



# CULCAIRN OASIS

CULCAIRN AND DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

September 2021

## ABOUT THE BUSH

Something to croak about – introducing some of our local frogs.

The stock route out the back of my place has been loud with the evening calls of male frogs competing for the attention of would-be female admirers. Our wet winter has meant there are plenty of puddles and flooded paddocks for frogs to hang out in and start breeding as the days grow longer.

We have more than 10 frog species that can commonly be found in backyards around the Culcairn area. Several of these won't start calling until the nights warm up, and all of the frogs you do hear are males – females are largely silent.

Amongst the anuran vocalists audible at the moment are the plains froglet (*Crinia parinsignifera*) and the common froglet (*C. signifera*). Both are tiny mottled brown-grey frogs that tend to hide at the base of rushes or grass clumps. One has a repetitive “mwaah” call while the other has a ratchet call sounding like a spray paint can being shaken repeatedly.

The common spadefoot frog (*Neobatrachus sudelli*) is a little bigger (up to 50mm) with splotchy olive-green, brown and yellow warty skin. Its call, a slow pulsed trill, sounds like “craw-aw-aw-aw-aw”. The spotted marsh frog (*Limnodynastes tasmaniensis*) is a beautiful medium-sized frog with orange and olive-green blotches on a creamy-brown skin. Unlike the other three frogs, these don't tend to call en masse, but their distinctive “uk-uk-uk” call does stand out amongst the background chorus.

To learn more, download the free phone app, FrogID, which has descriptions, pictures and calls of all our frogs. You can record frog calls and then submit these through the app to get identifications back. And while you are out listening for frogs, do keep an eye out for

any dead or lethargic frogs – there are big concerns about a wave of frog deaths that have recently been detected across eastern Australia.

Please email any records of dead or dying frogs to [calls@frogid.net.au](mailto:calls@frogid.net.au) – this will help scientists understand the extent of the issue and hopefully help stop our frogs from croaking it!



## COINS FOR CANCER

Culcairn 'Coins for Cancer' has been posted on the Albury/Wodonga Regional Cancer Centre Facebook site - why not check it out.



It includes this photo of Mackinley Badger with a donation box at the local Foodworks that proved to be one of the best sources for donations in the month of June. The article mentions that over \$120 was donated over the various sites in the 1st

month. It was actually almost \$200 due to early kind donations at the Newsagency of their tips and a gentleman's accumulated spare change - both lovely gestures. It was a nice surprise to get a call to say 'Please come and empty the box' after only 2 weeks.

Thanks again to the Culcairn businesses who display the boxes, and you, the kind and caring people who support this cause with your spare change. Every little bit helps and is much appreciated. Again, many thanks.

## CULCAIRN HEALTH MATTERS



Hello, I'm Jillianne Fuentes, the new Clinical Nurse Educator at the Culcairn MPS. I grew up in the Riverina, and after 25 years of living in Western Australia, have returned to work and live here again. I have three adult children and have fostered 27 children over a 10 year period.

I enjoy gardening and some DIY. I am a registered nurse with a varied background in acute nursing, and am looking forward to the challenges of my new role. It involves my working alongside the new Graduate RN's, delivering in-services on topics relevant to the MPS or seasonal diseases, and sourcing further education for staff and developing an education calendar for them. As well, I will conduct annual mandatory skill assessments on all staff. You will also see me working part time as an RN.

### MPS Update:

**REMINDER** - mask wearing is now mandatory both indoors and outdoors in NSW. Please have your Covid vaccinations ASAP.

While visiting is restricted, video-conferencing is happening between residents and families. Many thanks to our hardworking and dedicated MPS staff.

## CULCAIRN OASIS POLICY STATEMENT

This newsletter is for the purpose of disseminating information and articles free of charge for the benefit of the public. This information is not a substitute for professional advice and is not intended to be used as such. The editors do not accept any liability for any loss or damage incurred by use of or reliance on such information. The editors of Culcairn Oasis make every effort to ensure the quality of the information. However, the Culcairn Oasis cannot guarantee and assumes no legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, currency or completeness of information.

**It is the responsibility of contributors to secure permission for the use of any photographs or material provided for the Culcairn Oasis.**

## DEADLINE

**Next deadline - 12pm Tues 5th October 2021**

Folding Date– Fri 8th October 2021 at 1pm

Delivery Date - Wed 13<sup>th</sup> October 2021

We prefer articles and advertising to be emailed to: [culcairnoasis@outlook.com](mailto:culcairnoasis@outlook.com) or phone **02 6029 8291** for more information.

**If you are a new advertiser, email us for information & a booking form.**

ADVERTISING Sizes	Charges
Per issue	Advertising Cost
Classified 1/16 page	\$10.00
1/8 page	\$ 20.00
¼ page	\$ 40.00
½ page (check for availability)	\$ 80.00
Full page (check for availability)	\$160.00
Flyer insert (excluding printing)	\$100.00

Please note pay for 5 ads get one free, pay for 10 get 2 free

### Oasis Contributions

We are seeking articles from community groups and residents that would be of interest to the Culcairn community.

Articles are free to submit and will be included in the next edition.

We encourage sporting groups, clubs, schools, associations to use the Oasis to keep your community informed of coming dates, events and news. If you would like to receive a reminder email before the due date please send us your email address. Email articles to [culcairnoasis@outlook.com](mailto:culcairnoasis@outlook.com) or phone 0260298291

**Please note this publication is available online at [www.culcairn.nsw.au](http://www.culcairn.nsw.au) [www.greaterhume.nsw.gov.au](http://www.greaterhume.nsw.gov.au)**

## CULCAIRN OASIS NEWS

We would love to receive more articles from all our Culcairn community groups in order to make our newsletter varied, interesting and enjoyable for our readers. So if your group has news you'd like to share with our wider community we'd love to hear from you.

We would also love to hear from more individuals who have a particular interest and who would like to contribute to the Culcairn Oasis. Please e-mail details to [culcairnoasis@outlook.com](mailto:culcairnoasis@outlook.com) or phone David Gilmore on 6029 8291.

## WE NEED ADVERTISING

We need Culcairn businesses and community groups to advertise with us. With 730 copies printed and with competitive rates, we believe it is not only good value for money, but also keeps a valuable community resource going. For information on advertising email [culcairnoasis@outlook.com](mailto:culcairnoasis@outlook.com) or phone David Gilmore on 6029 8291.

## Home Delivery Service from Greater Hume Council Libraries



The free service is available to residents who are members of the Greater Hume Council and reside in towns or villages.

Books, magazines, DVD's and Audiobooks are available to be loaned and delivered to you.



*Library staff are maintaining best practise standards of hygiene and disinfection of all library items, and maintaining appropriate social distancing during all interactions with patrons.*

Library patrons are encouraged to contact the Greater Hume Council Libraries for more information on days of delivery in your towns and villages.

**P:** 02 60360179 or 02 60363262

**E:** [Henty.library@greaterhume.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Henty.library@greaterhume.nsw.gov.au)  
[Holbrook.library@greaterhume.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Holbrook.library@greaterhume.nsw.gov.au)



## CULCAIRN SHOW—CANCELLED

Unfortunately due to COVID restrictions in NSW, the Culcairn Show scheduled for Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2021 has been cancelled. The committee are sorry there will be no show in 2021, but we didn't want to risk introducing COVID to community and wish to keep us all safe. We wish our community all the best in these difficult times.

The president thanks those active on the committee, our sponsors, exhibitors, stewards and community members who support the show for their involvement up to now and in the future.

**Editors Note:** *Many thanks to the Show Society for their generous donation of \$100 to the Oasis.*

## CULCAIRN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Our 1st Return & Earn recycling bins are in place behind the Railway Museum and next to Eric Thomas Park.

One bin is for glass bottles and one is for cans & plastic bottles (further information available on back page). All money raised will go back into town beautification projects and we will keep you updated on progress and funds raised.



Thanks again to all members of the Culcairn Community Development Committee who volunteer their time to varied community projects and to the Men's Shed (with a big shout out to Chris) for constructing the bins for us. If this is successful, we will place more around town.

## IN YOUR GARDEN

Spring is here...with longer, warmer days and lots more sunshine. We have also been fortunate to have some intermittent rain to keep plants (and weeds!!) ticking along.

**Vegies**—As the soil warms up it is time to plant potatoes. Hill them as they grow and they should yield well. Beware the late frost which could burn the new leaves.

More sowings of peas-sugar snap and climbers. It is still too early to plant out unprotected tomatoes, cucumbers or pumpkins. However, grow them in pots in a frost free place and they will be ready to put out next month.

Onions, garlic and leeks should be developing well. Caulies should be maturing by now and broccoli continuing to grow. I grow the variety that keeps sending side shoots after you pick the main head, very productive, as the plants produce for months.

Try growing some Borage, a tall herb with a blue flower. Grow from seeds sown directly or plant in pots. Bees of all varieties love this plant and will be attracted to your garden.

**Cuttings from Natives**—Collect cuttings early morning or in the evening, 8-12 cm long. Remove bottom leaves until only 2 or 3 leaves remain at the top of the cutting. You may use a hormone powder to promote root growth but I use honey which I find works well. Just dip the bottom of the cutting in the powder or honey and place it into a good propagation medium, which should hold moisture, but be free draining. Place in a warm, humid position which receives filtered sunlight. (Under a glass or polythene cover is effective) Cuttings take 4-10 weeks, depending on the species. e.g. Eremophila (Emu Bush) and Thryptomene soft tip cuttings can be taken Sept - Nov.

**Spring is repotting time**—Change the potting mix in your pots. Use the best potting mix you can and remember to always wear gloves when handling potting mix.

**Fruit Fly**—Get out fruit fly traps now and be prepared for warmer months.

Make a trap with an empty plastic drink bottle. Make medium sized holes all the way round, 1/3rd of the way down.

Use a mixture of—2 tbs each of cloudy ammonia and sugar, ½ cup of water and a few drops of a prepared fruit fly control.

Screw the lid on and hang the bottle in a tree. Check regularly for dead flies and replace the liquid when necessary.

Magnolias are flowering in all their beauty now, pinks, whites, dark and light flowers. There will be one to suit a spot in your garden. Fertilize roses now for amazing blooms in the coming months.

Get on top of weeds now so your garden will be at its best coming into Summer. Enjoy your time in the Garden, Margaret Pampa

## HOSPITAL NEWS

### Culcairn hospital visiting

There is currently restricted visiting for Culcairn hospital. Exemptions will be made by approval of management for palliative care/end of life circumstances.

### Family contact

Our wonderful activity officer Toni has been holding video conference calls for our residents during lockdown. The residents have joined grandchildren for remote learning, daughters teaching a school class from the middle of a paddock, talking with a loving wife. It's not the same as in person but it certainly does brighten everybody's day.



## COVID

If you feel unwell please come and get a COVID test. Our friendly staff will be more than willing to assist you. Call main reception to book yourself in for a test. The test will be conducted in your car in the ambulance bay.

## COVID JAB IN CULCAIRN

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## MURRAY RIVER WIRES

We are now entering our busiest time of the year, going into spring and the mating season for most of our precious creatures.

At the moment we are receiving frequent calls about Barn owls being attacked by Ravens and Magpies in unprecedented numbers. We do not understand why this happening as of them, as are well nourished and healthy. Most of the Owls can be rehabilitated in care being fed, wounds treated with TLC and kept warm and safe. Unfortunately, some do not survive. If you find Owls on the ground during day or being attacked please call Murray River WIRES.

Echidnas are busy, strolling casually in most inappropriate places looking for a mate. If you are concerned about their safety and it is safe for you, just walk behind and shepherd them off the road. They will move at speed to their safe place off the road and in their own area. It is not advisable to put them in your car, they are proficient, professional diggers and will dig into car seats and up behind the console, glove box etc in among the wires! If concerned about Echidnas call Murray River WIRES.

Kangaroos caught in fences = severe (mostly fatal) injuries. If found do not approach the distressed animal. If it is possible try to throw a towel (or something similar) over its face and call for help. Please look for a joey that may be nearby. If possible stay nearby to guide us to the animal or mark the spot so that we can locate it quickly.

Baby possums found on the ground without mother, both ringtail and brushtail. Carefully note location, so that it may be released to its own area at a later date. Wrap the joey in something warm and soft, ring Murray River WIRES.

Ducklings are being found separated from their mother and sometimes in swimming pools and unable to get out. If found without their mum, gather them up into box or basket and leave them in the open so that their mum may come back and collect them. Place them in a safe area away from cats, dogs and humans. Observe from a distance to ensure their safety and to allow mother duck to come and collect her brood. If you have a pool place a log or piece of wood into the pool, this will assist them to get out of the water. Please do not place ducklings in water as their feathers are not yet fully waterproof.

Please do not try to feed small native animals commercial animal foods, milks etc. This can/will cause severe damage and may even result in death. Each animal has specific nutritional needs at every stage of their lives (just like us).

For assistance in our area call:

MURRAY RIVER WIRES on 0427 493 716

Elsewhere in NSW call WIRES on 1300 094 737

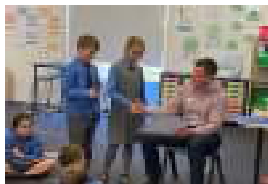
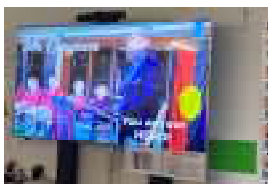
## SAINT JOSEPH'S

St Joseph's have been adapting to the changing environment we all find ourselves in. We have hosted a virtual assembly, Book Week activities, A Kahoot classroom challenge, online art lessons and a *Dreamtime story with Darren*.

Award winners this fortnight at our virtual assembly were Molly, Zara, Saysha and Lani.

We are focusing on a well-being Wednesday this week with a stem challenge—who can fly their paper airplane further than their class mates, and a Grow Your Mind activity.

Before lockdown St Joseph's was able to celebrate National Principal Appreciation Day. In our childrens' words "Mr Gaynor, you are our hero". The children presented Mr Gaynor with a short video presentation and a certificate.



We also had the opportunity to share an intergenerational morning with our local Garden Club. Kinder, Years 1 and 2 had a fabulous day planting plants for our garden. A special thank you to the Garden Club for their time and expertise.



We hope everyone stays safe and we will see everyone back at school and in the community again soon.

## COMMUNITY DIARY

This calendar is for all community organisations to use free of charge for the events, functions, meetings etc You can send us your dates monthly, or provide them for the whole year. Please e-mail details to [culcainoasis@outlook.com](mailto:culcainoasis@outlook.com) or phone David Gilmore on 6029 8291.

**Currently stay at home orders for regional and rural NSW are until 11:59pm on 10 September. September**

**Tues 14** Culcairn Library Knitting Group 9.30am  
Men's Shed 9am to 12pm

**Thurs 16** Men's Shed 9am to 12pm

**Tues 21** Men's Shed 9am to 12pm

**Thurs 23** Men's Shed 9am to 12pm

**Tues 28** Culcairn Library Knitting Group 9.30am  
Men's Shed 9am to 12pm

**Thurs 30** Men's Shed 9am to 12pm

**October**

**Sat 2** Sit and Stitch, Culcairn Golf Club from 10am to 2pm

**Thurs 7** Storytime, Trains Culcairn Library 10am

**Fri 22** Free Tax Help—Culcairn Library (bookings essential)

## COUNCIL NEWS

With the postponement of the Local Government elections, Cr Heather Wilton will continue in the position of Mayor until the 4th of December elections. However an election for the position of Deputy Mayor will be required at the September meeting. Further the following meeting schedule was adopted for the period September 2021 – January 2022:

- Wednesday 15 September 2021
- Wednesday 13 October 2021
- Wednesday 10 November 2021
- Wednesday 1 December 2021
- Week commencing 10 January 2022

Community grants from the Bushfire Community Recovery and Resilience Fund (BCRRF) have been approved to the value of \$26,190.36 for the Wantagong and Wymah/Bowna RFS Brigades along with Holbrook Meals on Wheels. Council will contribute \$600 to the Southern Sports Academy for the 2021/2022 year to support three local athletes that are attending the Academy.

The Community Engagement Strategy for the Community Strategic Plan Review was approved. The strategy outlines various ways the community can engage with Council to assist in the review and development of the Community Strategic Plan. Council will be seeking feedback from a variety of stakeholders to understand the key priorities for the shire.

Greater Hume Council is an active member of the Murray Taskforce for the NSW Growing Regions of Welcome Pilot program. The taskforce will guide the strategic approach to newcomer attraction and retention, community welcome, employment and support service coordination.

Council has appointed Fulton-Hogan to the Spray Sealing Works for Greater Hume and Lockhart at a cost of \$1,747,867.08 exc. GST.

## FREE Tax Help – 2021 @the Culcairn Library

Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL call into the Library  
or phone 02 60360100**

Get your tax return completed with the assistance of an accredited Tax Agent at any council office.

If your income is less than \$60,000 or you are on a Disability Pension then make an appointment now at any GHC office – sorry no business tax can be processed.

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## Free recycling in Greater Hume Council



The following items are accepted  
**free of charge** at these facilities  
 in Greater Hume Council:

### Burrumbuttock, Brocksby, Gerogery, Henty, Jindera and Mullengandra Transfer Stations

- ✓ Aluminium & steel
- ✓ Batteries (household, car & truck, laptop)
- ✓ Cardboard & paper
- ✓ Electronics and electrical
- ✓ Recyclables (glass, hard plastic)
- ✓ Scrap metal
- ✓ Waste oil (motor and cooking oil)\*
- ✓ Gas bottles

\*Not at Brocksby, Henty or Mullengandra

### Culcairn and Holbrook Landfills

- ✓ Aluminium & steel
- ✓ Batteries (household, car & truck)
- ✓ Cardboard & paper
- ✓ Clean fill
- ✓ Electronics and electrical
- ✓ Fluoro tubes/globes\*
- ✓ Gas bottles\*
- ✓ Waste oil (motor and cooking oil)
- ✓ Paint\*
- ✓ Recyclables (glass, hard plastic)
- ✓ Scrap metal
- ✓ Smoke detectors\*
- ✓ Electronic items

\*Not at Holbrook

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 (02) 6029 8233

# CULCAIRN TOWN BEAUTIFICATION FUNDRAISER

## RETURN AND EARN



**Thankyou for your support of this fundraiser**

### **STEP 1**

Collect approved bottles (listed below) & split them into two bags, one glass and one approved plastic bottles.

### **STEP 2**

Drop off at recycling bins at Eric Thomas Park (behind the Railway Museum) for direct donation to the town fundraiser

### **STEP 3**

For large amounts (multiple bags OR trailer loads) please contact Return and Earn Walla on 0447927722 for pick up (conditions apply)

### **STEP 4**

State that you would like your return to go to the **Culcairn Community Development Committee Fundraiser** for beautification projects within the town



These containers are most commonly found as litter in NSW. They're often consumed 'on the go.'

- Cans (e.g. soft drinks)
- Bottles ( e.g. beer bottles)
- Cartons
- Juice boxes or poppers

Most containers between 150ml and 3 litres are accepted and can get you a refund. However, they must...



These items aren't accepted, but can still go into household recycling. They're often used at home.

- Milk containers
- Glass wine bottles
- Glass spirit bottles
- Juice bottles 1 litre and over
- Cordial bottles