

Thinking of running for Council?

Local Government elections will be held on 4 September 2021 and it is time to start thinking about running for local government.

With women making up less than a third of all councillors and mayors serving on the 128 councils in NSW, the NSW Government would like more women to stand for their local community and nominate to run for their local council. Younger members of the community are also encouraged to consider running for council. The NSW Government is also exploring continuing remote access for meetings (currently allowed under COVID-19 provisions), to address one of the barriers to becoming a councillor.

Councillors represent their local community's needs, wants and aspirations and make important decisions on behalf of their local community. You don't need formal qualifications and you receive training, support, expenses and fees if you are elected. Serving in the level of government closest to the local community is very rewarding.

For more information about becoming a councillor, go to:
www.olg.nsw.gov.au/public/about-councils/become-a-councillor/



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Is your home ready for the fire season?



The Bush Fire Danger Period runs from 1 October to 31 March.

Many people already have a plan for what they will do during a bush fire but the NSW RFS and NSW Fire + Rescue are encouraging people to see how fireproof their plan really is. It only takes a few minutes to develop a plan.

Step 1 - Plan what you are going to do

Step 2 - Prepare your home

Step 3 - Know bushfire alert levels and fire danger ratings

Step 4 - Keep key information at hand

Find out more about all of these steps and check how fireproof your fire plan is at www.myfireplan.com.au

Lodge planning applications on the NSW Planning Portal

We are now on the NSW Planning Portal. The NSW Planning Portal has been developed by the NSW Government to make the planning system easier to use. It is being used by councils all across NSW.

Development applications, modification applications, construction and subdivision certificates, complying development and occupation certificates can now be lodged through the NSW Planning Portal. Register and create an account on the NSW Planning Portal at www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au

The NSW Planning Portal website includes quick reference guides to registering, submitting applications, navigating the dashboard and more. You can also access the spatial viewer to view the planning instruments that apply to a property.



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR, TIM OVERALL

An upgrade of Hope Marland Park, partly funded by the NSW Government under the "Everyone Can Play" grant, will start in mid-October. Hope Marland was Queanbeyan's first female Deputy Mayor and the first woman President of the Local Government Association. It will be great to see an upgrade to this park named in her honour.

We usually hold end-of-year Christmas events but due to COVID restrictions, we won't be to hold these events in the same way. We are still hoping to be able to hold some sort of community celebration and I encourage you to stay tuned for information via Council's website and social media pages.



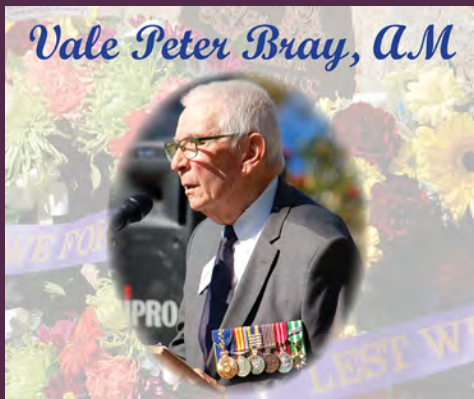
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Have your say at yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au



Vale Peter Bray, AM

In the August edition of the QPRC News, we recognised the incredible commitment to the community from former councillor Peter Bray AM after his retirement due to ill-health. Unfortunately, Cr Bray passed away in mid-August.

Council has formally expressed its condolences to Peter's wife, family and friends. Council will pay tribute to his service and contribution to Australia, the former QCC, QPRC and the local community with a plaque in the Queanbeyan Honour Walk on Crawford Street and name the proposed community park at 16 Agnes Avenue, Crestwood adjacent to the proposed Respite Care Centre the "Peter Bray Park".

Wildlife rescue groups



When you're driving on country roads, please watch out for animals. Being aware and prepared could save your life and the lives of native wildlife.

If there is an injured native animal on the road, the two local wildlife rescue groups in our area are Wildcare and Native Animal Rescue Group (NARG).

NARG operates in and around the Braidwood area and Wildcare in the area of NSW surrounding the ACT.

Both groups operate 24 hour phone lines, Wildcare on 6299 1966 and NARG on 4846 1900. Save these numbers in case you're ever in the situation where you need to call.

WeedsCon 2020

In mid-September, we held a virtual weeds conference, sharing a number of short video stories about biosecurity weed planning, assessment, education, surveillance and control. All the videos are available on our revamped biosecurity weeds page on our website. You can find information about the priority weeds in QPRC, our weed control program on public land, education, inspection and enforcement and more. Go to www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity



Spot Joe Rider

As part of Motorcycle Awareness Month, between 10-25 October, if you spot "Joe Rider" on roads in QPRC, log your sighting to go into the draw to win a fuel voucher. When you reach your destination, go to www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/joe-rider to register your sighting. Help our local motorcyclists ride to live by always checking your blind spots.



Uriarra Road upgrade

We will be installing traffic signals at the intersection of Uriarra and Ross Rds and a new median island at the Uriarra/Stornaway Rd intersection to improve driver and pedestrian safety.



These intersections are approximately 250m apart and both have experienced vehicle crashes. By providing controlled intersections, the upgrades aim to address the crash types that have been occurring at these locations and minimise intersection crashes, increase pedestrian safety with a signalised crossing and reduce commuter delays along Uriarra Road.

We recognise that this project will cause some disruption to those who live in the area and road users. Some stages of this project will be done at night to ensure the disruption is minimised. We apologise for any inconvenience during the works. Please follow the directions of traffic controllers

We plan to begin some early works in mid-October and be completed early 2021. The project is fully funded by the NSW Government under the 2019/20 NSW Safer Roads Program.

What's the best way to report illegal dumping? RID Online

RID Online is the best way to report illegal dumping anywhere in NSW. It is used by local councils like us and the EPA. Reporting helps to protect human health and the environment, detect and penalise dumpers, find and clean up waste, and identify problem sites that might need further work.



The most commonly dumped items are household waste, old tyres, green waste and construction waste. Often the dumped items have valuable recyclable components that are then lost. Many items can also damage the environment as well as looking bad. If there is illegal dumping to report, go to ridonline.epa.nsw.gov.au

Shop & Win in Bungendore and Braidwood

We are running a Shop & Win promotion in Braidwood and Bungendore to stimulate economic development in the region. All entries will be made online at treasuretrail.com.au/win by inputting contact details and the unique code found on each ticket.

Customers need to spend a minimum of \$20 per transaction at any of the participating business to receive a valid entry ticket into the \$10,000 prize pool. The promotion started on 1 October and will run until 26 November.

Thanks to our partners Bendigo Bank Braidwood and Bungendore, and the Bungendore Chamber of Commerce and Industry for supporting the promotion, along with more than 80 businesses participating across both towns.

The Treasure Trail is receiving funding through the Regional Tourism Bushfire Recovery grants program, an Australian Government bushfire recovery initiative. For a list of participating businesses visit: treasuretrail.com.au/win



Nominate for Australia Day

We are seeking nominations for Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year and Event of the Year for Australia Day 2021 awards. Nominate someone who has contributed to your community this year. Nominations are being sought for Bungendore, Braidwood, Captains Flat and Queanbeyan.



Presentation of the 2020 Queanbeyan Event of the Year - Women of Queanbeyan Calendar

We have had a difficult 2020, but there have been people in our community who have done extraordinary things. You might want to nominate a health care worker, someone in the emergency services, or someone else who has contributed to your local community this year.

Go to www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/australia-day-awards



Garage Sale Trail

The annual Garage Sale Trail is on 21-22 November this year. The Garage Sale Trail is a national event and is a great chance to make some money and get rid of unwanted items while preventing waste going to landfill.

There are resources available to help you prepare a COVID-safe sale in person or to host a sale online. So if you need to clear out a garage or a storage room, register your sale now. If you're a shopper, you'll be able to view all the sales in your area and create your own trail for the weekend.

Go to www.garagesaletrail.com.au



Orana Reserve

In February we had to remove outdated playground equipment from Orana Reserve in Queanbeyan West because it didn't comply with safety standards. We asked the community what they'd like to see back in a revamped playground and ideas were submitted through our Your Voice page. The resulting design reflects the community's aspirations and the budget and space we have available.

There are some nature play elements, climbing structure with slides, swings including a nest swing, a picnic shelter and an accessible spinner. Construction began in mid-September.



Braidwood Pool re-tiled

An upgrade of the underground pool infrastructure and re-tiling of the the main pool and the toddler's pool at Braidwood is now complete.

We have \$1m funding from the NSW Government under the Stronger Country Communities Fund for a larger upgrade at the pool. This grant is for improvements to the solar water heating and an upgrade to the change rooms and kiosk facilities which we plan to begin after the summer season.

Queanbeyan River shared path



As part of our ongoing project to make the Queanbeyan River path accessible for more users we've recently completed a bridge over Barracks Creek and improved the connection to the shared path on the Ellerton Drive extension.

Energy savings and emission reduction

Since 2010, Council has been monitoring energy and greenhouse gas savings that result from energy efficiency upgrades or renewable energy installation projects.



For example, at our Queanbeyan Works Depot a 61kW solar system was installed (completed in September 2018) and has since generated 158,999kWh and a emissions reduction of 128,700kg CO₂-e. Projected over a 10-year period we are saving \$111,390 (including capital costs) after the installation of the system.

We have 18 operational rooftop and ground-mounted solar PV systems across the LGA at the Braidwood and Queanbeyan Libraries, Captains Flat, Currandooley and Braidwood Water Treatment Plants, Braidwood and Captains Flat Sewage Treatment Plants, Bungendore Community Centre, The Q - Performing Arts Centre, Captains Flat Health Centre, Queanbeyan Riverside Tourist Park, Letchworth Community Centre, Braidwood Recreation Grounds, Queen Elizabeth II Park, RB Smith Building, Bungendore Office, Bicentennial Hall and Queanbeyan Works Depot.

The QPRC Council Operations Climate Change Action Plan identifies a number of renewable energy and energy efficiency opportunities for Council to explore over the next 10 years. We are also investigating end-of-use recycling options for the solar panels.

History signs in Queanbeyan

If you have been walking around the Queanbeyan CBD recently, you may have seen some of these new information signs. We have installed a series of these signs at 10 historic sites in Queanbeyan. The signs provide some brief information about each site and an old photo of the original building or site.

The signs can be found at the Queanbeyan Council Chambers (which was formerly the School of Arts), the Tree of Knowledge (near intersection of Crawford/Monaro streets), the Queanbeyan Suspension Bridge, the Visitor Information Centre (formerly the Council Chambers), the old school house at Queanbeyan Public School, Christ Church on Rutledge Street, St Gregory's Catholic Church (Molonglo Street), Rusten House (Antill St), St Stephen's Church (Morisset Street), and the Collett Memorial Gate Showground entrance.

The Visit Queanbeyan-Palerang team has developed interactive heritage walk maps for Bungendore, Braidwood, Captains Flat and Queanbeyan, which you can find at visitqueanbeyanpalerang.com.au. Why not read about the history of some significant sites and plan your own walk?



Suspension bridge



Memorial Gate at Showground

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Email addresses can be found at: www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/councillors or follow this convention firstname.lastname@qprclr.nsw.gov.au



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