



## Magpie season

Between August and October these protected birds get into quite the flap if humans or pets venture too close to their nests.

Magpies may continue to nest in a chosen territory for up to 20 years, and it is best to avoid these areas where possible during breeding season.

- ▶ You can report swooping magpies and view previous years' activity at [www.magpiealert.com](http://www.magpiealert.com)



## Platypus Sightings

Share your sightings of platypus on our website or with NatureMapr!

As the weather starts to warm up in August platypus become more active in our rivers and streams.

As part of our citizen science program anyone can share their sightings of platypus and help us gain a better idea of the animals in our area.

- ▶ Share your sightings at [qprc.nsw.gov.au/platypus](http://qprc.nsw.gov.au/platypus)
- ▶ Or download **NatureMapr** for iOS or Android



## Wood smoke: reduce the risk

Wood smoke is a major air pollutant during winter and has been linked to adverse health affects.

Wood smoke includes chemicals like carbon monoxide and other tiny particles that can work their way into our lungs, bloodstream and other organs.

These chemicals can trigger asthma attacks, allergic responses, heart attacks and stroke. Children and elderly people are most at risk, however anyone can be negatively affected by exposure to wood smoke.

While removing wood smoke from our homes and urban areas is the best way to reduce our exposure to these pollutants we can also improve the way we burn.

Tips to reduce smoke from your existing wood heater include:

- Burning small logs of aged, dry hardwood
- Never burning rubbish, driftwood or painted/treated wood
- Stacking wood loosely in the firebox
- Don't let your heater smoulder overnight - keep enough air in the fire to maintain a flame
- Have a professional clean your chimney every year
- ▶ Read more at [epa.nsw.gov.au/woodsmoke](http://epa.nsw.gov.au/woodsmoke)

## Visit our Libraries in book week

Reading is Magic! This year we have some exciting activities for book week in Braidwood, Bungendore and Queanbeyan. You can join us at:

### Queanbeyan Library

- Reading is Magic Show | Saturday 17 August 2pm
- Book Week themed Toddler Time | Monday 19 August 10am
- Book Week themed Storytime | Wednesday 21 August 10am

### Braidwood Library

- Book Week themed Storytime | Wednesday 21 August 10am

### Bungendore Library

- Book Week themed Storytime | Thursday 22 August 11am
- ▶ Find more and register at [library.qprc.nsw.gov.au/whats-on](http://library.qprc.nsw.gov.au/whats-on)

## Your Voice

### Make submissions, answer surveys and ask questions online.

Your Voice is our online consultation platform. It is regularly updated with current exhibitions and you can sign up to be notified about projects that matter to you.

Find links to current Development Applications, new or revised policies and proposals, programs, plans, projects, and so much more.

- ▶ Have your say at [yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au](http://yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au)



## QPRC news

Official Newsletter of Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council

# QPRC

July-August 2024



## Don't bin your batteries!

Following a fire in a recycling truck we are reminding everyone that batteries NEVER belong in your bins.

On 25 June one of Council's contractors was forced to dump their recycling load onto Calthorpe Street in Googong after a fire started inside the truck. Emergency services were called to extinguish the load and the street was closed for most of the day so the material could be cleared and the street cleaned.

We all need to be mindful of the risk our household batteries pose and dispose of them responsibly. Next time you go to the supermarket or hardware store bring your old batteries with you and drop them off.

- ▶ Find drop-off locations in Braidwood, Bungendore and Queanbeyan by heading to [bcycle.com.au/drop-off](http://bcycle.com.au/drop-off)

## Election reminders

The NSW Local Government Elections are on 14 September and will be run by the NSW Electoral Commission.

### Key Dates:

- Nominations for candidates are open from 5-14 August.
- Postal vote applications are open from 6 August to 9 September.
- Pre-polling is open from 7 to 13 September. Polling locations will be announced closer to the elections and will be available on the NSW Electoral Commission website.

- ▶ Learn more about the elections at [elections.nsw.gov.au](http://elections.nsw.gov.au)



## Learn about Council

During Local Government Week we are showcasing what Council does in our community.

On 1 August you can join us in the Queanbeyan Library from 10-11am and meet people from different teams in Council.

Stay for a chat and learn about what local government does, the services we provide, and the types of jobs our staff do every day.

You'll get the chance to chat with people who maintain things like our parks, playgrounds, sports fields, and essential community infrastructure as well as staff who work in our libraries and offices.

- ▶ Learn more at [library.qprc.nsw.gov.au/whats-on](http://library.qprc.nsw.gov.au/whats-on)

# QPRC

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Have your say at  
[yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au](http://yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au)

*This newsletter was printed and expected to be delivered in late-July.*





## CONTACT YOUR COUNCILLORS

Phone numbers and email addresses can be found at  
[www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/councillors](http://www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/councillors)  
or follow the convention  
[cr.firstname.lastname@qprc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:cr.firstname.lastname@qprc.nsw.gov.au)



### MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY MAYOR, CR ESMA LIVERMORE

As Deputy Mayor I am taking on some of Mayor Kenrick Winchester's duties while he is on leave. We all wish him well in his recovery and by the time you receive this edition he should be back to his usual duties.

The past month has been busy with projects, including upgrades to Burra Road, work on Honeysuckle Bridge and Monga Lane. We also adopted our integrated planning and reporting documents for this financial year, and held winter events like the Queanbeyan NAIDOC Community Day organised by the NAIDOC Working Group and our Christmas in July Markets.



## Back Creek Bridge replacement

As part of the NSW Government's Fixing Country Bridges program we are replacing the bridge over Back Creek on Wallaces Gap Road in Bendoura.

Initial vegetation clearing has been completed and the old bridge will remain in use while the components for the new bridge are installed beside it.

The contractor, HD Civil, set up the site in July and the works are expected to take 18 weeks, weather permitting.

- To read more about this project head to [bit.ly/Works-Projects](https://bit.ly/Works-Projects)



## Pensioner rebates for Council rates

Council provides rebates for pensioners, in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*.

These rebates are \$250 for general rates and domestic waste management charges, \$87.50 for water charges, and \$87.50 for sewerage charges to all eligible pensioner ratepayers.

The NSW Government reimburses Council for 55% of this rebate and Council funds the remaining 45%.

Council also provides a voluntary rebate of \$40 to all pensioners, bringing the total maximum pensioner rebate to \$465.

- Learn more about rebates at [qprc.nsw.gov.au/rates](http://qprc.nsw.gov.au/rates) or call 1300 735 025



## Braidwood overland flow investigation

We have engaged consultants to investigate overland flow in Braidwood. This study expands on previous plans and focuses in on detailed options to mitigate overland flow in areas like Wallace Street that are significantly affected by localised heavy rainfall.

The consultants are asking for photos and descriptions of drainage and flooding patterns from the community and this information will be used to cross check the results of the flood models developed as part of the Braidwood Major Overland Flow Investigation.

- Fill out the survey before 9 August at [qprc.nsw.gov.au/braidwood-overland-flow](http://qprc.nsw.gov.au/braidwood-overland-flow)

## Pre-Election Candidate Information Briefing

If you are thinking about becoming a candidate in this year's local government election, come along to our Pre-Election Candidate Information Briefing.

This session will help you to gain a better understanding of the role and responsibilities as an elected member of council and make sure you're prepared before September.

Register to join us on Monday 29 July from 5pm to 8pm in the Braidwood Room on the Mezzanine Level of the Nellie Hamilton Centre at 257 Crawford Street, Queanbeyan.

- Learn more at [qprc.nsw.gov.au/events](http://qprc.nsw.gov.au/events)

## Fee changes for companion animals

The NSW Government has made changes to mandatory Companion Animals Register fees this year.

These changes came into effect on 1 July 2024 and affect cat and dog owners in NSW.

All fees have increased to match CPI and new late fees have been added to encourage pet owners to get their animals desexed.

These fees can be paid via Council.

### Key changes

- Puppies and kittens must be registered by 12 weeks of age
- Late fees apply for animals not registered by 12 weeks of age
- Late fees apply for animals that are not desexed by 6 months of age (dogs) or 4 months of age (cats)
- Annual fees apply for non-desexed cats after 4 months of age
- Find a complete list of the current fees at [bit.ly/OLG-PRF](https://bit.ly/OLG-PRF)



## Upcoming shows at The Q

### THE SUNSHINE CLUB | 31 JULY - 1 AUGUST

This musical follows Aboriginal soldier Frank Doyle, who returns after serving in WW2 to find prejudices at home.

### WISH YOU WERE HERE | 8PM 3 AUGUST

Enjoy Australian Pink Floyd tribute band Run Like Hell.

### TWIST & SHOUT | 2PM 11 AUGUST

A Salute to 50s and 60s Rock 'n' Roll.

### MENOPAUSE THE MUSICAL | 14-17 AUGUST

A celebration for women who are on the brink of, in the middle of, or have survived "The Change".

### THE MERSEY BEATLES | 7:30PM 23 AUGUST

The world's best-loved Liverpool-born Beatles Tribute band.

### THE MERRY WIDOW | 23-25 AUGUST

Franz Lehár's famed operetta.

### THE ROY ORBISON STORY | 7:30PM 24 AUGUST

A brilliant portrayal of the man, his music, his voice, and his life.

### ORDINARY DAYS | 5-7 SEPTEMBER

Refreshingly frank, fast-paced and funny show about making real connections in the city that never sleeps.

### LIAM COOPER'S KING OF THE KEYS | 7:30PM 6 SEPTEMBER

Join Australia's piano-man Liam Cooper for a thrilling concert.

### SLAP. BANG. KISS. | 7:30PM 11 SEPTEMBER

Three young people whose stories kick-start a series of events none of them could have anticipated.

For tickets go to  
[theq.net.au](http://theq.net.au)  
or call 6285 6290

## Be a responsible dog owner

The *NSW Companion Animals Act 1998* requires that all dogs need to be kept in an adequately fenced yard or on a leash and under effective control.

Owners can be fined \$330 if their dog is off lead in a public place. Owners can also be fined \$275 if they do not clean up after their animal.

- Find a list of our dog parks at [qprc.nsw.gov.au/dog-parks](http://qprc.nsw.gov.au/dog-parks)

## Reporting roaming dogs or a dog attack

Residents who spot a roaming dog or are attacked by a dog should contact Council on **1300 735 025**. A report will be lodged and the matter investigated.