planting.

• Sow seeds or plant seedlings of the following:

- Asian greens
- Beetroot
- Broad bean
- Carrot
- Celery
- French bean
- Lettuce
- Leek
- Onion
- Dwarf pea
- Climbing pea
- Potato tubers
- Pumpkin
- Silver beet
- Spring/Green onion
- Sweet corn
- Tomato*

Veggie patch tips for October:

- Water in newly planted seedlings with a liquid fertiliser for vegetables and herbs or a certified organic fertiliser to give them a good start.
- After sowing seeds, water them in then wait until shoots appear before watering again.
- Hand pull or hoe out weeds as they appear – they compete for nutrients and moisture and may also harbour pests that could attack your crops.



Gardening Tips

3. GARDEN JOBS FOR THE MONTH:

- Keep flowering annuals and bulbs growing and flowering well with regular applications of [Osmocote Boost+Feed All Plant Types](#).
- The last of the spring blossom trees should be pruned now. Prune to encourage new growth that will flower next spring.
- Australian native shrubs like bottlebrushes benefit from a light trim after flowering. Cut just behind the faded bloom to encourage new shoots. Keep up the regular copper-based fungicide sprays on deciduous fruit trees to combat fungal diseases like brown rot and freckle.
- Most of the spring flowering bulbs, apart perhaps from tulips, may be past their best now but don't cut the flowers or leaves off. Allow them to die down naturally.



4. INDOOR PLANTS:

Plants inside the home assist in purifying the air as well as lending a touch of greenery to your living areas.

- Natural light is important but don't stand pots on north or west-facing windowsills where they will be exposed to direct sun through the glass.
- As temperatures warm, make sure to humidify the air by regularly misting plants with a water atomiser.
- Wipe leaves occasionally with a damp cloth to keep them clean.
- Feed fortnightly with ready to use [Osmocote Pour+Feed Indoor Plants](#) – no mixing required. There are also Pour+Feed products for [orchids](#) and [cacti](#).

Spring is in the air ...

It's that wonderful time of year when the garden comes to life again after Winter. Deciduous blossom and fruit trees are in full bloom, there are bulb and seasonal flowers aplenty and other trees and shrubs are sprouting bright green new leaves and shoots.



5. LAWNS:

There's still time to get a new lawn in before the weather becomes too warm. Lawn seed should be sown before the middle of the month to give it the best chance of sprouting and growing away well before the soil heats up and burns the tender new roots and shoots.

Instant turf can be laid throughout the month. The key to success with any new lawn from seed or turf is keeping it well watered in the first six to eight weeks, until it is well established and has developed strong roots.

Regular mowing will keep existing lawns looking neat. Raise the cutting height to leave the grass a little longer and protect the crowns and runners of grasses from the increasing heat of the sun. A longer, thicker sward also helps keep the soil, and roots, cooler.

During dry spells, water the lawn well at least once a week (if permitted by local water authorities). Don't be tempted to lightly sprinkle the grass every day or so – not only does this waste water but it encourages the roots to the surface where they will be exposed to the hot sun.

- If you have a broadleaf weed problem, buffalo and lawn substitutes can be treated and fed with [Lawn Builder Buffalo Weed, Feed & Green Up](#), a hose-on product that can be safely used on all lawn types.
- Watch for bindii spreading through lawns and get on top of any incursions quickly with [Lawn Builder Bindii, Clover & Broadleaf](#), a ready-to-use, hose-on lawn weeder that's safe to use on all grasses.

•

6. PEST CONTROL:

- Slugs and snails can be active whenever there are young plants around – [Defender Snail & Slug Pellets](#) in a bait trap will protect your plants and keep your pets safe.
- Watch for aphids and other sap-sucking pests on young plants and the soft shoots of other trees and shrubs. [Defender Pyrethrum Insect Spray](#) will control them. Don't forget to spray the undersides of leaves as well as the top surfaces.
- Roses and other shrubs are susceptible to a range of fungal diseases like black spot and powdery mildew. A copper-based fungicide applied when first noticed, and repeated every couple of weeks, will control them.



**Bulloo
Skin**

Removing Weeds from Lawns

If you mow your lawn correctly and frequently, you should manage to avoid the invasion of most weeds. But if you have found that some of these undesirable weeds have infiltrated your lawn, then there is a few methods for weed removal.

Weeds are lining up to attack!

Who doesn't want a piece of your lawn party? Alien space invaders in the form of weeds do too, but you can catch them out before they poke their heads up with a pre-emergent herbicide.

A pre-emergent herbicide targets weed seeds before they take hold by forming a barrier at soil level that affects the germination of any new seedlings.

OxaFert is in granular form, and when applied forms a film at the base of the turf. This film kills new weed seed germinations, leaving your lawn free of crow's foot, summer grass, winter grass, creeping oxalis, and others.

When do you apply it?

Apply OxaFert year round to control the above mentioned weeds. If you are looking to target a certain weed, look at when that seedling normally germinates and apply OxaFert a few weeks prior. For example, if you wanted to control winter grass in your lawn, you'd apply OxaFert from March onward, as soil temperatures begin to decrease and winter grass seedlings then begin to germinate.

How often do you apply it?

Again, this depends on what you want to control. If you want year-round control, apply OxaFert every eight to 10 weeks to keep your lawn weed free. If you are just controlling a certain weed, use OxaFert every eight weeks until the conditions no longer suit the germination of that weed.

How long does it last?

OxaFert controls the emergence of weeds for up to 12 weeks, however it is recommended to reapply every eight to 10 weeks.

Your lawn still needs a feed

While OxaFert has a fertiliser component, you should still fertilise

Applying a pre-emergent herbicide is a lawn care practice that takes time to get used to as there is no visible result from applying it to already weedy lawns. It only prevents new weeds from forming. If you've got a lawn full of weeds, then get them under control first and then apply a pre-emergent regularly to keep them under control.

Keeping your lawn in good condition through regular maintenance and fertilisation helps keep weeds at bay and is a better option than controlling weeds by spraying all the time.



Weed Removal Options

Hand Removal

Many small weeds can be carefully pulled out by hand; however, you will need to make sure you have removed the roots. Using a weeding trowel or long handled mechanical device and prizing around the roots will help ensure total removal. The bigger the weed, the bigger and stronger the roots.

To make this job a little easier, you might want to try something like a Fiskars weed puller. It is very easy to use and saves you from bending down. It quick and easily digs down underneath the weed and when extracted removes the entire weed, roots and all.

Herbicide Treatment Options

There are various herbicides available, including selective and non-selective types.

Non-selective products like Round Up (Glyphosate) kill most plants including your lawn; selective herbicides target specific weeds only.

Post-emergent Broadleaf Herbicides

For common broadleaf weeds like cudweed, clover, bindii or creeping oxalis, you can use a broadleaf herbicide like Bin die or Lawn Solutions All Purpose Weed Control. These products generally contain actives like Bromoxynil, MCPA and Dicamba. For buffalo lawns, except ST varieties, make sure you use the Bromoxynil based products like Lawn Solutions All Purpose Weed Control as Dicamba can harm your buffalo grass.

Some other weeds require a particular herbicide for treatment, so identification is very important.

Quick selective weed killer solutions guide

- Winter Grass – Amgrow Winter Grass Killer (Not safe on Kikuyu or Fescue)
- Nutgrass / Mullumbimby Couch – Sedgehammer or Sempra
- Paspalum, Crabgrass, Summer grass – Paspalum herbicides contain the active DSMA. Make sure it's safe to use on your turf as many varieties like buffalo and kikuyu are spot treatment only.

Prevention – Pre-emergent Herbicides

There is also a way to prevent some weed types from appearing at all.

A pre-emergent herbicide like **OxaFert** targets weed seeds before they take hold by forming a barrier at soil level that stops the germination of any new seedlings. Pre-emergents can be used in

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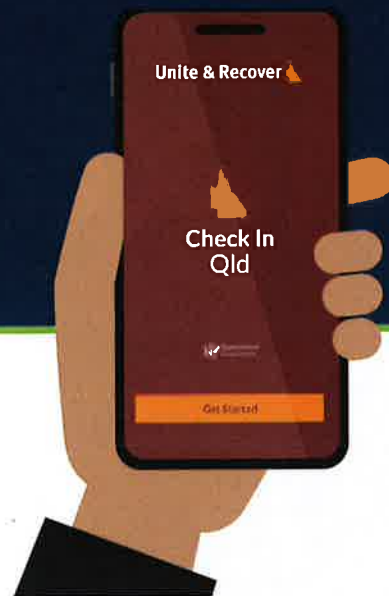
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2

Download the Check In Qld app from:



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4

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NOV 11

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2022

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JAN 26

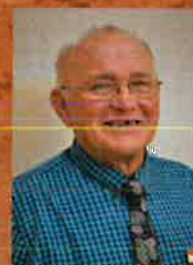
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